The effect of comprehensive income disclosure on the performance efficiency of the Egyptian stock market – A survey study

A Research submitted to fulfill the requirements of Master degree in Accounting

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Abstract:

The main objective of this research is to investigate the relationship between comprehensive income disclosure and the performance efficiency of the Egyptian stock market. The researcher used the conductive and inductive method to present the conceptual framework for comprehensive income and stock market efficiency. Also, the researcher conducted a survey study to examine the relationship between comprehensive income and the stock market efficiency in Egypt by using a five likert scale and distributing 120 surveys to different academicians and professionals. The researcher collected 110 surveys with a response rate 92%. The results of the survey study showed that comprehensive income disclosure increases the information content of the financial statements and also comprehensive income has a positive effect on the efficiency of the Egyptian stock markets. At the end of the research and based on the research results, the researcher suggested some future research that could be conducted concerning the comprehensive income.

Key words: Comprehensive income, Other comprehensive income, Accounting disclosure, Stock market efficiency, Egyptian listed companies.

ملخص البحث:

هدف هذا البحث الي قياس العلاقة بين الإفصاح عن الدخل الشامل و كفاءة الآداء بسوق الأوراق المالية المصري. و قد قامت بإستخدام المنهج الإستقرائي و الإستنباطي لعرض الإطار المفاهيمي للدخل الشاكل و كفاءة أسواق المالز كما قامت الباحثة بإستخدام دراسة ميدانة لإختبار العلاقة بين الدخل الشامل و كفاءة الأسواق المالية في مصر عن طريق استخدام مقياس ليكرت الخماسي و توزيع ١٢٠ قائمة استقصاء لمجموعة من المهنيين و الأكاديميين. و قامت الباحثة بتجميع ١١٠ قائمة بنسبة استجابة ٩٢٪. و توصلت نتائج الدراسة الميدانية الي أن الإفصاح عن الدخل الشامل يؤدي الي زيادة المحتوي المعلوماتي للقوائم المالية و ايضاً بأن الدخل الشامل له تأثير ايجابي علي كفاءة الأسواق المالية المصرية. و أخيرا و بناءً علي نتائج البحث، اقترحت الباحثة بعض البحوث المستقبلية المتعلقة بالدخل الشامل.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الدخل الشامل، الدخل الشامل الآخر، الإفصاح المحاسبي، كفاءة الأسواق المالية، الشركات المصرية المسجلة.

1- <u>Introduction</u>

The information content included in the financial statements and reports is considered as one of the important sources that users use when evaluating the company's performance and making their investment decisions. Among these statements are the balance sheet, cash flow statement, income statement and comprehensive income statement.

Traditionally, income statement has been used as the main measure for the company's financial performance as it includes all the revenues and expenses recognized during the period. However, there are some gains and losses that are not included in the income statement even though they may affect the company's performance called elements of other comprehensive income. The thing that led standards issuers to impose companies to include a comprehensive income statement among their financial statements. (Mulford and Babinets, 2018)

Comprehensive income includes all components of both net income and other comprehensive income. Other comprehensive income (OCI) represents only the gains and losses that are not included in the net income on income statement but can cause changes in the stockholders' equity (Hussein, 2011).

Comprehensive income (CI) disclosure increases the quality of accounting disclosure as it includes the disclosure of additional information that is not included in the income statement but affects users` decisions, resulting in greater transparency and appropriateness of information, increased confidence in published information and improved quality of financial statements as a whole which in turn leads to increasing the performance efficiency of the stock markets (Hussein and Mousa, 2015).

2- <u>Research problem</u>

Many standards issuers have found that net income has some limitations in being used as a measure for evaluating the company's performance and helping users in making their investments decisions as it excludes some elements that may have an effect on the company's financial performance

and thus imposed companies to disclose comprehensive income statement among their financial statements.

