UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARD (IFRS) BY QUOTED COMPANIES IN GHANA: A STUDY OF SELECTED QUOTED COMPANIES FROM KUMASI METROPOLIS

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MAY, 2020

DECLARATION

STUDENT DECLARATION

I, **MARTHA BONAH,** declare that, this Dissertation with the exception of quotation and references contained in published works which all been identified and duly acknowledged, is entirely my own original work, and it has not been submitted, either in part or whole, for another degree elsewhere.

SIGNATURE:………………………………..…

DATE:……………………………… …………

SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the planning, preparation and presentation of this Dissertation was supervised under the guide post laid by the school of graduate studies University of Winneba–Kumasi.

NAME OF SUPERVISOR: **MR. ALFRED MORRISON**

SIGNATURE:………………………………..…

DATE:……………………………… …………

DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to the Almighty God for His care and guidance throughout the time of study, to my wonderful and lovely families, brothers and sisters, mother Georgian Oppong, my late father Mr. David Bonah, Teacher Appiah and all my friends. Finally, to my spiritual father Rev. Ernest Ankumanyi for his prayers and support, God richly bless all friends and love ones with love and gratitude.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENT **PAGE**

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE **PAGE**

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE **PAGE**

ABSTRACT

Before the adoption of International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) among firms every country had its own reporting accounting standards which gave room to conflict when it comes to comparing financial statements from different countries. The move of business into the global economy has brought a lot of challenges in comparability, reliability and objectivity; this has therefore increased the need to move accounting standards into globalization. This study was conducted to assess whether listed companies from Kumasi Metropolis were actually complying with IFRS since its adopted in 2007. The study used both primary and secondary data for data collection, primary source was questionnaires administered and for the secondary source published financial statements. The finding of the study revealed that over the years since compliance of IFRS has been made compulsory for all listed companies on the Kumasi Metropolis, the level of compliance is high and the study was also able to identify some factors that influence the adoption of IFRS. The study recommends that there must be more training and education for both preparers and users of financial information. Also develop these standards in curricula sectors such as the universities to create more awareness for accounting students. This reaches was conducted in 2019.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The fact that users of financial information rely on financial statements for economic decisions, makes it important for the acquisition of standards to regulate the preparation of such statements to enhance their reliability. The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) has become increasingly influential in the world. Its principal objective is to issue International Accounting Standards (IAS) in order to increase comparability in financial reports produced by companies regardless of their country of origin (Choi *et al.* 2002). These standards were developed by different countries to regulate the accounting system peculiar to their environment.

In line with the World Bank recommendations, in January 2007, Mr. Kwadwo Baah Wiredu, the then acting Minister of Finance & Economic Planning of Ghana, formally announced the launching of Ghana's adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the subsequent replacement of the local Ghana Accounting Standards (GAS). Ghana in its efforts to promote accelerated growth of the economy through private sector-led growth converge its outdated Ghana National Accounting standards (GNAS) to IFRS effective 1st January, 2007.

The council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants Ghana (ICAG), formally launched the adoption on 23rd January, 2007 and required all listed companies, public entities, banks, and insurance companies to comply with the IFRS as at 31st December, 2007 and other entities were given an additional transition period of two years to comply (United Nations, 2007). At present Ghana is among fifteen countries in Africa in the likes of Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Swaziland and Uganda to have adopted or converged to IFRS (Zori, 2011; Price water house Coopers, 2010).

International standards are now virtually accepted as the common yardstick for international reporting. The acceptance and use of IFRS has become a global phenomenon. Massive international flow of investment capital and capital instruments across geographical boundaries has added a new impetus to the adoption of IFRS. Part of the reason to this is that investors prefer audited accounts to be prepared not only on timely basis but also to conform to global standards (Choi *et al.* 2002).

A number of studies investigated the association between certain firm's characteristics and the extent to which they comply with the disclosure requirements of IASs now (Street & Bryant, 2000). The characteristics of a firm that affects its compliance rate include: size, profitability, auditor type, internationality, leverage, and industry type.

The compliance of a firm to the disclosure requirements prescribed by particular accounting standards is affected by the profitability of the firm. Wagenhofer (1990) also argued that the less profitable firms might increase the level of disclosure in order to explain to the market the reasons for the decline in their profitability, for this reason, Owusu Ansah (1998) reported a significant positive relationship between profitability and extent of IFRS compliance. The study therefore tests the hypothesis that Companies profitability as measured by return on equity has a significant positive relationship with the rate of IFRS compliance. The objectives of IFRS on financial instrument are to enhance users' understanding of the significance of financial instrument to an entity's position, performance and cash flows, as well as to establish principles for recognizing and measuring financial assets and liabilities.

1.2 Statement of Problem

The objective of every financial statement is to provide information about the financial position, performance and changes in the financial position of an organization that should be useful to a wide range of users making economic decisions. Due to globalization and international trade that exists between countries, financial information must be prepared and presented in a way that can be understood by all users both locally and internationally. This has led to the introduction of IFRS to help financial reports to be comparable among firms.

According to Street and Gray (2001), it appears that there is an evidence of non-compliance with the various standards that the IASB has come up with a compilation of companies that claim to have adopted them. This was later ascertained and confirmed by Street and Bryant (2000) when they suggested that, the activities and effectiveness of enforcement of bodies that are responsible for promoting IAS compliance have been questioned.

Since 2005, over 90 countries around the world claim to have made IFRS compliance mandatory (IASB, 2005) and Ghana claimed to have adopted IFRS in financial reporting since 2007. This has become necessary to ensure financial statement comparability among countries as a result of globalization. What is however missing is the dwelling on past experiences, there is always a significant gap between claiming to have complied and actually complying with accounting standards among most of the Ghanaian companies who claim to have complied.

A study from Street and Gray (2001) discovered that Ghana also has its share of perceived non -compliance with IASs by companies who claimed to have adopted them voluntarily. There is evidence of non-compliance by Ghanaian companies who claim to have complied. Compliance gap can be referred to as the difference between actual practice and applicable accounting standards available. In a report, which had sampled companies who claim compliance with IFRS had evidence of non- compliance.

Street and Bryant (2000) revealed that companies frequently noted in their annual reports that they are in full compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), when in fact there are material non-conformities with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). There is therefore the need for investigations to be conducted into the level of compliance with the adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) by Ghanaian companies who claim voluntary compliance and the formal adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in Ghana

1.3 Objective of the Study

The general objective of the study is to assess the level of compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) by Ghanaian companies on Stock Exchange. The specific objectives include the following:

- To what extent do companies in Ghana comply with IFRS.
- Identify the problems companies encounter in complying with IFRS.
- To examine the relationship that exists between IFRS and performance.

1.4 Research Questions

- To what extent do companies in Ghana comply with IFRS?
- What are the problems companies' encounters in complying with IFRS?
- What relationship exists between IFRS and performance?

1.5 Significance of the Study

Quite a number of researchers have shown that, companies claiming to have adopted IFRS have had their financial statements and notes to their accounts showing otherwise. The researcher finds it necessary to determine how the Ghanaian situation defers with respect to companies complying with IFRS. The study will also add to the body of knowledge on IFRS compliance in Ghana.

The outcome of this study is deemed relevant to stakeholders including the investor community, standard setters and regulators, government, auditors and preparers of financial statements. First, profit is a function of cost and revenue. Profitability forms the basis for meeting the needs of (or rewarding) various stakeholders. The cost of IFRS, as it affects profitability, may affect these rewards: for investors, earnings or dividends; for government, tax; and preparers, incentives or bonuses.

Secondly, one most essential attribute of any piece of information relevant for beneficial decision making to users is its accessibility on a timely basis. In accounting, this means timely preparation and early publication of financial statements. Indeed, Carslaw & Kaplan (1991) observed that investors" decision based on the audited financial statements is strongly influenced by timely release of corporate information. Earlier, Givoly & Palmon (1982) discovered that the market reacts positively to early earnings announcements with rich information. As audit timeliness is widely celebrated as one essential quality of corporate financial reporting and a major determinant of whether financial statements convey relevant information as early as possible to external stakeholders (Owusu-Ansah, 2000; Yaacob & Che-Ahmad, 2012), the results of this research is of relevance to investors, practitioners, policy makers and regulators, and other stakeholders especially when in most developing countries, the only reliable source of corporate financial information is none other than the audited annual reports (Leventis et al., 2005).

The significance of this study can also be viewed along the lines of research, practice and policy making. Concerning research significance, not much is documented in existing literature about how IFRS affects financial statements audit. This study adds to the body of knowledge by examining the costs effect of IFRS adoption and the implications of IFRS adoption on the timeliness of audit reports. This paper is one of the few studies examining the impact of such major change in accounting, auditing and regulatory environment brought about by IFRS adoption on financial statements audit outcomes from developing country perspective. The study helps provide evidence of the effects of IFRS adoption on audit fees and audit report timeliness from the African terrain. In relation to practical significance, the study is of relevance to preparers of financial statements, auditors, investors and other stakeholders in the ascertainment and understanding of how complex, time-consuming and costly the practical implementation of the IFRS can be. For instance, Yaacob & Che-Ahmad (2012) report that in the wake of the widespread adoption of IFRS auditors have come under the pressure to evaluate and give account of how the transition to the new accounting standards affects the pricing of their services. Therefore, this research has significant relevance for audit firms in that regard. Again, given Yaacob & Che-Ahmad's (2012) assertion that timely disclosure of accounting information in annual reports plays key role in reducing information asymmetry between preparers and users of financial statements and that information that reach to investors could diminish with a delay in reporting lag, this study helps to assess the contribution of IFRS adoption to improving or impairing this problem. The results of this study provide useful learning guide for companies and countries yet to adopt the IFRS.

For policy makers and regulators, the study provides some form of appraisal basis for informed assessment of the impact and appropriateness of both IFRS adoption and practitioners" responses to the issues of increased complexity and risk. Such appraisal outcomes are necessary for guidance in the development and implementation of major future policies or regulations. More specifically, the third objective sought to identify areas of the IFRS that actually pose compliance difficulties and so appropriate measures are developed to resolve them. The findings of this study should therefore be of keen interest to policy makers and regulators, including those in countries yet to adopt IFRS.

1.6 Limitations of the Study

The following were some of the limitations that the researcher encountered; time and financial constraints. The time frame for the conduct of the study is limited, coupled with financial difficulties other Ghanaian companies beside Kumasi Metropolis cannot be visited. The case study approach is be adopted for this research, which means that there is the likelihood that issues to be discussed in the case study Kumasi might not apply in other Ghanaian companies in the country.

Again the sensitivity and confidentiality of management information regarding International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and other management review reports and responses will make it difficult getting easy access to the needed data from the case study of Ghana companies in Kumasi Metropolis. The researcher, however, intends to find appropriate antidotes to overcome these in order that they do not affect the findings of this research work in any way.

1.7Scopes of the Study

The study was conducted on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and activities in the Ghana companies in Kumasi Metropolis focusing on the effectiveness that such Compliance of International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) have on the overall governance of Ghana. Companies, particularly Kumasi in the Ashanti Region. It will also take a look at International Financial Reporting Standard recommendations, implementation, monitoring and strategies as well as other component that comes together to form the case study.

The Kumasi in Ashanti Region is chosen for these study out of a total of 16 Regional Capitals together a host of many more other Ghana. Companies in Ghana, partly because of its proximity to the researcher and for cost minimization. In this light therefore, purposive sampling approach was adopted in selecting the case study organization.

More so, the Kumasi in Ashanti Region is chosen for the study because of the preparedness of its staff to participate and contribute towards the research study. Furthermore, the Kumasi has a large operational coverage which translates into larger volume activities, capable of being used for a meaningful study.

