

PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL STANDARD ON AUDITING 550 (REVISED)

RELATED PARTIES

(Effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after [date])

[Revised Post-ED Draft (Mark-up from Exposure Draft)]

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Introduction

Scope of this ISA

1. This International Standard on Auditing (ISA) deals with the auditor's responsibilities regarding related party relationships and transactions when performing an audit of financial statements. Specifically, it expands on how ISA 315, "Identifying and Assessing the Risks of Material Misstatement Through Understanding the Entity and Its Environment," ISA 330, "The Auditor's Responses to Assessed Risks," and ISA 240, "The Auditor's Responsibilities Relating to Fraud in an Audit of Financial Statements," are to be applied in relation to risks of material misstatement resulting from related parties. **ISSUE 11**

Related Parties in the Context of an Audit of Financial Statements

2. Related party transactions are often a normal part of business. They commonly involve components within a group pursuing transactions with each other to further the overall financial objectives of the group. They may also involve management transacting with the entity for legitimate purposes. Related party transactions often carry no higher risk of material misstatement of the financial statements than transactions with unrelated parties, particularly if they are of a routine nature. However, because of the nature of related party relationships, related party transactions may in some circumstances give rise to higher risks of material misstatement of the financial statements compared with transactions between unrelated parties. **ISSUE 11**
3. The risk of material misstatement of the financial statements resulting from ~~that~~ the entity ~~does~~ not identify ~~ing, and-or not~~ appropriately accounting for or disclos ~~ing~~, related party relationships ~~and-or~~ transactions may be higher than the risk of material misstatement resulting from other transactions for a number of reasons, including the following:
 - (a) Related parties may operate through an extensive and complex range of relationships and structures, and may enter into complex transactions;
 - (b) Related party transactions may be informal; for example, in ~~smaller~~ some entities, there may be relationships and transactions involving family members of management that are not fully documented or formally approved;
 - (c) Information systems may be ineffective at ~~not be designed to~~ identify ~~ing~~ or summarizing transactions and outstanding balances between an entity and its related parties;
 - (d) Management may be unaware of the existence of related parties or related party transactions, especially if management has incomplete knowledge of the related party definitions (or descriptions) and requirements of the applicable financial reporting framework; and
 - (~~e~~) Related party transactions may not be conducted ~~in the under~~ normal ~~course of~~ business commercial terms and conditions; for example, some related party transactions may be conducted with no exchange of consideration.

~~As a result~~In addition, related party relationships may present a greater ~~more~~ opportunity for collusion, concealment or manipulation by management, resulting in a higher risk of fraud, especially if the related parties are not disclosed to the auditor.

4. For these reasons, there is an inherent limitation regarding the auditor's ability to identify ~~all~~ related party relationships and transactions. ~~Accordingly, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements in the financial statements resulting from related party relationships or transactions may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with ISAs. Nevertheless, the requirements of this ISA provide a reasonable basis for obtaining sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the accounting for, and disclosure of, related party relationships and transactions.~~ **ISSUE 2]**
52. ~~Financial reporting frameworks ordinarily do not require related party transactions to be accounted for differently from transactions between unrelated parties. Although an entity may enter into related party transactions as part of its normal course of business, such transactions may not be conducted at arm's length. Accordingly, financial reporting frameworks ordinarily~~ They may, however, establish ~~accounting and~~ disclosure requirements for related party relationships and transactions to enable users of the financial statements to understand their nature and their actual or potential financial effects of these transactions. ~~Financial reporting frameworks may also require related party relationships to be disclosed to enable users to understand the nature of the relationships and their potential effects on the financial statements.~~
6. ~~Some financial reporting frameworks may address related party relationships and transactions only to a limited extent, for example, where the frameworks have been designed for special purpose financial statements or where disclosure of related party relationships and transactions would be considered impracticable or meaningless because of significant governmental ownership. Nevertheless, even W~~when the applicable financial reporting framework ~~does not~~ establishes limited or no related party ~~such~~ requirements, the requirements and guidance in this ISA is nevertheless are relevant for the auditor in obtaining an understanding of the entity's related party relationships and transactions, and their significance to, and effects on, in fulfilling the auditor's responsibility to consider fraud in the audit of the financial statements. **ISSUE 3]**

Effective Date

75. This ISA is effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after [date].

Objective ~~to be Achieved~~

86. ~~In relation to this ISA, t~~The objective of the auditor is to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about whether related party relationships and transactions have been properly the ~~accounted~~ ing for, and disclosed ~~ure of, related party relationships and transactions in the financial statements, through:~~ **ISSUE 4]**
- (a) ~~Obtaining an understanding of these relationships and transactions; and~~
- (b) ~~In the context of the applicable financial reporting framework:~~

- ~~(i) Identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatements in the financial statements resulting from the related party relationships and transactions; and~~
- ~~(ii) Responding to those assessed risks by designing and performing further audit procedures.~~

Definitions

97. ~~Where Financial reporting frameworks often define or describe when parties are considered to be related to each other for the purposes of accounting for and disclosing related party relationships and transactions. Therefore, if the applicable financial reporting framework establishes related party requirements, the related party definitions or descriptions set out in the framework apply for the purposes of the audit. Where the applicable financial reporting framework does not establish related party requirements, the definitions set out in the Appendix apply for the purpose of this ISA identifying, assessing and responding to the risks of material misstatement resulting from related parties. However, regardless of whether the applicable financial reporting framework establishes related party requirements, the auditor has responsibilities relating to fraud when performing the audit. Accordingly, for the purpose of addressing the risks of material misstatement due to fraud resulting from related parties, regard is given to parties that have control or significant influence over the entity, or over which the entity has control or significant influence, regardless of any related party definitions or descriptions in the applicable financial reporting framework. In this regard, control or significant influence is ordinarily evidenced through the extent of a party's equity interest in, or voting power over, an entity. Other relationships that commonly involve control or significant influence include the following:~~

- ~~(a) The party forms part of the management or those charged with governance of the entity;~~
- ~~(b) The party is a close family member of any individual referred to in subparagraph (a);~~
- ~~(c) The party has a significant business relationship with any individual referred to in subparagraph (a); or~~
- ~~(d) There is evidence that the party exerts dominant influence over the entity. [ISSUE 3]~~

108. ~~For purposes of the ISAs, the following other terms are introduced in this ISA have the meanings attributed below:~~

- ~~(a) "Arm's length ~~transaction~~ assertion" – an assertion that a transaction was conducted on such terms and conditions as between a willing buyer and a willing seller acting as if they were unrelated and pursuing their own best interests; [ISSUE 5]~~
- ~~(b) "Conflict of interest" – in relation to management ~~or~~ and those charged with governance, a situation that arises from (i) being in a position to advance their own personal interests contrary to their fiduciary responsibilities to the entity, or (ii) having competing responsibilities to two or more entities; and~~
- ~~(c) "Dominant influence" – domination of the entity by a single individual or small group of individuals. Such an individual or group of individuals may have no official role within the entity; and [ISSUE 6]~~

- (ed) “Material misstatement resulting from related parties” – a material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud or error arising from the failure to appropriately account for or disclose related party relationships, transactions or balances.

