Table 1 Number of observations by country

	Number of observations by country						
	Observations	Percentage	Cum.				
Australia	816	6.229	6.229				
Austria	41	0.313	6.542				
Belgium	97	0.740	7.282				
Bermuda	15	0.115	7.397				
Brazil	257	1.962	9.359				
Canada	1,155	8.817	18.176				
Chile	106	0.809	18.985				
China	335	2.557	21.542				
Czech Republic	8	0.061	21.603				
Denmark	112	0.855	22.458				
Egypt	22	0.168	22.626				
Finland	142	1.084	23.710				
France	575	4.389	28.099				
Germany	405	3.092	31.191				
Greece	10	0.076	31.267				
Hong Kong	126	0.962	32.229				
India	170	1.298	33.527				
Ireland;	174	1.328	34.855				
Isle of Man	1	0.008	34.863				
Israel	6	0.046	34.908				
Italy	132	1.008	35.916				
Japan	1,766	13.481	49.397				
Jersey	20	0.153	49.550				
Luxembourg	65	0.496	50.046				
Macau	5	0.038	50.084				
Mexico	122	0.931	51.015				
Netherlan	220	1.679	52.695				
New Zealand	53	0.405	53.099				
Norway	70	0.534	53.634				
Papua New	7	0.053	53.687				
Portugal	29	0.221	53.908				
Russia	190	1.450	55.359				
South Africa	80	0.611	55.969				
Spain	207	1.580	57.550				
Sweden	259	1.977	59.527				
Switzerland	389	2.969	62.496				
Thailand	97	0.740	63.237				
United Kingdom	1,204	9.191	72.427				
United States	3,612	27.573	100				
Total	13,100	100					

Table 2 Number of observations by activity sector

TRBC economic sector name	Number of	Percentage	Cum.
TRBC economic sector name	observations		
Basic Materials	1,845	14.084	14.084
Consumer cyclical.	2,469	18.847	32.931
Consumer Non-Cyclical	1,293	9.870	42.802
Energy	1,310	10.000	52.802
Healthcare	1,016	7.756	60.557
Industrial	2,795	21.336	81.893
Technology	1,022	7.802	89.695
Telecommunications Services	518	3.954	93.649
Utilities	832	6.351	100
Total	13,100	100	

Table 3 Variable description

Variables	Description
ED_SCORE	The aggregation of the 54 items considered. Each item will take the value 1 if the item considered is disclosed by the firm and 0, otherwise.
LME	Dummy variable equals value 1 if the country operates in a liberal market economy and 0 if the country operates in a coordinated market economy
DEVEP	Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firm operates in a developed country and 0 if the firm operates in a developing country
BOARD_STRUCTURE	Dummy variable equals value 1 if the company has a one-tier board and 0 if the company has a two-tier board
INDEP_MEMBERS	The ratio between the total number of independent directors on boards and the total number of directors on boards
BSIZE	The total number of directors on boards
BMEET	The numbers of meetings held by boards each year
CEODUALITY	Dummy variable equals value 1 if the same person serves simultaneously as CEO and President of the board and 0, otherwise
SIZE	The log of total sales
ROA	Operate income before interests and taxes over total assets
LEV	Debt over total assets
CSR_COMMT	Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firms have a Corporate Social Responsibility Committees and 0, otherwise
BASIC MATERIALS	Dummy variable: 1= Basic Materials; 0 = Otherwise
CONSUMER CYCLICALS	Dummy variable: 1= Consumer Cyclicals; 0 = Otherwise
CONSUMER NON- CYCLICALS	Dummy variable: 1= Consumer Non-Cyclicals; 0 = Otherwise
ENERGY	Dummy variable: 1= Energy; 0 = Otherwise
HEALTHCARE	Dummy variable: 1= Healthcare; 0 = Otherwise
INDUSTRIALS	Dummy variable: 1= Industrial; 0 = Otherwise
TECHNOLOGY	Dummy variable: 1= Technology; 0 = Otherwise
TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES	Dummy variable: 1= Telecommunication Services; 0 = Otherwise
UTILITIES	Dummy variable: 1= Utilities; 0 = Otherwise

