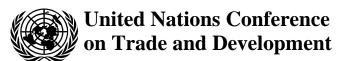
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Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on
International Standards of Accounting and Reporting
Twenty-eighth session
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Item 3 of the provisional agenda
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Capacity-building framework for high-quality corporate reporting

Capacity-building framework for high-quality corporate reporting: Assessment questionnaire

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Executive summary

In accordance with the agreement reached by member States at the twenty-seventh session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR), the UNCTAD secretariat has developed an assessment questionnaire. The structure of the questionnaire matches the pillars defined in the capacity-building framework set out in documents TD/B/C.II/ISAR/56 and its addendum TD/B/C.II/ISAR/56/Add.1, which were considered by the twenty-seventh session of ISAR.

This assessment tool provides guidance for assessing and benchmarking countries' existing capacity for high-quality corporate reporting in order to identify gaps and decide on further actions. It consists of detailed questions on essential elements that need to be in place in a country to ensure that corporate reports are of high quality and are prepared in accordance with international benchmarks and good practices.

It is being presented for consideration by the twenty-eighth session of ISAR.

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I. Background

- 1. At the twenty-seventh session of ISAR, the Group of Experts further underscored the need for high-quality corporate reporting to facilitate the mobilization of domestic and international financial resources and to foster investor confidence. The Group of Experts noted the implementation challenges posed by the increasing pace of the promulgation of international corporate reporting standards and codes, and emphasized the need for a coherent approach to capacity-building in this area.
- 2. During deliberations on the subject, ISAR agreed on the key elements of a capacity-building framework for high-quality corporate financial and non-financial reporting, including:
 - · The legal and regulatory framework;
 - The institutional framework;
 - · Human capacity;
 - The capacity-building process.
- 3. The Group of Experts also recognized the usefulness of developing tools to assess progress in capacity-building, as well as priorities for the capacity-building process. It requested the UNCTAD secretariat to further develop the measurement methodology.

A. Purpose of the assessment questionnaire

- 4. The purpose of the questionnaire is to provide guidance for stakeholders on assessing and benchmarking countries' existing capacity for high-quality corporate reporting in order to identify gaps and decide on further actions. It is a quantitative measurement tool as well as a user guide, offering suggestions on what needs to be done at the country level to ensure high-quality corporate reporting. Benchmarking can be a strictly internal exercise one country comparing its progress against itself over time or, if so desired by participating member States, it could be an external exercise benchmarking against the capacity of other member States. This tool is intended to assist policymakers in identifying priority areas for further capacity-building and technical assistance where relevant.
- 5. The initial version of the questionnaire was modified and updated after consultations with experts at various national round-table meetings, as well as from experts of the Consultative Group on Capacity-Building Framework.
- 6. Pilot testing exercises were used to validate the questions and improve the general content of the questionnaire. Comments were included to enhance clarity and objectivity in order to ensure its usefulness as an evaluating tool.

B. Who should complete the questionnaire?

7. The questionnaire is being presented for consideration by the twenty-eighth session of ISAR. Upon completion, it will be disseminated to member States and other relevant stakeholders. It is intended for self-assessment purposes at the country level; however, it is important to be able to compare results among countries, for example, in order to assess the situation in a region. In this regard, a team of experts may be required to fill in all parts of the questionnaire; respondent teams may therefore need to be coordinated by a local body

such as the responsible government authority or a national accounting body. Due attention will need to be given to the credentials of experts to be involved in the assessment exercise.

C. Style of questions: observable facts, not open-ended

- 8. In an effort to be as objective as possible, and to provide a common framework at the global level, the questionnaire uses a binary "yes/no" style of questions based on observable facts about a country's accounting and reporting capacity. This is done by considering the objective of the project, which is to provide quantitative benchmarking feedback. The intention is also to avoid a duplication of other global projects, such as World Bank Reports on the Observance of Standards and Codes (ROSC), international and national surveys and other important initiatives, that aim to provide a qualitative analysis of high-quality corporate reporting. There are no options for "not applicable" and the questions are focused on core issues that should be relevant to any country. In rare exceptions, where there is a clear case for a "not applicable" answer, the formula will be adjusted for a decreased number of questions (see formula below). Likewise, there are no open-ended questions that might introduce subjective assessments reducing the tool's usefulness in providing comparable measurements of progress over time.
- 9. The questionnaire contains a number of questions that cover a similar area where some respondents can answer "yes" to nearly the same question more than once. For example, respondents are asked whether International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) are required and whether they are permitted. In countries where they are required, respondents would answer "yes" to both of these questions, whereas in countries where IFRS are permitted, respondents would only answer "yes" to the second question. This approach to questions allows more detailed responses indicating the exact circumstances of individual countries, while also differentiating those countries that have made more progress than others in implementing international standards and corporate reporting capacity.
- 10. The questionnaire includes a comments column allowing respondents to give additional information on a specific question when clarification becomes necessary. There is also a source of information column in which respondents are required to provide, for example, the related laws, standards or regulations that support the answer provided in order to give users the option to consult the main sources for further information.

D. Reference to international and widely accepted benchmarks

11. The questionnaire makes reference to a range of international standards and widely accepted benchmarks in related areas to assess the quality of corporate reporting produced in the countries concerned. When referring to a specific set of standards, guidelines, codes and the like, the respondent should always consider the current version of the benchmark mentioned.

E. Methodology for calculating evaluations

- 12. The statistical methodology is as follows:
 - The questionnaire is divided according to the pillars defined in the capacity-building framework: A – regulatory environment, B – institutional framework and C – human capacity. Pillar D – capacity-building process, is not part of the measurement methodology, but should be used as a basis for the further improvement of highquality corporate reporting capacity;

- Each pillar contains a number of indicators. There are 9 indicators for pillar A, 4 for pillar B and 8 for pillar C. All indicators have a set of related questions, and some of these questions have an associated checklist;
- The proposed methodology provides a consistent benchmark of 100 per cent for each of the assessed areas. The number of indicators and questions can be changed as the process unfolds if there are further suggestions regarding the questions and indicators;
- The following formula is used to measure each indicator: $Ai = \sum (Y/CL)/Qi$

Where:

Y = yes, or a positive answer, which has a value of 1 for each of the indicators, (a negative answer has a value of 0);

i = from indicator 1 to indicator I of the related pillar;

CL = checklist questions related to individual questions for some indicators of this pillar; should a question not have a checklist, CL = 1, because there is just one question for the related matter:¹

II. List of acronyms

CPD - Continuing professional development

CSR – Corporate social responsibility

GRI – Global Reporting Initiative

IAASB – International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board

IAESB – International Accounting Education Standards Board

IASB – International Accounting Standards Board

IES - International Education Standards

IESBA - International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants

IFAC – International Federation of Accountants

IFRIC – International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee

IFRS – International Financial Reporting Standards

INTOSAI - International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions

IPSAS - International Public-sector Accounting Standards

IPSASB - International Public-sector Accounting Standards Board

- For 9 indicators in pillar A, indicator A.1 has 16 questions, and questions 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 and 15 have checklist subquestions.
- The level of capacity for pillar A will be a sum of 9 indicators (financial reporting; public sector; audit; environmental, social and governance reporting; monitoring, enforcement and compliance; licensing of auditors; corporate governance; ethics; and investigation, discipline and appeals) divided by 9.
- Capacity for each of the 9 areas (indicators) within pillar A will be measured using the formula shown above.
- There are 16 questions for pillar A1, 4 of which (n1, 2, 3 and 4) have 4 checklist questions, one (n8) has 60 and one (n15) has 34. If there are, for example, 6 positive answers out of 16, the formula will be used for questions without checklist questions, and positive answers to all questions which have checklist questions.