Requirements

Risk Assessment Procedures and Related Activities **ISSUE 1**

11. When performing risk assessment procedures and related activities to obtain an understanding of the entity and its environment, including its internal control, as required by ISA 315, the auditor shall perform the procedures and related activities set out in paragraphs 12 to 16 to obtain information in identifying the risks of material misstatement resulting from related parties.

Discussion Among the Engagement Team, Inquiries of Management and Sharing of Related Party Information

123. The discussion among members of the engagement team required by ~~proposed~~ ISAs 240 and ISA 315 (Redrafted), “Understanding the Entity and Its Environment and Assessing the Risks of Material Misstatement,” shall ~~place particular emphasis on~~ include specific consideration of the susceptibility of the entity’s financial statements to material misstatement resulting from related parties. (Ref: Para. A19)

- (a) Material misstatements due to error that could result from related party relationships or transactions not being appropriately accounted for or disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework; and (Ref: Para. A2)
- (b) Material misstatements due to fraud that could be committed through related party relationships, including those relationships referred to in paragraph 9. (Ref: Para. A3).

Ascertaining the Identity of the Entity’s Related Parties and the Nature of Its Related Party Relationships and Transactions

139. To obtain an understanding of the entity’s related party relationships and transactions, the auditor shall make inquiries of management at the beginning of the audit regarding: (Ref: Para. A4) **ISSUE 71**

- ~~(a) The identity of the entity’s related parties, as defined or described by the applicable financial reporting framework and the nature of its related party relationships and transactions.~~ (Ref: Para. A54)

- 140(b). ~~In inquiring about the entity’s~~ The nature of related party relationships, the auditor shall obtain an understanding of including how the entity is controlled or significantly influenced,⁺ and how it controls or significantly influences ~~the other~~ related parties; and (Ref: Para. A6-A72)

- (c) Whether there were any transactions with related parties and such other parties as would fall under the relationships referred to in paragraph 9, and if so, understand broadly the

⁺ ~~The Appendix provides examples of definitions of control and significant influence.~~

nature of these transactions and their ~~The auditor shall obtain an understanding of the business rationale of the entity's related party relationships and transactions to assess whether they give rise to risks of material misstatements in the financial statements. (Ref: Para. A8-A10)~~

Understanding the Business Rationale of the Entity's Related Party Relationships and Transactions, and the Entity's Controls Over Them

146. The auditor shall perform appropriate procedures, including making inquiries of management, to obtain an understanding of: (a) ~~— The internal control, including the control environment, the controls (including the control environment and governance processes) that management has established to identify, account for, and disclose related party relationships and transactions in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework mitigate the risks of material misstatements resulting from related parties;~~ (Ref: Para. A113-A175)

(b) ~~— How those charged with governance oversee management's processes for identifying, accounting for, and disclosing related party relationships and transactions; and (Ref: Para. A16)~~

(c) ~~— The specific controls that those charged with governance have implemented to mitigate the risk of management override of controls where related parties exist over which management is known to have control or significant influence, or in which management is known to have financial or other interests. (Ref: Para. A17)~~

154. The auditor shall ~~communicate to the engagement team~~ share information about the identity of the entity's related parties and other relevant related party matters arising during audit planning party relationships with the other members of the engagement team to enable them to be alert to the effects of these relationships throughout the audit.

10. ~~THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO PARAGRAPH 13(b).~~

11. ~~Material misstatements resulting from related parties often arise from management's failure (whether intentional or not) to completely identify or disclose the entity's related party relationships and transactions. Accordingly, the auditor shall, in addition, perform the following risk assessment procedures specifically directed towards identifying related party relationships and transactions not identified or disclosed by management:~~

(a) ~~— Inquire of management and others within the entity about the existence of transactions that are both significant and non-routine; (Ref: Para. A3-A5)~~

(b) ~~— Where a party appears to actively exert dominant influence over the entity, perform procedures intended to identify the parties to which the dominant party is related, and understand the nature of the business relationships that these parties may have established with the entity; and (Ref: Para. A6)~~

(c) ~~— Review appropriate records or documents for transactions that are both significant and non-routine, and for other information that may indicate the existence of previously unidentified or undisclosed related party relationships or transactions. Appropriate records or documents that the auditor reviews shall include:~~

~~(i) Bank and legal confirmations obtained by the auditor; and~~

~~(ii) Minutes of meetings of shareholders and those charged with governance, and other relevant statutory records. (Ref: Para. A3-A4, A7-A8)~~

~~12. If the auditor identifies transactions that are both significant and non-routine, the auditor shall consider whether the transactions or their circumstances indicate the possible involvement of previously unidentified or undisclosed related parties.~~

~~*Sharing of Relevant Related Party Information Among the Engagement Team*~~

~~13. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH 12.~~

~~14. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH 15.~~

~~*Understanding the Business Rationale of the Entity's Related Party Relationships and Transactions, and the Entity's Controls Over Them*~~

~~15. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH 21.~~

~~16. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH 14.~~

~~*Maintaining Alertness for Related Party Information When Performing the Audit*~~ **ISSUES 7-9]**

16. During the audit, the auditor shall be alert for transactions or other information that may be indicative of the existence of previously unidentified or undisclosed related party relationships or transactions. In addition, the auditor shall inspect the following documents for such information:

(a) Bank and legal confirmations, if obtained by the auditor; and

(b) Minutes of meetings of shareholders and of those charged with governance, if such meetings were held during the period. (Ref: Para. A18-A22)

If the auditor identifies such transactions or other information, the auditor shall investigate whether the related circumstances indicate the existence of previously unidentified or undisclosed related parties.

