

**International Budget Partnership  
OPEN BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE  
Venezuela, September 2009**

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# International Budget Partnership OPEN BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE

<b>Section One: The Availability of Budget Documents</b> .....	3
Table 1. Budget Year of Documents Used in Completing the Questionnaire.....	4
Table 2. Key Budget Documents Used: Full Titles and Internet Links .....	5
Table 3. Distribution of Documents Related to the Executive’s Budget Proposal...	7
Table 4. Distribution of the Enacted Budget and Other Reports.....	8
<b>Section Two: The Executive’s Budget Proposal</b> .....	9
Estimates for the Budget Year and Beyond .....	10
Estimates for Years Prior to the Budget Year.....	19
Comprehensiveness .....	28
The Budget Narrative & Performance Monitoring .....	35
Additional Key Information for Budget Analysis & Monitoring.....	39
<b>Section Three: The Budget Process</b> .....	46
Executive’s Formulation of the Budget .....	47
Legislative Approval of the Budget .....	52
Executive’s Implementation of the Budget.....	56
Year-end Report and the Supreme Audit Institution .....	66

## **Section One: The Availability of Budget Documents**

**Table 1. Budget Year of Documents Used in Completing the Questionnaire**

<b>Budget Documents Used in Completing the Questionnaire</b>	
	Budget Year Used
Pre-Budget Statement	Not Available
Budget Summary	2009
Executive's Budget Proposal	2009
Supporting Budget Documents	2009
Citizens Budget	Not Available
Enacted Budget	2009
In-Year Reports	Not Available
Mid-Year Report	Not Available
Year-End Report	2008
Audit Report	2008

**Table 2. Key Budget Documents Used: Full Titles and Internet Links**

Budget Document	Full Title, Date, and Internet Link
Pre-Budget Statement	Produced but Not Available to the Public
Budget Summary	Chapter 1 in <i>Exposición de Motivos 2009</i> : <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=20353%20Itemid=58">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=20353%20Itemid=58</a> (28/10/2008)
Executive's Budget Proposal	Título 1 y 2 (Titles 1 and 2): <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1020&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1020&amp;Itemid=124</a> (28/10/2008) Título 3 (Title 3): <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1026&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1026&amp;Itemid=124</a> (28/10/2008)
Budget Document One in Support of the Executive's Budget Proposal	<a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=20353%20Itemid=58">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=20353%20Itemid=58</a> (28/10/2008) 1. Exposición de Motivos 2009 2. Resumen de la Distribución General 2009 3. Ley Especial de Endeudamiento Anual para el Ejercicio Fiscal 2009
Budget Document Two in Support of the Executive's Budget Proposal	Plan Operativo Anual de la Nación [Annual Implementation Plan]: <a href="http://www.mpd.gob.ve/POAN-2009/Poan2009.pdf">http://www.mpd.gob.ve/POAN-2009/Poan2009.pdf</a> (October, 2008)
Budget Document Three in Support of the Executive's Budget Proposal	
Citizens Budget	Not Produced
Enacted Budget	Ley de Presupuesto 2009 [Budget Law 2009]: <a href="http://www.onapre.gov.ve">http://www.onapre.gov.ve</a> (15/12/2008)
In-Year Reports	Not Produced
Mid-Year Review	Not Produced
Year-End Report	Memoria y Cuenta Ministerio de Finanzas [Report and Accounts from the Ministry of Finance] 2008: <a href="http://www.mppef.gob.ve/root/documentos/memoriacuenta/memoria-y-cuenta-2008_3384.pdf">http://www.mppef.gob.ve/root/documentos/memoriacuenta/memoria-y-cuenta-2008_3384.pdf</a> (26/02/2009)

<p>Audit Report</p>	<p>Informe de Gestión 2008:  <a href="http://www.cgr.gob.ve/InformeGestionDirectorio2008.html">http://www.cgr.gob.ve/InformeGestionDirectorio2008.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.cgr.gob.ve/pdf/informes/Informe_Gestion_2008/01%20situacion%20general%20de%20los%20organos%202008.pdf">http://www.cgr.gob.ve/pdf/informes/Informe_Gestion_2008/01%20situacion%20general%20de%20los%20organos%202008.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.cgr.gob.ve/InformeGestionCap1_2008.html">http://www.cgr.gob.ve/InformeGestionCap1_2008.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.cgr.gob.ve/not_informes_actuaciones_2008.html">http://www.cgr.gob.ve/not_informes_actuaciones_2008.html</a></p> <p>(August 11, 2009)</p>
<p>Other Documents</p>	<p><a href="http://www.bcv.org.ve/Upload/Publicaciones/informeasamblea2008.pdf">http://www.bcv.org.ve/Upload/Publicaciones/informeasamblea2008.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.bcv.org.ve/Upload/Publicaciones/mfa2008.pdf">http://www.bcv.org.ve/Upload/Publicaciones/mfa2008.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="http://mflrep01.mf.gov.ve/repositorio/INFVEN05-06-2009.pdf">http://mflrep01.mf.gov.ve/repositorio/INFVEN05-06-2009.pdf</a></p>
<p>Relevant Ministries &amp; Departments</p>	<p><a href="http://www.onapre.gov.ve/">http://www.onapre.gov.ve/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.mf.gov.ve/">http://www.mf.gov.ve/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.mpd.gov.ve/">http://www.mpd.gov.ve/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.bcv.org.ve/">http://www.bcv.org.ve/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.asamblenacional.gov.ve/ns2/index.asp">http://www.asamblenacional.gov.ve/ns2/index.asp</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.tsj.gov.ve">http://www.tsj.gov.ve</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.mpps.gov.ve/ms/index.php">http://www.mpps.gov.ve/ms/index.php</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.me.gov.ve/">http://www.me.gov.ve/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.seniat.gov.ve/">http://www.seniat.gov.ve/</a></p>

**Table 3. Distribution of Documents Related to the Executive’s Budget Proposal**

<b>DISTRIBUTION OF BUDGET DOCUMENTS</b>						
	Pre-budget	Executive’s Budget Proposal				Citizens budget
		Main document	Budget summary*	Supporting Document 1	Supporting Document 2	
A. Not produced, even for internal purposes						Yes
B. Produced for internal purposes, but not available to the public	Yes					
C. Produced and available to the public, but only on request						
D. Produced and distributed to the public (for example, in libraries, posted on the Internet.)		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b><i>For budget reports that are produced and distributed to the public, what steps does the executive take to distribute these reports and to promote interest in them?</i></b>						
	Pre-budget	Executive’s Budget Proposal				Citizens budget
		Main document	Budget summary*	Supporting Document 1	Supporting Document 2	
1. The release date is known at least one month in advance	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
2. Advance notification of release is sent to users, media	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
3. Released to public same day as official release to media	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
4. Available on the Internet free of charge	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution	No	No	No	No	No	NA
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution	No	No	No	No	No	NA
7. Readily available outside capital and/or big cities <sup>+</sup>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
8. Written in more than one language	No	No	No	No	No	NA
9. News conference is held to discuss release	No	No	No	No	No	NA

\*A budget summary should be a stand-alone document, which could include a budget speech or a separately published executive summary.

<sup>+</sup>Mark “Yes” if access by mail order or by Internet, if Internet service is readily available outside the capital and/or big cities.

