

**New Zealand Equivalent to International Accounting  
Standard 21**

**The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates  
(NZ IAS 21)**

**Issued November 2004 and incorporates amendments up to and including  
30 November 2008**

This Standard was issued by the Financial Reporting Standards Board of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants and approved by the Accounting Standards Review Board in November 2004 under the Financial Reporting Act 1993. This Standard is a Regulation for the purpose of the Regulations (Disallowance) Act 1989.

This standard, on adoption supersedes in part, or in full Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 21 *Accounting for the Effects of Changes in Foreign Currency Exchange Rates* and Financial Reporting Standard No. 21 *Accounting for the Effects of Changes in Foreign Currency Exchange Rates*.

The following NZ Interpretation relates to NZ IAS 21:

- NZ Equivalent to SIC-7 *Introduction of the Euro*

NZ IAS 21

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**APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO IAS 21 BY THE IASB**

**IASB BASIS FOR CONCLUSIONS**

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New Zealand Equivalent to International Accounting Standard 21 *The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates* (NZ IAS 21) is set out in paragraphs 1-62 and the Appendix. NZ IAS 21 is based on International Accounting Standard 21 *The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates* (IAS 21) (2003) initially issued by the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) and subsequently revised by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). All the paragraphs have equal authority but retain the IASC format of the Standard. NZ IAS 21 should be read in the context of its objective and the IASB's Basis for Conclusions on IAS 21, the New Zealand *Preface* and the New Zealand Equivalent to the IASB *Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements* (NZ *Framework*). NZ IAS 8 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors* provides a basis for selecting and applying accounting policies in the absence of explicit guidance.

Any additional material is shown with grey shading. The paragraphs are denoted with "NZ" and identify the types of entities to which the paragraphs apply.

This Standard uses the terminology adopted in International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) to describe the financial statements and other elements. NZ IAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements* (as revised in 2007) paragraph 5 explains that entities other than profit-oriented entities seeking to apply the Standard may need to amend the descriptions used for particular line items in the financial statements and for the financial statements themselves. For example, profit/loss may be referred to as surplus/deficit and capital or share capital may be referred to as equity.

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**HISTORY OF AMENDMENTS****Table of Pronouncements – NZ IAS 21 *The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates***

This table lists the pronouncements establishing and substantially amending NZ IAS 21. The table is based on amendments approved as at 30 November 2008

<b>Pronouncements</b>	<b>Date approved (ASRB approval)</b>	<b>Early operative date</b>	<b>Effective date (annual reporting periods... on or after ...)</b>
NZ IAS 21 <i>The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates</i>	Nov 2004 (Approval 14)	1 Jan 2005	1 Jan 2007
<i>Framework for Differential Reporting for Entities Applying the New Zealand Equivalents to IFRSs Financial Reporting Standards Reporting Regime (Framework for Differential Reporting)</i>	Jun 2005 (Approval 62)	1 Jan 2005	1 Jan 2007
Amendment to the <i>Framework for Differential Reporting</i>	Dec 2005 (Approval 76)	1 Jan 2005	1 Jan 2007
Amendment to NZ IAS 21: <i>Net Investment in a Foreign Operation</i>	Feb 2006 (Approval 79)	1 Jan 2006	1 Jan 2007
NZ IAS 1 <i>Presentation of Financial Statements</i> (revised 2007)	Nov 2007 (Approval 94)	Early application permitted	1 Jan 2009
NZ IAS 27 <i>Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements</i> (amended 2008)	Feb 2008 (Approval 99)	Early application permitted	1 July 2009
Amendments to NZ IFRS 1 and NZ IAS 27— <i>Cost of an Investment in a Subsidiary, Jointly Controlled Entity or Associate</i>	June 2008 (Approval 103)	Early application permitted	1 Jan 2009

