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Study on Impact of Audit Committee on Organization Financial Performance

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Abstract: ***As of late, the job of review panels inside associations has acquired expanding consideration because of their urgent job in guaranteeing straightforwardness, responsibility, and powerful administration. This study means to investigate and examine the effect of review advisory groups on hierarchical execution, zeroing in on their capabilities, synthesis, and viability.***
Keywords: audit committee, effectiveness, Transparency, internal audit, external audit, Responsibility, Consistence with Regulations and Guidelines

I. INTRODUCTION

Review boards have played a significant part in the administration of organizations since their beginning in the mid 1940s, and their perceivability and commitments have significantly expanded in the beyond couple of years. Review advisory groups have been depicted as associations' gatekeepers of monetary respectability. According to an administrative point of view, the administrative organization enabled to manage the issuance and exchanging of protections of public companies, the Protections and Trade Commission (SEC), has been engaged with the foundation and oversight of review advisory groups in open companies since their starting years. An audit committee is a sub-group of a company's board of directors responsible for the oversight of the financial reporting and disclosure process. To be successful, the audit committee should be aware of the processes and internal controls in the organization. The committee must coordinate with the management team, independent auditor, and internal auditors to monitor the choice of accounting policies and principles and to ensure compliance with laws and regulations.

A. Research Objectives

1) To analysis Composition and Effectiveness of audit committee
2) To analysis the transparency of an accounting system with the presence of audit committee
3) To examine the Organizations with internal audit committees demonstrate better financial performance compared to those with external audit committees.
4) To understand the working of audit committee

B. Regulations

1) The audit committee must consist of independent members.
2) The audit committee is given the responsibility of selecting and overseeing the company's independent auditor.
3) Compensation is provided to any outside auditors or independent auditor engaged by the audit committee.
4) The audit committee is given the authority to engage advisors.
5) Processes must be in place for managing complaints related to the accounting practices.

The main review leader (CAE) ought to have immediate, unhindered admittance to the review advisory group and CEO as and when required.

The review advisory groups transmit will commonly incorporate the accompanying:

- Inner controls and chance administration frameworks
- The inside review process including arrangement and resourcing
- Budget summaries including administration articulations
- The external review process
- Consistence reports
- Administrative review reports
- Key execution information
- Whistleblowing
- Interchanges with investors in regards to its exercises

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C. Roles of an Auditor in Organization

1) Monitoring the accounting processes of an organisation An auditor periodically monitors and inspects a company's accounting books to verify that they are accurate and comprehensive
2) Complying with auditing guidelines
3) Preparing an audit report
4) Verifying protocols for borrowings and lending
5) Giving honest opinion of a process
6) Reporting fraud and helping investigation

D. Importance of Audit Committee

1) Financial Reporting and Oversite

The main role of a review panel is to give thorough oversight of the monetary detailing process. This includes guaranteeing that budget reports are precise, finished, and follow important regulations and guidelines. The advisory group audits huge bookkeeping and announcing issues, late expert and administrative declarations, and evaluates their possible effect on budget reports

2) Inside Controls and Hazard, The executives

Review councils are liable for assessing the organization's arrangement of interior controls. They guarantee that suitable strategies and cycles are set up to forestall and distinguish extortion, resource misappropriation, debasement, and fiscal summary misrepresentation.

By effectively observing gamble the executives rehearses, the council helps defend the association against monetary and functional risks.

3) Outer Examiner Oversight

The review panel chooses, redresses, and regulates crafted by the outside inspector. It guarantees the freedom of the examiner and surveys proposed review draws near. Significantly, CPAs report straightforwardly to the review board, not to the executives. The council likewise meets independently with outside examiners to talk about issues privately.

4) Morals and Consistence

The panel tends to charges or infringement of the organization's overarching set of principles speedily and reliably.

It safeguards people who report problematic way of behaving by representatives, advancing straightforwardness and accountability3.

5) Administrative Prerequisites

Compelling since April 2003, the Protections and Trade Commission (SEC) orders review advisory group necessities under the Sarbanes-Oxley Demonstration of 2002.

These prerequisites incorporate freedom of advisory group individuals, choice and oversight of autonomous bookkeepers, taking care of objections about bookkeeping practices, and position to draw in advisors1.

In outline, a viable review panel guarantees monetary uprightness, risk moderation, and moral direct, contributing essentially to an organization's general administration and financial backer trust.