**Table 4. Distribution of the Enacted Budget and Other Reports**

<b>DISTRIBUTION OF ENACTED BUDGET AND OTHER REPORTS</b>					
	Enacted budget	In-year reports	Mid-year review	Year-end report	Audit report
A. Not produced, even for internal purposes		Yes	Yes		
B. Produced for internal purposes, but not available to the public					
C. Produced and available to the public, but only on request					
D. Produced and distributed to the public (for example, in libraries, posted on the Internet.)	Yes			Yes	Yes
<b><i>For budget reports that are produced and distributed to the public, what steps does the executive take to distribute these reports and to promote interest in them?.</i></b>					
	Enacted budget	In-year reports	Mid-year review	Year-end report	Audit report
1. The release date is known at least one month in advance	Yes	NA	NA	No	No
2. Advance notification of release sent to users, media	Yes	NA	NA	Yes	No
3. Released to public same day as official release to media	Yes	NA	NA	Yes	Yes
4. Available on the Internet free of charge	Yes	NA	NA	Yes	Yes
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution	Yes	NA	NA	No	Yes
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution	No	NA	NA	No	No
7. Readily available outside capital/big cities <sup>+</sup>	Yes	NA	NA	Yes	Yes
8. Written in more than one language	No	NA	NA	No	No
9. News conference is held to discuss release	No	NA	NA	No	No

<sup>+</sup>Mark "Yes" if access is available by mail order or by Internet, if Internet service is readily available outside the capital and/or big cities.

## Section Two: The Executive's Budget Proposal

*Notes on abbreviations:*

BY = budget year (year for which the budget proposals are being made)

BY+1 = one year beyond the budget year

BY-1 = one year before the budget year

**Note 1:** The Open Budget Survey research process was carried out over a 12-month period and the final version of the Open Budget Questionnaires reflect decisions made after multiple rounds of discussions between Survey researchers, peer reviewers, and the International Budget Partnership (IBP) (in several countries these decisions also considered comments received from governments). When peer reviewers or governments agreed with the answers provided by researchers, they often provided no comment. Thus for many questions, the section in the questionnaire that should contain peer reviewer comments is left blank. However, if the government did not provide any comments to a question (because it did not dispute the answer), the section within the questionnaire that is meant to reflect government comments specifies the answer that the government agreed with (by default).

Since the IBP continued its discussions with the researchers even after receiving peer reviewer and government comments, for some questions these discussions resulted in a mutual decision to change the answers, even if the peer reviewers and governments agreed with the original answer provided by the researcher. Such changes may have happened as a result of:

1. A more consistent application of the Survey methodology;
2. New information identified by the researcher or by IBP that had a bearing on the answer for a particular question; or
3. Decisions made to ensure cross-country comparability of answers.

For more information on these changes for any question please write to [info@internationalbudget.org](mailto:info@internationalbudget.org).

<b>The Executive's Budget Proposal</b>	
<b>Estimates for the Budget Year and Beyond</b>	
<p>1. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by administrative unit (that is, by ministry, department, or agency)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All expenditures are classified by administrative unit.</li> <li>Expenditures are classified by administrative unit, but some small units are not shown separately.</li> <li>Expenditures are classified by administrative unit, but a significant number of units are not shown separately.</li> <li>No expenditures classified by administrative unit are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposición de Motivos: Pages 151-152</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>2. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by functional classification?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All expenditures are classified by functional classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>All expenditures are classified by functional classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function.</li> <li>No expenditures classified by function are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposición de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] [Chart] 6.21</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>3. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by economic classification?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All expenditures are classified by economic classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>b. All expenditures are classified by economic classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by economic classification.</li> <li>d. No expenditures classified by economic classification are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposición de Motivos: Page 180</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>4. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Program-level data are presented for all expenditures.</li> <li>b. Program-level data are presented for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>c. Program-level data are presented, but for less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No program-level data are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1020&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1020&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Proyecto de Ley de Presupuesto 2009: Título 2, Capítulo 2 (Presupuesto de Gastos) [Draft Budget Law 2009: Title 2, Chapter 2 (Expenditure Budget)]</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>5. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of expenditure presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented.  b. No, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented.  c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  In Venezuela, the Government must only produce a multi-year estimate on the first and fourth year of the administration period. It does not need to provide one on an annual basis (Ley Organica de la Administracion Financiera del Sector Publico - Art. 27). The Government didn't produce the Multi-year estimate in 2009.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b
<p>6. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for expenditure estimates that cover a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, multi-year expenditure estimates are presented for all individual programs, and for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative).  b. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative), but only for some individual programs.  c. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented, but only for a portion of one or more of the expenditure classifications (such as some functions, or some administrative units) and/or for only some individual programs.  d. No, multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all.  e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  They are not presented at all.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>7. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of tax revenue (such as income tax or VAT) for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All sources of tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>b. Sources of tax revenue amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Sources of tax revenue amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No sources of tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposición de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] [Chart] 5.1-1</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>8. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of goods and services) for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All sources of non-tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>b. Sources of non-tax revenue amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, non-tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Sources of non-tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all non-tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No sources of non-tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposición de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 5.1-1</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>9. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of revenue presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are presented.  b. No, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are not presented.  c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  In Venezuela, the Government must only produce a multi-year estimate on the first and fourth year of the administration period. It does not need to provide one on an annual basis (Ley Organica de la Administracion Financiera del Sector Publico - Art. 27). The Government didn't produce the Multi-year estimate in 2009.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b
<p>10. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for revenue estimates that cover a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, multi-year revenue estimates are presented for individual sources of revenue, and by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax).  b. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax), but only for some individual sources of revenue.  c. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue.  d. No, multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate revenue only, or they are not presented at all.  e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  They are not presented at all.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>11. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present data on the total government debt outstanding for the budget year?</p> <p>a. Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt both at the start of the budget year and at the end of the budget year (and thereby reflect the net borrowing requirement of the budget).</p> <p>b. Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the end of the budget year.</p> <p>c. Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the start of the budget year.</p> <p>d. No, data on the outstanding debt are not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 6.26</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  As mentioned in the footnote of Table 6.26, the outstanding debt is presented as preliminary figures for the first semester of 2008.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>12. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present interest payments on the debt for the budget year?</p> <p>a. Yes, interest payments on the debt are presented.</p> <p>b. No, interest payments on the debt are not presented.</p> <p>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 6.24-1 and 6.24-2</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>13. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information related to the composition of government debt (such as interest rates on the debt, maturity profile of the debt, currency denomination of the debt, or whether it is domestic and external debt) for the budget year?</p> <p>a. Yes, extensive information related to the composition of government debt is presented.</p> <p>b. Yes, key additional information is presented, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some additional information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, additional information related to the composition of government debt is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1027&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1027&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Proyecto de Ley Especial de Endeudamiento anual para el Ejercicio Fiscal 2009 [Draft Law on Annual Borrowing for FY 2009], Article 2.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "c"</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<p>d</p>
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<p>14. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, an extensive discussion of the macroeconomic forecast is presented, and key assumptions (such as inflation, real GDP growth, unemployment rate, and interest rates) are stated explicitly.</li> <li>Yes, the macroeconomic forecast is discussed and most of the key assumptions are stated explicitly, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, there is some discussion of the macroeconomic forecast (and/or the presentation of key assumptions), but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information related to the macroeconomic forecast is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Page 11</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C
<p>15. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation show the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions (i.e., sensitivity analysis) on the budget (including expenditures, revenues, and debt)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on the impact of macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of the major macroeconomic assumptions, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Page 11</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  This is the only comment of the Budget Proposal regarding macroeconomic assumptions for the Budget Year. No comment regarding the impact of these assumptions is ever made.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b> Only one set of assumptions is presented (see pp. 11, 17 and 45 of Exposición de Motivos).</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>16. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how policy proposals in the budget, as distinct from existing policies, affect expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of policy proposals on expenditures is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policy proposals on expenditures, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on the impact of policy proposals on expenditures is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> No distinction among existing plans and new proposals are made.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>17. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how policy proposals in the budget, as distinct from existing policies, affect revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of policy proposals on revenues is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policy proposals on revenues, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on the impact of policy proposals on revenues is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Information on the impact of policy proposals on revenues is not presented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<b>Estimates for Years Prior to the Budget Year</b>	
<p>18. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) that are classified by administrative unit (that is, by ministry, department, or agency)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1.</li> <li>Expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1, but some small units are not shown separately.</li> <li>Expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1, but a significant number of units are not shown separately.</li> <li>No expenditures classified by administrative unit are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos 2009: Cuadro [Chart] [Chart] 6.1</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  Expenditures for the most important administrative units (ministries and departments) are presented for the last five years. All administrative units are presented for the last five years.</p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "b"</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." Expenditures of all administrative units are presented for the last five years.</p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response:</u></b> We reiterate that the correct response is "b." As shown in Chart 6.1, 'institutional classification of expenditure' presents information for 52 institutions and, therefore, separate information is not presented for some small offices and public units.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries</p>	b