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\left[\frac{4}{4} + \frac{4}{4} + \frac{4}{4} + \frac{4}{4} + \frac{4}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{60}{60} + \frac{0}{1} + \frac{0}{1} + \frac{0}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{34} + \frac{34}{34} + \frac{1}{1}\right] / 16 = 0.75
```

• The formula to assess capacity for pillar A is as follows: $IA = \Sigma Ai/9$,

Where Ai is a level of capacity for each of the indicators in pillar A and 9 is the number of indicators for pillar A.

¹ An example for pillar A:

ISAs – International Standards on Auditing

OECD - Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

PAO – Professional accountancy organization

ROSC - Reports on the Observance of Standards and Codes (World Bank)

SAI – Supreme audit institution

SME – Small and medium-sized enterprise

SMO – IFAC Statements of Membership Obligations

UNCTAD - United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

III. List of definitions

Accounting technician: a skilled person who carries out many of the day-to-day tasks in the accounting environment. Accounting technicians may work alone in smaller organizations. In larger organizations, however, they usually provide support to senior accountants. They generally work at an operational level, making decisions commensurate with their role, with guidance from a senior accountant, as needed. Accounting technicians work in all types of organizations, including commerce and industry, government, public services and private practice. They may progress to higher level jobs or qualifications once they have completed their technician-level training, which is based on the 2005 Occupational Standards for Accounting Technicians developed by the Eastern Central and Southern African Federation of Accountants.

Audit professional: a professional accountant who has responsibility, or has been delegated responsibility, for significant judgments in an audit of historical financial information (source: International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB)).

Pre-qualification: the period preceding qualification as an individual member of an IFAC member body; generally associated with activities and requirements relating to the development of those who have not yet obtained their professional qualification (source: IAESB).

Professional accountant: an individual who is a member of an IFAC member body (source: IFAC).

Public-interest entities: listed companies whose shares trade on an authorized public stock exchange, regulated financial institutions such as banks and insurance companies, and companies that are of major national interest owing to the nature of their business, their size or the number of their employees (source: documents from IFAC, the firm KPMG and the Russian Corporate Governance Round Table organized by OECD in cooperation with the World Bank).

Public-sector entities include national governments, regional governments (for example, state, provincial or territorial governments), local governments (city, town governments) and related governmental entities such as agencies, boards, commissions and enterprises (source: IPSASB).

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Draft questionnaire for assessing a country's capacity for producing high-quality corporate reports

			Yes	No	Source of information ¹	Comments ²
IV.	Pillar A –	legal and regulatory framework				
Indicator	A.1	Financial reporting and disclosure				
Questions	1.1	Are full IFRS ³ required as part of the national regulatory system for:				
Checklist for 1.1	1.1.1	Listed companies				
	1.1.1.1	Domestic companies				
	1.1.1.2	Foreign registrants				
	1.1.2	Banking sector				
	1.1.3	Insurance sector				
	1.1.4	Other public-interest entities				
	1.2	Are full IFRS permitted ⁴ as part of the national regulatory system for:				
Checklist for 1.2	1.2.1	Listed companies				
	1.2.2	Banking sector				
	1.2.3	Insurance sector				
	1.2.4	Other public-interest entities				
	1.3	Are separate financial statements required to be prepared with full IFRS?				

Note: The term corporate reporting in this table is used in a broader sense, including financial as well as non-financial reporting. It considers entities from all sectors, including listed companies, non-listed companies, banks, insurance, SMEs and public sector entities.

¹ Please use this column to provide references that support your responses to the respective questions.

² Please use this column if you wish to provide brief comments on your responses to the respective questions.

³ The term "full IFRS" refers to the complete version of IFRS, excluding IFRS for SMEs

⁴ If the answer to the corresponding category of entity in 1.1 is "yes". please respond "yes" to 1.2. Since requiring IFRS is more stringent that permitting their use, countries that already require companies to apply IFRS should answer "yes" to both questions.

			Yes	No	Source of information ¹	Comments ²
	1.4	Is early adoption of IFRS encouraged in the country (where relevant)?				
	1.5	Is there a formal due process for translation of IFRS into a national language? ⁵				
	1.6	Is there a formal due process for including into laws, rules and regulation updates to accounting standards?				
	1.7	Is there a formal due process to clarify or resolve any doubts or disagreements related to the implementation of accounting standards?				
	1.8	Does the national regulatory framework for listed companies and other public-interest entities ⁶ cover the following aspects ⁷ in accordance with the current version of IFRS issued by IASB?				
Checklist for 1.8	1.8.1	Conceptual framework				
	1.8.2	Share-based payment				
	1.8.3	Business combinations				
	1.8.4	Insurance contracts				
	1.8.5	Non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations				
	1.8.6	Exploration for and evaluation of mineral resources				
	1.8.7	Financial instruments: recognition and measurement				
	1.8.8	Financial instruments: presentation and disclosure				
	1.8.9	Operating segments				
	1.8.10	Presentation of financial statements				
	1.8.11	Inventories				
	1.8.12	Statement of cash flows				
	1.8.13	Accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors				

⁵ For countries where English is a national language, please answer "yes".

⁶ Public-interest entities include listed companies whose shares trade on an authorized public stock exchange, regulated financial institutions such as banks and insurance companies, and companies that are of major national interest owing to the nature of their business, their size or the number of their employees.

⁷ If the answer to 1.1 is yes, please respond yes to 1.8.

		Yes	No	Source of information ¹	Comments ²
1.8.14	Events after the reporting period				
1.8.15	Construction contracts				
1.8.16	Income taxes				
1.8.17	Property, plant and equipment				
1.8.18	Leases				
1.8.19	Revenue				
1.8.20	Employee benefits				
1.8.21	Accounting for government grants and disclosure of government assistance				
1.8.22	Effects of changes in foreign exchange rates				
1.8.23	Borrowing costs				
1.8.24	Related party disclosures				
1.8.25	Accounting and reporting by retirement benefit plans				
1.8.26	Consolidated and separate financial statements				
1.8.27	Investments in associates				
1.8.28	Financial reporting in hyperinflationary economies				
1.8.29	Interests in joint ventures				
1.8.30	Earnings Per Share				
1.8.31	Impairment of assets				
1.8.32	Interim financial reporting				
1.8.33	Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets				
1.8.34	Intangible Assets				
1.8.35	Investment property				
1.8.36	Agriculture				
1.8.37	Changes in existing decommissioning, restoration and similar liabilities				

			Yes	No	Source of information ¹	Comments ²
	1.9	Are listed companies required to publish corporate annual financial statements (audited)?				
	1.10	Are listed companies required to publish interim corporate reports quarterly/semi-annually?				
	1.11	Is a management commentary, including risk disclosures, required in addition to financial statements?				
	1.12	Is there a regulatory framework for non-listed companies?				
	1.13	Are IFRS for SMEs required as part of the national regulatory system?				
	1.14	Are there local accounting standards for SMEs? ⁸				
	1.15	Do the local accounting standards for SMEs cover the following aspects in accordance with the current version of the IFRS for SMEs issued by ASB?				
Checklist for 1.15	1.15.1	Small and medium-sized entities				