1.8 Organization of the Study

This research is organized into five chapters. Chapter One is the introduction, this entails the background of the study including previous studies on the topic, the problem statement, research questions, the objectives of the study, significance of the study, limitations of the research, and the organization of the study. Chapter Two includes review of relevant literatures to the study and the conceptual framework relevant to the study. Chapter Three also deals with the methodology of the study. It will include the research design, source of data, target population, sampling methods and techniques, research instrumentation, data analysis plan as well as issues from the field, ethics and how they will be addressed. Chapter Four has to do with the analysis and interpretation of results with the aid of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). Chapter Five will draw possible conclusions on the basis of the findings and an indication of their relevance or policy making implications. Recommendations are also be made in this chapter.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the assessment of prevailing literature related to the research topic, this chapter has the following sub-divisions, Implications and Limitations, Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standard, Presentation of Financial Instruments under International Financial Reporting Standard, Application of International Financial Reporting Standard, Accounting Principles, Influence of IFRS on Profit and Equity (Performance), The Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standard, The Theoretical Framework-Decision-Usefulness, Content of International Financial Reporting Standard.

2.1 Conceptual Framework of Standardising Financial Reporting

Accountings of companies from different jurisdictions are hardly the same. Differences in social, political and economic circumstance have affected the definition, recognition, measurement of the various elements of financial statements. The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), in their quest to seek harmonization, has as part of their objectives to streamline these differences. This is to enhance uniformity of financial statement and also ensure the quality of financial statement is not compromised irrespectively of its source. The fundamental reason is because all financial statement serves the same broad user groups. Thus the conceptual framework is meant to set out concepts underlying the preparation and presentation of financial statements for external users. In spite of this framework is not an International Financial Reporting Standard and therefore any specific issue addressed by a specific International Financial Reporting.

2.2 Limitations in Adopting IFRS

An analysis of the current reporting practices under International Financial Reporting Standard indicates that majority of European banks choose to report on financial information by using International Accounting Standard (IAS) 39 measurement categories in their financial statements. We analyze the effect of this practice on individual investors' risk perception based on their financial information. The results of our two experiments suggest that a presentation by measurement categories has an impact on individual risk perception. Our results also show that the impact arises in different ways.

The measurement categories have a direct labeling effect. Without knowledge about the type of the underlying investment, investors' risk perception varies with the balance sheet classification of financial information. This effect is particularly pronounced for a firm's reporting of the fair value option and is even stronger for professional investors. This finding signals a need for improvements in professional education on fair value measurement.

There is an indirect effect, in that investors seem to form certain predictions about which type of financial product is reported under a specific measurement category. For example, when investors learn that the fair value category does *not* comprise financial derivatives, they judge that a firm reporting of the fair value category is significantly less risky. These results imply that the product-specific biases in the risk judgment of financial derivatives identified in the earlier accounting literature (e.g., Koonce, Lipe, and McAnally (2005)) also shine through when instruments are presented by measurement categories. Moreover, our findings suggest that footnote information about the type of financial investment that accompanies reporting by measurement categories is relevant to individual investors' risk judgment.

The most noteworthy disadvantage of International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) is the cost of application by companies. This comprises of changing the internal systems to make it compatible with the new reporting standards, training cost and etc.

It increases the amount of placed on accountants and the implementation of a new system of global accounting standards would require a complete revision of the domestic accounting processes and strategies. Although the companies would be responsible for this task under most circumstance, the implementation of the new rules would come from the accounting team.

It create an adjustment period filled with tumult when companies being to move from their current accounting standards mandated by the country of origin to the global accounting rules set by the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs), than there is increased risk of suffering from a costly delay or mistake during the transition period. Since every country maintains their own complex systems of regulations that govern d at many bossiness schools because the financial reporting without direct involvement with the Standards in use, there might still be a requirement to offer multiple reports as well. That means the only difference we see when adopting d at many bossiness schools because the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) globally is a shift in the presentation of what the agencies provide.

2.3 Presentation and Compliance with IFRS

Every organization wishes that their financial statement presents fairly the financial situation, financial enactment of cash flows. Fair presentation involves the demonstration of the effects of transactions, other occurrences and conditions in agreement with the recognition criteria for classifying information that is provided into assets, liabilities, income and expenses by the organization which was set out by the IASB. The submission of International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS), with added disclosures when necessary, is supposed to result in financial statements that attain a fair presentation.

In terms of compliance, International Accounting Standards (IAS 1) states that an organization whose financial statements comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) shall make a categorical and unreserved statement of such compliance in their notes. An organization shall not define its financial statements as one complying with IFRS unless they conform to all the requirements of IFRS. Fair presentation also requires an organization to:

To apply accounting policies in reference with IAS 8 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*. International Accounting Standards (IAS 8) sets out a pyramid of guidance that management must consider in the non-existence of an IFRS that may apply to an item.

To present accounting information and policies in a manner that will provides relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable information to users.

To provide additional disclosure requirements when compliance with other requirements in IFRS is inadequate to enable users to understand the impact of a transactions, conditions on the organizations financial position and financial performance.

An entity must not describe financial statements as complying with IFRS Standards unless they comply with all the requirements of the standards. The application of IFRS standards, with additional disclosure when necessary is presumed to a result in financial statements that achieve a fair presentation.

In accordance with IFRS, financial statements should present fairly the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the entity. Fair presentation means faithful representation of the effects of transactions, other events and conditions in accordance with the definitions and recognition criteria for assets, liabilities, income and expenses set out in the framework. As stated in IAS 1, the application of IFRS, with additional disclosure when necessary, should result in financial statements achieving fair presentation. Financial statements should depict financial information without bias for selection or disclosure. However, in extremely rare circumstances where management concludes that compliance with requirement in an IFRS would be misleading that it would conflict with the objective of financial statements as set out in the Framework, the entity can departure from that requirement if the relevant regulatory framework requires.

The entity has complied with applicable IFRS, except that it has departed from a particular requirement in order to achieve fair presentation. The title of the IFRS would require the reason why that treatment would be so misleading in the circumstance that it would conflict with the objective of financial statements as set out in the framework and the treatment adopted. For each period presented, financial effect of the departure on each item in the financial statement which would have been reported in complying with the requirement.

2.4 Application of IFRS in Financial Reporting

International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) standards are currently being applied in more than 100 countries for their financial reporting within the various organizations. For some countries their national further improve the quality of Ghanaian Generally Accepted Accounting Principal (GAAP) has been switched with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), while other countries have had a substantial degree of mergence towards International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) already. These standards are primarily applied to private companies, but in some countries they are applied by all organizations for public reporting.

Companies changing to International Accounting Standards (IAS) must first apply IFRS 1 *First–time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards* so they can restate their opening balances at the start of their comparative period and make disclosures about the financial effect of the transition.

To ensure that sufficient preparations are made, which will lead to the smooth application of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), it is critical that the future prospect is shown, while it may vary depending on the progress made in a number of areas, including preparations in accounting practice. Therefore, constituencies are strongly encouraged to make proactive efforts in the following areas:

For International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) to function well at each stage of the financial reporting process, it is important to ensure that International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) appropriately reflect business practices in Ghana and fairly represent the economic reality of Ghana businesses. It is also important that International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) are sufficiently examined, taking into account current global market developments.

It is necessary that IFRS are appropriately translated into Ghanaian and an authentic Ghanaian translated version can be made available. It is necessary to ensure that due-process taken at the International Accounting Standards Committee Foundation (IASCF) and governance of the IASCF will be improved. Such improvement includes, among others, improved accountability to regulators and market participants, and enhanced feedback regarding standards settings to stakeholders. The recent decision of the International Accounting Standards Committee Foundation (IASCF) to revise their Constitution in January 2009 with regard to the establishment of the Monitoring Board marked a critical starting point for the enhanced governance; thus efforts should be made so that the Monitoring Board will function as expected. It is also important that the IASCF continues steady efforts toward improvement of its governance, which include upgrading Standards Advisory Council and securing a stable source of funds-raising.

It is important that stakeholders such as investors, preparers, auditors, regulators and academics take sufficient measures so that they can understand and utilize IFRS appropriately. In order to further improve the quality of Ghanaian Generally Accepted Accounting Principal (GAAP) and to increase the participation concerning the settings of IFRS; it is essential to enhance the function of the Accounting Standards Board of Ghana (ASBG)and to secure a broad-based stable source of funding to the ASBG and the IASCF. It is important that a wide range of stakeholders, such as preparers, investors and auditors, also proactively and effectively participate in the standard setting process from an early stage, if necessary, in collaboration with foreign stakeholders.

The number of IFRS data items in the taxonomy published by the IASCF is by far smaller than that of Ghanaians GAAP taxonomy, and the IFRS taxonomies are not compatible with the Ghanaians language or the Ghanaians electronic reporting system (Electronic Disclosure for Investors' NET work, or EDINET). Therefore, the IFRS taxonomies should be further developed by global efforts so that the eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) reporting at EDINET under IFRS may be possible by the time the use of IFRS becomes mandatory, if it is decided to do so. It is appropriate that IFRS are allowed as a basis for the consolidated financial statements by listed companies whose financial or operational activities are conducted internationally. In that case, such companies are required to be sufficiently prepared for IFRS reporting. It is appropriate to decide whether to enhance the scope to include large-scale listed companies well recognized in the market, by carefully examining the developments in the setting of IFRS, etc.

For companies choosing the option to use IFRS, it is appropriate to also require disclosure of Ghanaians further improve the quality of Ghanaian Generally Accepted Accounting Principal (GAAP) financial information corresponding to the current and previous year, in the first year of IFRS application. On an on-going basis, however, considering the costs and benefits of parallel disclosure, it would be appropriate to consider a simpler and more effective measure, including qualitative and quantitative disclosure comparing significant differences between IFRS and Ghanaians further improve the quality of Ghanaian Generally Accepted Accounting Principal (GAAP) when applicable.

In principle, the text of IFRS for optional use should be the IFRS as promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).It is appropriate that the use of IFRS is allowed from the fiscal year ending in March 2010.If it is decided to make the use of IFRS mandatory, a roadmap should be drawn with detailed steps so that stakeholders can make preparations well in advance.

In deciding whether to make the use of IFRS mandatory, it is necessary to examine the progress made in tackling the issues mentioned, as well as the experience gained from the application of IFRS during the optional use period. Especially, as IFRS are under an intensive review to address the issues being revealed during the current global financial crisis, it is necessary to examine whether IFRS are of high quality and whether it could be consistently applied under future economic developments on a sustainable basis. In the meantime, the decision regarding the mandatory use of IFRS is aimed to be made around 2012, although it should be noted that the timing may be moved back or forward depending on the abovementioned situation. Taking into account the benefit of promoting international comparability, it is considered to be appropriate at this stage that the mandatory use of IFRS is only applied to consolidated financial statements of listed companies. If it is decided to make the use of IFRS mandatory in the future, the transition may be made either by the "Big-Bang" approach or phase-in approach based on the size of the companies. Yet, it is important to ensure a sufficient preparation period of at least three years. (The mandatory use will start from 2015 or 2016 if the decision is made in 2012.)

In addition, before making a decision on the mandatory use of IFRS, the situation of the IFRS setting process, including due process, needs to be assessed in order to decide whether to accept the text of IFRS as promulgated by the IASB or to make amendments or omissions to such text. For IFRS to be applied in Japan, it is essential that Ghanaian GAAP and IFRS further converge, with regard to other issues in addition to existing differences, and that further progress is made concerning their practices. Therefore, stakeholders are strongly encouraged to make further efforts toward promoting the international convergence.

2.5 Accounting Principles

Accounting principles are accounting rules set by regulators that are to be followed by the companies registered in these countries. These rules are qualified as the General Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and since each country has its own rules, the General Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) is often referred to with the country code. For United Kingdom it is UK GAAP and for the Netherlands for example, Dutch GAAP. Each country has its own regulatory bodies, which are responsible for the issuance of these principles and consists out of accountants.

