

Conforming and Consequential Amendments Arising from Proposed ISA 600 (Revised)

Note for IAASB: The yellow highlighted text relates to ISA 600. The other text is included for reference.

PROPOSED ISA 220 (Revised) – QUALITY MANAGEMENT FOR AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Given that ISA 220 is being revised, the conforming and consequential amendments are tracked against the exposure draft of proposed ISA 220 (Revised).¹

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

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Definitions

Engagement Partner (Ref: Para. 10(a))

A15A. When joint auditors conduct an audit, the joint engagement partners and their engagement teams collectively constitute the “engagement partner” and “engagement team” for the purposes of the ISAs. This ISA does not, however, deal with the relationship between joint auditors or the work that one joint auditor performs in relation to the work of the other joint auditor.

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ISA 230 – AUDIT DOCUMENTATION

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Appendix

(Ref: Para. 1)

Specific Audit Documentation Requirements in Other ISAs

This appendix identifies paragraphs in other ISAs that contain specific documentation requirements. The list is not a substitute for considering the requirements and related application and other explanatory material in ISAs.

- ISA 210, *Agreeing the Terms of Audit Engagements* – paragraphs 10–12
- ISA 220, *Quality Control for an Audit of Financial Statements* – paragraphs 24–25
- ISA 240, *The Auditor’s Responsibilities Relating to Fraud in an Audit of Financial Statements* – paragraphs 45–48
- ISA 250 (Revised), *Consideration of Laws and Regulations in an Audit of Financial Statements* – paragraph 30
- ISA 260 (Revised), *Communication with Those Charged with Governance* – paragraph 23

¹ <https://www.ifac.org/system/files/publications/files/IAASB-Proposed-ISA-220-Revised-Explanatory-Memorandum.pdf>

- ISA 300, *Planning an Audit of Financial Statements* – paragraph 12
- ISA 315 (Revised), *Identifying and Assessing the Risks of Material Misstatement through Understanding the Entity and Its Environment* – paragraph 32
- ISA 320, *Materiality in Planning and Performing an Audit* – paragraph 14
- ISA 330, *The Auditor’s Responses to Assessed Risks* – paragraphs 28–30
- ISA 450, *Evaluation of Misstatements Identified during the Audit* – paragraph 15
- ISA 540, *Auditing Accounting Estimates and Related Disclosures* – paragraph 39
- ISA 550, *Related Parties* – paragraph 28
- ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)* – paragraph 50
- ISA 610 (Revised 2013), *Using the Work of Internal Auditors* – paragraph 36–37
- ISA 720 (Revised), *The Auditor’s Responsibilities Relating to Other Information* – paragraph 25

ISA 240 – THE AUDITOR’S RESPONSIBILITIES RELATING TO FRAUD IN AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Introduction

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Responsibility for the Prevention and Detection of Fraud

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Responsibilities of the Auditor

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9. The auditor may have additional responsibilities under law, regulation or relevant ethical requirements regarding an entity’s non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, which may differ from or go beyond this and other ISAs, such as: (Ref: Para. A6)
 - (a) Responding to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, including requirements in relation to specific communications with management and those charged with governance, assessing the appropriateness of their response to non-compliance and determining whether further action is needed;
 - (b) Communicating identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations to other auditors (e.g., in an audit of group financial statements); and
 - (c) Documentation requirements regarding identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Complying with any additional responsibilities may provide further information that is relevant to the auditor’s work in accordance with this and other ISAs (e.g., regarding the integrity of management or, where appropriate, those charged with governance).

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

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Responsibility for the Prevention and Detection of Fraud

Responsibilities of the Auditor (Ref: Para. 9)

- A6. Law, regulation or relevant ethical requirements may require the auditor to perform additional procedures and take further actions. For example, the *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA Code) requires the auditor to take steps to respond to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations and determine whether further action is needed. Such steps may include the communication of identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations to other ~~between~~ auditors within a group, including a group engagement partner, other members of the group engagement team, component auditors, or other auditors performing work at components of a group for purposes other than the audit of the group financial statements.²

ISA 250 (REVISED) – CONSIDERATION OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Introduction

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Responsibility for Compliance with Laws and Regulations (Ref: Para. A1–A8)

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Responsibility of the Auditor

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9. The auditor may have additional responsibilities under law, regulation or relevant ethical requirements regarding an entity's non-compliance with laws and regulations, which may differ from or go beyond this ISA, such as: (Ref: Para. A8)
- (a) Responding to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, including requirements in relation to specific communications with management and those charged with governance, assessing the appropriateness of their response to non-compliance and determining whether further action is needed;
 - (b) Communicating identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations to other auditors (e.g., in an audit of group financial statements); and
 - (c) Documentation requirements regarding identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Complying with any additional responsibilities may provide further information that is relevant to the auditor's work in accordance with this and other ISAs (e.g., regarding the integrity of management or, where appropriate, those charged with governance).

