

Block Chain Technology and the New Wave of Accounting Practices

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<https://doi.org/10.33003/fujafr-2024.v2i2.92.45-55>

Abstract

Block chain offers a new and secure way to process and store financial and non-financial information that is easily accessible to users. This paper utilizes a conceptual approach in examining the link between block chain technology and the new wave of accounting practices. With the growing interconnectedness of business transactions, development of block chain technology, has no doubt redefined accounting practices, setting and reforming new standards from the conventional norms. The use of block chain technology has altered the accounting and auditing space in the global architecture, bringing into fore, new patterns, innovations and developments in the field of accounting. Invariably, accounting practices would need to accommodate and embrace this digital money evolvment in its conventional standards in order to meet up with the ever increasing, demanding, evolving and competitive global accounting architecture. The study concludes that there is a consensus on the need to review and redirect the orientation of traditional accounting practices by adopting, accommodating, integrating and harmonizing block chain technology and its by-products, cryptocurrencies into current development in accounting practices and reports. Furthermore, the prospect of accounting practice has become broadened, defining and integrating new limits with block chain technology. This, without doubt, is creating a more harmonized accounting practice in the global professional space.

Keywords: Accounting Practices, Block Chain Technology, Decentralized Network, Evolving Technology.

1.0 Introduction

The creation and evolution of block chain technology over the past decade has accelerated exponentially, and is altering traditional business and accounting models/practices. Block chain offers a new and secure way to process and store financial and non-financial information that is easily accessible to users (FASB Bulletin, 2023). Block chain technology is a distributed ledger technology that can be used to create secure and transparent transactions. Block chain comprises of a series of 'blocks' each of which contains data for multiple transactions, a hash (similar to a unique record number), and the hash of the previous block. Each block is validated by a decentralized network of participants (such as, peer -to peer network without a central authority, and is connected to another block using cryptography (that is, code).

Block chain technology is an advanced database mechanism that enables the distribution of transparent information within a business network. A block chain database stores data in blocks that are connected together in a chain. Block chain technology uses cryptographic algorithms (secure processes) to secure each block of data and bind the blocks together to create a record of previous data (Legge, 2024). Legge (2024) opines that there are basically, four main types of block chain technology exist, namely, public, private, consortium, and hybrid. Each of them has separate advantages, drawbacks, and specific use

cases. In a world where robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technology have dominated the global space, it is no longer surprising that 'money' the very pivot on which the global economy revolves is now digital (Sampso, 2017).

The decentralization of the validation process and use of cryptography makes it almost impossible, or at least cost prohibitive, to tamper with information contained in the block, making it highly secured (FASB, 2023). Crypto currencies like Bitcoin could help individuals and businesses facilitate small-scale international trade. Using Bitcoins enables these parties to sell products in exchange for Bitcoin and thereby avoiding traditional e-commerce systems (Scott, 2016; Yaga, 2018), which often involve having to set up a merchant account with a formal bank. Block chain can be utilized to create new digital currencies or develop new payment platforms, that have greater degree of security and efficiency than the traditional methods (Zwitter & Boisse-Despiaux, 2018).

Block chain technology is the foundation for all forms of crypto-assets, such as cryptocurrencies (for example. Bitcoin, Ether) and tokens (e.g. utility tokens, non-fungible tokens, security tokens). Cryptocurrency platforms often use block chain technology to validate changes to the ledgers (Jaikaran, 2020). Block chain technology uses cryptographic protocols to prevent invalid alteration or manipulation of the public ledger. Specifically, before any transaction is entered into the ledger and the ledger is irreversibly changed, some member of the network must validate the transaction. In certain cryptocurrency platforms, validation requires the member to solve an extremely difficult computational decryption. Once the transaction is validated, it is entered into the ledger (Yaga, 2018). In general, block chain technology extends to virtual purchase of land, real estate, or avatar items. Through block chain technology, greater communication, interactivity and connectivity has been enabled via internet. Through block chain the capacity to develop and monetized content and apps in 3D virtual environments is also enabled (Ozekhome, 2023). Block chain technology has vast applications across numerous industries including accounting finance, supply chain management, healthcare, real estate and more. Its versatility, without doubt, enables it to address a wide range of challenges and enhance various processes.

Nonetheless, associated with this innovative and evolving technology are unique risks, opportunities and challenges that may affect processes, relating controls (for example, safeguarding of assets through key encryption and splitting of multi-signature wallets and financial reporting). Without doubt, given the fast spate with which block chain technology is sweeping the business, financial and investment environment, well-informed, innovative-centered enterprises can acquire a competitive advantage in the commercial space. Given the growing spate of technology and innovation in the digital space, it is important that the implications of block chain technology for modern day accounting practice are explored. This is the focus and motivation of this paper.

