LATE CULTURE OF CORPORATE FINANCIAL REPORTING IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The objective of the study is to assess the culture of financial reporting practice amongst publicly quoted companies in Nigeria. Data were obtained from the annual reports and accounts of Seventy Five (75) companies quoted on the Nigerian Stock Exchange from 2000 to 2010. We discovered that there were more cases of late corporate financial reporting (539 cases) with mean time lag of 339 days than early corporate financial reporting (286 cases) with mean time lag (150 days) with a difference of 189 days, which was statistically significant at the 5 % level. Late corporate financial reporting was prevalent in Nigeria as in New Zealand (Curtis, 1976) unlike in Turkey (Turel, 2010) and Malaysia (Hashim & Abdul-Rahman, 2011).

To ensure early corporate financial reporting, it was recommended that the supervisory authorities should make the mandatory financial reporting time to be 90 days after the balance sheet dates for all public companies. Stiffer penalties (in terms of monetary fines) should be imposed against non-compliance.

Keywords: Early Reporters, Late Reporters And Corporate Financial Reporting.

JEL Classifications: G3, G21, G24.