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² See, for example, Sections 225.21–225.22 of the IESBA Code.

Application and Other Explanatory Material

Responsibility for Compliance with Laws and Regulations (Ref: Para. 3–9)

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Responsibility of the Auditor

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Additional Responsibilities Established by Law, Regulation or Relevant Ethical Requirements (Ref: Para. 9)

- A8. Law, regulation or relevant ethical requirements may require the auditor to perform additional procedures and take further actions. For example, the *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA Code) requires the auditor to take steps to respond to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations and determine whether further action is needed. Such steps may include the communication of identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations to other between auditors within a group, including a group engagement partner, other members of the group engagement team, component auditors, or other auditors performing work at components of a group for purposes other than the audit of the group financial statements.³

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ISA 260 (REVISED) – COMMUNICATION WITH THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

Those Charged with Governance (Ref: Para. 11)

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- A4. ISA 600 (Revised) includes specific matters to be communicated by the group engagement team auditors with those charged with governance.⁴ When the entity is a component of a group, the appropriate person(s) with whom the component auditor communicates depends on the engagement circumstances and the matter to be communicated. In some cases, a number of components may be conducting the same businesses within the same system of internal control and using the same accounting practices. Where those charged with governance of those components are the same (e.g., common board of directors), duplication may be avoided by dealing with these components concurrently for the purpose of communication.

The Communication Process

Establishing the Communication Process (Ref: Para. 18)

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Communication with Third Parties

- A43. Those charged with governance may be required by law or regulation, or may wish, to provide third parties, for example, bankers or certain regulatory authorities, with copies of a written communication from the auditor. In some cases, disclosure to third parties may be illegal or otherwise inappropriate. When a written communication

³ See, for example, Sections 225.21–225.22 of the IESBA Code.

⁴ ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*, paragraph 49

prepared for those charged with governance is provided to third parties, it may be important in the circumstances that the third parties be informed that the communication was not prepared with them in mind, for example, by stating in written communications with those charged with governance:

- (a) That the communication has been prepared for the sole use of those charged with governance and, where applicable, the group management and the group auditor, and should not be relied upon by third parties;
- (b) That no responsibility is assumed by the auditor to third parties; and
- (c) Any restrictions on disclosure or distribution to third parties

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Appendix 1

(Ref: Para. 3)

Specific Requirements in ISQC 1 and Other ISAs that Refer to Communications with Those Charged With Governance

This appendix identifies paragraphs in ISQC 1⁵ and other ISAs that require communication of specific matters with those charged with governance. The list is not a substitute for considering the requirements and related application and other explanatory material in ISAs.

- ISQC 1, *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Statements, and Other Assurance and Related Services Engagements* – paragraph 30(a)
- ISA 240, *The Auditor's Responsibilities Relating to Fraud in an Audit of Financial Statements* – paragraphs 22, 39(c)(i) and 41–43
- ISA 250 (Revised), *Consideration of Laws and Regulations in an Audit of Financial Statements* – paragraphs 15, 20 and 23–25
- ISA 265, *Communicating Deficiencies in Internal Control to Those Charged with Governance and Management* – paragraph 9
- ISA 450, *Evaluation of Misstatements Identified during the Audit* – paragraphs 12-13
- ISA 505, *External Confirmations* – paragraph 9
- ISA 510, *Initial Audit Engagements—Opening Balances* – paragraph 7
- ISA 550, *Related Parties* – paragraph 27
- ISA 560, *Subsequent Events* – paragraphs 7(b)-(c), 10(a), 13(b), 14(a) and 17
- ISA 570 (Revised), *Going Concern* – paragraph 25
- ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)* – paragraph 49
- ISA 610 (Revised 2013), *Using the Work of Internal Auditors* – paragraphs 20 and 31
- ISA 700 (Revised), *Forming an Opinion and Reporting on Financial Statements* – paragraph 46

