



To:	AASB members	Date:	16 November 2011
From:	Angus Thomson	Agenda Item:	11.1
Subject:	IASB Agenda Consultation 2011	File:	--

Action

Identify any additional matters, or amendments to the matters already raised, that are to be included in the AASB's submission to the IASB on its Request for Views *Agenda Consultation 2011*.

Attachment

Agenda paper 11.2 – Matters to be raised in AASB submission on IASB Request for Views *Agenda Consultation 2011*

Agenda paper 11.3 – comments from constituents on ITC 25 Request for Comment on IASB Request for Views *Agenda Consultation 2011*

Agenda paper 11.4 – IASB Request for Views *Agenda Consultation 2011*

Background

The Request for Views seeks input that the IASB can use in considering its future work program. There are two sets of questions – one set that has a strategic focus – one set that has a more direct project focus. Comments are due by 30 November 2011. The AASB has issued Invitation to Comment 25, which incorporates the IASB Request for Views, for comment by 10 November 2011.

Strategic focus

The Request for Views identifies two areas (developing financial reporting & maintaining existing IFRSs) and five strategies:

- * updating and refining the Conceptual Framework
- * researching strategic issues (such as: what financial reporting will mean 10 years from now?)
- * standards-level projects
- * post-implementation reviews
- * responding to implementation needs (for example, through interpretations).

Project focus

The Request for Views notes the need to balance competing demands and the constraints around resources and the capacity of stakeholders to contribute to the standard-setting process. It also presents a table showing existing deferred projects and project suggestions.

September 2011 AASB meeting

At its September meeting the Board considered staff suggestions about the comments it might make to the IASB and agreed to include the following matters:

- (a) urging the IASB to focus on global IFRS adoption, rather than convergence with US GAAP – the Board noted that there are many jurisdictions in Asia and Latin America that are in the process of transitioning to IFRSs, including identifying when to adopt IFRSs, and that the recent focus on US GAAP convergence may be a diversion from a wider focus that would better facilitate global IFRS adoption. The Board noted that it would be counterproductive if convergence with US GAAP came at the expense of helping to secure IFRS adoption by key jurisdictions in Asia;
- (b) a period of stability once the current major projects are completed would be welcome because it would help facilitate the adoption of IFRSs by many jurisdictions, particularly in Asia;
- (c) the IASB needs to be mindful of catering for the different perspectives of different jurisdictions and use generic and principle-based language – for example, to help facilitate the application of IFRSs in the context of Islamic finance or in a not-for-profit context – on the basis that this is essential to achieving one global set of standards. In this respect, the Board considers the IASB needs to be mindful of the markets in which its standards can be adopted in future; and
- (d) supporting continued work on the Conceptual Framework, particularly as means of underpinning greater consistency of accounting treatments across IFRSs as they are revised and as new IFRSs are created.

A draft set of matters to be raised was circulated out-of-session to a sub-committee of Board members (John O’Grady, Robert Williams and Victor Clarke) and the attached Agenda paper 11.2 reflects the comments made and some issues identified in constituent comments.