	1.15.2	Concepts and pervasive principles				
	1.15.3	Financial statement presentation				
	1.15.4	Statement of financial position				
	1.15.5	Statement of comprehensive income and income statement				
	1.15.6	Statement of changes in equity and statement of comprehensive income and retained earnings				
	1.15.7	Statement of cash flows				
	1.15.8	Notes to the financial statements				
	1.15.9	Consolidated and separate financial statements				
	1.15.10	Accounting policies, estimates and errors				
	1.15.11	Basic financial instruments				
	1.15.12	Additional financial instruments issues				
	1.15.13	Inventories				

⁸ If the answer to 1.13 is yes, please respond yes to 1.14 and 1.15.

3			Y	Zes .	No	Source of information ¹	Comments ²
	1.15.14	Investments in associates					
	1.15.15	Investments in joint ventures					
	1.15.16	Investment property	[
	1.15.17	Property, plant and equipment					
	1.15.18	Intangible assets other than goodwill					
	1.15.19	Business combinations and goodwill					
	1.15.20	Leases					
	1.15.21	Provisions and contingencies					
	1.15.22	Liabilities and equity					
	1.15.23	Revenue					
	1.15.24	Government grants	[
	1.15.25	Borrowing costs					
	1.15.26	Share-based payment	[
	1.15.27	Impairment of assets	[
	1.15.28	Employee benefits	[
	1.15.29	Income tax					
	1.15.30	Foreign currency translation					
	1.15.31	Hyperinflation					
	1.15.32	Events after the end of the reporting period					
	1.15.33	Related party disclosures					
	1.15.34	Specialized activities					
	1.16	Is there a regulatory framework for microenterprises reporting?					
		Total for indicator A.1		_			

			Yes	No	Source of information ¹	Comments ²
Indicator	A.2	Public-sector9 financial reporting, disclosure and auditing				
	2.1	Are IPSAS – as issued by IPSASB – required as part of the national regulatory system?				
	2.2	Are financial statements of public-sector entities prepared according to the current version of IPSAS issued by IPSASB?				
	2.3	Do local standards for public-sector entities cover the following aspects in accordance with the current version of IPSAS issued by IPSASB ¹⁰ ?				
Checklist for 2.3	2.3.1	Presentation of financial statements				
	2.3.2	Cash flow statements				
	2.3.3	Accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors				
	2.3.4	Effects of changes in foreign exchange rates				
	2.3.5	Borrowing costs				
	2.3.6	Consolidated and separate financial statements				
	2.3.7	Investments in associates				
	2.3.8	Interests in joint ventures				
	2.3.9	Revenue from exchange transactions				
	2.3.10	Financial reporting in hyperinflationary economies				
	2.3.11	Construction contracts				
	2.3.12	Inventories				
	2.3.13	Leases				
	2.3.14	Events after the reporting date				
	2.3.15	Financial instruments: disclosure and presentation				
	2.3.16	Investment property				
	2.3.17	Property, plant, and equipment				
	2.3.18	Segment reporting				
	2.3.19	Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets				
	2.3.20	Related party disclosures				
	2.3.21	Impairment of non-cash-generating assets				
	2.3.22	Disclosure of information about the general government sector				

⁹ According to IPSASB, the term public sector refers to national governments, regional governments(for example, state, provincial, territorial), local governments (for example, city, town) and related governmental entities such as agencies, boards, commissions and enterprises.

¹⁰ If the answer to 2.1 is yes, please respond yes to 2.3.

¹¹ If the answer to 2.5 is yes, please respond yes to 2.7 and 2.8.

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	2.8.5	Review the efficiency and effectiveness of SAI internal standards and		
	2.6.3	procedures.		
		Standards with ethical significance		
	2.8.6	The auditor and the SAI must be independent of each other.		
	2.8.7	SAIs should avoid conflicts of interest between the auditor and the entity under audit.		
	2.8.8	The auditor and SAI must possess required competencies.		
	2.8.9	The auditor and SAI must exercise due care and concern in complying with INTOSAI auditing standards.		
		Field standards in government auditing		
	2.8.10	Planning		
	2.8.11	Supervision and review		
	2.8.12	Study and evaluation of internal control		
	2.8.13	Compliance with applicable laws and regulations		
	2.8.14	Audit evidence		
	2.8.15	Analysis of financial statements		
		Reporting standards in government auditing		
	2.8.16	Preparation of a written opinion or report		
	2.8.17	It is up to the SAI to which the auditors belong to decide on the action to be taken on fraudulent practices or serious irregularities discovered by them.		
		Total for indicator A.2		
Indicator	A.3	Audit		
Questions	3.1	Are financial statements required to be audited by an independent auditor for?		
Checklist for 3.1	3.1.1	Listed companies		
		Banking sector		
	3.1.2	Danking Sector		
	3.1.2	Insurance sector		
		_		
	3.1.3	Insurance sector Other public-interest entities Are financial statements of entities mentioned below required to be audited in accordance with the current version of International Standards on Auditing (ISAs)		
Checklist for 3.2	3.1.3 3.1.4	Insurance sector Other public-interest entities Are financial statements of entities mentioned below required to be audited in		
Checklist for 3.2	3.1.3 3.1.4 3.2	Insurance sector Other public-interest entities Are financial statements of entities mentioned below required to be audited in accordance with the current version of International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) issued by IAASB?		
Checklist for 3.2	3.1.3 3.1.4 3.2 3.2.1	Insurance sector Other public-interest entities Are financial statements of entities mentioned below required to be audited in accordance with the current version of International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) issued by IAASB? Listed companies		

	3.3	Is there a formal arrangement for translation of ISAs into a national language? ¹²			
	3.4	Does the country concerned have local auditing standards? ¹³			
	3.5	Is there a formal due process for including updates to auditing standards in law, rule and regulations?			
	3.6	Are independent auditors required to be certified by a designated authority?]	
	3.7	Is the auditors' report of listed companies available to the members and to the public?			
	3.8	Are the following aspects covered by the national auditing standards? ¹⁴			
		Quality control			
Checklist for 3.8	3.8.1	Quality controls for firms that perform audits and reviews of financial statements, and other assurance and related services engagements			
		Audits of historical financial information			
		General principles and responsibilities			
	3.8.2	Overall objectives of the independent auditor and the conduct of an audit in accordance with ISAs			
	3.8.3	Agreeing on the terms of audit engagements			
	3.8.4	Quality control for an audit of financial statements			
	3.8.5	Audit documentation			
	3.8.6	Auditor's responsibilities relating to fraud in an audit of financial statements			
	3.8.7	Consideration of laws and regulations in an audit of financial statements			
	3.8.8	Communication with those charged with governance			
	3.8.9	Communicating deficiencies in internal control to those charged with governance and management			
		Risk assessment and response to assessed risks			
	3.8.10	Planning an audit of financial statements			
	3.8.11	Identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement by understanding the entity and its environment			
	3.8.12	Materiality in planning and performing an audit			
	3.8.13	Auditor's responses to assessed risks			
	3.8.14	Audit considerations relating to an entity using a service organization			
	3.8.15	Evaluation of misstatements identified during an audit			
		Audit evidence			
	3.8.16	Audit evidence, including specific considerations for selected items	Г	1	

For countries where English is a national language, please answer yes.
 If the answer to 3.2 is yes, please respond yes to 3.4.
 If the answer to 3.2 is yes, please respond yes to 3.8.

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3.8.17	External confirmations		ПП		
3.8.18	Initial audit engagements – opening balances	+H	H		
3.8.19	Analytical procedures	+	H		
3.8.20	Audit sampling	+	H		
3.8.21	Auditing accounting estimates, including fair value accounting estimates, and	+	H		
3.6.21	related disclosures				
3.8.22	Related parties		П		
3.8.23	Subsequent events		Ħ		
3.8.24	Going concerns	$+$ \Box	H		
3.8.25	Written representations	+H	H		
5.0.20	Using the work of others				
