



Australian Accounting Standards Board  
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***Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) comments on Fatal-Flaw Review Draft AASB 2021-X Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Modified Retrospective Transition Approach for Service Concession Grantors.***

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for providing an opportunity to comment on the *Fatal-Flaw Review Draft AASB 2021-X Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Modified Retrospective Transition Approach for Service Concession Grantors*.

We strongly support maximising harmonisation between Government Finance Statistics (GFS) and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). These comments are based on our expertise of GFS concepts and related issues.

The current standards used to compile GFS in Australia are the Australian System of Government Finances Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods, Australia (AGFS 15). AGFS15 sits under the international standards used to compile the System of National Accounts (SNA 08).

As per previous discussions and comments provided by the ABS during the formulation and implementation of *AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors*, the ABS does not recognise Grant of a Right to the Operator (GORTO) liabilities in either GFS or National Accounts outputs for Australia as per the applicable economic standards.

As a result, the proposed change in method for measuring GORTO liabilities will not have a direct impact on statistical outputs produced by the ABS.

Noting that any divergence between economic and accounting standards is not ideal, the proposed amendments appear appropriate based on the available information and feedback from other stakeholders.

Please contact Dane Mead (email: [dane.mead@abs.gov.au](mailto:dane.mead@abs.gov.au), ph: 07 3222 6248) if you would like to discuss this response further.

Kind regards,

Dane Mead  
for

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