<b>Table of Amended Paragraphs in NZ IAS 21</b>		
<b>Paragraph affected</b>	<b>How affected</b>	<b>By ... [date]</b>
Paragraphs NZ 7.1	Inserted	Amendment to the <i>Framework for Differential Reporting</i> [Dec 2005]
Paragraph NZ 7.2	Inserted	Amendment to the <i>Framework for Differential Reporting</i> [Dec 2005]
Paragraph 15A	Inserted	Amendment to NZ IAS 21 [Feb 2006]
Paragraph 27	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 30	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 31	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 32	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 33	Amended	Amendment to NZ IAS 21 [Feb 2006]
Paragraph 33	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 37	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 39	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 41	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 45	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Heading preceding paragraph 48	Amended	NZ IAS 27 [Feb 2008]
Paragraph 48	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]

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<b>Table of Amended Paragraphs in NZ IAS 21</b>		
<b>Paragraph affected</b>	<b>How affected</b>	<b>By ... [date]</b>
Paragraphs 48A-48D	Inserted	NZ IAS 27 [Feb 2008]
Paragraph 49	Amended	NZ IAS 27 [Feb 2008]
Paragraph 49	Amended	Amendments to NZ IFRS 1 and NZ IAS 27 [June 2008]
Paragraph 52(b)	Amended	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 58A	Inserted	Amendment to NZ IAS 21 [Feb 2006]
Paragraph 60A	Inserted	NZ IAS 1 [Nov 2007]
Paragraph 60B	Inserted	NZ IAS 27 [Feb 2008]



## **Introduction to NZ IAS 21**

This Standard prescribes how to account for foreign currency transactions and foreign operations, and how to translate financial statements into a presentation currency.

In adopting IAS 21 for application as NZ IAS 21 no changes have been made to the requirements of IAS 21.

Entities that comply with NZ IAS 21 will simultaneously be in compliance with IAS 21.

### **Differential Reporting**

- Qualifying entities are given several concessions to the requirements of this Standard (as identified in the Standard).

## **New Zealand Equivalent to International Accounting Standard 21**

### **The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates (NZ IAS 21)**

#### **OBJECTIVE**

- 1 An entity may carry on foreign activities in two ways. It may have transactions in foreign currencies or it may have foreign operations. In addition, an entity may present its financial statements in a foreign currency. The objective of this Standard is to prescribe how to include foreign currency transactions and foreign operations in the financial statements of an entity and how to translate financial statements into a presentation currency.
- 2 The principal issues are which exchange rate(s) to use and how to report the effects of changes in exchange rates in the financial statements.

#### **SCOPE**

- 3 **This Standard shall be applied:**
  - (a) **in accounting for transactions and balances in foreign currencies, except for those derivative transactions and balances that are within the scope of NZ IAS 39 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*;**
  - (b) **in translating the results and financial position of foreign operations that are included in the financial statements of the entity by consolidation, proportionate consolidation or the equity method; and**
  - (c) **in translating an entity's results and financial position into a presentation currency.**
- 4 NZ IAS 39 applies to many foreign currency derivatives and, accordingly, these are excluded from the scope of this Standard. However, those foreign currency derivatives that are not within the scope of NZ IAS 39 (eg some foreign currency derivatives that are embedded in other contracts) are within the scope of this Standard. In addition, this Standard applies when an entity translates amounts relating to derivatives from its functional currency to its presentation currency.
- 5 This Standard does not apply to hedge accounting for foreign currency items, including the hedging of a net investment in a foreign operation. NZ IAS 39 applies to hedge accounting.
- 6 This Standard applies to the presentation of an entity's financial statements in a foreign currency and sets out requirements for the resulting financial statements to be described as complying with New Zealand equivalents to International

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\* See also NZ SIC-7 *Introduction of the Euro*.

Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards. For translations of financial information into a foreign currency that do not meet these requirements, this Standard specifies information to be disclosed.

- 7 This Standard does not apply to the presentation in a statement of cash flows of cash flows arising from transactions in a foreign currency, or to the translation of cash flows of a foreign operation (see NZ IAS 7 *Statement of Cash Flows*).

#### **Qualifying Entities**

**NZ 7.1. Entities which qualify for differential reporting concessions in accordance with the *Framework for Differential Reporting for Entities Applying the New Zealand Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards Reporting Regime (2005)* are not required to**

- (a) translate transactions measured in a foreign currency using the spot exchange rate between the functional currency and the foreign currency at the date of the transaction as required by paragraph 21 of this Standard. If transactions are not translated at the rate in effect at the date of the transaction then transactions settled in the accounting period shall be translated at the settlement rate, and transactions unsettled at the end of the reporting period shall be translated using the closing rate in accordance with paragraph 23 of this Standard; or
- (b) comply with the disclosure requirements in this Standard denoted with an asterisk (\*).