⁵ ISQC 1, *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Statements, and Other Assurance and Related Services Engagements*

- ISA 701, *Communicating Key Audit Matters in the Independent Auditor’s Report* – paragraph 17
- ISA 705 (Revised), *Modifications to the Opinion in the Independent Auditor’s Report* – paragraphs 12, 14, 23 and 30
- ISA 706 (Revised), *Emphasis of Matter Paragraphs and Other Matter Paragraphs in the Independent Auditor’s Report* – paragraph 12
- ISA 710, *Comparative Information—Corresponding Figures and Comparative Financial Statements* – paragraph 18
- ISA 720 (Revised), *The Auditor’s Responsibilities Relating to Other Information* – paragraphs 17—19

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ISA 300 – PLANNING AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The grey shaded areas are proposed conforming amendments resulting from the project to revise ISA 220.

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Requirements

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Planning Activities

7. The auditor shall establish an overall audit strategy that sets the scope, timing and direction of the audit, and that guides the development of the audit plan.
8. In establishing the overall audit strategy, the auditor shall:
 - (a) Identify the characteristics of the engagement that define its scope;
 - (b) Ascertain the reporting objectives of the engagement to plan the timing of the audit and the nature of the communications required;
 - (c) Consider the factors that, in the auditor’s professional judgment, are significant in directing the engagement team’s efforts;
 - (d) Consider the results of preliminary engagement activities and, where applicable, whether knowledge gained on other engagements performed by the engagement partner for the entity is relevant; and
 - (e) Ascertain the nature, timing and extent of resources necessary to perform the engagement. (Ref: Para. A8–A11)
9. The auditor shall develop an audit plan that shall include a description of:
 - (a) The nature, timing and extent of the planned direction and supervision of engagement team members and the review of their work. (Ref: Para. A16–A17)
 - (ab) The nature, timing and extent of planned risk assessment procedures, as determined under ISA 315 (Revised).⁶

⁶ ISA 315 (Revised 2019), *Identifying and Assessing the Risks of Material Misstatement*

(bc) The nature, timing and extent of planned further audit procedures at the assertion level, as determined under ISA 330.⁷

(ed) Other planned audit procedures that are required to be carried out so that the engagement complies with ISAs. (Ref: Para. A12-A14)

10. The auditor shall update and change the overall audit strategy and the audit plan as necessary during the course of the audit. (Ref: Para. A15)

~~11. The auditor shall plan the nature, timing and extent of direction and supervision of engagement team members and the review of their work. (Ref: Para. A16–A17)~~

11A. The engagement partner shall review the overall audit strategy and audit plan.

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

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Planning Activities

The Overall Audit Strategy (Ref: Para. 7–8)

A8. The process of establishing the overall audit strategy assists the auditor to determine, subject to the completion of the auditor's risk assessment procedures, such matters as:

- The resources to deploy for specific audit areas, such as the use of appropriately experienced team members for high risk areas or the involvement of experts on complex matters;
- The amount of resources to be allocated to specific audit areas, such as the number of team members assigned to observe the inventory count at material locations, the nature and extent of direction, supervision and review of component other auditors' work in the case of group audits, or the audit budget in hours to allocate to high risk areas;
- When these resources are to be deployed, such as whether at an interim audit stage or at key cutoff dates; and
- How such resources are managed, directed and supervised, such as when team briefing and debriefing meetings are expected to be held, how engagement partner and manager reviews are expected to take place (for example, on-site or off-site), and whether to complete engagement quality control reviews.

A9. The Appendix lists examples of considerations in establishing the overall audit strategy.

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⁷ ISA 330, *The Auditor's Responses to Assessed Risks*

Appendix

(Ref: Para. 7–8, A8–A11)

Considerations in Establishing the Overall Audit Strategy

This appendix provides examples of matters the auditor may consider in establishing the overall audit strategy. Many of these matters will also influence the auditor's detailed audit plan. The examples provided cover a broad range of matters applicable to many engagements. While some of the matters referred to below may be required by other ISAs, not all matters are relevant to every audit engagement and the list is not necessarily complete.