6) Needed Audit Committee

Review boards are not needed in that frame of mind, as the requirement for a review council frequently relies upon different factors, for example, the organization's size, proprietorship structure, administrative prerequisites, and industry standards.

Public corporations, certain privately owned businesses, particularly bigger ones or those with complex tasks, may deliberately lay out review advisory groups as a feature of their administration design to upgrade straightforwardness, responsibility, and chance administration.

The choice to lay out a review board of trustees at last relies upon the organization's particular conditions, administrative climate, and administration targets.

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7) *Implementing of Audit Committee*

a) *Monetary Revealing Cycle:* The review board of trustees guarantees the precision and respectability of budget reports. It audits critical bookkeeping and detailing issues, late expert and administrative proclamations, and evaluates their effect on budget reports.

b) *Review Interaction:* The board of trustees surveys the aftereffects of reviews led by outer inspectors. It examines matters expected to be imparted to the board under commonly acknowledged reviewing principles. Furthermore, it handles coordination with inner review staff.

c) *Inward Controls:* The review board of trustees administers the organization's arrangement of inner controls. This incorporates controls over monetary revealing, data innovation security, and functional issues.

d) *Consistence with Regulations and Guidelines:* Guaranteeing consistence with legitimate and administrative necessities is another basic obligation. The council guarantees that the organization complies with pertinent regulations and guidelines.

e) *Reviewer Oversight:* The review panel selects, redresses, and directs crafted by outer inspectors. It meets independently with reviewers to examine matters that require private conversation.

f) *Spending plan Authority:* The advisory group has authority over its own financial plan and the spending plan for outside inspectors. These assurances assemble financial backer confidence in the exactness of monetary reports.

E. Recent Trends

1) *Canter around Network safety:* With the rising recurrence and refinement of digital dangers, review advisory groups have been focusing closer on network safety gambles. They are supposed to work intimately with IT and network protection specialists to evaluate and alleviate these dangers.

2) *Ecological, Social, and Administration (ESG) Worries:* There has been a developing accentuation on ESG factors in corporate administration. Review boards of trustees are supposed to consider ESG dangers and exposures, guaranteeing that the organization’s exercises line up with maintainability objectives and administrative necessities.

3) *Expanded Oversight of Inside Controls:* Review councils assume a pivotal part in regulating interior controls to forestall extortion, blunders, and misquotes in monetary revealing. Late patterns propose an uplifted spotlight on the viability of inner controls, particularly because of administrative examination and high-profile bookkeeping embarrassments.

4) *Upgraded Correspondence with Partners:* Review panels are progressively expected to discuss straightforwardly with investors, controllers, and different partners. This incorporates giving clear clarifications of monetary execution, risk the board practices, and review processes.

5) *Innovation Reception and Information Investigation:* As organizations embrace advanced change, review advisory groups are utilizing innovation and information examination apparatuses to improve review quality and effectiveness. This pattern includes putting resources into cutting edge examination, computerized reasoning, and computerization to further develop risk appraisal and evaluating techniques.

6) *Variety and Freedom:* There’s a developing acknowledgment of the significance of variety and freedom inside review boards of trustees. Organizations are focusing on the arrangement of assorted individuals with shifted foundations and ability to upgrade administration viability and direction.

7) *Administrative Consistence and Oversight:* Review panels are under expanded administrative examination, especially in areas with rigid consistence necessities like money, medical services, and energy. Consistence with guidelines like Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX) stays a key canter region for review boards.

8) *Transformation to Remote Workplace:* The shift to remote work because of the Coronavirus pandemic has required changes in review board of trustees rehearses. Boards of trustees have needed to track down ways of leading gatherings, supervise reviews, and keep up with correspondence successfully in a virtual climate.

These patterns highlight the developing job and obligations of review boards of trustees in guaranteeing successful corporate administration, risk the executives, and monetary straightforwardness. Review advisory groups genuinely must keep up to date with these turns of events and adjust their practices appropriately to actually satisfy their oversight obligations.