#### **DEFINITIONS**

- 8 The following terms are used in this Standard with the meanings specified:

*Closing rate* is the spot exchange rate at the end of the reporting period.

*Exchange difference* is the difference resulting from translating a given number of units of one currency into another currency at different exchange rates.

*Exchange rate* is the ratio of exchange for two currencies.

*Fair value* is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

*Foreign currency* is a currency other than the functional currency of the entity.

*Foreign operation* is an entity that is a subsidiary, associate, joint venture or branch of a reporting entity, the activities of which are based or conducted in a country or currency other than those of the reporting entity.

*Functional currency* is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates.

*A group* is a parent and all its subsidiaries.

***Monetary items* are units of currency held and assets and liabilities to be received or paid in a fixed or determinable number of units of currency.**

***Net investment in a foreign operation* is the amount of the reporting entity's interest in the net assets of that operation.**

***Presentation currency* is the currency in which the financial statements are presented.**

***Spot exchange rate* is the exchange rate for immediate delivery.**

## **ELABORATION ON THE DEFINITIONS**

### **Functional Currency**

- 9 The primary economic environment in which an entity operates is normally the one in which it primarily generates and expends cash. An entity considers the following factors in determining its functional currency:
- (a) the currency:
    - (i) that mainly influences sales prices for goods and services (this will often be the currency in which sales prices for its goods and services are denominated and settled); and
    - (ii) of the country whose competitive forces and regulations mainly determine the sales prices of its goods and services.
  - (b) the currency that mainly influences labour, material and other costs of providing goods or services (this will often be the currency in which such costs are denominated and settled).
- 10 The following factors may also provide evidence of an entity's functional currency:
- (a) the currency in which funds from financing activities (ie issuing debt and equity instruments) are generated.
  - (b) the currency in which receipts from operating activities are usually retained.
- 11 The following additional factors are considered in determining the functional currency of a foreign operation, and whether its functional currency is the same as that of the reporting entity (the reporting entity, in this context, being the entity that has the foreign operation as its subsidiary, branch, associate or joint venture):
- (a) whether the activities of the foreign operation are carried out as an extension of the reporting entity, rather than being carried out with a significant degree of autonomy. An example of the former is when the foreign operation only sells goods imported from the reporting entity and remits the proceeds to it. An example of the latter is when the operation accumulates cash and other monetary items, incurs expenses, generates income and arranges borrowings, all substantially in its local currency.
  - (b) whether transactions with the reporting entity are a high or a low proportion of the foreign operation's activities.
  - (c) whether cash flows from the activities of the foreign operation directly affect the cash flows of the reporting entity and are readily available for remittance to it.

- (d) whether cash flows from the activities of the foreign operation are sufficient to service existing and normally expected debt obligations without funds being made available by the reporting entity.
- 12 When the above indicators are mixed and the functional currency is not obvious, management uses its judgement to determine the functional currency that most faithfully represents the economic effects of the underlying transactions, events and conditions. As part of this approach, management gives priority to the primary indicators in paragraph 9 before considering the indicators in paragraphs 10 and 11, which are designed to provide additional supporting evidence to determine an entity's functional currency.
- 13 An entity's functional currency reflects the underlying transactions, events and conditions that are relevant to it. Accordingly, once determined, the functional currency is not changed unless there is a change in those underlying transactions, events and conditions.
- 14 If the functional currency is the currency of a hyperinflationary economy, the entity's financial statements are restated in accordance with NZ IAS 29 *Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies*. An entity cannot avoid restatement in accordance with NZ IAS 29 by, for example, adopting as its functional currency a currency other than the functional currency determined in accordance with this Standard (such as the functional currency of its parent).

