

Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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FASAB ISSUES Report Entitled FASAB's Strategic Directions—Clarifying FASAB's Near-Term Role in Achieving the Objectives of Federal Financial Reporting

The Chairman of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), David Mosso, announced today that the FASAB issued the report *FASAB Strategic Directions—Clarifying FASAB's Near-Term Role in Achieving the Objectives of Federal Financial Reporting*. Mr. Mosso said, "Given the broad objectives of federal financial reporting in SFFAC 1, *Objectives of Federal Financial Reporting*, the Board believed it was important to articulate FASAB's strategic directions by clarifying the Board's near-term role in relation to the broad objectives." Mr. Mosso added "This clarification will enhance the Board's selection of standards projects by making explicit the objectives it believes new financial accounting standards can contribute most to meeting in the near-term."

This document in essence serves as an update to cover developments in federal financial reporting since the issuance of SFFAC 1 and to define FASAB's strategic directions by clarifying the Board's near-term role relative to each reporting objective. The paper includes a detailed discussion of each of the factors the Board considered in its assessment. FASAB's assessment of the objectives is that there are two types of focus for FASAB-- Primary Near-Term Focus Objectives and Secondary Near-Term Focus Objectives. Primary Near-Term Focus Objectives are those objectives where there is the greatest opportunity for FASAB to play a direct role by developing standards to achieve the stated objectives. Therefore, projects that support achieving Primary Near-Term Focus Objectives would be considered higher priorities in the near-term.

An electronic version of the report is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.fasab.gov/>. If you wish to receive a hard copy via mail, call 202 512-7350.

ABOUT FASAB

Accounting and financial reporting standards are essential for public accountability and for an efficient and effective functioning of our democratic system of government. Thus, federal accounting standards and financial reporting play a major role in fulfilling the government's duty to be publicly accountable and can be used to assess (1) the government's accountability and its efficiency and effectiveness, and (2) the economic, political, and social consequences of the allocation and various uses of federal resources. The FASAB issues federal accounting standards after following a due process consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding under which it operates. Due process includes consideration of the financial and budgetary information needs of citizens, congressional oversight groups, executive agencies, and the needs of other users of federal financial information.

For more information on FASAB, please visit our website: www.fasab.gov.