Reporting comprehensive income has generated lots of debate that ranges from relevance and usefulness of comprehensive income, through the format of comprehensive income statement to the basic contents of the statement (Ngmenipuo and Issah, 2014).

In the light of the above discussion, the research problem can be concluded in the following main question:

- Is there any relationship between comprehensive income disclosure and the performance efficiency of Egyptian stock markets?

3- Research objective

The main objective of this research is to study and analyze the framework of comprehensive income and determine its effect on the performance efficiency in Egyptian stock markets.

4- Research importance

The importance of this research is represented in extracting a relationship between comprehensive income disclosure and the performance efficiency of Egyptian stock markets as there are very few studies that discussed such relationship. The researcher will also try to resolve the large debate upon comprehensive income usefulness.

5- Research hypotheses

In response to research questions and to attain the study objectives, the following research hypothesis was developed:

H1: There is a significant relationship between CI disclosure and performance efficiency of Egyptian stock markets.

6- Research limitations

The study limitations could be presented as follows:

- The survey study will be conducted upon a random sample of professionals and academicians.

- The research will focus only on the comprehensive income statement and not the other financial statements.

- A survey study will be conducted, so the models used to measure the stock market efficiency will not be included.

7- <u>Research methodology</u>

To achieve the study objective, the researcher used the inductive approach to give a general review and conceptual framework for comprehensive income. And a survey study will be conducted to investigate the relationship between comprehensive income disclosure and the performance efficiency of Egyptian listed companies.

8- <u>Research plan:</u>

To attain the research objective, the study is divided into the following sections:

-8/1: Conceptual framework of comprehensive income disclosure

-8/2: Stock market efficiency from a professional and academic perspective

-8/3: Survey study

-8/4: Summary and research results and future research

References

8/1: Conceptual framework of comprehensive income disclosure

The reporting of comprehensive income statement was required in 1997 by the FASB in the accounting standard no.130 (SFAS 130) titled: "Reporting comprehensive income". Then it was required by the International Accounting Standard Board (IASB) in 2007 in the accounting standard no.1 (IAS 1) titled: "Presentation of financial statements". While in Egypt, comprehensive income reporting was required from companies in 2015 to be applied from the beginning of 2016 through the Egyptian accounting standard no. 1 titled: "presentation of financial statements" (Elhoshy, 2018).

8/1/1 <u>Comprehensive income definition:</u>

The FASB defined comprehensive income as "The change in equity of a business enterprise during a period from transactions and other events and circumstances from non-owner sources. It includes all changes in equity during a period except those resulting from investments by owners and distributors to owners " (FASB, 1997).

While International Accounting Standards defined comprehensive income as "The change in equity during a period resulting from transactions and other events other than the changes resulting from transactions with owners in their capacity as owners. Total CI comprises all components of income statement and OCI (Kadous and Ali, 2018)

Eventually, the researcher can define CI as a statement that includes both NI and OCI components which are gains and losses that have been recognized but not realized yet during the period and in turn, they are excluded from the income statement despite their effect on the stockholders' equity.

8/1/2 <u>Components of comprehensive income in EAS:</u>

OCI components are the gains and losses that have been recognized but not realized yet and they are divided into:

- Gains and losses resulting from translating the financial statements in foreign currencies for foreign activities.

- Gains and losses resulting from the revaluation of the financial assets available for sales.

- Gains and losses resulting from the re-measurement of employees benefit plan.

- The effective portion of gains and losses on the financial instruments used as hedges.

8/1/3 <u>Opponents and proponents of comprehensive income:</u>

In fact, there has been a huge debate among researchers about the usefulness of CI. Proponents of comprehensive income agree that it can be an effective method for evaluating and measuring the company performance.

Mulford and Babinets, 2018 suggested that CI can show the whole story of the company's performance and how economic events can affect the business and so it can be very useful for investors and other users as it indicates the need for more planning to minimize the effect of future re-classifications on earnings.

