

HKSA 710  
Issued September 2009; revised July 2010, June 2014\*

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Effective for audits of financial statements  
for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2009

*Hong Kong Standard on Auditing 710*

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# **Comparative Information— Corresponding Figures and Comparative Financial Statements**

\* There are amendments attached to this HKSA resulting from the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) which became effective on 3 March 2014. The amendments apply to the first financial year of companies that begins on or after the commencement date of the new Companies Ordinance and all subsequent financial years (i.e. typically the first set of financial statements covered would be for a financial period ending on or after 2 March 2015. Generally, for companies incorporated prior to 3 March 2014 with a calendar year end, the first applicable financial period is for the year ending 31 December 2015).



Hong Kong Institute of  
**Certified Public Accountants**  
香港會計師公會

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**HONG KONG STANDARD ON AUDITING 710**  
**COMPARATIVE INFORMATION—**  
**CORRESPONDING FIGURES AND COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2009)

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Hong Kong Standard on Auditing (HKSA) 710, "Comparative Information—Corresponding Figures and Comparative Financial Statements" should be read in conjunction with HKSA 200, "Overall Objectives of the Independent Auditor and the Conduct of an Audit in Accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing."
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## Introduction

### Scope of this HKSA

1. This Hong Kong Standard on Auditing (HKSA) deals with the auditor's responsibilities relating to comparative information in an audit of financial statements. When the financial statements of the prior period have been audited by a predecessor auditor or were not audited, the requirements and guidance in HKSA 510<sup>1</sup> regarding opening balances also apply.

### The Nature of Comparative Information

2. The nature of the comparative information that is presented in an entity's financial statements depends on the requirements of the applicable financial reporting framework. There are two different broad approaches to the auditor's reporting responsibilities in respect of such comparative information: corresponding figures and comparative financial statements. The approach to be adopted is often specified by law or regulation but may also be specified in the terms of engagement.
3. The essential audit reporting differences between the approaches are:
  - (a) For corresponding figures<sup>1a</sup>, the auditor's opinion on the financial statements refers to the current period only; whereas
  - (b) For comparative financial statements, the auditor's opinion refers to each period for which financial statements are presented.

This HKSA addresses separately the auditor's reporting requirements for each approach.

### Effective Date

4. This HKSA is effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2009.

### Objectives

5. The objectives of the auditor are:
  - (a) To obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about whether the comparative information included in the financial statements has been presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements for comparative information in the applicable financial reporting framework; and
  - (b) To report in accordance with the auditor's reporting responsibilities.

### Definitions

6. For purposes of the HKSAs, the following terms have the meanings attributed below:
  - (a) Comparative information – The amounts and disclosures included in the financial statements in respect of one or more prior periods in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

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<sup>1</sup> HKSA 510, "Initial Audit Engagements—Opening Balances."

<sup>1a</sup> Additional local guidance is provided in Appendix 2.

- (b) Corresponding figures – Comparative information where amounts and other disclosures for the prior period are included as an integral part of the current period financial statements, and are intended to be read only in relation to the amounts and other disclosures relating to the current period (referred to as “current period figures”). The level of detail presented in the corresponding amounts and disclosures is dictated primarily by its relevance to the current period figures.
- (c) Comparative financial statements – Comparative information where amounts and other disclosures for the prior period are included for comparison with the financial statements of the current period but, if audited, are referred to in the auditor’s opinion. The level of information included in those comparative financial statements is comparable with that of the financial statements of the current period.

For purposes of this HKSA, references to “prior period” should be read as “prior periods” when the comparative information includes amounts and disclosures for more than one period.

## Requirements

### Audit Procedures

7. The auditor shall determine whether the financial statements include the comparative information required by the applicable financial reporting framework and whether such information is appropriately classified. For this purpose, the auditor shall evaluate whether:
  - (a) The comparative information agrees with the amounts and other disclosures presented in the prior period or, when appropriate, have been restated; and
  - (b) The accounting policies reflected in the comparative information are consistent with those applied in the current period or, if there have been changes in accounting policies, whether those changes have been properly accounted for and adequately presented and disclosed.
8. If the auditor becomes aware of a possible material misstatement in the comparative information while performing the current period audit, the auditor shall perform such additional audit procedures as are necessary in the circumstances to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to determine whether a material misstatement exists. If the auditor had audited the prior period’s financial statements, the auditor shall also follow the relevant requirements of HKSA 560.<sup>2</sup> If the prior period financial statements are amended, the auditor shall determine that the comparative information agrees with the amended financial statements.
9. As required by HKSA 580,<sup>3</sup> the auditor shall request written representations for all periods referred to in the auditor’s opinion. The auditor shall also obtain a specific written representation regarding any restatement made to correct a material misstatement in prior period financial statements that affect the comparative information. (Ref: Para. A1)