Characteristics of the Engagement

- The financial reporting framework on which the financial information to be audited has been prepared, including any need for reconciliations to another financial reporting framework.
- Industry-specific reporting requirements such as reports mandated by industry regulators.
- The expected audit coverage scope, including the number and locations of components to be included at which audit procedures are expected to be performed for purposes of a group audit.
- The nature of the control relationships between a parent and its components that determine how the group is to be consolidated.
- The extent to which components are audited by component other auditors will be involved.
- The nature of the business segments to be audited, including the need for specialized knowledge.
- The reporting currency to be used, including any need for currency translation for the financial information audited.
- The requirement need for an audit of standalone financial statements for statutory, regulatory or other reasons, audit of standalone financial statements in addition to an audit procedures performed for consolidation purposes of a group audit.

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Reporting Objectives, Timing of the Audit, and Nature of Communications

- The entity's timetable for reporting, such as at interim and final stages.
- The organization of meetings with management and those charged with governance to discuss the nature, timing and extent of the audit work.
- The discussion with management and those charged with governance regarding the expected type and timing of reports to be issued and other communications, both written and oral, including the auditor's report, management letters and communications to those charged with governance.
- The discussion with management regarding the expected communications on the status of audit work throughout the engagement.
- Communication with auditors of components regarding the expected types and timing of reports to be issued and other communications in connection with the audit of components for statutory, regulatory or other reasons.
- The expected nature and timing of communications among engagement team members, including the nature and timing of team meetings and timing of the review of work performed.
- Whether there are any other expected communications with third parties, including any statutory or contractual

reporting responsibilities arising from the audit.

Significant Factors, Preliminary Engagement Activities, and Knowledge Gained on Other Engagements

- The determination of materiality in accordance with ISA 320⁸ and, where applicable:
 - The determination of component performance materiality for components and communication thereof to component auditors in accordance with ISA 600 (Revised).⁹
 - The preliminary identification of significant components and significant material classes of transactions, account balances and disclosures.

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ISA 402 – AUDIT CONSIDERATIONS RELATING TO AN ENTITY USING A SERVICE ORGANIZATION

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

Obtaining an Understanding of the Services Provided by a Service Organization, Including Internal Control

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Further Procedures When a Sufficient Understanding Cannot Be Obtained from the User Entity (Ref: Para. 12)

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- A18. In some circumstances, a user entity may outsource one or more significant business units or functions, such as its entire tax planning and compliance functions, or finance and accounting or the controllership function to one or more service organizations. As a report on controls at the service organization may not be available in these circumstances, visiting the service organization may be the most effective procedure for the user auditor to gain an understanding of controls at the service organization, as there is likely to be direct interaction of management of the user entity with management at the service organization.
- A19. Another auditor may be used to perform procedures that will provide the necessary information about the relevant controls at the service organization. If a type 1 or type 2 report has been issued, the user auditor may use the service auditor to perform these procedures as the service auditor has an existing relationship with the service organization. The user auditor using the work of another auditor may find the guidance in ISA 600 (Revised)¹⁰ useful as it relates to determining the competence and capabilities of an other understanding another auditor (including that auditor's independence and professional competence), the direction and supervision involvement in the work of the other another auditor, in planning and the nature, timing and extent of such the work assigned to the other auditor, and in evaluating the sufficiency and appropriateness of the audit evidence obtained.

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⁸ ISA 320, *Materiality in Planning and Performing an Audit*

⁹ ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*, paragraphs 24–23 and 40(e)17B

¹⁰ ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*, paragraph 2, states: “An auditor may find this ISA, adapted as necessary in the circumstances, useful when that auditor involves other auditors in the audit of financial statements that are not group financial statements ...” See also paragraph 37A–41A-19 of ISA 600.

ISA 501 – AUDIT EVIDENCE—SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR SELECTED ITEMS

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

Inventory

Attendance at Physical Inventory Counting (Ref: Para. 4(a))

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- A3. Matters relevant in planning attendance at physical inventory counting (or in designing and performing audit procedures pursuant to paragraphs 4–8 of this ISA) include, for example:
- The risks of material misstatement related to inventory.
 - The nature of the internal control related to inventory.
 - Whether adequate procedures are expected to be established and proper instructions issued for physical inventory counting.
 - The timing of physical inventory counting.
 - Whether the entity maintains a perpetual inventory system.
 - The locations at which inventory is held, including the materiality of the inventory and the risks of material misstatement at different locations, in deciding at which locations attendance is appropriate. ISA 600 (Revised)¹¹ deals with the involvement of other auditors and accordingly may be relevant if such involvement is with regard to attendance of physical inventory counting at a remote location.
 - Whether the assistance of an auditor's expert is needed. ISA 620¹² deals with the use of an auditor's expert to assist the auditor to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

