The Nominating Committee

Call for Applications: Chair of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB)
This document is issued by the Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee makes recommendations to the IFAC Board and the Public Interest Oversight Board (PIOB), when appropriate, on the composition of the independent standard-setting boards.

The Nominating Committee is guided in its work by the principle of selecting the best person for the position. In so doing, it endeavors to balance the nominee’s abilities and professional qualifications with the representational needs of the board. The Nominating Committee also seeks a broad regional and professional representation, as well as representations from countries with different levels of economic development.

The structures and processes that support the operations of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board® (IPSASB®) are facilitated by the International Federation of Accountants® (IFAC®).

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# CHAIR OF THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD (IPSASB)

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Overview

The Call for Applications: Chair of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) is an official notice for IFAC Members and the general public outlining the requirements and job description of the IPSASB Chair.

The IPSASB Chair is initially appointed for a three-year term and can be re-appointed twice, for a total service of nine years. The Chair will be appointed for a term beginning January 1, 2016, and ending December 31, 2018. The appointment of the Chair is approved by public interest oversight authority and the IFAC Board.

The position of IPSASB Chair is a part-time to full-time position (between 75-100%). It is not anticipated that any relocation would be required. This position has historically been filled on a volunteer basis. However, based on the individual circumstances of a most qualified candidate, alternative arrangements may be considered. Applicants should specify any such matters for consideration, together with the time commitment they would be able to allocate for this position, in the “Objectives for Position” section of an application form (see Application Process paragraph below). If candidates have additional commitments that do not create a conflict of interest with the role of IPSASB Chair, these could potentially be accommodated. If an applicant wishes to discuss his/her specific circumstances prior to submitting an application, please contact James Gunn, Managing Director, Professional Standards, via email at Jamesgunn@profstds.org. The primary factor in the selection of an IPSASB Chair will be the consideration of an individual whose skills and experience are best aligned with the demands of the role.

The IPSASB Chair will report functionally to a public interest oversight authority on matters related to the IPSASB’s work program, including due process, and refers to the Managing Director, Professional Standards, as a resource and key source of advice.

The objective of the IPSASB is to serve the public interest by setting, independently and under its own authority, high-quality accounting standards, in addition to developing other publications for use by public sector entities around the world in the preparation of general purpose financial reports. The structures and processes that support the operations of the IPSASB are facilitated by IFAC. To learn more about the IPSASB, please visit www.ifac.org/public-sector.

IPSASB Chair: General Roles and Responsibilities

The IPSASB Chair is an important role as this person must achieve strategic objectives while providing leadership that maintains harmony among members and follows due process. The IPSASB Chair fulfills several interrelated roles.

Leader of the IPSASB

The Chair provides leadership to the IPSASB in the conduct of its activities, working closely with the Technical Director, IPSASB, and the Managing Director, Professional Standards, to achieve the board’s goals. The Chair leads the strategic direction of the IPSASB and, at the same time, facilitates the consultative process that underlies the credibility of the IPSASB, its standards and activities. Maintaining a

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1 The establishment of a public interest oversight authority over the IPSASB and a consultative advisory group is currently in process. Relevant stakeholders involved in the process and IFAC expect that this will be achieved by 2016.
public interest focus for the activities of the IPSASB is a critical element of the Chair’s leadership role. The Chair (with the Managing Director, Professional Standards) oversees the efficient use of resources and effective achievement of IPSASB goals and objectives.

As leader of the IPSASB, the responsibilities of the Chair will be to:

- Provide leadership in the development and implementation of strategic objectives, initiatives, and action plans, taking into account the views of the IPSASB, its consultative advisory group, and the public interest oversight authority.
- Lead the IPSASB toward achieving its strategic objectives and ensure the IPSASB’s output is of high quality (including compliance with due process) and meets the expectations of those affected by the board’s work.
- Actively identify and evaluate the impact of emerging issues on the public sector financial reporting to provide direction to the IPSASB’s work.
- Provide direction in the establishment of policies, as necessary, and with the Managing Director, Professional Standards, oversee management of the resources available to the IPSASB.
- Chair IPSASB meetings and ensure they are conducted properly. This responsibility includes:
  - effectively managing the board’s work program;
  - encouraging and promoting open, candid discussions and debate;
  - ensuring members’ views are duly considered and conclusions are mutually agreed on;
  - ensuring the public interest is paramount in debates;
  - prioritizing issues; and
  - ensuring compliance with proper meeting procedures.
- Proactively lead debate and seek consensus, where possible, on solutions relating to contentious matters being addressed by the IPSASB. Utilize the necessary technical expertise on significant matters.
- Assess the performance of the IPSASB and its members on an annual basis and report on this assessment (in conjunction with the Deputy Chair and Technical Director, IPSASB) to the Nominating Committee. Additionally, communicate the findings of the evaluation and provide constructive feedback on the assessment to IPSASB members.
- Keep the public interest oversight authority informed on IPSASB’s progress on achievement of strategic objectives and work program.
- Provide updates to the IFAC Board on the IPSASB’s progress and work plans on a regular basis.