During the preparation of financial statements for foreign users it means that first of all one must refer the same bunch of financial statement to all users , secondly, convert the financial statement sent to foreign users into the language of the foreign nations users or translate the financial statement sent to foreign users into the foreign nations language and currency, prepare two sets of financial statement one in the home country language, currency and accounting principles and the other in the language, currency and standards of the foreign country and finally to prepare one set of financial statement based on worldwide accepted accounting principles.

The International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) in 1973 was founded and they were accountable for developing the International Accounting Standards (IAS). The foundation of IASC was initiated by the arrangement between the national accounting bodies of nine countries. The purpose of the committee was to develop and promote the international accounting standards, which were not obliged for use in that time, but could be voluntary, adapted for use.

In the early 70's the IASC board was compounded of public accountants only, with three main objectives:

To develop and circulate for public interest accounting standards to be observed in the presentation of financial statements and to promote their worldwide approval and adherence.

To implement for public interest, a high quality, easily understood and enforceable accounting standards of entities and countries who have accepted the use of international accounting standards.

And perform generally in respect of the enhancement and the harmonization of accounting regulations, standards and measures relating to the presentation of financial statements.

During the last decades of the 20th century, concerning companies' globalization became more important and the country boarders did no longer limit companies. Because in addition the government borders no longer limited the investors (shareholders), the need concerning harmonization in the accounting standards became more important.

In the 90's the work of IASC was used more widely and the work of IASC has become more and more important, resulting in a restructure of the IASC in 2001 .In that year the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) was founded and accountable for the development of IFRS. The objective of IASB was to develop a single set of high quality, understandable, enforceable and globally accepted financial reporting standards based upon clearly articulated principles.

As at January 2001, almost 120 countries were using IFRS and more are expected to join. Companies listed on the Euronext stock exchanges are obliged to file the financial statements in agreement with IFRS. In addition, it is important to note that although IASC in its beginning years was run by public accountants, nowadays IASB decision-making process and involvement of others has changed.

2.6 The Adoption and Relevance of IFRS in Financial Reporting

The transition process of IFRS has seen a lot of irregularities and inconsistent even though over 100 countries now adopted it (KPMG, 2007). For instance, the EU and

Australia adopted IFRS during 2005, New Zealand during 2007, and Canada has been committed to the implementation process of IFRS by 2010. Since the formation of the IASC, a significant number of IASs and IFRSs have been delivered.

Nevertheless, the levels of non-compliance with these standards have been noted. Street et al. (1999) conducted and studied the 1996 annual reports of 49 sample companies in 12 different countries chosen from a total of 221 companies that had complied with International Accounting Standard (IAS). The report came out that the degree of compliance with International Accounting Standard (IAS) varied extensively, their willingness to fulfill all of the requirements involved. Quite a number of researches have noted that the lack of consistency in the use of IAS and IFRS usually results in reporting overstated income (Street and Gray, 2002; Prather-Kinsey and Meek, 2004).

Additional, there is lack of inconsistencies in the implementation of international standards due to many cultural differences that runs across different countries that have adopted these standards, this has had an influence in the interpretation of standards and led to substantial dissimilarities in reported amounts (Schultz and Lopez, 2001). KPMG (2006) scrutinized about 26 IFRS options within 22 countries and noted that the alternatives chosen were influenced by the previous national GAAP.

In addition, Ernst and Young (2006) made further research on alternatives that were determined on a country basis too, assuming a UK company decides to choose the functional approach in the income statement, showing cost of sales, distribution costs and administrative costs, whereas an Italian company choses to disclose the nature of costs such as purchases, employee costs and depreciation. The PwC (2006) also conducted a study using 26 European insurance companies, the alternative of accounting policy chosen was based on whether or not the previous GAAP was in use or not.

Thus, the use of domestic standards results in comparisons of reports between companies in one country relatively than those that exist between sectors across borders. For example, German pharmaceutical companies appear to bear more resemblance to German automobile companies than to French pharmaceutical companies (KPMG, 2007).

Also, some EU countries have their standards thus their national GAAP to be quiet similar to IFRS, for instance the UK and Ireland. They were not amongst the first countries to implement IFRS, the EU member countries of Eastern Europe were the first group to adopt and this was to help them hold high reputation within the EU (Sellhorn & Gornik-Tomaszewski, 2006). Studies proved that there were a number of issues that had impact on the level of IFRS compliance. Jaggi and Low (2000) outline a range of socio-political, legal and environmental factors that may have had an influence on the financial disclosures provided by reporting organizations within the various countries.

Even though the standards have been acknowledged by many jurisdictions, such as the EU, some countries have still not signed in to its usage. The US was amongst the major economies that had not decided to adopt IFRS yet, instead they held on to their own standards instituted by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) (Zeff, 1999). Nevertheless, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), who supervises the FASB, has been very conductive for the coordination between the IASB and FASB in minimizing the irregularities that exist between the different accounting rules (Street et al., 2000). In 2002, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the IASB and the FASB known as the Norwalk Agreement (Street, 2006), which affirmed that the two boards would co-operate in the convergence of US GAAP and IFRS.

In (2008) Negash conducted a study on the IAS adoption and its effect on the Johasnnesburg Securities Exchange (JSE) for the listed companies who were using the book value plus earnings and dividends. He used a four- year period to observe the value relevance of accruals in accounting information before liberalization thus, pre IAS adoption period of 1989-1993 and post IAS adoption period (1998-2004). The study had an integration viewpoint and concluded that when the scale effects were controlled the difference in panel regression r-squares vanished, signifying that the value relevance of accounting information did not get better in the post IAS implementation period. Quite a number of studies conducted show that for economies.

2.7 The Theoretical Framework - Decision-Usefulness

We have previously discussed the opposing issues confronted by companies in the UK, Ireland and Italy respectively and noted that diversity of culture around all the three countries has created a system that has led to a fluctuating level of importance on some aspects of financial reporting. In any case, the over-riding benchmark for the IASB in spreading its project of harmonization has been the setting up of valuable data for decision markers. The IASC distributed its Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements in September 1989. This record was drafted in view of the comparing archive issued by the FASB in the US. It was not issued as an accounting standard and thus does not over-ride individual IFRS. The IASC's structure was sub isolated into noteworthy segments.

The first subdivision specified that the objective of financial statements is to be responsible for information in relation to the financial position, performance and changes in financial position of an organization that is essential to a wide variety of users in making economic decisions.

It further suggests to users about profitability rate, financial position, financial adaptability and cash generation of a company. Other related deliberation can be found in the systems of both the FASB and the UK's Accounting Standards Board (ASB's) Statement of Principles. Choice handiness, therefore, offers a consistent methodology for the current study since it permits the research team to evaluate the financial statement delivered under IFRS against the target that the standard setting body has itself proposed.

Sterling (1972) additionally focused on the convenience of data given by financial statement. Really, he focused on the significance of value over other criteria, for example, verifiability and objectivity, differing on the way that yearly reports ought to give amount data for rational choices that are prone to permit decision makers to accomplish their goals.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter deals with the methodology adopted for the study. This chapter encompasses research design, research strategy, population of the study, sampling sizes and sampling techniques have been discussed. The sources (primary and secondary) of data, data collection, data analysis data collection instruments as well as the profile of the study area had also been outlined.

3.2 Research Design

The present study was utilized descriptive research design. The purpose of the research was to explain the level of compliance of International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) on the by Ghana Companies in a study of selected quoted companies in Kumasi Metropolis in Ashanti Region.

Descriptive research was utilized to study the compliance of International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) selected quoted companies in Kumasi Metropolis in Ashanti Region. According to Hedrick et al. (1993) and Burns and Grove (2003) situations or phenomenon are clear viewed when occurred natural by employing descriptive research designs. Causation is not determined by descriptive designs when the phenomenon being analyzed naturally occurs. The question why? Is never answered by descriptive studies due to the fact that they cannot determine causation (Blumberg, Cooper and Schindler, 2005). The method used for the case study was descriptive design approach. In cases where importance of primary becomes an opportunity to learn, the case study is considered useful (Stake, 1995). The case study allows a phenomenon to engage in-depth examination.

According to Yin (1989), the research case study was characterized empirically to examine; a contemporary phenomenon in real life context; instances where boundaries in relation to phenomenon and context are uncertain; and in which multiple sources of evidence are utilized. 31 Researchers are given freedom and opportunity to have enough knowledge on complex social phenomena in the case study (Yin, 1989). The study was designed to examine the influence of level of compliance of International Financial Reporting Standard the in Kumasi Metropolis.

Qualitative research adopts basically subjective view of knowledge of the real world. A qualitative research is a means for discovering and understanding the meaning individuals or groups or attributes to a social problem (Creswell, 1997). The purpose of qualitative research is more open–ended where the respondents express their own views on issues more than quantitative studies where more close-ended items are used (Creswell, 2005). This method was applied to enable the comparability of IFRS and GNAS. In this regard to assess Ghana Companies Level of Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Qualitative tools such as questionnaires, interviews, field observations as well as content analysis were used in this study.

With reference to Yin (2003), the case study is usually suitable when how and why questions are given for respondents to answer, the researcher has little or no control over procedures and the focus is on current occurrence within some real life context. This study focused only on Ghana Companies listed on the Ghana stock exchange, hence the case study approach was considered as ideal under the context. The key strength of the case study method involves using numerous sources in the data collection process. In spite of the many benefits available by the submission of the case study approach in research studies few shortcomings have been recognized thus; generally, academic knowledge is more valuable than material and practical knowledge. Also, a general conclusion cannot be given on the basis of an individual case, therefore, the case study approach cannot add to scientific development.

3.3 Population of the Study

The population of this study basically involved all listed companies within the Ashanti region of Ghana. The study was organized empirically to assess the adoption of IFRS by Ghana companies, their level of compliance with reference to Financial Statement Preparation. The study population comprises the major companies on the Kumasi Metropolis.

3.4. Sample Size and Sampling Technique

In reference to (Strydom et al, 2005) sampling means taking any portion of a population as characteristic of that population. If population is comparatively small, the model should comprise a reasonably larger percentage of the population.

Due to the varied nature of the sample population, purposive (for management), and is used to select the sample from both the management and other staff. A sample size of two hundred and forty-five (245) staff from selected companies was used. This was made up of forty-five (45) management staff members and two hundred (200) other staff. The staffs were draw from the Fan Milk (50), Guinness Ghana (50), Cocoa Processing (45), Produce Buying Company (50), and Unilever Ghana (50) section.

Table 3.1: Sample Size

No.	Name of company	Industry
1	Cocoa Processing Company	Food Processing
2	Fan Milk	Food Processing
3	Guinness Ghana Breweries	Beverage
4	Produce Buying Company	Food/Cocoa Processing
5	Unilever Ghana	Food Processing

3.5 Types and Sources of Data

This research used both primary and secondary of data to run the required responses to the research questions.

3.5.1 Primary Data

Primary data were obtained from the field using questionnaires and structured interview guides. Questionnaires were administered to some of the five (5) listed companies on Kumasi Metropolis. Considering the nature of the topic, it was appreciated that questionnaires would be the most suitable instrument to use for the study. This is because questionnaire has been identified as the best economical means of gathering data from a possibly large number of respondents at a moderate cost. Thoughtful thoughts were given to each wording of individual questions. This was done to ensure that respondents gave objective responds to the questions. There were both open and closed ended questions.

3.5.2 Secondary Data

Secondary data used for this study were gathered from both distributed and unpublished sources. This forms both academic and theoretical foundation of this research. The sources of data included published financial statements from the internet, papers, articles, and published accounts of the sample companies. Due acknowledgements has been given to all the cited materials where necessary.

3.6 Data Analysis

According to Emory and Cooper (2003) raw data obtained from a research is useless, unless it is transformed for the purpose of decision-making. Data analysis usually involves reducing the raw data into a manageable size, developing summaries and applying statistical inferences. Consequently, the following steps were taken to analyze the data for the study: The data collected was analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Scientist (SPSS) computer software program. The result was presented using statistical tools such as frequencies, tables, histograms and pie charts. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyze the data using SPSS and Microsoft Excel programs as analytical packages.

