Unreplaced and voluntarily replaced share-based payment awards

The IFRIC received requests to clarify the measurement of unreplaced and voluntarily replaced share-based payment awards of an acquiree in a business combination. IFRS 3 (as revised in 2008) contains requirements for outstanding acquiree share-based payment awards that the acquirer is obliged to replace or that expire as a consequence of the business combination. However, IFRSs do not provide requirements for other acquiree share-based payment awards. As a consequence, divergent interpretations have developed in practice as to how those awards should be accounted for.

The IFRIC noted that when an acquirer does not replace unexpired share-based payment awards of the acquiree or voluntarily issues share-based payment awards to replace such awards, at least some portion of the amount recognised for those awards should be regarded as part of the consideration transferred in the business combination. However, because IFRSs do not provide sufficient guidance to resolve this issue an amendment to IFRS 3 (as revised in 2008) is required. Therefore, the IFRIC decided not to add the issue to its agenda. However, the IFRIC recommended that the Board amend revised IFRS 3 to address the issues identified as a part of the annual improvements project.