Whereas (Khames, 2018) and (Mubarak, 2018) agreed that comprehensive income can be used as financial performance indicator as it is more associated with share price than net income and can be used in predicting company's future cash flows. In addition, other studies (Kadous and Ali, 2018; Elsayegh, 2017) confirmed that measuring the company's financial performance by using the comprehensive income provides more information for all users of financial statements especially shareholders.

Moreover, (Sabsombat, 2019) recognized that presenting CI in an accurate and complete way increase the users' confidence in the accounting information and decrease earnings management which will increase the firm's transparency.

On the contrary and despite the major advantages that have been mentioned above, there are some opponents of the disclosure of CI and using it as an evaluation method. The main reasons for such objections can be traced to the following:

Devalle and Magarini, 2012 recognized that comprehensive income is not more value relevant than N.I. and it doesn't lead to increasing the overall performance of companies. Whereas (Pascan, 2014) and (Ngmenipuo and Issah, 2015) agreed that there is no relevant and statistical difference between CI and NI in explaining the financial performance of the companies and so CI doesn't provide more useful and relevant information than NI.

In addition, (Bataineh and Rababah, 2016) informed that the current net income is more able to predict future income than the current comprehensive income.

8/1/4 <u>Presentation of comprehensive income:</u>

In 1997, the FASB issued the SFAS no. 130 which required companies to report or disclose OCI in one of three ways: (FASB, 1997)

1- In the statement of owners' equity which includes items that affect owner's equity statement.

2- One statement approach which means all items are disclosed in a single statement, where OCI components are presented below the net income (NI) in the CI statement.

3- Two statement approach which means that there will be two statements; NI statement and CI statement that starts with NI and then the components of OCI added to it.

While, in 2007, the IASB published a revision to IAS 1 " Presentation of financial statements " requiring companies to report O.C.I. either in a one-statement along with N.I. or in a separate statement. (Du et al., 2015).

Whereas, in June 2011, the FASB issued an accounting standard update (ASU)"Presentation of comprehensive income" which required companies to report or disclose C.I. either in a single statement or in two separate financial statements. The update eliminated the option of reporting OCI in the owners' equity statement to agree with the IASB reporting options. (FASB, (ASU), 2011)

Despite the agreement upon the reporting options of OCI, another disagreement emerges about which one of the two options is more useful or more valuable. Some studies (DU, et al., 2015; Xu and Qi, 2017) suggested that users are more likely to incorporate and understand OCI information in the single statement approach than in the two-statement approach.

On the other hand, other studies (Kim, 2016; Henry, 2011) showed that presenting OCI along with NI in a single statement could create confusion among the users and thus affect their investment.

In addition, the Egyptian Accounting Standards (2015) has settled down this disagreement and required the Egyptian listed companies to report and disclose the CI information according to the two-statement approach, thus

presenting CI information in a separate statement (Belal, 2019; Elhoshy, 2018).

8-2 Stock market efficiency from a professional and academic perspective

8/2/1 Definition pf stock market efficiency

Stock market efficiency (SME) is defined by (Ibrahim, M., 2018) as the market in which the stock prices truly reflect its real value and its returns. Which agreed with the study of (Phan, K. and Zhou, J., 2014) which stated that the efficient stock market is the market in which all information is reflected correctly in the stock prices at any period of time.

Also, SME has been defined by (Elhegazy, M., 2016) as the market in which the stock market prices correctly reflect all the available information that is related to these stocks which will in turn increase the confidence of most investors and ensures a better allocation for the resources.

In the light of the above discussion, the researcher can define SME as the market in which any information that could be used by users is available for all public and for free without any bias for any related party and this information is truly and correctly reflected in the current stock prices to ensure better allocation of economic resources.