### Audit Reporting

#### *Corresponding Figures*

10. When corresponding figures are presented, the auditor’s opinion shall not refer to the corresponding figures except in the circumstances described in paragraphs 11, 12, and 14. (Ref: Para. A2)

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<sup>2</sup> HKSA 560, “Subsequent Events,” paragraphs 14-17.

<sup>3</sup> HKSA 580, “Written Representations,” paragraph 14.

11. If the auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion, a disclaimer of opinion, or an adverse opinion and the matter which gave rise to the modification is unresolved, the auditor shall modify the auditor's opinion on the current period's financial statements. In the Basis for Modification paragraph in the auditor's report, the auditor shall either:
  - (a) Refer to both the current period's figures and the corresponding figures in the description of the matter giving rise to the modification when the effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are material; or
  - (b) In other cases, explain that the audit opinion has been modified because of the effects or possible effects of the unresolved matter on the comparability of the current period's figures and the corresponding figures. (Ref: Para. A3-A5)
12. If the auditor obtains audit evidence that a material misstatement exists in the prior period financial statements on which an unmodified opinion has been previously issued, and the corresponding figures have not been properly restated or appropriate disclosures have not been made, the auditor shall express a qualified opinion or an adverse opinion in the auditor's report on the current period financial statements, modified with respect to the corresponding figures included therein. (Ref: Para. A6)

#### Prior Period Financial Statements Audited by a Predecessor Auditor

13. If the financial statements of the prior period were audited by a predecessor auditor and the auditor is not prohibited by law or regulation from referring to the predecessor auditor's report on the corresponding figures and decides to do so, the auditor shall state in an Other Matter paragraph in the auditor's report:
  - (a) That the financial statements of the prior period were audited by the predecessor auditor;
  - (b) The type of opinion expressed by the predecessor auditor and, if the opinion was modified, the reasons therefore; and
  - (c) The date of that report. (Ref: Para. A7)

#### Prior Period Financial Statements Not Audited

14. If the prior period financial statements were not audited, the auditor shall state in an Other Matter paragraph in the auditor's report that the corresponding figures are unaudited. Such a statement does not, however, relieve the auditor of the requirement to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence that the opening balances do not contain misstatements that materially affect the current period's financial statements.<sup>4</sup>

#### *Comparative Financial Statements*

15. When comparative financial statements are presented, the auditor's opinion shall refer to each period for which financial statements are presented and on which an audit opinion is expressed. (Ref: Para. A8-A9)

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<sup>4</sup> HKSA 510, paragraph 6.

16. When reporting on prior period financial statements in connection with the current period's audit, if the auditor's opinion on such prior period financial statements differs from the opinion the auditor previously expressed, the auditor shall disclose the substantive reasons for the different opinion in an Other Matter paragraph in accordance with HKSA 706.<sup>5</sup> (Ref: Para. A10)

#### Prior Period Financial Statements Audited by a Predecessor Auditor

17. If the financial statements of the prior period were audited by a predecessor auditor, in addition to expressing an opinion on the current period's financial statements, the auditor shall state in an Other Matter paragraph:
- (a) that the financial statements of the prior period were audited by a predecessor auditor;
  - (b) the type of opinion expressed by the predecessor auditor and, if the opinion was modified, the reasons therefore; and
  - (c) the date of that report,

unless the predecessor auditor's report on the prior period's financial statements is reissued with the financial statements.

18. If the auditor concludes that a material misstatement exists that affects the prior period financial statements on which the predecessor auditor had previously reported without modification, the auditor shall communicate the misstatement with the appropriate level of management and, unless all of those charged with governance are involved in managing the entity,<sup>6</sup> those charged with governance and request that the predecessor auditor be informed. If the prior period financial statements are amended, and the predecessor auditor agrees to issue a new auditor's report on the amended financial statements of the prior period, the auditor shall report only on the current period. (Ref: Para. A11)

#### Prior Period Financial Statements Not Audited

19. If the prior period financial statements were not audited, the auditor shall state in an Other Matter paragraph that the comparative financial statements are unaudited. Such a statement does not, however, relieve the auditor of the requirement to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence that the opening balances do not contain misstatements that materially affect the current period's financial statements.<sup>7</sup>

### Conformity and Compliance with International Standards on Auditing

20. As of September 2009 (date of issue), this HKSA conforms with International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 710 "Comparative Information Corresponding Figures and Comparative Financial Statements". Compliance with the requirements of this HKSA ensures compliance with ISA 710.
21. Additional local guidance is provided in footnote 1a and Appendices 1 and 2.