#### **Net Investment in a Foreign Operation**

- 15 An entity may have a monetary item that is receivable from or payable to a foreign operation. An item for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur in the foreseeable future is, in substance, a part of the entity's net investment in that foreign operation, and is accounted for in accordance with paragraphs 32 and 33. Such monetary items may include long-term receivables or loans. They do not include trade receivables or trade payables.
- 15A The entity that has a monetary item receivable from or payable to a foreign operation described in paragraph 15 may be any subsidiary of the group. For example, an entity has two subsidiaries, A and B. Subsidiary B is a foreign operation. Subsidiary A grants a loan to Subsidiary B. Subsidiary A's loan receivable from Subsidiary B would be part of the entity's net investment in Subsidiary B if settlement of the loan is neither planned nor likely to occur in the foreseeable future. This would also be true if Subsidiary A were itself a foreign operation.

#### **Monetary Items**

- 16 The essential feature of a monetary item is a right to receive (or an obligation to deliver) a fixed or determinable number of units of currency. Examples include: pensions and other employee benefits to be paid in cash; provisions that are to be settled in cash; and cash dividends that are recognised as a liability. Similarly, a contract to receive (or deliver) a variable number of the entity's own equity instruments or a variable amount of assets in which the fair value to be received (or delivered) equals a fixed or determinable number of units of currency is a monetary item. Conversely, the essential feature of a non-monetary item is the

absence of a right to receive (or an obligation to deliver) a fixed or determinable number of units of currency. Examples include: amounts prepaid for goods and services (eg prepaid rent); goodwill; intangible assets; inventories; property, plant and equipment; and provisions that are to be settled by the delivery of a non-monetary asset.

## **SUMMARY OF THE APPROACH REQUIRED BY THIS STANDARD**

- 17 In preparing financial statements, each entity—whether a stand-alone entity, an entity with foreign operations (such as a parent) or a foreign operation (such as a subsidiary or branch)—determines its functional currency in accordance with paragraphs 9-14. The entity translates foreign currency items into its functional currency and reports the effects of such translation in accordance with paragraphs 20-37 and 50.
- 18 Many reporting entities comprise a number of individual entities (eg a group is made up of a parent and one or more subsidiaries). Various types of entities, whether members of a group or otherwise, may have investments in associates or joint ventures. They may also have branches. It is necessary for the results and financial position of each individual entity included in the reporting entity to be translated into the currency in which the reporting entity presents its financial statements. This Standard permits the presentation currency of a reporting entity to be any currency (or currencies). The results and financial position of any individual entity within the reporting entity whose functional currency differs from the presentation currency are translated in accordance with paragraphs 38-50.
- 19 This Standard also permits a stand-alone entity preparing financial statements or an entity preparing separate financial statements in accordance with NZ IAS 27 *Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements* to present its financial statements in any currency (or currencies). If the entity's presentation currency differs from its functional currency, its results and financial position are also translated into the presentation currency in accordance with paragraphs 38-50.

## **REPORTING FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS IN THE FUNCTIONAL CURRENCY**

### **Initial Recognition**

- 20 A foreign currency transaction is a transaction that is denominated or requires settlement in a foreign currency, including transactions arising when an entity:
  - (a) buys or sells goods or services whose price is denominated in a foreign currency;
  - (b) borrows or lends funds when the amounts payable or receivable are denominated in a foreign currency; or
  - (c) otherwise acquires or disposes of assets, or incurs or settles liabilities, denominated in a foreign currency.

- 21 A foreign currency transaction shall be recorded, on initial recognition in the functional currency, by applying to the foreign currency amount the spot exchange rate between the functional currency and the foreign currency at the date of the transaction.**
- 22 The date of a transaction is the date on which the transaction first qualifies for recognition in accordance with New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards. For practical reasons, a rate that approximates the actual rate at the date of the transaction is often used, for example, an average rate for a week or a month might be used for all transactions in each foreign currency occurring during that period. However, if exchange rates fluctuate significantly, the use of the average rate for a period is inappropriate.