<p>19. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) that are classified by functional classification?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function for BY-1.</li> <li>No expenditures classified by function are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos 2009: Cuadro [Chart] [Chart] 6.20</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  Table 6.20 shows all expenditures arranged by functional classification.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>20. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) that are classified by economic classification?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>All expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1.</li> <li>No expenditures classified by economic classification are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos 2009: Cuadro [Chart] 6.15</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  Table 6.20 shows all expenditures arranged by economic classification.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>21. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program-level expenditure data are presented for all expenditures for BY-1.</li> <li>Program-level expenditure data are presented for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures for BY-1.</li> <li>Program-level expenditure data are presented, but for less than two-thirds of expenditures for BY-1.</li> <li>No program-level expenditure data are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The expenditure is not detailed by program for BY-1.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>22. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, how many months of actual data are reflected in the expenditure estimates of the year prior to the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect six or more months of actual expenditure.</li> <li>All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels, but reflect less than six months of actual expenditure.</li> <li>Some BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect actual expenditure.</li> <li>The BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original enacted levels, or no BY-1 estimates are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u> <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a> Exposición de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 6.1</p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The numbers provided as the 2008 expenditures are very close to the actual expenditure for that year.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>23. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of expenditure presented for years that precede the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented.</li> <li>No, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 6.1</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>24. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for expenditure estimates that cover years preceding the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, such prior-year expenditure estimates are presented for all individual programs, and for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative).</li> <li>Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative), but only for some individual programs.</li> <li>Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented, but only for a portion of one or more of the expenditure classifications (such as some functions, or some administrative units) and/or for only some individual programs.</li> <li>No, such prior-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de motivos: Cuadro [Chart]s [Charts] 6.1, 6.6 , 6.7, 6.15, and 6.20</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  Expenditures for prior years are presented for all the expenditure classifications, but these are not presented by program.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b

<p>25. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all expenditures reflect actual outcomes?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).</li> <li>Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).</li> <li>Before BY-3.</li> <li>No actual data for all expenditures are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 6.1</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  The only year with preliminar data is 2008. Actual expenditure outcomes are presented for the previous years.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>26. Are the expenditure estimates for the years prior to the budget year adjusted, as needed, to be comparable with the budget-year estimates in terms of classification and presentation?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, prior-year data are always adjusted to be comparable to the budget year data.</li> <li>Yes, in most cases, prior-year data are adjusted to be comparable.</li> <li>Yes, in some cases, prior-year data are adjusted to be comparable, but significant deviations between prior-year and budget-year classifications exist.</li> <li>No, prior-year data are not adjusted to be comparable, or no prior-year estimates are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 6.1</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>27. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of tax revenue (such as income tax or VAT) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>b. Tax revenues amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenue for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 5.1-1</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  Table 5.1-1 shows all tax revenues individually for 2008.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>28. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of goods and services) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All non-tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>b. Non-tax revenues amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, non-tax revenue for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Non-tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all non-tax revenues for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No non-tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadros [Charts] 5.1-1, 5.1-2</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  Tables 5.1-1 and 5.1-2 present non-tax revenues individually for 2008.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>29. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, how many months of actual data are reflected in the revenues estimates of the year prior to the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimates to reflect six or more months of actual revenue collections.</li> <li>b. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimates, but reflect less than six months of actual revenue collections.</li> <li>c. Some BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original estimates to reflect actual revenue collections.</li> <li>d. The BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original estimates or no BY-1 estimates are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 5.1-3</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>C</p>
<p>30. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of revenues presented for years that precede the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, such prior-year estimates of aggregate revenue are presented.</li> <li>b. No, such prior-year estimates of aggregate revenue are not presented.</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadro [Chart] 5.1-1</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>a</p>

<p>31. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for revenue estimates that cover years preceding the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, such prior-year revenue estimates are presented for individual sources of revenue, and by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax).</li> <li>Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax), but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>No, such prior-year estimates are presented for aggregate revenue only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadros [Charts] 5.1-1 to 5.1-3</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  This information is presented for the last 6 years.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>32. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all revenues reflect actual outcomes?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).</li> <li>Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).</li> <li>Before BY-3.</li> <li>No actual data for all revenues are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadros [Charts] 5.1-1 to 5.1-3</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  The data presented for 2008 and 2007 is preliminary.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b

<p>33. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information related to the government debt for the year preceding the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information is presented on the level and composition of government debt for the year preceding the budget year.</li> <li>Yes, information on the level of debt is presented, but some important details about the composition of the debt are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, but only information on the level of debt is presented.</li> <li>No, information related to the government debt for BY-1 is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Cuadros [Charts] 6.24-1, 6.24-2 ,6.25-1, 6.25-2, 6.26 and 6.27</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b
<p>34. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which the debt figures reflect actual outcomes?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).</li> <li>Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).</li> <li>Before BY-3.</li> <li>No actual data for government debt are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Cuadros [Charts] 6.24-1, 6.24-2, 6.25-1, 6.25-2, 6.26 and 6.27</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<b>Comprehensiveness</b>	
<p>35. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key extra-budgetary funds, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on extra-budgetary funds is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Fonden, Fondespa and Fondo chino are good examples of these extrabudgetary funds.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>36. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on intergovernmental transfers?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on intergovernmental transfers is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key intergovernmental transfers, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on intergovernmental transfers is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u> <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a> Exposicion de Motivos: Capitulo 7 and Cuadros [Charts] 7.1 to 7.10</p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Chapter 7 shows an important amount of information about intergovernmental transfers.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>37. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on transfers to public corporations?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on transfers to public corporations is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key transfers to public corporations, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on transfers to public corporations is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Pages 172-174</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C
<p>38. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on quasi-fiscal activities?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on quasi-fiscal activities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and, where possible, quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key quasi-fiscal activities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on quasi-fiscal activities is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  No information is presented regarding quasi-fiscal activities.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>39. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on financial assets held by the government?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on financial assets is presented, including a listing of the assets, a discussion of their purpose, and an estimate of their market value.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key information, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on financial assets is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> No information regarding financial assets are presented in the budget.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>40. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on non-financial assets held by the government?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on non-financial assets is presented, including a listing of the assets, and (where possible) an estimate of their market value.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key information, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on non-financial assets is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>41. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on expenditure arrears?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on expenditure arrears is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key expenditure arrears, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on expenditure arrears is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Information regarding expenditure arrears are not presented in the budget.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>42. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on contingent liabilities (such as government loan guarantees)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on contingent liabilities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key contingent liabilities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on contingent liabilities is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>43. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on future liabilities, such as civil service pensions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on future liabilities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key future liabilities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on future liabilities is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>
<p>44. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation provide details on the sources of donor assistance, both financial and in-kind?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All sources of donor assistance are identified individually.</li> <li>b. At least two-thirds of, but not all, sources of donor assistance, are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Less than two-thirds of sources of donor assistance are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No sources of donor assistance are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: C. 5.1-2</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>C</p>

