THE ELECTRONIC ACCOUNTING DISCLOSURE IN THE QUALITY OF ACCOUNTING INFORMATION “AN APPLIED STUDY ON THE INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES IN AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE”

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: The aim of this study is to identify the effect of the electronic accounting disclosure (availability of scientific efficiency, knowledge and Awareness, environmental and legal requirements, the safety and technological requirements of electronic) on the quality of accounting information “An applied study on industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock Exchange”.

Theoretical framework: Amman Stock Exchange as other sectors, Electronic Disclosure apply and the resulting provision of data to all users in the quantity and quality as well as standardization of the timing of the presentation of data, which means reducing the asymmetry of data and then achieve the performance efficiency that depends on all data related all companies.

Design/methodology/approach: The descriptive statistics used to describe questionnaire responses of the study sample using SPSS statistical analysis. The study population was made up of Finance, accounting, and auditing managers of (50) public shareholding companies in Amman stock exchange, until 2021.

Findings: The results show that in the Industrial Companies enlisted in Amman Stock Exchange, Electronic accounting disclosure its aspects (availability of scientific efficiency, knowledge and Awareness, environmental and legal requirements, the safety and technological requirements of electronic) had a statistically significant influence on Quality of Accounting Information.

Research, Practical & Social implications: The implications for of the adoption of electronic disclosure will raise to the confidentiality and reliability of accounting data. This is the purpose of electronic disclosure, since it decreases the possibility of misrepresentation and manipulation of accounting data provided electronically. Further study can involve many other sectors, where the current study was only limited to industrial companies. confidentiality of information.

Originality/value: This study among the first highlighted the impact of electronic disclosure in the Quality of Accounting Information An Applied Study on the Industrial Companies in Amman Stock Exchange.

Keywords: electronic accounting disclosure, quality of accounting information.

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A DIVULGAÇÃO CONTÁBIL ELETRÔNICA NA QUALIDADE DAS INFORMAÇÕES CONTÁBEIS "UM ESTUDO APLICADO NAS EMPRESAS INDUSTRIAIS DA BOLSA DE VALORES DE AMÂN"

RESUMO

Objetivo: O objetivo deste estudo é identificar o efeito da divulgação contábil eletrônica (disponibilidade de eficiência científica, conhecimento e conscientização, requisitos ambientais e legais, segurança e requisitos tecnológicos eletrônicos) sobre a qualidade das informações contábeis "Um estudo aplicado sobre empresas industriais listadas na Bolsa de Valores de Amân".

Estrutura teórica: A Bolsa de Valores de Amân, assim como outros setores, aplica a divulgação eletrônica e o consequente fornecimento de dados a todos os usuários em quantidade e qualidade, bem como a padronização do momento da apresentação dos dados, o que significa reduzir a assimetria dos dados e, então, alcançar a eficiência do desempenho que depende de todos os dados relacionados a todas as empresas.

Projeto/metodologia/abordagem: A estatística descritiva foi usada para descrever as respostas do questionário da amostra do estudo usando a análise estatística do SPSS. A população do estudo foi composta por gerentes de finanças, contabilidade e auditoria de (50) empresas de capital aberto na bolsa de valores de Amân até 2021.

Conclusões: Os resultados mostram que, nas empresas industriais listadas na Bolsa de Valores de Amân, a divulgação da contabilidade eletrônica em seus aspectos (disponibilidade de eficiência científica, conhecimento e conscientização, requisitos ambientais e legais, segurança e requisitos tecnológicos da eletrônica) teve uma influência estatisticamente significativa na qualidade das informações contábeis.

Pesquisa, implicações práticas e sociais: As implicações da adoção da divulgação eletrônica aumentarão a confidencialidade e a confiabilidade dos dados contábeis. Esse é o objetivo da divulgação eletrônica, pois ela diminui a possibilidade de deturpação e manipulação dos dados contábeis fornecidos eletronicamente. Um estudo mais aprofundado pode envolver muitos outros setores, já que o estudo atual se limitou apenas a empresas industriais.

Originalidade/valor: Originalidade/valor: Este estudo, entre os primeiros, destacou o impacto da divulgação eletrônica na qualidade das informações contábeis. Um estudo aplicado sobre as empresas industriais da Bolsa de Valores de Amân.

Palavras-chave: divulgação eletrônica de informações contábeis, qualidade das informações contábeis.