Table 4
Descriptive analysis

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	P25	p50	P75
ED_SCORE	13,100	12.872	9.308	4.000	12.000	21.000
LME	13,100	89.129	38.129	1.000	1.000	1.000
DEVEP	13,100	89.205	31.032	1.000	1.000	1.000
BOARD_STRUCTURE	13,100	71.845	44.977	0.000	1.000	1.000
INDEP_MEMBERS	13,100	63.325	26.381	46.667	70.000	85.714
BSIZE	13,100	10.905	3.561	9.000	10.000	13.000
BMEET	13,100	9.421	5.247	6.000	8.000	11.000
CEODUALITY	13,100	29.926	45.795	0.000	0.000	1.000
SIZE	13,100	9.643	1.479	9.394	9.806	10.241
ROA	13,100	6.439	8.446	2.764	5.575	9.584
LEV	13,100	12.900	217.720	2.661	5.723	10.779
CSR_COMMT	13,100	58.905	49.202	0.000	1.000	1.000
BASIC MATERIALS	13,100	14.085	34.788	0.000	0.000	0.000
CONSUMER CYCLICALS	13,100	18.848	39.112	0.000	0.000	0.000
CONSUMER NON- CYCLICALS	13,100	9.870	29.828	0.000	0.000	0.000
ENERGY	13,100	10.000	30.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
HEALTHCARE	13,100	7.756	26.749	0.000	0.000	0.000
INDUSTRIALS	13,100	21.337	40.971	0.000	0.000	0.000
TECHNOLOGY	13,100	7.802	26.821	0.000	0.000	0.000
TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES	13,100	3.955	19.490	0.000	0.000	0.000
UTILITIES	13,100	6.344	24.376	0.000	0.000	0.000

Mean. standard deviation and percentiles. ED\_ SCORE is calculated as the aggregation of the 54 items considered. Each item will take the value 1 if the item considered is disclosed by the firm and 0, otherwise; LME is measured as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the country operates in a liberal market economy and 0 if the country operates in a coordinated market economy; DEVEP is calculated as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firm operates in a developed country and 0 if the firm operates in a emerging country; BOARD\_STRUCTURE is determined as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the company has a one-tier board and 0 if the company has a two-tier board; INDEP MEMBERS is the ratio between the total number of independent directors on boards and the total number of directors on boards; BSIZE is the total number of directors on boards; BMEET is the numbers of meetings held by boards each year; CEODUALITY is the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the same person serves simultaneously as CEO and President of the board and 0, otherwise; SIZE is the log of total sales; ROA is operate income before interests and taxes over total assets; LEV is the debt over total assets; CSR\_COMM Tis the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firms have a Corporate Social Responsibility Committees and 0, otherwise; BASIC MATERIALS if the company operates in Basic Materials sector and 0, otherwise; CONSUMER CYCLICALS if the company operates in Consumer Cyclicals sector and 0, otherwise; CONSUMER NON-CYCLICALS if the company operates in Consumer Non-Cyclicals sector and 0, otherwise; ENERGY if the company operates in Energy sector and 0, otherwise; HEALTHCARE if the company operates in Healthcare sector and 0, otherwise; INDUSTRIALS if the company operates in Industrials sector and 0, otherwise; TECHNOLOGY if the company operates in Technology sector and 0, otherwise; TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES if the company operates in Telecommunication Services sector and 0, otherwise; UTILITIES if the company operates in Utilities sector and 0, otherwise.

