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#### **PROVINCIAL TREASURY**

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE GUIDELINE ON

**INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS** 

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#### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this Provincial Treasury Standard Operating Procedure Guideline is to define processes and procedures relating to Inter-Departmental Accounts and ensure compliance with regulatory prescripts and uniformity in application of financial norms and standards.
- 1.2 This Provincial Treasury Standard Operating Procedure Guideline must be read in conjunction with Provincial Treasury Instruction Note No. 1: Inter-Departmental Accounts.
- 1.3 In the event of any inconsistency between this Provincial Treasury Standard Operating Procedure Guideline and related government legislation, such legislation prevails.

#### 2. **DEFINITIONS**

In this Provincial Treasury Standard Operating Procedure Guideline, unless the context indicates otherwise, a word or expression, to which a meaning has been assigned in the PFMA and the National Treasury Regulations, has the same meaning; and-

"Accounting Officer" means the person referred to in Section 36 of the PFMA;

"BAS" means the Basic Accounting System used by the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Administration;

"CFO" means the Chief Financial Officer referred to in Chapter 2 of the National Treasury Regulations;

"Delegated official" means the official who is given the authority for relevant functions in terms of the department's written delegations;

"Emergency" means a situation where immediate action is necessary to avoid a dangerous or perilous condition or risky situation or misery or defect, provided that the situation couldn't be predicted and was not expected to happen;

"IDA official" means the appointed Inter-Departmental Account official responsible for managing the overall recovery and payment of inter-departmental claims;

"Inter-departmental balance" means the amount due to or from a department at monthend arising from one or more inter-departmental transactions;

"Inter-departmental transaction" means a transaction that occurs when one department provides a good or service to or for another department for a fee, on a cost recovery basis;

"Invoice" means the standard documentation used to communicate expenses that have been paid for by the Supplying Department on behalf of the Receiving Department and is a formal request for payment;

"Matching field" means the special attributes that uniquely identify items on BAS used for reconciliation;

"PFMA" means the Public Financial Management Act (Act 1 of 1999);

"Receiving (Expensing) Department (Debtor)" means the department which incurs the expenditure and records it against the allocated budget in its accounting records;

"Responsibility Manager" means the official who is responsible for an organisational unit in a department;

"Responsible official" means the official responsible for goods and services purchased for inter-departmental transactions;

"SLA" means a formal written agreement; known as a Service Level Agreement entered into between departments and signed by the relevant Accounting Officers;

"Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)" means the method of functioning that has been established over time to execute a specific task or react to a specific set of circumstances or situation or process. Standard operating procedures document the normal or accepted methodology and help form the basis for evaluating conformance with the regulatory framework;

"Supplying (Paying) Department (Creditor)" means the department which pays expenses on behalf of the Receiving Department and must be reimbursed by the Receiving Department; and

"Treasury Regulations" means the instructions and regulations issued by National Treasury in terms of Section 76 of the PFMA.

#### 3. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

#### 3.1 Public Financial Management Act

Section 38(1)(c)(i) and 38(1)(f).

#### 3.2 National Treasury Regulations

Paragraph 17.1.1; 17.1.2(a); 17.1.1(c); and 17.1.2(d).

#### 4. SCOPE

- 4.1 This Provincial Treasury Standard Operating Procedure Guideline must be applied in accounting for inter-departmental transactions except for those listed in subparagraph 4.3 below.
- 4.2 This Provincial Treasury Standard Operating Procedure Guideline must be applied to:
  - a) Salary-related claims being transferred from one department to another;
  - Interdepartmental transactions between departments within the province of Kwa-Zulu Natal; and
  - Interdepartmental transactions with another department in a different province or with a national department.
- 4.3 This Provincial Treasury Standard Operating Procedure Guideline specifically excludes:
  - (a) The receiving of revenue by one department on behalf of another department;
  - (b) Transactions between responsibilities within a department;
  - (c) Transactions between departments and public entities; and
  - (d) Transactions between departments and municipalities.