Identification and Assessment of the Risks of Material Misstatement Resulting from Related Parties **ISSUE 1]**

17. In identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement required by ISA 315, the auditor shall determine whether risks of material misstatement arise from one or more of the following circumstances, and if so, whether those risks are significant risks: (Ref: Para. A23-A24, A26)

(a) Management not identifying or disclosing to the auditor one or more of the entity's related parties;

(b) Management not identifying or disclosing to the auditor transactions with identified related parties; or

- (c) Management not appropriately accounting for or disclosing identified related party relationships or transactions in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

18. The auditor shall treat at least the following as circumstances giving rise to significant risks:

- (a) Management has made an assertion in the financial statements (whether explicitly or implicitly) that a related party transaction was conducted at arm's length and management finds it difficult to substantiate this assertion; and (Ref: Para. A25) [ISSUE 5]
- (b) The identification of previously unidentified or undisclosed related party relationships or significant related party transactions during the audit.

Substantive Procedures Responsive to the Risks of Material Misstatements Resulting from Related Parties

197. In responding to assessed risks as required by ~~[proposed]~~ ISA 330-~~(Redrafted)~~, ~~“The Auditor’s Procedures in Response to Assessed Risks,”~~ the auditor shall design and perform further audit procedures that are responsive to the assessed risks of material misstatements resulting from related parties. (Ref: Para. A~~1827~~-A~~3424~~)

Response to a Significant Risk of Material Misstatement Regarding an Arm’s Length Assertion

18. ~~The entity’s disclosures may assert that a related party transaction has been conducted at arm’s length. Management may find it difficult to substantiate such an assertion. Where this is the case, a significant risk exists that the assertion may be misstated.~~

19. ~~When disclosure of a related party transaction indicates or implies that the transaction was conducted at arm’s length, the auditor shall obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the assertion. (Ref: Para. A22-A23)~~

20. If the auditor is unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about an arm’s length assertion, the auditor shall request management to ~~withdraw delete or correct~~ the assertion as appropriate. If management disagrees, the auditor shall consider the implications ~~for on the~~ audit, including on the auditor’s report. (Ref: Para. A35) [ISSUE 5]

Significant Non-Routine Related Party Transactions

215. ~~FIRST SENTENCE MOVED TO PARAGRAPH 13(e).~~ ~~In addition, for those~~ For significant non-routine related party transactions identified during the audit ~~that are both significant and non-routine~~, the auditor shall:

- (a) Evaluate whether their terms and the way they have been accounted for are consistent with management’s explanation of their business rationale; and
- (b) Obtain evidence that ~~determine whether~~ they have been appropriately authorized and approved. (Ref: Para. A~~4035~~-A~~3642~~) [ISSUE 7]

~~Consequences of Identifying of Previously Unidentified or Undisclosed Related Parties Relationships or Significant Related Party Transactions~~

224. If the auditor identifies related parties relationships or significant related party transactions not previously identified or disclosed by management, the auditor shall:

- (a) Promptly communicate this information to the other members rest of the engagement team to enable them to determine whether it affects the results of, and conclusions drawn from, audit procedures already performed, including whether the risks of material misstatement need to be reassessed;
- (b) Request management to identify transactions with the newly identified related parties for the auditor's further evaluation;
- (c) Investigate why the entity's controls over related party relationships and transactions failed to enable the identification or disclosure of the related party relationships or transactions; and
- (d) If the non-identification or non-disclosure appears intentional, (i) communicate this information to those charged with governance (unless all of them are part of management), and (ii) evaluate the implications for other aspects of on the audit, including the reliance placed on other responses from management to the auditor's inquiries. (Ref: Para. A38)

Evaluation of Related Party Relationships, Transactions and Disclosures [ISSUE 10]

223. In forming the opinion on the financial statements, the auditor shall evaluate: (a) Whether the entity's related party relationships and transactions have been properly accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. (Ref: Para. A39-A40)

- ~~(b) Whether any other required related party disclosures have been presented in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework; and~~
- ~~(c) Irrespective of the applicable financial reporting framework, whether the effects of the related party relationships and transactions could result in the financial statements being misleading² in the circumstances of the engagement. (Ref: Para. A26-A29)~~

Written Representations [ISSUE 11(a)]

242. The auditor shall obtain written representations from management and, where appropriate, those charged with governance concerning:

- (a) Whether the completeness and accuracy of information they have provided to the

² Section 110 of the IFAC Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (Revised June 2005) requires a professional accountant not to be associated with reports, returns, communications or other information where they believe that the information (a) contains a materially false or misleading statement, (b) contains statements or information furnished recklessly, or (c) omits or obscures information required to be included where such omission or obscurity would be misleading, unless the professional accountant provides a modified report in respect of the information. ISA 700, "The Independent Auditor's Report on a Complete Set of General Purpose Financial Statements," and [proposed] ISA 701, "The Independent Auditor's Report on Other Historical Financial Information," provide further guidance on the circumstances when financial information could be considered misleading.

auditor regarding the identity of the entity's related parties, and its related party relationships and transactions is complete and accurate;

- (eb) Whether The appropriateness of the accounting for related party transactions and the effects of related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for, having particular regard to including whether the financial statements reflect their business rationale economic substance of these relationships and transactions;- and
- (bc) Whether The appropriateness of the related party disclosures in the financial statements are appropriate.; and (Ref: Para. A241-A2544)

Communication with Those Charged with Governance **ISSUE 11(b)**

254. Unless all of those charged with governance are involved in managing the entity, the auditor shall, ~~in order to establish a common understanding with them and to alert them to significant related party relationships and transactions of which they may not have been aware,~~ communicate with them: (a) ~~The nature, extent, business rationale and disclosure of significant related party relationships and transactions, including those involving actual or perceived conflicts of interest; and (b) Significant issues identified during the audit regarding the entity's related party relationships and transactions, including issues that the auditor perceives as involving conflicts of interest.~~ (Ref: Para. A45)