3.7 Ethical Issue

Cautious believed was given to get endorsement from every member about their contribution in the study. It was entirely done on deliberate premise. The researcher offered appreciation on members' right side and protection. Research discoveries were exhibited with no deviancy from the result of the research. Likewise, the researcher gave full affirmations to all the reference materials utilized as a part of the study.

3.8 Brief Profile of Selected Companies

The Cocoa Processing Company (CPC) was incorporated in November, 1981 as a Limited Liability Company. The company comprises two factories, namely the Cocoa Factory and the Confectionery Factory. The CPC Factories process only the choicest premium Ghana Cocoa beans.

Fan Milk Limited is engaged in the manufacture and distribution of dairy products and fruit drinks. The company's milk-based products consist of a range of frozen ice creams, chocolate and yoghurt. Its milk-based products include brands, such as Fan Yogo (yoghurt), FanChoco (chocolate) and Fanlce (ice cream). Fan Milk Limited was first foreign invested company in Ghana to become a Public Limited Liability in 1967.

Guinness Ghana Breweries (GGB) is a leading total beverage business in Ghana. Established in 1960, its success is built on an outstanding collection of brands across a range of categories, including beer, stout and spirits. Today, it is the only beverage Company in Ghana listed in the Kumasi Metropolis.

Produce Buying Company (PBC) evolved from the produce Department of the Ghana Cocoa (Marketing) Board. It was incorporated as the Produce Buying Division Limited on November 13th, 1981 as a 100% state-owned enterprise and a subsidiary of Cocobod. Unilever Ghana came into being on July 14th, 1992 when UAC Ghana Limited merged to form Unilever Ghana Limited. Unilever Ghana is now the largest quoted manufacturing and marketing company in Ghana and listed on Kumasi Metropolis as a Public company.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter is about data analysis and discussion of research findings. The analysis and discussions were done with understanding of research objectives which includes; mechanisms for monitoring IFRS implementation, problems companies encounter in complying with IFRS, factors that influence IFRS implementation, and the relationship between IFRS adoption and Performance.

4.2 Response Rate

A total of 245 questionnaires were administered to accounting staff of some of the five (5) listed companies in Kumasi Metropolis. All the 245 questionnaires were returned giving a response rate of 100%.

4.3 Description of Demographic factors of Respondents

The respondents' demographic features included five key features which were: the respondents, gender, age, educational level, and industry they worked in.

4.3.1 Gender Distribution of Respondents

The study wanted to discover the Gender of the respondents and the results is shown in the diagram 4.1.

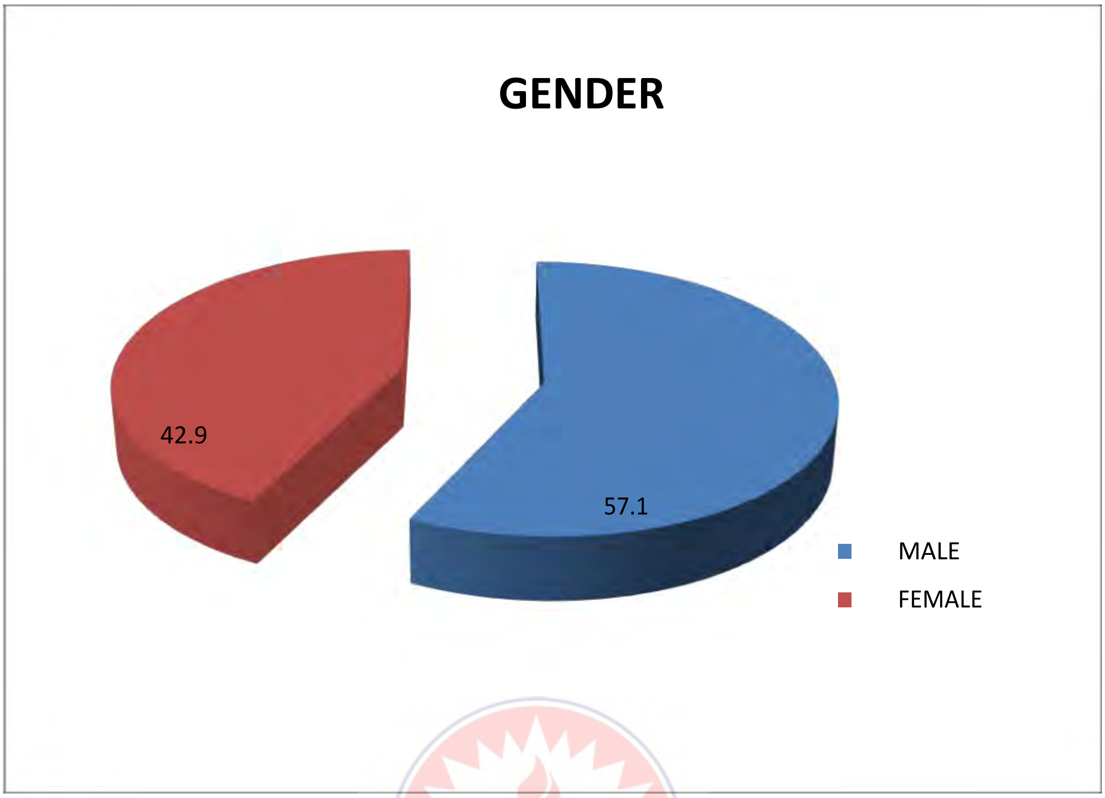

Figure 4.1: Gender of Respondents

Source: Field Work, (2019)

Figure 4.1 shows that out of the 245 respondents, 140 representing 57.1% were males whiles 105 representing 42.9% were females. This shows that males dominate the accounting profession in Ghana. The reason for men dominating the accounting profession in the study area could partly be explained by traditional stereotype of business/accounting education which most women are not accustomed to. Also not much premium is placed on women education in Ghana; women therefore tend to have very low educational and employable skills that would qualify them for employment in the formal sector that requires a much higher level of education. Women therefore resort to self-employment as a source of livelihood or to complement their husbands' efforts in providing for their families.

4.3.2 Age Distribution of Respondents

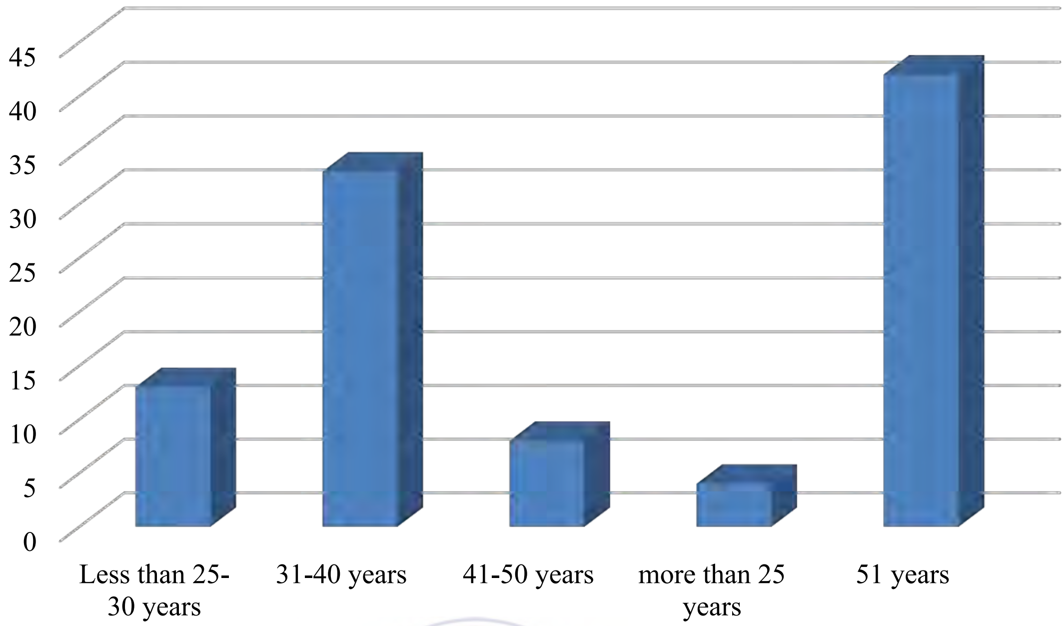

Figure 4.2 Age distribution of the respondents

Source: Field Work, (2019)

From figure 4.2 majority of the respondents were above 51 years. This age group contributed 42.1% of the total respondents. The total percentage of Respondents who were aged less than 25 years were 11.7%, 25 to 30 years but 31 years and above were 32.4%, from 31 to 40 were 9.0%, and 41 to 50 years were 4.80%. The overall intuition is that most of the respondents were above 51 years. However, there are indications of younger age groups taking considerable participation given the 32.4% of those between 25-30 years.

4.3.3 Education Level of Respondents

Another demographic measure used in this study is the education level of the respondents. The formal educational levels of the respondents were typically at the tertiary level, as more of the respondents 51 (35.2%) had master's degree. Those who had bachelor's degree were 42 representing 29.0% of the respondents whiles 14.50% of the respondents representing 21 of the sample size surveyed had attained Diploma level education. 7.6% of the respondents had attained High school education with 13.8% of the respondents claiming to have other form of education.

Education and literacy are critical parts of socio-economic advancement of Ghana. They upgrade the obtaining of information, abilities, qualities and states of mind that encourage the improvement of individual limits for socio-economic prosperity. From the analysis, most of the accounting staff has attained high level of education with 35.2% attaining master's degree.

The response on the educational level of respondents is summarized in the table 4.1;

Table 4.1: Educational level of Respondents

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	High school certificate	31	12.6
	Diploma	41	16.7
	Bachelor's Degree	62	25.3
	Master's Degree	71	28.97
	Others	40	16.3
	Total	**245**	**100.0**

Those if the master's degree are having the highest level of educational level of respondents with a frequency of 71 represent 28.97%.

4.3.4 Professional Qualification

The study also, sought to find out the professional qualification of the respondents. Since most professional bodies/associations expect their members to adhere to certain standards, the researcher sought to find out the professional bodies the respondents belong to, the researcher expect the respondents to be conversant with the IFRS regulations. The professional bodies the respondents belong to are captured in Figure 4.3.

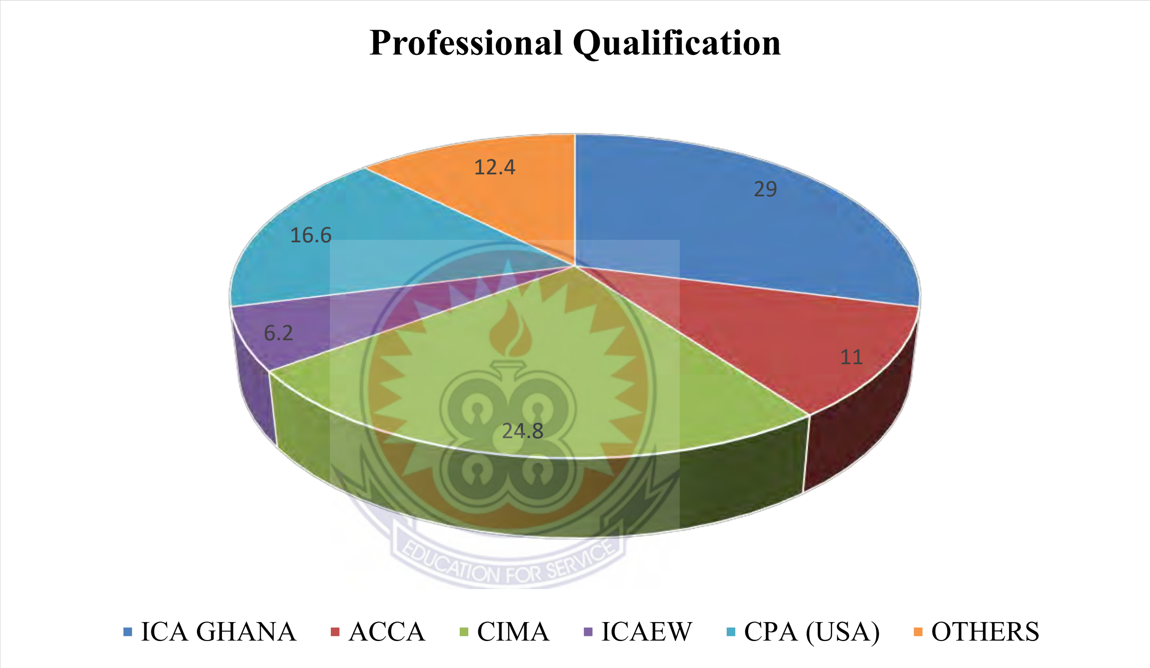

Figure 4.3: Professional qualifications of the Respondents

Source: Field Work, (2019)

Fig 4.3 show that majority of the respondents belong to professional accounting bodies, with 29% belong to ICA Ghana, 24.80% associating themselves with CIMA, whilst 16.6% hold membership in CPA (USA). 12.4% of the respondents also stated that, they belong to other professional bodies. The intuition here is that most of the respondents belong to professional bodies, as such members are expected to be familiar with IFRS implementation in Ghana hence they are good sample for this study.

