



| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Circular Letter No.: | 2024-04 |
| Date: | 01 March 2024 |
| Supersedes: | CL No. 2022-29 CL No. 2022-36 |

CIRCULAR LETTER

TO : ALL INSURANCE AND PROFESSIONAL REINSURANCE COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS IN THE PHILIPPINES

SUBJECT : APPLICATION OF PHILIPPINE FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARD 17 – INSURANCE CONTRACTS (“PFRS 17”) TO THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (“AFS”) AND REPORTORIAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE INSURANCE COMMISSION (“IC”)

WHEREAS, on 18 May 2017, the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”), an international accounting standard-setting body, issued International Financial Reporting Standards 17 - *Insurance Contracts* (“IFRS 17”), which has a mandatory effectivity date of annual periods beginning on or after 01 January 2023;¹

WHEREAS, the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), through SEC Memorandum Circular No. 8 Series of 2020, adopted IFRS 17 as Philippine Financial Reporting Standard 17- *Insurance Contracts* (“PFRS 17”);²

WHEREAS, PFRS 17 establishes principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of insurance contracts issued, and likewise requires similar principles to be applied to reinsurance contracts held and investment contracts with discretionary participation features issued;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Securities Regulation Code (“SRC”) Rule 68, the SEC shall have the authority, subject to prior consultation with concerned parties, to prescribe the most appropriate requirement that shall form part of the applicable financial reporting framework of corporations. In prescribing the applicable financial reporting framework for a particular class or sub-class of entities, the SEC shall consider the pronouncements and interpretations of the Philippine Financial Reporting Standards Council³. However, a financial reporting framework other

¹ IFRS 17 has global effectivity date of 01 January 2023 based on the Amendments to IFRS 17 issued by the IASB in June 2020

² Philippine Financial Reporting Standards (PFRSs) are currently fully converged with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs)

³ Now Philippine Financial and Sustainability Reporting Standards Council

than the PFRSs that complies with the regulatory reportorial requirements of the concerned regulatory agency such as the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (“BSP”) or the Insurance Commission (“IC”) may be allowed by the SEC;⁴

WHEREAS, in view of SRC Rule 68, the IC is not prohibited from requiring additional disclosure requirements, which it deems useful information for users of financial statements, implemented through an IC Circular Letter (“CL”) or Advisory;

WHEREAS, the IC issued CL No. 2018-69, which was amended by IC CL No. 2020-62, deferring the implementation of PFRS 17 for two (2) years after its effective date as decided by the IASB. Hence, all insurance and professional reinsurance companies shall apply PFRS 17 to their Audited Financial Statements (“AFS”) starting 01 January 2025, with earlier application permitted;

WHEREAS, the IC issued CL No. 2022-29, attaching the PFRS 17-updated FRF that will be used in the conduct of parallel run or quantitative impact study;

WHEREAS, the IC issued CL No. 2022-36, requiring the companies to submit annual status reports and to provide additional disclosures in the AFS in view of PFRS 17 implementation;

WHEREAS, the application of PFRS 17 will significantly impact the preparation of the AFS and IC reportorial requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, in view of the foregoing and pursuant to the powers granted to the Insurance Commissioner under Section 437(d) of the Amended Insurance Code, the following rules and regulations are hereby promulgated:

SECTION 1. APPLICATION OF THIS CIRCULAR

This Circular covers the AFS and reportorial requirements prepared and submitted by the companies to the SEC and IC, respectively.

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- i. **Companies** – refers to the IC-regulated insurance and professional reinsurance companies.
- ii. **Audited Financial Statements** – pertains to the financial statements prepared and presented in accordance with the financial reporting framework of and submitted to the SEC.
- iii. **IC Reportorial Requirements** – shall cover the following documentary requirements of the IC:
 - a. **Annual Statement** – the report submitted by the companies to the IC on or before the thirtieth (30th) day of April of each year showing the

⁴ https://www.sec.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/2019Rule_RSRCRule68.pdf