8/2/2 Forms of stock market efficiency

Stock market efficiency is achieved when the stock prices truly reflect the available information and since stock prices can be affected by different kinds of information, the SME is determined in different forms according to the information. These forms are illustrated in the following:

1- Weak form of efficiency:

The study of (Tauseef, et.al., 2014; Phan, K. and Zhou, J., 2014) stated that in the weak form stock prices are adjusted by depending on past information and so investors cannot use the past price movement to make their decisions as past information should not have any correlation with stock prices today and also investors cannot use this past information to predict the future stock prices.

2- Semi-strong form of efficiency:

Under the semi-strong form of efficiency, the current stock prices do not only reflect the changes in the past stock prices but also reflect all information available to public including information about economic conditions, companies' conditions, financial statements and etc. that's why the stock prices are predicted to respond to the amounts available of such information. (Saleh, M. and Farida, M., 2010)

3- Strong form of efficiency:

Phan, K. and Zhou, J., 2014 showed in their study that in the strong form of efficiency, the stock prices already reflect both public and private information and so no investor can use internal information or analysis to earn and gain unusual profits which agreed with the study of (Elhagazy, M., 2016) that described the strong form of efficiency as the form in which all kinds of information are available for all users at the same time and so no one investor can achieve unusual returns by using private and internal information.

8/2/3 Obstacles of achieving stock market efficiency

Most economies try their best to maintain a highly efficient stock market to ensure the efficient allocation of the available resources and achieve high returns, but they face many reasons that could stop them from raising their efficiency level. These reasons are discussed in some studies as (Ibrahim, M., 2018; Saleh, M. and Farida, M., 2010) and they can be categorized as follows:

• Reasons concerning the investors as the decreased number of investors, their lack of investment awareness, the non-existent of the rational investor and the control of big investors on the market.

• Problems associated with stock market prices as the lack of clarity of the information published by the companies and the speculation of brokerage firms in the market for their own sake under fake names.

• Reasons concerning the EAS as the lack of clarity of the approach adopted in issuing the standards and depending on the international accounting

standards without considering the Egyptian environmental conditions and requirements.

• Market problems as the shortage of the financial institutions that provide advice for small and new investors, the non- compliance with market regulations and the lack of cooperation and coordination between relevant agencies.

8/2/4 Methods for raising stock market efficiency

The need for attracting more savings and directing them to the highest efficient and effective investments has led many societies to maintain high-efficient stock market and search for ways and methods that enhance this efficiency. The study of (Saleh, M. and Farida, M., 2010) presented some methods that can be used to raise SME and categorized them as follows:

1- Increasing the level of level of disclosure and transparency by issuing periodic journal including general information regarding the market, the companies and stock prices indicators, publishing the information of trading companies electronically to define the available investment opportunities, and requiring companies to publish in widespread newspapers.

2- Increasing the investment awareness among small and new investors and encouraging them to make long-term investments by introducing them the available investment opportunities in the markets and their advantages.

3- Encouraging foreign investment by amending investment laws and regulations and removing any barriers that could stop the entrance of foreign investments.

The researcher supports and agrees on the above methods as it can really raise the SME and can add the following ways that could increase the efficiency of stock markets:

- Requiring companies to consider the financial reporting quality characteristics while making their financial statements and reports to increase the confidence of their potential investors.

- Explaining any financial indicators included in the financial statements and reports to help investors evaluate the financial performance of the company and make right decisions.

8-3 Survey study:

The researcher in this part of the research will construct a survey study to examine the relationship between CI disclosure and the performance efficiency of the Egyptian stock markets.

8/3/1 Sample of the study:

The researcher distributed 120 surveys to a random sample of professionals and academicians who had accepted to answer the questions of the survey and collected 110 answered surveys with a response rate of 92%. The answered surveys are divided into 50 surveys answered by academicians and 60 surveys answered by professionals.

Table (1) Frequency distribution of the variable "Your qualification"

Number	Items	Frequency	present	Rank
1	Bachelor	50	45.5	1
2	Master	32	29.0	2
3	PHD	22	20.0	3
4	Other	6	5.5	4
Total		110	100	-

From the above table it is clear that:

According to the sample data for variable "**Your qualification**" most of the respondents were in the category (Bachelor degree) which accounted for (45.5%).