### **Reporting at the end of the Subsequent Reporting Periods**

- 23 At the end of each reporting period:**
- (a) **foreign currency monetary items shall be translated using the closing rate;**
  - (b) **non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency shall be translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction; and**
  - (c) **non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency shall be translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined.**
- 24 The carrying amount of an item is determined in conjunction with other relevant Standards. For example, property, plant and equipment may be measured in terms of fair value or historical cost in accordance with NZ IAS 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment*. Whether the carrying amount is determined on the basis of historical cost or on the basis of fair value, if the amount is determined in a foreign currency it is then translated into the functional currency in accordance with this Standard.
- 25 The carrying amount of some items is determined by comparing two or more amounts. For example, the carrying amount of inventories is the lower of cost and net realisable value in accordance with NZ IAS 2 *Inventories*. Similarly, in accordance with NZ IAS 36 *Impairment of Assets*, the carrying amount of an asset for which there is an indication of impairment is the lower of its carrying amount before considering possible impairment losses and its recoverable amount. When such an asset is non-monetary and is measured in a foreign currency, the carrying amount is determined by comparing:
- (a) the cost or carrying amount, as appropriate, translated at the exchange rate at the date when that amount was determined (ie the rate at the date of the transaction for an item measured in terms of historical cost); and
  - (b) the net realisable value or recoverable amount, as appropriate, translated at the exchange rate at the date when that value was determined (eg the closing rate at the end of the reporting period).

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The effect of this comparison may be that an impairment loss is recognised in the functional currency but would not be recognised in the foreign currency, or vice versa.

- 26 When several exchange rates are available, the rate used is that at which the future cash flows represented by the transaction or balance could have been settled if those cash flows had occurred at the measurement date. If exchangeability between two currencies is temporarily lacking, the rate used is the first subsequent rate at which exchanges could be made.

### **Recognition of Exchange Differences**

- 27 As noted in paragraph 3, NZ IAS 39 applies to hedge accounting for foreign currency items. The application of hedge accounting requires an entity to account for some exchange differences differently from the treatment of exchange differences required by this Standard. For example, NZ IAS 39 requires that exchange differences on monetary items that qualify as hedging instruments in a cash flow hedge are recognised initially in other comprehensive income to the extent that the hedge is effective.
- 28 Exchange differences arising on the settlement of monetary items or on translating monetary items at rates different from those at which they were translated on initial recognition during the period or in previous financial statements shall be recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise, except as described in paragraph 32.**
- 29 When monetary items arise from a foreign currency transaction and there is a change in the exchange rate between the transaction date and the date of settlement, an exchange difference results. When the transaction is settled within the same accounting period as that in which it occurred, all the exchange difference is recognised in that period. However, when the transaction is settled in a subsequent accounting period, the exchange difference recognised in each period up to the date of settlement is determined by the change in exchange rates during each period.
- 30 When a gain or loss on a non-monetary item is recognised in other comprehensive income, any exchange component of that gain or loss shall be recognised in other comprehensive income. Conversely, when a gain or loss on a non-monetary item is recognised in profit or loss, any exchange component of that gain or loss shall be recognised in profit or loss.**
- 31 Other Standards require some gains and losses to be recognised in other comprehensive income. For example, NZ IAS 16 requires some gains and losses arising on a revaluation of property, plant and equipment to be recognised in other comprehensive income. When such an asset is measured in a foreign currency, paragraph 23(c) of this Standard requires the revalued amount to be translated using the rate at the date the value is determined, resulting in an exchange difference that is also recognised in other comprehensive income.
- 32 Exchange differences arising on a monetary item that forms part of a reporting entity's net investment in a foreign operation (see paragraph 15)**



**shall be recognised in profit or loss in the separate financial statements of the reporting entity or the individual financial statements of the foreign operation, as appropriate. In the financial statements that include the foreign operation and the reporting entity (eg consolidated financial statements when the foreign operation is a subsidiary), such exchange differences shall be recognised initially in other comprehensive income and reclassified from equity to profit or loss on disposal of the net investment in accordance with paragraph 48.**

- 33 When a monetary item forms part of a reporting entity's net investment in a foreign operation and is denominated in the functional currency of the reporting entity, an exchange difference arises in the foreign operation's individual financial statements in accordance with paragraph 28. If such an item is denominated in the functional currency of the foreign operation, an exchange difference arises in the reporting entity's separate financial statements in accordance with paragraph 28. If such an item is denominated in a currency other than the functional currency of either the reporting entity or the foreign operation, an exchange difference arises in the reporting entity's separate financial statements and in the foreign operation's individual financial statements in accordance with paragraph 28. Such exchange differences are recognised in other comprehensive income in the financial statements that include the foreign operation and the reporting entity (ie financial statements in which the foreign operation is consolidated, proportionately consolidated or accounted for using the equity method).
- 34 When an entity keeps its books and records in a currency other than its functional currency, at the time the entity prepares its financial statements all amounts are translated into the functional currency in accordance with paragraphs 20-26. This produces the same amounts in the functional currency as would have occurred had the items been recorded initially in the functional currency. For example, monetary items are translated into the functional currency using the closing rate, and non-monetary items that are measured on a historical cost basis are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction that resulted in their recognition.

