

Influence of Awareness and Roles and Responsibilities of the Board on the Quality of Financial Reporting in Jordanian Insurance Companies

Mohammad WahpeAbedalhadi Alkasawneh¹, Dr. B.H. Suresh²

¹Research Scholar, Department of Studies in Commerce, University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysuru

²Professor (Retd.), Department of Studies in Commerce, University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysuru

Abstract

Corporate governance involves nearly every aspect of management, from action plans and internal controls to performance assessment and corporate transparency, because it offers the foundation for achieving a company's objectives. The primary stakeholder influencing corporate governance is the Board of Directors. The roles and responsibilities of the board influence the quality of financial reporting. Financial Reporting Quality (FRQ) is ensured by the Board of Directors, which also refers to the degree to which a financial statement provides adequate and authentic information about the company's financial position and performance. Hence, the study investigated the impact of the Board of directors on financial reporting quality in Jordanian Insurance Companies. The qualitative characteristics considered for the study were awareness and roles and responsibilities of the Board. The empirical evidence was obtained using the regression technique and a one-sample test based on a data sample of 19 Jordanian insurance companies. The study found that the awareness of the Board influences improving the quality of financial reporting.

Keywords: Awareness, Board of Directors, Financial Reporting Quality, Roles, and Responsibilities

Introduction

A company's direction and control are governed by rules, procedures, and processes known as corporate governance. The system of rules, regulations, policies, and resolutions to determine company behaviour is referred to as governance. Corporate governance balances the interests of a company's various stakeholders, including shareholders, management, customers, suppliers,

financiers, the government, and the general public. Corporate governance involves nearly every aspect of management, from action plans and internal controls to performance assessment and corporate transparency, because it offers the foundation for achieving a company's objectives (Klein, 2002).

The primary stakeholder influencing corporate governance is the Board of Directors. Directors are chosen by shareholders or appointed by other board members to represent the company's shareholders. The Board makes important decisions, such as corporate officer selections, executive salary, and dividend policy (Salau Abdulmalik et al., 2015). When shareholder votes demand particular ethical or environmental concerns to be emphasized, board responsibility can go beyond financial optimization.

Internal and independent members are frequently a part of the Board. Independents are beneficial to governance because they help match shareholder interests with insiders by diluting the concentration of power (Salau Abdulmalik et al., 2015). Independent directors do not have the same ties as insiders, but they are picked for their experience managing or leading huge corporations. Principal stockholders, founders, and executives are examples of insiders.

Financial Reporting Quality (FRQ) shows information regarding a business activity and its anticipated cash flows to inform the shareholders about its operations (Verdi, 2006). Financial reporting quality also refers to the degree to which a financial statement provides information that is fair and authentic about an enterprise's financial position and performance (Tang, Chen & Zhijun, 2008). It can be deduced that for a financial statement to be regarded as possessing a high-quality attribute, it must provide authentic/genuine information about the economic performance, financial position, and operations of cash flows to keep shareholders and other stakeholders informed of the entity's current situation.

Good corporate governance establishes a visible system of rules and regulations with matched incentives for shareholders, directors, and executives. Corporate governance is something that most businesses aspire towards. Many shareholders believe that a company's profitability isn't enough; it must also exhibit good corporate citizenship through environmental awareness, ethical behaviour, and solid corporate governance standards (Klein, 2002).

Review of Literature

Hope Osayantins Aifuwa et al, (2019) investigated the impact of board characteristics on financial reporting quality of listed manufacturing firms. At a 5% level of significance, the data revealed that board expertise was statistically significant and favourably associated to financial reporting quality, but board independence and board diversity were shown to be insignificantly related to financial reporting quality. According to the findings, board qualities have a partial impact on financial reporting quality. As a result, the researchers suggested that the number of non-executive members on the board be lowered in order to reduce excessive management costs.

Amneh Alkurdi et al (2019) explored the impact of Corporate Governance attributes on risk disclosure for a sample of Jordanian listed firms. The findings show that Corporate Governance characteristics (such as board size and independent board (non-executive directors), separation of roles, and audit committee meetings) have a statistically favourable impact on Voluntary Risk Disclosure (VRD), but not managerial ownership. Furthermore, the findings show that independent directors have a considerable beneficial impact on Mandatory Risk Disclosure (MRD), and audit committee size has a significant positive impact on MRD. Finally, the findings reveal that leverage and profitability are two of the most important determinants of Risk Disclosure. The findings show that enterprises with more stringent compliance with obligatory regulations are more likely to post Risk Disclosure.