**IPSASB Spokesperson and Representative**

The Chair acts as the primary spokesperson for the IPSASB, enabling, encouraging, and promoting a deeper stakeholder (including the public) understanding of the board’s strategies, objectives, and activities. The Chair will serve as the primary IPSASB spokesperson and representative, with the responsibility to:

- Actively promote the IPSASB’s identity, objectives, activities, and output in the media, public forums, and meetings with IPSASB stakeholders.
• Encourage and promote the international adoption and implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs).

Liaison
The Chair is the IPSASB’s key representative and acts (in conjunction with the Managing Director, Professional Standards) as its primary liaison with key stakeholders, including the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) as well as those in the government finance statistics (GFS) community.

The Chair’s responsibilities include:
• Establish and develop effective relationships with key stakeholders, such as governments, national and international standard setters, regulators, international donor community, etc.
• Maintain appropriate connections with other standard-setting boards and IFAC committees to ensure no conflicts arise in the work programs of the individual boards and committees.
• Attend IFAC board meetings as considered appropriate.
• Attend meetings of the public interest oversight authority as required.
• Represent the IPSASB at other external meetings as appropriate.

Strategic Direction
The IPSASB Strategy and Work Plan is based on the objectives to strengthen public financial management and knowledge globally through increasing adoption and accrual-based IPSASs by:
• developing high-quality public sector financial reporting standards;
• developing other publications for the public sector; and
• raising awareness of the IPSASs and the benefits of their adoption.

The IPSASB recently completed its Conceptual Framework for General Purpose Financial Reporting by Public Sector Entities, which means that resources are available for other projects. The IPSASB is currently in the process of preparing a work plan for 2015-2019, and is currently focusing on selecting projects for 2015-2016. Stakeholders have indicated that a focus on public sector-specific projects as well as maintaining existing IPSASs are important. It is expected that the new IPSASB Chair will provide input on strategic priorities for 2017-2019.

The demands on and expectations from the IPSASB continue to increase with the expansion of IPSAS adoption and implementation. It is critical that the IPSASB continues to develop robust standards that meet the needs of public sector organizations around the world.

Criteria and Selection Process
The IFAC Nominating Committee will look for many qualities related to professional skills, experience, and leadership.

The successful candidate should have significant and senior experience and will be well recognized within the professional public sector or regulatory community. He or she will have effective leadership, communication, and strategic skills; demonstrated technical and professional competency; and a strong commitment to the IPSASB and its mission to protect the public interest. Only individuals who possess the highest integrity will be considered.
Specifically, the following criteria apply for the IPSASB Chair:

- Demonstrated technical and professional competency, including relevant experience in the public sector and public sector accounting
- Commitment to the IPSASB mission
- A dedication to the public interest that is genuine, time-tested and global in nature
- Ability to work effectively among numerous cultures and professional specializations
- Effective leadership and strategic skills
- Strong public speaking and communications skills for both technical and non-technical audiences
- Established bonds with key constituents and stakeholders or the ability to develop and maintain strong bonds with key constituents and stakeholders
- Proficiency in oral and written English (other language skills are an advantage)
- Integrity, objectivity, and discipline

Prior to appointment, the IPSASB Chair must consent to the general principle and specific rules, indicated below, that establish independence from former and potential employers, and other related professional arrangements.

**General Principle**

The Chair may hold other minor positions. If the candidate is employed by other organization(s), however, it should not create any conflicts of interest that might call into question his/her independence of judgment in setting public sector standards. The Chair should keep the IFAC CEO fully informed of any changes in his/her employment status, and any other significant professional relationships or associations.

**Specific Rules**

- The appointee is required to sign a public declaration asserting that:
  - the Chair will act in the public interest and with integrity in discharging the responsibilities of his/her role as the IPSASB Chair; and
  - the Chair will serve the IPSASB to the best of his/her abilities while not submitting to improper influence, whether financial or otherwise, that might impair his/her ability to serve or act with independence, integrity, and in the public interest.

**Application Process**

Candidates should apply online via the nominations database by **February 6, 2015**. Instructions on how to apply are available on the IFAC website at [www.ifac.org/about-ifac/nominating-committee/nomination-instructions](http://www.ifac.org/about-ifac/nominating-committee/nomination-instructions).

It is anticipated that in-person interviews for this position will be conducted by the Nominating Committee during its meeting on **April 23—24, 2015** in New York, USA.

Finalizing the decision on appointment of the IPSASB Chair is a lengthy process because of the significant due process requirements. Therefore, it is possible that candidates will not be notified of the outcome of the selection process until September 2015.
Further Questions

Questions regarding the position and application process can be directed on a confidential basis to Elena Churikova, Manager, Governance, via email at ElenaChurikova@ifac.org.