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II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Sl. No	Title of the paper	Name of the journal	Author	Year of Publication	Issue / Volume	Brief of the paper (60 to 80 words)	Takeaway (30 to 50 words)
1	"The Impact of Audit Committee Characteristics on Firm Performance: Evidence from Malaysia"	The Journal of Asian Finance, Economics and Business	MM Rahman, MR Meah, NU Chaudhory	2019	Volume 6	This study aims to investigate the relationship between audit committee characteristics (such as independence, expertise, and size) and firm performance in the context of Malaysian companies.	Systematic Examination
2	"The Role of Audit Committees in Earnings Management: Evidence from UK Firms"	Journal of Governance and Regulatio	Murya Habbash	2012	Volume 1	This research examines the effectiveness of audit committees in mitigating earnings management practices within UK firms, focusing on factors such as audit committee independence, financial expertise, and meeting frequency.	Determination of work in prograss
3	Audit Committee Effectiveness	Asian Journal of Accounting Research ahead-of-print	Zainab Tumwebaze	2021		This literature review provides an overview of various studies on audit committee effectiveness, including its composition, role in financial reporting oversight, and impact on corporate governance practices.	Advisory services to the management
4	Audit Committee Characteristics and Financial Reporting Quality: A Meta-Analysis	SSRN	Andrew J. Felo, Srinivasan Krishnamurthy, and Steven	2003		This meta-analysis aims to synthesize findings from multiple studies to assess the relationship between audit committee characteristics (e.g., independence, financial expertise) and financial reporting quality across different contexts and industries.	Audit committee composition, size
5	Effect of board of Commissioners and Audit Committee on the Firm Value with Mediating Effect Financial Reporting Quality	Research Journal of Finance and Accounting	Dede Hertina, Rezie Erizal, Azura Khairunnisa	2021		This study aims to analyze the effect of Good Corporate Governance as proxied by managerial ownership, institutional ownership, and audit committee on company value as proxied by Tobin's Q in textile and garment sector companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange for the period 2014-2018	Capital and revenue distinction
6	Research Journal of Finance and Accounting	Research Journal of Finance and Accounting	Dr.ALI KHALIFA ALI STELA	2017		This study aims to identify and provide empirical evidence regarding: The effect of the proportion of women directors on value of the firm. The effect of the proportion of independent directors on value of the firm. The influence of external audit committee on value of the firm	Expert advices, Done by independent person
7	Board Characteristics, Audit Committee and Ownership Structure Influence on Firm Performance of Manufacturing Firms in India	International Journal of Business and Economics Research	Palaniappan Gurusamy	2017		The study investigates the relationship and impact of corporate governance measures such as board characteristics, audit committee and Ownership Structure on the financial performance of the selected manufacturing firms listed in Bombay Stock Exchange	Ownership structure
8	The Impact of Board Directors, Audit Committee and Ownership on Financial Performance and Firms Value	Universal Journal of Accounting and Finance	Askar Garad1, Alni Rahmawati , Suryo Pratolo	2021		The purpose of this study is to gather and analyze recent research publications on the relationship between governance (board, audit, and ownership) and financial and corporate value. A rigorous literature review of current international articles is used in this paper	Help in decision making
9	, audit committee, ownership and financial performance – emerging trends from Thailand	journal is available on Emerald Insight	Omar Al Farooque	2019		This study aims to investigate the effects of corporate board and audit committee characteristics and ownership structures on market-based financial performance of listed firms in Thailand.	Verification of financial results
10	Effect of board of Commissioners and Audit Committee on the Firm Value with Mediating Effect Financial Reporting Quality	Research Journal of Finance and Accounting	Sigit Sukmono	2016		This study aims to examine and analyze; (1) the influence of board of Commissioners and audit committee on the financial reporting quality, (2) the influence of board of Commissioners and audit committee on the firm value, (3) the influence of financial reporting quality onthe firm value	Proper co- ordination and control