Samuel Akpovwe Eyenubo et al, (2017) examined the impact of the audit committee on financial reporting quality in Nigerian listed companies. Other aspects in Nigeria's unique conditions that are crucial to the quality of audit committees have been highlighted by the study. These include the ability to ask pertinent questions and exposure to seminars and workshops, the need to compensate members, the need to allow members to serve for at least three years; the need for the audit committee chairmanship to be held by a shareholder representative; the need for the audit committee membership to be tilted in favour of more shareholders; and the need for the appointment and remuneration of auditors to be handled by audit committee members. The study looked at the fabric of corporate governance and how to incorporate it into

financial information systems that ensure accurate financial reporting. The function of corporate governance in ensuring the quality of financial reporting has recently been debated. Increasing corporate governance regulation is a crucial component in improving financial reporting quality, according to the study.

Sigit Sukmono (2015) investigated the impact of commissioners on corporate value in this study. The hypothesis's findings revealed that the quality of financial reporting has a considerable favourable impact on commissioners. The integrity of the company's accounting and financial reporting system is the responsibility of the Board of Commissioners (OECD, 2004:25). According to Young (1998), corporate governance refers to the procedures for improving the quality of financial statements, indicating the role of commissioners in improving company performance by preventing earnings manipulation and ensuring the accuracy of information about the company's operations. The fundamental goal of financial reporting, according to the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), is to offer information on high-quality financial statements of the economic entity, particularly about finances utilised for making economic decisions.

David Wanyonyi Wanyama and Tobias Olweny (2013) investigated the effects of Corporate Governance on the financial performance of listed insurance companies in Kenya. This study looked at how board size, board composition, CEO duality, and leverage affect the financial performance of Kenya's publicly traded insurance companies. Return on Assets (ROA) and Return on Equity (ROE) were used to assess the firm's performance (ROE). The study discovered a close link between the Corporate Governance practises studied and the financial performance of the companies. The size of the board of directors of insurance companies listed on the NSE has been found to have a negative impact on their financial performance. There was a link between board composition and financial performance of the company. The most important part of board composition, however, was the board members' experience, abilities, and knowledge, not whether they were executive or non-executive directors. Leverage was also found to have a positive impact on the financial performance of insurance companies listed on the NSE. In terms of CEO duality, the study discovered that separating the roles of CEO and Chair had a favourable impact.

Tristan Nguyen and Philipp Molinari, (2013) analysed the extent to which the accounting model for insurance liabilities introduced in the Exposure Draft is qualified to generate useful information to users of financial statements. Furthermore, the researchers recommended about which fields need further adjustments in order to comply with decision usefulness as the overriding principle.

Khaled Erieg Abu-Risheh et al. (2012) analyzed the relationship between the good corporate governance practices on the financial reporting quality of Jordanian listed companies. Specifically, focus is on the board's independence, board's transparency, and separate audit committee. The findings of the study show that good corporate governance practises have an impact on financial reporting quality, with independence being one of the determinants of financial reporting quality success. Furthermore, the independent variables can explain the variance in the dependent variable, and a multiple regression test was used to examine the relationship between board of directors' transparency, board of directors' independence, and audit quality.

Doron Nissim, (2010) reviews the accounting practices of insurance companies, discusses the financial analysis and valuation of insurers, summarizes relevant insights from academic research, and provides related empirical evidence. The research is divided into three components. The first section covers the insurance industry's activities and structure, as well as products and services, distribution channels, competition, regulation, taxation, and risk and risk management. The second segment looks at how insurance operations are reflected in financial statements. The study provides evidence on the item's economic significance, reviews related US accounting principles, discusses earnings quality issues, describes analyses and red flags that inform on the item's quality, reviews selected research findings, and describes the primary differences between International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and US GAAP for each item from insurers' financial statements.

Audit committees, according to Munoz (2005), are responsible for pre-approving audit and non-audit services, overseeing auditor engagement and compensation, and establishing procedures to receive, retain, and treat employee complaints, as well as having the authority to engage special counsel or expert advice. Committee members require financial literacy or general awareness of

the company's key economic, operating, and financial risks. Members of the committee should be aware of the distinction between the committee's oversight duty and management's decision-making function, and they must be willing to question management when necessary.

