

Better Communication Principles of Disclosure Discussion Paper: Update

IFRS Advisory Council - April 2017

Agenda paper 8

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The objective of this session is to:

- (a) provide you a project update on the *Principles of Disclosure* Discussion Paper; and
- (b) seek your views on our outreach activities on the Discussion Paper (see slides 8 and 9).

Central theme of the Board's work

3

Better communication in financial reporting

Primary
Financial
Statements

Disclosure
Initiative

IFRS
Taxonomy™

Content and organisation of the content

Content delivery

←—————→
Enhanced communication effectiveness of financial
statements

Disclosure Initiative

Completed projects

Materiality implementation projects

Research projects

Related projects

Amendments to IAS 1 to remove barriers to application of judgement

Amendments to IAS 7 to improve disclosure of liabilities from financing activities

Guidance on application of materiality

Clarifying the definition of material

Principles of Disclosure (this project)

Standards-level Review of Disclosures

Conceptual Framework

Primary Financial Statements project

How Disclosure Initiative projects fit together

5

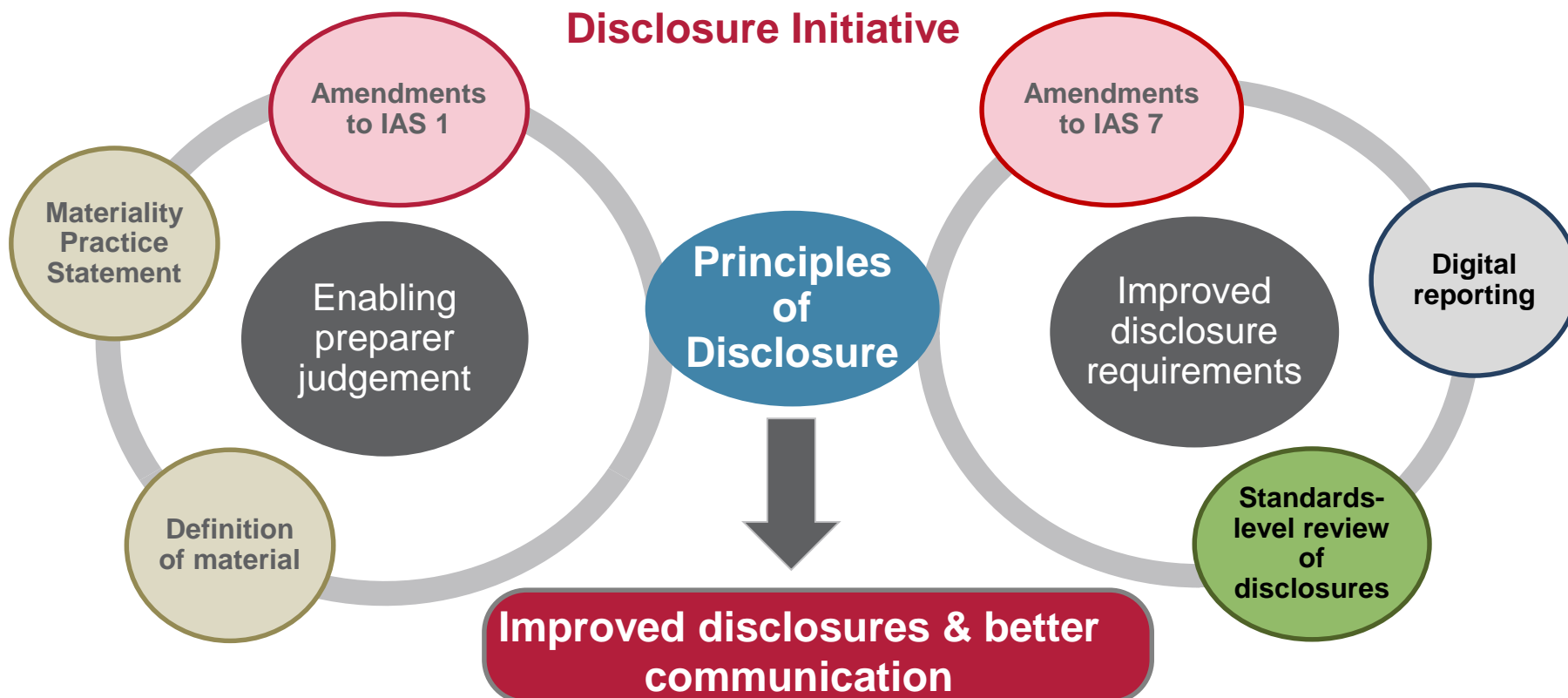
Disclosure problem?

Not enough relevant information

Irrelevant information (overload/obscure)