<p>45. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on tax expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on tax expenditures is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key tax expenditures, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on tax expenditures is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>46. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation identify all earmarked revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>b. At least two-thirds of, but not all, earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Less than two-thirds of earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "e"</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." Earmarked revenues do reach significant amounts in Venezuela and are not easily distinguishable in official documents. One example that is found in the <i>Exposicion de Motivos</i> of the Draft 2009 Budget (pg. 109.) is linked to the use of gasoline and other oil derivative consumption taxes. This represents 0.5% of total revenue and sources of financing of the Republic. A non specified fraction of it is allocated to the "system of cargo control, improvement of collective transportation units, Vivex-VAO, student fare subsidy, mass transportation, natural gas for vehicles and the national urban transportation program. The money obtained through these subsidies is administered through a trust by the National Urban Transportation Foundation Fund (Fontur)."  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=20353%20Itemid=58">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=20353%20Itemid=58</a></p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response:</u></b> The response should be changed to "c," as suggested by Peer Reviewer Two. The reviewer's comment is correct: however, it is</p>	C

<p>important to note that even though there are <i>earmarks</i> on gasoline and oil derivatives, in practical terms they really don't exist because the price of gasoline does not cover the cost of production. Gasoline does not generate revenue because its selling price (approximately 2 cents of a dollar per liter) is well below the production cost.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> Based on a review of comments, IBP editors chose answer "c."</p>	
<p>47. What percentage of expenditure in the budget year is dedicated to spending on secret items relating to, for instance, national security and military intelligence?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. One percent or less of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.</li> <li>b. Three percent or less, but more than one percent, of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.</li> <li>c. Eight percent or less, but more than three percent, of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.</li> <li>d. More than eight percent of expenditure is dedicated to secret items, or the percentage is not available to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The official expenditure on secret items is associated to the "partida 406" that amounted to Bs. 171 millions in 2009. This is less than 1% of total expenditures of the 2009 budget. Due to the existence of many extrabudgetary funds, however, it is difficult to assess the total resources dedicated to spending on secret items.</p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "a"</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	d

<b>The Budget Narrative &amp; Performance Monitoring</b>	
<p>48. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation explain how the proposed budget is linked to government’s stated policy goals, by administrative unit (or functional category), for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on the link between the budget and the government’s stated policy goals, by administrative unit (or functional category) is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the link between major policy goals and the budget, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on the link between the budget and the government’s stated policy goals is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Page 132</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>C</p>

<p>49. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation explain how the proposed budget is linked to government's stated policy goals for a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals over a multi-year period is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting the major policy goals, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals over a multi-year period is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Page 27  Chapter 3</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  At the beginning of chapter 3, some general information on how the budget proposal is linked to multi-year goals is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C
<p>50. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present non-financial data, such as the number of beneficiaries, for expenditure programs?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-financial data are presented for all programs.</li> <li>Non-financial data are presented for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>Non-financial data are presented for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditure.</li> <li>No non-financial data are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Pag 135</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C

<p>51. Are the non-financial data presented useful for assessing how an expenditure program is performing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The non-financial data are very useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>b. The non-financial data are mostly useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>c. The non-financial data are somewhat useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>d. No non-financial data are provided or they are not useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Pag 135</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>C</p>
<p>52. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation contain performance indicators for expenditure programs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Performance indicators are presented for all programs.</li> <li>b. Performance indicators are presented for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>c. Performance indicators are presented for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No performance indicators are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>

<p>53. Are the performance indicators sufficiently well designed, such that one can assess whether there has been progress toward meeting policy goals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All performance indicators are well designed.</li> <li>b. Most performance indicators are well designed.</li> <li>c. Some performance indicators are well designed, but most are not.</li> <li>d. No programs have performance indicators, or they are not well designed.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>54. Are performance indicators used in conjunction with performance targets presented in the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets.</li> <li>b. Most performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets.</li> <li>c. Some performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets, but most are not.</li> <li>d. No performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>55. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on policies (both proposals and existing commitments) in at least the budget year that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations?</p> <p>a. Yes, extensive information on policies intended to alleviate poverty is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</p> <p>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policies intended to alleviate poverty, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, information on policies intended to alleviate poverty is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Pag 147</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>C</p>
<p><b>Additional Key Information for Budget Analysis &amp; Monitoring</b></p>	
<p><i>Please note that the questions in this section ask about information that is generally available to the public. The information need not be included in the executive's budget proposal or supporting documents, but may be found in other documents issued by the executive.</i></p>	

<p>56. Does the executive make available to the public a description of the tax rate or fee schedule for all revenue sources, including commercial projects involving the private sector?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on tax rates, fees, royalties and other revenues sources is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting the rates and fees for major revenue sources, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1019&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Exposicion de Motivos: Page 114</p> <p><a href="http://www.seniat.gob.ve/portal/page/portal/MANEJADOR_CONTENIDO_SENIAT/02NORMATIVA_LEGAL/2.4TRIBUTOS_INTERNOS/2.4.03IVA/2.4.3.1IVA_LEYES/IVA_LEYES_07_39147.pdf">http://www.seniat.gob.ve/portal/page/portal/MANEJADOR_CONTENIDO_SENIAT/02NORMATIVA_LEGAL/2.4TRIBUTOS_INTERNOS/2.4.03IVA/2.4.3.1IVA_LEYES/IVA_LEYES_07_39147.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.seniat.gob.ve/portal/page/portal/MANEJADOR_CONTENIDO_SENIAT/02NORMATIVA_LEGAL/2.4TRIBUTOS_INTERNOS/2.4.02ISLR/2.4.2.1ISLR_LEYES/ISLR_LEYES_01_Ley_ISLR_25-09-2006.pdf">http://www.seniat.gob.ve/portal/page/portal/MANEJADOR_CONTENIDO_SENIAT/02NORMATIVA_LEGAL/2.4TRIBUTOS_INTERNOS/2.4.02ISLR/2.4.2.1ISLR_LEYES/ISLR_LEYES_01_Ley_ISLR_25-09-2006.pdf</a></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>57. Does the executive make available to the public an analysis of the distribution of the tax burden?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, a detailed analysis of the distribution of the tax burden is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, an analysis is presented, highlighting key aspects of the distribution, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some analysis is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No analysis on the distribution of the tax burden is presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>58. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from international financial institutions (IFI)?</p> <p>a. Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is presented, including a narrative discussion and any quantitative targets related to both macro-economic conditionality and project-specific conditionality.</p> <p>b. Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1027&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1027&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Proyecto de Ley Especial de Endeudamiento anual para el Ejercicio Fiscal 2009: "Estado de las contrataciones vigentes suscritas por la República Bolivariana de Venezuela."  [Draft Law on Annual Borrowing for FY 2009: «Situation of the procurement practices executed by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.»]</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  A narrative discussion justifying such assistance is not presented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b
<p>59. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from donor countries?</p> <p>a. Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is presented, including a narrative discussion and any quantitative targets related to both macro-economic conditionality and project-specific conditionality.</p> <p>b. Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>60. Does the executive make available to the public a summary that describes the budget and its proposals?</p> <p>a. Yes, it provides a summary that is very informative.  b. Yes, it provides a summary that is somewhat informative.  c. Yes, but the summary is not very informative.  d. No, it does not provide a summary.  e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u>  Capítulo 1 de Exposición de Motivos 2009:  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=20353%20Itemid=58">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=20353%20Itemid=58</a></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  The information included in chapter 1 of the “Exposición de Motivos” is very informative.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>61. Does the executive publish a “citizens budget” or some non-technical presentation intended for a wide audience that describes the budget and its proposals?</p> <p>a. Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is very informative.  b. Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is somewhat informative.  c. Yes, but the citizens budget is not very informative.  d. No, it does not publish a citizens budget.  e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>62. Does the executive make available to the public non-technical definitions of terms used in the budget and other budget-related documents (for instance, in a glossary)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, thorough definitions of budget terms are provided.</li> <li>Yes, definitions are provided, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some definitions are provided, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, definitions are not provided.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.ocepre.gov.ve/">http://www.ocepre.gov.ve/</a>  Conceptos Presupuestarios [Budget Concepts]</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b
<p>63. Do citizens have the right <i>in law</i> to access government information, including budget information?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the right has been codified into law, and citizens are generally able in practice to obtain government information, including budget information.</li> <li>Yes, the right has been codified into law, but it is sometimes not possible for citizens in practice to obtain government information, including budget information.</li> <li>Yes, the right has been codified into law, but it is frequently or always impossible in practice to obtain access to government information, including budget information.</li> <li>No, the right to access government information has not been codified into law, or this right does not include access to budget information.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.finanzas.usb.ve/loap.pdf">http://www.finanzas.usb.ve/loap.pdf</a>  Ley Orgánica de Administración Pública [Organic Law on Public Administration]: Articles 7 and 9</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  Even though there is a right in law to access government information, this information is practically unavailable in most of the cases.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	c