Table 5 Correlation Matrix

ED_SCORE (1)  LME (2)  DEVEP (3)  BOARD_STRUCTURE (4)  INDEP_MEMBERS (5)  BSIZE (6)	(1)  1.000  0.062 ***  0.063***  -0.185***  -0.022**  0.313***	1.000 0.696*** 0.011 0.251***	1.000 0.013 0.249***	1.000	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
LME (2) DEVEP (3) BOARD_STRUCTURE (4) INDEP_MEMBERS (5)	0.062 *** 0.063*** -0.185*** -0.022** 0.313***	0.696*** 0.011 0.251***	0.013		1.000																
DEVEP (3)  BOARD_STRUCTURE (4)  INDEP_MEMBERS (5)	0.063*** -0.185*** -0.022** 0.313***	0.696*** 0.011 0.251***	0.013		1.000																
BOARD_STRUCTURE (4) INDEP_MEMBERS (5)	-0.185*** -0.022** 0.313***	0.011 0.251***	0.013																		
INDEP_MEMBERS (5)	-0.022** 0.313***	0.251***			4.000																
	0.313***		0.249***	0.387***																	
BSIZE (6)		-0.073***			1.000																
	0.080***		-0.073***	-0.055***	-0.077***	1.000															
BMEET (7)		-0.044***	-0.040***	-0.160***	-0.112***	-0.085***	1.000														
CEODUALITY (8)	0.017*	0.085***	0.089***	0.170***	0.192***	0.091***	-0.105***	1.000													
SIZE (9)	0.505***	-0.057***	-0.056***	-0.112***	0.041***	0.501***	0.046***	0.133***	1.000												
ROA (10)	-0.134***	-0.098***	-0.099***	0.210***	0.093***	-0.085***	-0.233***	0.023***	-0.199***	1.000											
LEV (11)	0.141***	-0.000	0.003	-0.076***	-0.013	0.174***	0.092***	0.024***	0.285**	-0.379***	1.000										
CSR_COMMT (12)	0.616***	0.051***	0.053***	-0.069***	0.011	0.184***	0.111***	-0.029***	0.289***	-0.131***	0.102***	1.000									
BASIC MATERIALS (13)	0.053***	-0.051***	-0.052***	-0.046***	0.000	-0.064***	0.013	-0.087***	-0.061***	-0.074***	-0.047***	0.085***	1.000								
CONSUMER CYCLICALS (14)	-0.053***	0.079***	0.078**	0.041***	-0.066***	-0.015*	-0.105***	0.011	-0.083***	0.030***	-0.033***	-0.049***	-0.195***	1.000							
CONSUMER NON-CYCLICALS (15)	0.025***	-0.023***	-0.024***	0.034***	-0.036***	0.063***	-0.020**	0.003	0.006	0.057***	0.045***	0.033***	-0.134***	-0.159***	1.000						
ENERGY (16)	-0.059***	-0.123***	-0.124***	0.087***	0.076**	-0.0169	0.010	0.012	0.093***	0.043***	-0.097***	0.001	-0.135***	-0.161***	-0.110***	1.000					
HEALTHCARE (17)	-0.064***	0.057***	0.057***	-0.003	0.087**	-0.074***	-0.016**	0.024***	-0.075***	0.087***	-0.091***	-0.046***	-0.117***	-0.139***	-0.096***	-0.097***	1.000				
INDUSTRIALS (18)	0.019**	0.071***	0.070***	-0.119***	-0.075***	0.038***	0.022**	0.013	0.002	-0.081***	0.131***	-0.011	-0.117***	-0.139***	-0.096***	-0.097***	-0.043***	1.000			
TECHNOLOGY (19)	0.013	0.046***	0.045***	0.026***	0.052****	-0.079****	0.006	0.023	-0.065***	0.103	-0.219***	-0.056***	-0.118***	-0.140***	-0.096***	-0.097***	-0.084****	-0.152***	1.000		
TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES (	20) -0.014	-0.059***	-0.047***	-0.008	-0.024**	0.073***	0.090***	-0.012	0.105***	-0.009	0.113***	-0.013	-0.082***	-0.098***	-0.067****	-0.068***	-0.059	-0.106***	-0.059***		
UTILITIES (21)	0.087***	-0.060***	-0.061***	0.033***	0.041***	0.104***	0.064***	0.022**	0.164***	-0.132***	0.215***	0.054***	-0.105***	-0.125***	-0.086***	-0.087***	-0.076***	-0.136***	-0.076***	-0.053***	1.000

Correlation matrix. ED\_ SCORE is calculated as the aggregation of the 54 items considered. Each item will take the value 1 if the item considered is disclosed by the firm and 0, otherwise; LME is measured as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the country operates in a liberal market economy and 0 if the country operates in a coordinated market economy; DEVEP is calculated as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firm operates in a developed country and 0 if the firm operates in a emerging country; BOARD\_STRUCTURE is determined as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the company has a one-tier board and 0 if the company has a two-tier board; INDEP\_MEMBERS is the ratio between the total number of independent directors on boards and the total number of directors on boards; BSIZE is the total number of directors on boards; BMEET is the numbers of meetings held by boards each year; CEODUALITY is the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the same person serves simultaneously as CEO and President of the board and 0, otherwise; SIZE is the log of total sales; ROA is operate income before interests and taxes over total assets; LEV is the debt over total assets; CSR\_COMMT is the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firms have a Corporate Social Responsibility Committees and 0, otherwise; BASIC MATERIALS if the company operates in Basic Materials sector and 0, otherwise; CONSUMER CYCLICALS if the company operates in Consumer Non-Cyclicals sector and 0, otherwise; TECHNOLOGY if the company operates in Technology sector and 0, otherwise; TECHNOLOGY if the company operates in Technology sector and 0, otherwise; TECHNOLOGY if the company operates in Technology sector and 0, otherwise; TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES if the company operates in Telecommunication Services sector and 0, otherwise; UTILITIES if the company operates in Utilities sector and 0, otherwise. \*p-value<0.05 \*\*\*p-value<0.01

