THE EXTENT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS ADOPTING IN LIBYA

Dr. Nagib Salem Mohamed Bayoud

Lecturer in Accounting, Economics and Political Faculty, Tripoli University, Tripoli-Libya.

Abstract

This research investigates the importance of International Financial Reporting Standards adopting in Libya by using the perceptions of the Libyan accounts. There is many works that have been done in the area of International Financial Reporting Standards adopting (IFRS) in developed countries, while little works have been done in developing countries such as Libya. The sample research included the perceptions of 250 Libyan accounts. The questionnaire method was used to identify the Libyan Accounts Perceptions of the Importance of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Adopting in Libya. This research found that there is a weakness of the Libyan Accounts knowledge related to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Also, the results of this research confirmed that the adoption of IFRS helps stakeholders to achieve the importance and benefits of IFRS adopting in Libya.

Keywords: IFRS: International Financial Reporting Standards; developing Countries, Stakeholders, Accounting.

INTRODUCTION

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) is considered as the most important factors that provides many benefits such decreasing time, effort and cost in many countries. Adopting IFRS in developing countries should exist two main factors. For example, developing countries should understand IFRS in order to adopt and apply IFRS in their countries. In addition to that, there are many potential benefits to be obtained from mutually recognized and respected international accounting standards. Adekoye (2011) see that the adoption of uniform standards allow to reduce the costs of doing business across borders by decreasing the need for supplementary information. They introduce information more comparable, thus adopting of IFRS enhances evaluation and analysis by users of financial statements. Ahmed (2011) states that users in different countries become more confident of the information that users are provided with and presumably, this decreases uncertainty, promotes an efficient allocation of resources and reduces capital costs. To identify the gap between IFRS among countries, a group of professional accounting practitioners founded the IFRS in 1973 (Maddawaki, 2012). The IFRS were formulate by the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC). The objectives of uniform and global accounting standards have been used to reduce the discrepancies in international accounting principles and reporting practices. To achieve the objectives of uniform and global accounting standards, the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) was established. From the establishment of IASC, has actively started for championing the uniformity and standardization of accounting principles for over two decades (Carlson, 1997). In April 2001, IFRS were taken over the setting of International Accounting Standards from the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC). Thenceforth, the IASB updated the already existing International Accounting Standards and referred to them as International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

Though the relevance of IFRS adopting have always been a subject of intense controversy, yet, a number of countries in Africa have adopted or plan to adopt IFRS. However, there are many questions which relate to whether the adoption will be beneficial to the countries involved in terms of enhancing transparency in financial reporting that require to be answered. Libya has still studied IFRS adopting. Adopting IFRS needs to many steps should be done. Libya should overcome some challenges of IFRS for its adoption. According to Banks Law No. 1 of 2005, the adoption of IFRS is important for all Libyan banks. In addition, all listed companies at Libyan Stock Exchange have been asked to follow IFRS by Libyan Stock Exchange Law No. 134 of 2005 (Zakari, 2014). Thus, the purpose of this research clarifies Libyan Accounts familiarity of IFRS and the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya. Specifically, this research focuses on answering this question: What is the extent of the importance of adopting of IFRS in Libya?

Libya country was chosen in this research for many reasons. Libya has an important standing in the world economy as well as a different political and economic system (Wallace & Wilkinson 2004). Moreover, it is a particularly interesting country, as socialist and Islamic factors have impacted on the nature of financial reports in annual reports. As a result, the importance of financial reports in annual reports has increased since 2000 in Libya compared to previous years due to pressures from stakeholders which may influence organisational performance for Libyan companies (Pratten & Mashat 2009). The global International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) are also to be used by firms in Libya. Libya has also developed its GAAP Principles, and it is now a requirement for firms to follow these standards (Mwaura & Nyaboga 2008).