1 INTRODUCTION

In the light of the tremendous advancement in the domain of communication and information technology, electronic accounting Disclosure was introduced, where it was affected by a number of cultural, social, political, economic and technological variables that
contributed to forming the manifestations of that developments. Communication and technological variables resulted in a convergence between the temporal and spatial variables which, in turn, urged businesses organizations to make advantage of the tremendous technological potentials and communications via the internet in the speed of disseminating information (Kuye, 2015), (Sran et al.,2021).

Over the past few years, organizations have computerized their accounting information systems in light and the rapid technological development. That is why several countries, including Jordan countries, have sped up their efforts to embrace such a mechanism and make it mandatory in light of the development. (A. Jameel et al., (2017), Sharif Salameh, (2015) The topic of transparency and disclosure gained more attention during recent years, due to several reasons, including that the stakeholders and interested parties make their decisions based on the information published by organizations, where these parties don't have the authority to obtain the required information directly from organizations. Undoubtedly, the shortage in the requirements of electronic disclosure makes the data and information stated in financial lists misleading due to not disclosing the information that reveals the actual situation of the organization which, in turn, leads to lack of confidence in this information (Bay, Ball, (2012), (Berberib and Benboualia, (2018), Ismail, M. D.(2022).

During the last period, several countries provided instructions to capital markets about the electronic disclosure of financial reports and lists developed based on the financial criteria. Those countries considered that as a basic rule in the business of capital markets. Indeed, these instructions could have an important role in constructing the capabilities of markets which, in turn, benefits all the concerned parties. Accordingly, the increased electronic accounting disclosure was accompanied by an influential diversity in the practices of disclosure and allowed the possibility of making comparisons. Diversity was evident in the site's content, in terms of the disclosed financial and non-financial data as well as the way of introducing data in the websites of companies in a way that provides benefit for the users of reports (Hindi, 2010, and Sharman, N, (2013), Alassuli, A., Alzobi, M. (2023).

The researcher attempts through the current research to raise awareness of the significance of electronic disclosure and the quality of computerized accounting information through of the questionnaire directed to a sample of An Applied Study on the Industrial Companies in Amman Stock Exchange.
According to a review of the literature, Due to the tremendous changes in communication and information technology as well as the accelerated increase in using the internet by companies, those companies started using the internet as a method for distributing financial lists in the light of what is known as electronic accounting disclosure. Using the electronic accounting disclosure the results of business will lead to an effectiveness in exchanging information, either inside the companies themselves or between companies or with stakeholders which, in turn, leads to achieving the required efficacy. The topic of electronic accounting disclosure via the internet represented a new domain of study among researchers and concerned parties. This topic has become one of the most important and newest accounting topics that started gaining more study and analysis by researchers in the domain of accounting. This case is attributed to the impact of attempts performed by some individuals to interpret the motives behind using the internet as a contemporary technical method in electronic accounting disclosure as well as analyzing the costs and revenues of using the internet for the purposes of disclosure, in addition to some statistics on the electronic sites of companies and their analysis Nahar et al (2018), Truant et al (2017). Therefore, the study problem lies in identifying the impact of electronic accounting disclosure on the quality of accounting information in the Jordanian industrial companies?

2 OBJECTIVES

This study aimed to achieve the following main objective:

The aim of this study is to identify the effect of the electronic accounting disclosure (availability of scientific efficiency, knowledge and Awareness, environmental and legal requirements, the safety and technological requirements of electronic) on the quality of accounting information “An applied study on industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock Exchange”.

3 JUSTIFICATION

The importance of this study lies in the importance of the topic itself, considering it as one of the modern subjects in the contemporary financial literature, and the importance of the role played by electronic disclosure, in terms of in several economic domains, where it provides accurate data and promotes the performance of companies, contributes to increasing the confidence of shareholders and protecting their investments through the
sufficient, fair and appropriate disclosure that determine the relationship between the different parties with the organization. Therefore, the importance of this study lies from the need of the different parties concerned with the economics of companies to the valid and appropriate information to determine their future and current situations. The study importance also lies in the scientific enrichment that could be added in this domain, especially that the Arabic studies in general and the Jordanian studies in particular are relatively few, as far as the researcher knows. The study importance also lies in the novelty of this topic at the academic level, in terms of debate and application. Therefore, it is necessary to shed some light on this topic to explain it. The researcher hopes that the current study will be a scientific addition and open new horizons to researchers in this domain.

