Corporate Governance and Political Ownership

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i



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Abstract

This paper makes an attempt to study the concept of corporate governance in a political ownership environment. It emphasizes the relationship between political objectives and governance objectives.

The paper first gives a preliminary view of corporate governance and political ownership. It investigates whether political ownership will restrict the functioning of the governance mechanism. By making a case study of several privatised firms with strong political ownership, it shows that there is a strong possibility that political objectives will undermine the governance objectives without a proper check and balance system in place.

There are indications that the situation is starting to change as governance objectives become more apparent due to pressure from external factors such as the international investors. The regulators have started to place more emphasis on corporate governance.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	f tables f figures		vi vii
1.	Introdu	oction Objective of the study	1 7
	1.2	Research Methodology	7
	1.3	Organization of the study	8
2	Literature Review		10
	2.1	Privatisation Perspectives	10
		2.11 Neo-Classical Property Rights Theory	11
		2.12 Dispersed Knowledge Theory	13
		2.13 New Theories	13
		2.14 Empirical Evidence	16
	2.2	Corporate Governance Perspectives	17
		2.21 Economic Perspective	17
		2.22 Authority Perspective	23
		2.23 Political Economy of Corporate Governance	24
3	Privati	isation Trends and Political Ownership	29
	3.1	Privatisation Trends	29
		3.11 Privatisation Approach and Objectives	31
		3.12 Privatisation: The European Experience	32
		3.13 Privatisation: The Australian Experience	39
		3.14 Privatisation: The Developing Country Experience	40
	3.2	Political Ownership	45
		3.21 Partial Privatisation	46
		3.22 State Holdings	47
		3.23 State Holdings in Malaysia	52
4	Corporate Governance and Corporate Systems		58
	4.1	Corporate Governance	58
	10 mm/ 1997	4.11 The Importance of Corporate Governance	60
	4.2	Corporate Systems	63
•		4.21 Types of Corporate Systems	65
		iv	

	4.4	Disciplinary Mechanisms 4.31 The External Disciplinary Mechanism 4.32 The Internal Disciplinary Mechanism Political Ownership and Corporate Systems	72 73 78 81
5	Corp 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4 5.5	orate Governance in Politically Controlled Firms The Board Audit Committee and Remuneration Committee Special Rights Preference Share Shareholding Limits Financial Control and Performance	84 86 90 92 93 95
6	Conc	Conclusion	
Bibl	liography	v	109

LIST OF TABLES

1.	Portfolio Investment Flows for Selected Countries – Equity	2
2.	Foreign Direct Investment for Selected Countries	3
3.	Breakdown of global amount raised from privatisation for selected	
	countries	5
4.	Public Asset Sales in the UK, 1979-91	34
5.	Malaysia: Selected Major Privatised Projects, 1983-99	42
6.	State Ownership in Major Privatised Companies of Selected Countries	51
7.	KLSE Market Capitalisation Rankings	54
8.	Ownership Structure of the Five Selected Companies	56
9.	State Ownership in Selected Privatised Companies in Malaysia	57
10.	Characteristics of the Corporate System	70
11.	Composition of the Boards of Privatised Firms	86
12.	Year Audit Committee was Established	91
13.	Members of the Audit Committee	91
14(a).	Company Performance and Financial Controls-MAS, MISC & PGAS	96
14(b).	Company Performance and Financial Controls-TELEKOM & TNB	96
15(a).	Company Operating and Financial Performance-MAS & MISC	100
15(b).	Company Operating and Financial Performance-TELEKOM & TNB	101
15(c).	Company Operating and Financial Performance-PGAS	101

LIST OF FIGURES

1.	A Corporate Governance Framework	59
2.	Political Influence in the Corporate System	83
3.	A Framework of a Politically Controlled Company	85