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<sup>5</sup> HKSA 706, "Emphasis of Matter Paragraphs and Other Matter Paragraphs in the Independent Auditor's Report," paragraph 8.

<sup>6</sup> HKSA 260, "Communication with Those Charged with Governance," paragraph 13.

<sup>7</sup> HKSA 510, paragraph 6.

## Application and Other Explanatory Material

### Audit Procedures

#### *Written Representations* (Ref: Para. 9)

- A1. In the case of comparative financial statements, the written representations are requested for all periods referred to in the auditor's opinion because management needs to reaffirm that the written representations it previously made with respect to the prior period remain appropriate. In the case of corresponding figures, the written representations are requested for the financial statements of the current period only because the auditor's opinion is on those financial statements, which include the corresponding figures. However, the auditor requests a specific written representation regarding any restatement made to correct a material misstatement in the prior period financial statements that affect the comparative information.

### Audit Reporting

#### *Corresponding Figures*

##### No Reference in Auditor's Opinion (Ref: Para. 10)

- A2. The auditor's opinion does not refer to the corresponding figures because the auditor's opinion is on the current period financial statements as a whole, including the corresponding figures.

##### Modification in Auditor's Report on the Prior Period Unresolved (Ref: Para. 11)

- A3. When the auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion, a disclaimer of opinion, or an adverse opinion and the matter which gave rise to the modified opinion is resolved and properly accounted for or disclosed in the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework, the auditor's opinion on the current period need not refer to the previous modification.
- A4. When the auditor's opinion on the prior period, as previously expressed, was modified, the unresolved matter that gave rise to the modification may not be relevant to the current period figures. Nevertheless, a qualified opinion, a disclaimer of opinion, or an adverse opinion (as applicable) may be required on the current period's financial statements because of the effects or possible effects of the unresolved matter on the comparability of the current and corresponding figures.
- A5. Illustrative examples of the auditor's report if the auditor's report on the prior period included a modified opinion and the matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved are contained in Illustrations 1 and 2 of the Appendix.

##### Misstatement in Prior Period Financial Statements (Ref: Para. 12)

- A6. When the prior period financial statements that are misstated have not been amended and an auditor's report has not been reissued, but the corresponding figures have been properly restated or appropriate disclosures have been made in the current period financial statements, the auditor's report may include an Emphasis of Matter paragraph describing the circumstances and referring to where relevant disclosures that fully describe the matter can be found in the financial statements (see HKSA 706).



Prior Period Financial Statements Audited by a Predecessor Auditor (Ref: Para. 13)

- A7. An illustrative example of the auditor's report if the prior period financial statements were audited by a predecessor auditor and the auditor is not prohibited by law or regulation from referring to the predecessor auditor's report on the corresponding figures is contained in Illustration 3 of the Appendix.

*Comparative Financial Statements*

Reference in Auditor's Opinion (Ref: Para. 15)

- A8. Because the auditor's report on comparative financial statements applies to the financial statements for each of the periods presented, the auditor may express a qualified opinion or an adverse opinion, disclaim an opinion, or include an Emphasis of Matter paragraph with respect to one or more periods, while expressing a different auditor's opinion on the financial statements of the other period.
- A9. An illustrative example of the auditor's report if the auditor is required to report on both the current and the prior period financial statements in connection with the current year's audit and the prior period included a modified opinion and the matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved, is contained in Illustration 4 of the Appendix.

Opinion on Prior Period Financial Statements Different from Previous Opinion (Ref: Para. 16)

- A10. When reporting on the prior period financial statements in connection with the current period's audit, the opinion expressed on the prior period financial statements may be different from the opinion previously expressed if the auditor becomes aware of circumstances or events that materially affect the financial statements of a prior period during the course of the audit of the current period. In some jurisdictions, the auditor may have additional reporting responsibilities designed to prevent future reliance on the auditor's previously issued report on the prior period financial statements.