4 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Literature review presented and analyzed in terms of their relation to the research variables in preparation for deriving its hypotheses and emphasizing its importance, through the following:

Lee and Blouin, (2022) investigated the experimental tests for the model of electronic disclosure in the non-profit organizations. In order to test the model, the researcher used the questionnaire, which was distributed to the study sample individuals. The results revealed that the executive manager of the organization and the organizational characteristics are the main causes towards adopting the method of electronic disclosure in non-profit organizations, where electronic disclosure increases information for several reasons. First, when the executive manager thinks that the internet contributes in the report of transparency and accountability; second, when the organization realizes that the internet is a strategic communication method; when employees have a sufficient technical experience.

Keliwon et al, (2018) dealt with the determinants of the establishing a quantitative scale to the situation relating to the disclosure of financial reports via the internet; i.e. the extent of using the internet to display the financial reports, taking into consideration the newest rules and regulations of financial reports via the internet throughout the world, in addition to the relevant experimental studies. The results of the study revealed that disclosure of financial reports via the internet has a positive correlation with the value of the company. Al-Mabrouk (2019) also study aimed to identify the impact of the organization’s commitment to the ethics of workers in the means of protection and security for electronic banking services. The researcher recommended the need to give incentives
to employees who act based on moral values and beliefs to encourage them to do so, and to hold training courses on electronic technology crimes and mechanisms of verification, in addition to educating all those interested in security means and informing. Abdalmuttaleb, (2017) showed the importance of measuring the level of financial disclosure via the internet in the states of Arab Gulf Council. The results revealed that the level of financial disclosure via the internet was high; however, it varies based on country and industry. Bhatia & Kaur, (2016) also analyzed the practices of electronic disclosure adopted by banks in the private and public sectors in India. The results revealed that the degree of disclosure in the banks of the private sector was better than the public sector, since the websites of the banks of private sector are better in terms of content and opportunities in comparison with the public sector. Erlane, K. G., et al, (2014) tested of the extent to which the developers of financial reports in Malaysia recognize the extended language of financial reports, which is considered as a new instrument for preparing the financial reports, where it provides electronic disclosure about them, as well as identifying the extent of its compatibility with the systems of accounting information. The results revealed that most developers of financial reports view the language of reports as a useful instrument for the quality of financial reports, where it corresponds with the systems of accounting information existing in organizations.

5 RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

The First Hypothesis: H1: There are not statistically significant effect of cognitive bases (availability of scientific efficiency, knowledge and Awareness) for electronic accounting disclosure in the quality of accounting information in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange at a significance level of (0.05).

The Second Hypothesis: H2: There are not statistically significant effect of environmental and legal requirements of electronic accounting disclosure in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange at a significance level of (0.05).

The Third Hypothesis: H3: There are not statistically significant effect of the safety and technological requirements of electronic accounting disclosure in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange at a significance level of (0.05).
6 METHODOLOGY

The study used the descriptive approach as well as the field analytical approach. At the level of descriptive research, the researcher conducted the office survey and reviewed field and theoretical researches and studies in order to identify the basics and requirements upon which the theoretical framework is based and determine the most important previous studies that support the current study based their cognitive content. As for the field analytical research, the comprehensive exploratory survey was conducted and data were analyzed to answer the items of the study questionnaire. The study used the appropriate statistical methods, and the study relied on the data provided by questionnaire.

6.1 THE STUDY POPULATION AND SAMPLE

The study population consisted of all the public shareholding industrial companies in Jordan that are enlisted in Amman stock exchange until the end of 2021, with a total of (82) companies.

The study sample was selected of Finance, accounting, and auditing managers using the purposive sample way by choosing the companies that didn't stop trading their stocks in Amman stock exchange, with a total of (50) public shareholding companies in Amman stock exchange.

6.2 THE INSTRUMENT OF COLLECTING THE PRIMARY DATA

The researcher developed the instrument for collecting field data from the study sample individuals based on a review of the relevant literature and the previous research attempts, where the researcher developed a complete instrument that measures the study questions.