Documentation

265. ~~In addition to the documentation requirements of [proposed] ISA 315 (Redrafted) and [proposed] ISA 330 (Redrafted), and, where relevant, [proposed] ISA 240 (Redrafted), "The Auditor's Responsibility to Consider Fraud in an Audit of Financial Statements," t~~The auditor shall document (a) ~~The identity of the entity's related parties and the nature of the its related party relationships.;~~ and

(b) ~~The procedures performed to comply with the requirement in paragraph 11(b) and, where applicable, any identified parties related to the dominant party referred to in that paragraph.~~

Application and Other Explanatory Material

Risk Assessment Procedures and Related Activities

Discussion Among the Engagement Team, Inquiries of Management and ~~Sharing of Relevant~~ Related Party Information Among the Engagement Team (Ref: Para. 123-14)

A19. Matters that ~~are ordinarily may be~~ addressed in the discussion among the engagement team include:

- The nature and extent of the entity's related party relationships and transactions.
- An emphasis on the importance of maintaining a proper state of mind an attitude of professional skepticism throughout the audit regarding the potential for material misstatement resulting from related parties, ~~and the need to exercise appropriate professional skepticism.~~

- The circumstances or conditions of the entity that may indicate the existence of unidentified or undisclosed related party relationships or transactions (for example, a complex organizational structure or an inadequate information system).
- The importance that management and those charged with governance attach to the identification, appropriate accounting for, and disclosure of related party relationships and transactions, and the related risk of management override of relevant controls.

Further, the discussion of such matters as those set out in paragraph A11 of ISA 240 in the context of fraud may include specific consideration of how related parties may be involved in fraud. For example, a consideration of circumstances that might be indicative of earnings management that could result in fraudulent financial reporting may include consideration of how special purpose entities controlled by management might be used to facilitate earnings management.

A2. Even if the applicable financial reporting framework establishes no specific accounting or disclosure requirements for related party transactions, it is important to understand the entity's related party relationships and transactions because these may have an effect on the application of other requirements of the framework. In particular, the nature of the related party relationships may be relevant in determining the appropriate accounting for transactions between the entity and its related parties based on economic substance instead of legal form.

A3. The definitions or descriptions of related parties in the applicable financial reporting framework provide the relevant context for the discussion of the susceptibility of the entity's financial statements to material misstatements due to error resulting from related parties. However, the relevant context when discussing the susceptibility of the entity's financial statements to material misstatements due to fraud committed through related party relationships is that provided by those relationships referred to in paragraph 9. This may be particularly relevant where the applicable financial reporting framework does not address related party transactions or only does so to a limited extent. **ISSUE 3**

Ascertaining the Identity of the Entity's Related Parties and the Nature of Its Related Party Relationships and Transactions (Ref: Para. 9-11)

A4. Inquiry of management provides the primary means through which the auditor may obtain an understanding of the entity's related party relationships and transactions. The auditor may also perform other procedures considered appropriate for this purpose.

~~A51. Inquiring of management at the beginning of the audit enables the auditor to gather a complete and up-to-date list of the entity's related parties, and information on the nature of the transactions the entity has entered into with these parties. The auditor may obtain some of the information about the identity of the entity's related parties through inquiries of management during the engagement acceptance or continuance process.~~

A62. ISA 315 requires the auditor to obtain an understanding of the nature of the entity, including its ownership and governance. Control or significant influence ~~can ordinarily~~ may be exerted directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries ~~be recognized by considering a party's~~

~~ownership interests in, or extent of voting power over, an entity. Obtaining an understanding of how control or significant influence operates within a given related party relationship may assist the auditor in better understanding the effects or potential effects of the relationship. In particular, the existence of one or more of the relationships referred to in subparagraphs 9(a)-(d) may give rise to risks of material misstatement due to fraud, and thus influence the nature, timing and extent of the auditor's procedures in the context of the auditor's responsibilities relating to fraud.~~

A7. Some circumstances may make it difficult for the auditor to obtain a full understanding of the nature of the related party relationships, for example:

- A complex shareholding structure, such as one involving trusts, foundations or governmental bodies.
- The sharing of control over the related party with external parties.
- The location of shareholder or other relevant records in a foreign ~~or offshore~~ jurisdiction.
- ~~Control or significant influence over management or those charged with governance by external parties.~~

These circumstances increase the risk that material misstatements resulting from related parties may not be detected.

~~*Understanding the Business Rationale of the Entity's Related Party Relationships and Transactions, and the Entity's Controls Over Them (Ref: Para. 15-16)*~~

A8+10. ~~Understanding~~ Inquiring into the business rationale of the entity's related party ~~relationships and~~ transactions enables the auditor to ~~assess-evaluate~~ whether their effects give rise to risks of material misstatements in the financial statements. Risks may arise particularly if the forms of the ~~relationships and~~ transactions do not represent their true economic substance. For example, ~~although a relationship between the entity and a related party based overseas may involve routine transactions, it may also involve an underlying transfer pricing arrangement whose effects could result in material misstatements in the financial statements~~ the sale of property to a major shareholder at a price above or below fair market value may constitute a contribution or return of capital or the payment of a dividend in substance, rather than a transaction involving a profit or loss for the entity.

A9. In obtaining an understanding of the business rationale of a related party transaction, the auditor may consider the following:

- Whether the transaction:
 - Is overly complex (for example, it may involve multiple related parties within a consolidated group, or unrelated third parties, or several iterations of the recorded transaction);
 - Has unusual terms of trade, such as unusual prices, interest rates, guarantees and repayment terms;
 - Lacks an apparent logical business reason for its occurrence;

- Involves previously unidentified related parties; or
- Is processed in an unusual manner.
- Whether management has discussed the nature of, and accounting for, such a transaction with those charged with governance.
- Whether management is placing more emphasis on a particular accounting treatment rather than considering the underlying economics of the transaction.
- Whether the transaction has been appropriately authorized and approved.

A10~~4~~. The auditor may also seek to understand the business rationale of the related party transactions from the related parties' perspectives, as this may help the auditor to better understand the substance of the transactions and why they were carried out. A business rationale from the related parties' perspectives that appears inconsistent with the nature of their businesses may represent a factor indicative of risks of material misstatements.