64. Are citizens able in practice to obtain financial information on expenditures for individual programs in a format that is more highly disaggregated than that which appears in the executive's budget proposal if they request it (for example, from a ministry or agency)?

- a. In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for all programs except those considered related to national security or military intelligence.
- b. In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.
- c. In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.
- d. In practice, no highly disaggregated expenditure information is available.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

**Researcher Response to this Question was "c"**

**Peer Reviewer One Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." Highly disaggregated information on expenditures exists, but it is not available to the public at least not in public documents such as a Memoria y Cuenta. It must be requested and when requested, agencies are rarely willing to provide such information.

**Peer Reviewer Two Comment:**

**Researcher Response:** I suggest the answer should remain as I indicated in the questionnaire "c."

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "c", to maintain consistency with the guidance provided to researchers for correctly completing the questionnaire in the *Guide to the Open Budget Questionnaire*.

C

<p>65. Are citizens able in practice to obtain non-financial information related to expenditures (for example, number of beneficiaries, number of persons employed by the program, etc.) for individual programs in a format that is more highly disaggregated than that which appears in the executive's budget proposal if they request it from a ministry or agency?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for all programs except those considered related to national security or military intelligence.</li><li>b. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li><li>c. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li><li>d. In practice, no highly disaggregated non-financial expenditure information is available.</li><li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li></ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> A government agency may exist that provides highly detailed information on programs specified in the Budget, but this is not likely nor common (according to the experience of both researchers and the organization).</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<b>C</b>
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## **Section Three: The Budget Process**

<b>The Budget Process</b>	
<b>Executive's Formulation of the Budget</b>	
<p>66. How far in advance of the release of the budget is the day of its release known?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The release date is set in permanent law.</li> <li>b. The executive announces the release date at least two months in advance.</li> <li>c. The executive announces the release date less than two months but more than two weeks in advance.</li> <li>d. The executive announces the release date two weeks or less before the release, or makes no announcement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf">http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf</a>  Ley Orgánica de Administración Financiera del Sector Público [Organic Law on the Financial Administration of the Public Sector]: Article 38.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

67. Does the executive release to the public its timetable for preparation of the executive's budget proposal (that is, a document setting deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the ministry of finance or what ever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation)?

- a. Yes, a detailed timetable is released to the public.
- b. Yes, a timetable is released, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, a timetable is released, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, a timetable is not issued to the public.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

According to interviews with ONAPRE's staff members, there exists an internal timetable for the preparation of the executive's budget proposal, but it's not released to the public.

**Researcher Response to this Question was "d"**

**Peer Reviewer One Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer Two Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." In a presentation (prepared in June 2007 and still posted on the Internet) relating to the preparation of the 2008 Budget, the "Stages of the Budget [Process]" and "Budget Dates [Timetable]" are included (slides 11 and 18). Even though there is no such reference for 2009, the presentation seems to be still in force.

[http://www.onapre.gov.ve/informacion/Nueva\\_Etapa/Presentacion\\_ONAPRE\\_2008.ppt](http://www.onapre.gov.ve/informacion/Nueva_Etapa/Presentacion_ONAPRE_2008.ppt)

**Researcher Response:** We reiterate that the correct response is "d." Even though there is a presentation from 2007 that shows "some" information on the "Stages of the Budget [Process]," there is no public information on the timeline used in preparing the Executive's Budget Proposal for BY 2009.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain the consistency of the data across the countries.

d

<p>68. Does the executive adhere to its timetable for the preparation and release of the budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The executive adheres to the dates in its timetable.</li> <li>b. The executive adheres to most of the key dates in its timetable.</li> <li>c. The executive has difficulty adhering to most of the dates in its timetable.</li> <li>d. The executive does not adhere to the dates in its timetable, or it does not release to the public its timetable.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Even when the Executive has presented the budget proposal on time, ONAPRE's staff members have stated that the internal timetable is not met in most of its deadlines.</p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "c"</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer "d", in light of question 67, which indicated that a timetable is not released to the public.</p>	d
<p>69. Does the executive hold consultations with members of the legislature as part of its process of determining budget priorities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the executive holds extensive consultations with a wide range of legislators.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive holds consultations with a range of legislators, but some key members are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive holds very limited consultations, involving only a few members of the legislature.</li> <li>d. No, the executive does not typically consult with members of the legislature as part of the budget preparation process.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Consultations are held with some of the some deputies.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C

<p>70. Does the executive hold consultations with the public as part of its process of determining budget priorities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the executive holds extensive consultations with a wide range of constituencies.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive holds consultations with a range of constituencies, but some key constituencies are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive holds very limited consultations, involving only a few constituencies.</li> <li>d. No, the executive does not typically consult with the public as part of the budget preparation process.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Consultations are held with limited constituencies in an informal and non-systematic manner.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C
<p>71. When does the executive release a pre-budget statement to the public?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The executive releases a pre-budget statement at least four months in advance of the start of the budget year.</li> <li>b. The executive releases a pre-budget statement at least two months (but less than four months) in advance of the start of the budget year.</li> <li>c. The executive releases a pre-budget statement, but it is released less than two months before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>d. The executive does not release a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The ONAPRE produces a Pre-Budget Statement for internal use and discussion of the budget. This document, however, is not released to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>72. Does the pre-budget statement describe the government’s macroeconomic and fiscal framework?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s fiscal and macroeconomic policy is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the fiscal and macroeconomic framework, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>
<p>73. Does the pre-budget statement describe the government’s policies and priorities that will guide the development of detailed estimates for the upcoming budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s budget policies and priorities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the government’s budget policies and priorities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>

