

8 **ANC** Direct



Focus

Towards Sustainability reporting standards

Following the work undertaken by EFRAG at the request of the European Commission in 2020 and the setting up of a Task Force chaired by Patrick de Cambourg to carry out the preparatory work for a European standard, the European Commission published on 21 April a draft CRSD (Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive) specifying the content and scope of sustainability reporting by companies. Since June, the Task Force has been reactivated and is working on the standards themselves. EFRAG's governance is also being adapted with the aim of having a Sustainability Reporting Pillar that will take over the activities of the Task Force.

For more information, visit the EFRAG website.



Regulations and positions adopted by ANC's Board in 2021

ANC Board adopted in 2021 the following regulations and positions:

Regulations:

- n° 2021-01 dated 7 May 2021 amending the National accounting code (Plan Comptable Général) about annual accounts of agricultural cooperatives and their unions;
- n° 2021-02 dated 4 June 2021 amending regulation ANC n°2018-06 and related to the annual financial statements of private-law non-for-profit entities. ANC's Board reintroduced the accounting provisions applicable to group insurance contract underwriting associations and to associations called popular retirement savings group (called GERP in French for groupement d'épargne retraite populaire);
- n° 2021-03 dated 4 June 2021 amending regulation ANC n°2016-02 relating to the annual financial statements of securitisation entities;
- n° 2021-04 dated 2 July 2021 amending the CRC regulation n° 2009-07 of 3 December 2009 relating to the conversion of a company into a workers cooperative called SCOP.

Communications related to Covid-19:

- 15 January 2021 in case of revisions on amortisation schedules of certain assets;
- 7 June and 9 July 2021 updating the accounting treatment of participatory loans with States support and grants for payment of social contributions.

International standards:

- Comment letter in January 2021 on EFRAG's Draft Endorsement Advice (DEA) on the Amendments to IAS 1-Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current;
- Comment letter in February 2021 on EFRAG's Draft Endorsement Advice (DEA) published in September 2020 on IFRS 17-Insurance Contracts;
- Recommendation n° 2021-01 dated 5 February 2021 relating to the tagging of financial statements that are in scope of Recommendation 2017-02;
- Comments letters to IFRS-IC tentative decision in December 2020 and June 2021;
- ANC comments on the IASB's Exposure Draft 2021/2 Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions beyond 30 June 2021 (proposed amendment to IFRS 16 Leases) in February 2021;
- Comment letter dated 10 May 2021 on IASB's Request for Information -Postimplementation Review of IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements, IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements and IFRS 12 Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities;
- Comment letter in July 2021 on IASB's Exposure Draft 2021/1: Regulatory Assets and Regulatory Liabilities;
- Comment letter in July 2021 on IASB's Discussion Paper DP/2020/2: Business Combinations under Common Control;
- ANC's Board replies in September 2021 to IASB's consultation on its work plan for 2022 to 2026.

October 2021	
ANC is recruiting project managers for French standards	
Symposium on Accounting Research Monday December 13 2021 Register here Appointment to EFRAG Olivier Scherer (Board)	
Pierre Phan Van Phi (TEG) Appointment to IASB Bertrand Perrin 1 July 2021	
France : CNP: CNI :	21 October 25 November 16 December 20 January 22 21 September
Collège:	19 October 16 November 14 December 25 january 22 8 October 5 November 3 December
International : 6 October : 20-21 October 28 October 18 November 24 November 9-10 December 21-22 December 18-19 January 22 26 January 22	EFRAG Board EFRAG TEG EFRAG Board EFRAG Board EFRAG TEG ASAF EFRAG TEG



Focus on: Covid-19 updated recommendations

In May 2020, ANC published on its website its recommendations relating to the recognition of the consequences of the Covid-19 event in accounts as from 1 January 2020. This publication clarifies the existing law without creating any new law in a pragmatic view. It is a living document that may be supplemented if necessary in view of the evolving nature of the economic crisis, its consequences and the support measures provided to companies and their more or less unusual nature with regard to accounting practice.

Thus, on 15 January 2021, ANC updated its recommendations in order to allow companies to revise the amortisation schedule of certain fixed assets, whose level of use has been significantly modified by the crisis, by switching from a straight-line depreciation method to a unit-of-production depreciation method, thus allowing the lesser wear and tear of the asset to be recognised. By way of simplification, small companies (those not exceeding two of the following three thresholds: total assets < \in 4m; turnover < \in 8m; number of employees < 50) may consider that periods of interruption or reduction in activity are representative of a lesser consumption of the economic benefits of the asset concerned and, consequently, defer the depreciation charges thus deferred to the end of the initial depreciation plan. They do not have to analyse the change in the rate of consumption of the economic benefits associated with their assets.

On 7 June 2021, ANC again updated its recommendations on this point, in particular by giving examples of application with a view to a better understanding of this topic.

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Focus on: IASB's work on the Goodwill and Impairment project

IASB published in March 2020 the Discussion Paper Business Combinations – Disclosures, Goodwill and Impairment (DP). This document was published further to the Post-implementation Review of IFRS 3 Business Combinations which was completed in June 2015. Further to a 5 year-research and deliberation phase, the IASB developed preliminary views that, if implemented, could lead entities to provide more useful information about the acquisitions they make, subject to a favourable cost-benefit balance. The DP included two major sets of proposals : those aiming to enhance information about acquisitions and those pertaining to the measurement of goodwill after its initial recognition. IASB received almost 200 comment letters. ANC's comment letter is available on <u>our website</u>.

Respondents expressed mixed views about the enhanced information an entity should provide about its acquisitions. Users expressed almost unanimous support to such information whereas preparers generally had strong reservations about providing that information, notably because of its commercial sensitivity. A majority of IASB members hold the preliminary view that such information would have significant added-value for any further standard-setting project. Accordingly, IASB may go that route.

Mixed views also exist in relation to the subsequent measurement of goodwill. IASB tentatively concluded it is not feasible to design at a reasonable cost a different impairment test for goodwill that is significantly more effective. The IASB nonetheless suggested possible simplifications to the test to reduce its complexity for preparers. IASB also tentatively decided not to reintroduce amortisation of goodwill and asked its stakeholders whether new evidence (conceptual or practical) exists to support such reintroduction. Recent discussions at IASB indicate new substantial evidence may not exist, the advantages and drawbacks of the impairment test. However, IASB has to consider the international aspect of this matter because the FASB tentatively decided, in December 2020, to explore the amortisation of goodwill. Many stakeholders recommended convergence between IFRS Standards and US GAAP be maintained in this respect, thus putting pressure on the IASB. The outcome of the IASB deliberations on this matter is uncertain.



Focus on: Research projects - 2021

Within the framework of proactive reflections on future accounting debates, ANC has wished this year to encourage academic professors to initiate accounting research works on the following themes:

- Crypto-assets
- Implementation review of the French regulation related to not-profit sector
- Contingent liabilities
- Study on goodwill impairment practices
- Intangible assets
- Financial impacts of non-financial items

Two research projects have been selected: "Integrating climate issues into financial statements", research team led by Isabelle Martinez and Walid Ben-Amar and "Climate disclosures and financial performance: an exploratory study of European companies", research team led by Sandra Rigot, Samira Demaria and Jeanne Amar.

If you wish to inform us of your specific research projects outside these subjects and outside the dedicated periods of calls for projects, do not hesitate to contact us for all projects which may be useful for standard setting.