

MEASURING THE LEVEL OF INFLUENCE OF SOME FACTORS ON THE QUALITY OF AUDITING FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF AUDITORS

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Abstract:	Keyword
This study aims to know the factors affecting the quality of auditing from the point of view of auditors, and to come up with results and recommendations that contribute to raising and developing the performance of audit offices, while providing some guidance to government agencies and associations regulating the profession that help to find effective professional control over auditing, and to achieve the objectives of this study, some hypotheses have been formulated to achieve this and answer its questions. The researcher followed the descriptive analytical approach in the research and designed and distributed a scientific questionnaire to the study community, which is represented by the owners of audit offices. Using SPSS also, the researcher analyzed the questionnaire data through the statistical program various statistical tests, and the study reached a set of results, the most important of which is the existence of a significant positive impact on the quality of auditing and between both scientific qualification and scientific experience and the auditor's familiarity with generally accepted auditing standards, and the organization of the audit office, its size, reputation and fame. While the results showed that there were no statistically significant differences in the relationships affecting the quality of auditing from the point of view of the auditors according to the personal characteristics of the auditors. In light of the results of the study, the researcher recommended a set of recommendations, the most important of which are: attention to scientific and professional qualification and sufficient practical experience for workers in audit offices, with the need to focus on keeping pace with modern developments of the profession, and the research also recommended official authorities and professional associations to adopt local accounting and audit standards, and to review the legislation and laws regulating the profession in order to address its shortcomings and shortcomings, while giving professional associations the status of mandatory for the directives and instructions issued by them	factors, quality, audit.

INTRODUCTION

The auditors bear a large part of the responsibility by accusing them of not being able to perform their professional duties in a manner consistent with accounting principles and standards and adhering to the ethics and conduct of the profession, which led to shaking the image of the auditor and spreading a bad reputation for audit offices and companies. This was reflected in a set of negative effects, the most important of which is the loss of confidence in accounting information, and therefore this information lost its most important distinguishing element, which is its quality, as the main objective of auditing the financial

statements is to enable the auditor to express his neutral technical opinion on the sincerity of the financial statements' expression of the result of the business and the financial position in accordance with generally accepted and generally accepted accounting principles.

The importance of auditing the financial statements by the independent external auditor is due to the fact that it is a means that serves many parties and parties, which rely heavily on the results of the audit. Finally, the International Standard on Auditing No. (220) Quality Control for Auditing Work appeared, which indicated that all audit offices that issue financial statements to clients must apply quality control standards. As noted and based on the above, we find that the concept of quality in auditing is one of the concepts that has received great scientific and professional attention at the international level, because of its great importance, especially in light of the criticisms directed at the profession. Therefore, we will try through this research to identify the factors affecting the quality of auditing from the point of view of auditors (audit offices and companies), such as the scientific and professional qualification of the auditor, and the organization and reputation of the auditor's office.

The Problem:

The dissatisfaction of the financial community with the performance of the auditors' work stems from what this community expects from the auditors by providing them with financial statements that express honestly and fairly the financial position and are free of material errors, so that the auditor issues an opinion without reservation on the financial statements, while it turns out that there are fundamental errors that affect the accounts and the inability of the entity to continue its work, which is known as (audit gap) as a result of the fact that the auditor did not follow professional standards recognized in the performance of the tasks entrusted to him.

Accordingly, the problem of the study revolves around the following questions:- -What are the means that can be proposed to improve the level of quality of services of auditing professions?

-Does the scientific and professional qualification of the auditor, the organization of his office, his reputation, and his relations affect the quality of the audit process's performance?

The Aim

This study seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1 --Identify the concept of quality of audit work, and highlight the policies and procedures that make up it.

2. Identify the characteristics or factors that affect the quality of the audit. 3. Analyze and determine the relative importance of each of these factors, and study its importance, and the degree of its impact on the quality of the audit.

4- Coming up with results and recommendations that contribute to developing the performance of audit offices and legal auditors to ensure a reasonable level of quality, while providing some guidance to the official authorities and institutions regulating the profession.

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Hypothesis :

In light of the problem of the study and its objectives, and in order to answer the questions of the research and achieve its objectives, the following hypotheses were formulated:

The first hypothesis: "There is no statistically significant relationship between scientific qualification, practical experience, and the auditor's familiarity with generally accepted auditing standards, and the quality of his performance in the audit process."

Second hypothesis: "There is no statistically significant relationship between the organization of the audit office, its reputation, its fame, its relationships with its clients, and the quality of its performance in the audit process".

Importance:

The importance of this research lies in the following:

1- The financial statements audited by the auditors are important to many parties and users, and the credibility of those statements depends on the factors that affect the issuance of those statements.

2- The importance of the field to be addressed by the research, which is (audit quality) from the point of view of auditors, those who practice this profession are the most capable people to judge it, and know its secrets, and the factors affecting it.