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze the influence of awareness and roles and responsibilities of the Board on the quality of financial reporting.

Hypotheses for the Study

Hypothesis 1

H₀₁: The board's awareness does not influence improving the quality of financial reporting.

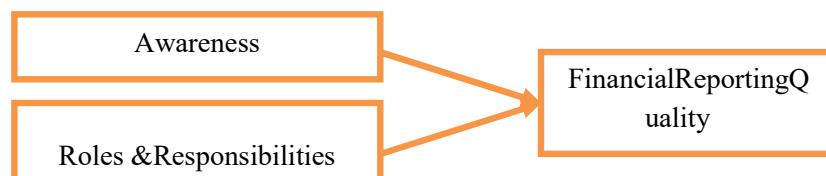
H₁: The board's awareness influences improving the quality of financial reporting.

Hypothesis 2

H₀₂: The roles and responsibilities of the Board do not influence the quality of financial reporting.

H₂: The roles and responsibilities of the board influence the quality of financial reporting.

Conceptual Framework



The financial reporting quality in Jordanian insurance was significantly affected by awareness and roles and responsibilities such as developing account reconciliations, data compilation, developing regular financial statements, designing periodical, weekly, and quarterly sales reports, coordinating with various departments, and performing variation analyses for all technical accounting problems to frame accounting policies, and developing annual capital expenditure budget.

Research Design

Sample Size: The study was conducted considering the insurance companies operating in Jordan. 19 insurance companies were chosen based on a random sampling method for the analysis. The number of respondents considered for the study was 142 respondents who were the Board of Directors of the selected insurance companies.

Table 1: Insurance Companies in Jordan

| | |
|--|--|
| Al-Nisr Al-Arabi Insurance Company | Islamic Insurance Company |
| Arab Assurers Insurance Company | Jerusalem Insurance Company |
| Arab Jordanian Insurance Company | Jordan French Insurance Company |
| Arab Life and Accident Insurance Company | Jordan Insurance Company |
| Arab Orient Insurance | Jordan International Insurance Company |
| Arabia Insurance Company | Middle East Insurance |
| Delta Insurance Company | Philadelphia Insurance Company |
| Euro Arab Insurance Group | Safwa Insurance Company |
| Holy Land Insurance Company | The National Insurance Company |
| | United Insurance Company |

Source: Amman Stock Exchange (ASE), Compiled by the Researcher

Data Collection Methods

This study was based on primary data. 19 insurance companies listed on Amman Stock Exchange (ASE) were surveyed with a structured questionnaire using 5 points Likert Scale measurement from the Board of Directors of the respective insurance companies.

171 questionnaires were initially distributed to the respondents. When they were returned, 29 questionnaires were incomplete and were not considered for the study. Hence, 142 respondents were the sample assessed for the study. The collected data was analyzed using SPSS software to derive expected results and develop findings and suggestions. The Board of Directors from 19 companies were professional and skilled with strategic direction. Collecting data from the Board of Directors who possessed the required competency and added value to the companies gave a helpful insight into analyzing the impact of the Board of Directors on Financial Reporting Quality in Insurance Companies in Jordan.

Variables of the Study

The variables of the study were divided into:

Dependent Variables: Financial Reporting Quality.

Independent Variables: Awareness, Roles, and Responsibilities.

Analysis of the Influence of Awareness and Roles and Responsibilities of the Board on the Quality of Financial Reporting