#### 5. CLAIMS RECOVERABLE ACCOUNT (CRA)

- As per the BAS Standard Chart of Accounts (SCOA) each department is billed via the claims recoverable accounts. These accounts are normal debtor accounts that may carry balances at month and/or year-end.
- 5.2 The claims recoverable account comprises two matching fields; matching field 1: "Miscellaneous" and matching field 2: "Claim Number". It is recommended that matching field 1 includes the applicable department, year/month and description of the claim for identification and reconciliation purposes.
- 5.3 A detailed spreadsheet (Annexure F) must be maintained of all claims for control purposes and to maintain a proper audit trail. The spreadsheet must be reconciled monthly and must balance to the amount reflected on the trial balance and the claims recoverable account. Any discrepancies must be investigated and resolved prior to the closure of the applicable accounting month, to facilitate accurate and complete information for financial year-end closure.

#### 6. APPOINTMENT OF IDA AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS

6.1 The Accounting Officer or delegated official of each department must designate an official, in writing, who will be responsible for managing the overall recovery and/or

- payment of inter-departmental monies and the department's Claims Recoverable Account (CRA). This official will be known as the Inter-Departmental Account (IDA) official.
- 6.2 Further, where an organisational unit in a department has any bearing on the purchase or receipt of goods and services as envisaged in these instructions, the responsibility manager for such a unit must designate a responsible official in writing. This responsible official must manage the process for the unit and liaise with the official appointed in terms of subparagraph 6.1 above to ensure the timely discharge of the unit and, ultimately, the Department's responsibilities in this regard.
- 6.3 An updated list of all departments IDA officials must be maintained by the IDA or delegated official to facilitate the payment/recovery of IDA claims.

## 7. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT BETWEEN RECEIVING DEPARTMENT AND SUPPLYING DEPARTMENT

- 7.1 A formal written agreement, known as a service level agreement (SLA) **must** be entered into between departments and signed by the relevant departmental Accounting Officers before any goods or services may be purchased by the Supplying department.
  - <u>Take Note</u>: This prerequisite does not apply to salary related claims being transferred from one department to another.
- 7.2 The SLA must be as comprehensive as possible to prevent any possible misunderstanding and disagreements. This is of particular importance when the relationship between departments is over an extended time period.
- 7.3 The SLA must stipulate, but is not limited to:
  - Goods and/or services to be delivered/provided as well as its quantity and quality;
  - Service delivery expectations with regard to turnaround times or response times;
  - The expected time period over which the receipt of the goods and/or services would occur and the subsequent invoicing thereof;
  - The format of expensing and payment processes along with the departments' role players, such as the IDA official, responsible officials and delegated authorities;
  - The basis of expensing allocations, where applicable, amongst the Supplying department and the Receiving department and the estimated costs; and
  - The process to be followed to resolve disputes that may arise between the Supplying department and the Receiving department, with due regard to Annexure B1- paragraph 6.

- 7.4 Goods and/or services may only be purchased by a Supplying department without a SLA in place, in contravention of subparagraph 7.1 above, in cases of emergency and with the written consent of all the relevant Accounting Officers.
- 7.5 Before any payment is effected in respect of invoices received from suppliers, and for payments done on behalf of another department, the delegated official must ensure that the transaction is in accordance with an inter-departmental SLA, unless subject to paragraph 7.4 above.
- 7.6 Departments must ensure that funds are available prior to committing to interdepartmental agreements, as non-payment for goods or services rendered due to a lack of funds is not deemed an acceptable or legitimate reason. This is furthermore a contravention of Treasury Regulation 8.2.3.

#### 8. ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS

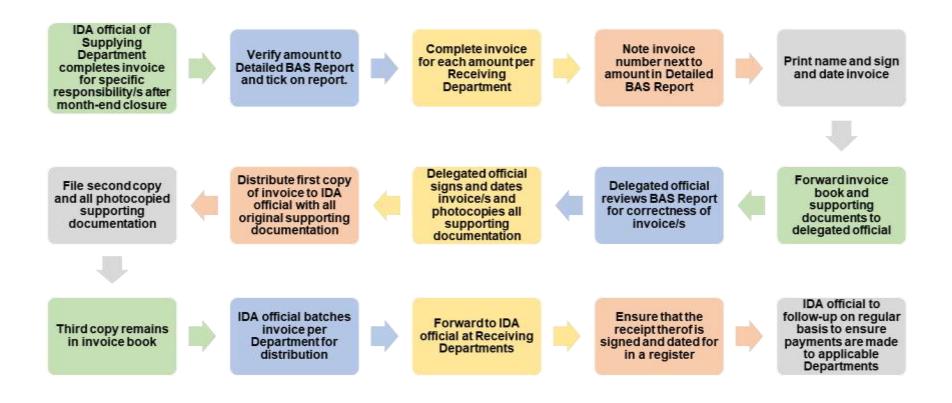
8.1 Inter-Departmental Accounts must be accounted for as per the GRAP Accounting Manuals issued annually by National Treasury.