Table 6 Multivariate analysis results

ED_SCORE	MODEL 1 Coef.	MODEL 2 Coef.	MODEL 3 Coef.
LMC	P> t  3.969***	P> t	P> t
LME			
DEVED	(0.000)	4.001***	
DEVEP		(0.000)	
BOARD_STRUCTURE		(0.000)	-1.848***
Bornes_STROCTORE			(0.000)
INDEP_MEMBERS	-0.009**	-0.010**	-0.005
_	(0.014)	(0.014)	(0.136)
BSIZE	0.212***	0.213***	0.209***
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
BMEET	-0.018	-0.019	-0.026**
	(0.140)	(0.138)	(0.036)
CEODUALITY	0.129	0.130	0.209
	(0.340)	(0.343)	(0.126)
SIZE	0.048*	0.049*	0.046*
	(0.082)	(0.081)	(0.094)
ROA	-0.011*	-0.012*	-0.011*
	(0.076)	(0.076)	(0.072)
LEV	0.000	0.000	0.000
	(0.730)	(0.730)	(0.721)
CSR_COMMT	3.256***	3.257***	3.288***
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
BASIC MATERIALS	0.965	1.036	1.216
	(0.454)	(0.422)	(0.343)
CONSUMER CYCLICALS	-0.957	-0.888	-0.351
	(0.446)	(0.479)	(0.778)
CONSUMER NON-CYCLICALS	0.989	1.606	1.296
	(0.461)	(0.430)	(0.332)
ENERGY	-1.694	-1.621	-1.535
	(0.201)	(0.221)	(0.244)
HEALTHCARE	-1.807	-1.738	-1.298
	(0.196)	(0.213)	(0.349)
INDUSTRIALS	0.999	1.067	1.331
	(0.423)	(0.391)	(0.282)
TECHNOLOGY	0.631	0.699	1.238
	(0.649)	(0.614)	(0.369)
TELECOMMUNICATION	3.625**	3.698**	3.868***
SERVICES	(0.013)	(0.011)	(0.008)
N N	13,100	13,100	13,100
Test statistic	ŕ	ŕ	· ·
	19217.23***	19217.62***	19196.23***

ED SCORE is calculated as the aggregation of the 54 items considered. Each item will take the value 1 if the item considered is disclosed by the firm and 0, otherwise; LME is measured as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the country operates in a liberal market economy and 0 if the country operates in a coordinated market economy; DEVEP is calculated as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firm operates in a developed country and 0 if the firm operates in a emerging country; BOARD STRUCTURE is determined as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the company has a one-tier board and 0 if the company has a two-tier board; INDEP\_MEMBERS is the ratio between the total number of independent directors on boards and the total number of directors on boards; BSIZE is the total number of directors on boards; BMEET is the numbers of meetings held by boards each year; CEODUALITY is the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the same person serves simultaneously as CEO and President of the board and 0, otherwise; SIZE is the log of total sales; ROA is operate income before interests and taxes over total assets; LEV is the debt over total assets; CSR COMMT is the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firms have a Corporate Social Responsibility Committees and 0, otherwise; BASIC MATERIALS if the company operates in Basic Materials sector and 0, otherwise; CONSUMER CYCLICALS if the company operates in Consumer Cyclicals sector and 0, otherwise; CONSUMER NON-CYCLICALS if the company operates in Consumer Non-Cyclicals sector and 0, otherwise; ENERGY if the company operates in Energy sector and 0, otherwise; HEALTHCARE if the company operates in Healthcare sector and 0, otherwise; INDUSTRIALS if the company operates in Industrials sector and 0, otherwise; TECHNOLOGY if the company operates in Technology sector and 0, otherwise; TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES if the company operates in Telecommunication Services sector and 0, otherwise; UTILITIES if the company operates in Utilities sector and 0, otherwise. \*p-value<0.1 \*\*p-value<0.05 \*\*\*p-value<0.01