Prior Period Financial Statements Audited by a Predecessor Auditor (Ref: Para. 18)

- A11. The predecessor auditor may be unable or unwilling to reissue the auditor's report on the prior period financial statements. An Other Matter paragraph of the auditor's report may indicate that the predecessor auditor reported on the financial statements of the prior period before amendment. In addition, if the auditor is engaged to audit and obtains sufficient appropriate audit evidence to be satisfied as to the appropriateness of the amendment, the auditor's report may also include the following paragraph:

As part of our audit of the 20X2 financial statements, we also audited the adjustments described in Note X that were applied to amend the 20X1 financial statements. In our opinion, such adjustments are appropriate and have been properly applied. We were not engaged to audit, review, or apply any procedures to the 20X1 financial statements of the company other than with respect to the adjustments and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on the 20X1 financial statements taken as a whole.

## Appendix 1

### Illustrations of Auditors' Reports

#### Illustration 1 - Corresponding Figures (Ref: Para. A5)

**Report illustrative of the circumstances described in paragraph 11(a), as follows:**

- **The auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion.**
- **The matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved.**
- **The effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are material and require a modification to the auditor's opinion regarding the current period figures.**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF ABC LIMITED

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)<sup>1a</sup>

#### **[Report on the Financial Statements]<sup>1</sup>**

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Limited ("the Company") set out on pages ..... to ....., which comprise the [balance sheet][statement of financial position]<sup>1b</sup> as at 31 December 20X1, and the [income statement][statement of comprehensive income]<sup>1b</sup>, statement of changes in equity and [cash flow statement][statement of cash flows]<sup>1b</sup> for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### *Directors' <sup>2</sup> Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit<sup>3a</sup>. We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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<sup>1a</sup> In Hong Kong, it is a common practice to disclose the place of incorporation of the company.

<sup>1</sup> The sub-title "Report on the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

<sup>1b</sup> Delete as appropriate, different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

<sup>2</sup> Or other term that is appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

<sup>3</sup> Not used.

<sup>3a</sup> Auditors may consider it appropriate to clarify to whom they are responsible here or elsewhere in the report in accordance with their risk management policies and with reference to Professional Risk Management Bulletin No. 2 "Auditors' Duty of Care To Third Parties and The Audit Report".

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.<sup>5</sup> An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

#### *Basis for Qualified Opinion*

As discussed in Note X to the financial statements, no depreciation has been provided in the financial statements, which constitutes a departure from Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards. This is the result of a decision taken by the directors at the start of the preceding financial year and caused us to qualify our audit opinion on the financial statements relating to that year. Based on the straight-line method of depreciation and annual rates of 5% for the building and 20% for the equipment, the loss for the year should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, property, plant and equipment should be reduced by accumulated depreciation of xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, and the accumulated loss should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0.

#### *Qualified Opinion*

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 20X1, and of its [profit][loss] and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

#### **[Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

[Form and content of this section of the auditor's report will vary depending on the nature of the auditor's other reporting responsibilities.]]<sup>1</sup>

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's address]

Date of the auditor's report

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<sup>4</sup> Not used.

<sup>5</sup> In circumstances when the auditor also has responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, this sentence would be worded as follows: "In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances."

**Illustration 2 - Corresponding Figures** (Ref: Para. A5)

**Report illustrative of the circumstances described in paragraph 11(b), as follows:**

- **The auditor’s report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion.**
- **The matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved.**
- **The effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period’s figures are immaterial but require a modification to the auditor’s opinion because of the effects or possible effects of the unresolved matter on the comparability of the current period’s figures and the corresponding figures.**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF ABC LIMITED

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)<sup>5a</sup>

**[Report on the Financial Statements]<sup>6</sup>**

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Limited (“the Company”) set out on pages ..... to ....., which comprise the [balance sheet][statement of financial position]<sup>6a</sup> as at 31 December 20X1, and the [income statement][statement of comprehensive income],<sup>6a</sup> statement of changes in equity and [cash flow statement][statement of cash flows]<sup>6a</sup> for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

*Directors’<sup>7</sup> Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

*Auditor’s Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit <sup>8a</sup>. We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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<sup>5a</sup> In Hong Kong, it is a common practice to disclose the place of incorporation of the company.

<sup>6</sup> The sub-title “Report on the Financial Statements” is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title “Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements” is not applicable.

<sup>6a</sup> Delete as appropriate, different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

<sup>7</sup> Or other term that is appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

<sup>8</sup> Not used.