AWARENESS OF THE BOARD

Table 2(a): Awareness

| | | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|--|---|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| The Board has an awareness of comparability of financial information | F | 0 | 13 | 2 | 99 | 28 |
| | % | 0 | 9.2 | 1.4 | 69.7 | 19.7 |
| The Board has an awareness of the verifiability of financial information | F | 2 | 7 | 14 | 73 | 46 |
| | % | 1.4 | 4.9 | 9.9 | 51.4 | 32.4 |
| The Board has an awareness of timeliness of financial information | F | 3 | 10 | 3 | 100 | 26 |
| | % | 2.1 | 7.0 | 2.1 | 70.4 | 18.3 |
| The Board has an awareness of understandability of financial information | F | 2 | 4 | 16 | 64 | 56 |
| | % | 1.2 | 2.8 | 11.3 | 45.1 | 39.4 |
| The Board has an awareness of decision usefulness of financial information | F | 0 | 11 | 27 | 55 | 49 |
| | % | 0 | 7.7 | 19.0 | 38.7 | 34.5 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----|------|------|------|------|
| The Board has an awareness of the reliability of financial information | F | 0 | 12 | 29 | 47 | 54 |
| | % | 0 | 8.5 | 20.4 | 33.1 | 38.0 |
| The Board has an awareness of the materiality of financial information | F | 0 | 26 | 16 | 47 | 53 |
| | % | 0 | 18.3 | 11.3 | 33.1 | 37.3 |
| The Board make efforts in creating awareness about qualitative characteristics of financial reporting among the executives of the company | F | 2 | 16 | 23 | 79 | 22 |
| | % | 1.4 | 11.3 | 16.2 | 55.6 | 15.5 |

Source: Primary Source, Compiled by the Researcher

The table shows respondents' opinions concerning awareness in financial reporting in selected Jordanian Insurance Companies. 99 respondents (69.7%) agreed, 28 respondents (19.7%) strongly agreed, 13 respondents (9.2%) disagreed, and 2 respondents (1.4%) remained neutral about the statement that the board is aware of financial information comparability. 73 respondents (51.4%), 46 respondents (32.4%) strongly agreed, 7 respondents (4.9%) disagreed, 2 respondents (1.4%) strongly disagreed, and 14 respondents (9.9%) remained neutral about the statement that the board is aware of the verifiability of financial information. 100 respondents (70.4%) agreed, 26 respondents (18.3%) strongly agreed, 10 respondents (7%) disagreed, 3 respondents (2.1%) strongly disagreed, and 3 respondents (2.1%) remained neutral about the statement that the board is aware of the timeliness of financial information. 64 respondents (45.1%) agreed, 56 respondents (39.4%) strongly agreed, 4 respondents (2.8%) disagreed, 2 respondents (1.2%) strongly disagreed, and 16 respondents (11.3%) remained neutral about the statement that the board is aware of the understandability of financial information. 55 respondents (38.7%) agreed, 49 respondents (34.5%) strongly agreed, 11 respondents (7.7%) disagreed and 27 respondents (19%) remained neutral about the statement that the board is aware of the decision usefulness of financial information. 47 respondents (33.1%) agreed, 54 respondents (38%) strongly agreed, 12 respondents (8.5%) disagreed and 29 respondents (20.4%) remained neutral about the statement that the board is aware of financial information reliability. 47 respondents (33.1%) agreed, 53 respondents (37.3%) strongly agreed, 26 respondents (18.3%) disagreed and 16 respondents (11.3%) remained neutral about the statement that the board is aware of the materiality of financial information. 79 respondents (55.6%) agreed, 22 respondents (15.5%) strongly agreed, 16 respondents (11.3%) disagreed, 2

respondents (1.4%) strongly disagreed and 23 respondents (16.2%) remained neutral about the statement that the Board makes efforts in creating awareness about qualitative characteristics of financial reporting among the executives of the company. It was concluded that the Board of Directors of Insurance Companies in Jordan was aware of the financial information disclosed to the public.

Table 2(b): Descriptive Statistics

| Statements | N | Mean | Std. Dev. | Variance |
|---|-----|------|-----------|----------|
| The Board has an awareness of comparability of financial information | 142 | 4.00 | 0.763 | 0.582 |
| The Board has an awareness of the verifiability of financial information | 142 | 4.08 | 0.863 | 0.745 |
| The Board has an awareness of the timeliness of financial information | 142 | 3.96 | 0.824 | 0.679 |
| The Board has an awareness of understandability of financial information | 142 | 4.18 | 0.847 | 0.718 |
| The Board has an awareness of decision usefulness of financial information | 142 | 4.00 | 0.923 | 0.851 |
| The Board has an awareness of the reliability of financial information | 142 | 4.01 | 0.964 | 0.929 |
| The Board has an awareness of the materiality of financial information | 142 | 3.89 | 1.103 | 1.216 |
| The Board make efforts in creating awareness about qualitative characteristics of financial reporting among the executives of the company | 142 | 3.73 | 0.908 | 0.825 |