3 - Despite the wide interest in the subject of quality in general, and the quality of auditing in particular, this topic has not received its share of research and study as required.

4 - This research emphasizes the need to follow the quality control of audit work, especially after identifying the most important elements affecting the quality of the review.

5 - The interest in auditing quality control and the factors affecting it will open the way for research on this subject, which leads to raising the level of the profession, and increases the level of disclosure and credibility in reports.

The Second Topic

Theoretical framework of quality and its concept in auditing.

The concept of audit quality: Despite the importance of the concept of audit quality, there is no clear, comprehensive and agreed upon definition by researchers and scholars, due to looking at it from multiple and different perspectives. De Angelo is one of the first researchers to define audit quality as: the possibility of requiring a chartered accountant to discover errors and gaps in the client's accounting system, and to record this in his report. (Hamidat, Mohammed 2001, p. 46.

Quality controls according to International Standard on Auditing No. (220) on quality control of the audit process:

The International Standard No. (220) on the quality control of the audit process Quality Control For audit work was issued in June, 1994, and it is one of the international auditing standards (quality control of work in the audit) and this standard aims to provide guidance on quality control for the audit process through: A - Policies and procedures followed by

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the audit office when performing the audit process. B- Procedures related to the delegation of work to assistants to perform the audit process, and quality control policies and procedures must be applied at the level of the audit office as well as to individual audits. Quality controls are a set of procedures and policies adopted by audit offices to provide satisfaction that the audit process has been completed in accordance with defined and recognized standards.

The quality control policy is considered as the objectives that the audit offices seek to achieve, while the control procedures represent the steps and methods that are implemented in order to achieve the specified objectives. The fourth paragraph of IFRS 220 explains what audit firms must do in terms of implementing quality control procedures, which are designed to ensure that all audits are carried out in accordance with international standards on auditing, or appropriate national standards.

The sixth paragraph of the standard indicated that the objectives of quality control policies, which represent the elements of audit quality control, are as follows (Arab Society of Certified Accountants, 2002).

- 1- Professional requirements: means the commitment of the employees of the audit office to the principles of independence, honesty, objectivity, and maintaining confidentiality and professional ethics. These elements, in particular the independence of the auditor, are the backbone of audit quality. The rules, ethics and conduct of the profession issued by the International Federation of Accountants have dealt with these elements in some detail. One of the most important measures to ensure compliance with this oversight element is to inform Bureau personnel at all levels of policies and procedures relating to independence, honesty, objectivity, confidentiality and professional conduct.
- 2- Skills and competence: Audit firms must appoint persons with the necessary scientific and practical qualification to perform audit work with due professional care. This control component is divided into: recruitment and appointment of professionally qualified personnel, professional development through the preparation of training courses for individuals, selection and qualification of trainers, provision of information on ongoing developments in professional and technical standards, and job promotion. The qualifications that are necessary for the various levels of responsibility in the office should be established, with the criteria on which personal performance and expected competence are evaluated, such as technical knowledge, analytical ability, leadership and training skills, customer relationship as well as evaluating the performance of individuals, and informing them of their progress through the use of models that can be modeled for the purpose of evaluating the performance of individuals, and following up on these evaluations.
- 3- Distribution of the tasks of the audit process: It is intended to assign the audit process to a team capable in the review process, and has levels of professional training and professional competence in light of the circumstances surrounding the audit process, through many procedures such as: determining the tasks of each member of the work team from the lead auditor, auditors and assistant auditors, and determining the person supervising the work team to be responsible for distributing individuals to the audit

tasks, taking into account when distributing some elements, such as the number of auditors and time requirements, evaluation For the qualifications of individuals in terms of experience. To achieve this balance, the size of the audit, the availability of individual expertise, customer needs and others must be taken into account.

4-Supervision:

It means the supervision and follow-up of work at all levels, in order to provide appropriate assurance that the work being done meets appropriate quality standards. Procedures that can be followed to achieve this include planning audits, providing procedures for maintaining OIOS quality standards for the work performed, and providing practical training during the implementation of 5- audits. Consultation:

This element of control means the need to consult with others with appropriate experience inside or outside the organization when required, and that there are periodic meetings with the work team by the responsible managing partner in the audit office.

6- Acceptance or termination of work with clients:

The audit office must establish procedures for evaluating the new client before accepting the assignment, and follow up on relationships with existing clients on an ongoing basis, and the audit office must consider its independence and ability to serve the client appropriately.

7- Control: The audit office must continuously monitor the adequacy and effectiveness of quality control policies and procedures in order to assess the effectiveness of the quality control system of the audit office.