<sup>8a</sup> Auditors may consider it appropriate to clarify to whom they are responsible here or elsewhere in the report in accordance with their risk management policies and with reference to Professional Risk Management Bulletin No. 2 “Auditors’ Duty of Care To Third Parties and The Audit Report”.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.<sup>10</sup> An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

#### *Basis for Qualified Opinion*

Because we were appointed auditors of ABC Limited during 20X0, we were not able to observe the counting of the physical inventories at the beginning of that period or satisfy ourselves concerning those inventory quantities by alternative means. Since opening inventories affect the determination of the results of operations, we were unable to determine whether adjustments to the results of operations and opening retained earnings might be necessary for 20X0. Our audit opinion on the financial statements for the period ended 31 December 20X0 was modified accordingly. Our opinion on the current period's financial statements is also modified because of the possible effect of this matter on the comparability of the current period's figures and the corresponding figures.

#### *Qualified Opinion*

In our opinion, except for the possible effects on the corresponding figures of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 20X1, and of its [profit][loss] and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

#### **[Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements]**

[Form and content of this section of the auditor's report will vary depending on the nature of the auditor's other reporting responsibilities.]]<sup>6</sup>

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's address]

Date of the auditor's report

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<sup>9</sup> Not used.

<sup>10</sup> In circumstances when the auditor also has responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, this sentence would be worded as follows: "In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances."

**Illustration 3 - Corresponding Figures:** (Ref: Para. A7)

**Report illustrative of the circumstances described in paragraph 13, as follows:**

- **The prior period's financial statements were audited by a predecessor auditor.**
- **The auditor is not prohibited by law or regulation from referring to the predecessor auditor's report on the corresponding figures and decides to do so.**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF ABC LIMITED

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)<sup>10a</sup>

**[Report on the Financial Statements]<sup>11</sup>**

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Limited ("the Company") set out on pages ..... to ....., which comprise the [balance sheet][statement of financial position]<sup>11a</sup> as at 31 December 20X1, and the [income statement][statement of comprehensive income]<sup>11a</sup>, statement of changes in equity and [cash flow statement][statement of cash flows]<sup>11a</sup> for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

*Directors'<sup>12</sup> Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Accountants and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

*Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit<sup>13a</sup>. We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Accountants. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

<sup>10a</sup> In Hong Kong, it is a common practice to disclose the place of incorporation of the company.

<sup>11</sup> The sub-title "Report on the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

<sup>11a</sup> Delete as appropriate, different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

<sup>12</sup> Or other term that is appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

<sup>13</sup> Not used.

<sup>13a</sup> Auditors may consider it appropriate to clarify to whom they are responsible here or elsewhere in the report in accordance with their risk management policies and with reference to Professional Risk Management Bulletin No. 2 "Auditors' Duty of Care To Third Parties and The Audit Report".

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.<sup>15</sup> An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 20X1, and of its [profit][loss] and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

#### *Other Matter*

The financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 20X0, were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements on 31 March 20X1.

#### **[Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements]**

[Form and content of this section of the auditor's report will vary depending on the nature of the auditor's other reporting responsibilities.]<sup>11</sup>

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's address]

Date of the auditor's report

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<sup>14</sup> Not used.

<sup>15</sup> In circumstances when the auditor also has responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, this sentence would be worded as follows: "In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances."

**Illustration 4 - Comparative Financial Statements<sup>15a</sup>: (Ref: Para. A9)**

**Report illustrative of the circumstances described in paragraph 15, as follows:**

- **Auditor is required to report on both the current period financial statements and the prior period financial statements in connection with the current year's audit.**
- **The auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion.**
- **The matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved.**
- **The effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are material to both the current period financial statements and prior period financial statements and require a modification to the auditor's opinion.**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

[Appropriate Addressee]

**[Report on the Financial Statements]<sup>16</sup>**

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Limited ("the Company") set out on pages ..... to ....., which comprise the [balance sheet][statements of financial position]<sup>16a</sup> as at 31 December 20X1 and 20X0, and the [income statement][statements of comprehensive income]<sup>16a</sup>, statements of changes in equity and [cash flow statement][statements of cash flows]<sup>16a</sup> for the years then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

*Management's<sup>17</sup> Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Accountants, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

*Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits<sup>18a</sup>. We conducted our audits in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Accountants. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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<sup>15a</sup> The comparative financial statements as presented in this Illustration are not generally applicable to an audit performed on a Hong Kong incorporated company's annual statutory financial statements, refer to Appendix 2.

