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**Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International  
Standards of Accounting and Reporting  
(ISAR)**

**Consultative meeting on capacity-building needs for  
effective implementation of sustainability reporting  
requirements**

Tuesday, 5 November 2024

**Practical examples and lessons learned from recent  
capacity-building projects**

Presented by

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# **Observations and Propositions of improvement of the ADT assessment of the national reporting infrastructure for companies in Cameroon**

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# 1. Background of ADT assessment in Cameroon

- Stakeholders were selected by sector of activity, and according to their importance and representativeness in their sector. The choice of stakeholders was mainly focused on regulators, corporations and professional associations. Few companies/organisations have been selected in certain sectors. Each stakeholder was asked to designate a focal point who was to serve as the interlocutor of the structure for filling out the questionnaire.
- A total of 72 targets were identified; The questionnaire was sent to 51 stakeholders; We received 23 responses (45%) between 2022 and 2024.
- The consolidated questionnaire was prepared in 2024 on that basis as well as the spider graph

# 1. Background of ADT assessment in Cameroon

- Results obtained
  - Pillar A: Legal and regulatory framework, score : 75%
  - Pillar B : Institutional framework, score : 49%
  - Pillar C – Human capacity, score : 70%
  - Pillar D - Capacity-building process: not scored
  - Public Sector (addendum P ): not assessed
  
- Strengths, Gaps, recommendations per pillar were presented, and action plan has been elaborated

## 2. Observations and Propositions of improvement of the ADT assessment

### ➤ Format of the questionnaire:

- The questionnaire is very long for target groups / stakeholders, and not all questions concern all target groups / stakeholders
- This is a discouraging factor for the completion of the questionnaire by target groups / stakeholders
- Recommendation: The questionnaire should be divided into several parts according to the target groups / categories of stakeholders. That is what we did when dispatching the questionnaire among target groups / stakeholders

## 2. Observations and Propositions of improvement of the ADT assessment

- **Key role of Regional organizations in assessing the countries reporting infrastructure for companies:**
  - Some countries (such as Cameroon) are members of regional organizations (OHADA, CEMAC) and therefore are not autonomous in the development of accounting and auditing rules for company reporting.
  - This situation means that the country does not have all the levers to make reforms and implement recommendations and action plans to improve the reporting infrastructure
  - Recommendation: Questions should be directed to the regional and community accounting and auditing regulatory bodies

## 2. Observations and Propositions of improvement of the ADT assessment

### ➤ Assessment of the public sector entities :

- The questionnaire is not developed to assess the reporting of public sector entities.
- This is insufficient given the weight and role of the public sector as a locomotive in the economies of countries
- Recommendation: Develop the questionnaire to assess the reporting of public sector entities.

## 2. Observations and Propositions of improvement of the ADT assessment

- **Definition of “Other public-interest entities” (PIE)s:**
  - Current definition: entities other than listed companies, banks and insurance companies that, due to the nature of their business, their size or the number of their employees are of national interest
  - insufficiency: Unclear definition that can lead to confusion of interpretation
  - Recommendation: specify that unlisted public companies (capital majority owned by the State that do not apply public accounting) are part of the PIEs, the same applies to unlisted companies, which make a public offering, such as companies that issue bonds through the stock exchange



## 2. Observations and Propositions of improvement of the ADT assessment

### ➤ Financial reporting and disclosure :

- Concerning the application of IFRS, there are 4 types of questions: 1) Are IFRS in full , unmodified form required as part of the national regulatory system?, 2) If they are not required, are IFRS in full, unmodified form permitted? 3) Are IFRS in modified form required as part of the national regulatory system? 4) If they are not required, are IFRS in modified form permitted as part of the national regulatory system?
- insufficiency: Incomplete sets of questions on the application of IFRS, which may result in inappropriate answers
- Recommendation: Question to consider: **If the IFRS are not applied but does the national regulatory system is based on IFRS** (same for IPSAS)?