Ineffective communication

Disclosure Initiative



Principles of Disclosure Discussion Paper

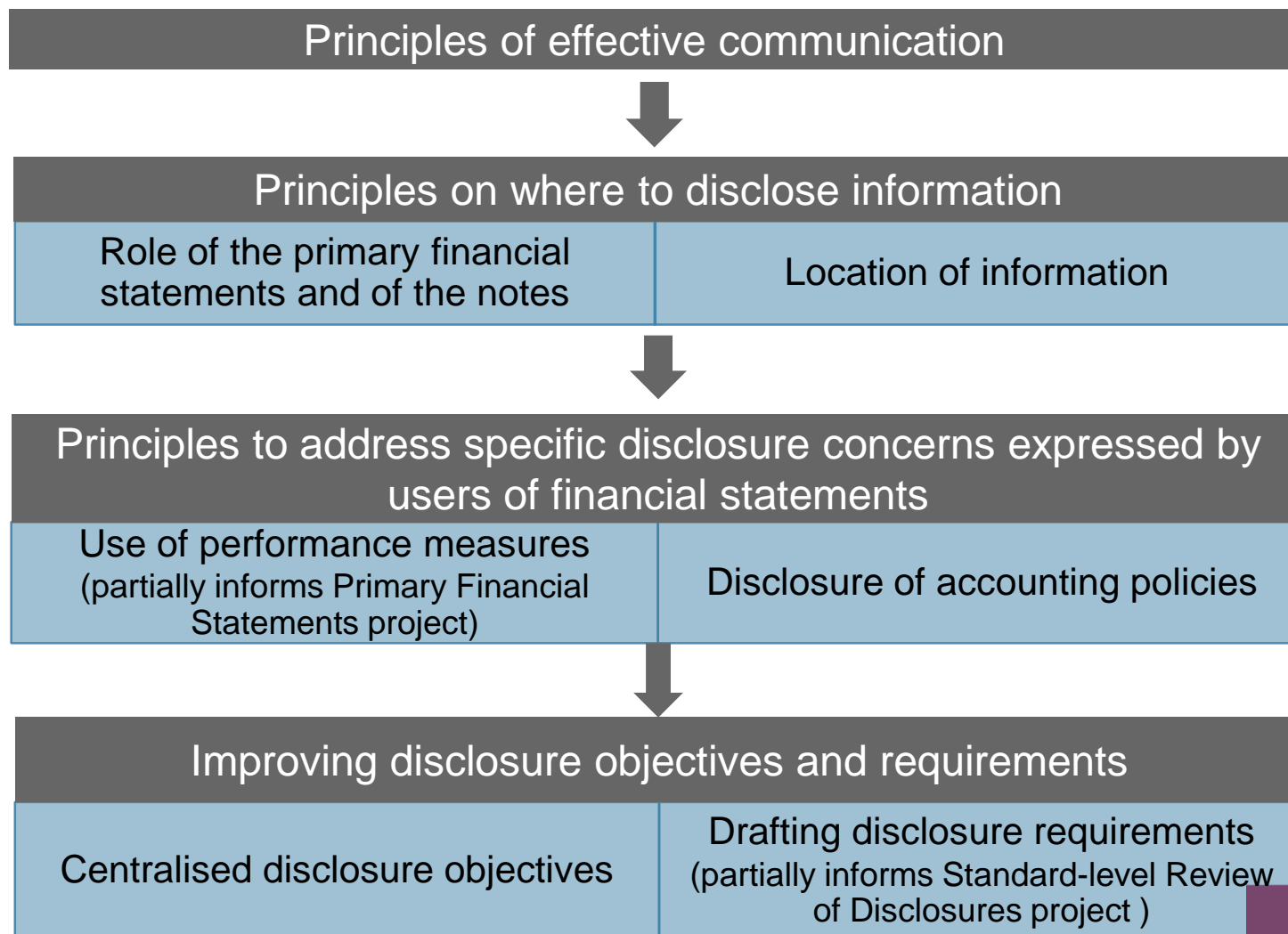
Why

- Requests for Board to develop disclosure principles that apply across IFRS Standards
- Purpose of:
 - helping entities to make better judgements about disclosures and communicate information more effectively
 - improving disclosures for primary users of the financial statements
 - helping Board to improve disclosure requirements in Standards

Output

- Discussion Paper considers the development of new, and clarification of existing, principles of disclosure, and supporting guidance
 - builds on concepts developed in Conceptual Framework project
 - informs other research projects
- Ultimate goal is to produce:
 - new or revised general disclosure standard (amend or replace parts of IAS 1)
 - possibly with some supporting guidance/educational material

Outline of Discussion Paper



Key messages in the Discussion Paper to be conveyed in the outreach

- Objective is to seek feedback on:
 - approaches to address disclosure issues that have been identified by the Board
 - whether there are other disclosure issues that should be addressed by the project
- Key areas of Discussion Paper:
 - developing principles of effective communication for entities preparing financial statements
 - using a central set of disclosure objectives as a basis for more unified disclosure objectives and requirements in Standards
 - and better linked to objective of financial statements
 - requirements to ensure performance measures are disclosed fairly in financial statements

Planned outreach on Discussion Paper





- Discussion Paper published in early April 2017
- Six month comment period
- We expect outreach activities to include:
 - discussions with advisory bodies to Board (ASAF, CMAC, GPF)
 - discussions/roundtables to include all stakeholders
 - targeted outreach with users of financial statements to discuss topics most directly relevant to them
 - other outreach meetings organised with assistance from local standard-setters (ASAF and others)

- Do you have any strategic advice around the key messages to be conveyed in the outreach (slide 8)?
- Do you have any comments or suggestions around the type or format of outreach activity (slide 9)?
- Any other questions or comments?


Appendix—Other Disclosure Initiative activities in the next 12 months

Project	Next steps
Materiality practice statement	The Board aims to publish the final Practice Statement in the second quarter of 2017.
Definition of material	In December 2016, the Board decided to separately publish the proposed definition clarifications in an Exposure Draft. The Board aims to publish an Exposure Draft in the second quarter of 2017.
Standards-level review of disclosures	This project will be partially informed by the principles being developed in the Principles of Disclosure project.


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