<sup>16</sup> The sub-title "Report on the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

<sup>16a</sup> Delete as appropriate, different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

<sup>17</sup> Or other term that is appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

<sup>18</sup> Not used.

<sup>18a</sup> Auditors may consider it appropriate to clarify to whom they are responsible here or elsewhere in the report in accordance with their risk management policies and with reference to Professional Risk Management Bulletin No. 2 "Auditors' Duty of Care To Third Parties and The Audit Report".



An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.<sup>20</sup> An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audits is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

#### *Basis for Qualified Opinion*

As discussed in Note X to the financial statements, no depreciation has been provided in the financial statements, which constitutes a departure from Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards. Based on the straight-line method of depreciation and annual rates of 5% for the building and 20% for the equipment, the loss for the year should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, property, plant and equipment should be reduced by accumulated depreciation of xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, and the accumulated loss should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0.

#### *Qualified Opinion*

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 20X1 and 20X0 and of its [profit][loss] and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards.

#### **[Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

[Form and content of this section of the auditor's report will vary depending on the nature of the auditor's other reporting responsibilities.]<sup>16</sup>

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's address]

Date of the auditor's report

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<sup>19</sup> Not used.

<sup>20</sup> In circumstances when the auditor also has responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, this sentence would be worded as follows: "In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances."

**Appendix 2**  
**(Ref: Para. 3(a))**

## **Additional Local Guidance on Corresponding Figures**

In Hong Kong the corresponding figures method of presentation as described in paragraph 3(a) is used.

- (a) Financial statements of companies incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Ordinance are required to disclose corresponding amounts for most items in a company's balance sheet and profit and loss account. Paragraphs 12(16) and 17(5) of the Tenth Schedule to the Companies Ordinance require that corresponding amounts should be disclosed in respect of every item shown in a company's balance sheet (other than for the movements in fixed assets and reserves) and profit and loss account for the financial year immediately preceding that to which the balance sheet or profit and loss account relates.
- (b) Appendix 16 to the Main Board Rules and Chapter 18.07(5) of the GEM Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Ltd. require financial statements of listed issuers to include comparative figures for the balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement and statement of changes in equity for the corresponding previous period.
- (c) “Corresponding amounts” referred to by the Companies Ordinance and the “comparative figures” referred to by the Main Board Rules and GEM Rules are both referring to the corresponding figures as described in this HKSA.

The auditor's consideration of comparative financial statements as described in paragraphs 3(b), 15-19 and A8-A11 is, therefore, not generally applicable to an audit performed on a Hong Kong incorporated company's annual statutory financial statements in accordance with HKSAs.

## **AMENDMENTS RESULTING FROM THE HONG KONG COMPANIES ORDINANCE (CAP. 622)**

Note: The following sets out the amended text required for this Standard resulting from Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) which became effective on 3 March 2014. The amended text apply to the first financial year of companies that begins on or after the commencement date of the new Companies Ordinance and all subsequent financial years (i.e. typically the first set of financial statements covered would be for a financial period ending on or after 2 March 2015. Generally, for companies incorporated prior to 3 March 2014 with a calendar year end, the first applicable financial period is for the year ending 31 December 2015).

### **Appendix 1:**

## **Appendix 1**

### **Illustrations of Auditors' Reports**

#### **Illustration 1 - Corresponding Figures (Ref: Para. A5)**

**Report illustrative of the circumstances described in paragraph 11(a), as follows:**

- The auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion.**
- The matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved.**
- The effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are material and require a modification to the auditor's opinion regarding the current period figures.**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF ABC LIMITED

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)<sup>1a</sup>

#### **[Report on the Financial Statements]<sup>1</sup>**

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Limited ("the Company") set out on pages ..... to ....., which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 20X1, and [the statement of profit or loss and]<sup>1b</sup> the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

<sup>1a</sup> In Hong Kong, it is a common practice to disclose the place of incorporation of the company.