#### 9. COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST

- 9.1 Compliance checklists ensure consistency in application of procedural requirements and financial norms and standards and facilitate compliance monitoring with regulatory requirements, policy and procedural frameworks.
- 9.2 The compliance checklist, attached as Annexure H, should be implemented or adapted, where applicable, to support departmental requirements.

#### **ANNEXURE A**

#### PROCESS FLOW: RECOVERY OF PAYMENTS PROCEDURE



### **ANNEXURE B1**

	PROCEDURAL FRAMEWORK FOR INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS				
		SUPPLYING (PAYING) DEPARTMENT	(CREDITOR)		
	Task	Process	Responsibility	Comment	
1.	Recovery of Payments.	<ul> <li>The recovery of payments is initiated by the Supplying Department.</li> <li>The IDA or delegated official completes an invoice for each amount per Receiving Department, as per the pre-printed IDA invoice (Annexure E) or electronic invoice.</li> <li>The BAS Matching Report must be downloaded on the 1st working day after month-end closure.</li> <li>Verify that the amount on the supporting documentation corresponds with the BAS Detailed Report and indicate as such on the report.</li> <li>The invoice number must be indicated next to applicable amount in the report.</li> <li>The IDA or delegated official responsible for completing the IDA form must print his/her name and sign and date the invoice.</li> </ul>	IDA or delegated official.	Refer to Annexure A: Process Flow: Recovery of Payments Procedure  Refer to Annexure E: IDA Invoice	

		■ The invoice book and supporting documentation must be forwarded to the delegated official responsible for reviewing
		and approving the IDA claims.
2.	Review and Approval of IDA Claims.	<ul> <li>The delegated official must review the completeness and validity of the invoice/s (Claim/s) and supporting documents and the Detailed BAS Report.</li> <li>The invoice must be signed and dated once validated.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Copies must be maintained of all supporting documents, including the claim form, general journal and Detailed BAS Report for reference and audit purposes.</li> </ul>
3.	Distribution of Invoices.	<ul> <li>The delegated official must distribute the invoices as follows:         First copy         Remove the 1<sup>st</sup> copy from the invoice book and attach all supporting documents, including a copy of the BAS journal.         </li> <li>The invoice and BAS report must be forwarded to the IDA official.</li> <li>Second copy</li> <li>Remove the 2<sup>nd</sup> copy from the invoice book</li> </ul>

		and attach all photocopied supporting	
		documents.	
		File each invoice with the attached supporting	
		documents in a separate file per department,	
		or sequentially per claim number.	
		Third copy	
		■ The 3 <sup>rd</sup> copy must remain in the invoice book.	
4.	Batching and	■ The IDA official, on receipt of the invoices and IDA official.	Refer to Annexure F:
	Delivery of Invoices.	BAS report must undertake the following:	Claims Recoverable
		Batch all invoices per department.	
		Complete the confirmation for the	
		distribution of invoices per department	
		(Annexure F: Claims Recoverable).	
		The IDA claims and supporting documents	
		must be hand-delivered to each IDA official	
		at the relevant department/s.	
		A register must be maintained of claims	
		delivered and received as confirmation and	
		acknowledgment of the receipt of the	
		documentation, by verifying the information	
		contained in Annexure F referred to above.	
		The IDA register must be signed and dated IDA official of	
		by the IDA official of the Receiving Receiving and	
		Department and the IDA official of the Supplying Department.	