Table 7
Estimates of the baseline models lagging the independent variables

ED_SCORE	MODEL 1 Coef. P> t	MODEL 2 Coef. P> t	MODEL 3 Coef. P> t
LME <sub>.1</sub>	4.034***	1	1
	(0.000)	4.071***	
DEVEP <sub>-1</sub>		(0.000)	
BOARD STRUCTURE.			-1.740***
_51116 61 61E-1	0.012444	0.012444	(0.000)
INDEP MEMBERS	-0.013***	-0.013***	-0.009**
	(0.001)	(0.000)	(0.027)
BSIZE	0.194***	0.194***	0.191***
551212	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
BMEET	-0.020	-0.020	-0.029**
WILLI	(0.127)	(0.125)	(0.030)
CEODUALITY	0.107	0.106	0.167
CEODUALITI	(0.442)	(0.445)	(0.229)
TIZE	0.030	0.029	0.029
SIZE	(0.319)	(0.318)	(0.325)
204	-0.012*	-0.012*	-0.013**
ROA	(0.065)	(0.065)	(0.048)
	$0.000^{'}$	0.000	0.000
LEV	(0.591)	(0.591)	(0.579)
	3.398***	3.397***	3.416***
CSR_COMMT	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
	0.849	0.927	1.064
BASIC MATERIALS	(0.515)	(0.477)	(0.413)
	-1.094	-1.020	-0.497
CONSUMER CYCLICALS	(0.389)	(0.421)	(0.694)
	1.053	1.129	1.392
CONSUMER NON-CYCLICALS	(0.440)	(0.407)	(0.305)
	-1.759	-1.680	-1.620
ENERGY	(0.189)	(0.210)	(0.225)
	-1.674	-1.599	-1.212
HEALTHCARE			
	(0.237)	(0.259)	(0.390)
NDUSTRIALS	0.719	0.793	1.057
NDOSTRIALS	(0.569)	(0.529)	(0.400)
TECHNOLOGY	1.371	1.445	1.925
I ECHNOLOG I	(0.331)	(0.305)	(0.170)
ΓELECOMMUNICATION	3.340**	3.418**	3.555**
SERVICES	(0.023)	(0.020)	(0.015)
N	13.100	13.100	13.100
Test statistic	12217.59***	12218.00***	12202.07***

ED SCORE is calculated as the aggregation of the 54 items considered. Each item will take the value 1 if the item considered is disclosed by the firm and 0, otherwise; LME is measured as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the country operates in a liberal market economy and 0 if the country operates in a coordinated market economy; DEVEP is calculated as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firm operates in a developed country and 0 if the firm operates in a emerging country; BOARD STRUCTURE is determined as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the company has a one-tier board and 0 if the company has a two-tier board; INDEP\_MEMBERS is the ratio between the total number of independent directors on boards and the total number of directors on boards; BSIZE is the total number of directors on boards; BMEET is the numbers of meetings held by boards each year; CEODUALITY is the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the same person serves simultaneously as CEO and President of the board and 0, otherwise; SIZE is the log of total sales; ROA is operate income before interests and taxes over total assets; LEV is the debt over total assets; CSR COMMT is the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firms have a Corporate Social Responsibility Committees and 0, otherwise; BASIC MATERIALS if the company operates in Basic Materials sector and 0, otherwise; CONSUMER CYCLICALS if the company operates in Consumer Cyclicals sector and 0, otherwise; CONSUMER NON-CYCLICALS if the company operates in Consumer Non-Cyclicals sector and 0, otherwise; ENERGY if the company operates in Energy sector and 0, otherwise; HEALTHCARE if the company operates in Healthcare sector and 0, otherwise; INDUSTRIALS if the company operates in Industrials sector and 0, otherwise; TECHNOLOGY if the company operates in Technology sector and 0, otherwise; TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES if the company operates in Telecommunication Services sector and 0, otherwise; UTILITIES if the company operates in Utilities sector and 0, otherwise. \*p-value<0.1 \*\*p-value<0.05 \*\*\*p-value<0.01