<sup>1</sup> The sub-title "Report on the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

<sup>1b</sup> HKAS 1 allows entities to present comprehensive income using either a one statement approach (i.e. a single "statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income") or a two-statement approach (i.e. a "statement of profit or loss" together with a "statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income"). Different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

### Directors'<sup>2</sup> Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit<sup>3a</sup>. We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.<sup>5</sup> An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

### Basis for Qualified Opinion

As discussed in Note X to the financial statements, no depreciation has been provided in the financial statements, which constitutes a departure from Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards. This is the result of a decision taken by the directors at the start of the preceding financial year and caused us to qualify our audit opinion on the financial statements relating to that year. Based on the straight-line method of depreciation and annual rates of 5% for the building and 20% for the equipment, the loss for the year should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, property, plant and equipment should be reduced by accumulated depreciation of xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, and the accumulated loss should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0.

### Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 20X1, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

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<sup>2</sup> Or other term that is appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

<sup>3</sup> Not used.

<sup>3a</sup> Auditors may consider it appropriate to clarify to whom they are responsible here or elsewhere in the report in accordance with their risk management policies and with reference to Professional Risk Management Bulletin No. 2 "Auditors' Duty of Care To Third Parties and The Audit Report".

<sup>4</sup> Not used.

<sup>5</sup> In circumstances when the auditor also has responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, this sentence would be worded as follows: "In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances."

**[Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements]**

[Form and content of this section of the auditor's report will vary depending on the nature of the auditor's other reporting responsibilities.]<sup>1</sup>

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's address]

Date of the auditor's report

**Illustration 2 - Corresponding Figures (Ref: Para. A5)**

**Report illustrative of the circumstances described in paragraph 11(b), as follows:**

- **The auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion.**
- **The matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved.**
- **The effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are immaterial but require a modification to the auditor's opinion because of the effects or possible effects of the unresolved matter on the comparability of the current period's figures and the corresponding figures.**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**TO THE MEMBERS OF ABC LIMITED**

**(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)<sup>5a</sup>**

**[Report on the Financial Statements]<sup>6</sup>**

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Limited ("the Company") set out on pages ..... to ....., which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 20X1, and [the statement of profit or loss and]<sup>6a</sup> the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

***Directors'<sup>7</sup> Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

The directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit <sup>8a</sup>. We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

<sup>5a</sup> In Hong Kong, it is a common practice to disclose the place of incorporation of the company.

<sup>6</sup> The sub-title "Report on the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

<sup>6a</sup> HKAS 1 allows entities to present comprehensive income using either a one statement approach (i.e. a single "statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income") or a two-statement approach (i.e. a "statement of profit or loss" together with a "statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income"). Different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

<sup>7</sup> Or other term that is appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

<sup>8</sup> Not used.

<sup>8a</sup> Auditors may consider it appropriate to clarify to whom they are responsible here or elsewhere in the report in accordance with their risk management policies and with reference to Professional Risk Management Bulletin No. 2 "Auditors' Duty of Care To Third Parties and The Audit Report".

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.<sup>10</sup> An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

#### *Basis for Qualified Opinion*

Because we were appointed auditors of ABC Limited during 20X0, we were not able to observe the counting of the physical inventories at the beginning of that period or satisfy ourselves concerning those inventory quantities by alternative means. Since opening inventories affect the determination of the results of operations, we were unable to determine whether adjustments to the results of operations and opening retained earnings might be necessary for 20X0. Our audit opinion on the financial statements for the period ended 31 December 20X0 was modified accordingly. Our opinion on the current period's financial statements is also modified because of the possible effect of this matter on the comparability of the current period's figures and the corresponding figures.

#### *Qualified Opinion*

In our opinion, except for the possible effects on the corresponding figures of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 20X1, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

#### **[Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

[Form and content of this section of the auditor's report will vary depending on the nature of the auditor's other reporting responsibilities.]<sup>6</sup>

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's address]

Date of the auditor's report

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<sup>9</sup> Not used.

<sup>10</sup> In circumstances when the auditor also has responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, this sentence would be worded as follows: "In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances."

**Illustration 3 - Corresponding Figures: (Ref: Para. A7)**

**Report illustrative of the circumstances described in paragraph 13, as follows:**

- **The prior period's financial statements were audited by a predecessor auditor.**
- **The auditor is not prohibited by law or regulation from referring to the predecessor auditor's report on the corresponding figures and decides to do so.**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF ABC LIMITED

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)<sup>10a</sup>

**[Report on the Financial Statements]<sup>11</sup>**

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Limited ("the Company") set out on pages ..... to ....., which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 20X1, and [the statement of profit or loss and]<sup>11a</sup> the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

*Directors'<sup>12</sup> Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Accountants and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

*Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit<sup>13a</sup>. We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Accountants. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

<sup>10a</sup> In Hong Kong, it is a common practice to disclose the place of incorporation of the company.