4.3.5 Industry Distribution of Respondents

The industry in which the respondents belong to is mainly categorized into fan milk, Cocoa Processing Company, Guinness Ghana Breweries, Produce Buying Company, Unilever Ghana among others. The information in the table demonstrates that larger part of the respondents worked in industries. Their respective percentages are 20.41%, 20.41%, 20.41%, 20.41%, whilst cocoa processing company had the lowest number of respondents of 18.36%. This shows an even distribution of respondents across all the major sectors of the economy, bringing diversity into the study.

Table 4.2: The industry distribution for the respondents

		Frequency	Percent (%)
Valid	Fan Milk	50	20.41
	Guinness Ghana	50	20.41
	Cocoa Processing	45	18.36
	Produce Buying Company	50	20.41
	Unilever Ghana	50	20.41
	Total	**245**	**100.0**

Source: Field Work, (2019)

4.3.6 Role of Respondents within the Industry

Table 4.3: Role of Respondents within the Industry

Staffs	Respondents
Financial Analyst	22.1
Manager	17.9
Investors,	14.5
Auditors	13.8
Accountants	12.4
Fund Manager	11.7
Others	7.6

Sources: Researcher compilation from survey data (2019)

The Figure 4.4 shows the role of all the respondents within the industry in which they are working.

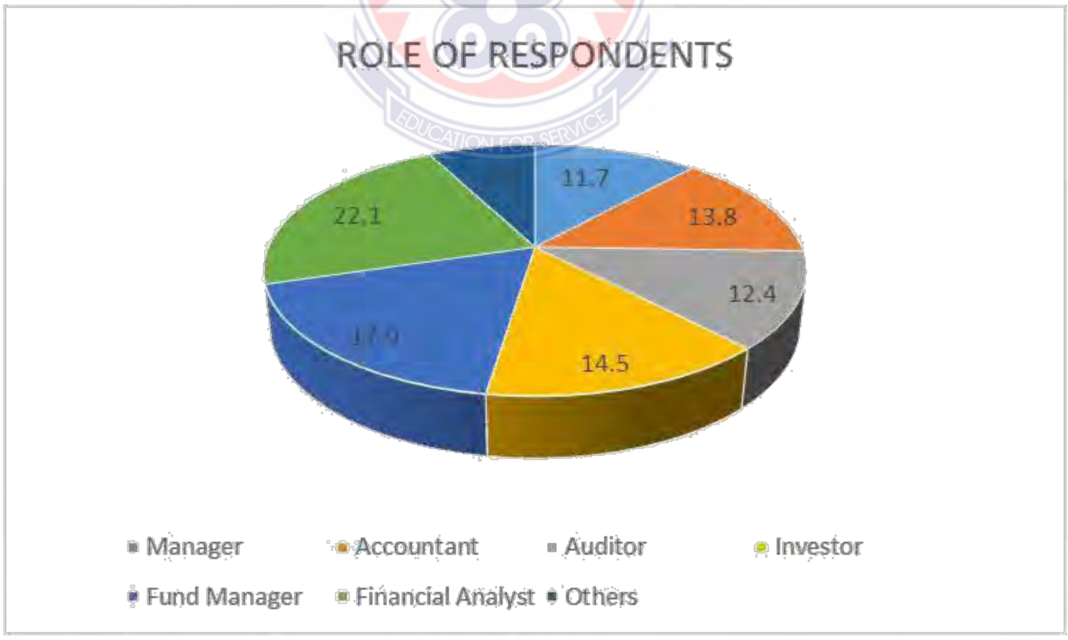

Figure 4.4: Role of Respondents

Source: Field Work, (2019)

Result of the research shows that majority of respondents are financial analyst, they accounted for 22.1% of the total respondents, and this was followed by fund managers having 17.9%. Investors, auditors and accountants were 14.5%, 13.28% and 12.4% respectively while managers of organization were 11.7%. This therefore shows the level of influence the implementation IFRS has on organizations that have adopted the standards and their debt of knowledge about the standards.

4.3.7 Years of Experience

Figure 4.5,this shows the distribution of number of years a respondent has worked within the industry, it helped the researcher to know the respondents level of experience and how they have made use of the standard available to the industry to which they belong.

Figure 4.5: Years of Experience

Source: Field Work, (2019)

They study showed that greater part of the respondents have worked in their various industries between 2 to 6 years making 58%, followed by those who had worked for more than 10 years consisting 19.9%. For those who worked for less than a year were about 7.3%.

4.4 Analysis of Factors that influence the Adoption of IFRS in Ghana

Factors in the adoption of IFRS in Ghana. These are;

4.4.1 Economic Development

4.4.2 Economic Growth

4.4.3 Legal System

4.4.4 Existence of Capital Market

4.4.5 Effectiveness of Previous Accounting System

4.4.1 Economic Development

Economic factors are one of the main contributing factors with socio economic development of every nation. As such it is also, a rare factor in the development of a country's accounting system. As a country develops and moves from one state to other, the base of the economy changes which demands changes in the entire computation of economic variables such as gross domestic product and its accounting system. Accounting as a means of communication must be able to show the through state of affairs of every economic activity.

This clearly shows that a country's state of development will determine its appropriate accounting system that it should adopt. The bar chart below depicts the responses from the respondents on whether economic development had some impact on the adoption of IFRS in Ghana.

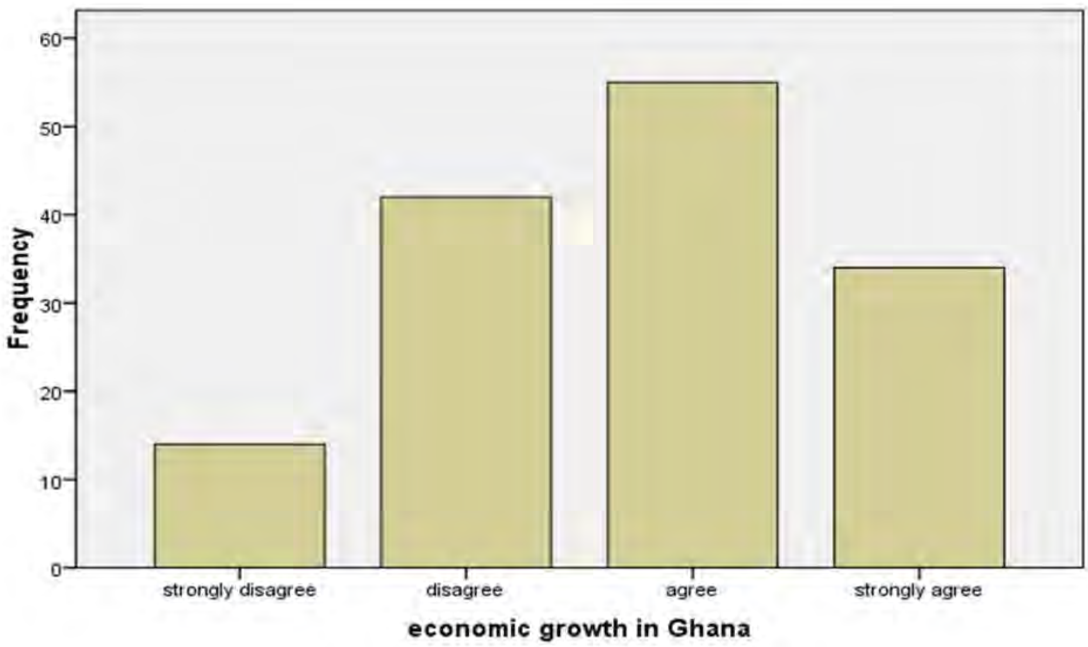

Figure 4.6: Economic Growth

Source: Field Work, (2019)

The Figure 4.6shows that about 140 (90 agree and 50 strongly agree) of the respondents agree to the assertion that economic development has influence on Ghana's IFRS adoption whiles 105 (60 strongly disagree and 45 disagree) disagrees with it. From the above, it can be justifiably be say that economic growth affected the adoption of IFRS in Ghana.

4.4.2 Legal System

Ghana inherited most of its laws after in-dependence from British legal framework and its common law system. Under these laws autonomous expert articulate and legalize the accounting practices in Ghana. The Companies Code of Ghana which was formulated in 1963 is based on United Kingdom legislation. This regulation permits these free bodies to take certain choices without government impedance so far as it's inside of their lawful mandate. The Institute for Chartered Accountants Ghana (ICAG) and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) bear the principle obligations of putting the Ghanaian accounting altogether. Despite the fact that without an unmistakable legitimate mandate, the ICAG, plans and guarantee the execution of accounting standards in Ghana whiles SEC sees to the agreeability of recorded organizations with fitting reporting standards. Below is the detailed response from the respondents on whether legal system has any effect on IFRS adoption in Ghana.

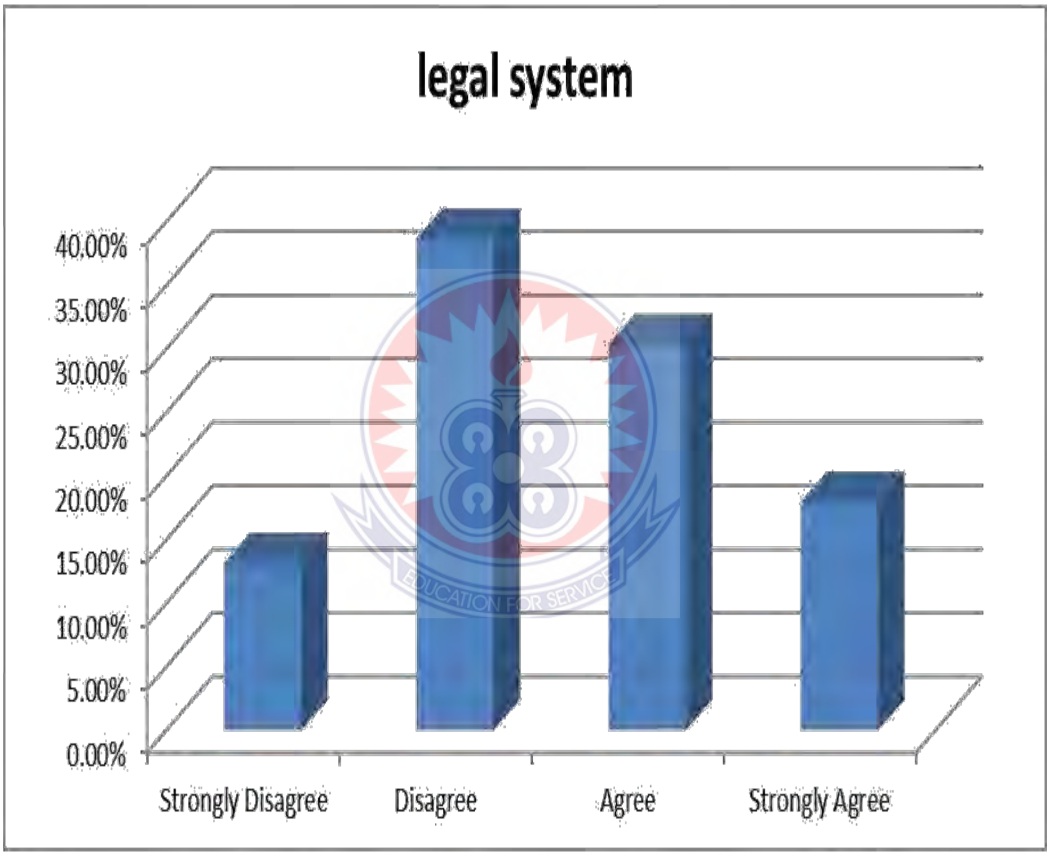

Figure 4.7: Legal System

Source: Field Work, (2019)

The results from the bar chart above shows that approximately 49% of the respondents think that legal system has a meaningful effect on the IFRS adoption whilst 51% disagrees Ghana's legal system has any effect on the IFRS adoption. It can therefore be concluded that there is weaker relationship between legal system and IFRS adoption in Ghana.

