

# **TAG-Audit** Newsletter

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*Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. International (TAG-Audit) is a leading global accounting and auditing firm. It is considered as an independent member company of Talal Abu- Ghazaleh organization (TAG-Org). TAG-Audit provides a complete range of internal auditing, external auditing, taxation, and other financial services based on international professional standards.*

## **TAG Audit Holds Workshop on ‘Rights and Obligations of Directors’**

ABU DHABI, UAE – TAG Audit held a training workshop for Al Ain Insurance Company’s Board Members entitled “Rights and Obligations of Directors and their Effective Participation”, based on Resolution No. (7) of 2016 on Institutional Discipline Standards and the UAE Securities and Commodities Authority.

The course prepared and presented by a group of professionals at TAG.Audit included the introduction of the members to the set of rules and regulations that achieve institutional discipline in the relations and management of the company in accordance with international standards and methods, by defining the responsibilities and duties of members of the Board



of Directors and senior executive management taking into account the protection of shareholders and stakeholders’ rights.

## **IASB consults on amendments to aid implementation of IFRS 17**

The International Accounting Standards Board (Board) has proposed amendments to the insurance contracts Standard, IFRS 17, for public consultation. The aim of the amendments is to continue supporting implementation by reducing the costs of implementing the Standard and making it easier for companies to explain their results when they apply the Standard.



IFRS 17 was issued in May 2017. It is the first truly international accounting standard for insurance contracts and addresses the many inadequacies in accounting for such contracts.

Following discussions with those affected by the Standard after it was issued, the Board decided to propose amendments to IFRS 17 to alleviate concerns and challenges raised about implementing the Standard.

The proposed amendments are designed to minimize the risk of disruption to implementation already underway. They do not change the fundamental principles of the Standard or reduce the usefulness of information for investors. In the light of the proposed amendments, the Board has also proposed to defer the effective date of the Standard by one year to 2022.

## Abu-Ghazaleh: ASCA (Jordan) Issues Arabic Version of Guide to Audits of SME

AMMAN -The Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA/Jordan) issued the approved translated Arabic version of the Guide to Using ISAs in the Audits of Small- and Medium-Sized Entities (SMEs), issued by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).

HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, ASCA Chairman, stated that the Guide aims at helping practitioners conduct high-quality, cost-effective audits, enabling them to better serve SMEs and, in turn, the wider public interest.

The fourth edition has been updated to reflect the recent changes to the ISAs including the International Audit and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) projects on Using the Work of Internal Auditors; the Auditor's Responsibilities Relating to Other Information; Auditor Reporting; Disclosures and Non-Compliance with Laws and Regulations.

This Guide can be used to:

- Develop a deeper understanding of an audit conducted in compliance with the ISAs;
- Develop a staff manual (supplemented as necessary for local requirements and a firm's procedure) to be used for day-to-day reference, and as a basis for training sessions and individual study and discussion; and
- Help ensure that staff adopt a consistent approach to planning and performing an audit.

The Guide has been organized into two volumes as follows:-

Volume 1 of the Guide, which provides an overview of the entire audit and a discussion of key audit concepts such as materiality, assertions, internal control, risk assessment procedures, and the use of further audit procedures in responding to assessed



risks. It also includes a summary of ISA requirements with respect to:

- Specific areas such as accounting estimates, related parties, subsequent events, going concern, and others;
- Documentation requirements; and
- Forming an opinion on the financial statements.

Volume 2 of the Guide focuses on how to apply the concepts outlined in Volume 1. It follows the typical stages involved in performing an audit, starting with client acceptance, planning, and risk assessment, and then the risk response, evaluating audit evidence obtained, and forming an appropriate audit opinion.

It is worth mentioning that ASCA-Jordan continuously seeks to develop accounting and management sciences, as well as all related principles applicable to professional services. ASCA-Jordan also strives to improve competence and practice and strengthen the code of ethics in accordance with the highest professional standards through the issuance of accounting publications and following up on the recent developments in accounting and auditing.

## Abu-Ghazaleh Chairs the 30th Meeting of ASCA (Jordan) Board of Directors

AMMAN – The Arab Society of Certified Accountants (Jordan) / a member of The Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Foundation held its 30th meeting chaired by HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of ASCA (Jordan) Board of Directors, at Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Knowledge Forum (TAGKF).

During the meeting, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh welcomed members of ASCA (Jordan) Board, particularly its founders and primary supporters for 35 years, and praised the Board's efforts in the development of the Society's work and activities. The Society is the only entity that provides qualifications, education and training in the field of accounting in the region that has been operating since 1984.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh affirmed, "We always seek to develop accounting and management sciences through this society", commending the high level of achievements and the efforts of its Board of Directors and staff.

He also expressed his admiration for the Society's role and performance in facilitating, developing and funding the translation of all ISAs, IPSASs and IES and other translations of standards issued by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).

During the meeting, Mr. Salim Al-Ouri, Executive Director of the Society, presented the administrative Body's report on its work for the year ending December 31, 2018, as well as briefing the attendees on ASCA (Jordan) future plans. The report contained information on the most important translated, printed and published professional publications including the monthly professional magazine, International Public Sector Accounting Standards 2017 Handbook, Guide to Using ISAs in the Audits of SMEs 2018, Handbook of the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants 2018, Interpretation and



Application of IPSAS, Abu-Ghazaleh Accounting and Business Dictionary – Third Revised Edition.

Regarding qualification and training, the report stated that "37 training and professional courses were held in the Kingdom that benefited 350 trainers and trainees. Many cooperation and follow-up agreements were signed with different bodies."

During the meeting, the external auditor was elected for the years 2019-2020, also the report of the administrative body, the final financial statements and the budget were approved.

The meeting also included the approval of the report of the administrative body, the final financial statements, the estimated budget and the election of an auditor for the Society.

It is worth mentioning that the Society always seeks to develop accounting, management sciences and relevant principals applicable to all or some professional services.