A11. As indicated in ISA 200, ["Overall Objective of the Independent Auditor, and General Concepts Relevant to an Audit of Financial Statements,"] the responsibility for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework is that of the entity's management, with oversight from those charged with governance. To be able to fulfill such responsibility, management has to design, implement and maintain adequate controls over related party relationships and transactions to ensure that these are properly accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the framework. In their oversight role, those charged with governance are responsible for monitoring how management is discharging its responsibility for such controls. They are also responsible for ensuring that they receive all necessary information from management to understand the nature and business rationale of the entity's related party relationships and its significant related party transactions. [ISSUE 11(c)]

A12~~4~~3. ~~Relevant~~ In obtaining an understanding of the control environment in accordance with ISA 315, the auditor may consider features of the control environment ~~relevant~~may include, for example in mitigating the risks of material misstatement resulting from related parties, such as:

- Internal ethical codes, appropriately communicated to the entity's personnel and enforced, governing the circumstances in which the entity may enter into specific types of related party transactions.
- Policies and procedures for open and timely disclosure of the interests that management and those charged with governance have in related party transactions.
- The assignment of responsibilities within the entity for identifying, recording, summarizing, and disclosing related party transactions.
- Timely disclosure and discussion between management and those charged with governance of significant non-routine related party transactions ~~that are both significant and non-routine.~~
- Clear guidelines for the approval of related party transactions involving actual or

perceived conflicts of interest.

- Periodic reviews by internal audit, where applicable.
- Proactive action taken by management to resolve related party disclosure issues, such as by seeking advice from the auditor or external legal counsel.
- The existence of whistle-blowing policies and procedures, where applicable.

A134. Controls over related party relationships and transactions within some entities may be weak, inadequate-ineffective or non-existent for a number of reasons, such as:

- The low importance attached by management to identifying and disclosing related party relationships and transactions.;
- The lack of appropriate oversight by those charged with governance.;
- An intentional disregard for such controls because related party disclosures may reveal information that management considers sensitive.;
- An insufficient understanding by management of the disclosure requirements of the applicable financial reporting framework.;~~or~~
- The absence of disclosure requirements under the applicable financial reporting framework.

A145. The absence of adequate-effective controls over related party relationships and transactions increases the risks that management will not identify, appropriately account for, or disclose them. This may be particularly the case in a smaller entity environment, where management and those charged with governance are often the same. In such circumstances, the absence of independent oversight and approval of significant related party transactions increases the risks of material misstatements~~s~~ resulting from related parties.

A156. The auditor may obtain an understanding of the oversight exercised by those charged with governance through inquiries of them, or observing or reading minutes of meetings at which related party transactions are discussed and approved. This enables the auditor to gain an insight into the understanding those charged with governance have of the entity's related party relationships and transactions, the adequacy of their oversight, and the susceptibility of the entity to management override of controls. In obtaining an understanding of such oversight, the auditor may consider such matters as whether those charged with governance have challenged the business rationale of the related party transactions (for example, by seeking advice from external professional advisors), or by establishing subcommittees comprising individuals independent of management to evaluate and recommend the related party transactions for approval.

A167. As discussed in ISA 240-~~(Redrafted)~~, fraudulent financial reporting and misappropriation of assets often arise through management override of controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. The risk of management override of controls is higher if ~~there are~~ management has related party relationships with parties with which the entity does

business involving management, because these relationships may present management with greater incentives and opportunities to perpetrate fraud. For example, management's financial interests in certain related parties may provide incentives for management to override controls by (a) directing the entity, against its interests, to conclude transactions benefiting the related parties, or (b) colluding with those parties or controlling their actions. Examples of possible fraud include:

- Creating fictitious terms of transactions with related parties designed to misrepresent the business rationale of these transactions.
- Fraudulently organizing the transfer of assets from or to management or others at amounts significantly above or below market value.
- Engaging in complex transactions with related parties, such as special-purpose entities,³ that are structured to misrepresent the financial position or financial performance of the entity.

Considerations Specific to Smaller Entities

A17. As discussed in ISA 315, the control environment in small entities is likely to be different from that in larger entities. In particular, those charged with governance in small entities may not include an independent or outside member, and the role of governance may be undertaken directly by the owner-manager where no other owners exist. Consistent with their simpler businesses, smaller entities may have fewer or no processes in place for dealing with related party relationships and transactions. Instead, the owner-manager in a small business may mitigate some of the risks that may arise from related party transactions through active involvement in all the main aspects of the transactions. Accordingly, for such entities, the auditor may only be able to obtain an understanding of the related party relationships and transactions mainly through inquiry of management.

Maintaining Alertness for Related Party Information When Performing the Audit (Ref: Para. 16)

A183. It is appropriate to direct risk assessment procedures to identify previously unidentified or undisclosed related party relationships and transactions primarily at identifying transactions that are both significant and non-routine, as these carry a higher risk of involving unidentified or undisclosed related parties. The determination of which transactions may be indicative of the existence of previously unidentified or undisclosed related party relationships or transactions is a matter of the auditor's judgment. Such transactions may include those with the following characteristics: **ISSUE 8**

- They arise outside the normal course of business.
- They are undertaken on non-arm's length terms.
- They lack a clear business rationale and give rise to questions of substance over form.
- They arise in unusual conditions or circumstances.

³ Special-purpose entities (sometimes referred to as structured finance entities) are entities that are established for specific limited purposes, such as providing financing, liquidity, hedging or credit support.

- They are of unusual complexity.
- They have not been processed and approved in accordance with the entity's normal policies and procedures.

~~A194. Significant transactions involving management or those charged with governance, or third parties related to them, are non-routine because of the nature of the related party relationships. Transactions may be regarded as significant where they appear to be significant to the related parties even though not material to the entity. Examples of Other such types of transactions that are both significant and non-routine may include, for example:~~

- ~~Significant~~ Complex equity transactions, such as corporate restructurings or acquisitions.
- ~~Significant transactions at or near the end of the reporting period.~~
- ~~Transactions whose substance may give rise to questions about their propriety.~~
- The leasing of premises or the rendering of management services by the entity to another party if no consideration is exchanged.
- ~~Significant~~ Sales transactions with unusually large discounts or returns.
- ~~Significant~~ Transactions with circular arrangements, for example, sales with a commitment to repurchase.
- Contracts whose terms are changed before expiry.