The next section shows some details about the literature review about this topic, section 3 describes the research methods and section 4 and 5 present the findings and discussion. The final section contains a conclusion.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The global spread of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) applying has become the current arguments in the world in particular developed countries and few developing countries, because the benefits and the importance overcome the costs. For instance, Hibbard (2012) investigate the adoption of IFRS in the USA, the EU, and New Zealand. He introduced the strengths and weaknesses of IFRS adoption and suggested some approaches to improve the convergence process in the future. While some other developing countries have still studied whether they can adopt IFRS. In addition, it is an empirical question if this is the case for most countries whether developing countries. Related to the IFRS adopting, many empirical studies have been done to identify, examine, investigate and argue whether some developing countries can adopt IFRS. For example, Nnadi (2012) has examined the British influence on the IFRS adoption in the following Africa countries, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia, Switzerland, South Africa and Uganda, she found that most these countries seem to use their colonial rulers in IFRS adoption, A trend that illustrates the subtle influence of Anglu-imperiaism in the region through the system of financial accounting reporting- German block has lesser influence in their former colonial countries and therefore, the low IFRS adopting rate in the block. Okpala (2012) has investigated the impact of IFRS adopting on foreign direct investment and Nigeria economy. He revelled that IFRS has been adopted in Nigeria, however only fraction of companies has implemented with deadline for the others to comply. Barth (2007), for instance, argues that by adopting a common body of international standards, countries can expect to lower the cost of information processing and auditors of financial reports can be expected to become familiar with one common set of international accounting standards than with various local accounting standards.

The majority of developing countries focus on the benefits, importance of IFRS adopting, this means that they expected that the IFRS adoption will lead to lower such costs, then it will be beneficial to African countries because of their significant reliance on inflows of foreign capital to finance economic and industrial developments. This argument is that countries choose to adopt IFRS for many considerations such as the share of foreign capital and trade are expected to increase in their economy. In this regard, even countries can choose to adopt IFRS if they are expecting growth in those factors, although in the case of gaining low levels of foreign capital and trade (Owolabi, 2012).

Some countries can take the IFRS adoption of the decision, if they understand that IFRS is a product with network effect. Network effect is said to exist where users find a product or service more valuable as additional users use the same product or service. As more and more countries adopt IFRS, it becomes more appealing to others that are yet to consider the adoption. This position cannot be generalised especially in the case of some developed countries such as the USA that is yet to adopt the standard (Owolabi, 2012).

The quality of governance institutions in some developing countries is relatively low, this sits some challenges to adopt IFRS adoption, thus are important determinants of the decision to adopt IFRS (Ball et al., 2000; Leuz et al., 2003; Ball, 2006). La Porta et al. (1999) said that in the countries where have the low quality of governance institutions are mostly suffer from corrupt, slow-moving, or ineffectual governments that are resistant to or incapable of change. In these countries, the opportunity and switching costs are lower and thus, the chance to adopt an externally developed body of accounting standards presents an advantage. Thus, among countries with less developed institutions like Libya, the decision to adopt IFRS is likely to be driven by lower opportunity and switching costs.

RESEARCH METHOD

The quantitative method was to gather information from Libyan Accounts in different sectors. This research used questionnaire survey to collect data from Libyan accounts in the Libyan different sectors. The pilot study was utilized to obtain valid and reliable by Academic professional staff in Tripoli of University, Libya. The questionnaire survey was distributed on 350 Libyan accounts. The final study sample collected was 255 Libyan accounts who filled the survey questionnaires (see Table 1). This research was selected the Libyan accounts, because they are responsibilities to prepare a company financial reporting in Libya. The survey questionnaire consists of eleven questions divided into two main items; the first item includes three questions about Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS; the second item consists of eight questions about the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya.

Table – 1, The research Sample

Respondents	Number of Items		Initial Sample	Final Sample	Percentage
	The first Item	The second Item			
	The questions about Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS	The questions about the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya.			
Accounts	3	8	350	255	73%

The questions asked 11 closed questions aimed at measuring the degree of the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya and Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS. The Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS and the Libyan Accounts perceptions of the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya was measured by ranking the answers to these questions on a five-point Likert scale, with 1 = strongly disagree up to 5 = strongly agree (Bernard, 2000) (see Table 2). According to Mitchell and Jolley (2009), the reasons of using Likert-type scales are (a) it is useful to obtain respondent's opinions, and (b) to give participants a range of options to choose and therefore increase the response rate. Respondents (Libyan Accounts) asked their opinions about the Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS and the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya. The answers to these questions reflected the extent of Libyan Accounts satisfaction towards IFRS adopting. Therefore, this questionnaire aimed to achieve the main objective of this research.

