

APPENDIX 1

Example of an Engagement Letter for an Audit under a Statute¹

{The following letter is for use as a guide in conjunction with the considerations outlined in AAS 26 and will need to be varied according to individual requirements and circumstances relevant to the engagement. This Appendix does not form part of the Standard.}

To the Board of Directors (or the appropriate representative of senior management).

You have requested that we audit the balance sheet of (Name of the Company) as at 31st March, 2XXX and the related profit and loss account and the (cash flow statement)² for the year ended on that date. We are pleased to confirm our acceptance and our understanding of this engagement by means of this letter. Our audit will be conducted with the objective of our expressing an opinion on the financial statements.

We will conduct our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in India and with the requirements of the Companies Act, 1956. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

However, having regard to the test nature of an audit, persuasive rather than conclusive nature of audit evidence together with inherent limitations of any accounting and internal control system, there is an unavoidable risk that even some material misstatements of financial statements, resulting from fraud, and to a lesser extent error, if either exists, may remain undetected.

In addition to our report on the financial statements, we expect to provide you with a separate letter concerning any material weaknesses in accounting and internal control systems which might come to our notice.

The responsibility for the preparation of financial statements on a going concern basis is that of the management. The management is also responsible for selection and consistent application of appropriate accounting policies, including implementation of applicable accounting standards along with proper explanation relating to any material

¹ In this illustration, the Companies Act, 1956.

² Only in cases where relevant.

II.2 *Guidance Note on Audit of Banks (Revised 2006)*

departures from those accounting standards. The management is also responsible for making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the entity at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss of the entity for that period.

The responsibility of the management also includes the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls for safeguarding of the assets of the company and for the preventing and detecting fraud or other irregularities. As part of our audit process, we will request from management written confirmation concerning representations made to us in connection with the audit.

We also wish to invite your attention to the fact that our audit process is subject to 'peer review' under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949. The reviewer may examine our working papers during the course of the peer review.

We look forward to full cooperation with your staff and we trust that they will make available to us whatever records; documentation and other information are requested in connection with our audit.

Our fees will be billed as the work progresses.

This letter will be effective for future years unless it is terminated, amended or superseded.

Please sign and return the attached copy of this letter to indicate that it is in accordance with your understanding of the arrangements for our audit of the financial statements.

XYZ & Co.
Chartered Accountants

.....

(Signature)

(Name of the Member)

(Designation³)

Date :

Place :

Acknowledged on behalf of
ABC Company by

.....

(Signature)

Name and Designation

Date

³ Partner or proprietor, as the case may be.