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III. COMPANY PROFILE

Sl. No	Title of the paper	Name of the journal	Author	Year of Publication	Brief of the paper (60 to 80 words)	Takeaway (30 to 50 words)
11	**Audit committee chairman characteristics and corporate performance: Empirical evidence from Saudi Arabia**	Growing Science™ is an online publisher of academic and scientific journals.	Y Al-Matari	2022	This paper jindicate that corporate governance (CG) characteristics, specifically audit committee chairman (ACC) characteristics (tenure and expertise) are positively related to the performance of finance companies.	Systematic Examination
12	**The effect of characteristics of audit committee and board on corporate profitability in Iran**	Journal of Economic	M Salehi, M Tahervafaei, H Tarighi	2018	The purpose of this paper is to evaluate the relationship between the characteristics of the audit committee and the board and profitability among the companies listed on the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE) in Iran.	Determination of work in prograss
13	Financial performance and audit committee characteristics: An empirical study on bahrain services sector	The journal of contemporary issues	MS Oudat, BJA ALI, MH Qeshta	2021	The main purpose of this research paper is to investigate the association of audit committee characteristics and financial performance among services sector corporation-listed in Bahrain Stock Exchange.	Advisory services to the management
14	Independent board, audit committee, risk committee, the meeting attendance level and its impact on the performance: A study of listed banks in Indonesia	International Journal of Business	TK Chou, AD Buchdadi	2017	this study also explain the important role of meeting attendance for the accounting based profitability of the bank. This study also found the critical role of the audit committee in the banking industry.	Audit committee composition, size
15	The impact of the audit committee and audit team characteristics on the audit quality: Mediating impact of effective audit process	SHH Al-taee, HH Flayyih	International Journal of Economic	2022	In this study audit team, and audit quality of the Iraqi textile industry and an efficient audit process. The study uses audit committee and audit team characteristics to generate policies linked to audit quality.	Capital and revenue distinction
16	Audit committee and Tobin's Q as a measure of firm performance among Jordanian companies	Jour of Adv Research	MM Dakhlallh, N Rashid, WAW Abdullah	2020	this study offers empirical evidence to assist stakeholders, executives, and stakeholders in their decision.	Expert advices, Done by independent person
17	Audit Committee Features and Profitability: The Case of Listed Pharmaceutical Companies in Bangladesh	Asian Journal of Accounting and Finance	SA Mili, F Hashim	2021	The aim of this research is to look at the effect of audit committee features on profitability of the listed pharmaceutical companies in Bangladesh	Ownership structure
18	The relationship between audit committee effectiveness and financial management in government ministries in Kenya	repository.uonbi.ac.ke	VJ Ruto	2015	The study concluded that audit committee meetings are held at least 4 times in a year in specified intervals increasing financial performance of the various ministries.	Help in decision making
19	Audit committee effectiveness and audit quality: the moderating effect of joint audit	Arab Gulf Journal	A Elmashtawy, MH Che Haat,	2023	study is to assess the moderating effect of joint audit (JA) on the relationship between audit committee effectiveness (ACEFF) and audit quality (AQ) in Egypt.	Verification of financial results
20	The impact of audit committee to enhance the financial reporting quality and transparency: Evidence from Sri Lankan listed firms	repository.rjt.ac.lk	CA Kankanamage, KV Aruna Shantha	2015	this study provide useful information to the firms about the importance of strong and effective audit committee to enhance the financial reporting quality and transparency and the stakeholders to investigate the effectiveness of the audit committee of the firm prior to have the confidence on the numbers appeared in the financial statements to make their decisions effectively.	Proper co- ordination and control

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Firm name: Sirmanth and veeresh Charted Accountants Established
Year: 2020 Address: No.17 & 18, 4th Floor, Hanumathra Arcade 60 Feet Road, Pattegarapalya, Vijayanagar North, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560079
This firm is mainly called as "Audit Firm", being an audit firm they have been servicing in various sector such as: Nidhi Company, NBFC, Information Technology, hotels and Restaurants, Hospitals, Education Institution, charitable Organisation.
Team structure

- Partners
- Employees
- Consultants
- Article assistants
- Other paid assistants

A. Services

1) Accounting / Book keeping
2) Internal and stock Audit
3) Direct and Indirect Tax
4) Statutory Registrations
5) Assessments and Litigation
6) Start –ups, Business
7) Statutory Certification
8) Virtual CFO

IV. RESEARCH DESIGN

A. Statement of the problem

The effectiveness of audit committees in contributing to organizational performance remains a subject of debate and investigation. Despite their widespread adoption, questions persist regarding the extent to which audit committees positively influence organizational outcomes such as financial performance, risk management, and compliance with regulations. Furthermore, variations in audit committee structures, practices, and regulatory environments across different industries and regions add complexity to assessing their impact.

B. Research Gap

1) What specific actions will be taken to address any identified weaknesses or deficiencies in internal controls?
2) Are there any potential conflicts of interest among members of the audit committee or with management?
3) What is the process for evaluating and selecting external auditors?
4) How does the audit committee ensure the independence and objectivity of the external auditors?
5) What is the committee's approach to overseeing risk management practices within the company?

