

SA 299 - Joint Audit of FS

Audit Planning & Strategy shall be established by joint auditors jointly

Before commencement of audit, joint auditors should discuss and develop joint audit plan

In developing joint audit plan, joint auditors should

- Consider results of preliminary engagement activities & knowledge gained on other engagements
- Identify division of audit areas and common audit areas
- Consider and communicate among all joint auditors, factors that are significant in directing engagement team's efforts
- Ascertain reporting objectives of engagement
- Ascertain NTE of resources necessary to accomplish engagement

Each joint auditor should assess ROMM and communicate to other joint auditors

Joint auditors should discuss and document NTE of audit procedures for common and specific allotted areas of audit to be performed

Joint auditors should obtain common engagement letter and common Mgt representation letter

Work allocation document should be signed by all joint auditors and communicated to TCWG

For audit work divided among joint auditors, each joint auditor shall be responsible only for work allocated to such joint auditor

On other hand, all joint auditors shall be jointly and severally responsible for

- Audit work which is not divided among joint auditors and carried out by all of them
- Decisions taken by all joint auditors under audit planning for common audit areas
- Matters brought to notice of joint auditors by any one of them and there is agreement among joint auditors
- Examining that FS comply with requirements of relevant statutes
- Presentation and disclosure of FS as required by AFRF
- Ensuring that audit report complies with requirements of relevant statutes

In respect of common areas, joint auditors are only responsible for appropriateness of NTE of audit procedures agreed among them. Responsibility of individual execution lies with concerned joint auditor

In case joint auditor comes across matters which are relevant to other joint auditors, said joint auditor shall communicate same to all other joint auditors in writing prior to completion of audit

Reporting by Joint Auditors

- Joint auditors are required to issue common audit report
- However, where joint auditors are in disagreement with regard to opinion or any matters to be covered by audit report, they shall express their opinion in separate audit report
- In such circumstances, audit report issued by joint auditor shall make reference to each other's audit report under OM para (SA 706)

Each Joint Auditor is entitled to assume that

- Other joint auditors have carried out their work & work has actually been performed as per SAs. It is not necessary for joint auditor to review work performed by other joint auditors
- Other joint auditors have brought to said joint auditor's notice any departure from AFRF or significant observations that are relevant to their responsibilities
- Where FS of division/branch are audited by one joint auditor, other joint auditors are entitled to proceed on the basis that such FS comply with all L&R requirements