3.8.26	Special considerations – audits of group financial statements, including the		П		
5.0.20	work of component auditors				
3.8.27	Using the work of internal auditors		П		
3.8.28	Using the work of an auditor's expert		Ħ		
	Audit conclusions and reporting				
3.8.29	Forming an opinion and reporting on financial statements		П		
3.8.30	Modifications to the opinion in the independent auditor's report				
3.8.31	Emphasis of matter paragraphs and other matter paragraphs in the independent		П		
	auditor's report				
3.8.32	Comparative information – corresponding figures and comparative financial				
	statements				
3.8.33	Auditor's responsibilities relating to other information in documents containing				
	audited financial statements				
	Specialized areas				
3.8.34	Special considerations – audits of financial statements prepared in accordance				
2.0.25	with special purpose frameworks 3.8.36 Special considerations – audits of single financial statements and specific	 			
3.8.35	elements, accounts or items of a financial statement				
3.8.37	Engagements to report on summary financial statements	\vdash	\vdash		
3.6.37	Review engagements	 L			
3.8.38	Engagements to review financial statements	+	\vdash		
3.8.39	Review of interim financial information performed by the independent auditor	$+ \vdash$	$\vdash \vdash \vdash$		
3.0.39	of the entity				
	Assurance engagements other than audits or reviews of historical financial			1	+
	information				
3.8.40	Assurance engagements other than audits or reviews of historical financial				
	information				
3.8.41	Examination of prospective financial information	ТП			
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¹⁵ Such as the UNCTAD Guidance on Good Practices in Corporate Governance Disclosure.

	4.1.10	Governance structures, such as committees and other mechanisms, to prevent conflicts of interest		
		Sustainability issues		
	4.2	Does the country concerned require companies to disclose information on climate-change related emissions? ¹⁶		
	4.3	Does the country mandate a standardized format for calculating and reporting climate change emissions?		
	4.4	Does the country concerned require companies to produce sustainability reports?		
	4.5	Does the country mandate a standardized format containing clear guidance on how to prepare sustainability reporting, such as the Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Reporting Guidelines or the UNCTAD Guidance on Corporate Social Responsibility Indicators in Annual Reports?		
Checklist for 4.5	4.5.1	Economic impacts		
	4.5.2	Environmental impacts		
	4.5.3	Labour practices, including health and safety issues		
	4.5.4	Human rights		
	4.5.5	Corruption avoidance		
	4.6	Does the country concerned require company sustainability reports to be assured in accordance with an international or national assurance standard (for example, an international standard such as ISAE3000 issued by IAASB or national standards such as those produced in the Netherlands, Japan and Sweden)?		
	4.7	Does the country concerned have guidance for integrating sustainability reporting into a company's annual financial reports?		
		Total for indicator A.4		
Indicator	A.5	Corporate reporting requirements: enforcement, monitoring of implementation and compliance		
Questions	5.1	For listings purposes, are entities required to prepare their financial statements in accordance with the full current version of IFRS issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB)?		

 $^{^{\}rm 16}$ For instance, by following the Global Reporting Initiative Reporting Guidelines.

	5.2	Are entities required to be audited in accordance with the current version of ISAs		
		for listing purposes?		
	5.3	Is there an oversight function that monitors compliance with corporate reporting requirements for the following entities?		
Checklist for 5.3	5.3.1	Listed companies		
	5.3.2	Banking sector		
	5.3.3	Insurance sector		
	5.3.4	Other public-interest entities		
	5.4	Are there professional criteria for the selection of the monitoring team?		
Checklist for 5.4	5.4.1	Listed companies		
	5.4.2	Banking sector		
	5.4.3	Insurance sector		
	5.4.4	Other public-interest entities		
	5.5	Are there criteria for the selection of firms or audits to be monitored for compliance with reporting requirements?		
	5.6	Are there checklists to ensure that an appropriate monitoring process is applied in all instances?		
Checklist for 5.6	5.6.1	Listed companies		
	5.6.2	Banking sector		
	5.6.3	Insurance sector		
	5.6.4	Other public-interest entities		
	5.7	When the monitoring process reveals non-compliance, is there a process to report the findings to the regulatory authorities?		
	5.8	Is there an enforcement function for corporate reporting requirements?		
Checklist for 5.8	5.8.1	Listed companies		
	5.8.2	Banking sector		
	5.8.3	Insurance sector		
	5.8.4	Other public-interest entities		
	5.9	Does the oversight function include a responsibility to impose sanctions for serious violations of accounting regulations?		

	5.10	Are audit firms regulated? ¹⁷		
	5.11	Are findings classified according to formal criteria?		
	5.12	Are findings classified according to standard criteria?		
	5.13	Does internal quality control include review and sign-off procedures?		
	5.14	Is there a method of reporting findings to the issuer, audit firm and regulator, including the Registrar of Companies, where applicable, or its equivalent institution?		
	5.15	Is there a process to monitor and ensure that corrective actions are taken against or by entities in situations where non-compliance issues arise?		
		Total for indicator A.5		
Indicator	A.6	Licensing ¹⁸ of auditors		
		_		
Questions	6.1	Is there a licensing mechanism for auditors?		
Questions	6.1	Is there a licensing mechanism for auditors? Is there a mechanism to ensure the interaction between licensing and disciplinary systems?		
Questions		Is there a mechanism to ensure the interaction between licensing and disciplinary systems? Are individuals required to pass an examination of professional competence to obtain a professional licence?		
Questions	6.2	Is there a mechanism to ensure the interaction between licensing and disciplinary systems? Are individuals required to pass an examination of professional competence to obtain a professional licence? Are individuals required to complete practical experience training to obtain a professional licence?		
Questions	6.2	Is there a mechanism to ensure the interaction between licensing and disciplinary systems? Are individuals required to pass an examination of professional competence to obtain a professional licence? Are individuals required to complete practical experience training to obtain a		
Questions	6.2 6.3 6.4	Is there a mechanism to ensure the interaction between licensing and disciplinary systems? Are individuals required to pass an examination of professional competence to obtain a professional licence? Are individuals required to complete practical experience training to obtain a professional licence?		
Questions	6.2 6.3 6.4 6.5	Is there a mechanism to ensure the interaction between licensing and disciplinary systems? Are individuals required to pass an examination of professional competence to obtain a professional licence? Are individuals required to complete practical experience training to obtain a professional licence? Is CPD required for licence renewal and/or continuation?		

¹⁷ An example of a regulator is the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in the United States. The Board is a non-profit corporation established by Congress to oversee the audits of public companies in order to protect the interests of investors and further the public interest in the preparation of informative, accurate and independent audit reports.

¹⁸ Governments may issue licences to practice and/or conduct statutory audits but these powers may also rest with, or be delegated by, governments to national professional accountancy bodies or public oversight boards.

Indicator	A.7	Corporate governance		
Questions	7.1	Does the country concerned have a code or other regulatory requirements for corporate governance?		
Checklist for 7.1	7.1.1	Listed companies		
	7.1.2	Banking sector		
	7.1.3	Insurance sector		
	7.1.4	Other public-interest entities		
	7.1.5	State-owned enterprises		
	7.2	Is the code or the regulatory requirements in line with the OECD Principles of Corporate Governance?		
Checklist for 7.2	7.2.1	Ensuring the basis for an effective corporate governance framework		
