Current status of standard-setting of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and priority areas for further development

Presented by

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The Role of the Accountancy Profession in PFM

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UNCTAD-ISAR Workshop on Practical Implementation of IPSAS
November 3, 2015
Geneva, Switzerland
The Bar Continues to Rise

Citizens’ raised expectations
  +
Pressure on national budgets
  +
Additional demands as a result of GFC
  =
Greater need for sound PFM
ACCOUNTABILITY. NOW. A campaign for:

HIGH-QUALITY PUBLIC SECTOR FINANCIAL REPORTING
MORE INFORMED GOVERNMENT DECISION MAKING
EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT PUBLIC SECTOR SPENDING
BETTER QUALITY PUBLIC SERVICES
ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY
INCREASED TRUST IN GOVERNMENT

Visit accountability-now.org for more information.
#AccountabilityNow
High-quality, decision-useful, easy-to-access, **accrual-based** financial information is the cornerstone of sound PFM

- IPSAS is the only globally accepted accrual-based public sector financial reporting standards
- Provide for the disclosure of all assets, liabilities, and contingent liabilities
- Is vital for assessing the true economic implications of PFM
- Encourages government leaders to make decisions driven by matters other than short-term political incentives.

**Public Sector Financial Management Transparency and Accountability: The Use of International Public Sector Accounting Standards**—IFAC *Policy Position Paper #4*
Current State of Play

Source: PWC Global Survey on Accounting and Reporting by Central Governments (2015)
Expected in 5 Years

Source: PWC Global Survey on Accounting and Reporting by Central Governments (2015)
“PFM reform is the ultimate public interest issue for the accountancy profession” – Warren Allen, IFAC Past President
The Accountancy Profession—Actions at the Global, Regional and National

• Global
  – IFAC
  – International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB)
  – International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI)

• Regional
  – Regional Organizations and Accountancy Groupings in the private and public sectors

• National
  – Professional Accountancy Organizations
  – Court of Audits / Supreme Audit Institutions
A Global Campaign

• A global campaign
• Supported by a broad coalition
• To:
  – Raise awareness
  – Facilitate partnerships
  – Support capacity building
• Can be replicated at the regional and national level
Global Knowledge Gateway
Your portal to global accountancy knowledge, resources and news

Accountability. Now. Your portal to better public sector financial reporting

Mosaic
Your portal to global accountancy development
IPSASB—Implementation Support

• "A Closer Look at:" series
• Resources
  – IPSAS 33, First-time Adoption of Accrual Basis IPSAS
  – The Importance of Accrual-based Financial Reporting in the Public Sector
  – Study 14—Transition to the Accrual Basis of Accounting: Guidance …
• Introduction to IPSAS Train-the-trainer
• IPSAS and Accrual Accounting News
At the Regional Level
At the National Level

• PAOs
  – Advocate
  – Trusted advisor to government
  – Capacity builder
• Professional accountants
  – Important links in the financial reporting supply chain
  – Protectors of the public interest
Are you?