~~Inquiries of Management and Others Within the Entity (Ref: Para. 11(a))~~

~~A5. Others within the entity are those considered likely to have knowledge of the entity's related party relationships and transactions. These may include, to the extent that they do not form part of management:~~

- ~~—(a)—Those charged with governance;~~
- ~~—(b)—Personnel in a position to initiate, process, or record transactions that are both significant and non-routine, and those who supervise or monitor such personnel;~~
- ~~—(c)—Internal audit;~~
- ~~—(d)—In-house legal counsel; and~~
- ~~—(e)—The chief ethics officer or equivalent person.~~

~~Procedures to Identify Parties Related to a Party Actively Exerting Dominant Influence (Ref: Para. 11(b))~~

~~A6. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A30.~~

~~Review of Specific Records or Documents (Ref: Para. 11(e))~~

~~A207. In reviewing the records or documents, the auditor may identify information that may indicate the existence of previously unidentified or undisclosed related party relationships or transactions. Such ~~o~~Other information that may be indicative of the existence of previously~~

unidentified or undisclosed related party relationships or transactions may include, for example:

- Guarantees and guarantor relationships.
- ~~Loans or other advances outside the normal course of business, including~~
- ~~those to management, to those charged with governance, or to parties related to either.~~
- The existence of special-purpose entities with which the entity does business.

A218. The auditor may ~~consider it appropriate to review other types of~~ also inspect some or all of the following records or documents such as in the course of performing other audit procedures, which may provide new information about related party relationships and transactions: **ISSUE 91**

- Third party confirmations (in addition to bank and legal confirmations) ~~considered likely to be relevant.~~
- Entity Income tax returns.
- ~~and other information~~ Information supplied to regulatory authorities.
- Shareholder records to identify the entity's principal shareholders.
- Statements of conflicts of interest from management and those charged with governance.
- Records of the entity's investments and those of its pension plans.
- Specific significant contracts and agreements not in the ordinary course of business, including those involving management and those charged with governance.
- Specific invoices and correspondence from ~~law firms~~ professional advisors.
- Life insurance policies acquired by the entity.
- Significant contracts re-negotiated during the period.
- Internal audit working papers.
- ~~Whistle-blowing records.~~
- Records or documents associated with a public offering of the entity's securities, for example, prospectuses.

Considerations Specific to Smaller Entities

A22. In a smaller entity environment, not all of the records or documents listed in paragraph A21 will exist. In an audit of a smaller entity, however, the auditor may have more direct contact with the owner-manager than would be the case for audits of larger entities. Accordingly, the auditor may be able to obtain a deeper understanding of related parties through such direct interaction with the owner-manager.

~~Procedures to Identify Parties Related to a Party Actively Exerting Dominant Influence (Ref: Para. 11(b))~~

~~Sharing of Relevant Related Party Information Among the Engagement Team (Ref: Para. 13)~~

~~A9. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A1.~~

~~*Understanding the Business Rationale of the Entity's Related Party Relationships and Transactions, and the Entity's Controls Over Them* (Ref: Para. 15-16)~~

~~A10. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A8.~~

~~A11. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A10.~~

~~A12. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A36.~~

~~A13. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A12.~~

~~A14. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A13.~~

~~A15. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A14.~~

~~A16. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A15.~~

~~A17. THIS PARAGRAPH MOVED TO BECOME PARAGRAPH A16.~~

Identification and Assessment of the Risks of Material Misstatement Resulting from Related Parties (Ref: Para. 17-18)

A23. If, in carrying out the risk assessment procedures and related activities in relation to related parties, the auditor identifies one or more fraud risk factors, such factors may be considered with other fraud risk factors the auditor may have identified when performing procedures in accordance with ISA 240 to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

A24. The existence of a party with dominant influence over the entity is a risk factor on its own because such a party has the ability to override management and those charged with governance in significant decisions affecting the entity's business. In the presence of other relevant risk factors, however, the existence of a dominant party may indicate significant risks of material misstatement. For example: **ISSUE 6**

- A relatively high turnover of senior management or professional advisors may suggest disagreement over current business practices that might be illegal (e.g. tax evasion) but could satisfy the dominant party's objectives.
- The use of business intermediaries for significant transactions for which there appears to be no clear business justification may suggest that the dominant party could be interested in such transactions through control of such intermediaries for fraudulent purposes.
- Evidence of the dominant party's excessive participation in or preoccupation with the selection of accounting policies or the determination of significant estimates may suggest the possibility of fraudulent financial reporting.

A25. Management may make an explicit arm's length assertion in the entity's related party disclosures by stating or implying that related party transactions were consummated on terms equivalent or similar to those prevailing in transactions between unrelated parties. Where

management is required under the applicable financial reporting framework to disclose any related party transactions that were not conducted at arm's length, there is equally an implicit assertion that certain related party transactions were conducted at arm's length if management does not disclose them. **ISSUE 5**

Considerations Specific to Public Sector Entities

A26. The public sector auditor's responsibility to conduct an audit of the financial statements with a view to expressing an opinion on them may be a result of legislation and regulation, ministerial directives, government policy requirements and resolutions of the legislature applicable to public sector entities or separately covered by the auditor's mandate. Consequently, the public sector auditor's responsibilities may not be limited to addressing the risks of material misstatement resulting from related parties, but may also include a broader responsibility to address the risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations governing public sector bodies, which may lay down specific requirements in the conduct of business with related parties. Further, the public sector auditor may need to have regard to public sector financial reporting requirements for related party relationships and transactions that may differ from those in the private sector.

Substantive Procedures Responsive to the Risks of Material Misstatements Resulting from Related Parties (Ref: Para. 197-25)

A27+8. The nature, timing and extent of the substantive-further procedures that the auditor may select to respond to the assessed risks of material misstatements resulting from related parties depend upon the nature of those risks and the circumstances of the entity. ~~[Proposed]~~ ISA 330 ~~(Redrafted)~~ provides further guidance on considering the nature, timing and extent of further audit procedures.