	7.2.2	Rights of shareholders and key ownership functions		
	7.2.3	Equitable treatment of shareholders		
	7.2.4	Role of stakeholders in corporate governance		
	7.2.5	Disclosure and transparency		
	7.2.6	Responsibilities of the board of directors		
	7.3	Is the board of directors ¹⁹ required by law or other regulations to establish audit committees or an equivalent monitoring body to oversee the preparation of financial statements?		
Checklist for 7.3	7.3.1	Listed companies		
	7.3.2	Banking sector		
	7.3.3	Insurance sector		
	7.3.4	Other public-interest entities		
	7.4	Does legislation require at least some members of the board of directors, audit committee or similar body to be financially literate?		
Checklist for 7.4	7.4.1	Listed companies		
	7.4.2	Banking sector		
	7.4.3	Insurance sector		

 $^{^{\}rm 19}$ Board of directors or either of the top two-tier systems.

	7.4.4	Other public-interest entities		
	7.5	Does the country's code of corporate governance require entities to establish audit committees?		
Checklist for 7.5	7.5.1	Listed companies		
	7.5.2	Banking sector		
	7.5.3	Insurance sector		
	7.5.4	Other public-interest entities		
	7.6	Is the board of directors required by law or other regulations to establish internal control procedures relating to the preparation of financial statements?		
Checklist for 7.6	7.6.1	Listed companies		
	7.6.2	Banking sector		
	7.6.3	Insurance sector		
	7.6.4	Other public-interest entities		
	7.7	Is there an internal control framework ²⁰ covering the following areas?		
Checklist for 7.7	7.7.1	Control environment		
	7.7.2	Risk assessment		
	7.7.3	Control activities		
	7.7.4	Information and communication		
	7.7.5	Monitoring		
	7.8	Are the audit committees and/ or board of directors required by law or other regulations to certify that financial statements prepared by the management of the company are sound?		
Checklist for 7.8	7.8.1	Listed companies		
	7.8.2	Banking sector		

²⁰ Some benchmarks could be the internal control integrated framework of the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and the criteria of control framework of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants.

	7.8.3	Insurance sector		
	7.8.4	Other public-interest entities		
		1		
		Total for indicator A.7		
Indicator	A.8	Ethics		
Questions	8.1	Has a code of ethics been adopted?		
Checklist for 8.1	8.1.1	For professional accountants ²¹		
	8.1.2	For audit professionals ²²		
	8.2	Is the code of ethics equivalent to the current code of ethics of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA)?		
Checklist for 8.2	8.2.1	For professional accountants		
	8.2.2	For audit professionals		
	8.3	Are professionals required to comply with the code of ethics that is equivalent to the current IESBA code of ethics?		
Checklist for 8.3	8.3.1	For professional accountants		
	8.3.2	For audit professionals		
	8.4	Is there a formal due process for updating the country's code of ethics?		
Checklist for 8.4	8.4.1	For professional accountants		
	8.4.2	For audit professionals		
	8.5	Is there a formal due process for monitoring and enforcing compliance with the code of ethics?		
Checklist for 8.5	8.5.1	For professional accountants		
	8.5.2	For audit professionals		
	8.6	Is there a formal procedure for the public and clients to lodge complaints regarding non-compliance with the code of ethics?		

According to IFAC, a professional accountant is defined as "an individual who is a member of an IFAC member body".

22 An audit professional is a professional accountant who has responsibility, or has been delegated responsibility, for significant judgments in an audit of historical financial information.

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Checklist for 8.6	8.6.1	For professional accountants	oxdot	
	8.6.2	For audit professionals		
	8.7	Are investigations conducted into suspected breaches of the code of ethics?		
Checklist for 8.7	8.7.1	For professional accountants		
	8.7.2	For audit professionals		
	8.8	Does a professional who materially breaches the code of ethics lose her/his licence to practice?		
Checklist for 8.8	8.8.1	For professional accountants		
	8.8.2	For audit professionals		
		Total for indicator A.8		
Indicator	A.9	Investigation, discipline and appeals		
Questions	9.1	Is there an entity that carries out investigations related to the work that professionals have done in relation to corporate reporting?		
Checklist for 9.1	9.1.1	For professional accountants		
	9.1.2	For audit professionals		
	9.2	Is this entity adequately staffed with professionals trained to perform investigations?		
	9.3	Is this entity adequately funded to manage the process and to investigate the actions of individuals?		
	9.4	Is information publicly available on what is regarded as misconduct that may trigger an investigation?		
Checklist for 9.4	9.4.1	For professional accountants		
	9.4.2	For audit professionals		
	9.5	Can this entity impose penalties for non-compliance with the investigation process?		
	9.6	Are the provisions and processes for investigating professionals spelled out in association codes?		
Checklist for 9.6	9.6.1	For professional accountants		
	9.6.2	For audit professionals		

	9.7	Must members be independent from the subject of investigation and from anyone connected with or interested in the matter being investigated?		
	9.8	Does a separate disciplinary committee exist to make disciplinary decisions on referrals from the investigation committee?		
	9.9	Is information publicly available on the types of misconduct that may bring about disciplinary actions?		
	9.10	Are investigative committee members allowed to sit on the investigative committee and the disciplinary committee at the same time for the same case?		
	9.11	Is the disciplinary committee independent from the accused and from the work that has been called into question?		
	9.12	Are the provisions and processes for disciplining certified accountants publicly available?		
	9.13	Are the provisions and processes for disciplining auditors publicly available?		
	9.14	Is there a procedure for coordinating concurrent investigations?		
	9.15	Does an appeals process or body exist that is separate from both the disciplinary committee and the investigative committee?		
	9.16	Is it forbidden for a person who has served on the investigative or disciplinary boards to serve on the appeals body?		
	9.17	Are appeals body members required to be independent from the accused and others who are considered in the case?		
	9.18	Is a time limit for resolving the case (entire process) mandated in the law and/or rules and regulations?		
		Total for indicator A.9		
		Total for pillar A		
•	V. Pillar B –	institutional framework		
Indicator	B.1	Institutional responsibilities		
Questions	1.1	Is there a clear institutional responsibility for enacting accounting standards?		
	1.2	Is there a clear institutional responsibility for enacting auditing standards?		
	1.3	Is there a clear institutional responsibility for enacting public-sector accounting standards?		

	1.4	Is there a clear institutional responsibility for the enforcement of standards?		
Checklist for 1.4	1.4.1	Listed companies		
	1.4.2	Banking sector		
	1.4.3	Insurance sector		
	1.4.4	Other public-interest entities		
	1.4.5	Non-listed companies		
	1.4.6	SMEs		
	1.5	Is there a clear institutional responsibility for monitoring fulfilment of corporate financial statements?		
Checklist for 1.5	1.5.1	Listed companies		
	1.5.2	Banking sector		
	1.5.3	Insurance sector		
	1.5.4	Other public-interest entities		
	1.5.5	Non-listed companies		
	1.5.6	SMEs		
	1.6	Are the responsibilities of the monitoring system covered by an institution independent from the accounting profession?		
	1.7	Is there an entity in charge of monitoring auditors?		
Checklist for 1.7	1.7.1	Listed companies		
	1.7.2	Banking sector		
	1.7.3	Insurance sector		
	1.7.4	Other public-interest entities		
	1.8	Is there a clear institutional responsibility for security market regulations?		
	1.9	Is there a clear institutional responsibility for ethics?		
Checklist for 1.9	1.9.1	For professional accountants		
	1.9.2	For audit professionals		
	1.10	Does the country have one or more recognized bodies (public or private sector) responsible for the promotion of good practices in corporate governance (for example, an institute of directors)?		

	1.11	Does the country have one or more recognized bodies (public or private sector) responsible for the promotion of good practices in corporate social responsibility (for example, a corporate responsibility centre, a social		