6.3 THE VALIDITY OF THE STUDY INSTRUMENT

The researchers tested apparent validity and identified the relevant questions in order to verify the extent of consistency between the questionnaire's items in order to reflect the study questions and objectives. To do so, the questionnaire was introduced to a number of arbitrators with good practical and scientific experience from the faculty members in the specialty of accounting, where their suggestions and recommendations were taken into consideration, and modifications were made based on their opinions.
6.4 THE RELIABILITY OF THE STUDY VARIABLE

Cronbach alpha was used to measure the reliability of the study instrument, where it reached (89.6%) for all the items of the questionnaire; this is considered as a good percentage that refers to high reliability, since it is higher than the accepted percentages (60%) (Al-Zou'bi and Al-Talafiha, 2004).

6.5 THE STATISTICAL METHODS USED IN THE STUDY

The study used the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) to calculate the results based on the statistical processing which included simple frequencies, percentages, mean, standard deviations, Cronbach alpha to measure internal consistency and normal distribution test, One-Sample Kolmogorov - Smirnov and one simple t-test to test the hypotheses and generalize the study results.

7 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Normal distribution test:

In order to verify whether the data follow the natural distribution, the study used (One-Sample Kolmogorov - Smirnov Test). This is an important test in the case of testing hypotheses, since the majority of coefficient tests entail that the distribution should be natural for the null hypothesis and the alternative hypothesis.

Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test employs the (sig) that emerges in the outcomes of (SPSS), and is used for accepting or rejecting the null hypothesis; the null hypothesis is rejected if (α≤0.05), while it is accepted if (α>0.05).

The following table shows the test results, where the value of significance level for each axis was (0.05), which means that the data follow the normal distribution. In this case, the coefficient tests should be used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Number of items</th>
<th>Z-value</th>
<th>Sig. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive bases for electronic disclosure</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.977</td>
<td>0.292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal and environmental requirements for electronic disclosure</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.967</td>
<td>0.318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security and technological requirements for electronic disclosure</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.683</td>
<td>0.885</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Prepared by researchers
7.1 FINDINGS

t-test is used to analyze the items of the questionnaire at a significance level of (0.05). According to this test, if the significance level of all the items of the questionnaire was more than (0.05), then we say that there are no statistically significant differences at (0.05) and accept the null hypothesis. However, if the significance level of all the items of the questionnaire was less than (0.05), then we say that there are statistically significant differences at (0.05) and accept the alternative hypothesis.

**The first hypothesis: H1:** There are not statistically significant effect of cognitive bases (availability of scientific efficiency, knowledge and Awareness) for electronic accounting disclosure in the quality of accounting information in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange at a significance level of (0.05).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>t-test value</th>
<th>Sig. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Electronic disclosure is considered better than traditional disclosure and an alternative to it.</td>
<td>3.663</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>37.403</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Electronic disclosure satisfies the needs of users of financial statements and accounting information.</td>
<td>3.641</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>32.846</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Electronic disclosure is considered of low quality as compared to traditional disclosure.</td>
<td>3.587</td>
<td>1.18</td>
<td>30.550</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Electronic disclosure is a way to create competitive advantage among companies.</td>
<td>3.565</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>25.330</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Electronic accounting disclosure enhances consistency in using the same accounting policies.</td>
<td>3.565</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>21.692</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>The speed of obtaining the electronically-disclosed information as compared to paper-disclosed information.</td>
<td>3.500</td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>31.516</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Electronic accounting disclosure improves the quality of financial reporting information.</td>
<td>3.577</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>29.013</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Prepared by researchers

Table (1) revealed that the values of t-value for the items of cognitive bases of electronic disclosure ranged between (21.692 - 37.403). The significance level for the items of cognitive bases of electronic disclosure was (0.0000), which means that the items are statistically significant at (0.05).

Accordingly, the null hypothesis is rejected, while the alternative hypothesis is accepted, which states:

There are statistically significant effect of cognitive bases (availability of scientific efficiency, knowledge and Awareness) for electronic accounting disclosure in the quality of
accounting information in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange at a significance level of (0.05).

**The second hypothesis: H2:** There are not statistically significant effect of environmental and legal requirements of electronic accounting disclosure in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange at a significance level of (0.05).