A19. ~~[Proposed] ISA 330 (Redrafted) requires the auditor to perform substantive procedures that specifically respond to significant risks. In the context of related parties, the purpose of further substantive procedures is primarily to respond to significant risks that (a) management has not identified or disclosed to the auditor related party relationships or transactions, or (b) management has not properly accounted for or, where required by the applicable financial reporting framework, disclosed specific related party transactions, whether due to fraud or error.~~

A280. Examples of further substantive procedures that the auditor may perform when the auditor has assessed a significant risk that management has not identified or disclosed to the auditor related party relationships or transactions include:

- Conducting a detailed review-analysis of accounting records for transactions with (a) specific characteristics, such as terms that deviate significantly from known market terms, or (b) unusual patterns or trends, such as regular advances to a third party. Such a review-an analysis may be facilitated using computer-assisted audit techniques.
- Making inquiries, where practicable and not prohibited by law, regulation or ethical rules, of parties outside the entity who are presumed to have significant knowledge of the entity and its business, such as principal agents, major representatives, consultants,

guarantors, or other close business partners.

- Investigating the entity's relationships with major suppliers and customers, such as inquiring of them as to whether they are related, reading their financial statements or other relevant financial information, if available, or inquiring of relevant information sources regarding their ownership.
- Performing substantive analytical procedures on specific classes of transactions, such as lease expense or sales, to identify unusual relationships.
- Performing appropriate background searches using, for example, internet resources.

A294. Examples of ~~further~~ substantive procedures that the auditor may perform when the auditor has assessed a significant risk that management has not properly accounted for or, where required by the applicable financial reporting framework, disclosed specific related party transactions, whether due to fraud or error, include:

- Confirming or discussing specific aspects of the transactions with intermediaries such as banks, law firms, guarantors, or agents, where practicable and not prohibited by law, regulation or ethical rules.
- Confirming the purposes, specific terms or amounts of the transactions with the related parties. This procedure may be less effective where the auditor judges that the entity is likely to influence the related parties in their responses to the auditor.
- Where applicable, reading the financial statements or other relevant financial information, if available, of the related parties for evidence of the accounting of the transactions in the related parties' books.

~~A306. Where a party appears to be actively exerting dominant influence over the entity, there is a higher risk of that party overriding management to cause the entity to enter into related party transactions in which the party is interested. Such transactions may occur directly with the dominant party or indirectly with a third party to which it is related. The auditor may obtain information about this third party, as well as transactions it may have entered into with the entity, through such procedures as~~ If the auditor has assessed a significant risk of material misstatement due to fraud as a result of the presence of a party with dominant influence over the entity, the auditor may, in addition to the general requirements of ISA 240, perform procedures such as the following to obtain an understanding of the business relationships that such a dominant party may have established directly or indirectly with the entity and to determine the need for further appropriate substantive procedures:

- Inquiries of, and discussion with, management and those charged with governance.
- Inquiries of the dominant party.
- Inspection of significant contracts with the dominant party.
- Appropriate background research, such as through the Internet or specific external business information databases.
- Review of the entity's whistle-blowing records, where available.

•~~Procedures performed during the client acceptance or continuance process.~~

A31. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to perform only substantive procedures in relation to the risks of material misstatement resulting from related parties. In such circumstances, the auditor may determine that it is necessary to test the entity's controls over related party relationships and transactions to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the operating effectiveness of the controls during the period. For example, where inter-company transactions between the entity and its components are numerous and a significant amount of information regarding these transactions is initiated, recorded, processed or reported electronically in an integrated system, the auditor may determine that it is not possible to design effective substantive procedures that by themselves would reduce the risks of material misstatement resulting from these transactions to an acceptably low level. In such a case, audit evidence about the inter-company transactions may be available only in electronic form, and its sufficiency and appropriateness will depend upon the effectiveness of the controls over its accuracy and completeness.

A32. The auditor may also plan to rely on the operating effectiveness of controls where these are designed to mitigate the risk that arm's length assertions about related party transactions may be materially misstated. This may particularly apply in jurisdictions where the applicable financial reporting framework requires the disclosure of related party transactions if these were not conducted on terms similar to arm's length terms. In such circumstances, it may be effective for the auditor to rely on the controls over the process that management has implemented to determine which related party transactions have been conducted on arm's length terms and need therefore not be disclosed.

Response to a Significant Risk of Material Misstatement Regarding an Arm's Length Assertion (Ref: Para. 19-20)

A3322.Management is responsible for substantiating any arm's length assertion ~~that a related party transaction was conducted at arm's length. Such an assertion may explicitly state that the transaction was at arm's length or otherwise imply that the transaction was consummated on terms equivalent or similar to those prevailing in transactions with unrelated parties.~~ Management's support for the assertion may include:

- Comparing the terms of the related party transaction to those of an identical or similar transaction with one or more unrelated parties.;
- Engaging an external expert to determine a market value for the transaction.;
- Comparing the terms of the transaction to known market terms for broadly similar transactions on an open market.

A234. Evaluating management's support for the arm's length assertion may involve one or more of the following:

- (a) Considering the appropriateness of management's process methodology for supporting the assertion.;
- (b) Verifying the source of the internal or external data supporting the assertion, and

testing the data to determine their accuracy, completeness and relevance;³ ~~and~~

- ~~(e)~~ When the substantiation rests on significant assumptions, ~~considering evaluating~~ whether the ~~they~~ reasonably support the assertion appear reasonable.

A35. A refusal by management to correct a material misstatement regarding an arm's length assertion may have implications on the audit, such as the reliance on representations made by management, the assessment of fraud risks, consideration of the need to modify the audit opinion, and consideration of whether to withdraw from the engagement. The auditor may also find it appropriate to consult legal counsel.

Significant Non-Routine Related Party Transactions (Ref: Para. 21)

~~A36~~¹². Appropriate authorization and approval by management, those charged with governance, or, where applicable, the entity's shareholders, of significant non-routine related party transactions ~~that are both significant and non-routine may~~ provide evidence that these have been duly considered at the appropriate levels within the entity and that their terms and conditions have been appropriately reflected in the financial statements. The existence of transactions of this nature that were not subject to such authorization and approval, in the absence of rational explanations based on discussion with management and those charged with governance, may indicate ~~a fraud~~ risks of material misstatement due to error or fraud. ~~[proposed] ISA 240 (Redrafted) provides further guidance in responding to fraud risks. Authorization and approval alone, however, may not be sufficient in concluding whether fraud risks are absent because authorization and approval may be ineffective if there has been collusion between the related parties or if the entity is subject to the dominant influence of another party.~~

Considerations Specific to Smaller Entities

A37. A smaller entity may not have the same compensating controls provided by different levels of authority and approval that may exist in a larger entity. Accordingly, when auditing a smaller entity, the auditor may rely to a lesser degree on authorization and approval for evidence regarding significant non-routine related party transactions.