Source: Primary Source, Compiled by the Researcher

The table shows the descriptive statistics of the awareness in financial reporting in selected Jordanian Insurance Companies. The mean and standard deviation of the Board has awareness of comparability of financial information was 4 and 0.763, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board has awareness of verifiability of financial information was 4.08 and 0.863, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board has awareness of timeliness of

financial information was 3.96 and 0.824, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board has an awareness of the understandability of financial information were 4.18 and 0.847, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board has awareness of decision usefulness of financial information was 4 and 0.923, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board has awareness of the reliability of financial information was 4.01 and 0.964, respectively. The board's mean and standard deviation awareness of the materiality of financial information was 3.89 and 1.103, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board's efforts to create awareness about qualitative characteristics of financial reporting among the company executives was 3.73 and 0.908, respectively.

Testing of First Hypothesis:

H₀: The awareness of the Board does not influence improving the quality of financial reporting

H₁: The awareness of the Board influences improving the quality of financial reporting

Regression test was carried out considering independent variable, awareness of the Board and dependent variable, financial reporting quality with an aim to measure the influence of awareness of the Board in improving the quality of financial reporting in Insurance Companies of Jordan.

Table 2(c): Results of Regression

| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate |
|-----------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Awareness | .654 ^a | .427 | .066 | .194 |

a. Predictors: (Constant), Awareness of Board

Source: Primary Source, Output from SPSS

From the above regression analysis, the value of R Square is 0.427 explaining the variation in financial reporting quality explained by the awareness of the Board is to the extent of 42.7%. Further, the adjusted R square value was found to be 0.066, which indicated the significance of explanatory variables. The value obtained for the standard error of an estimate is 0.194.

Table 2(d): Results of ANOVA

| Model | | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|-------|------------|----------------|-----|-------------|-------|-------------------|
| 1 | Regression | .000 | 1 | .000 | 4.265 | .000 ^b |
| | Residual | 98.25 | 141 | .321 | | |
| | Total | 98.25 | 142 | | | |

a. Dependent Variable: FinRepo

b. Predictors: (Constant), Aw

Source: Primary Source, Output from SPSS

The Regression ANOVA table revealed significant mean differences in awareness and financial reporting components. F test revealed a significant mean difference with an F value of 4.265 and a significance level of 0.000, which is less than p (0.05), showing statistical significance. Hence, there was a statistical significance between awareness and financial reporting quality.

Table 2(e): Unstandardized and Standardized Coefficients with t values and significance

| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients | t | Sig. |
|-------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|------|
| | | B | Std. Error | Beta | | |
| 1 | (Constant) | 3.179 | .214 | | 12.956 | .000 |
| | Avg_Aw | 4.211 | 3.341 | 1.201 | 2.517 | .000 |

a. Dependent Variable: Avg_FinRepo

Source: Primary Source, Output from SPSS

The regression coefficient of Awareness is 4.211 indicating a positive effect of Awareness on Financial Reporting Quality which is statistically significant as the significance value is lesser than 0.05 (5%). This shows that an increase in Financial Reporting Quality by one unit increases awareness in Jordanian insurance companies by 4.211 units.

Regression Equation:

$$\text{Financial Reporting Quality} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 (\text{Awareness})_1 + e$$

$$\text{Financial Reporting Quality} = 3.179 + 4.211 (\text{Awareness})_1 + e$$

Table 2(f): One-Sample Test

| | N | Mean | Std. Deviation | Std. Error Mean |
|-----------|-----|-------|----------------|-----------------|
| Awareness | 142 | 3.721 | .46393 | .02678 |

The statistics in the above table show that the overall mean of constructs related to awareness of the Board is 3.721 with a standard deviation of 0.463. The low standard deviation shows that the data points are clustered closer to the mean.

| | Test Value = 3.4 | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-----|-----------------|-----------------|---|-------|
| | t | df | Sig. (2-tailed) | Mean Difference | 95% Confidence Interval of the Difference | |
| | | | | | Lower | Upper |
| Awareness | 20.21 | 142 | .000 | .321 | .540 | .693 |

Source: Primary Source, Output from SPSS

When a one-sample t-test was performed to verify the influence of awareness of the Board in improving the quality of financial reporting, taking 3.4 as standard, it was found that the observed mean for awareness was 3.721. 't' value of 20.21 was found to be significant with a p-value of .000. In other words, **the awareness of the Board influenced improving the quality of financial reporting. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected, and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.**

