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**Reference: Exposure Draft ED 2020/1 – Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2**

The Comitê de Pronunciamentos Contábeis - CPC (Brazilian Accounting Pronouncements Committee)<sup>1</sup> welcomes the opportunity to respond to the ED 2020/1 – Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2.

We are a standard-setting body engaged in the study, development and issuance of accounting standards, interpretations and guidance for Brazilian companies.

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If you have any questions about our comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at [operacoes@cpc.org.br](mailto:operacoes@cpc.org.br).

Yours sincerely,

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Chair of International Affairs  
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<sup>1</sup>The Brazilian Accounting Pronouncements Committee (CPC) is a standard-setting body engaged in the study, development and issuance of accounting standards, interpretations and guidances for Brazilian companies. Our members are nominated by the following entities: ABRASCA (Brazilian Listed Companies Association), APIMEC (National Association of Capital Market Investment Professionals and Analysts), B3 (Brazilian Stock Exchange and Mercantile & Future Exchange), CFC (Federal Accounting Council), FIPECAFI (Financial and Accounting Research Institute Foundation) and IBRACON (Brazilian Institute of Independent Auditors).



#### Question 1

#### **Modifications of financial assets and financial liabilities (paragraphs 6.9.1–6.9.6 of the [Draft] amendments to IFRS 9, paragraphs 20R–20S and 50–51 of the [Draft] amendments to IFRS 4 and paragraphs 104–106 and C1A–C1B of the [Draft] amendments to IFRS 16)**

Paragraphs 6.9.2–6.9.6 of the draft amendments to IFRS 9 propose that:

- (a) a financial asset or financial liability would be modified if the basis for determining the contractual cash flows is changed after the initial recognition of the financial instrument. In this context, a modification can arise even if the contractual terms of the financial instrument are not amended.
- (b) an entity would apply paragraph B5.4.5 of IFRS 9 as a practical expedient to account for a modification of a financial asset or financial liability that is required by interest rate benchmark reform.
- (c) a modification is required by interest rate benchmark reform if and only if (i) it is required as a direct consequence of interest rate benchmark reform; and (ii) the new basis for determining the contractual cash flows is economically equivalent to the previous basis (ie the basis immediately preceding the modification).
- (d) an entity would also apply the practical expedient proposed in paragraph 6.9.3 if an existing contractual term is activated that results in a change in the basis for determining the contractual cash flows of a financial asset or a financial liability, and particular other conditions are met. Paragraphs BC10–BC36 of the Basis for Conclusions describe the Board’s reasons for these proposals.
- (e) The Exposure Draft proposes to make corresponding amendments to IFRS 4 that would require insurers applying the temporary exemption from IFRS 9 to apply the same practical expedient as described above.
- (f) The Exposure Draft proposes amendments to IFRS 16 that would require entities to apply paragraph 42 of IFRS 16 to account for a lease modification that is required by interest rate benchmark reform.

Paragraphs BC39–BC41 and paragraphs BC118–BC125 of the Basis for Conclusions describe the Board’s reasons for these proposals.

Do you agree with these proposals? Why or why not? If you agree with only parts of the proposals, please specify what you agree and disagree with. If you disagree with the proposals, please explain what you propose and why.

Response: CPC agrees that these modifications are needed, specially aiming to support companies for do not affect their financial assets and liabilities position solely due to the interest rates benchmark reform. Otherwise, some financial assets and liabilities can be derecognized.

Furthermore, CPC also believes that companies will provide a more useful information providing a detailed disclosure level, in technical notes, informing how they choose the risk-free rate and considered the fixed spread equivalent to the prior Ibor. More specifically, we consider matter disclosure at least the following information:

- (i) which risk-free rate was considered?
- (ii) what is the economic rational for choose this risk-free rate?
- (iii) how does the firm consider and calculated the fixed spread?



**Question 2**

**Amendments to hedging relationships (paragraphs 6.9.7–6.9.10 of the [Draft] amendments to IFRS 9 and paragraphs 102O–102R of the [Draft] amendments to IAS 39)**

Paragraphs 6.9.7–6.9.10 of the draft amendments to IFRS 9 and paragraphs 102O–102R of the draft amendment to IAS 39 propose that an entity would amend the formal designation of the hedging relationship only to make one or more of the changes specified in paragraph 6.9.7 and paragraph 102O as and when uncertainty arising from interest rate benchmark reform is no longer present with respect to the hedged risk and/or the timing and the amount of interest rate benchmark-based cash flows of the hedged item or of the hedging instrument.

Paragraphs BC42–BC50 of the Basis for Conclusions describe the Board’s reasons for these proposals.

Do you agree with these proposals? Why or why not? If you agree with only parts of the proposals, please specify what you agree and disagree with. If you disagree with the proposals, please explain what you propose and why.

Response: CPC agrees with this amendment because otherwise companies can be affected in terms of hedging relationships. In practical terms, we support this initiative as a new hedge designation considering that the documentation of hedge must be adjusted to obtain this normative waiver.