Table (2) Frequency distribution of the variable "The field of your experience"

Number	Items	Frequency	present	Rank
1	Academic	50	45.5	2
2	Professional	60	54.5	1
Total		110	100	-

From the above table it is clear that:

According to the sample data for variable " **The field of your experience** " most of the respondents were in the category (Professional) which accounted for (54.5%).

Table (3) Frequency distribution of the variable "The period of your experience"

Number	Items	Frequency	present	Rank
1	Less than 5 years	62	56.4	1
2	5 to less than 10 years	25	22.7	2
3	10 years or more	23	20.9	3
Total		**110**	**100**	**-**

From the above table it is clear that:

According to the sample data for variable "**The period of your experience** " most of the respondents were in the category (less than 5 years) which accounted for (56.4%).

8/3/2 Descriptive statistics:

The following part will include the descriptive statistics for the study variables where the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used to analyze the data and a five-level LIKERT scale was used to determine the phrases with the highest level of agreement and the phrases with the lowest level of agreement.

8/3/2/1 Reliability and Validity of the study:

To check the reliability and validity of the study, the coefficient "Alpha Cronbach", is used to measure the stability of the variables for the total dimensions of "**There is a significant relationship between CI disclosure and performance efficiency of Egyptian stock markets**" with stability coefficient for the total sample of (0.839), which indicates high degree of validity (Which represents the square root) for the study sample and which was reflected also by its coefficient that is equal (0.915).

Table (4) Reliability and Validity for the dimensions of "There is a significant relationship between CI disclosure and performance efficiency of Egyptian stock markets" using "Cronbach alpha coefficient."

Dimensions	Statements	Reliability	Validity
Total x: Comprehensive income	6	0.782	0.884
Total y: Performance efficiency in the Egyptian stock market	6	0.856	0.925
Total sample: There is a significant relationship between CI disclosure and performance efficiency of Egyptian stock markets	**12**	**0.839**	**0.915**

8/3/2/2 Descriptive statistics for the study variables:

Table (5) Descriptive Statistics for the independent variable "comprehensive income"

Question	Strongly agree		Agree		Neutral		Disagree		Strongly disagree		Mean	Std.	cv	R.
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%				
1-Imposing Egyptian companies to disclose comprehensive income increases the quality of accounting disclosure.	61	55.5	45	40.9	3	2.7	1	0.9	-	-	4.50	0.64	14.36	2
2- Disclosing comprehens	48	43.6	55	50	7	6.4	-	-	-	-	4.37	0.60	13.82	1

ive income leads to increasing the investors' confidence in the financial statements due to the reduction of management bias.													
3- Disclosing comprehensive income helps in predicting the future cash flows of companies.	43	39.1	64	58.2	2	1.8	1	0.9	-	-	3.55	1.48	41.72	6
4- Disclosing comprehensive income helps users in understanding, analyzing, and evaluating the companies' financial statements.	55	50	43	39.1	10	9.1	2	1.8	-	-	4.37	0.72	16.66	3
5- Disclosing comprehensive income leads to increasing the	42	38.2	60	54.5	7	6.4	1	0.9	-	-	3.65	1.41	38.82	5

reliability and relevance of accounting information in the financial statements.													
6- Disclosing comprehensive income helps companies in detecting the financial crises that could happen in the future and find ways to solve them.	37	33.6	59	53.6	12	10.9	2	1.8	-	-	3.86	1.12	29.25	4
Mean Average											4.05	.52	12.93	-

From the above table it can be concluded that:

The trends of the sample study indicated a general trend of (Agreement) on the total dimensions of "**Comprehensive income**" with a mean of (**4.05**) and coefficient of variation (**12.93**%), and differences in variance's ability (%87.07).