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

Table 3(a): Roles and Responsibility

| | | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|--|---|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| The roles and responsibilities of the Board are separate from those of the staff | F | 2 | 7 | 58 | 42 | 33 |
| | % | 1.4 | 4.9 | 40.8 | 29.6 | 23.2 |
| The Board takes the primary responsibility for setting the accounting policies | F | 9 | 20 | 20 | 82 | 11 |
| | % | 6.3 | 14.1 | 14.1 | 57.7 | 7.7 |
| The Board members seldom assume roles and responsibilities | F | 7 | 43 | 23 | 42 | 27 |
| | % | 4.9 | 30.3 | 16.2 | 29.6 | 19.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| that belong to the staff | | | | | | |
| The Board delegates the authority to the chief executive to carry out the activities according to the policies | F | 4 | 32 | 19 | 45 | 42 |
| | % | 2.8 | 22.5 | 13.4 | 31.7 | 29.6 |
| The Board members do not influence the staff behavior | F | 17 | 29 | 25 | 42 | 29 |
| | % | 12.0 | 20.4 | 17.6 | 29.6 | 20.4 |
| The Board has set up a proper reporting system | F | 9 | 12 | 36 | 59 | 26 |
| | % | 6.3 | 8.5 | 25.4 | 41.5 | 18.3 |
| The Board takes the approval of financial statements from the independent auditors before reporting | F | 11 | 29 | 16 | 55 | 31 |
| | % | 7.7 | 20.4 | 11.3 | 38.7 | 21.8 |

Source: Primary Source, Compiled by the Researcher

The table shows respondents' opinions concerning roles and responsibilities in financial reporting in selected Jordanian Insurance Companies. 42 respondents (29.6%) agreed, 33 respondents (23.2%) strongly agreed, 7 respondents (4.9%) disagreed, 2 respondents (1.4%) strongly disagreed and 58 respondents (40.8%) remained neutral about the statement that the roles and responsibilities of the Board are separate from those of the staff. 82 respondents (57.7%) agreed, 11 respondents (7.7%) strongly agreed, 20 respondents (14.1%) disagreed, 9 respondents (6.3%) strongly disagreed and 20 respondents (14.1%) remained neutral about the statement that the Board takes the primary responsibility for setting the accounting policies. 42 respondents (29.6%) agreed, 27 respondents (19%) strongly agreed, 43 respondents (30.3%) disagreed, 7 respondents (4.9%) strongly disagreed and 23 respondents (16.2%) remained neutral about the statement that the Board members seldom assume roles and responsibilities to the staff. 45 respondents (31.7%) agreed, 42 respondents (29.6%) strongly agreed, 32 respondents (22.5%) disagreed, 4 respondents (2.8%) strongly disagreed and 19 respondents (13.4%) remained neutral about the statement that the Board delegates the authority to the chief executive to carry out the activities according to the policies. 42 respondents (29.6%) agreed, 29 respondents (20.4%) strongly agreed, 29 respondents (20.4%) disagreed, 17 respondents (12%) strongly disagreed and 25 respondents (17.6%) remained neutral about the statement that the Board members do not influence the staff's behavior. 59 respondents (41.5%) agreed, 26 respondents (18.3%) strongly agreed, 12 respondents (8.5%) disagreed, 9 respondents (6.3%) strongly disagreed and 36 respondents (25.4%) remained neutral about the statement that the Board has set up a proper

reporting system. 55 respondents (38.7%) agreed, 31 respondents (21.8%) strongly agreed, 29 respondents (20.4%) disagreed, 11 respondents (7.7%) strongly disagreed and 16 respondents (11.3%) remained neutral about the statement that the Board takes the approval of financial statements from the independent auditors before reporting. It was concluded that the roles and responsibilities of the Board played a significant part in the financial reporting system of Insurance Companies in Jordan as it ensured good governance.