Table 8
Results of the Tobit regressions for models

ED SCORE MEAN	MODEL 1	MODEL 2	MODEL 3
	Coef.	Coef.	Coef.
	P> t	P> t	P> t
I ME	0.073***		
LME	(0.000)		
DEVEP		0.074***	
DEVER		(0.000)	
BOARD STRUCTURE			-0.034***
BOARD_STRUCTURE			(0.000)
INDEP MEMBERS	-0.000**	-0.000**	-0.001
INDEF_MEMBERS	(0.014)	(0.014)	(0.136)
BSIZE	0.003***	0.003***	0.004***
DSIZE	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
BMEET	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000**
DIVILLE	(0.140)	(0.138)	(0.036)
CEODUALITY	0.002	0.002	0.003
CEODUALITI	(0.340)	(0.343)	(0.126)
SIZE	0.001*	0.001*	0.000*
SIZE	(0.082)	(0.081)	(0.094)
ROA	-0.000*	-0.000*	-0.000*
KOA	(0.076)	(0.076)	(0.072)
LEV	0.000	0.000	0.000
LEV	(0.730)	(0.730)	(0.721)
CSD COMMT	0.060***	0.060***	0.610***
CSR_COMMT	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
DACIC MATERIAL C	0.018	0.019	0.023
BASIC MATERIALS	(0.454)	(0.422)	(0.343)
CONSUMER CYCLICALS	-0.018	-0.016	-0.007
CONSUMER CICLICALS	(0.446)	(0.479)	(0.778)
CONSUMER NON-CYCLICALS	0.018	0.019	0.024
CONSUMER NON-CICLICALS	(0.461)	(0.430)	(0.332)
ENERGY	-0.031	-0.030	-0.028
ENERGI	(0.201)	(0.221)	(0.224)
HEALTHOADE	-0.033	-0.032	-0.024
HEALTHCARE	(0.196)	(0.213)	(0.394)
	0.018	0.019	0.025
INDUSTRIALS	(0.423)	(0.391)	(0.282)
	0.012	0.012	0.023
TECHNOLOGY	(0.649)	(0.614)	(0.369)
TELECOMMUNICATION	0.067**	0.068**	0.071***
SERVICES	(0.013)	(0.011)	(0.008)
N	13.100	13.100	13.100
Test statistic	19217.34***	19217.72***	19196.33***
200 0000000	1,217.31	1/21/./2	17170.55

ED SCORE is calculated as the ratio between the aggregation of the 54 items considered (each item will take the value 1 if the item considered is disclosed by the firm and 0, otherwise) and the total number of items considered; LME is measured as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the country operates in a liberal market economy and 0 if the country operates in a coordinated market economy; DEVEP is calculated as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firm operates in a developed country and 0 if the firm operates in a emerging country; BOARD STRUCTURE is determined as Dummy variable equals value 1 if the company has a one-tier board and 0 if the company has a two-tier board; INDEP\_MEMBERS is the ratio between the total number of independent directors on boards and the total number of directors on boards; BSIZE is the total number of directors on boards; BMEET is the numbers of meetings held by boards each year; CEODUALITY is the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the same person serves simultaneously as CEO and President of the board and 0, otherwise; SIZE is the log of total sales; ROA is operate income before interests and taxes over total assets; LEV is the debt over total assets; CSR\_COMMT is the Dummy variable equals value 1 if the firms have a Corporate Social Responsibility Committees and 0, otherwise; BASIC MATERIALS if the company operates in Basic Materials sector and 0, otherwise; CONSUMER CYCLICALS if the company operates in Consumer Cyclicals sector and 0, otherwise; CONSUMER NON-CYCLICALS if the company operates in Consumer Non-Cyclicals sector and 0, otherwise; ENERGY if the company operates in Energy sector and 0, otherwise; HEALTHCARE if the company operates in Healthcare sector and 0, otherwise; INDUSTRIALS if the company operates in Industrials sector and 0, otherwise; TECHNOLOGY if the company operates in Technology sector and 0, otherwise; TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES if the company operates in Telecommunication Services sector and 0, otherwise; UTILITIES if the company operates in Utilities sector and 0, otherwise. \*pvalue<0.1 \*\*p-value<0.05 \*\*\*p-value<0.01