		investment forum or a national chapter of the Global Compact)?		
		Total for indicator B.1		
Indicator	B.2	Coordination		
Questions	2.1	Is there a local coordinating arrangement to ensure coherence with regard to issuing legislation that affects corporate reporting?		
	2.2	Is there a local mechanism to ensure that accounting and auditing standards are aligned with each other?		
	2.3	Is there a local mechanism for sharing information among existing institutions involved in corporate reporting?		
		Total for indicator B.2		
Indicator	В.3	Funding		
Questions	3.1	Are there long-term funding arrangements for accounting regulators?		
	3.2	Is there a formal due process to ensure that funding arrangements for accounting regulators do not affect their independence? ²³		
	3.3	Are there long-term funding arrangements for audit regulators?		
	3.4	Is there a formal due process to ensure that funding arrangements for audit regulators do not affect their independence?		
	3.5	Are there long-term funding arrangements for monitoring and compliance?		
	3.6	Is there a formal due process to ensure that funding arrangements for monitoring and compliance do not affect their independence?		
	3.7	Are there long-term funding arrangements for investigation and discipline?		
	3.8	Is there a formal due process to ensure that funding arrangements for investigation and discipline do not affect their independence?		

²³ Independence means that the objectivity is preserved and the activities are carried out without pressure on or benefits for a certain party.

3.9	Are there long-term funding arrangements for public-sector accounting				
	standards?				
3.10	Is there a mechanism that requires disclosure of the source of funds?				
3.11	Is there a mechanism that requires disclosure of the use of funds?				
	Total for indicator B.3				
B.4	Professional accountancy organizations				
4.1	Is there at least one professional accountancy organization (PAO) in the country?				
4.2	If there is more than one PAO in the country, is there a coordinating mechanism between them?				
4.3	Is there at least one PAO that is a member of IFAC (full or associate)?				
4.4	Does it use its best endeavours to meet the IFAC Statements of Membership Obligations?				
4.4.1	SMO 1: Quality assurance				
4.4.2	SMO 2: International Education Standards for professional accountants and other IAESB guidance				
4.4.3	SMO 3: International standards, related practice statements and other papers issued by IAASB				
4.4.4	SMO 4: IFAC code of ethics for professional accountants				
4.4.5	SMO 5: International public-sector accounting standards and other IPSASB guidance				
4.4.6	SMO 6: Investigation and discipline				
4.4.7	SMO 7: International Financial Reporting Standards				
4.5	Does the PAO maintain the organizational capacity to function properly?				
4.5.1	Does the PAO maintain a written charter or a constitution?				
4.5.2	Is the PAO governed by a board of directors?				
4.5.3	Is there a clear distinction between the responsibilities of board members and those of staff?				
4.5.4	Does the PAO have a mission statement approved by the membership?				
4.5.5	Does the PAO utilize strategic planning techniques?				
	3.10 3.11 B.4 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4.1 4.4.2 4.4.3 4.4.4 4.4.5 4.4.6 4.4.7 4.5 4.5.1 4.5.2 4.5.3 4.5.4	3.10 Is there a mechanism that requires disclosure of the source of funds? 3.11 Is there a mechanism that requires disclosure of the use of funds? Total for indicator B.3 B.4 Professional accountancy organizations 4.1 Is there at least one professional accountancy organization (PAO) in the country? 4.2 If there is more than one PAO in the country, is there a coordinating mechanism between them? 4.3 Is there at least one PAO that is a member of IFAC (full or associate)? 4.4 Does it use its best endeavours to meet the IFAC Statements of Membership Obligations? 4.4.1 SMO 1: Quality assurance 4.4.2 SMO 2: International Education Standards for professional accountants and other IAESB guidance 4.4.3 SMO 3: International standards, related practice statements and other papers issued by IAASB 4.4.4 SMO 4: IFAC code of ethics for professional accountants 4.4.5 SMO 5: International public-sector accounting standards and other IPSASB guidance 4.4.6 SMO 6: Investigation and discipline 4.4.7 SMO 7: International Financial Reporting Standards 4.5 Does the PAO maintain the organizational capacity to function properly? 4.5.1 Does the PAO maintain a written charter or a constitution? 4.5.2 Is the PAO governed by a board of directors? 4.5.3 Is there a clear distinction between the responsibilities of board members and those of staff? 4.5.4 Does the PAO have a mission statement approved by the membership?	Standards?	Standards?	standards? 3.10 Is there a mechanism that requires disclosure of the source of funds? 3.11 Is there a mechanism that requires disclosure of the use of funds? Total for indicator B.3 Total for indicator B.3 B.4 Professional accountancy organizations 4.1 Is there at least one professional accountancy organization (PAO) in the country? 4.2 If there is more than one PAO in the country, is there a coordinating mechanism between them? 4.3 Is there at least one PAO that is a member of IFAC (full or associate)? 4.4 Does it use its best endeavours to meet the IFAC Statements of Membership Obligations? 4.4.1 SMO 1: Quality assurance 4.4.2 SMO 2: International Education Standards for professional accountants and other IAESB guidance 4.4.3 SMO 3: International Education Standards for professional accountants and other IAESB guidance 4.4.4 SMO 4: IFAC code of ethics for professional accountants 4.4.5 SMO 5: International public-sector accounting standards and other IPSASB guidance 4.4.6 SMO 6: Investigation and discipline 4.4.7 SMO 7: International Financial Reporting Standards 4.5 Does the PAO maintain a written charter or a constitution? 4.5.1 Does the PAO maintain a written charter or a constitution? 4.5.2 Is the PAO governed by a board of directors? 4.5.3 Is there a clear distinction between the responsibilities of board members and those of staff? 4.5.4 Does the PAO have a mission statement approved by the membership?

	4.5.6	Does the PAO employ well-trained permanent staff?		
	4.5.7	Is the PAO economically sustainable?		
	4.5.8	Are the majority of accountants and auditors in the country members of the PAO?		
	4.5.9	Is there an operational system of internal control and financial reporting and recording?		
	4.5.10	Are annual financial audits of PAO financial statements conducted?		
	4.5.11	Are the results of these audits of financial statements available to the members and public (for example, by request, on the Internet)?		
	4.5.12	Is a significant percentage of funding for the PAO derived from local sources (members, students, corporate, national government, individuals)?		
	4.6	Does the PAO maintain an active dialogue with universities, Ministries of Education and the like to assist in enhancing subjects taught, courses provided and topics covered in the areas of accounting, auditing and business knowledge?		
	4.7	Does the PAO monitor and engage in policy dialogues on accounting and auditing?		
	4.8	Has the PAO attracted international recognition for its services, efforts and activities?		
	4.9	Has the PAO attracted regional recognition for its services, efforts and activities?		
	4.10	Does the PAO maintain a positive public image?		
Checklist for 4.10	4.10.1	Does the PAO have an active campaign to increase public trust in the association and the accounting or auditing profession?		
	4.10.2	Does the PAO have good working relationships with local and national government counterparts?		
	4.10.3	Does the PAO publicize its services, efforts and activities (calls the media, writes editorials in newspapers and so forth) to promote its public image?		
		Total for indicator B.4		
		Total for pillar B		
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VI.	Pillar C –	human capacity		
Indicator	C.1	General assessment		
Questions	1.1	Does the number of qualified accountants ²⁴ in the country match the demand?		
Checklist for 1.1	1.1.1	Listed companies		
	1.1.2	Banking sector		
	1.1.3	Insurance sector		
	1.1.4	Other public-interest entities		
	1.1.5	SMEs		
	1.1.6	Government agencies		
	1.2	Does the number of qualified ²⁵ auditors in the country match the demand?		
Checklist for 1.2	1.2.1	Listed companies		
	1.2.2	Other public-interest entities		
	1.2.3	SMEs		
	1.2.4	Government agencies		