Table 3(b): Descriptive Statistics

| No. | Statements | N | Mean | Std. Dev. | Variance |
|------------|--|----------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | The roles and responsibilities of the Board are separate from those of the staff | 142 | 3.68 | 0.933 | 0.870 |
| 2. | The Board takes the primary responsibility for setting the accounting policies | 142 | 3.46 | 1.036 | 1.073 |
| 3. | The Board members seldom assume roles and responsibilities that belong to the staff | 142 | 3.27 | 1.221 | 1.491 |
| 4. | The Board delegates the authority to the chief executive to carry out the activities according to the policies | 142 | 3.63 | 1.206 | 1.455 |
| 5. | The Board members do not influence the staff behavior | 142 | 3.26 | 1.319 | 1.740 |
| 6. | The Board has set up a proper reporting system | 142 | 3.57 | 1.081 | 1.169 |
| 7. | The Board takes the approval of financial statements from the independent auditors before reporting | 142 | 3.46 | 1.253 | 1.570 |

Source: Primary Source, Compiled by the Researcher

The table shows the descriptive statistics of the roles and responsibilities in financial reporting in selected Jordanian Insurance Companies. The mean and standard deviation of the roles and responsibilities of the Board are separate from those of the staff was 3.68 and 0.933, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board taking the primary responsibility for setting the accounting policies was 3.46 and 1.036, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board members seldom assuming roles and responsibilities that belong to staff was 3.27 and 1.221, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board delegates the authority to the chief executive to carry out the activities according to the policies was 3.63 and 1.206, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board members who do not influence the staff behavior were 3.26 and 1.319, respectively. The board's mean and standard deviation set up a proper reporting system of 3.57 and 1.081, respectively. The mean and standard deviation of the Board's approval of financial statements from the independent auditors before reporting were 3.46 and 1.253, respectively.

Testing of Second Hypotheses

H₀₂: The roles and responsibilities of the Board does not influence the quality of financial reporting

H₂: The roles and responsibilities of the Board influences the quality of financial reporting

The regression test was carried out considering the independent variable, roles and responsibilities of the Board, and dependent variable, financial reporting quality, to measure the influence of roles and responsibilities of the Board in improving the quality of financial reporting in Insurance Companies in Jordan.

Table 3(c): Results of Regression

| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate |
|-------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | .857 ^a | .734 | 2.28 | .357 |

a. Predictors: (Constant), Avg_resp

Source: Primary Source, Output from SPSS

From the above regression analysis, the value of R Square is 0.734 explaining the variation in financial reporting quality explained by the roles and responsibilities of the Board is to the extent of 73.4%. Further, the adjusted R square value was 2.28, which indicated the significance of explanatory variables. The value obtained for the standard error of estimate is 0.357.

Table 3(d): Results of ANOVA

| Model | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|--------------|----------------|-----|-------------|-------|-------------------|
| 1 Regression | .417 | 1 | .475 | 3.214 | .006 ^b |
| Residual | 98.15 | 141 | .341 | | |
| Total | 98.567 | 142 | | | |

a. Dependent Variable: Avg_FinRepo

b. Predictors: (Constant), Avg_resp

Source: Primary Source, Output from SPSS

The Regressional ANOVA table revealed significant mean differences in roles and responsibilities and financial reporting components. F test revealed a significant mean difference with an F value of 3.214 and a significance level of 0.006, which is less than p (0.05), showing

statistical significance. Hence, there was a statistical significance between roles and responsibilities and financial reporting quality.

Table 3(e): Unstandardized and Standardized Coefficients with t values and significance

| Model | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients | t | Sig. |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|------|
| | B | Std. Error | Beta | | |
| 1 (Constant) | 4.156 | .208 | | 19.307 | .000 |
| Avg_resp | 3.157 | .042 | .049 | 1.575 | .006 |

a. Dependent Variable: Avg_FinRepo

Source: Primary Source, Output from SPSS

The regression coefficient of roles and responsibilities is 3.157, indicating a positive effect of roles and responsibilities on Financial Reporting Quality which is statistically significant as the significance value is lesser than 0.05 (5%). This shows that an increase in Financial Reporting Quality by one unit leads to an increase in the roles and responsibilities in Jordanian insurance companies by 3.157 units.