### **Change in Functional Currency**

- 35 **When there is a change in an entity's functional currency, the entity shall apply the translation procedures applicable to the new functional currency prospectively from the date of the change.**
- 36 As noted in paragraph 13, the functional currency of an entity reflects the underlying transactions, events and conditions that are relevant to the entity. Accordingly, once the functional currency is determined, it can be changed only if there is a change to those underlying transactions, events and conditions. For example, a change in the currency that mainly influences the sales prices of goods and services may lead to a change in an entity's functional currency.

- 37 The effect of a change in functional currency is accounted for prospectively. In other words, an entity translates all items into the new functional currency using the exchange rate at the date of the change. The resulting translated amounts for non-monetary items are treated as their historical cost. Exchange differences arising from the translation of a foreign operation previously recognised in other comprehensive income in accordance with paragraphs 32 and 39(c) are not reclassified from equity to profit or loss until the disposal of the operation.

## **USE OF A PRESENTATION CURRENCY OTHER THAN THE FUNCTIONAL CURRENCY**

### **Translation to the Presentation Currency**

- 38 An entity may present its financial statements in any currency (or currencies). If the presentation currency differs from the entity's functional currency, it translates its results and financial position into the presentation currency. For example, when a group contains individual entities with different functional currencies, the results and financial position of each entity are expressed in a common currency so that consolidated financial statements may be presented.
- 39 The results and financial position of an entity whose functional currency is not the currency of a hyperinflationary economy shall be translated into a different presentation currency using the following procedures:**
- (a) assets and liabilities for each statement of financial position presented (ie including comparatives) shall be translated at the closing rate at the date of that statement of financial position;**
  - (b) income and expenses for each statement of comprehensive income or separate income statement presented (ie including comparatives) shall be translated at exchange rates at the dates of the transactions; and**
  - (c) all resulting exchange differences shall be recognised in other comprehensive income.**
- 40 For practical reasons, a rate that approximates the exchange rates at the dates of the transactions, for example an average rate for the period, is often used to translate income and expense items. However, if exchange rates fluctuate significantly, the use of the average rate for a period is inappropriate.
- 41 The exchange differences referred to in paragraph 39(c) result from:
- (a) translating income and expenses at the exchange rates at the dates of the transactions and assets and liabilities at the closing rate.
  - (b) translating the opening net assets at a closing rate that differs from the previous closing rate.

These exchange differences are not recognised in profit or loss because the changes in exchange rates have little or no direct effect on the present and future cash flows from operations. The cumulative amount of the exchange differences is presented in a separate component of equity until disposal of the foreign operation. When the exchange differences relate to a foreign operation that is consolidated

but not wholly-owned, accumulated exchange differences arising from translation and attributable to non-controlling interests are allocated to, and recognised as part of, non-controlling interests in the consolidated statement of financial position.

- 42 The results and financial position of an entity whose functional currency is the currency of a hyperinflationary economy shall be translated into a different presentation currency using the following procedures:**
- (a) all amounts (ie assets, liabilities, equity items, income and expenses, including comparatives) shall be translated at the closing rate at the date of the most recent statement of financial position, except that
  - (b) when amounts are translated into the currency of a non-hyperinflationary economy, comparative amounts shall be those that were presented as current year amounts in the relevant prior year financial statements (ie not adjusted for subsequent changes in the price level or subsequent changes in exchange rates).
- 43 When an entity's functional currency is the currency of a hyperinflationary economy, the entity shall restate its financial statements in accordance with NZ IAS 29 before applying the translation method set out in paragraph 42, except for comparative amounts that are translated into a currency of a non-hyperinflationary economy (see paragraph 42(b)). When the economy ceases to be hyperinflationary and the entity no longer restates its financial statements in accordance with NZ IAS 29, it shall use as the historical costs for translation into the presentation currency the amounts restated to the price level at the date the entity ceased restating its financial statements.**