	1.3	Is there a coordination of curriculum and knowledge requirements between general education providers and institutions that provide professional training?		
	1.4	Does the country off any incentives or activities to retain accountants and auditors in the professional local market?		
		Total for indicator C.1		
Indicator	C.2	Professional education and training		
Indicator	C.2	Professional accountancy education programme entry requirements		
Questions	2.1	Are these entry requirements in compliance with the current version of the International Education Standards (IES) issued by IAESB?		
		Content of professional accountancy education programmes		
	2.2	Do accounting, finance and related knowledge component of the education		

Accountants that have passed the certification. ²⁵ Auditors that have passed the certification.

		programme include the following topics as required by IES issued by IAESB?		
Checklist for 2.2	2.2.1	Financial accounting and reporting		
	2.2.2	Management accounting and control		
	2.2.3	Taxation		
	2.2.4	Business and commercial law		
	2.2.5	Audit and assurance		
	2.2.6	Finance and financial management		
	2.2.7	Professional values and ethics		
	2.3	Does the organizational and business-knowledge component of the education programme include the following topics?		
Checklist for 2.3	2.3.1	Economics		
	2.3.2	Business environment		
	2.3.3	Corporate governance		
	2.3.4	Business ethics		
	2.3.5	Financial markets		
	2.3.6	Quantitative methods		
	2.3.7	Management and strategic decision-making		
	2.3.8	Marketing		
	2.3.9	International business and globalization		
	2.3.10	Organizational behaviour		
	2.4	Does the information technology (IT) component of the education programme include the following?		
Checklist for 2.4	2.4.1	General knowledge of IT		
	2.4.2	IT control knowledge		
	2.4.3	IT control competencies		
	2.4.4	IT user competencies		
	2.4.5	One competency, or a mixture of the competencies of the roles of manager, evaluator or designer of information systems		
	2.5	Do education programmes for auditors contain a component on the audit of historical financial information at an advanced level that includes the following?		
Checklist for 2.5	2.5.1	Best practices in the audits of historical financial information, including relevant current issues and developments		
	2.5.2	ISAs and international auditing practice statements		
	2.5.3	Any other applicable standards or laws		
	2.6	Do education programmes for auditors contain a component on financial accounting and reporting at an advanced level that includes the following?		

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Checklist for 2.6	2.6.1	Financial accounting and reporting processes and practices, including relevant current issues and development	Ш	Ш		
	2.6.2	IFRS and/or other applicable standards or laws				
	2.7	Do education programmes for auditors contain a component on information				
		technology systems for financial accounting and reporting, including relevant				
		current issues and developments?				
	2.8	Do education programmes for auditors contain a component on frameworks				
		for evaluating controls and assessing risks in accounting and reporting				
		systems as appropriate for the audit of historical financial information?				
		Total for indicator C.2				
Indicator	C.3	Professional skills and general education				
	3.1	Intellectual skills: Does the programme increase knowledge, understanding,				
		application, analysis, synthesis (to combine knowledge from several areas,				
		predict and draw conclusions) and evaluation of accounting topics?				
Questions	3.2	Intellectual skills: Does the programme increase knowledge, understanding,				
		application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation of auditing topics?				
	3.3	Do programmes emphasize the following areas of technical and functional skills?				
Checklist for 3.3	3.3.1	Numeracy (mathematical and statistical applications) and IT proficiency				
	3.3.2	Decision modelling and risk analysis				
	3.3.3	Measurement				
	3.3.4	Reporting				
	3.3.5	Compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements.				
	3.4	Do programmes emphasize the following areas of personal skills?				
Checklist for 3.4	3.4.1	Self-management				
	3.4.2	Initiative, influence and self-learning				
	3.4.3	Ability to select and assign priorities within restricted resources and to				
		organize work to meet tight deadlines		L		
	3.4.4	Professional scepticism.				
	3.5	Do programmes emphasize the following areas of interpersonal and				
	2.5.1	communication skills?				<u> </u>
Checklist for 3.5	3.5.1	Work with others in a consultative process, to withstand and to resolve conflict				
	3.5.2	Work in teams		\vdash		1
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	3.5.3	Negotiate acceptable solutions and agreements in professional situations			
	3.5.4	Present, discuss, report and defend views effectively through formal, informal, written and spoken communication			
	3.6	Do programmes emphasize the following areas of organizational and business management skills?			
Checklist for 3.6	3.6.1	Strategic planning, project management, management of people and resources, and decision-making			
	3.6.2	Ability to organize and delegate tasks, to motivate people and enhance their development			
	3.6.3	Leadership			
	3.6.4	Professional judgment and discernment			
	3.7	Intellectual skills: In addition to other skills, do programmes for certified auditors emphasize the advancement of knowledge, understanding, application, analysis, synthesis (to combine knowledge from several areas, predict and draw conclusions) and evaluation of accounting and auditing topics?			
	3.8	In addition to other skills, do programmes for certified auditors emphasize the following areas of application in an audit environment?			
Checklist for 3.8	3.8.1	Identifying and solving problems			
	3.8.2	Undertaking appropriate technical research			
	3.8.3	Working in teams effectively			
	3.8.4	Gathering and evaluating evidence			
	3.9	In addition to other skills, do programmes for certified auditors emphasize an advanced application in an audit environment?			
Checklist for 3.9	3.9.1	Applying relevant auditing standards and guidance			
	3.9.2	Evaluating applications of relevant financial reporting standards			
	3.9.3	Demonstrating capacity for inquiry, abstract logical thought, and critical analysis			
	3.9.4	Demonstrating professional scepticism			
	3.9.5	Applying professional judgment			
	3.9.6	Withstanding and resolving conflicts			
		Professional values, ethics and attitudes			
	3.10	Does the ethics component of professional education include the following?			
Checklist for 3.10	3.10.1	The nature of ethics			
	3.10.2	Differences of detailed rules-based and framework approaches to ethics, their advantages and drawbacks			

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	3.10.3	Compliance with the fundamental ethical principles of integrity,			
		objectivity, commitment to professional competence and due care, and confidentiality			
	3.10.4	Professional behaviour and compliance with technical standards			
	3.10.5	Concepts of independence, scepticism, accountability and public			
		expectations	 		
	3.10.6	Ethics and the profession: social responsibility			
	3.10.7	Ethics and law, including the relationship between laws, regulations and the public interest			
	3.10.8	Consequences of unethical behaviour for the individual, the profession and the society at large			
	3.10.9	Ethics in relation to business and good governance			
	3.10.10	Ethics and the individual professional accountant: whistle blowing, conflicts of interest, ethical dilemmas and their resolution			
	3.11	Are individuals required to apply required professional values, ethics and			
		attitudes in an audit environment before taking on the role of an audit professional?			
		Total for indicator C.3			
Indicator	C.4	Assessment of accountancy capabilities and competencies			
Questions	4.1	Does the certification scheme or programme require an assessment (examination) prior to certification?			
Checklist for 4.1	4.1.1	For accountants			
	4.1.2	For auditors			
	4.2	Do assessments produce consistent, objective results and are methods used generally accepted?			
	4.3	Is the assessment uniform for all accountancy students?			
	4.4	Is the assessment written and evaluated by qualified, approved individuals?			
	4.5	Are there specified pre-qualification ²⁶ requirements relating to professional knowledge, skills, values, ethics, and attitudes?			