<b>Legislative Approval of the Budget</b>	
<p>74. How far in advance of the start of the budget year does the legislature receive the budget?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The legislature receives the budget at least three months before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>The legislature receives the budget at least six weeks, but less than three months, before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>The legislature receives the budget less than six weeks before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>The legislature does not receive the budget before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf">http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf</a>  Ley Organica de Administracion Financiera del Sector Publico [Organic Law on the Financial Administration of the Public Sector]: Article 38.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  The Legislature receives the budget proposal on the date stated in the law.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b
<p>75. Does a legislative committee (or committees) hold public hearings on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework presented in the budget in which testimony from the executive branch and the public is heard?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, public hearings are held on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework in which testimony is heard from the executive branch and a wide range of constituencies.</li> <li>Yes, hearings are held in which testimony is heard from the executive branch and some constituencies.</li> <li>Yes, hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard, but no testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>No, public hearings are not held on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework in which testimony from the executive branch and the public is heard.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  Finance committee meetings are held publicly, but testimony from the public are not allowed.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	c

<p>76. Do legislative committees hold public hearings on the individual budgets of central government administrative units (that is, ministries, departments, and agencies) in which testimony from the executive branch is heard?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive public hearings are held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.</li> <li>b. Yes, hearings are held, covering key administrative units, in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.</li> <li>c. Yes, a limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.</li> <li>d. No, public hearings are not held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Finance Committee meetings allow testimonies from members of the executive branch. Nevertheless, these testimonies are not common.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>C</p>
<p>77. Does a legislative committee (or committees) hold public hearings on the individual budgets of central government administrative units (that is, ministries, departments, and agencies) in which testimony from the public is heard?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive public hearings are held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>b. Yes, hearings are held, covering key administrative units, in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>c. Yes, a limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>d. No, public hearings are not held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> No public testimony is held in the legislative committee meetings.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>

<p>78. Do the legislative committees that hold public hearings release reports to the public on these hearings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the committees release very informative reports, which include all written testimony presented at the hearings.</li> <li>b. Yes, the committees release reports, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, the committees release reports, but they are not very informative.</li> <li>d. No, the committees do not release reports or do not hold public hearings.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The Finance Committee does not release it's meeting reports to the public.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>79. Is the legislature (or the appropriate legislative committee or members of the legislature) given full information for the budget year on the spending of all secret items relating to, for instance, national security and military intelligence?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the appropriate legislative committee or members of the legislature is provided extensive information on all spending on secret items, which includes detailed, line item descriptions of all expenditures.</li> <li>b. No, the legislature is provided information on spending on secret items, but some details are excluded, or some categories are presented in an aggregated manner, or the legislature is provided no information on secret items.</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The legislature is not provided with information on secret items.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b

<p>80. Does the legislature have authority <i>in law</i> to amend the budget presented by the executive?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the legislature has unlimited authority <i>in law</i> to amend the budget.</li> <li>Yes, the legislature has authority <i>in law</i> to amend the budget, with some limitations.</li> <li>Yes, the legislature has authority <i>in law</i> to amend the budget, but its authority is very limited.</li> <li>No, the legislature does not have any authority <i>in law</i> to amend the budget.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf">http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf</a>  Ley Organica de Administracion Financiera del Sector Publico: Art. 38</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  The legislature can only redistribute resources among the different programs, but it can not amend the total amount of the budget proposal.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C
<p>81. What is the most detail provided in the appropriation (expenditure budget) approved by the legislature?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The approved budget includes program-level detail.</li> <li>The approved budget includes departmental totals and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs).</li> <li>The approved budget includes only departmental totals.</li> <li>The approved budget includes less information than departmental totals or the approved budget is not released to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1020&amp;Itemid=124">http://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=doc_view&amp;gid=1020&amp;Itemid=124</a>  Proyecto de Ley de Presupuesto 2009: Titulo 2, Capitulo 2 (Presupuesto de Gastos) [Draft 2009 Budget Law: Title 2, Chapter 2 (Expenditure Budget)].</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<b>Executive's Implementation of the Budget</b>	
<p>82. How often does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual expenditure (organized by administrative unit, economic classification and/or function)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every month.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual expenditure are not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  The <i>Ministerio de Finanzas</i> publishes a quarterly set of tables with information on the execution of budgeted resources. The frequency of this information is not reliable. By september 15 of 2009, the Ministry had only published information on the first quarter of 2009. In terms of the OBI methodology, an acceptable In-Year Report must be released no more than three months after the covered period. In this sense, the tables produced by the Ministry are not acceptable as In-Year Reports. When they release these documents, they do present some of the desirable features of this type of documents.  Tables on quarterly expenditure by november 27th, 2009:  <a href="http://portal.mppef.gob.ve/uploads/8b/30/8b30c61abef06774f4fb5622a10b7db9/Resultado-Financiero2009.xls">http://portal.mppef.gob.ve/uploads/8b/30/8b30c61abef06774f4fb5622a10b7db9/Resultado-Financiero2009.xls</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>83. What share of expenditure is covered by in-year reports on actual expenditure (organized by administrative unit, economic classification and/or function)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, in-year reports cover all expenditures.</li> <li>Yes, in-year reports cover at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures.</li> <li>Yes, in-year reports cover less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>No in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>84. What is the most detail provided in the in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by <i>administrative unit</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by administrative unit contain program-level detail.</li> <li>b. The in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by administrative unit contain departmental totals and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs).</li> <li>c. The in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by administrative unit contain only departmental totals.</li> <li>d. The in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by administrative unit are not released to the public, not produced, or contain less information than departmental totals.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>85. Do the in-year reports released to the public compare actual year-to-date expenditure with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, comparisons are made for all expenditures.</li> <li>b. Yes, comparisons are made for at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures.</li> <li>c. Yes, but comparisons are made for less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No, comparisons are not made, or no in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>86. How often does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are released at least every month.</li> <li>b. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>c. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>d. In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>87. What share of revenue is covered by the in-year reports on actual revenue collections?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of all sources of revenue.</li> <li>b. In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of at least two-thirds of, but not all, sources of revenue.</li> <li>c. In-year reports cover actual revenue collections of less than two-thirds of revenue sources.</li> <li>d. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are not released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>88. Do the in-year reports released to the public compare actual year-to-date revenue collections with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, comparisons are made for all revenue sources.</li> <li>b. Yes, comparisons are made for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue sources.</li> <li>c. Yes, but comparisons are made for less than two-thirds of revenue sources.</li> <li>d. No, comparisons are not made, or no in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>89. Does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual borrowing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least every month.</li> <li>b. Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>c. Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>d. No, in-year reports on actual borrowing are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>90. Do in-year reports released to the public on actual borrowing present information related to the composition of government debt (such as interest rates on the debt, maturity profile of the debt, and currency denomination of the debt) for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information related to the composition of government debt is presented.</li> <li>b. Yes, key additional information is presented, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some additional information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, additional information related to the composition of government debt is not presented, or such in-year reports on borrowing are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>91. For in-year reports on actual expenditure released to the public by the executive, how much time typically elapses between the end of the reporting period and when the report is released (e.g., are quarterly reports released less than 4 weeks after the end of the quarter)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Reports are released 1 month or less after the end of the period.</li> <li>b. Reports are released 2 months or less (but more than 1 month) after the end of the period.</li> <li>c. Reports are released more than 2 months after the end of the period.</li> <li>d. In-year reports are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>92. Does the executive release to the public a mid-year review of the budget that discusses the changes in economic outlook since the budget was enacted?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the mid-year review includes an extensive discussion of the economy that includes a revised forecast for the full fiscal year and its effects on the budget.</li> <li>b. Yes, the mid-year review includes a discussion of the economy, but it lacks some details.</li> <li>c. Yes, the mid-year review includes a discussion of the economy, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, the mid-year review does not include a discussion of the economy, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>93. Does the executive release to the public a mid-year review of the budget that includes updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated expenditure estimates for the full fiscal year, providing extensive information on why estimates have changed from the original enacted levels.</li> <li>b. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but some details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>c. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but important details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>d. No, the mid-year review does not include updated expenditure estimates for the budget year, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>94. What is the most detail provided in the mid-year review for expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The mid-year review includes program-level detail for expenditures.</li> <li>b. The mid-year review includes departmental totals (or functional totals) and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs).</li> <li>c. The mid-year review includes only departmental totals (or functional totals).</li> <li>d. The mid-year review includes less information than departmental totals (or functional totals) for expenditures, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>
<p>95. Does the executive release to the public a mid-year review of the budget that includes updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated revenue estimates for the full fiscal year, providing extensive information on why estimates have changed from the original enacted levels.</li> <li>b. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of revenue, but some details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>c. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of revenue, but important details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>d. No, the mid-year review does not include updated revenue estimates for the budget year, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>