C. Research Hypothesis

1) *Null Hypothesis (H0):* There is no significant relationship between the effectiveness of the audit committee and organizational financial performance.
2) *Alternative Hypothesis (H1):* There is a significant positive relationship between the effectiveness of the audit committee and organizational financial performance.
3) *Null Hypothesis (H0):* There is no difference in financial performance between organizations with internal audit committees and those with external audit committees.
4) *Alternative Hypothesis (H1):* Organizations with internal audit committees demonstrate better financial performance compared to those with external audit committees.

D. Scope of the Study

Understanding the impact of audit committees on organizational performance is crucial for regulators, boards of directors, and practitioners seeking to enhance corporate governance practices. By identifying the factors that contribute to the effectiveness of audit committees, this study aims to provide actionable insights for organizations to optimize their governance structures and improve overall performance.

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E. Research Methodology And Data Collection

This study will employ a quantitative technique. Data will be collected through a combination of surveys, and document analysis. Quantitative data analysis will involve statistical techniques such as Anova with two factor replication to examine the relationship between audit committee impact, difference of internal, external audit and organizational performance indicators.

- Population: 104 responses
- Sample design (sample size): Survey (100 population or more)
- Method of data collection- Primary data
- Instrument for data collection: Survey/Google form
- Drafting of questionnaire related to audit committee like about their effectiveness, differences etc.
- Testing of questionnaire: in excel
- Data analysis techniques: Anova: Two-Factor with Replication

F. Data Analysis Plan

Based on the data collected through questionnaire and convert them into numerical data. And set an hypothesis based on our research objectives, calculate data through statistical tools to approve or reject the assumed hypothesis.

Statistical tools for analysis

✓ Anova Test: Two- factor with replication, corelation, covariance through excel.

G. Limitations Of The Study

1) Limited availability of comprehensive and reliable data

2) Limitations in terms of time, budget, and access to data or expertise may constrain the scope and depth of the research, potentially affecting the validity and reliability of the findings.

3) Changes in regulatory requirements or corporate governance standards over time may affect the functioning and effectiveness of audit committees, which could impact the study's findings.

V. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Anova: Two-Factor With Replication

SUMMARY	18-30	30-40	40-50	Total
male				
Count	3	3	3	9
Sum	93	80	25	198
Average	31	26.66667	8.333333	22
Variance	181	169.3333	2.333333	196.75
not satisfied				
Count	3	3	3	9
Sum	108	79	25	212
Average	36	26.33333	8.333333	23.55556
Variance	823	472.3333	20.33333	476.7778
not effective				
Count	3	3	3	9
Sum	52	45	13	110
Average	17.33333	15	4.333333	12.22222
Variance	616.3333	469	12.33333	310.4444
Total				
Count	9	9	9	
Sum	253	204	63	
Average	28.11111	22.66667	7	
Variance	475.1111	310.75	12.75	

ANOVA

Source of Variation	*SS*	*df*	*MS*	*F*	*P-value*	*F crit*
Sample	679.4074	2	339.7037	1.105327	0.352557	3.554557
Columns	2162.296	2	1081.148	3.517836	0.051336	3.554557
Interaction	177.4815	4	44.37037	0.144372	0.963166	2.927744
Within	5532	18	307.3333			
Total	8551.185	26				

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- SS: sum of squares
- df: degrees of freedom
- MS: means square
- F: future statistics
- P-value: probability
- F crit: critical value

Sum of Squares (SS):

$SS=\sum(Xi-\bar{X})2$

Where Xi is each individual value, and $\bar{X}$ is the mean of all the values.

Degrees of Freedom (df):

For One-Way ANOVA: $df = k-1$

Where k is the number of groups or treatments.

Mean Square (MS):

$MS= SS / df$

Mean Square is obtained by dividing the Sum of Squares by the Degrees of Freedom.

F-statistic (F):

$F= MS\ between / MS\ within$

Where $MS\ between$ is the Mean Square Between groups and $MS\ within$ is the Mean Square Within groups.

P-value:

The p-value is obtained from the F-distribution with the degrees of freedom associated with the numerator and denominator of the F-statistic.