Identification of Previously Unidentified or Undisclosed Related Parties or Significant Related Party Transactions (Ref: Para. 22)

A38. If management appears to have intentionally failed to identify or disclose related party relationships or significant related party transactions, this may indicate a significant risk of fraud. The requirements and guidance in ISA 240 regarding the auditor's responsibilities relating to fraud in an audit of financial statements are relevant in these circumstances. The auditor may also consider whether it is necessary to re-evaluate the reliance placed on management's responses to the auditor's inquiries and representations given to the auditor.

Evaluation of Related Party Relationships, Transactions and Disclosures (Ref: Para. 23)

Materiality Considerations in Evaluating Misstatements

~~A39~~²⁶. A consideration of both the quantitative and qualitative aspects of a related party transaction is important in evaluating whether a misstatement to which it gives rise is material, because:

- (a) The significance of the transaction may not depend solely on the recorded amount of the

transaction but also on other specific relevant factors, such as the nature of the related party relationship (for example, the applicable financial reporting framework may deem transactions between the entity and those charged with governance to be significant regardless of the amounts involved); or

- (b) There may be no objective basis for measuring the transaction.

Evaluation of Related Party Disclosures

A4027. Evaluating the entity's related party disclosures means considering whether the facts and circumstances of the entity's related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately summarized and presented so that the disclosures are understandable. A28. Disclosures of related party transactions may not be understandable if:

- (a) The business rationale and the effects of the transactions on the financial statements are unclear or misstated; or
- (b) Key terms, conditions, or other important elements of the transactions necessary for understanding them are not appropriately disclosed.

~~A29. Evaluating the effects of related party relationships and transactions also enables the auditor to consider whether, irrespective of the applicable financial reporting framework, these effects could result in the financial statements being misleading in view of the nature of the entity and its environment, the nature and objective of the financial statements, the applicable financial reporting framework and legal or regulatory requirements, and other matters (for example, events, transactions, conditions and practices that may have a significant effect on the audit).~~

Written Representations (Ref: Para. 242)

A241. Obtaining written representations enables the auditor to ~~gain~~ receive confirmation from management and, where appropriate, those charged with governance that they have disclosed to the auditor all relevant information relating to identified related parties, and that they are not aware of any other related party matters required by the applicable financial reporting framework to be disclosed in the financial statements. Such representations effectively provide a way to emphasize to management and, where appropriate, those charged with governance their responsibility to disclose the identity of related parties to the auditor even if there have been no transactions with such parties. The representations may also address, where appropriate, specific related party issues, such as the existence of undisclosed side agreements on significant related party transactions.

A42. The requirement to obtain written representation regarding the completeness and accuracy of related party information applies even if there have been no related party transactions during the reporting period. Management may consider it appropriate to refer, within the written representation, to a complete listing of related party information that it may have provided to the auditor during the audit. If the auditor has not identified transactions with related parties during the audit, the auditor may request from management and, where appropriate, those charged with governance a written representation to that effect.

A43. The purpose of emphasizing the economic substance of related party relationships and transactions as part of the written representations is to enable management and, where appropriate, those charged with governance to give particular consideration to whether the related party transactions and the effects of the related party relationships have been appropriately accounted for based on the substance of the relationships and transactions, and not merely their legal form.

A~~44~~²⁵. Circumstances in which it may be appropriate to obtain written representations from those charged with governance include:

- When they have approved specific related party transactions that (a) materially affect the financial statements, or (b) involve management.
- When they have made specific oral representations to the auditor on details of certain related party transactions.
- When they have financial or other interests in the related parties or the related party transactions.
- When they are responsible for the financial statements.

Communication with Those Charged with Governance (Ref: Para. 25)

A45. Communication of significant related party issues identified during the audit with those charged with governance helps the auditor to establish a common understanding with them of the nature and resolution of these issues. This may also provide an opportunity for the auditor to alert those charged with governance to significant related party relationships and transactions of which they may not have been previously aware.

Appendix

Related Party Definitions⁴ when the Applicable Financial Reporting Framework does not Establish Related Party Requirements

Related party—A party is related to an entity if:

- (a) ~~Directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, the party:~~
 - (i) ~~Controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, the entity (this includes parents, subsidiaries and fellow subsidiaries);~~
 - (ii) ~~Has an interest in the entity that gives it significant influence over the entity; or~~
 - (iii) ~~Has joint control over the entity;~~
- (b) ~~The party is an associate (as defined in IAS 28, “Investments in Associates”) of the entity;~~
- (c) ~~The party is a joint venture in which the entity is a venturer (see IAS 31, “Interests in Joint Ventures”);~~
- (d) ~~The party is a member of the key management personnel of the entity or its parent;~~
- (e) ~~The party is a close member of the family of any individual referred to in (a) or (d);~~
- (f) ~~The party is an entity that is controlled, jointly controlled or significantly influenced by, or for which significant voting power in such entity resides with, directly or indirectly, any individual referred to in (d) or (e); or~~
- (g) ~~The party is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of the entity, or of any entity that is a related party of the entity.~~

A related party transaction is a transfer of resources, services or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged.

Close members of the family of an individual are those family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that individual in their dealings with the entity. They may include:

- (a) ~~The individual’s domestic partner and children;~~
- (b) ~~Children of the individual’s domestic partner; and~~
- (c) ~~Dependants of the individual or the individual’s domestic partner.~~

Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

⁴ ~~These definitions are based on those set out in IAS 24, “Related Party Disclosures,” extant as of December 9, 2005. For the audit of a public sector entity, the relevant related party definitions are those set out in International Public Sector Accounting Standard 20, “Related Party Disclosures,” extant as of the same date.~~

Joint control is the contractually agreed sharing of control over an economic activity.

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity.

Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of an entity, but is not control over those policies. Significant influence may be gained by share ownership, statute or agreement.

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