









# SA 540 - Auditing Accounting Estimates (AE), Including Fair Value (FV) AE & Related Disclosures

## RAP for AE (Minimizing ROMM)

## Auditor shall obtain below understanding -

• How Mgt identify those transactions, events or conditions that give rise to need for AE

Inquiries about of Mgt changes in circumstances that may give rise to need for AE may include inquiries about whether -

- Entity has new types of transactions
- o Terms of transactions have changed
- o A/c policies for A/c AE have changed
- o Regulatory changes outside control of Mgt
- New conditions or events have occurred
- How Mgt makes AE Including
  - o Method & model, used in making AE
  - o Whether there is change from prior period in methods for making AE & if so, why
  - Whether Mgt has used expert
  - Relevant controls
  - Assumptions underlying AE
  - Whether & how Mgt has assessed effect of estimation uncertainty
- Requirements of AFRF relevant to AE

## Responses to Assessed ROMM (FAP)

- Auditor shall determine -
  - Whether Mgt has applied AFRF for AE
  - Whether methods for making AE are appropriate & are applied consistently
  - o Changes in AE or methods from prior period, are appropriate in circumstances
- In response to assessed ROMM, auditor shall undertake following -
  - Test check data used for making AE
  - o Determine if events occurring up to date of auditor's report provide SAAE for AE
  - Evaluate if method used for measurement is appropriate & assumptions made by Mgt are reasonable
  - o This can be achieved by -
    - Testing control effectiveness over AE
    - Testing whether data on which AE is based is accurate, complete & relevant
    - Considering source. relevance reliability of external data
    - Recalculating & reviewing Info about AE

## AE that give rise to Significant Risks

#### In addition to SA 330, auditor shall evaluate -

- Mat has considered alternative assumptions & why it has rejected them
- If significant assumptions are reasonable
- Mgt's intent for specific action & its ability
- If Mgt has not adequately addressed effects of estimation uncertainty on AE of significant risks, auditor shall develop range with which to evaluate reasonableness of AE

## Degree of Estimation Uncertainty - Varies Based on

- Nature of AE
- Extent of generally accepted method
- Subjectivity of assumptions used to make AE

#### Evaluation of Outcome of AE

- Diff B/w outcome of AE & amount originally disclosed in FS does not necessarily represent misstatement in FS
- Particularly for FV AE, as outcome is affected by subsequent events

#### AE of Prior Period

• Auditor shall review AE of prior period, or, their re-estimation for current period, taking A/c of nature of AE & whether Info

### Disclosures Related to AE

• Auditor shall obtain SAAE about whether disclosures in FS are as per AFRF

obtained from review is relevant to identify & assess ROMM of AE made in current period

- Outcome of AE will differ from AE recognised in prior period. By performing RAP to identify & understand reasons for such differences, auditor may obtain -
  - Info of effectiveness of Mgt's prior period estimation process to judge likely effectiveness of current process
  - Audit evidence for re-estimation, in current period, of prior period AE
  - Audit evidence of matters, such as estimation uncertainty to disclose in FS
- Review of prior period AE may also assist auditor, to identify situations that increase susceptibility of AE to possible Mgt bias
- Auditor's professional skepticism assist to identify circumstances & assess NTE of FAP
- However, review does not question judgments made in prior periods that were based on Info available at that time

• For AE having significant risk, also about disclosure of its estimation uncertainty in FS

#### Presentation of FS includes below disclosure

- Method & Model of estimation used
- Any changes in method of estimation from prior period & its subsequent effect
- Assumptions used
- Basis for selection of estimation
- Sources of estimation uncertainty
- For AE having significant risk, even if disclosures are as per AFRF, auditor may conclude that disclosure of estimation uncertainty is inadequate

### Written Representations

Whether Mgt & TCWG believe significant assumptions used in making AE are reasonable

#### Documentation of AE

- Basis for conclusions for reasonableness of AE & disclosure giving rise to significant risks
- Indicators of possible Mgt bias, if any

### Low estimation uncertainty & lower ROMM AE

- Entities not having complex business activity
- FV AE where method is simple & easy
- AE from data that is readily available
- FV AE where model is well-known/generally accepted
- AE are frequently made & updated as they relate to routine transactions

#### High estimation uncertainty AE

- AE relating to outcome of litigation
- FV AE for derivative financial instruments not publicly traded
- FV AE for which highly specialised entitydeveloped model is used or assumptions or inputs that cannot be observed in marketplace

#### Eg of AE, other than FV AE are

- Warranty obligations
- Outcome of long-term contracts
- Inventory obsolescence
- Allowance for doubtful A/c
- Provision against carrying amount of investment
- Depreciation method or asset useful life
- Financial Obligation/Cost from litigation

### Eg of FV AE are (IND AS)

- Share-based payments (102)
- Asset/liability in business combination (103)
- Property or equipment held for disposal (105)
- Complex financial instruments, which are not traded in active & open market (109)
- Transactions involving exchange of assets or liabilities b/w independent parties without monetary consideration (16)