Critical value (F crit):

The critical value of F can be obtained from statistical tables based on the desired significance level (usually 0.05) and the degrees of freedom

A. Interpretation -1

As per the assumed hypothesis –

a) *Null Hypothesis (H0):* There is no significant relationship between the effectiveness of the audit committee and organizational financial performance.

b) *Alternative Hypothesis (H1):* There is a significant positive relationship between the effectiveness of the audit committee and organizational financial performance.

To prove the hypothesis, we collected the data through survey (questionnaire) and calculated the data through statistical tools.

Based on the Anova two-factor with replications, we know the significance difference is 0.05. on the above data we analysis and compared the significance value in sample row-f value with the critical value and got to know ‘f’ value 1.105327 lesser than critical value- 3.554557. so, “we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis”.

B. Interpretation -2

As per the assumed hypothesis –

1) *Null Hypothesis (H0):* There is no difference in financial performance between organizations with internal audit committees and those with external audit committees.

2) *Alternative Hypothesis (H1):* Organizations with internal audit committees demonstrate better financial performance compared to those with external audit committees.

To prove the hypothesis, we collected the data through survey (questionnaire) and calculated the data through statistical tools.

Based on the Anova two-factor with replications, we know the significance difference is 0.05. on the above data we analysis and compared the significance value in sample row-f value with the critical value and got to know ‘f’ value 3.517836 more than critical value-3.554557. so, “we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis”.

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VI. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

A. *Suggestions*

1) The review board of trustees assumes a pivotal part in the corporate administration structure, assisting with controlling and screen the executives inside an association. At the point when the review advisory group works autonomously, it can really administer monetary detailing, interior controls, and chance administration.

2) Offer opportunities for professional development, such as workshops, seminars, and certifications, to keep members abreast of developments in their areas of expertise.

3) Appoint a capable and experienced chairperson to lead the audit committee, facilitate discussions, promote collaboration, and ensure the committee operates efficiently and effectively.

4) Foster a culture of integrity, ethical behaviour, and accountability throughout the organization to uphold public trust and confidence.

B. *Conclusion*

This research seeks to contribute to the existing literature on corporate governance by providing empirical evidence on the impact of audit committees on organizational performance. In the above we get to know how the audit is impacting companies to grow. By addressing key research questions and objectives, this study aims to enhance understanding of the roles, functions, and effectiveness of audit committees, thereby informing policy, practice, and future research in this area.

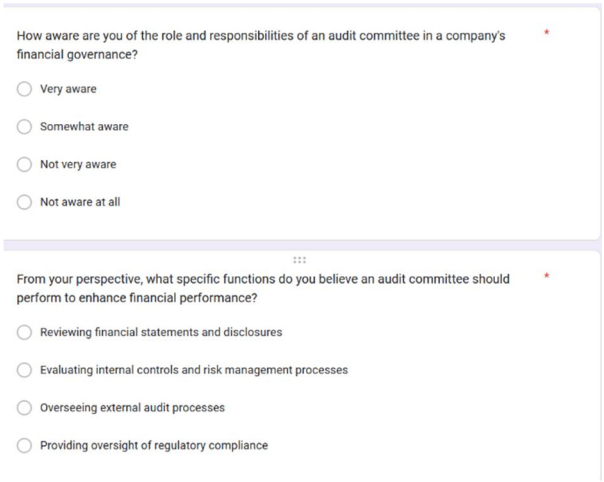
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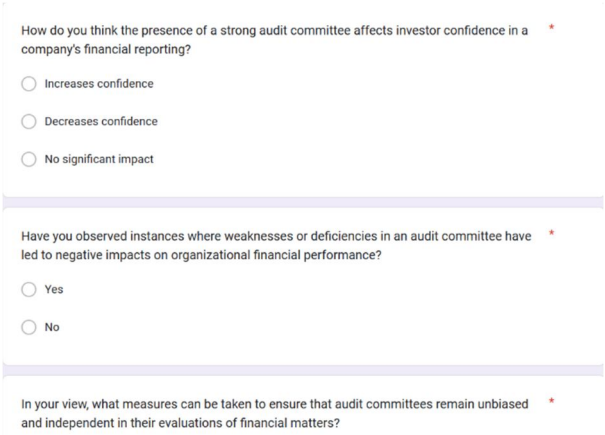
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APPENDIX