4.4.3 External Environmental Factors

External environmental pressures exercised by institutions such as international monetary fund (IMF), World Bank, international Accounting firms besides the presence of foreign investors can greatly influence the adoption of a particular accounting policy. The level of openness of economy to any of the aforementioned bodies can result in the adoption of accounting policy that is globally acceptable and recognized. In the instance of Ghana, the World Bank is on record to have recommended the adoption of IFRS, afterward studying the Ghanaian accounting system and formulating the Report on Observance of Standards and Codes. This study was also designed to find out the opinions of the respondents on their take on the degree to which external environmental factors can influence IFRS adoption. The result is shown in the figure 4.8.

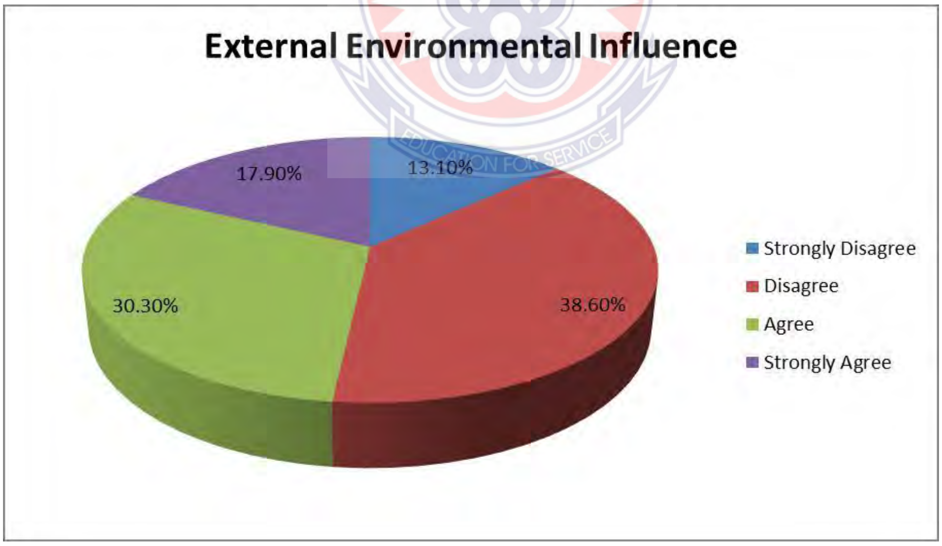

Figure 4.8: External Environment

Source: Field Work, (2019)

The figure 4.8 shows that 38.6% of the respondents disagree with the assertion that external environmental factors influenced IFRS adoption, whilst 13.1% also strongly disagree with the assertion. However, 30.30% agree with the assertion and 17.9% of the respondents in strong agreement with the assertion. The overall effect from this observation is that external environmental factors did not actually influence the adoption of IFRS adoption in Ghana.

4.4.4 Existence of Capital Market

Today, many countries in the world compare their economies based on the functioning and performance of their capital markets. Capital market plays an important role in economic growth and economic prosperity of a country. Most developing countries, in Eastern and Central Europe, have implemented reforms in the financial sector, in terms of restructuring and privatization of public companies and the establishment or development of capital markets.

At the core of these changes is the significance of taking an interest institution towards monetary improvement as a rule, and performance of capital markets specifically. Capital markets in developing nations do not have meaning of activating domestic resources for financing, additionally giving or attracting foreign direct investment. Capital markets will impact on enhancing the preparation of domestic resources to finance and advance the efficient utilization of capital. The results from the study on whether or not existence of capital market indeed induced the adoption of IFRS in Ghana are shown in the figure 4.9;

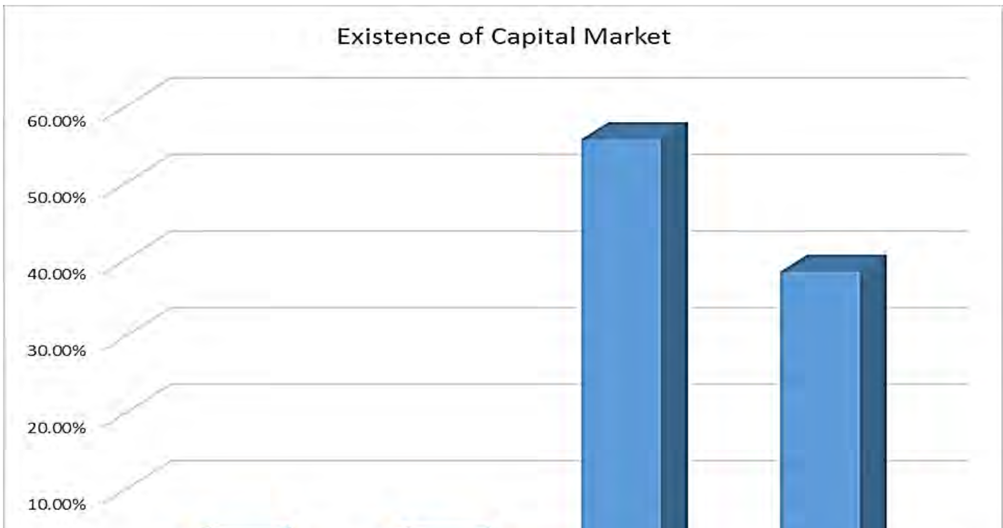

Figure 4.9: Existence of Capital Market

Source: Field Work, (2019)

The measurements portrays that more than ninety four percent (94.5%) of the respondents agree, or strongly agree with the attestation that the presence of capital markets influenced the adoption of IFRS in Ghana, with just 5.6% of the respondents not in agreement with the affirmation that presence of capital market surely instigated the adoption of IFRS in Ghana. The presence of capital market consequently impacted extraordinarily the adoption of IFRS in Ghana.

4.4.5 Effectiveness of the Previous Accounting System

As part of its over sight responsibility the World Bank in 2004 set up a body to study and report on the effectiveness of Ghana National accounting and audit standards. The commission was among other things was to recommend the standards conformity with international standards and its effectiveness in meeting the challenges and expectations of the 21st century. In this study a number of discrepancies were recognized in the Ghanaian Accounting and Audit standards. These discrepancies involve old standards, non-adherence of a few standards with international standards, no execution guide on the Ghana National Accounting Standards; furthermore there were no measures to implement compliance with the current Ghana National Accounting Standards (Gyasi, 2010).The researcher therefore sought to find out from the respondents on their views on the effectiveness of previous accounting system in Ghana; the results are shown in the Figure 4.10.

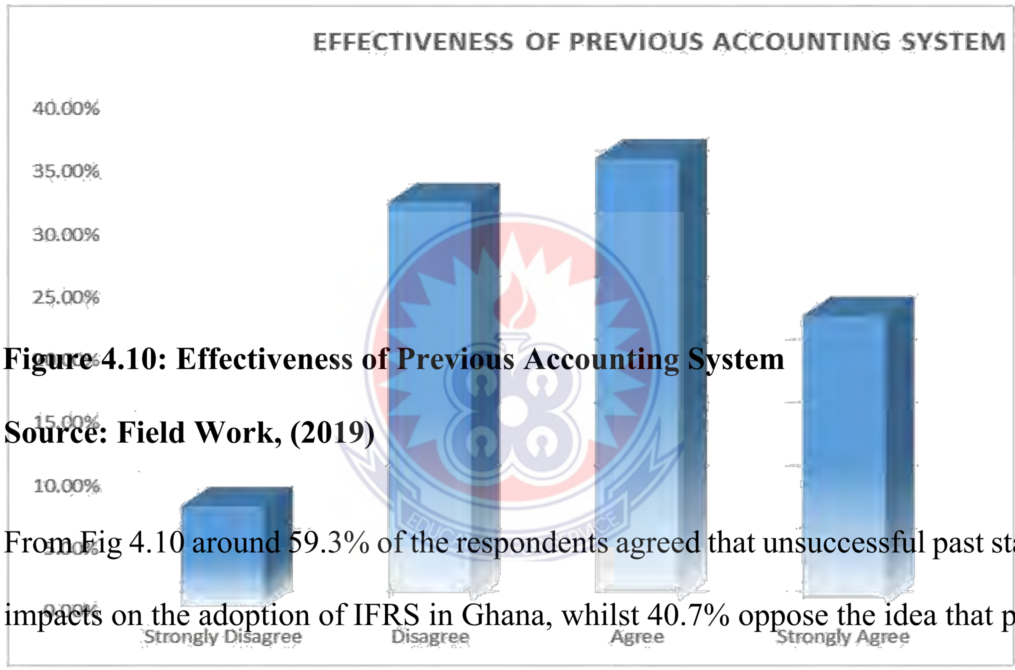

Figure 4.10: Effectiveness of Previous Accounting System

Source: Field Work, (2019)

From Fig 4.10 around 59.3% of the respondents agreed that unsuccessful past standards impacts on the adoption of IFRS in Ghana, whilst 40.7% oppose the idea that previous accounting that unsuccessful past has impact on the adoption of IFRS in Ghana.

4.4.6 Summary of Factors that Influence IFRS Adoption

It must be noted that majority of the variables identified had varying degrees of influence on IFRS adoption. The figure below summarizes the elements that impact IFRS adoption in Ghana.