The third topic
the field study

Question: "What are the standard auditing standards?" To identify the generally accepted audit standards, frequencies, percentages, arithmetic averages, standard deviations and ranks of the responses of the study subjects were calculated on the statements of the axis of the generally accepted audit standards, and the results were as shown in the following table: Table (1) Responses of the study subjects to the statements of the axis of the generally accepted audit standards in descending order according to the averages of approval.

Place	Standard deviation	Sma	Degree of approval					Repetition	Ferry	Ferry number
			Not effective at all	Very simple effect	Medium effect	high impact	Very high impact	Percentage %		
1	1.337	4.30	1	-	1	1	7	k	Appropriate scientific and professional qualification for all members of the review team	1
			10.0	-	10.0	10.0	700	%		

2	1.567	3.70	1	2	1	1	5	k	Sufficient knowledge of accounting and auditing standards among the auditor	4
			10.0	20.0	10.0	10.0	50.0	%		
3	1.179	3.50	1	-	4	3	2	K	Knowledge of the entire team of the audit of the rules, ethics and behaviors of the profession	2
			10.0	-	40.0	30.0	20.0	%		
4	1.160	3.30	1	1	3	4	1	K	Participation of the auditor in training, continuous qualification and specialized professional seminars	5
			10.0	10.0	30.0	40.0	10.0	%		
5	1.506	2.60	4	-	3	2	1	ك	Availability of sufficient experience among the auditor in the type of industry practiced and belonging to the client's establishment	3
			40.0	-	30.0	20.020.0	10.0	%		
0.844			3.48	Overall average						

It is clear from the results that the study members agree on the effect of one of the review criteria whose impact is known to be very large, which is the statement No. (1), which is "scientific and professional qualification appropriate for all members of the review team" with an average of (4.30 out of 5). It is clear from the results that the study members agree on two of the recognized review criteria that their impact is great, represented in statements No. (4, 2), which were arranged in descending order according to the approval of the study members that their impact is large as follows:

1- Statement No. (4), which is "sufficient knowledge of accounting and auditing standards among the auditors", ranked first in terms of the approval of the study members that its impact is large, with an average of (3.70 out of 5).

2-Statement No. (2), which is "the knowledge of the entire review team of the rules, ethics and behaviors of the profession" came in second place in terms of the approval of the study members that its impact is large with an average of (3.50 out of 5).

It is clear from the results that the study members agree to an average degree on one of the recognized auditing standards that its impact is medium represented in statement No.

(5), which is "the participation of the auditor in training, continuous qualification and specialized professional seminars" with an average of (3.30 out of 5).

It is clear from the results that the study members agree with a slight effect on one of the recognized audit standards that its effect is very simple represented in statement No.

(3), which is "the availability of sufficient experience among the auditors in the type of industry practiced and belonging to the client's establishment" with an average of (2.60 out of 5).

Question: "How organized, reputable and famous is the audit firm"? To identify the extent of the organization of the audit office, its reputation and fame, frequencies, percentages, arithmetic averages, standard deviations and ranks of the responses of the study subjects were calculated on the statements of the axis of the extent of the organization of the audit office, its reputation and fame, and the results were as shown in the following table:

Table No. (2)

Respondents' responses to the statements of the Review's Organization, Reputation, and Fame in Descending Order by Approval Averages

Place	Standard deviation	Sma	Degree of approval					Repetition	Ferry	Number Ferry
			Not effective at all	Very simple effect	Medium effect	high impact	Very high impact	Percentage %		
1	0.632	4.80	-	-	1	-	9	K	Availability of good reputation and fame of the audit office	1
			-	-	100	-	900	%		
2	1.506	3.60	1	2	1	2	4	K	Linking the audit office with one of the international audit offices and companies	3
			100	200	100	200	400	%		
3	1.269	3.50	1	1	2	4	2	K	Lack of lawsuits against the audit office	2
			100	100	200	400	200	%		
4	1.476	3.20	2	1	2	3	2	K	The high degree of competition	5
			200	100	200	300	200	%		

									between audit offices, especially in estimating fees, negatively affects the quality of audit work	
			4	-	2	1	3	K	The large size and reputation of audit offices make them more keen to hire highly qualified auditors, which enhances the quality of audit work	
			400	-	200	100	300		The large size and reputation of audit offices make them more keen to hire highly qualified auditors, which enhances the quality of audit work	
5	1.792	2.90						%	The large size and reputation of audit offices make them more keen to hire highly qualified auditors, which enhances the quality of audit work	4
0.730		3.60	Overall average							

It is clear from the results that the study members agree on the effect of one of the audit criteria recognized to have a very large impact represented in the statement No. (1), which is "the availability of good reputation and fame of the audit office" with an average of (4.80 out of 5).