Based on the above, the researcher can conclude that the agreement upon the ability of CI to give a better understanding and evaluation for the company's performance and increase the investors' confidence is due the increased information content provided with CI statement.

Table (6) Descriptive Statistics for the dependent variable "Performance efficiency in the Egyptian stock market"

question	Strongly agree		agree		Neutral		disagree		Strongly disagree		Mean	Std.	cv	R.
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%				
q7. The information content in the financial statements is one of the most important sources that investors use when making investment decisions.	54	49.1	49	44.5	4	3.6	2	1.8	1	0.9	4.37	0.78	18.03	1
q8. Increasing investors' confidence in financial statements of companies leads to making right investment decisions which will in turn increase	57	51.8	47	42.7	5	4.5	1	0.9	-	-	4.35	0.87	20.09	4

stock market efficiency.													
q9. Increasing accounting disclosure quality in financial statements and reports leads to enhancing the stock markets efficiency.	60	54.5	44	40	4	3.6	1	0.9	1	0.9	4.37	0.88	20.30	5
q10. Disclosing information regarding the future cash flows of companies leads to increasing the investors' conviction in the efficiency of stock markets.	42	38.2	60	54.5	5	4.5	2	1.8	1	0.9	4.22	0.83	19.88	3
q11. Understand	52	47.3	54	49.1	4	3.6	-	-	-	-	4.35	0.78	18.05	2

ing and analyzing the financial statements by investors leads to improving their investment decisions and consequently enhancing the stock markets efficiency.													
q12. Investors in stock markets need more financial and non-financial information to rationalize their investment decisions.	58	52.7	50	45.5	2	1.8	-	-	-	-	3.92	1.42	36.28	6
Mean Average											4.26	.57	13.39	-

From the above table it can be concluded that:

The trends of the sample study indicated a general trend of (Agreement) on the total dimensions of "**Performance efficiency in the Egyptian stock market**" with a mean of (**4.26**) and the coefficient of variation (**13.39**%) and differences in variance's ability (%86.61).

The researcher agrees with respondents on the importance of information content in making investment decisions and that the better understanding of financial statements will improve the investors' investment decisions and increase their confidence which will enhance the SME.

8/3/3 Hypothesis Testing and Results

Study hypotheses:

- "**There is a significant relationship between CI disclosure and performance efficiency of Egyptian stock markets**".

* **Correlation matrix** for the relationship between "CI disclosure and performance efficiency of Egyptian stock markets"

Table (7) Correlation between Comprehensive income and Performance efficiency in the Egyptian stock market

Relation	r	Sig.
Comprehensive income and Performance efficiency in the Egyptian stock market	0.799	0.001**

From the above table it is clear that:

There is a statistically significant relationship between **Comprehensive income and Performance efficiency in the Egyptian stock market** with a correlation coefficient (0.799) at a level of significant less than (0.01). This means that the study hypothesis will be accepted.

Based on all the above, the researcher can conclude that the existence of this significant relationship between CI disclosure and performance efficiency of Egyptian stock markets is due to the increased information content provided by the CI statement which will give a better and clear understanding for the company performance which will in turn increase the confidence among investors and help them in making better investment decisions.

8-4 Summary, research results and future research

The aim of this study was to investigate the relation between CI and SME by studying the conceptual framework of comprehensive income and stock market efficiency and conducting a survey study to explore the relation between them. The researcher concluded the following results:

- Disclosing CI is very useful to all users especially the investors as it provides them with additional information.
- Disclosing CI leads o increasing the information content of the financial statements.
- There is a significant relationship between CI and the performance efficiency of the Egyptian stock markets.

Future research:

Based on the research results, the researcher suggests the following future researches:

- The effect of comprehensive income disclosure and its components on the stock prices of Egyptian listed companies.
- A comparative study between comprehensive income and net income as a measure for the profitability of the companies listed in the Egyptian listed companies.

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