Accounting by the joint operation: accounting by the joint operation that is a separate vehicle in its financial statements (IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements)—March 2015

The Interpretations Committee discussed the issue of the accounting by a joint operation that is a separate vehicle in its financial statements. The recognition by joint operators in both consolidated and separate financial statements of their share of assets and liabilities held by the joint operation leads to the question of whether those same assets and liabilities should also be recognised in the financial statements of the joint operation itself.

The Interpretations Committee noted that IFRS 11 applies only to the accounting by the joint operators and not to the accounting by the separate vehicle that is a joint operation. The financial statements of the separate vehicle would therefore be prepared in accordance with applicable Standards.

Company law often requires a legal entity/separate vehicle to prepare financial statements. Consequently, the reporting entity for the financial statements would include the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of that legal entity/separate vehicle.

However, when identifying the assets and liabilities of the separate vehicle, it is necessary to understand the joint operators’ rights and obligations relating to those assets and liabilities and how those rights and obligations affect those assets and liabilities.

On the basis of this analysis, the Interpretations Committee determined that, in the light of the existing IFRS requirements, sufficient guidance exists and that neither an Interpretation nor an amendment to a Standard was necessary.

Consequently, the Interpretations Committee decided not to add this issue to its agenda.