<p>96. Does the executive seek input from the legislature when the executive shifts funds between administrative units (except when the amounts are below a certain <i>minimal</i> level specified in law or regulation)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the executive seeks approval from the legislature before shifting funds between administrative units.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive gives prior notification to the legislature before shifting funds, giving the legislature an opportunity to block or modify the proposed adjustment.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive seeks legislative approval, but only after the shift of funds has been implemented.</li> <li>d. No, the executive shifts funds between administrative units without seeking input from the legislature, or the amount allowed under the law or by regulation is significantly large enough to undermine public scrutiny and accountability (please describe arrangements below).</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf">http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf</a>  Ley Orgánica de Administración Financiera del Sector Público: Art. 52</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>C</p>
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<p>97. During the past year, have there been credible reported instances in which the procurement of goods and services has not followed an open and competitive process in practice?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were no credible reported instances of procurement failing to follow an open and competitive process in practice during the past year.</li> <li>The procurement of goods and services frequently followed an open and competitive process in practice, but there were some reported instances of irregularities.</li> <li>The procurement of goods and service followed an open and competitive process in many instances, but there were significant reported examples of irregularities.</li> <li>No, the procurement process was not open and competitive in practice.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> In theory, the procurement process can be open and competitive but in practice the process is not transparent. An example of this being so is the discretionary execution of resources in the Fondo de Desarrollo Nacional (FONDEN), which does not meet for any of the procurement procedures stated in law.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>98. When does the legislature typically approve supplemental budgets?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplemental budgets are approved before the funds are expended, or the executive rarely proposes a supplemental budget (please specify).</li> <li>Supplemental budgets are approved after the funds are expended, or the executive implements supplemental budgets without ever receiving approval from the legislature (please specify).</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u> <a href="http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf">http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf</a> Ley Orgánica de Administración Financiera del Sector Público: Art. 52</p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Supplementary budgets are approved before the funds are expended.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>99. In most years, how large are supplemental budget requests relative to the size of the original budget?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplemental budgets are generally equal to 2 percent or less of the original budget.</li> <li>Supplemental budgets are generally equal to more than 2 percent, but less than 5 percent, of the original budget.</li> <li>Supplemental budget are generally equal to more than 5 percent, but less than 10 percent, of the original budget.</li> <li>Supplemental budget are generally equal to 10 percent or more of the original budget, or insufficient information is available to the public regarding the amount of supplemental budgets.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The additional expenditures approved by the legislature in the last years have long surpassed the 10% of the budget.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>100. When does the legislature approve the expenditure of contingency funds or other funds for which no specific purpose was identified in the budget?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expenditures are approved before the funds are expended, or contingency funds or other funds with no specific purposes are not included in the budget.</li> <li>Expenditures are approved after the funds are expended, but before the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>Expenditures are approved after the end of the fiscal year, for example in the next budget.</li> <li>Such expenditure takes place without legislative approval.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u> <a href="http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf">http://www.ula.ve/cdcht/cdcht/pdf/loaf.pdf</a> Ley Orgánica de Administración Financiera del Sector Público: Art. 53</p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The executive uses these resources without consent of the legislature. This fund can only amount up to 1% of the Budget's ordinary income.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<b>Executive's Year-end Report and the Supreme Audit Institution</b>	
<p>101. How long after the end of the budget year does the executive release to the public a year-end report that discusses the budget's actual outcome for the year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The report is released six months or less after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>b. The report is released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>c. The report is released more than 12 months after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>d. The executive does not release a year-end report.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The Memoria y Cuenta was released on February, 2009.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>102. In the year-end report have the data on the actual outcomes been audited?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, all data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>b. At least two-thirds, but not all, of the data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>c. Less than two-thirds of the data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>d. None of the data on actual outcomes has been audited, or a year-end report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> None of the information has been audited by the release of this document. The audit report was released on august, 2009.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>103. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for expenditures?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  Memoria y Cuenta Ministerio de Finanzas 2008:  <a href="http://www.mppf.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf">http://www.mppf.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf</a>  Pp. 10</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C
<p>104. What level of detail is the focus of the explanation of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for expenditures presented in the year-end report?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The explanation of the differences between the enacted expenditure levels and the actual outcome focuses on the program level.</li> <li>The explanation focuses on departmental totals (or functional totals) or some lower level of detail (but not the program level in all cases).</li> <li>The explanation focuses on a higher level of aggregation than departmental totals (or functional totals).</li> <li>No explanation of the differences is provided, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  Memoria y Cuenta Ministerio de Finanzas 2008:  <a href="http://www.mppf.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf">http://www.mppf.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf</a>  Pp. 10</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C

<p>105. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u>  Memoria y Cuenta Ministerio de Finanzas 2008:  <a href="http://www.mppf.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf">http://www.mppf.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf</a>  Pp. 9</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>C</p>
<p>106. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  This explanation is not presented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>

<p>107. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the original estimates of non-financial data and the actual outcome?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Such an explanation is not presented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>108. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the original performance indicators and the actual outcome?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Performance indicators are not produced.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>109. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the enacted level of funds intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  Memoria y Cuenta Ministerio de Finanzas 2008:  <a href="http://www.mppef.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf">http://www.mppef.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf</a>  Pp. 73</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>C</p>
<p>110. Does the year-end report present the actual outcome for extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on the actual outcome for extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key issues, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information is not presented on extra-budgetary funds, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  Memoria y Cuenta Ministerio de Finanzas 2008:  <a href="http://www.mppef.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf">http://www.mppef.gob.ve/uploads/f8/46/f8463c0d7c6dee1c3847e109d04f6b25/MEMORIA-Y-CUENTA-2008_3384.pdf</a>  Pp. 167</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>
<p><b>The Independence and Performance of the Supreme Audit Institution</b></p>	

