Standard on Auditing (SA) 800

Special Considerations - Audits of Financial Statements Prepared in Accordance with Special Purpose Frameworks

Overview of SA 800

Introduction

- Scope
- Effective date
- Objective
- Definitions
- Requirements & Applications
 - Considerations when accepting the engagement
 - Considerations when planning & performing the audit
 - Forming an opinion & reporting considerations

Scope

- Deals with special considerations in the application of SAs to audit of FS prepared in accordance with a special purpose framework.
- Written in the context of complete set of FS prepared in accordance with a special purpose framework.
- Does not override the requirements of the other SAs.
- May not deal with all special considerations relevant in the circumstances of the engagement.

Objectives

- The objective of the auditor, when applying SAs in an audit of financial statements prepared in accordance with a special purpose framework, is to address appropriately the special considerations that are relevant to:
 - The acceptance of the engagement;
 - The planning and performance of that engagement; and
 - Forming an opinion and reporting on the financial statements.

Definitions

- Special purpose financial statements— Financial statements prepared in accordance with a special purpose framework.
- Special purpose framework A financial reporting framework designed to meet the financial information needs of specific users. The financial reporting framework may be a fair presentation framework or a compliance framework.

Examples of special purpose frameworks

- Examples of special purpose frameworks are:
 - The cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting for cash flow information that an entity may be requested to prepare for creditors;
 - The financial reporting provisions established by a regulator to meet the requirements of that regulator; or
 - The financial reporting provisions of a contract, such as a bond indenture, a loan agreement, or a project grant.

Engagement Acceptance - Considerations

- Obtain understanding of:
 - Purpose for which FS are prepared.
 - Intended users.
 - Steps taken by mgt to determine that applicable FRF is acceptable.

Planning & Performing an Audit – Considerations

Determine whether the application of SAs require special considerations in circumstances of the engagement.

Forming an Opinion & Reporting Considerations

Apply SA 700(R).

Also:

- Describe the purpose for which FS are prepared & intended users.
- ▶ If mgt has a choice of FRFs in the preparation of FS:
 - Explanation of mgt's responsibility for the FS make reference to its responsibility for determining acceptability of applicable FRF.
- Evaluate whether FS adequately describe the FRF applied.
- Include Emphasis of Matter paragraph to alert users re application of special purpose FRF:
 - ► FS may not be suitable for another purpose.