### **Translation of a Foreign Operation**

- 44 Paragraphs 45–47, in addition to paragraphs 38–43, apply when the results and financial position of a foreign operation are translated into a presentation currency so that the foreign operation can be included in the financial statements of the reporting entity by consolidation, proportionate consolidation or the equity method.
- 45 The incorporation of the results and financial position of a foreign operation with those of the reporting entity follows normal consolidation procedures, such as the elimination of intragroup balances and intragroup transactions of a subsidiary (see NZ IAS 27 and NZ IAS 31 *Interests in Joint Ventures*). However, an intragroup monetary asset (or liability), whether short-term or long-term, cannot be eliminated against the corresponding intragroup liability (or asset) without showing the results of currency fluctuations in the consolidated financial statements. This is because the monetary item represents a commitment to convert one currency into another and exposes the reporting entity to a gain or loss through currency fluctuations. Accordingly, in the consolidated financial statements of the reporting entity, such an exchange difference is recognised in profit or loss or, if it arises from the circumstances described in paragraph 32, it is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in a separate component of equity until the disposal of the foreign operation.

- 46 When the financial statements of a foreign operation are as of a date different from that of the reporting entity, the foreign operation often prepares additional statements as of the same date as the reporting entity's financial statements. When this is not done, NZ IAS 27 allows the use of a different date provided that the difference is no greater than three months and adjustments are made for the effects of any significant transactions or other events that occur between the different dates. In such a case, the assets and liabilities of the foreign operation are translated at the exchange rate at the end of the reporting period of the foreign operation. Adjustments are made for significant changes in exchange rates up to the end of the reporting period of the reporting entity in accordance with NZ IAS 27. The same approach is used in applying the equity method to associates and joint ventures and in applying proportionate consolidation to joint ventures in accordance with NZ IAS 28 *Investments in Associates* and NZ IAS 31.
- 47 Any goodwill arising on the acquisition of a foreign operation and any fair value adjustments to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities arising on the acquisition of that foreign operation shall be treated as assets and liabilities of the foreign operation. Thus they shall be expressed in the functional currency of the foreign operation and shall be translated at the closing rate in accordance with paragraphs 39 and 42.**

#### **Disposal or partial disposal of a Foreign Operation**

- 48 On the disposal of a foreign operation, the cumulative amount of the exchange differences relating to that foreign operation, recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in a separate component of equity, shall be reclassified from equity to profit or loss (as a reclassification adjustment) when the gain or loss on disposal is recognised (see NZ IAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements* (as revised in 2007)).**
- 48A In addition to the disposal of an entity's entire interest in a foreign operation, the following are accounted for as disposals even if the entity retains an interest in the former subsidiary, associate or jointly controlled entity:
- (a) the loss of control of a subsidiary that includes a foreign operation;
  - (b) the loss of significant influence over an associate that includes a foreign operation; and
  - (c) the loss of joint control over a jointly controlled entity that includes a foreign operation.
- 48B On disposal of a subsidiary that includes a foreign operation, the cumulative amount of the exchange differences relating to that foreign operation that have been attributed to the non-controlling interests shall be derecognised, but shall not be reclassified to profit or loss.
- 48C On the partial disposal of a subsidiary that includes a foreign operation, the entity shall re-attribute the proportionate share of the cumulative amount of the exchange differences recognised in other comprehensive income to the non-controlling interests in that foreign operation. In any other partial**

**disposal of a foreign operation the entity shall reclassify to profit or loss only the proportionate share of the cumulative amount of the exchange differences recognised in other comprehensive income.**

- 48D A partial disposal of an entity's interest in a foreign operation is any reduction in an entity's ownership interest in a foreign operation, except those reductions in paragraph 48A that are accounted for as disposals.
- 49 An entity may dispose or partially dispose of its interest in a foreign operation through sale, liquidation, repayment of share capital or abandonment of all, or part of, that entity. A write-down of the carrying amount of a foreign operation, either because of its own losses or because of an impairment recognised by the investor, does not constitute a partial disposal. Accordingly, no part of the foreign exchange gain or loss recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified to profit or loss at the time of a write-down.