Table (3) Means, standard deviations and the test value for the responses of the study sample individuals to the items of the legal and environmental requirements for electronic disclosure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>t-test value</th>
<th>Sig. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Electronic accounting disclosure can be applied in Jordan.</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>33.19</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Implementing accounting disclosure is necessary and important.</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>28.20</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 The necessity of issuing the standards of electronic disclosure that are related to the Jordanian environment.</td>
<td>3.348</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>26.81</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Applying electronic disclosure contributes to improving the reality of the job of accounting and auditing in Jordan.</td>
<td>3.217</td>
<td>1.22</td>
<td>23.24</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Applying electronic disclosure in Jordan contributes to increasing the credibility and transparency of accounting information.</td>
<td>3.366</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>23.24</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Electronic disclosure makes financial reports more understandable.</td>
<td>3.370</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>22.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Prepared by researchers

Table (3) revealed that the values of t-value for the items of legal and environmental requirements of electronic disclosure ranged between (22.11 - 33.19). The significance level for the items of legal and environmental requirements of electronic disclosure was (0.0000), which means that the items are statistically significant at (0.05).

Accordingly, the null hypothesis is rejected, while the alternative hypothesis is accepted, which states:

There are statistically significant effect of environmental and legal requirements of electronic accounting disclosure in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange at a significance level of (0.05).

**The first hypothesis: H1:** There are not statistically significant effect of cognitive bases (availability of scientific efficiency, knowledge and Awareness) for electronic accounting disclosure in the quality of accounting information in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange at a significance level of (0.05).
Table (4) revealed that the values of t-value for the items of security and technological requirements of electronic disclosure ranged between (30.229 - 45.686). The significance level for the items of security and technological requirements of electronic disclosure was (0.0000), which means that the items are statistically significant at (0.05). Accordingly, the null hypothesis is rejected, while the alternative hypothesis is accepted, which states:

There are statistically significant effect of cognitive bases (availability of scientific efficiency, knowledge and Awareness) for electronic accounting disclosure in the quality of accounting information in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange at a significance level of (0.05).

**8 CONCLUSION RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

First, the results related to electronic accounting disclosure in the quality of accounting information. Even though the results generally confirmed that the level of evaluating the responses of the study sample individuals in the industrial companies enlisted in Amman stock exchange for the importance of electronic disclosure in the quality of accounting information was high, these items varied, where some values were higher than average means and others were less than that.

Second, the results revealed that there are statistically significant indicators between the opinions of the categories of the study sample individuals concerning the availability of
practical and scientific efficacy as well as knowledge, where they are considered amongst the requirements of electronic disclosure.

Third, the results revealed that there are statistically significant indicators between the opinions of the categories of the study sample individuals concerning the availability of legal and environmental bases, where they are considered amongst the requirements of electronic disclosure.

Fourth, the results revealed that there are statistically significant indicators between the opinions of the categories of the study sample individuals concerning the availability of security and technological bases, where they are considered amongst the requirements of electronic disclosure.

8.1 CONCLUSION

This study aimed at analyzing the Electronic accounting Disclosure in the Quality of Accounting Information An Applied Study on the Industrial Companies in Amman Stock Exchange using a sample of (50) public shareholding companies in Amman stock exchange. The study attempts to show the interrelationships between the level The Electronic accounting Disclosure and the statement of its effects on Quality of Accounting Information An Applied Study on the Industrial Companies in Amman Stock Exchange as well as to show its reflections on stakeholders. The study concluded that Electronic accounting Disclosure indices contribute to achieving many benefits as a result of what disclosure provides in the Quality of Accounting Information according to Quality of Accounting Information reports for the company’s strategy and the extent to which it is "related to the company’s" ability to maximize value, which is effectively reflected on the quality of the company’s profits and reducing the cost of its capital. This is achieved through the financial and non-financial data it provides and performance evaluation indices such as maintaining the safety of the environment surrounding the company and preserving natural resources, understanding the societal classes and expectations of stakeholders, and the threats that the company is likely to face besides the effects resulting from them in the future. Thus, it helps in making decisions and reducing the inconsistency of data. Therefore, the study recommends: 1) The need to set standards for electronic disclosure based on international standards of accounting with emphasis on the existence of principles for corporate governance through a clear legislation that will be a reference for all companies in a manner that achieves fairness and transparency in the presentation and circulation of information to all relevant parties. 2) The necessity of
conducting further researches and studies about the topic of electronic disclosure in other sectors, where the current study was only limited to industrial companies. 3) The necessity of establishing a specific management for the electronic websites of companies and pursuing its affairs to ensure the confidentiality of information.
REFERENCES