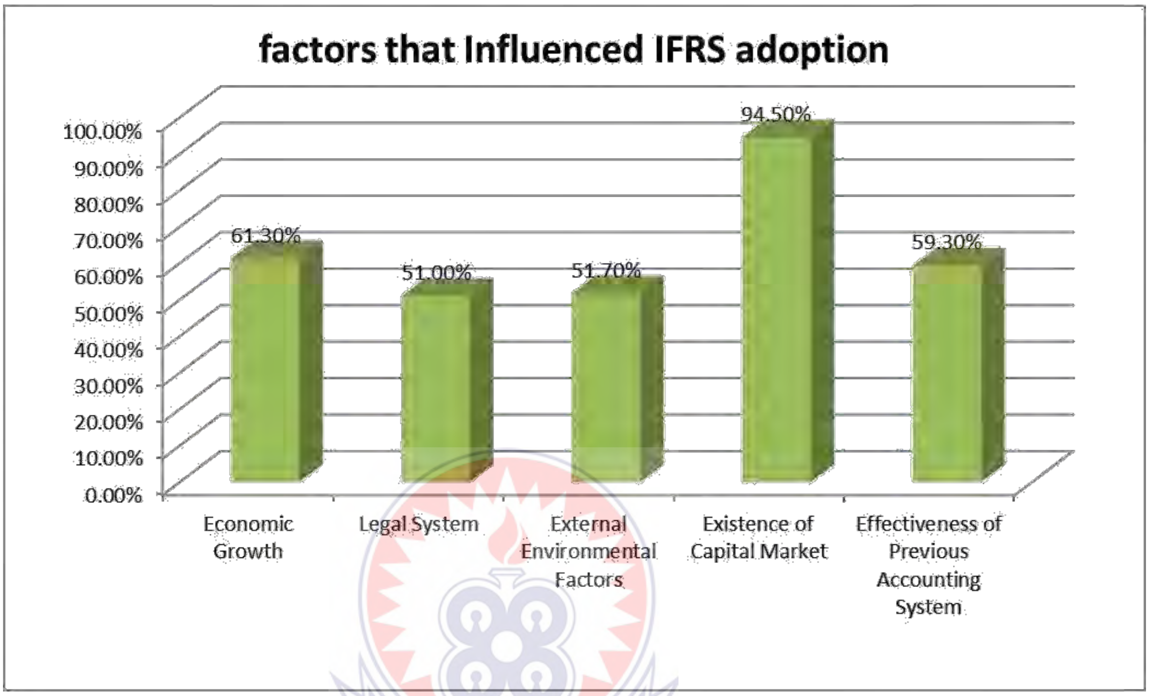

Figure 4.11: Factors That Influence IFRS Adoption

Source: Field Work, (2019)

Figure 4.11 shows that 61.3% of the respondents agree with the assertion that economic growth indeed influences IFRS adoption. 51.0% of the respondents affirms the assertion on legal system and IFRS adoption, whilst the a whopping 94.5% of the respondents affirms existence of capital market to be a major influence on IFRS adoption in Ghana, and the effectiveness of the previous accounting system accounted for 59.3% of the respondents. However, 51.7% of the respondents disagree those external environmental factors such as World Bank, IMF, and foreign investors etc. influence IFRS adoption. From the above we can conclude that existence of capital market had the highest weight on the elements that influence the implementation of IFRS in Ghana.

4.5 Relationship between IFRS Implementation and Performance

The study was also designed to capture the relationship between IFRS implementation and Performance. The table below captures the responses from the respondents. This is followed with regression and correlation analysis to understand the extent of such relationship if any. This was based on four optional responses from which respondents were expected to choose from. The responses are Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD). Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was used for data analysis;

Table 4.3: Relationship between IFRS implementation and performance

r = nΣxy – (Σx) (Σy)/√ n [Σx2 – (Σx) 2] [nΣy2 – (Σy2)

S/N	Variables Response (%)	Preparers of Financial Statement				Users of Financial Statement			
		SD	D	A	SA	SD	D	A	SA
1	IFRS improves the quality of financial statements and increase access to global capital market	12 (20%)	10 (17%)	18 (30%)	20 (33%)	5 (6%)	14 (16%)	23 (27%)	43(51)
2	Users of Financial Statement one standard for both parent and subsidiary companies	10 (17%)	9 (15%)	20 (33%)	21 (35%)	13 (15%)	6 (7%)	19 22%)	44 (52%)
3	IFRS has positive effect on the information for control and decision making by financial statement like investors	11 (18%)	12 (20%)	17 (28%)	20 (33%)	15(18)	6 (7%)	14 (16%)	50 (59%)
4	IFRS adoption has significant effect on FDI in flows	10 (17%)	7 (12%)	8 (13%)	35 (58%)	13 (15%)	8 (9%)	38 (45%)	26 (31%)

IFRS improves the quality of financial statements and increase access to global capital market 20% 17%, 30%, 33% of financial statement and 6%, 16%, 27%, 51% of Users of Financial Statement.

Users of Financial Statement one standard for parent and subsidiary companies 17%, 15%, 33% 35% of financial statement and 15%, 7%, 22%, 52%of Users of Financial Statement.

Calculation of Correlation

Question 21 (21) The relationship between IFRS implementation and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows

The table below focuses on the importance of accounting harmonization in foreign activities at the country level. The adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) considered to reduce information costs among countries and, therefore, to encourage international trade in goods and investment. The results provide evidence that benefits exist in terms of trade in goods and foreign direct investment when IFRS are adopted.

Table 4.4:The relationship between IFRS implementation and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows

	Preparers of Financial Statement					Users of Financial Reports (UFS)			
Options	**Point (x)**	**Response (y)**	**Xy**	**x2**	**y2**	**Point (x)**	**Response (y)**	**x2**	**y2**
SA	4	35	140	16	1,225	4	26	16	676
A	3	8	24	9	64	3	38	9	1,444
D	2	7	14	4	49	2	8	4	64
SD	1	10	10	1	100	1	13	1	169
Σ	10	60	180	30	1,438	10	85	10	2,356

Source: Field Survey 2019

Calculation of FDI Correlation based on Average Response

The International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) adoption by companies in Kumasi metropolis has a lower impact on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows, as compared to IFRS adoption by companies in Kumasi. Furthermore, difference in difference analysis illustrates a higher increase of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows after adopting IFRS.

Table 4.5: Calculation of FDI Correlation based on Average Response

Options	Point (x)	Average Response AR (y)	Xy	(x2)	(y2)
SD	1	11.5	11.50	1	132.25
D	2	7.5	15.00	4	56.25
A	3	23	69.00	9	529.00
SA	4	30.5	122.00	16	930.25
Σ	10	72.5	217.5	30	1,647.75

Using Pearson's Correlation function;

Source: Field Survey 2019 (Note: AR = Average Response)

r = nΣxy – (Σx) (Σy)/√ n [Σx2 – (Σx) 2] [nΣy2 – (Σy) 2]

Where;

N = 4

Σxy=217.5

(Σx)=10

(Σy)=72.5

Σx2=30

Σy2=1,647.75

r = (4 x 217.5) – (10 x 72.5)/ 4 (30) – 10 x10) (4x 1,647.75) – 5,256.25)

r = (870 – 725) /√ (120 – 100) – (6,591 – 5,256.25)

r = (145)/ √20 -1,334.75

r = 145/ √-1,314.75

r = 145/ -36.26

r = -3.99

The calculation of r was -3.99which less than 0.5 level of significance is. Hence there is a negative relationship between IFRS adoption and FDI inflows.

Calculation of Correlation based on firm Performance

The table below show the measure based on firm performance of companies that may not only depend on the efficiency of the company itself but also on the market where it operates. In financial sector, it also known as financial stability.

Table 4.6: Calculation of Correlation based on firm Performance

Option	Point (x)	Average Response AR (y)	Xy	(x2)	(y2)
SA	4	33	132	16	1,089
A	3	55.5	55.5	9	342.25
D	2	21.6	21.6	4	116.64
SD	1	11	11	1	121
Σ	10	73.3	220.1	30	1,668.89

Using Pearson's Correlation function;

Source: Field Survey 2019 (Note: AR = Average Response)

r = nΣxy – (Σx) (Σy)/√ n [Σx2 – (Σx) 2] [nΣy2 – (Σy) 2

r = (4 x 73.3) – (10 x 73.3)/ √ (120- 100) (6,675.56 – 5,372.89)

r = (293.2 – 733) / 161.41

r = 2.72

The calculation r was 2.72 is more than 0.5 level of importance, hence there a positive relationship between firm performance and IFRS adoption in Ghana.

4.6 Mechanisms to Monitor Compliance

The table 4.7 is to enable the researcher answer the first research objective of mechanisms that can be used to monitor and enforce IFRS compliance, the researcher was able to identify 5 of the mechanisms.

4.6.1 Training on IFRS

Training of staff on IFRS by organizational heads was one of the mechanisms that was identified to help in the compliance of IFRS. The study showed that since adoption in 2007 there has been series of training sessions on IFRS, its adoption and compliance. Out of 145 respondents 35.8% of them disagree to the fact that more education should be given in relation to IFRS, but on the contrary 19.9% agreed to the fact that training must still be given because more and more people keep coming into the industry.

4.6.2 Stakeholders Awareness of IFRS

The first step to achieve success is to create awareness on the standard, when stakeholders are made to know and understand the reasons and benefits they will derive from working with the IFRS that have been introduced to them. These standards are reviewed time after time but before an organization can derive its full benefit after adoption, the review must be well circulated and understood so that full compliance can be achieved. From the study conducted respondents who agreed to the fact that stakeholders' awareness is actually being practiced were about 17.2% out of the total sample size. For those who disagree to this were 31.8% and respondents who toke a neutral stand were 23.8%, this means that this mechanism is actually being practiced by fewer companies who have registered on the Ghana Stock exchange although all companies have complied..

4.6.3 Harmonization with regulatory bodies

Harmonization with regulatory bodies was another mechanism identified by the researcher. Only 14.6% agree that harmonization with regulatory bodies is fully practiced in their organization. This means that majority of these companies do not harmonize with regulatory bodies, this is due to the cost incurred during compliance. Regulatory bodies are there to implement supervisory roles that may be in the form of enforcing requirements and constraints, also coming out with guidelines in respect of any activity, and obtaining compliance.

4.6.4 Efficient enforcement methods to ensure compliance

The measure that should be put in place to help organizations in the process of compliance, the process of compliance with IFRS must be made easy for all embrace with ease. From the study it was just 19.2% who agreed that there are in existence efficient enforcement methods to ensure compliance while 49.6% disagree otherwise.

Table 4.7: Summary of Mechanisms to Ensure Compliance

Research Question	Frequency (Percentage)				Total
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	
Training on IFRS	13 (9.0%)	35 (24.1%)	50 (34.5%)	47 (32.4%)	245 (100%)
Stakeholders awareness of IFRS	35(24.1%)	48(33.1)	36(24.8%)	26(17.9%)	245(100%)
Harmonizing with regulatory bodies	21(14.5%)	63(43.4)	39(26.9%)	22(15.2%)	245(100%)
Establish efficient Enforcement mechanisms to ensure Compliance	31(21.4%)	44(30.3%)	41(28.3%)	29(20.0%)	245(100%)

The analyses on the Training on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) on Strongly Disagree 13 (9.0%), Disagree35 (24.1%), Agree 50(34.5%), and Strongly Agree47(32.4%) are the total of 245 that is 100%.

The analyses on the Stakeholders awareness on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) show Strongly Disagree 35(24.1%), Disagree48(33.1), Agree 36(24.8%), and Strongly Agree 26(17.9%) are the total of 245 that is 100%.

The analyses on the Harmonizing with regulatory bodies on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) on Strongly Disagree 21(14.5%), Disagree 63(43.4%), Agree39(26.9%), and Strongly Agree22(15.2%) are the total of 245 that is 100%.

The analyses on the Efficient Enforcement mechanisms to ensure Compliance on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) on Strongly Disagree 31(21.4%), Disagree44(30.3%), Agree41(28.3%), and Strongly Agree29(20%) are the total of 245 that is 100%.

4.7 Problems Encountered During Compliance

For the researcher's second objective to be met thus problems companies encounter during the compliance of IFRS, the following were identified.

4.7.1 IFRS are Complex and Difficult

Due to the nature and complexity of the accounts to be prepared and the requirements that are demanded under IFRS, professional would have to do them by themselves meaning that they cannot delegate. Under IFRS a multinational company has a lot of requirements to meet, since they would have to prepare a consolidated group account and they prepare one for each subsidiary making it tedious. From the data collated by the researcher 46.4% of the total sample size disagrees to this while 11.3% agrees that account preparation under IFRS looks complex and difficult

4.7.2 Frequent changes on IFRS

Frequent changes occur due to the fact that the IASB has a research team who always conduct research to find out lapses in the various standard set so modification can be done on them. The standard setters have also given room for uses of the standard to make their recommendation as and when the see any problem or have any difficulty during the implementation and application of the standards. After the recommendation the boards sits down to access and test if it can make the standard easy to understand and apply, it is then circulated to all centers to be applied by stakeholders who have adopted. The study show that majority agreed to that yes frequent changes do occur and the world being a dynamic place changes will always come, but those changes must be communicated well. This gave the researcher 52.9% who agreed and 18.5% who did not agree.