**Question 3**

**Accounting for qualifying hedging relationships and groups of items paragraphs 6.9.11–6.9.15 of the [Draft] amendments to IFRS 9 and paragraphs 102S–102X of the [Draft] amendments to IAS 39)**

Paragraphs 6.9.11–6.9.15 of the draft amendments to IFRS 9 and paragraphs 102S–102X of the draft amendments to IAS 39 propose that:

- (a) the requirements in IFRS 9 and IAS 39 would be applied when the designation of a hedging relationship is amended to remeasure the hedging instrument and the hedged item based on the alternative benchmark rate and recognise any resulting ineffectiveness in profit or loss.
- (b) the amount accumulated in the cash flow hedge reserve at the date the entity amends the description of the hedged item would be deemed to be based on the alternative benchmark rate on which the hedged future cash flows are determined.
- (c) when there is a change in the basis for determining the contractual cash flows of a financial asset or a financial liability previously designated as a hedged item in a hedging relationship that has been discontinued, the amount accumulated in the cash flow hedge reserve for the discontinued hedging relationship would be deemed to be based on the alternative benchmark rate on which the hedged future cash flows will be based.
- (d) when applying paragraph 6.9.7 or paragraph 102O to groups of items designated as hedged items, the hedged items would be allocated to sub-groups within the same hedging relationship based on the benchmark rate to which they are referenced and that the proportionality test would



be applied to each sub-group separately.

(e) for the purpose of assessing retrospective effectiveness as required by IAS 39, the cumulative fair value changes of the hedged item and hedging instrument would be reset to zero when paragraph 102G of IAS 39 ceases to apply.

Paragraphs BC51–BC79 of the Basis for Conclusions describe the Board’s reasons for these proposals.

Do you agree with these proposals? Why or why not? If you agree with only parts of the proposals, please specify what you agree and disagree with. If you disagree with the proposals, please explain what you propose and why.

Response: CPC agrees giving the opportunity for companies to reevaluate their hedge accounting positions based on the new interest rate benchmarking bookkeeping as profit or losses any ineffectiveness. However, CPC believes that it is important that companies made a new hedge documentation to provide information and controls about the timing, amount and type of effectiveness test considering the new interest rate.



#### Question 4

##### **Designation of risk components and portions (paragraphs 6.9.16–6.9.18 of the [Draft] amendments to IFRS 9 and paragraphs 102Y–102Z1 of the [Draft] amendments to IAS 39)**

Paragraphs 6.9.16–6.9.18 of the draft amendments to IFRS 9 and paragraphs 102Y–102Z1 of the draft amendments to IAS 39 propose that:

(a) an alternative benchmark rate designated as a non-contractually specified risk component that is not separately identifiable at the date it is designated, would be deemed to have met that requirement at that date, if and only if, the entity reasonably expects the alternative benchmark rate will be separately identifiable within a period of 24 months from the date the alternative benchmark rate is

designated as a risk component.

(b) if subsequently, an entity reasonably expects that the alternative benchmark rate will not be separately identifiable within 24 months from the date it was designated as a risk component, an entity would cease applying the requirement in paragraph 6.9.16 and paragraph 102Y and discontinue hedge accounting prospectively from the date of that reassessment.

Paragraphs BC87–BC97 of the Basis for Conclusions describe the Board’s reasons for these proposals.

Do you agree with these proposals? Why or why not? If you agree with only parts of the proposals, please specify what you agree and disagree with. If you disagree with the proposals, please explain what you propose and why.

Response: CPC agrees considering that a period of 24 months is a considerable timeline to the development of a new interest rate benchmarking. However, it is important that firms clearly disclosed what is the economic foundations of the specified risk and the basis to consider that such time is enough.

#### Question 5

##### **Effective date and transition (paragraphs 7.1.9 and 7.2.36–7.2.38 of the [Draft] amendments to IFRS 9 and paragraphs 108H–108J of the [Draft] amendments to IAS 39)**

(a) The Exposure Draft proposes that the amendments would have an effective date of annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021. Earlier application would be permitted.

(b) The Exposure Draft proposes that the amendments would be applied retrospectively in accordance with IAS 8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, except as specified in (ii) below. An entity would: (i) reinstate a discontinued hedging relationship if and only if the entity discontinued that hedging relationship solely due to changes required by interest rate benchmark reform and, therefore, the entity would not have been required to discontinue that hedging relationship if the amendments had been applied at that time.



(ii) not be required to restate prior periods to reflect the application of these amendments. However, the entity may restate prior periods if, and only if, it is possible without the use of hindsight. Paragraphs BC110–BC115 of the Basis for Conclusions describe the Board’s reasons for these proposals.

Do you agree with these proposals? Why or why not? If you agree with only parts of the proposals, please specify what you agree and disagree with. If you disagree with the proposals, please explain what you propose and why.

Response: CPC agrees with the begin date, however CPC disagrees about the earlier application. In our view, it is important to define a specified date for all firms and jurisdictions, aiming to maintain the comparability among the firms affected by interest rate benchmark reform.

#### **Question 6**

#### **Disclosures (paragraphs 24I–24J and paragraphs 44HH–44II of [Draft] amendments to IFRS 7)**

The Exposure Draft proposes that entities provide specific disclosures in order to provide information about:

- (a) the nature and extent of risks arising from interest rate benchmark reform to which the entity is exposed, and how it manages those risks; and
- (b) the entity’s progress in completing the transition from interest rate benchmarks to alternative benchmark rates, and how the entity is managing that transition.

Paragraphs BC105–BC109 of the Basis for Conclusions describe the Board’s reasons for this proposal.

Do you agree with this proposal? Why or why not? If you disagree with the proposal, please explain what you propose and why.

Response: CPC agrees considering additional disclosures indications above.