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ISA 550 – RELATED PARTIES

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

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Risk Assessment Procedures and Related Activities

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Understanding the Entity's Related Party Relationships and Transactions

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¹¹ ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*

¹² ISA 620, *Using the Work of an Auditor's Expert*

The Identity of the Entity's Related Parties (Ref: Para. 13(a))

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A13. In the context of a group audit, ISA 600 (Revised) requires the group engagement team to communicate with provide each component auditors relationships or transactions identified with a list of related parties prepared by group management, and any other related parties of which the group engagement team is aware, that are relevant to the financial information of the component.¹³ Where the entity is a component within a group, this information provides a useful basis for the auditor engagement team's inquiries of component management regarding the identity of the entity's related parties.

A14. The auditor may also obtain some information regarding the identity of the entity's related parties through inquiries of management during the engagement acceptance or continuance process.

Responses to the Risks of Material Misstatement Associated with Related Party Relationships and Transactions (Ref: Para. 20)

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A34. Depending upon the results of the auditor's risk assessment procedures, the auditor may consider it appropriate to obtain audit evidence without testing the entity's controls over related party relationships and transactions. In some circumstances, however, it may not be possible to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence from substantive audit procedures alone in relation to the risks of material misstatement associated with related party relationships and transactions. For example, where intra-group transactions between the entity and its components are numerous and a significant amount of information regarding these transactions is initiated, recorded, processed or reported electronically in an integrated system, the auditor may determine that it is not possible to design effective substantive audit procedures that by themselves would reduce the risks of material misstatement associated with these transactions to an acceptably low level. In such a case, in meeting the ISA 330 requirement to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence as to the operating effectiveness of relevant controls,¹⁴ the auditor is required to test the entity's controls over the completeness and accuracy of the recording of the related party relationships and transactions.

Identified Significant Related Party Transactions outside the Entity's Normal Course of Business

Evaluating the Business Rationale of Significant Related Party Transactions (Ref: Para. 23)

A38. In evaluating the business rationale of a significant related party transaction outside the entity's normal course of business, the auditor may consider the following:

- Whether the transaction:
 - Is overly complex (for example, it may involve multiple related parties within a consolidated group).
 - Has unusual terms of trade, such as unusual prices, interest rates, guarantees and repayment terms.
 - Lacks an apparent logical business reason for its occurrence.
 - Involves previously unidentified related parties.
 - Is processed in an unusual manner.

¹³ ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*, paragraph 41B(a)40(e)

¹⁴ ISA 330, paragraph 8(b)

- Whether management has discussed the nature of, and accounting for, such a transaction with those charged with governance.
- Whether management is placing more emphasis on a particular accounting treatment rather than giving due regard to the underlying economics of the transaction.

If management's explanations are materially inconsistent with the terms of the related party transaction, the auditor is required, in accordance with ISA 500,¹⁵ to consider the reliability of management's explanations and representations on other significant matters.

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ISA 610 (REVISED 2013) – USING THE WORK OF INTERNAL AUDITORS

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

Determining Whether, in Which Areas, and to What Extent the Work of the Internal Audit Function Can Be Used

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Determining the Nature and Extent of Work of the Internal Audit Function that Can Be Used

Factors Affecting the Determination of the Nature and Extent of the Work of the Internal Audit Function that Can Be Used (Ref: Para. 17–19)

A15. Once the external auditor has determined that the work of the internal audit function can be used for purposes of the audit, a first consideration is whether the planned nature and scope of the work of the internal audit function that has been performed, or is planned to be performed, is relevant to the overall audit strategy and audit plan that the external auditor has established in accordance with ISA 300.¹⁶

A16. Examples of work of the internal audit function that can be used by the external auditor include the following:

- Testing of the operating effectiveness of controls.
- Substantive procedures involving limited judgment.
- Observations of inventory counts.
- Tracing transactions through the information system relevant to financial reporting.
- Testing of compliance with regulatory requirements.
- In some circumstances, audits or reviews of the financial information of subsidiaries that are not significant components to the group (where this does not conflict with the requirements of ISA 600).¹⁷

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¹⁵ ISA 500, *Audit Evidence*, paragraph 11

¹⁶ ISA 300, *Planning an Audit of Financial Statements*

¹⁷ ~~ISA 600, *Special Considerations – Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*~~

Determining Whether, in Which Areas and to What Extent Internal Auditors Can Be Used to Provide Direct Assistance