<sup>11</sup> The sub-title "Report on the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

<sup>11a</sup> HKAS 1 allows entities to present comprehensive income using either a one statement approach (i.e. a single "statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income") or a two-statement approach (i.e. a "statement of profit or loss" together with a "statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income"). Different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

<sup>12</sup> Or other term that is appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

<sup>13a</sup> Auditors may consider it appropriate to clarify to whom they are responsible here or elsewhere in the report in accordance with their risk management policies and with reference to Professional Risk Management Bulletin No. 2 "Auditors' Duty of Care To Third Parties and The Audit Report".

<sup>14</sup> Not used.



An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.<sup>15</sup> An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 20X1, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

#### Other Matter

The financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 20X0, were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements on 31 March 20X1.

#### **[Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements]**

[Form and content of this section of the auditor's report will vary depending on the nature of the auditor's other reporting responsibilities.]<sup>11</sup>

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's address]

Date of the auditor's report

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<sup>15</sup> In circumstances when the auditor also has responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, this sentence would be worded as follows: "In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances."

**Illustration 4 - Comparative Financial Statements<sup>15a</sup>: (Ref: Para. A9)**

**Report illustrative of the circumstances described in paragraph 15, as follows:**

- **Auditor is required to report on both the current period financial statements and the prior period financial statements in connection with the current year's audit.**
- **The auditor's report on the prior period, as previously issued, included a qualified opinion.**
- **The matter giving rise to the modification is unresolved.**
- **The effects or possible effects of the matter on the current period's figures are material to both the current period financial statements and prior period financial statements and require a modification to the auditor's opinion.**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

[Appropriate Addressee]

**[Report on the Financial Statements]<sup>16</sup>**

We have audited the financial statements of ABC Limited ("the Company") set out on pages ..... to ....., which comprise the statements of financial position as at 31 December 20X1 and 20X0, and [the statement of profit or loss and]<sup>16a</sup> the statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statements of changes in equity and statements of cash flows for the years then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

**Management's<sup>17</sup> Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Accountants, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

<sup>15a</sup> The comparative financial statements as presented in this Illustration are not generally applicable to an audit performed on a Hong Kong incorporated company's annual statutory financial statements, refer to Appendix 2.

<sup>16</sup> The sub-title "Report on the Financial Statements" is unnecessary in circumstances when the second sub-title "Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements" is not applicable.

<sup>16a</sup> HKAS 1 allows entities to present comprehensive income using either a one statement approach (i.e. a single "statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income") or a two-statement approach (i.e. a "statement of profit or loss" together with a "statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income"). Different terms may be used as long as they are consistent with the titles of the corresponding statements.

<sup>17</sup> Or other term that is appropriate in the context of the legal framework in the particular jurisdiction.

<sup>18</sup> Not used.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits<sup>18a</sup>. We conducted our audits in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Accountants. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.<sup>20</sup> An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audits is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

### Basis for Qualified Opinion

As discussed in Note X to the financial statements, no depreciation has been provided in the financial statements, which constitutes a departure from Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards. Based on the straight-line method of depreciation and annual rates of 5% for the building and 20% for the equipment, the loss for the year should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, property, plant and equipment should be reduced by accumulated depreciation of xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0, and the accumulated loss should be increased by xxx in 20X1 and xxx in 20X0.

### Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 20X1 and 20X0 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards.

### **[Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

[Form and content of this section of the auditor's report will vary depending on the nature of the auditor's other reporting responsibilities.]<sup>16</sup>

XYZ & Co.

Certified Public Accountants (Practising) [or Certified Public Accountants]

[Auditor's address]

Date of the auditor's report

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<sup>18a</sup> Auditors may consider it appropriate to clarify to whom they are responsible here or elsewhere in the report in accordance with their risk management policies and with reference to Professional Risk Management Bulletin No. 2 "Auditors' Duty of Care To Third Parties and The Audit Report".

<sup>19</sup> Not used.

<sup>20</sup> In circumstances when the auditor also has responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, this sentence would be worded as follows: "In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances."

**Appendix 2:**

- (a) Financial statements of companies incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Ordinance are required to disclose comparative amounts as required under the applicable accounting standards.
  
- (c) "Comparative figures" referred to by the Main Board Rules and GEM Rules refers to the corresponding figures as described in this HKSA.