<p>111. How long after the end of the fiscal year are the final annual expenditures of national departments audited and (except for secret programs) released to the public?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Final audited accounts are released to the public six months or less after the end of the fiscal year.</li><li>b. Final audited accounts are released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year.</li><li>c. Final audit accounts are released more than 12 months, but within 24 months of the end of the fiscal year.</li><li>d. Final audited accounts are not completed within 24 months after the end of the fiscal year or they are not released to the public.</li><li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li></ul> <p><u>Citation:</u> www.cgr.gob.ve Informe de Gestión 2008</p> <p><u>Comment:</u> This document was presented to the Asamblea Nacional on August 2009.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<b>b</b>
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<p>112. Two years after the completion of a fiscal year, what percentage of annual expenditures has been audited and (except for secret programs) the report(s) released to the public?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All expenditures have been audited and the reports released to the public.</li> <li>Expenditures representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditure have been audited.</li> <li>Expenditure representing less than two-thirds of expenditure have been audited.</li> <li>No expenditures have been audited, the reports have not been released to the public, or was released more than 24 months after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  Gaceta Oficial [Official Gazette] 38.496 - 09/08/2009  <a href="http://www.tsj.gov.ve/gaceta/Agosto/090806/090806-38496-28.html">http://www.tsj.gov.ve/gaceta/Agosto/090806/090806-38496-28.html</a>  Informe de Gestión 2008  <a href="http://www.cgr.gov.ve">http://www.cgr.gov.ve</a></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  All the expenditure audits conducted by the <i>Contraloría</i> in a given year are presented in the Informe de Gestión. This consistently represents less than two thirds of the expenditures since 2007, when the responsibility for auditing was shifted to the Internal Auditing Units.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C
<p>113. Does the annual audit report(s) that is released to the public include an executive summary?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The annual audit report(s) includes one or more executive summaries summarizing the report's content.</li> <li>No, the audit report(s) does not include an executive summary, or such reports are not released to the public, or was released more than 24 months after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.cgr.gob.ve">www.cgr.gob.ve</a>  Informe de Gestión 2008</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a

<p>114. Must a branch of government other than the executive (such as the legislature or the judiciary) give final consent before the head of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) can be removed from office?</p> <p>a. Yes, the head of the SAI may only be removed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before they are removed.</p> <p>b. No, the executive may remove the head of the SAI without the final consent of the judiciary or legislature.</p> <p>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.analitica.com/BITBLIO/anc/constitucion1999.asp">http://www.analitica.com/BITBLIO/anc/constitucion1999.asp</a>  [Constitution] - Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela:  Art. 279</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  The head of the SAI can only be removed by the legislature.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>115. Does the Supreme Audit Institution release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds?</p> <p>a. Yes, the SAI releases to the public audits of all extra-budgetary funds.</p> <p>b. Yes, the SAI releases audits representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, extra-budgetary funds.</p> <p>c. Yes, the SAI releases audits representing less than two-thirds of all extra-budgetary funds.</p> <p>d. No, the SAI does not release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds, or it does not audit such funds, or such a report was released more than 24 months after the end of the fiscal year.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u>  The SAI doesn't audit the extrabudgetary funds.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>116. Beyond the established year-end attestation audits, does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) have <i>the discretion in law</i> to undertake those audits it may wish to?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SAI has full discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.</li> <li>The SAI has significant discretion, but faces some limitations.</li> <li>The SAI has some discretion, but faces considerable limitations.</li> <li>The SAI has no discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.constitucion.ve/constitucion.pdf">http://www.constitucion.ve/constitucion.pdf</a>      Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela: Art. 287.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>117. Who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The budget of the SAI is determined by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body), and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.</li> <li>The budget of the SAI is determined by the executive, and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.</li> <li>The budget of the SAI is determined by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body), but the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.</li> <li>The budget of the SAI is determined by the executive, but the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u>  <a href="http://www.constitucion.ve/constitucion.pdf">http://www.constitucion.ve/constitucion.pdf</a>      Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela: Art. 273</p> <p><u>Comment:</u>      The Contraloría only accounts for 0.104% of the budget. It's one of the major state's agencies that receive the least resources. In the last years, its budget has consistently decreased paralleled to a continual increase in the size of the State. Budgetary constraints are a clear reason for it's reduced amount of acts on controlling corruption, even when the Contraloría has financial and functional autonomy.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	C

<p>118. Does the Supreme Audit Institution employ designated staff for undertaking audits of the central government agencies pertaining to the security sector (military, police, intelligence services)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The SAI employs designated staff, and the staffing levels are broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.</li><li>b. The SAI employs designated staff, but the staffing levels are a cause of some constraints to the SAI in fulfilling its mandate.</li><li>c. The SAI employs designated staff, but the staffing levels pose a significant constraint on the SAI in fulfilling its mandate.</li><li>d. The SAI does not employ designated staff for auditing of the security sector, or does not undertake audits of the security sector.</li><li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li></ul> <p><u>Citation:</u> <a href="http://www.constitucion.ve/constitucion.pdf">http://www.constitucion.ve/constitucion.pdf</a> Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela: Art. 291</p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The SAI does not employ any staff to audit the security and defense sectors. The constitution established that a different independent agency would be in charge of undertaking audits on the security and defense sectors.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
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<p>119. Does the Supreme Audit Institution maintain formal mechanisms of communication with the public to receive complaints and suggestions to assist it in determining its audit program (that is, to identify the agencies, programs, or projects it will audit)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the SAI maintains mechanisms of communication with the public, and received more than 100 communications from the public during the past year.</li> <li>b. Yes, the SAI maintains mechanisms of communication with the public, and received less than 100 but more than ten communications from the public during the past year.</li> <li>c. Yes, the SAI maintains mechanisms of communication with the public but it receives very little (less than ten) or no information from the public on potential subjects for audit.</li> <li>d. No, the SAI does not maintain any formal mechanisms of communication with the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable.</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u> www.cgr.gob.ve Informe de Gestión 2008</p> <p><u>Comment:</u> According to the Informe de Gestión 2008, more than 500 communications with the public were held, some of which lead to particular audits and acts by the Contraloría.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	a
<p>120. Does a committee of the legislature view and scrutinize the audit reports?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, all audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>b. Yes, most audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>c. Yes, some audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>d. No, audit reports are not scrutinized.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The "Comité de Contraloría" of the Asamblea Nacional views and scrutinizes most audit reports produced by the Contraloría.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	b

<p>121. Does the executive make available to the public a report on what steps it has taken to address audit recommendations or findings that indicate a need for remedial action?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the executive reports publicly on what steps it has taken to address audit findings.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive reports publicly on most audit findings.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive reports publicly on some audit findings.</li> <li>d. No, the executive does not report on steps it has taken to address audit findings.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d
<p>122. Does either the Supreme Audit Institution or the legislature release to the public a report that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, a comprehensive report is released regularly that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations.</li> <li>b. Yes, a report is released, covering key audit recommendations, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, a report is released, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, a report is not produced or it is prepared for internal purposes only (please specify).</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> Such a report is not produced.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	d

<p>123. Are audit reports of the annual accounts of the security sector (military, police, intelligence services) and other secret programs provided to the legislature (or relevant committee)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, legislators are provided with detailed audit reports related to the security sector and other secret programs.</li> <li>b. Yes, legislators are provided audit reports on secret items, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, legislators are provided audit reports on secret items, but they lack important details.</li> <li>d. No, legislators are not provided audit reports on secret items, or secret programs are not audited (please specify).</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> According to officials in the Comité de Contraloría of the Asamblea Nacional, no audit report on the accounts of the security sector are provided to that committee.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></b></p>	<p>d</p>
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**Additional Comments:**

*Please use this section to add any additional comments.*

The mayor transparency problem in the venezuelan budget process is the existence of massive extrabudgetary funds, which are both accumulated and executed by the government without any monitoring or supervision whatsoever. The questionnaire does not seem to ponder this element with the appropriate weight, which may end up overestimating the degree of transparency and openness of the venezuelan budgetary practices.

Among the most important Extrabudgetary funds are:

Fonden [National Development Fund]

Fondespa [Fund for Social and Economic Development]

Fondo Súbito [special hydrocarbon tax fund]

Fondo Miranda

Fondo Chino

Fondos Binacionales (binational funds: Iran, Russia, Belarus).