

THE ESSENCE OF THE CONCEPT OF “ACCOUNTING POLICIES” AND METHODOLOGICAL APPROACHES TO ITS DEVELOPMENT AT THE ENTERPRISE

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The article is concerned with current issues regarding the interpretation of the concept of “enterprise accounting policy” and definition of methodological approaches to its development.

Concepts of “accounting policy” defined by the International Accounting Standard 1 and by domestic legislation do not reflect the influence of accounting policy on the efficiency of using productive and financial potential of a particular enterprise. Domestic literature does not present general consensus of scientists as to the concept of “accounting policy”. For this reason, the article analyses and clarifies the essence of the concept of “accounting policy of the enterprise”. Considering that choice of means and form of accounting ensures cost reduction and, consequently, has an impact on the efficiency and performance of enterprise operation, definition of accounting policy concept must be amended and should be understood as a complex of feasible principles, methods and procedures used by an enterprise to streamline and simplify accounting process for preparing and submitting financial reports, as well as for improving operating efficiency of the enterprise.

The article studies methodological framework of accounting policy development and sets forth suggestions as to improving the methodological approach, which consists of several stages. The first stage calls for establishing a special commission involving managers such as chief accounting officer, cost analyst, technologist and specialists of financial, legal and other services of the enterprise. The article defines functions assigned to this commission, distributes organizational responsibilities between its members and outlines communication with other subdivisions of the enterprise. The second stage calls for identifying factors that have an influence on the accounting policy being developed. The third stage specifies the list of accounting information end-users and researches accounting techniques to pinpoint the ones potentially suitable for this particular enterprise keeping in mind end-users' demands. The fourth stage is forming the list of elements that need to be included into accounting policy of the enterprise, which requires studying source materials and hands-on experience in development of accounting policy provisions (fifth stage). At the last stage, implementers tasked with the elab-

oration of accounting policy lay down relevant provisions, work out accounting policy guidelines and establish responsibility for infringing thereof.

The use of the suggested methodological approach including systematized sequence of actions will allow developing a reasoned effective accounting policy for a particular enterprise.