KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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KNUST

THE EFFECT OF NEW INSURANCE PREMIUM REFORM ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE GENERAL INSURANCE INDUSTRY IN GHANA. A CASE STUDY OF SELECTED INSURANCE COMPANIES IN THE KUMASI

METROPOLIS.

PHILOMENA SERWAA BOATENG

July, 2015

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DECLARATION

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Supervisor's Declaration

I declare that I have supervised the work herein submitted, and confirm that the students have my permission to present it for assessment.

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to the Almighty God for His unfailing grace and direction. This work is also dedicated to my parents who have helped in diverse ways to make this research a reality. Last but not the least, this work is dedicated to my supportive and loving husband Mr. Stephen Owuo Boafo and all the special people in my life who made this project a success.



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ABSTRACT

The study was designed to examine the effect of the new premium reforms on the performance of the general insurance industry in Ghana, a case study of selected Insurance Companies in Kumasi metropolis. The population comprised the clients and employees of Metropolitan Insurance Company and Star Assurance Company in Kumasi Metropolis. A sample size of two hundred (200) was drawn from both customer and employee population. The statistical methods employed on the basis of research questions, were descriptive statistics using the statistical software Statistical Package for Social Scientist (SPSS). The study has show that majority of the clients are aware of the new reforms, and if not the name the payment of premiums upfront. Prompt claims payment, saving time of going after debtors and profit making were some of the prospects identified with new reforms. Non wider awareness of the new premium policy and no flexibility at all was some of the implementation problems identified. It was revealed that there is a negative relationship between outstanding premiums and claims payment. It was also revealed that the new reforms had a positive effect on the performance of the general insurance industry as compared to the pre reform period. The study revealed that, majority of the clients were aware of the new reforms, and that those who are not aware of the name no premium no cover are aware of the payment upfront of premiums. On the prospects of the new reforms it was revealed that prompt claims payment, saving time of going after debtors and profit making were what the reforms is contributing now and will be strengthened in the near future. It was also revealed that non wider awareness of the new premium policy and no flexibility at all was some of the implementation problems identified. Therefore it was recommended that various insurance companies should undertake intensive education to explain further to the insurers and some level of flexibility at least a month can be allowed as a grace period for payment of premiums. It was revealed that there is a negative relationship between outstanding premiums and claims payment. It was also revealed that the new reforms had a positive effect on the performance of the general insurance industry as compared to the pre reform period. It was therefore recommended that National Insurance Commission should undertake strict monitoring and sanctioning of insurance industries which fails to comply with the new reforms policy to ensure its affectivity.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| NIC | NATIONAL | INSURANCE COMMISSION GDP | GROSS DOMESTIC |
|-----------|----------|--------------------------|----------------|
| PROGRAM N | IPNC | NO PREMIUM NO COVER | |
| | | | |

- PCHIS PRIVATE COMMERCIAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEMES
- SIC STATE INSURANCE COMPANY
- TPFTEMPORARY PENSION FUND
- NAICOM NATIONAL INSURANCE COMMISSION (NIGERIA)
- NHIS NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME
- DMHIS DISTRICT MUTUAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEMES
- MET METROPOLITAN INSURANCE COMPANY
- NPRA NATIONAL PENSION REGULATORY AUTHORITY
- LIC LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATIONS

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