Table - 2 A Five-Point Likert Scale

Types	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Disagree (D)	Neither (N)	Agree (A)	Strongly Agree (SA)
Scale	1	2	3	4	5

RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

According to the reliability statistics, a Cronbach's Alpha test was employed to test the reliability of all items (questions) in the scales. Cronbach Alpha was utilized to measure internal consistency for the research survey, based on the sample estimation. Pallant (2007) states that a value of a Cronbach's Alpha test is suitable if it is more than 0.6 is regarded as a satisfactory level, the reliability test was conducted for the main two items (11 questions). According to Sekaran (1992: p.173), "The reliability of a scale indicates the stability and consistency with which the instrument is measuring the concept and helps to assess the goodness of a measure" After coding all answers from completed questionnaires, the reliability test using Cronbach's alpha was conducted. Table 3 shows the Cronbach's Alpha test of results. The results of Cronbach's alpha test of the first item (Libya and Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS includes 3 questions) was 0.618. In regards of this sense, the value of the Cronbach's alpha test of the second item (the Libyan Accounts perceptions of the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya includes 8 questions) was 0.891, whereas the results of Cronbach's alpha test of the overall main two items (11 questions) was 0.844, this value is acceptable in social science research (Field, 2009). Thus, the Inter-item Consistency Reliability of the measures employed in this research is considered to be very suitable.

Table - 3 Reliability Statistics

N of Items	N of Questions	Cronbach's Alpha
First	3	0.618
Second	8	0.891
Overall	11	0.844

Table (4) shows the statistical results for all items (questions) of interest. In regards to the first item, table (4) illustrates the mean of the measuring the degree of Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS, the answer obtained from the mean perceived questions 1 can be ranked as (1) for item 1 (mean = 3.47), then question 3 (mean = 3.40) can be ranked as (2). Otherwise, the mean perceived question 2 (3.35) can be ranked as (3) for item 1. The second item Related to the mean of the measuring the degree of the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya, the mean perceived question 6 (3.99) can be ranked as (1), followed by the mean perceived question 2 (3.90). However, the mean perceived questions 5 (3.68) then 8 (3.65) can be ranked as 7 and 8 respectively.

Table (4) also shows the first item of 3 questions sought to ascertain the perception of the Libyan accounts with respect to the importance of the familiarity of IFRS that could not make the adoption of IFRS successful in Libya. The first item which could not potentially lead to successful adoption of IFRS were considered and the results are shown in Tables 5.

Otherwise, table (4) shows the second item of 8 questions about the Libyan Accounts perceptions of the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya. The results of table (4) illustrate that IFRS adopting in Libya could be successful. This means that Libya can potentially lead to successful IFRS adopting.

Table – 4, Descriptive Analysis

Questions		First Item			Second Item							
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8
N	Valid	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255
	Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean		3.47	3.35	3.40	3.90	3.82	3.83	3.78	3.68	3.99	3.75	3.65

Median	3.00	3.00	3.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Std. Deviation	0.87	1.09	1.03	1.08	.98	1.08	1.08	1.05	1.08	0.99	0.99
Rank	1	3	2	2	4	3	5	7	1	6	8

LIBYAN ACCOUNTS FAMILIARITY OF IFRS

To identify the extent of the Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS, the respondents were asked the three questions. The first question was that the Libyan accounts do not know users of financial reports prepared in accordance with the IFRS. 94 0f 250 (36.9%) respondents answered agree. In regards of this sense, 29 of 250 (11.4%) answered strongly agree. This means approximately 48.3% of this sample think that the Libyan accounts do not know users of financial reports prepared in accordance with the IFRS. On the other hand, the other respondents indicated that the Libyan accounts have the knowledge about the users of financial reports prepared related to IFRS. For example, 29 (3; 1.2% and 26; 10.2%) of 250 respondents illustrated the disagreement of this this question, while 103 (40.4%) of 250 respondents was neutral. Therefore, more than 50% of this sample see that the Libyan accounts knows the users of financial reports prepared in accordance with the IFRS. Thus, the first question indicated that there is not the agreement about the extent of the Libyan accounts knowledge to financial reports users in accordance with IFRS.

The table (5) shows the second question of this survey related to the Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS item which was the Libyan accounts do not have the full knowledge of the IFRS. 60 (13; 5.1% and 47; 18.4%) of 250 respondents see that the Libyan accounts know the IFRS. In this regard, 68 (26.7%) respondents did not give their agreement or disagreement about this question. In contrast, 127 (91; 35.7% and 36; 14.1%) respondents agreed about non-familiarity of IFRS. Therefore, more than 50% of this sample thinks that the Libyan accounts do not have the full knowledge of the IFRS.