Determining Whether Internal Auditors Can Be Used to Provide Direct Assistance for Purposes of the Audit (Ref: Para. 5, 26–28)

A31. In jurisdictions where the external auditor is prohibited by law or regulation from using internal auditors to provide direct assistance, it is relevant ~~for in the circumstances of a the group audit auditors for the group engagement team~~ to consider whether the prohibition also extends to component auditors and, if so, to address this in the communication to the component auditors.¹⁸

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ISA 700 (REVISED) – FORMING AN OPINION AND REPORTING ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Requirements

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Auditor's Report

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Auditor's Report for Audits Conducted in Accordance with International Standards on Auditing

Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

39. The Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of the auditor's report shall further: (Ref: Para. A50)
- (a) State that, as part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, the auditor exercises professional judgment and maintains professional skepticism throughout the audit; and
 - (b) Describe an audit by stating that the auditor's responsibilities are:
 - (i) To identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error; to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and to obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for the auditor's opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
 - (ii) To obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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. In circumstances when the auditor also has a responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, the auditor shall omit the phrase that the auditor's consideration of internal control is not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's

¹⁸ ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*, paragraph 37A(a), 40(b)

internal control.

- (iii) To evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- (iv) To conclude on the appropriateness of management’s use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity’s ability to continue as a going concern. If the auditor concludes that a material uncertainty exists, the auditor is required to draw attention in the auditor’s report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. The auditor’s conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor’s report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- (v) When the financial statements are prepared in accordance with a fair presentation framework, to evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

(c) When ISA 600 (Revised)¹⁹ applies, further describe the auditor’s responsibilities in a group audit engagement by stating that:

- (i) The auditor’s responsibilities are to plan and perform the group audit to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to as a basis for expressing an opinion on the group consolidated financial statements
- (ii) The auditor is responsible for the direction, supervision and review performance of the group audit; and
- (iii) The auditor remains solely responsible for the auditor’s opinion.²⁰

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

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Auditor’s Report (Ref: Para. 20)

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Auditor’s Report for Audits Conducted in Accordance with International Standards on Auditing

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Basis for Opinion (Ref: Para. 28)

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Considerations specific to group audits

¹⁹ ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*

²⁰ ISA 600 (Revised), paragraph 45A

A38. In group audits when there are multiple sources of relevant ethical requirements, including those pertaining to independence, the reference in the auditor's report to the jurisdiction ordinarily relates to the relevant ethical requirements that are applicable to the group engagement team. This is because, in a group audit, component auditors are also subject to ethical requirements that are relevant to the group audit.²¹

A39. The ISAs do not establish specific independence or ethical requirements for auditors, including component auditors, and thus do not extend, or otherwise override, the independence requirements of the IESBA Code or other ethical requirements to which the group engagement team is subject, nor do the ISAs require that the component auditor in all cases to be subject to the same specific independence requirements that are applicable to the group engagement team. As a result, relevant ethical requirements, including those pertaining to independence, in a group audit situation may be complex. ISA 600 (Revised)²² provides guidance for auditors in performing work on the financial information of a component for a group audit, including those situations where the component auditor does not meet the independence requirements that are relevant to the group audit.

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Illustration 2 – Auditor's Report on Consolidated Financial Statements of a Listed Entity Prepared in Accordance with a Fair Presentation Framework

For purposes of this illustrative auditor's report, the following circumstances are assumed:

- **Audit of a complete set of consolidated financial statements of a listed entity using a fair presentation framework. The audit is a group audit of an entity with subsidiaries (i.e., ISA 600 (Revised) applies).**
- **The consolidated financial statements are prepared by management of the entity in accordance with IFRSs (a general purpose framework).**
- **The terms of the audit engagement reflect the description of management's responsibility for the consolidated financial statements in ISA 210.**
- The auditor has concluded an unmodified (i.e., "clean") opinion is appropriate based on the audit evidence obtained.
- The International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants comprises all of the relevant ethical requirements that apply to the audit.
- Based on the audit evidence obtained, the auditor has concluded that a material uncertainty does not exist related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern in accordance with ISA 570 (Revised).
- Key audit matters have been communicated in accordance with ISA 701.
- The auditor has obtained all of the other information prior to the date of the auditor's report and has not identified a material misstatement of the other information.
- **Those responsible for oversight of the consolidated financial statements differ from those responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements.**
- In addition to the audit of the consolidated financial statements, the auditor has other

²¹ ISA 600 (Revised), paragraph A37A57B

²² ISA 600 (Revised), paragraphs 37A and 37C49–20

reporting responsibilities required under local law.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

To the Shareholders of ABC Company [or Other Appropriate Addressee]

Report on the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements²³**Opinion**

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of ABC Company and its subsidiaries (the Group), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at December 31, 20X1, and the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, (or *give a true and fair view of*) the consolidated financial position of the Group as at December 31, 20X1, and (or) its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants’ *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

[Description of each key audit matter in accordance with ISA 701.]

