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IFRS Foundation Publications Department
1st Floor, 30 Cannon Street, London EC4M 6XH, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)20 7332 2730 Fax: +44 (0)20 7332 2749
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Approval by the Board of *Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets* (Amendments to IAS 36) issued in May 2013

Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets was approved for issue by fifteen members of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). Mr Kabureck abstained from voting in view of his recent appointment to the IASB.

Hans Hoogervorst	Chairman
Ian Mackintosh	Vice-Chairman
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Patricia McConnell	
Takatsugu Ochi	
Darrel Scott	
Chungwoo Suh	
Mary Tokar	
Wei-Guo Zhang	

Amendments to the Basis for Conclusions on IAS 36 *Impairment of Assets*

After paragraph BC209D a heading and paragraphs BC209E–BC209Q are added.

Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets

- BC209E As a consequence of issuing IFRS 13, the IASB amended some of the disclosure requirements in IAS 36 for the recoverable amount of impaired assets. As described in paragraphs BC209B–BC209D, those amendments resulted from the IASB’s decision to require the disclosure of the recoverable amount of impaired assets and additional disclosures about the measurement of the recoverable amount of impaired assets when the recoverable amount was based on fair value less costs of disposal. The IASB also intended to retain a balance between the disclosures about fair value less costs of disposal and the disclosures about value in use.
- BC209F After issuing IFRS 13, the IASB was made aware that one of the amendments that that Standard had made to IAS 36 resulted in the disclosure requirements being more broadly applicable than the IASB had intended. Instead of requiring the disclosure of the recoverable amount for impaired assets, that amendment required the disclosure of the recoverable amount of each cash-generating unit for which the carrying amount of goodwill or intangible assets with indefinite useful lives allocated to that unit is significant when compared to an entity’s total carrying amount of goodwill or intangible assets with indefinite useful lives.
- BC209G Consequently, the IASB decided to publish, in January 2013, the Exposure Draft ED/2013/1 *Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets* (‘Exposure Draft ED/2013/1’), which proposed to amend paragraphs 130 and 134 of IAS 36 to make clear its intention about the scope of the disclosure requirements. For the same reason, the IASB also proposed to amend paragraph 130(f) to require additional information about the fair value measurement when the recoverable amount of impaired assets is based on fair value less costs of disposal, consistently with the disclosure requirements for impaired assets in US GAAP. As mentioned in paragraph BC209C, although IFRS and US GAAP have different impairment models, the IASB had concluded that requiring that additional information about impaired assets measured at fair value less costs of disposal would improve comparability between the disclosures presented in the financial statements of entities applying IFRS and the disclosures presented in the financial statements of those applying US GAAP.
- BC209H One of the consequential amendments made by IFRS 13 amended paragraph 134(e) of IAS 36 that relates to fair value less costs of disposal for each cash-generating unit for which the carrying amount of goodwill or intangible assets with indefinite useful lives allocated to that unit is significant in comparison with an entity’s total carrying amount of goodwill or intangible assets with indefinite useful lives. That amendment required the disclosure of the level of the fair value hierarchy in which the measurement is categorised, and whether (and if so why) there has been a change in the valuation technique used to measure fair value less costs of disposal for such cash-generating units. In developing Exposure Draft ED/2013/1, the IASB did not consider it necessary to amend those disclosure requirements because they were consistent with its intention of aligning the disclosures about fair value less costs of disposal in IAS 36 with the fair value disclosures in IFRS 13. Consequently, the IASB decided to retain the disclosure requirements in paragraph 134(e) and to add, as mentioned in paragraph BC209G, requirements for similar disclosures in paragraph 130(f).
- BC209I When developing Exposure Draft ED/2013/1, the IASB considered whether there should be consistency between the wording of the disclosure requirements in IAS 36 (which uses the term ‘assumptions’) with the wording of the measurement requirements in IFRS 13 (which uses the term ‘inputs’). The IASB concluded that it was unlikely that those terms could have different meanings because IFRS 13 defines ‘inputs’ as “the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability...”. In addition, the IASB wanted to make clear that the proposed amendments did not change the meaning of the information that is required to be disclosed in accordance with IAS 36. On the basis of that analysis and given that the use of the term ‘assumptions’ was not questioned by the respondents to Exposure Draft ED/2013/1, the IASB decided to retain that term in the final amendments.
- BC209J When developing Exposure Draft ED/2013/1, the IASB also noted that its proposed amendments overlapped with an amendment to paragraph 130(f) of IAS 36 that had been proposed in the Exposure Draft ED/2012/1 *Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2010–2012 Cycle* (‘Exposure Draft ED/2012/1’) published in May 2012. The intention behind the proposal in Exposure Draft ED/2012/1 was to harmonise the disclosure

requirements for fair value less costs of disposal and value in use by adding to paragraph 130(f) the requirement to disclose the discount rates that were used in the current and previous measurements if the recoverable amount of impaired assets, determined on the basis of fair value less costs of disposal, was measured using a present value technique. A total of 64 respondents commented on that proposal, with nearly all of those respondents supporting it. Consequently, the IASB decided to incorporate that proposal into Exposure Draft ED/2013/1, but did not request comments in response to this topic.

