

Examples of Auditors' Reports on Financial Statements

The Task Force recommends that the examples of auditors' reports cover the following:

ISA 700 (Revised) – Amended as a result of proposed ISA 701

- An auditor's report on a complete set of financial statements prepared in accordance with a fair presentation financial reporting framework designed to meet the common financial information needs of a wide range of users (see example in paragraph 60 of ISA 700 (Revised)).
- An auditor's report on a complete set of financial statements prepared in accordance with a financial reporting framework designed to meet the common financial information needs of a wide range of users, but which is not a fair presentation framework (see Example 1).

Proposed ISA 701 (Revised)

- An auditor's report on a complete set of financial statements prepared in accordance with a fair presentation financial reporting framework designed to meet the financial information needs of specific users (see Example 2).
- An auditor's report on a complete set of financial statements prepared in accordance with a financial reporting framework designed to meet the financial information needs of specific users, but which is not a fair presentation framework (see Example 3)
- An auditor's report on a single financial statement prepared in accordance with a fair presentation financial reporting framework designed to meet the financial information needs of specific users (see Example 4).
- An auditor's report on a specific element, account or item of a financial statement prepared in accordance with a financial reporting framework designed to meet the financial information needs of specific users, but which is not a fair presentation framework (see Example 5).

Example 1:

Circumstances include the following:

- **Audit of a complete set of financial statements required by law or regulation.**
- **The financial statements have been prepared for a general purpose by the management of the entity in accordance with the Financial Reporting Framework (XYZ Law) of Country X (i.e., a financial reporting framework, encompassing law or regulation, designed to meet the common financial information needs of a wide range of users, but which is not a fair presentation framework).**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

[Appropriate Addressee]

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of ABC Company, which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 20X1, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of these financial statements in accordance with XYZ Law of Country X. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of ABC Company have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with XYZ Law of Country X.

[Auditor's signature]

[Date of the auditor's report]

[Auditor's address]

Example 2:

Circumstances include the following:

- **Audit of a complete set of financial statements.**
- **The financial statements have been prepared by the management of the entity in accordance with the Financial Reporting Framework in Country X (i.e., a fair presentation financial reporting framework, encompassing financial reporting standards established by an authorized or recognized standards setting organization, that is designed to meet the common financial information of a wide range of users) to comply with the financial reporting provisions of a contract (i.e., a special purpose).**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

[Appropriate Addressee]

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of ABC Company, which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 20X1, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes prepared in compliance with section Z of the contract between ABC Company and DEF Company ("the contract").

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards of Country X as required by section Z of the contract. This responsibility includes: determining that the Financial Reporting Standards of Country X are an acceptable basis for preparing and presenting the financial statements in the circumstances; designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of (*or “present fairly, in all material respects,”*) the financial position of ABC Company as of December 31, 20X1, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards of Country X as required by section Z of the contract.

[Other Matter

Our report is intended solely for ABC Company and DEF Company and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than ABC Company or DEF Company.]

[Auditor's signature]

[Date of the auditor's report]

[Auditor's address]

Example 3:

Circumstances include the following:

- **Audit of a complete set of financial statements.**
- **The financial statements have been prepared by the management of a partnership in accordance with the tax basis of accounting in Country X (i.e., a financial reporting framework designed to meet the financial information of specific users, but which is not a fair presentation framework) to assist the partners in preparing their individual income tax returns (i.e., a special purpose).**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

[Appropriate Addressee]

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of ABC Partnership, which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 20X1 and the income statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the tax basis of accounting in Country X. They have been prepared to assist the partners of ABC Partnership in preparing their individual income tax returns. Management's responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of ABC Partnership for the year ended December 31, 20X1 have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with [describe the applicable income tax law] of Country X.

Other Matter

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the tax basis of accounting in Country X to assist the partners of ABC Partnership in preparing their individual income tax returns. The financial statements and related auditor's report may not be suitable for another purpose. *[Our report is intended solely for ABC Partnership and its partners and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than ABC Partnership or its partners.]*

[Auditor's signature]

[Date of the auditor's report]

[Auditor's address]

Example 4:**Circumstances include the following:**

- **Audit of a statement of cash receipts and disbursements (i.e., a single financial statement).**
- **The financial statement has been prepared by the management of the entity in accordance with the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting (for purposes of this example a fair presentation financial reporting framework designed to meet the financial information needs of specific users) to respond to a request for cash flow information received from a creditor (i.e., a special purpose).**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

[Appropriate Addressee]

We have audited the accompanying statement of cash receipts and disbursements of ABC Company for the year ended December 31, 20X1 and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting described in Note X for the purpose of providing information to XYZ Creditor. This responsibility includes: determining that the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparing and presenting the financial statement in the circumstances; designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates, if any, that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, if any, made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the statement of cash receipts and disbursements presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash receipts and disbursements of ABC Company for the year ended December 31, 20X1 in accordance with the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting described in Note X.

Other Matter

The statement of cash receipts and disbursements has been prepared in accordance with the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting described in Note X for purposes of providing information to XYZ Creditor. The statement and related auditor's report may not be suitable for another purpose. *[Our report is intended solely for ABC Company and XYZ Creditor and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than ABC Company or XYZ Creditor.]*

[Auditor's signature]

[Date of the auditor's report]

[Auditor's address]

Example 5:

Circumstances include the following:

- **Audit of the liability for “incurred but not reported” claims in an insurance portfolio (i.e., element, account or item of a financial statement).**
- **The financial information has been prepared by the management of the entity in accordance with the financial reporting provisions established by a regulator (i.e., a financial reporting framework designed to meet the financial information needs of specific users, but which is not a fair presentation framework) to meet the requirements of that regulator (i.e., a special purpose).**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

[Appropriate Addressee]

We have audited the accompanying schedule of the liability for “incurred but not reported” claims of ABC Insurance Company as of December 31, 20X1.

Management’s Responsibility for the Schedule

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the schedule in accordance with [describe the financial reporting provisions established by the regulator]. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of the schedule that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor’s Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the schedule based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the schedule is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the schedule. The procedures selected depend on the auditor’s judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the schedule, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity’s preparation and presentation of the schedule in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the schedule.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial information in the schedule of the liability for “incurred but not reported” claims of ABC Insurance Company as of December 31, 20X1 has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with [describe the financial reporting provisions established by the regulator].

Other Matter

The schedule has been prepared in accordance with [describe the financial reporting provisions established by the regulator] and it and the related auditor’s report may not be suitable for another purpose. *[Our report is intended solely for ABC Insurance Company and [insert name of regulator] and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than ABC Insurance Company or [insert name of regulator].]*

[Auditor’s signature]

[Date of the auditor’s report]

[Auditor’s address]

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