### **TAX EFFECTS OF ALL EXCHANGE DIFFERENCES**

- 50 Gains and losses on foreign currency transactions and exchange differences arising on translating the results and financial position of an entity (including a foreign operation) into a different currency may have tax effects. NZ IAS 12 *Income Taxes* applies to these tax effects.

### **DISCLOSURE**

- 51 In paragraphs 53 and 55-57 references to 'functional currency' apply, in the case of a group, to the functional currency of the parent.
- 52 An entity shall disclose:
- \*(a) the amount of exchange differences recognised in profit or loss except for those arising on financial instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss in accordance with NZ IAS 39; and
  - (b) net exchange differences recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in a separate component of equity, and a reconciliation of the amount of such exchange differences at the beginning and end of the period.
- 53 When the presentation currency is different from the functional currency, that fact shall be stated, together with disclosure of the functional currency and the reason for using a different presentation currency.
- 54 When there is a change in the functional currency of either the reporting entity or a significant foreign operation, that fact and the reason for the change in functional currency shall be disclosed.
- 55 When an entity presents its financial statements in a currency that is different from its functional currency, it shall describe the financial statements as complying with New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards only if they comply with all the requirements of each applicable Standard and each

**applicable Interpretation of those Standards including the translation method set out in paragraphs 39 and 42.**

- 56 An entity sometimes presents its financial statements or other financial information in a currency that is not its functional currency without meeting the requirements of paragraph 55. For example, an entity may convert into another currency only selected items from its financial statements. Or, an entity whose functional currency is not the currency of a hyperinflationary economy may convert the financial statements into another currency by translating all items at the most recent closing rate. Such conversions are not in accordance with New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards and the disclosures set out in paragraph 57 are required.
- 57 **When an entity displays its financial statements or other financial information in a currency that is different from either its functional currency or its presentation currency and the requirements of paragraph 55 are not met, it shall:**
- (a) **clearly identify the information as supplementary information to distinguish it from the information that complies with International Financial Reporting Standards;**
  - (b) **disclose the currency in which the supplementary information is displayed; and**
  - (c) **disclose the entity's functional currency and the method of translation used to determine the supplementary information.**

## **EFFECTIVE DATE AND TRANSITION**

- 58 This Standard becomes operative for an entity's financial statements that cover annual accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2007. Early adoption of this Standard is permitted only when an entity complies with NZ IFRS 1 *First-time Adoption of New Zealand Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards* for an annual accounting period beginning on or after 1 January 2005.
- 58A *Net Investment in a Foreign Operation* (Amendment to NZ IAS 21), issued in February 2006, added paragraph 15A and amended paragraph 33. An entity shall apply those amendments for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2006. Earlier application is encouraged.
- 59–60 [Paragraphs 59–60 are not reproduced. The transitional provisions in IAS 21 are not relevant to this Standard.]
- 60A NZ IAS 1 (as revised in 2007) amended the terminology used throughout New Zealand equivalents to IFRSs. In addition it amended paragraphs 27, 30–33, 37, 39, 41, 45, 48 and 52. An entity shall apply those amendments for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009. If an entity applies NZ IAS 1 (revised 2007) for an earlier period, the amendments shall be applied for that earlier period.
- 60B NZ IAS 27 (as amended in 2008) added paragraphs 48A–48D and amended paragraph 49. An entity shall apply those amendments for annual periods

beginning on or after 1 July 2009. If an entity applies NZ IAS 27 (amended 2008) for an earlier period, the amendments shall be applied for that earlier period.

**WITHDRAWAL OF OTHER PRONOUNCEMENTS**

61–62 [Paragraphs 61 and 62 are not reproduced. The withdrawal of previous IASB pronouncements is not relevant to this Standard.]

## **Appendix**

### **Amendments to other pronouncements**

*The amendments in this appendix shall be applied for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2005. If an entity applies this Standard for an earlier period, these amendments shall be applied for that earlier period.*

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*The amendments contained in this appendix have been incorporated into the relevant pronouncements published in this volume.*



IAS 21