

## EVALUATION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT IN THE NIGERIAN PUBLIC SECTOR

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### ABSTRACT

This paper was generally designed to evaluate the effectiveness of internal audit in the Nigerian Public Sector. It had 3 specific objectives, 3 research questions and 3 hypotheses. Simple random sampling technique was used to select 4 of the Federal Government Parastatals located in Enugu State of Nigeria. A study population of 182 made up of 127 accountants and 55 internal auditors in the Parastatals was utilized. A self – structured questionnaire, using a four-point modified Likert a scale was the instrument for data collection. 168 respondents that correctly completed and returned their questionnaire formed the sample size for the study. While mean was employed in data analysis chi-square was used to test the postulated hypothesis. The study found, among other things, that in spite of availability of adequate punishments, they were not effectively applied across boards for violations of internal audit procedures. It concluded that efforts should be geared towards updating the knowledge of internal auditors rather than engaging in interminable search for error-proof internal audit procedures. The paper recommended a thorough and transparent recruitment process for internal audits.