4.7.3 Inadequate Qualified Accountants

From the study conducted it came to the knowledge of the researcher that the process involved in attaining the qualification to be called a Chartered accountants is tedious and takes a long time too for this reason there are not much adequate qualified accountants in Ghana. This is due to the fact that individuals who want to charter must go through the process of writing professional exams which is not easy at all to pass, but that is going to give that individual the required knowledge to know and apply these standards. Since it is the understanding get in the field on knowledge that will help in the adequate implantations process. Moreover the researcher observes that most of the chartered accountants lack adequate competence in relation to the application of IFRS.

4.7.4 Cost Associated with IFRS Compliance

The cost involved is largely dependent on the size and nature of the organization, and for those that are listed on Stock Exchange they are very large once. Cost can be in relation to staff training and the implementation of IT support system and financial reporting in relation to operation. It is always the expectation of any organization to gain some income after they have incurred some cost. Cost in a form of comprehensive training for new staff or existing staff members in case any review is done on any of the standards.

Table 4.8: Summary of Problem in Compliance

Research question	Frequency (percentage)				Total
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	
IFRS are complex and Difficult	30(12.2%)	55(22.4%)	70(29%)	90(37%)	245(100%)
Frequent changes on IFRS	29(12%)	60(25.4%)	40(16.3%)	116(47.3%)	245(100%)
Inadequate number of professional accountants in the country	60(24.4%)	49(20%)	78(32%)	55(2.4%)	245(100%)
Inadequate technical competence in applying IFRS	35(14.2%)	69(28.1%)	77(31.4%)	71(29%)	245(100%)
Inadequate regulatory bodies to monitor and ensure compliance with IFRS	39(30%)	52(21.2%)	87(36%)	67(22%)	245(100%)
Cost assorted with IFRS compliance is high compared to benefit	77(31.4%)	68(28%)	60(25.4%)	40(16.3%)	245(100%)

The table 4.8 shows the analyses of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) complex and difficult out of 245(100%), Strongly Disagree 30(12.2%), Disagree 52(22.4%), Agree70(29%) and StronglyAgree90(37%).

The table above shows the analyses of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)Inadequate number of professional accountants in the country out of 245(100%), Strongly Disagree 60(24.4%)Disagree 49(20%)Agree78(32%)and StronglyAgree55(2.4%)

The analyses of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) of Inadequate technical competence in applying out of 245(100%), strongly Disagree 35(14.2%) Disagree 69(28.1%) Agree 77(31.4%) and Strongly 71(29%)

The analyses of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and of Inadequate regulatory bodies to monitor and ensure compliance, 245(100%), strongly Disagree 39(30%), Disagree 52(21.2%) Agree 87(36%) and Strongly 67(22%)

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter considers three main components which are the major findings drawn from the research, necessary recommendations to the field of study and final conclusion.

5.2 Summary of Findings

The researcher from the investigations identified some key factors that have influence on the adoption of IFRS. These were economic development which had about 90% of the respondents agreed to the fact that economic division has an influence on the adoption of IFRS. For the legal system in Ghana the relationship between the two thus IFRS implementation and legal system of Ghana was weak, the data collected had 51%of the respondents disagreed to the assertion that the Ghana's legal system has an impact on the implementation of IFRS.

As to whether external environmental factors influences IFRS implementation was about 43.48% of the respondents who agreed while the rest disagreed to external environmental factors. The statistic depicts that over 94.5% of respondents agrees that the existence of capital market has a constructive impact on the acceptance of IFRS in Ghana.

Respondents who agreed that the effectiveness of previous accounting system does not have an effect on the adoption of IFRS was about 59.3%, form the above facts presented the indicator that had the highest percentage was the existence of capital market which had 94.5% of the total score. That is to say that the existence of capital market has the greatest influence when it comes to the adoption of IFRS.

The relationship between performance and IFRS implementation, two main factors were used to determine it, first of all was checking the relationship that existed between IFRS implementation and foreign direct investment the results showed a negative relationship between the two components. The correlation calculated was – 3.99 which is below 0.5 level of significance. The second sections used three indicators for the correlation determination these were:

The use of IFRS as a means of improving quality financial statement and increase assess to global capital market, the percentage released was 51%. Also using IFRS adoption to ensure the usage of one principle for both parent and subsidiary firm's statement preparation carried about 52%. Finally whether IFRS has an outcome on the information provided for control purposes and choice making through users of financial statement was about 59% of respondent who strongly agreed to the above indicators. When the three above indicators were combined in the correlation calculation, there was an improvement of positive relationship which was 2.72. This is to showing that an organizations performance using above indicators has a positive impact on the adoption of IFRS.

Also mechanisms to help maintain compliances of IFRS were identified as follows: Training on IFRS by the board to all stakeholders was one of the mechanisms identified which had about 66.9% of respondent agreeing. The next indicator that was identified is for the IASB to provide guidelines on IFRS implementation. Creating more awareness of IFRS by stakeholders especially for students to know and perform better when in future they begin to use these standards practically on the field.

Furthermore about 61.3% of the respondents agreed that the IASB can develop a supported version of IFRS to make it more user friendly to help stakeholders be conversant with the standards so its application can be easy.

5.2 Conclusion

The accounting regulatory authorities throughout the world have sought to improve the quality of financial disclosure and communication in a wide context of economic globalization. This has resulted in introduction of new reforms into the accounting practice a means of communicating with the various interested stakeholders, and its subsequent adoption of the international financial reporting standards. These standards among other things seek to bring convergence in the global accounting practices. It has subsequently been adopted by many countries both developed and developing as a means of bringing congruence into their reporting standards. Hence, the present work's objective, which seeks to analyze the level of compliance by listed firms on Ghana's stock exchange with regards to IFRS by analyzing the views of interested parties.

The result of the empirical analysis have shown that IFRS adoption in Ghana was positively influenced by economic the growth rate, existence of financial market, weakness of previous accounting system, and a common law based on legal systems. Other factors such as external environmental factors influence of the World Bank and international monetary fund has no significant effect on IFRS adoption in Ghana. These agencies have collectively considered these results leading us to concede that the decision to adopt the international standard is closely related to developing countries' institutional environment (above all the legal system) as well as to their macroeconomic data (i.e. their economic and educational growth level). This allows us to identify the existence of the trend in the developing countries vis-à-vis the international accounting standards. This finding highlight's the difference that distinguishes the results achieved by similar studies relevant to the developed countries and that of the developing countries. On the relationship between IFRS adoption and Performance, the value of r calculated (Pearson correlation) shows that there is a positive relationship between IFRS adoption and overall performance.

Finally, on compliance by the listed companies, the study revealed that all the companies surveyed are using IFRS as the standard of reporting, since Ghana institute of chartered accountants made it compulsory for all companies to switch to the standard in 2007, hence there has been efficient and effective compliance with the standards. The overall intuitions gathered from this study shows that, there is a high level of compliance by listed companies with regards to IFRS adoption in Ghana.

5.3 Recommendations

The ISAB must set up more regulatory bodies preferably every country must have a body to monitor all activities by companies listed on the stock exchange concerning the implementation of IFRS. Every country must ensure that their regulatory bodies are up and doing, thus strict measures for compliance should be put in place. These regulatory bodies must be strengthening from time to time.

Also independent monitory bodies must be set to monitor objectively compliance by companies who are listed on the stock exchange.

There must be more educational seminars and forums conducted by standard setters to help stakeholders understand each standard, how and when to apply these standards. The educational institutions must make students understand the debt of each standard to make its application with more ease. Changes done on standards must be communicated on time to all stakeholders so they can get use to how it is applied.

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APPENDIX A

UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA

COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION, KUMASI

ACCOUNTING EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

QUESTIONNAIRES FOR MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

KUMASI BASED COMPANIES

This questionnaire is designed to extract information aimed at helping me to write my MBA thesis. The topic of this thesis is to assess Ghanaian Companies Level of Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The information collected is purely for academic purpose and any information given will be treated with high confidentiality.

Please tick where it applies.

(1) Gender [ ] Male [ ] Female

(2) Age

[ ] less than 25

[ ] 21- 30

[ ] 31- 40

[ ] 41- 50

[ ] 51 or more

(3) What is your highest level of education

[ ] High school certificate [ ] Bachelor's degree

[ ] Master's degree [ ] others(specify)………………

[ ] Diploma holder [ ] PhD

(4) What professional qualification do you have?

[ ] ICA GHANA [ ] CIMA

[ ] ACCA [ ] ICAESW

[ ] Public certified accountant (USA)[ ] others (specify)……………

(5) In which industry/ sector do you work?

[ ] Manufacturing [ ] NGO

[ ] Government [ ] Security and exchange commission

[ ] Mining

[ ] Banking

[ ] Education service

(6) What is your role within the industry

[ ] Manager [ ] Investor

[ ] Accountant [ ] others (specify)………………

[ ] Auditor

(7) How long have you worked in your industry?

[ ] Less than 1 year [ ] 7- 9 years

[ ] 1- 3 years [ ] 10 years or

[ ] 4- 6 years

(8) How many employees do you have in your organization?

[ ] less than 50 [ ] 151- 200

[ ] 51- 100 [ ] above 200

[ ] 101-150

(9) Do you know that Ghana has adopted international financial reporting standards (IFRS)?

[ ] Yes [ ] No

(10) If yes, which year did your company start using IFRS

Please specify……………………………………………………………

(11) If you compare the previous accounting standards to IFRS, which one is easier to apply?

[ ] Previous [ ] IFRS

(12) Which of the two standards do you prefer?

[ ] Previous one [ ] IFRS

(13) State the reason(s) for your answer above

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Factors that influenced your company to adopt International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

In the Questions 14 to 17 given in the table below, please, indicate the extent to which you agree with each statement about the factors that influenced the adoption of IFRS by your company. Please, use a scale of 1 – 4, with 1 representing **strongly disagree, 2 disagree, 3 Agree,4 strongly agrees**

QUESTION	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
(14) Economic growth in Ghana greatly influenced the adoption of IFRS.				
(15) The legal system influenced IFRS adoption.				
(16) The external environment forces such as IMF, WORLD BANK influenced IFRS adoption.				
(17) Existence of capital market influenced IFRS adoption.				
(18) Previous accounting standards were ineffective				

(19) Section B: Mechanism To Ensure Compliance At IFRS

Please the following are the mechanisms to which IFRS compliance can be ensured. Please indicate your perception on each statement made below by ticking the ax appropriate agreement –box according to the agreement legend supplied:

5. Strongly Agree 4. Agree 3. Neutral 2. Disagree 1. Strongly Disagree

Variables					
Training on IFRS					
Stakeholders awareness of IFRS					
Providing guidelines and implementation					
Harmonizing with other regulatory bodies					
Establish efficient and enforcement mechanisms to ensureCompliance					
Develop a supported version IFRS to make ituser friendly					

Other (specify)……………………………………………………………………….

Section C: Problems Facing IFRS

(20) The following are problems facing IFRS, please indicate your perception on each statement made below by ticking the ax appropriate agreement –box according to the agreement legend supplied. **5. Strongly Agree 4. Agree 3. Neutral 2. Disagree 1. Strongly Disagree**

Problems facing IFRS					
IFRS are complex and difficult					
Frequent changes on IFRS					
Inadequate number of professional accountants in the country					
Inadequate technical competence in applying IFRS					
Inadequate regulatory bodies to monitor and ensure compliance with IFRS					
Cost assorted with IFRS compliance is high compared to Benefit					

Other (specify)……………………………………………………………………….

(21) What other factors from your viewpoint influenced the adoption of IFRS by your company other than those mentioned above?

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(22) Are you fully conversant with the relevant standards that relates to your industry?

[ ] Yes [ ] No

(23) If NO in the above, please give reason(s)

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(24) From your point of view, how beneficial is IFRS to Ghana and the companies practicing them.

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(25) How does the IFRS affect your financial statement preparation?

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