- BC209K A total of 74 respondents commented on Exposure Draft ED/2013/1. Even though the vast majority of the respondents supported the proposed amendments, a few respondents believed that, when impairment losses were calculated by reference to the recoverable amount determined on the basis of fair value less costs of disposal, the amendments would result in the disclosure requirements being broader than the disclosures that would be required if the same impairment losses were calculated by reference to the recoverable amount determined on the basis of value in use. The IASB noted that it had already taken the decision to require this incremental disclosure when it first amended IAS 36 as a result of issuing IFRS 13. As mentioned in paragraph BC209G, that decision had been taken on the grounds that those amendments would improve comparability between the disclosures presented in the financial statements of entities applying IFRS and the disclosures presented in the financial statements of those applying US GAAP.
- BC209L During the development of IFRS 13, the IASB also noted that not all of the additional disclosure requirements for the recoverable amount determined on the basis of fair value less costs of disposal would be applicable for the recoverable amount determined on the basis of value in use. The requirement of disclosing the level of the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement of the impaired asset is categorised would, for example, not be applicable to a measurement based on value in use. In addition, the IASB noted that the amendments to paragraph 130(f) would help to align the disclosure requirements for fair value less costs of disposal for impaired assets with the disclosure requirements in paragraph 134(e) for fair value less costs of disposal for each cash-generating unit for which the carrying amount of goodwill or intangible assets with indefinite useful lives allocated to that unit is significant in comparison with an entity's total carrying amount of goodwill or intangible assets with indefinite useful lives.
- BC209M Exposure Draft ED/2013/1 also proposed to remove the term 'material' from paragraph 130. When developing these proposals, the IASB concluded that it was unnecessary to state explicitly that the disclosure requirements in paragraph 130 relate to assets (including goodwill) or cash-generating units, for which a material impairment loss has been recognised or reversed during the period, because all IFRSs are governed by the concept of materiality as described in IAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements* (see paragraph 31 of IAS 1) and IAS 8 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*. Some respondents to Exposure Draft ED/2013/1 were opposed to removing this term because they thought that, by removing it, it would become unclear whether the disclosure requirements in paragraph 130 apply only when a material impairment loss has been recognised or reversed during the period. They were also concerned that the elimination of the term 'material' in paragraph 130 could impact the understanding of the requirements in paragraph 131 that deal with the disclosure of immaterial items on an aggregate basis.
- BC209N The IASB had not intended to change the scope of the disclosure requirements in paragraph 130. In addition, the IASB concluded that the removal of the term 'material' in paragraph 130 should not impact the disclosure requirements in paragraph 131. Consequently, the IASB concluded that the rationale for removing the term 'material', as presented in Exposure Draft ED/2013/1, was still valid and, as a result, the IASB confirmed the removal of that term in the final amendments.
- BC209O The IASB decided not to retain in the final amendments the last sentence of paragraph 130(f), as proposed in Exposure Draft ED/2013/1. That sentence stated that an "... entity is not required to provide the disclosures required by IFRS 13". The IASB noted that IFRS 13 already excludes from the scope of its disclosure requirements assets for which the recoverable amount is fair value less costs of disposal in accordance with IAS 36. As a result, the IASB concluded that that sentence in paragraph 130(f) was redundant and could cause confusion and therefore decided to remove it from the final amendments.
- BC209P Exposure Draft ED/2013/1 proposed to include an illustrative example of the requirements in paragraph 130(b) and the proposed requirements in paragraph 130(f)(ii). Some respondents questioned the usefulness of that illustrative example, which did not illustrate all of the disclosures that are required for the recoverable amount of impaired assets based on fair value less costs of disposal. In their view, such an illustrative example could be misleading rather than helpful, because it might suggest that no other disclosures are required. On the basis of these comments, and because the IASB noted that Illustrative Example 15 to IFRS 13 includes similar disclosures to the ones included in the proposed illustrative example, it decided not to incorporate the proposed example in the final amendments.
- BC209Q On the basis of the respondents' comments, the IASB decided to proceed with the final amendments subject to only minor drafting modifications.

After paragraph BC228A a heading and paragraphs BC228B–BC228C are added.

Transition provisions for *Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets*

- BC228B In Exposure Draft ED/2013/1, the IASB proposed retrospective application and to permit earlier application of the amendments. The vast majority of the respondents supported those proposals.
- BC228C The IASB decided to retain in the final amendments the transition requirements proposed in Exposure Draft ED/2013/1 that meant that entities should not provide comparative information for the prior period if they are not also applying IFRS 13 in that period. The objective of such transition requirements is to make these amendments have the same effect as if they had been issued when the IASB issued IFRS 13.