	4.6	Does the assessment (examination) cover professional knowledge, professional skills, and professional values, ethics and attitudes?			

²⁶ According to IAESB, pre-qualification is the period before qualification as an individual member of an IFAC member body. The term "pre-qualification" is usually associated with activities and requirements relating to the development of those who have not yet obtained a professional qualification.

		Total for indicator C.4		
		Total for indicator Cit		
Indicator	C.5	Practical experience requirements		
Questions	5.1	Does the certification require a set period of practical experience in performing the work of accountancy?		
	5.2	Does the period of practical experience required for certification consist of a minimum of three years?		
	5.3	Does the professional body and/or government organization responsible for certification require individuals to provide proof of completion of practical experience for certification?		
	5.4	Does the professional body or government organization maintain a system for assessing and approving the practical experience environment before commencement of practical experience by the candidate?		
	5.5	Is there an established monitoring system that provides for monitoring and reporting of the practical experience obtained?		
	5.6	Is a periodic review (at least on an annual basis) of the competences required by professional accountants conducted to help ensure that the practical experience gained is relevant and appropriate?		
		Total for indicator C.5		
Indicator	C.6	Continuing professional development		
Questions	6.1	Are continuing professional development (CPD) classes/courses provided by the professional body, universities, government body, and or/other institution?		
	6.2	Are qualified individuals required to complete at least 120 hours or equivalent learning units of relevant professional development activity in each rolling three-year period?		
	6.2.1	Can qualified individuals demonstrate the required CPD by means of an output-based approach? ²⁷		
	6.3	Is the attainment of the appropriate type of CPD or number of CPD courses monitored by an established process?		

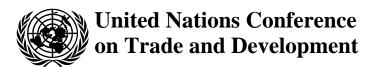
²⁷ According to IES, member bodies implementing an output-based approach should require professional accountants to demonstrate the maintenance and development of relevant competence by periodically providing evidence that has been (a) objectively verified by a competent source and (b) measured using a valid competence assessment method.

	6.4	Can the qualification (certification) be withdrawn for failing to obtain the appropriate number of hours and/or type of CPD?		
	6.5	Is CPD required for licence renewal and/or continuation?		
	6.6	Is there a process in place to monitor CPD achievement?		
		Total for indicator C.6		
Indicator	C.7	Specialized training ²⁸		
Questions	7.1	Does the training programme include specialized training in accounting?		
	7.2	Does the programme include specialized training in auditing?		
	7.3	Is there a mandatory training requirement for regulators in the reporting chain?		
	7.4	Does the body responsible for the promotion of good practices in corporate governance provide executive education and training in good practices in corporate governance and related disclosure issues?		
	7.5	Does the body responsible for the promotion of good practices in corporate social responsibility provide executive education and training in good practices in corporate responsibility and related disclosure issues, including sustainability and climate change?		
		Total for indicator C.7		
Indicator	C.8	Requirements for accounting technicians		
Questions	8.1	Do the training programmes in the country include accounting technicians? ²⁹		
	8.2	Is there a model curriculum for accounting technicians?		
	8.3	Are there practical experience requirements for accounting technicians?		

²⁸ For example, in the areas of internal audit, public financial management, fair value measurement, taxation, insolvency, and so forth.

²⁹ An accounting technician is a skilled person who undertakes many of the day-to-day functions in the accounting environment. Accounting technicians may work alone in smaller organizations. However, in larger organizations they usually provide support to senior accountants. They generally work at an operational level, making decisions commensurate with their roles, with guidance from a senior accountant as needed. Accounting technicians work in all types of organizations, including commerce and industry, government, public services and private practice. They may progress to higher-level jobs or qualifications once they have completed their technician-level training.

	8.4	Is an examination required for accounting technicians?		
	8.5	Is continuing education required for accounting technicians?		
		Total for indicator C.8		
		Total for pillar C		
]	Pillar D – Ca	apacity-building process		
Questions	1	Is there a strategic country action plan for capacity-building in corporate reporting?		
	2	Is the strategic country plan an integrated plan involving the PAO, government and other stakeholders?		
	3	Is there a body that has overall responsibility for the country action plan?		
	4	Is the country action plan being implemented?		
	5	Is the country action plan annually reviewed against predetermined benchmarks?		
	6	Have financial resources been secured for the action plan?		
	7	Are there communication and publicity mechanisms in place to promote support to the action plan?		
	8	Has the country assessed its current status with regard to capacity-building for high-quality corporate reporting by means of ROSC, IFAC programmes or national surveys?		



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Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on
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Item 3 of the provisional agenda
Capacity-building framework for high-quality corporate reporting

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Capacity-building framework for high-quality corporate reporting: Assessment questionnaire

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Corrigendum

Paragraph 12

1. For indicator I read indicator i.

Footnote 1

1. *For* the existing text *substitute*:

¹An example for pillar A:

- For 9 indicators in pillar A, indicator A.1 has 16 questions, and questions 1, 2, 8 and 15 have checklist sub-questions.
- The level of capacity for pillar A will be a sum of 9 indicators (financial reporting and disclosure; public sector financial reporting, disclosure and auditing; audit; environmental, social and governance reporting; corporate reporting requirements: enforcement, monitoring of implementation and compliance; licensing of auditors; corporate governance; ethics; and investigation, discipline and appeals) divided by 9.
- Capacity for each of the 9 areas (indicators) within pillar A will be measured using the formula shown in paragraph 12.

• There are 16 questions for pillar A1, 2 of which (n1 and 2) have 4 checklist questions, one (n8) has 60 and one (n15) has 34. If there are, for example, 6 positive answers out of 12 to questions without checklist questions, and positive answers to all questions (1,2,8 and 15) which have checklist questions, the formula will be as follows:

$$[4/4 + 4/4 + 1/1 + 1/1 + 0/1 + 1/1 + 1/1 + 60/60 + 0/1 + 0/1 + 0/1 + 0/1 + 0/1 + 1/1 + 34/34 + 1/1] = 0.625$$

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• The formula to assess capacity for pillar A is as follows:

Total score for indicator $A = \Sigma Ai/9$

Where Ai is a level of capacity for each of the indicators in pillar A and 9 is the number of indicators for pillar A.

Checklist for 3.8, page 17

- 1. Delete 3.8.36 from column 3
- 2. The *numbers* in the rows beneath 3.8.35 and before the following text should read as follows:

3.8.36	Engagements to report on summary financial statements
3.8.37	Engagements to review financial statements
3.8.38	Review of interim financial information performed by the independent auditor of the entity
3.8.39	Assurance engagements other than audits or reviews of historical financial information
3.8.40	Examination of prospective financial information
3.8.41	Assurance reports on controls at a service organization
3.8.42	Engagements to perform agreed-upon procedures regarding financial information
3.8.43	Engagements to compile financial information

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