

**UN75**  
2020 AND BEYOND

SHAPING  
OUR  
FUTURE  
TOGETHER



United Nations  
Information Centre  
(UNIC) Lagos



**THE** WORLD  
UNIVERSITY  
RANKINGS  
2020 TOP 500

Covenant University &  
United Nations Information Centre (C-UNIC)

**UNITED NATIONS**

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**75**

**INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE**

COVENANT UNIVERSITY 2020

Theme:

**THE FUTURE WE WANT; THE UN WE NEED:  
REAFFIRMING OUR COLLECTIVE  
COMMITMENT TO MULTILATERALISM**

DATE:  
October 22-24, 2020

VENUE:  
Virtual

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The United Nations (UN) was established in 1945 to foster global peace and security, provide platforms for the development of friendly relations among nations, achieve international cooperation, and be the hub for harmonization of the actions of governments and other international legal personalities in the world. The organization has made remarkable contributions to global peace, world growth, health, education, and diffusion of science and technology. However, as the organization continues to contend with and manage a plethora of global and human challenges, such as COVID-19, it has also become apparent that the world is increasingly at risk of facing the impact of technological change accompanied by a shortage of talents, economic and political conflagrations, religious extremism and terrorism. Also noted, is that countries need to tackle climate crisis in a divided world. Furthermore, the world is only ten years away from its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Hence, as we approach the set timeline to attain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it is imperative to pause, ponder on and consider some essential questions, and hard-hitting conversations that arise as the UN system and stakeholders look ahead into the future. Is there a collective future we want? What kind of United Nations do we need in the future we want? What morphological models exist for the individual, organization, or economies we want in the future?

To commemorate 75 years of the multilateral organization, the United Nations Information Centre (the communications and information outpost of the UN body) in Nigeria, and Covenant University (CU) went into a collaboration to bring together scholars, students and practitioners in all fields of human endeavour to engage in an intellectual enterprise for three days, towards finding pathways for moving the United Nations and indeed the world, forward.

Full papers with an abstract were submitted addressing the theme, ***The Future We Want; the UN We Need: Reaffirming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism*** and they bordered on- but not limited to- the following subthemes:

*The SDGs and United Nations*

*The Fourth Industrial Revolution*

*The Science We Want: Responsible Science?*

*The Future of Africa*

*Creating the Future We Want through Education and Curriculum Innovation*

*Mother Earth and the Climate*

*New Technology and Human Rights*

*Education for Justice (E4J), Peace, and Mediation*

*Equality to Create the Future We Want*

*All accepted papers that have gone through proper peer reviewed sessions will be published in Scopus-indexed proceedings and as a book published by Palgrave-Macmillan.*

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#### ABSTRACT

This research work observed the relationship between corporate internal governance mechanism and the financial metrics of banks in Nigeria. Over the years, emphasis has been placed on the use of effective governance to instill corporate discipline in maximizing stakeholders' value. Using the performance information of five quoted banks in the Nigerian Stock Exchange with an aggregate of forty-five observations spanning from 2011 -2019 sample years, this study sheds some light on the degree of linearity of corporate internal governance measures such as board size, board composition, board independence, and bank liquidity on financial metrics of banks in Nigeria. The method of analysis adopted is the panel regression involving fixed effect estimation techniques. The correlation coefficient was used to measure the degree of association between our governance variables and profitability indices; while a robust estimator involving panel corrected standard error was applied. The estimated result for board size and board independence reveals a significant lag effect on bank performance. Board composition appears to have a significant inverse relationship with bank metrics which further suggests a low acceptance and adherence to cooperate governance by most banks with its resultant adverse effect on the bank metrics. Also, a statistical inverse relationship between the board size of a bank and its metrics was observed which suggests that increasing the size of the board of directors of a bank does not guarantee its performance. Hence, the study recommends that there is need for the regulatory authorities to reassess the procedures for the appointment of directors to the board in order to ensure uniform standards; transparency, accountability and stability exist in these financial markets.

**Keywords:** Bank performance, board Size, corporate internal governance