		Supplying Department.		
		<ul> <li>The register must be updated as required</li> </ul>		
		by the IDA officials of the Receiving		
		Department and the Supplying Department		
		for reference and audit purposes.		
		<ul> <li>Regular follow-ups must be conducted to</li> </ul>	IDA official of	
		ensure the Department is reimbursed in	Supplying Department	
		accordance with the terms of the SLA.		
5.	Notification of	The IDA official of the Supplying Department	IDA official of	Refer to Annexure G:
	Outstanding	must inform the IDA official of the Receiving	Supplying Department.	Claims Payable.
	Balances.	Department of outstanding claims recoverable		
		balances monthly.		
		The IDA official of the Supplying Department		
		must ensure that all outstanding balances		
		reflect all relevant transactions as at the		
		specified date.		
6.	Disputed	Disputed transactions relating to IDA invoices	IDA or delegated	
	Transactions.	must be queried in writing within ten (10)	official.	
		working days of the receipt of the invoice.		
		• The reason for the enquiry/dispute must be		
		clearly indicated.		
		• Disputes must be settled within fifteen (15)		
		working days of lodging the dispute.		
		Where significant amounts are involved, the		

		Provincial Accountant-General within the
		Provincial Treasury must be approached to
		act as mediator in the event of a dispute
		between departments within the Province,
		which remains unresolved after the expiry of
		the timeframe as indicated above.
7.	Transactions	If a transaction is not disputed, it is IDA or delegated
	between	acknowledged that the claim has been verified official.
	departments within	as correct by the Receiving Department and
	the Province.	must be settled within 30 days from the receipt
		of the claim.
		If claims are not settled within the above CFO of Supplying
		prescribed period, the CFO of the Supplying Department.
		Department must request in writing that the
		CFO of the Receiving Department settles the
		outstanding claim/s.
		If such claims are not settled by the receiving
		Department within a maximum period of ninety
		(90) days subsequent to the receipt of the
		written request, the CFO of the Supplying
		Department must submit a written request to
		the Provincial Treasury Banking Section to
		"recover" the amount from the Receiving
		Department.

		The written request must include the initial written request sent to the Receiving Department requesting payment and a validated age analysis schedule of
		outstanding amounts.
8.	Manual Credit	Once the transaction has been effected by the    Delegated    official    in
	Transfer.	Provincial Treasury Banking Section, the designated component
		delegated official within the Banking Section in Receiving
		or designated component of the Receiving Department.
		Department must capture a payment as a
		Manual Credit Transfer (MCT) to record the
		details on BAS.
		The transaction will programmatically debit the
		relevant expenditure allocation (Vote) and
		credit the "BAS Credit Transfer Account".
		A serial number swap must be affected on
		BAS to resolve the above transaction online to
		debit the "BAS Credit Transfer Account" and
		credit the "Bank Adjustment Account".
9.	Clearance of Bank	The delegated official within the Banking Delegated official in
	Reconciliation	Section or designated component of the delegated component
	Exceptions.	Supplying Department must clear the in Supplying
		transaction that has programmatically Department.
		interfaced as a credit to the Bank

		Reconciliation Exception Report.
		The transaction must be resolved on BAS to
		the "Bank Adjustment Account", and a general
		journal processed as follows:
		DR: Bank Adjustment Account
		CR: Claims Recoverable Account
10.	Monthly	A monthly reconciliation must be undertaken IDA or delegated
	Reconciliation.	to ensure that all transactions processed into official in Supplying
		the "Claims Recoverable Account" are correct Department.
		and balance back to the supporting
		documents.
		On the 1 <sup>st</sup> working day of each month the
		delegated official must download a Claims
		Recoverable Detailed BAS Report for the
		respective responsibilities for the preceding
		month.
		The report must be verified to confirm that all
		amounts have been captured correctly and all
		amounts received correctly allocated.
		Any identified discrepancies must be
		investigated and resolved, as per paragraph 6
		of Annexure B1.
		A summary of the transactions for the month
		together with each transactions' status must