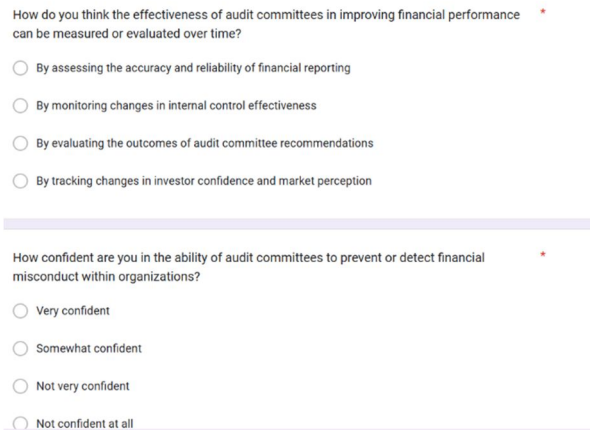

How aware are you of the role and responsibilities of an audit committee in a company's financial governance? *
- Very aware
- Somewhat aware
- Not very aware
- Not aware at all

From your perspective, what specific functions do you believe an audit committee should perform to enhance financial performance? *
- Reviewing financial statements and disclosures
- Evaluating internal controls and risk management processes
- Overseeing external audit processes
- Providing oversight of regulatory compliance

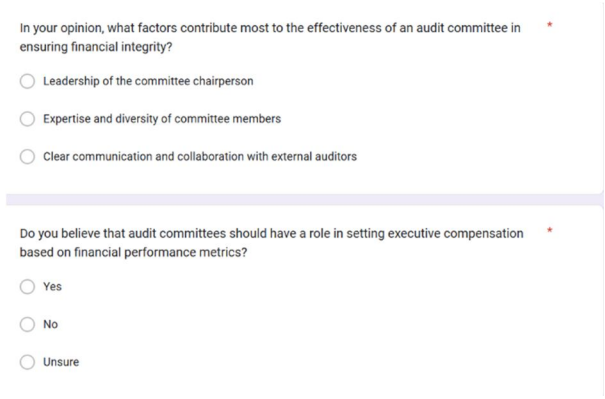

How do you think the presence of a strong audit committee affects investor confidence in a company's financial reporting? *
- Increases confidence
- Decreases confidence
- No significant impact

Have you observed instances where weaknesses or deficiencies in an audit committee have led to negative impacts on organizational financial performance? *
- Yes
- No

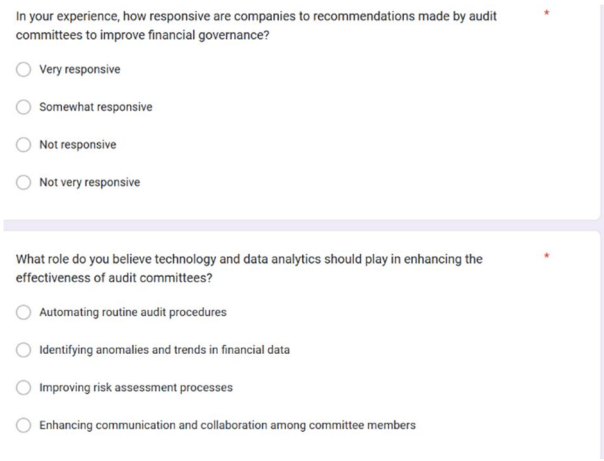
In your view, what measures can be taken to ensure that audit committees remain unbiased and independent in their evaluations of financial matters? *


How do you think the effectiveness of audit committees in improving financial performance can be measured or evaluated over time? *
- By assessing the accuracy and reliability of financial reporting
- By monitoring changes in internal control effectiveness
- By evaluating the outcomes of audit committee recommendations
- By tracking changes in investor confidence and market perception

How confident are you in the ability of audit committees to prevent or detect financial misconduct within organizations? *
- Very confident
- Somewhat confident
- Not very confident
- Not confident at all


In your opinion, what factors contribute most to the effectiveness of an audit committee in ensuring financial integrity? *
- Leadership of the committee chairperson
- Expertise and diversity of committee members
- Clear communication and collaboration with external auditors