Related to the third question of the Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS, the table (5) shows the results of this question. Most of the respondents indicated that Libyan financial reports do not prepare in accordance with the IFRS. For instance, 116 (74; 29% and 42; 16.5%) respondents illustrated the agreement of non- using IFRS in Libya. To sum up, the results of this research found that the Libyan accounts have the weakness of familiarity of IFRS. Moreover, Laga (2012) supported the results of this research. He indicated that Lacks technical skills and inadequate knowledge of Libyan professional accountants. In addition to that, The findings of this research are confirmed with the results of Laga (2012) who revelled that many necessary steps should be taken to overcome such obstacles which include strengthen professional accountancy body LAAA to improve the status of profession, revisions of curriculum for educating and training of professional accountants to enable accountants to gain exposure to international developments in the profession including IFRS application.

Table - 5, Libyan Accounts Familiarity of IFRS

First Item	**(SD)**		**(D)**		**(N)**		**(A)**		**(SA)**	
	F	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**%**	**F**	**P**
Libyan Accounts do not know users of financial reports prepared in accordance with the IFRS.	3	1.2%	26	10.2%	103	40.4%	94	36.9%	29	11.4%
Libyan accounts do not have full knowledge of the IFRS.	13	5.1%	47	18.4%	68	26.7%	91	35.7%	36	14.1%
Libyan financial reports do not prepare in accordance with the IFRS.	9	3.5%	37	14.5%	93	36.5%	74	29%	42	16.5%

Notes: SD=strongly disagree; D=disagree; N=neither; A=agree; SA=strongly agree; F= frequency; P=Percent.

THE IMPORTANCE OF IFRS ADOPTING

To clarify the extent of the importance and benefits of IFRS adopting, the author asked the eight questions which are shown in the table (6). The results of the eight questions was in the following points:

1. The results of the first question was the adoption of IFRS helps to improve the level of the accounting profession in the Libyan companies. There is more than 194 (76.10% = 113; 44.3% and 81; 31.8%) of 250 respondents that indicated the agreement of this statement. otherwise, there is about 35% of the respondents that illustrated the non-agreement of this question.

2. The results of the second question were the adoption of IFRS helps to agree on the methods used in the procedures of accounting operations in Libyan companies. Most respondents (129; 50.6% and 59; 23.1%) see that using IFRS in Libya helps the Libyan companies for the agreement in using the procedures of accounting operations.

3. The results of the third question show the respondents agreement about the role of the IFRS to provide accurate information for decision making of senior management in the Libyan companies. The results of this question revelled that approximately 70% (41.2%; 28.6%) respondents indicated the agreement of this question.

4. the results of the rest of the 4; 5; 6; 7 and 8 questions shows that the agreement of the respondents about the roles of the IFRS : to take appropriate decisions and to compare the annual financial reports of the Libyan companies; to increase the confidence of users of financial reports; to approach the level of developed countries in accounting; to promote the instructs rules, when the Libyan accounts prepare financial reports; and to reduce the time , effort and cost in order to formulate appropriate local financial reports standards. The second point addressed in the current study was the Libyan accounting regulation and it's consistency with IFRS. The survey results (37.9%) showed that inconsistency of existing laws and regulatory frameworks of accounting in Libya with recent development of accounting profession is one of the difficulties that facing IFRS adoption by Libyan firms. This was supported by the literature (Irvine and Lucas, 2006; Judge and Pinsker, 2010; Schachler et al., 2012) who found that foreign aid, import penetration, and level of education achieved within a national economy are all predictive of the degree to which IFRS standards are adopted across 132 developing, transitional and developed economies. In this regards, Iyoha (2012) confirmed the results of this research which the results of the Iyoha's study indicate that IFRS adoption in Africa will have the potential to be beneficial to a wide range of stakeholders. The benefits notwithstanding, there are however, a number of challenges to be faced in the process of adoption of the new standard including the ethical environment in Africa. The study recommends among others that a rigorous IFRS capacity building programme should be embarked upon by all regulatory bodies, firms and training institutions in order to provide the needed manpower for IFRS implementation, monitoring and compliance. Finally, Zakari (2014) supports the results of this research which the results of Zakari study revealed that legal, accounting education, economic and culture have effect on adopting of IFRS in Libya.