			be forwarded to the IDA official for his/her		
			further attention.		
11.	IDA claims with a	•	If the transaction is not disputed and no	Refer to PFMA section	
	department in a		tangible progress has been made within 30	6(2)(b) and (f).	
	different Province or		days after the receipt of the claim, the		
	with a National		following recovery steps are recommended:		
	Department.	•	A first letter requesting settlement from the		
			Chief Financial Officer of the Supplying		
			Department must be sent to the Chief financial		
			Officer of the Receiving Department.		
		•	Should no tangible progress be made after		
			thirty (30) days from the receipt of the first		
			letter, a second letter requesting settlement		
			from the Accounting Officer of the Supplying		
			Department must be sent to the Accounting		
			Officer of the Receiving Department.		
		•	Should no tangible progress be made within a		
			maximum period of ninety (90) days, a written		
			request must be submitted to Provincial		
			Treasury to pursue the matter with the		
			relevant treasury.		
		•	The written request submitted to the relevant		
			treasury, as indicated above, must include all		
			relevant correspondence, including all written		

requests submitted to the Receiving	
Department and a validated age analysis	
schedule of outstanding amounts.	
Where significant amounts are involved in the	
case of inter-departmental claims with a	
department in another Province, or with a	
National Department, a written request must	
be submitted to Provincial Treasury to pursue	
the matter with the relevant treasury.	

### **ANNEXURE B2**

	PROCEDURAL FRAMEWORK FOR INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS							
	RECEIVING (EXPENSING) DEPARTMENT (DEBTOR)							
	Task	Process	Responsibility	Comment				
1.	Receipt of IDA Claims.	Department must be hand delivered directly to the IDA official of the Receiving Department.  The claim/s must be stamped as "Received" and	IDA official of Receiving Department and Supplying Department.					
2.	Approval of Payments.	supporting documents to the respective Responsibility Manager for approval.  The register, as referred to above, must be updated.  Once approved by the Responsibility Manager, the	IDA official of Receiving Department. Responsibility Manager					

		payment.
		The register must be updated.
3.	Disbursement	At month-end or after a BAS run, to augment the IDA official of
	Report.	timely recognition of payments, the IDA official of Receiving
		the Receiving Department must submit the BAS Department.
		generated "Disbursement Payee Report" to the
		IDA official of the Supplying Department.
		A BAS Detail Report must be downloaded monthly   IDA official of
		to verify that all journals have been captured Receiving/Supplying
		accurately and all payments correctly allocated.  Department.
		A journal must be processed to correct any
		misallocations.

### **ANNEXURE C**

	CONFIRMATION OF IDA BALANCES					
	Task	Process	Responsibility	Comment		
1.	Quarterly confirmation of IDA balances.	<ul> <li>In order to ensure that accruals are correctly accounted for in the interim and annual financial statements, quarterly confirmations must be sent via the Receiving Department to the Supplying Department within 5 working days after the closure of the accounting month for that quarter (June, September, December and March).</li> <li>The Supplying Department must indicate whether the balances are confirmed or unconfirmed, including reasons for unconfirmed balances.</li> <li>Confirmations must be returned back to the Receiving Department within 5 working days after the closure of the accounting month for that quarter.</li> <li>Unconfirmed balances must be resolved within 15 working days of lodging the dispute.</li> <li>Records of the procedural steps undertaken for the quarterly confirmation of IDA balances must be documented and filed for reference and audit purposes.</li> </ul>	IDA official of Receiving Department.  IDA official of Supplying Department.			

2.	Year-end	•	At financial year-end, the IDA official of the	IDA	official	of	
	confirmation of IDA		Receiving Department and the IDA official of the	Receiv	/ing	and	
	balances.		corresponding Supplying Department must confirm	Supply	/ing		
			and agree on any inter-departmental balances that	Depart	tment.		
			may exist for the applicable financial year ending				
			31 March.				
		•	This must be concluded within 5 working days				
			after the closure of financial year-end.				
		•	The Supplying and Receiving Department must				
			indicate whether balances are confirmed or				
			unconfirmed, including reasons for unconfirmed				
			balances.				
		•	Any unconfirmed balances must be resolved prior				
			to the finalisation and reporting thereof in the				
			Annual Financial Statements.				
		•	Records of the procedural steps undertaken for				
			the year-end confirmation of IDA balances must be				
			documented and filed for reference and audit				
			purposes.				

