Corporate social responsibility reporting among Nigerian firms: strategic implications

O.L. Kuye Related information

Department of Business Administration, University of Lagos, Akoka-Yaba, Lagos State, Nigeria

, D.G. Fagboro Related information

Department of Business Administration, University of Lagos, Akoka-Yaba, Lagos State, Nigeria

, E.K. Akerele Related information

Department of Business Administration, University of Lagos, Akoka-Yaba, Lagos State, Nigeria

O.L. Kuye is a Professor at the Department of Business Administration, University of Lagos, Nigeria. He received his PhD in Business Administration from the University of Lagos, Nigeria. His main areas of research are strategic management and entrepreneurship. His papers have appeared in several journals.

D.G. Fagboro is a Lecturer at the Department of Accounting, University of Lagos, Nigeria. His main areas of research are forensic accounting and criminal investigation. His papers have been published in several journals.

E.K. Akerele is a Lecturer at the Department of Accounting, University of Lagos, Nigeria. His main areas of research are forensic accounting and auditing. His papers have appeared in several journals.

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Abstract

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) reporting refers to how companies disclose information on their CSR performance in their annual financial statements. The current paper examines: how Nigerian companies incorporated CSR into their financial accounts; the correlation between an organisation's earnings and CSR reported; and the relationship between CSR reported and firm size. Using ANOVA and Pearson product-moment correlation to test the three hypotheses postulated, the central issues that emerged were that: the recognition, manner and style of CSR in annual financial reports were not standardised in Nigeria, not withstanding stakeholders' keen interest in such disclosures; it appeared there was a significant relationship between CSR reported and a firm's earnings and capital level. This study concluded that CSR disclosures were a key concept that had gained increasing international recognition and acceptance given its crucial role in the activities of an organisation and importance to a variety of stakeholders. Consequently, relevant legal authorities, standard setting bodies and other regulators in Nigeria should expedite action on standards and guidelines on CSR reporting. **Keywords:** Keywords<u>corporate social responsibility</u>, <u>CSR</u>, <u>CSR reporting</u>, <u>financial</u> <u>statements</u>, <u>strategic implications</u>, <u>firm earnings</u>, <u>firm size</u>, <u>Nigeria</u>