Table (6): The importance of IFRS adopting

Second Item	**(SD)**		**(D)**		**(N)**		**(A)**		**(SA)**	
The adoption of the IFRS helps	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**%**	**F**	**P**
To improve the level of the accounting profession in the Libyan companies.	11	4.3%	23	9%	27	10.6%	113	44.3%	81	31.8%
To agree on the methods used in the procedures of accounting operations in Libyan companies.	6	2.4%	27	10.6%	34	13.3%	129	50.6%	59	23.1%
To provide accurate information for decision making of senior management in the Libyan companies.	12	4.7%	19	7.5%	46	18%	105	41.2%	73	28.6%
To Take appropriate decisions and to compare the annual financial reports of the Libyan.	9	3.5%	32	12.5%	33	12.9%	113	44.3%	68	26.7%
To increase the confidence of users of financial reports.	10	3.9%	26	10.2%	55	21.6%	109	42.7%	55	21.6%
To approach the level of developed countries in accounting.	14	5.5%	10	3.9%	35	13.7%	101	39.6%	95	37.3%
To promote 9the instruct rules, when the Libyan accounts prepare financial reports.	8	3.1%	24	9.4%	44	17.3%	126	49.4%	52	20.4%
To reduce the time, effort and costing in order to formulate appropriate local financial reports standards.	9	3.5%	22	8.6%	63	24.7%	115	45.1%	46	18%

Notes: SD=strongly disagree; D=disagree; N=neither; A=agree; SA=strongly agree; F= frequency; P=Percent.

CONCLUSION

This research analyses the extent of the Libyan accounts familiarity and the extent of the importance of IFRS adopting in Libya using a sample of the Libyan Accounts in many sectors. A theoretical framework using stakeholder theory was used. This framework shows the importance of IFRS adopting to stakeholders in different Libyan sectors.

IJBARR
E- ISSN -2347-856X
ISSN -2348-0653

Because there are certain weakness of its accounting infrastructure, implementing IFRS in practice in Libya, Libya faces many obstacles as a consequence of implementing process. Therefore, these practical obstacles should be identified and address in order to ensure smooth implementation process to benefit fully from the application of IFRS (Laga, 2012).

The importance of IFRS adoption will be largely driven by a number of potential success factors. The importance and potential success factors notwithstanding, there are a number of challenges to be faced in the process of adoption of the new standard. These among others include ethical environment and the ability to protect qualified and competent employees from being poached by other companies. Against the backdrop of the objectives of this paper, the following recommendations are hereby suggested: The education, sensitisation, and communication to stakeholders of issues associated with IFRS should commence in earnest. A rigorous IFRS capacity building programme should be embarked upon by all regulatory bodies, firms and training institutions in order to provide the needed manpower for IFRS implementation (Owolabi, 2012).

The research presents some scientific contributions to the accounting literature on developing countries by the investigation from the extent of the importance of adopting of IFRS in Libya. Specifically, the results of this research gives a scientific contribution to the literature addressing IFRS in developing countries (e.g. Zeghal and Mhedhbi, 2006; Hassan et al., 2009; Gyasi, 2010; Laga, 2012). This research makes two important contributions to both literature and practice. First, the results will extend previous research that links Libyan accounts familiarity of IFRS and the importance of IFRS adopting with the adopting of IFRS in Libya through improving our understanding of this phenomenon. Second, the results are expected to help scholars, regulators and stakeholders in Libya to comprehend the role of IFRS in a stock market and its impacts on accounting performance of a firm.

