

IPSAS, EPSAS and EPSAP: The European and Maltese contexts

Defining New Frontiers
Translating Vision into Value



THE MALTA
INSTITUTE OF
ACCOUNTANTS

Council Directive (2011/85)

(Requirements for Budgetary Frameworks of Member States)

- Article 3 – *“Member States to have in place public accounting systems comprehensively and consistently covering all sub-sectors of GG and containing information to generate accrual data for ESA95 purposes”*
- Article 16(3) – required *“an assessment of the suitability of IPSAS for Member States”*.



Towards Implementing Harmonised Public Sector Accounting Standards in MS

(March 2012)

- Conclusions:
 - *“IPSAS, in their current state, cannot easily be implemented in EU Member States”* but
 - *“IPSAS represent an indisputable reference for potential EU harmonised public sector accounts”*
 - Establishment of a set of European Public Sector Accounting Standards: EPSAS



Eurostat Conference (EPSAS)

(Brussels – May 2013)

- Conclusions:
 - Follow up work to focus on Commission Communication on EPSAS;
 - Framework Regulation;
 - Launching of a Eurostat Task Force on EPSAS Governance.

(TF not a decision making body but a reflection group with participation from all MS)



EPSAS Governance Framework

- EPSAS Regulatory Committee (*Governing Body*)
- EPSAS standards Working Group (*Standards Setting*)
- EPSAS Interpretation Working Group
- Governance Advisory Body (*Oversight*)
- EPSAS Advisory Group (*National experts, Stakeholders, Accountancy and Audit professions, Statisticians and Academia*)



EPSAS – A Phased Approach

- EPSAP (*incorporated in Framework legislation establishing EPSAS*)
- EPSAS (*standard setting – most important issues – taxes, social benefits, pensions*)
- EPSAS (*standard setting – less complex areas based on IPSAS*)
- Adoption and Implementation of EPSAS
- 2020: first set of harmonised EPSAS based Financial Statements in MS.



Malta: IPSAS Project

- 2012 Q2: Workshops on IPSAS
- 2013 Q1 & Q2: CIPFA Workshops and GAP Analysis
- 2013 Q3: CIPFA Gap analysis Report
- 2014 Q1: Establishment of IPSAS Project Board, Project Team
- 2014 Q2: IPSAS Implementation Plan
- Ongoing work on IPSAS 17, 21, 26 and 13.



Thank You



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