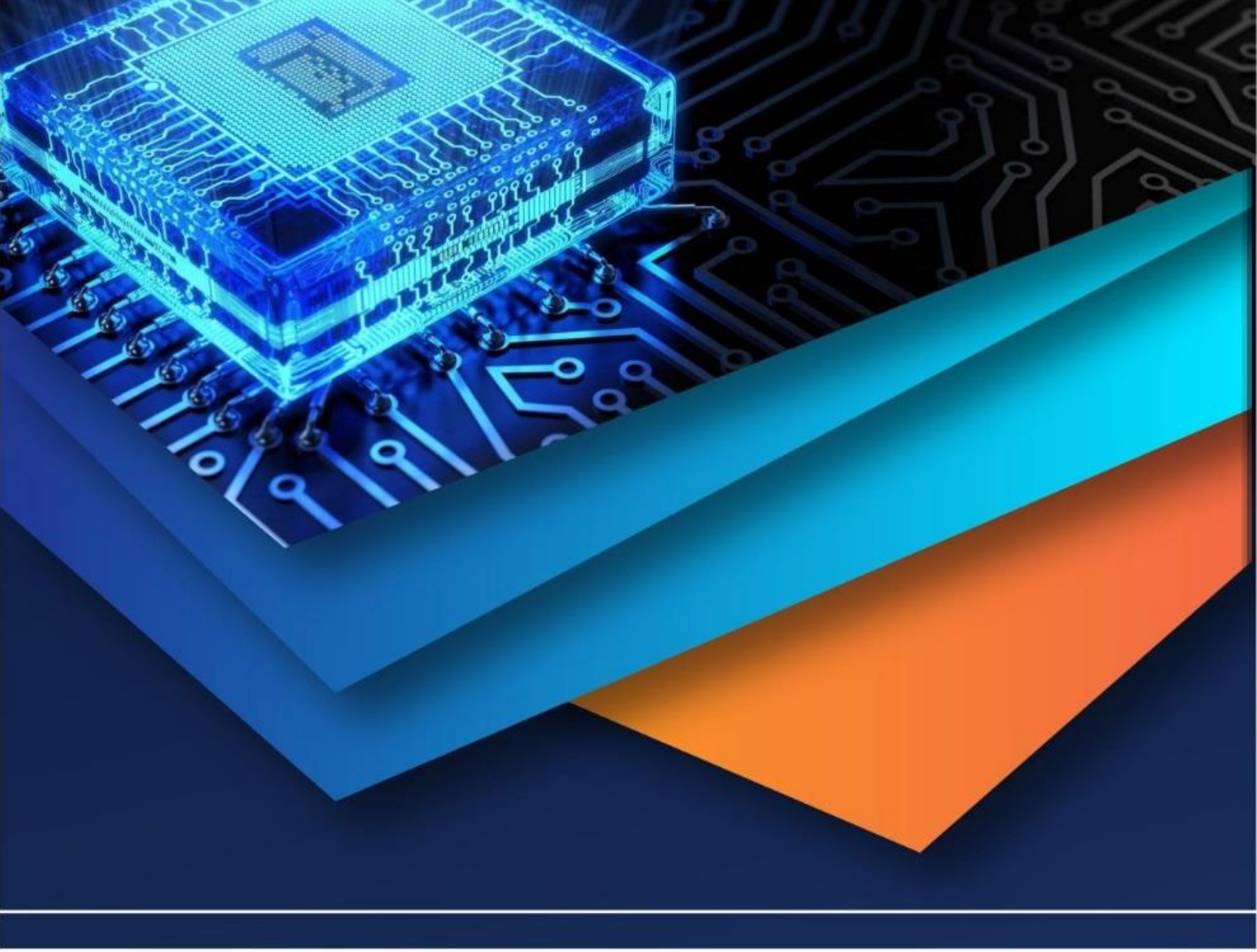
Do you believe that audit committees should have a role in setting executive compensation based on financial performance metrics? *
- Yes
- No
- Unsure


In your experience, how responsive are companies to recommendations made by audit committees to improve financial governance? *
- Very responsive
- Somewhat responsive
- Not responsive
- Not very responsive

What role do you believe technology and data analytics should play in enhancing the effectiveness of audit committees? *
- Automating routine audit procedures
- Identifying anomalies and trends in financial data
- Improving risk assessment processes
- Enhancing communication and collaboration among committee members


Should audit committees have a role in overseeing cybersecurity risks that could impact financial performance? *
- Yes, cybersecurity risks are integral to financial governance
- No, cybersecurity is outside the scope of their responsibilities
- Unsure

How do you think the effectiveness of audit committees is impacted by the level of trust and collaboration between committee members and management? *
- High levels of trust and collaboration enhance effectiveness
- Low levels of trust and collaboration hinder effectiveness
- Trust and collaboration have no significant impact



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