Staff paper

IASB Agenda reference 21A | FASB Agenda reference 21A



FASB | IASB Joint Education Meeting

Date 30 September 2022

Project Statement of Cash Flows (FASB Research Project)

Topic Background

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Feedback Received during FASB 2021 Invitation to Comment—Agenda Consultation

Investors and Other Financial Statement Users:

Generally agreed that greater disaggregation of the statement of cash flows should be a FASB priority

Suggested various potential solutions:

- Restructuring the cash flow statement
- Require use of direct method (others expressed a preference for the indirect method)
- Further disaggregation of cash flows under indirect method
- Reconciliations to amounts presented in other financial statements (balance sheet and income statement)
- Supplemental disclosures consistent with the direct method when the indirect method is provided ("cash received from customers," "cash paid to employees," and/or "cash paid to suppliers")

Cash flows statement has little relevance for financial institutions

Preparers and Other Stakeholders:

Some said that the FASB must carefully consider both investor needs and preparer implementation costs in requiring further disaggregation

Others agreed with user concerns

Most did not support requiring the direct method

Some indicated that analysts typically do not request significant additional details about the statement of cash flows

 Other preparers acknowledged receiving questions regarding the nature and definition of certain cash flows or noncash activities



FASB June 29, 2022 Board Meeting

Board members:

- Discussed feedback received and paths forward for a potential project
- Generally agreed that there is a need to improve the statement of cash flows

Some Board members:

Asked for more research to better refine the scope of a potential project

Chair added a research project with the following objective:

 Explore improvements to the statement of cash flows to provide additional decision-useful information for investors and other allocators of capital



FASB Research Project

The staff plans to conduct research and outreach in a variety of areas to better understand:

- Relative priority for different potential improvements (such as working capital reconciliations and other direct method supplementary information)
- Costs and feasibility of implementing certain improvements