Regression Equation:

$$\text{Financial Reporting Quality} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 (\text{Roles and Responsibilities})_1 + e$$

$$\text{Financial Reporting Quality} = 4.156 + 3.157 (\text{Roles and Responsibilities})_1 + e$$

Table 3(f): One-Sample Test

| | N | Mean | Std. Deviation | Std. Error Mean |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|----------------|-----------------|
| Roles and Responsibilities | 142 | 3.686 | .597 | .0339 |

The statistics in the above table show that the overall mean of constructs related to roles and responsibilities of the Board is 3.686 with a standard deviation of 0.597. The low standard deviation shows that the data points are clustered closer to the mean.

| | Test Value = 3.4 | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----|-----------------|-----------------|---|-------|
| | t | df | Sig. (2-tailed) | Mean Difference | 95% Confidence Interval of the Difference | |
| | | | | | Lower | Upper |
| Roles and Responsibilities | 1.969 | 142 | .004 | .0286 | .0319 | .165 |

Source: Primary Source, Output from SPSS

When a one-sample t-test was performed to verify the influence of role and responsibilities of the Board in improving the quality of financial reporting, taking 3.4 as standard, it was found that the observed mean for role and responsibilities was 3.686. 't' value of 1.969 was found to be significant with a p-value of .004. **In other words, the roles and responsibilities of the board influence the quality of financial reporting. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected, and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.**

Conclusion

The study investigated the impact of the Board of directors on financial reporting quality in Jordanian Insurance Companies. The study found that there is a positive and significant impact board of directors on financial reporting quality in Jordanian Insurance Companies. In addition, the study found that there is a significant role for the Board of directors to oversee the preparation and publication of financial reports. This study also revealed the existence of some Jordanian companies that do not disclose full mandatory items, which leads to misleading the investor and not making an investment decision correctly. Hence, the concept of financial reporting has to be considered adequately by Jordanian Insurance Companies.

References:

- AmnehAlkurdi& Mohammad Aladwan (2019), The Impact of Corporate Governance on Risk Disclosure: Jordanian Evidence, Academy of Accounting and Financial Studies Journal, Research Article: 2019 Vol: 23 Issue: 1, Print ISSN: 1096-3685; Online ISSN: 1528-2635
- DavidWanyonyi Wanyama, Tobias Olweny (2013), "Effects of Corporate Governance on Financial Performance of Listed Insurance Firms in Kenya," Public Policy and

Administration Research,ISSN 2224-5731(Paper) ISSN 2225-0972(Online)Vol.3,No.4,2013

- Doron Nissim (2010). Analysis and Valuation of Insurance Companies.
- Hope OsayantinAifuwa&KemebradikemorEmbele, (2019), “Board Characteristics and Financial Reporting Quality”, Department of Accounting, University of Benin, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria.
- Khaled Erieg Abu-Risheh and Mo'taz Amin Al-Sa'eed, (2012), “The Impact of Good Corporate Governance Practices on Financial Reporting Quality: Empirical Evidence From Jordanian Listed Companies”.
- Klein, A. (2002). Audit committee, board of director characteristics, and earnings management. *Journal of accounting and economics*, 33(3), 375-400.
- SalauAbdulmalik, Ayoib Che Ahmad and Usman Baba Aliyu, (2015), “Financial Reporting Quality: The Role of Independent and Grey directors, Board Continuous Training and Internal Audit function”, *IPBJ Vol. 7(2)*, 40-57, 2015
- Samuel AkpovwreEyenubo, Mudzamir Mohammed & Mohammad Ali, (2017), “Audit Committee Effectiveness of Financial Reporting Quality in Listed companies in Nigeria Stock Exchange”, *TunkuPuteriIntanSafinaz School of Accountancy, Universiti Utara Malaysia*
- SigitSukmono, (2015), “Effect of The Board Of Commissioners Of Its Value Through Quality Of Financial Reporting”, *International Journal of Scientific & Technology Research*
- Tang, Q., Chen, H. and Lin, Z. (2016), "How to measure country-level financial reporting quality?", *Journal of Financial Reporting and Accounting*, Vol. 14 No. 2, pp. 230-265. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JFRA-09-2014-0073>
- Tristan Nguyen and Philipp Molinari, (2013), “Accounting for “Insurance Contracts” According to IASB Exposure Draft — Is the Information Useful?,*The Geneva Papers*, 2013, 38, (376–398) r 2013 The International Association for the Study of Insurance Economics 1018-5895/13

- Verdi, R. S. (2006), Financial reporting quality and investment efficiency. The Wharton School University of Pennsylvania.