Other Information [or another title if appropriate such as “Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditor’s Report Thereon”]

[Reporting in accordance with the reporting requirements in ISA 720 (Revised) – see Illustration 1 in Appendix 2 of ISA 720 (Revised).]

²³ The sub-title “Report on the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements” is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title “Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements” is not applicable.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements²⁴

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRSs,²⁵ and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

Paragraph 41(b) of this ISA explains that the shaded material below can be located in an Appendix to the auditor's report. Paragraph 41(c) explains that when law, regulation or national auditing standards expressly permit, reference can be made to a website of an appropriate authority that contains the description of the auditor's responsibilities, rather than including this material in the auditor's report, provided that the description on the website addresses, and is not inconsistent with, the description of the auditor's responsibilities below.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Group's internal control.²⁶
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on

²⁴ Or other terms that are appropriate in the context of the legal framework of the particular jurisdiction

²⁵ Where management's responsibility is to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view, this may read: "Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such ..."

²⁶ This sentence would be modified, as appropriate, in circumstances when the auditor also has a responsibility to issue an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the consolidated financial statements.

the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group’s ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor’s report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor’s report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- **Plan and perform the group audit to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to as a basis for expressing an opinion on the group consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and review performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.**

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor’s report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

[The form and content of this section of the auditor’s report would vary depending on the nature of the auditor’s other reporting responsibilities prescribed by local law, regulation, or national auditing standards. The matters addressed by other law, regulation or national auditing standards (referred to as “other reporting responsibilities”) shall be addressed within this section unless the other reporting responsibilities address the same topics as those presented under the reporting responsibilities required by the ISAs as part of the Report on the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements section. The reporting of other reporting responsibilities that address the same topics as those required by the ISAs may be combined (i.e., included in the Report on the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements section under the appropriate subheadings) provided that the wording in the auditor’s report clearly differentiates the other reporting responsibilities from the reporting that is required by the ISAs where such a difference exists.]

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor’s report is [name].

[Signature in the name of the audit firm, the personal name of the auditor, or both, as appropriate for the particular jurisdiction]

[Auditor Address]

[Date]

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ISA 701 – COMMUNICATING KEY AUDIT MATTERS IN THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

Determining Key Audit Matters (Ref: Para. 9–10)

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Matters that Required Significant Auditor Attention (Ref: Para. 9)

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A15. Various ISAs require specific communications with those charged with governance and others that may relate to areas of significant auditor attention. For example:

- ISA 260 (Revised) requires the auditor to communicate significant difficulties, if any, encountered during the audit with those charged with governance.²⁷ The ISAs acknowledge potential difficulties in relation to, for example:
 - Related party transactions,²⁸ in particular limitations on the auditor's ability to obtain audit evidence that all other aspects of a related party transaction (other than price) are equivalent to those of a similar arm's length transaction.
 - Limitations on the group audit, for example, where the group engagement team's access to information or people may have been restricted.²⁹
- ISA 220 establishes requirements for the engagement partner in relation to undertaking appropriate consultation on difficult or contentious matters.³⁰ For example, the auditor may have consulted with others within the firm or outside the firm on a significant technical matter, which may be an indicator that it is a key audit

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ISA 705 (REVISED) – MODIFICATIONS TO THE OPINION IN THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

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Circumstances When a Modification to the Auditor's Opinion Is Required

Nature of an Inability to Obtain Sufficient Appropriate Audit Evidence (Ref: Para. 6(b))

²⁷ ISA 260 (Revised), paragraphs 16(b) and A21

²⁸ ISA 550, *Related Parties*, paragraph A42

²⁹ ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*, paragraph 49(d)