### **ANNEXURE D**

	REPORTING REQUIREMENTS									
	Task	Process	Responsibility	Comments						
1.	Reporting to Chief Financial Officer.	<ul> <li>The IDA official must submit a monthly report to the department's Chief Financial Officer detailing the following:         <ul> <li>Balance of claims recoverable account and individual balances owed by each department; and</li> <li>Detailed breakdown of transactions, including departmental balances and recovery status.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The report must be reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer and corrective action taken, where applicable.</li> </ul>	Chief Financial Officer.	Refer to Annexure F: Claims Recoverable.						
2.	Reporting to Provincial Treasury.	The IDA official must submit electronic and signed reports monthly to Provincial Treasury: Financial Reporting Section within ten working days of month-end closure.	IDA official.	Refer to Annexure F: Claims Recoverable.						

**ANNEXURE E** 

#### KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

#### INTER-DEPARTMENTAL INVOICE

DEPARTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_

DATE CAPTURED		INVOICE NO.	1	2513
TO EXPENSING DEPA	RTMENT:			
OFFICER:				
DDRESS:				
AX:				
For use by PAYIN	G Dept. ONLY	-		
MOUNT		53		
upplier:				
ate of Invoice:				
- F	rvice:			
* 3				
Occumentation attached	YES	Authorised:		
Occumentation attached		Authorised:		
Description of goods / se Documentation attached  Officer:  Date: Contact Number:	YES			
Documentation attached  Officer: Date: Contact Number:  For use by EXPEN	YES	Date:		
Ocumentation attached  Officer:  Date: Contact Number:	YES SING Dept. ONLY	Date:		
Pocumentation attached  Officer:  Contact Number:  For use by EXPEN	YES SING Dept. ONLY	Date:		
Pocumentation attached  Officer:  Contact Number:  For use by EXPEN	YES SING Dept. ONLY	Date:		

													ANNEX	UKE F	
Department of Interdepartmenta	al Receiveables/ Clain	Name of Department									Prepared by		Approved by		1
As at		Enter Date									Date		Date		
Name of Departm	nent	Health													
Request No. or order no. or instruction to proceed or SLA no.	SCOA Item	of expenditure	Name of Supplier Paid/Name of Employee		Date claim raised with the department	Has the dept acknowledged receipt of the claim	Claim Number	Has supporting documentation been sent to the dept	confirmed the	Current	30 days	60 days	Older than 60 days	Total	Reason - why account has not yet been paid/ Comments/ Date paid
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Prepared By Name Position	-	Date	-			Reviewed By Name Position	-	Date	-						

										ANNEX	JRE G
Department of		Agriculture						Prepared by		Approved by	
As at	l Payables - Confirmed	00-Jan-00						Date		Date	
Name of Departme	ant	Premier									
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Request No. or order no. or instruction to proceed or SLA no.	SCOA Item	of expenditure	Name of Supplier Paid/Name of Employee	supplier/employe		Has supporting documentation been received by the department	Current	30 days	60 days	Older than 60 days	Total
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Prepared By Name Position		Date				Date					

#### **ANNEXURE H**

#### COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST: INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS

	PROCESS	Y/N	REMEDIAL ACTION
	GENERAL		
1.	IDA official appointed by Accounting Officer.		
2.	Service Level Agreement (SLA) signed by Accounting Officers of relevant Departments.		
3.	Monthly Reconciliation of IDA balances.		
4.	Monthly report submitted to CFO on status of IDA's.		
5.	Monthly report submitted to Provincial Treasury within 10 working days of month-end closure.		
	RECOVERY OF PAYMENTS		
6.	Invoice completed for IDA Claims.		
7.	IDA claims reviewed and approved.		
8.	Invoices and supporting documents delivered to applicable departments and signed for and dated in IDA Register.		
9.	Notification of outstanding IDA balances monthly.		
10.	Disputes queried within 10 working days of receipt of invoice.		
11.	Disputes resolved within 15 working days of lodgement.		
	PAYMENT OF CLAIMS		
12.	All invoices signed for and date stamped.		
13.	Claims (invoices) approved by Responsibility Manager.		
14.	Approved claims submitted to Finance Division for		

	PROCESS	Y/N	REMEDIAL ACTION
	payment.		
15.	Payments settled within 30 working days.		
16.	Disbursement report submitted to applicable departments.		
17.	Confirmation of IDA balances quarterly and at financial year end.		