REFERENCES

1. Adekoya, O. (2011). *Similarities and Differences, IFRS and Nigerian GAAP*. Lagos: Pricewater House Coopers International Limited. (pwCIL).
2. Ahmed Zakari & Co - Chartered Accountants and Entop Consulting Ltd UK. (2011). International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS): An Essential course for Getting to “KNOW IFRS”. The Lagoon Restaurant1c Ozumba Mbadiwe Street, Victoria Island Lagos.
3. Ball, R. (2006) ‘International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS): pros and cons for investors’,*Accounting & Business Research*, Vol. 36, pp.5–27.
4. Ball, R., Kothari, S.P. and Robin, A. (2000) ‘The effect of international institutional factors on
5. properties of accounting earnings’, *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, Vol. 29, No. 1,
6. pp.1–51.
7. Barth, M.E. (2007) *Research, Standard Setting, and Global Financial Reporting*, New Publishers, Hanover, MA.
8. Carlson, P. (1997). Advancing the harmonization of International Accounting Standards: Exploring an alternative path. *The International Journal of Accounting, 32*, 357-378.
9. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0020-7063(97)90016-9
10. Gyasi, A. (2010): "Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards in Developing Countries - The Case of Ghana", BSc Dissertation, University of Applied Sciences
11. Field, A. (2009): “Discovering Statistics”, 3rd ed, Sage Publications, California, USA.
12. Hassan, O., P. Romilly, G. Giorgioni, and D. Power. (2009): "The Value Relevance of Disclosure: Evidence from the Emerging Capital Market of Egypt. The International Journal of Accounting, Vol. 44, No. 1, pp79-102
13. Hibbard, R. (2012): "Global Implementation of IFRS", Unpublished PhD Dissertation, University of Tennessee Honors.
14. Judge, W., Li, S. and Pinsker, R. (2010): " National Adoption of International Accounting Standards: An Institutional Perspective", *Corporate Governance: An International Review*, Vol. 18, No. 3, pp 161-174
15. Irvine, H. J., & Lucas, N. (2006). The rationale and impact of the adoption of international financial reporting standards on developing nations: the case of the United Arab Emirates. In Proceedings 18th Asian-Pacific Conference on International Accounting Issues, pages pp. 1-22, Maui, Hawaii. [Online] Available:
16. http://eprints.qut.edu.au/13041/
17. La Porta, R., Lopez-de-Silanes, F., Shleifer, A. and Vishny, R. (1999) ‘The quality of government’, *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization*, Vol. 15, No. 1, pp.222–279.
18. Leuz, C., Nanda, D. and Wysocki, P. (2003) ‘Earnings management and investor protection: an international comparison’, *Journal of Financial Economics*, Vol. 69, No. 3, pp.505–527.
19. Laga, M. (2012): "Obstacles of Adopting and implementation of IFRS in Libya", *European Journal of Business and Economics*, Vol. 7, pp 1-3, available online at: www.journals.cz/

20. Madawaki, A. (2012) ‘Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards in Developing Countries: The Case of Nigeria, International Journal of Business and Management, Vol. 7, No. 3; February 2012.
21. Mwaura, M & Nyaboga, A 2008, 'International Financial Accounting Standards And The Continent Of Africa', San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA.
22. Nnadi, M. (2012): " International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Adoption in Africa: the Influence of Anglo Neo-colonialism", *Working Paper* at Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Accounting Conference, Cardiff University, UK..
23. Okpala, K. (2012): "Adoption of IFRS and Financial Statements Effects: The Perceived Implications on FDI and Nigeria Economy", *Australian Journal of Business and Management Research*, Vol. 2, No. 5, pp76-83.
24. Owolabi, A.A. (2012) ‘Adopting International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in Africa: benefits, prospects and challenges in *African J. Accounting, Auditing and Finance, Vol. 1, No. 1, 2012*.
25. Pratten, J. and Mashat, A. (2009): “Corporate Social Disclosure in Libya”, *Social Responsibility Journal*, Vol. 5, No. 3, pp 311-327.
26. Schachler, M., Al-Abiyad, S. and Al-Hadad, A. (2012): "Evaluation of the Suitability of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) for Application in Emerging North African Countries: A Literature Review and a Research Agenda", *Journal of Modern Accounting and Auditing*, Vol. 8, No. 12, pp 1773-1779
27. Pallant, J. (2007): “SPSS Survival Manual: a Step by Step Guide to Data Analysis Using SPSS for windows (version 15)”, 3rd ed, Maidenhead. UK .
28. Sekaran, U. 1992, *Research methods for Business*, 2nd ed. Wiley, New York.
29. Wallace, J & Wilkinson, B 2004, *Doing business with Libya*, GMB Publishing, London.
30. Zakari, M. 2014, ‘Challenges of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Adoption in Libya’, International Journal of Accounting and Financial Reporting, Vol. 4, No. 2
31. Zeghal, D. and Mhedhbi, K. (2006): “An Analysis of the Factors Affecting the Adoption of International Accounting Standards by Developing Countries”, *The International Journal of Accounting*, Vol. 41, pp 373-386