³⁰ ISA 220, *Quality Control for an Audit of Financial Statements*, paragraph 18

- A8. The auditor's inability to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence (also referred to as a limitation on the scope of the audit) may arise from:
- (a) Circumstances beyond the control of the entity;
 - (b) Circumstances relating to the nature or timing of the auditor's work; or
 - (c) Limitations imposed by management.
- A9. An inability to perform a specific procedure does not constitute a limitation on the scope of the audit if the auditor is able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence by performing alternative procedures. If this is not possible, the requirements of paragraphs 7(b) and 9–10 apply as appropriate. Limitations imposed by management may have other implications for the audit, such as for the auditor's assessment of fraud risks and consideration of engagement continuance.
- A10. Examples of circumstances beyond the control of the entity include when:
- The entity's accounting records have been destroyed.
 - The accounting records of a significant component for which further audit procedures are determined to be necessary for the purposes of the group audit have been seized indefinitely by governmental authorities.

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ISA 720 (REVISED) THE AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES RELATING TO OTHER INFORMATION

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Application and Other Explanatory Material

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Reading and Considering the Other Information (Ref: Para. 14–15)

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- A24. In accordance with ISA 220,³¹ the engagement partner is required to take responsibility for the direction, supervision and review performance of the audit engagement in compliance with professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements. In the context of this ISA, factors that may be taken into account when determining the appropriate engagement team members to address the requirements of paragraphs 14–15, include:
- The relative experience of engagement team members.
 - Whether the engagement team members to be assigned the tasks have the relevant knowledge obtained in the audit to identify inconsistencies between the other information and that knowledge.
 - The degree of judgment involved in addressing the requirements of paragraph 14–15. For example, performing procedures to evaluate the consistency of amounts in the other information that are intended to be the same as amounts in the financial statements may be carried out by less experienced engagement team members.
 - Whether, in the case of a group audit, it is necessary to make inquiries of a component auditor in addressing

³¹ ISA 220, *Quality Control for an Audit of Financial Statements*, paragraph 15(a)

the other information related to that component.

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Considering Whether There Is a Material Inconsistency between the Other Information and the Auditor’s Knowledge Obtained in the Audit (Ref: Para. 14(b))

A35. The auditor may determine that referring to relevant audit documentation or making inquiries of relevant members of the engagement team, including ~~or~~ relevant component auditors, is appropriate as a basis for the auditor’s consideration of whether a material inconsistency exists. For example:

- When the other information describes the planned cessation of a major product line and, although the auditor is aware of the planned cessation, the auditor may make inquiries of the relevant engagement team member who performed the audit procedures in this area to support the auditor’s consideration of whether the description is materially inconsistent with the auditor’s knowledge obtained during the audit.
- When the other information describes important details of a lawsuit addressed in the audit, but the auditor cannot recall them adequately, it may be necessary to refer to the audit documentation where such details are summarized to support the auditor’s recollection.

A36. Whether, and if so the extent to which, the auditor refers to relevant audit documentation, or makes inquiries of relevant members of the engagement team, including ~~or~~ relevant component auditors, is a matter of professional judgment. However, it may not be necessary for the auditor to refer to relevant audit documentation, or to make inquiries of relevant members of the engagement team, including ~~or~~ relevant component auditors, about any matter included in the other information.

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ISA 805 (REVISED) – SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS—AUDITS OF SINGLE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SPECIFIC ELEMENTS, ACCOUNTS OR ITEMS OF A FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Introduction

Scope of this ISA

1. The International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) in the 100–700 series apply to an audit of financial statements and are to be adapted as necessary in the circumstances when applied to audits of other historical financial information. This ISA deals with special considerations in the application of those ISAs to an audit of a single financial statement or of a specific element, account or item of a financial statement. The single financial statement or the specific element, account or item of a financial statement may be prepared in accordance with a general or special purpose framework. If prepared in accordance with a special purpose framework, ISA 800 (Revised)³² also applies to the audit. (Ref: Para. A1–A4)
2. This ISA does not apply to the ~~report~~ audit procedures performed by ~~of~~ a component auditor, ~~issued as a result of work performed~~ on the financial information of a component at the request of a group engagement team for purposes of an audit of group financial statements (see ISA 600 (Revised)).³³
3. This ISA does not override the requirements of the other ISAs; nor does it purport to deal with all special

³² ISA 800 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Financial Statements Prepared in Accordance with Special Purpose Frameworks*

³³ ISA 600 (Revised), *Special Considerations—Audits of Group Financial Statements (Including the Work of Component Auditors)*

considerations that may be relevant in the circumstances of the engagement.

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