It is clear from the results that the study members agree on two of the extent of the organization of the audit office, its reputation and fame that their impact is significant

represented in statements No. (3 and 2), which were arranged in descending order according to the approval of the study members that their impact is large as follows:

1. Statement No. (3), which is "the association of the audit office with one of the international audit offices and companies" ranked first in terms of the approval of the study members that its impact is large, with an average of (3.60 out of 5).
2. Statement No. (2), which is "the absence of lawsuits and legal claims against the audit office", came in second place in terms of the approval of the study subjects that its impact is large, with an average of (3.50 out of 5).

It is clear from the results that the study members agree on two of the extent of the organization of the audit office, its reputation and fame, their impact is average, represented in statements No. (5, 4), which were arranged in descending order according to the approval of the study members that their impact is average as follows:

1. Statement No. (5), which is "the high degree of competition between audit offices, especially in estimating fees, negatively affects the quality of audit work," ranked first in terms of the approval of the study members that its impact is average (3.20 out of 5).
2. Statement No. (4), which is "the large size of the audit offices and their reputation makes them more keen to employ highly qualified auditors, which enhances the quality of audit work" came in second place in terms of the approval of the study members that their impact is average with an average of (2.90 out of 5).

Question: "What are the standard auditing standards?"

The study members agree on the impact of one of the review criteria whose impact is known to be very large, which is the appropriate scientific and professional qualification for all members of the review team. The study members agree on two of the review criteria that have a significant impact, represented in:

- 1-Sufficient knowledge of accounting and auditing standards among the auditor.
- 2-Knowledge of the entire audit team of the rules, ethics and behaviors of the profession.

The study subjects agree to a moderate degree on one of the recognized audit criteria that its effect is average, which is represented in:

Participation of the auditor in training, continuous qualification and specialized professional seminars

- 1-The study subjects agree with a slight effect on one of the recognized audit standards that its effect is very simple, which is .

2-Availability of sufficient experience among the auditor in the type of industry practiced and belonging to the client's establishment

Question: "How organized, reputable and famous is the audit firm?"

The study subjects agree with the effect of one of the audit criteria that is recognized to have a very large impact, which is the availability of good reputation and reputation of the audit office.

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The study subjects agree on two of the extent of the organization of the audit office and its reputation and fame that their impact is significant represented in:

1- the association of the audit office with one of the international audit offices and companies.(

2-Lack of lawsuits and legal claims against the audit office.

The study subjects agree on two of the extent of the organization, reputation and reputation of the audit office, whose impact is average:

1. The high degree of competition between audit offices, especially in estimating fees, negatively affects the quality of audit work.
2. The large size of the audit offices and their reputation make them more keen to employ highly qualified auditors, which enhances the quality of audit work.

Conclusions and Recommendations

I. Conclusions

1. Scientific qualification, practical experience, and the auditor's familiarity with generally accepted auditing standards are important influences on the quality of evidence in the audit process.

2. The results proved that the organization of the audit office, its reputation, fame, and relations with its clients positively affect the quality of auditing, as the reputation and prestige of this office makes it more keen to employ highly qualified and experienced auditors to enhance its position among other audit offices.

3. The results showed that the high degree of competition among audit firms negatively affects the quality of audit work, especially competition in estimating audit fees to obtain new clients.

4. The adoption by audit offices of quality control policies and procedures on audit work leads to improving the quality of professional services provided by audit offices, and leads to raising and advancing the auditing profession.

2-Recommendations

1- Accounting and auditing firms must be careful in selecting auditors, who have a sufficient degree of appropriate scientific qualification, sufficient practical experience, and be familiar with the principles and standards of auditing and accounting, with the need to focus on keeping pace with the modern developments of the profession.

2-Auditors must commit to adopting the rules, ethics and behaviors of the profession to be a basis for guidance when completing the audit process, and to adopt quality control procedures on audit work in their offices.

3- The official bodies of chartered accountants must adopt local accounting and auditing standards, and review the legislation and laws regulating the profession in order to address their deficiencies and shortcomings, while giving binding status to the directives and instructions issued by them, and in particular work on developing legal texts that oblige audit offices to follow a quality system, and monitor the quality of the performance of audit

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offices, with the imposition of mandatory penalties and violations in case the audit office violates this.

4- As a result of the presence of a large number of relatively small audit offices, which may negatively affect the quality of the audit process due to the lack of a specialized team, and in an integrated manner of independence and appropriate professional qualification, the researcher sees the need to carry out the internal reorganization of these offices, in terms of classifying them into certain categories and levels that take into account the required level of quality, and each category is based on a specific systematic form and specific specifications, so that each classification level is allowed to practice the audit process within certain limits, and does not He is allowed to practice work in the higher classification unless the required conditions are met. Such a measure would undoubtedly raise the quality of the audit.

5- The researcher recommends directing more studies and future research, especially in measuring and evaluating the quality of auditing from the point of view of other parties who use the financial statements and the companies under audit, as there is a clear deficiency in this area that requires more research and studies.

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