The sweeping technological development that is fostering digital money and assets is bringing to the fore a new and interesting dynamics in the economics, finance, accounting, business landscape. The new and emerging block chain technology is rapidly introducing new perspectives, standards and rules in the accounting profession that must meet the changing and yearning imperatives of the recent times. Without doubt, the conventional accounting practice and rules can no longer stand the current times as new developments brought about by block chain technology, particularly digital money/assets require that new entry rules and standards. As a result, the traditional statement of financial position and double entry principles and standards need to be transformed and update to accommodate the new wave brought about by block chain technology.

To this end, development in the accounting profession should reflect the dynamic change brought by block chain technology. The new wave of accounting practices should therefore be embracing, adoptive, accommodating and integrating with respect to new development brought about by block chain technology. Given the vast potentials of block chain technology in virtually all fields of human endeavor, including accounting practice, professional accountants and accountants in practice should not remain in a state of flux but ever changing to the dynamics of the current time. There is palpable gap in literature as regard the issue of block chain technology and the new wave of accounting given that block chain technology and its impact in the dynamic world is recent. While few studies however, have examined block chain technology and the implications for the accounting practice in terms of principles and standards in the developed countries, focus has not been devoted to developing countries, particularly Nigeria. It is the recognition of this fact that warrant the present study.

Besides this introductory section, section 2 considers some of the forms of block chain enabled crypto currencies in circulation. Section 3 considers some of the issues in block chain technology. Accounting considerations for block chain technology and implications in the accounting practice as well as financial and policy regulation of block chain technology-enabled cryptocurrency is contained in section 4. Section 5 contains a brief survey of the pertinent literature with respect to theory and evidence. Section 6 discusses some of the prospects of block chain technology and accounting practice, while section 7 concludes the paper, with some policy suggestions.

2.0 Literature Review

Some Block Chain - enabled Cryptocurrencies

In general, cryptocurrencies are products of block chain technology. Some of the cryptocurrency's inn use are:

- i. Bitcoin is undoubtedly the most popular and prominent cryptocurrency. It was the first realization of the idea of a new type of money that uses cryptography to control its creation and transactions, rather than a central authority (Bitcoin Project, 2017). This decentralization means that the Bitcoin network is controlled and owned by all of its users, and as all users must adhere to the same set of rules, there is a great incentive to maintain the decentralized nature of the network. Bitcoin uses block chain technology, which keeps a record of every single transaction, and the processing and authentication of transactions are carried out by the network of users (Bitcoin Project, 2017). Although the decentralized nature offers many advantages, such as being free from government control and regulation, critics often argue that apart from its users, there is nobody overlooking the whole system and that the value of Bitcoin is unfounded. In return for contributing their computing power to the network to carry out some of the tasks mentioned above, also known as "mining", users are rewarded with Bitcoins. These properties set Bitcoin apart from traditional currencies, which are controlled and backed by a central bank or governing body. According to Bitcoin Project (2017) Venezuela, Zimbabwe and Iran are the ones which are the prominent users of bitcoin (an example of cryptocurrency). The factor which is common in these three countries and the reason behind their huge usage of bitcoins is the underdevelopment of their local market and underperforming domestic currencies.
- ii. Lite-Coin (LTC) was created in 2011 by Charles Lee with support from the Bitcoin community. Based on the same peer-to-peer protocol used by Bitcoin, it is often cited as Bitcoin's leading rival as it features improvements over the current implementation of Bitcoin. It has two main features which distinguish it from Bitcoin, its use of script as a proof-of-work algorithm and a significantly

- faster confirmation time for transactions. The former enables standard computational hardware to verify transactions and reduces the incentive to use specially designed hardware, while the latter reduces transaction confirmation times to minutes rather than hours and is particularly attractive in time-critical situations (LiteCoin Project, 2017).
- iii. MaidSafeCoin is a digital currency which powers the peer-to-peer Secure Access for everyone (SAFE) network, which combines the computing power of all its users, and can be thought of as a “crowd-sourced internet” (MaidSafe, 2017). Each MadeSafe coin has a unique identity and there exists a hard upper limit of 4.3 billion coins as opposed to Bitcoin’s 21 million. As the currency is used to pay for services on the SAFE network, the currency will be recycled meaning that in theory the amount of MaidSafe coins will never be exhausted. The process of generating new currency is similar to other cryptocurrencies and in the case of the SAFE network it is known as “farming” (MaidSafe, 2017). Users contribute their computing power and storage space to the network and are rewarded with coins when the network accesses data from their store (MaidSafe, 2017).
 - iv. Monero (XMR) is a “secure, private, untraceable currency” (Monero, 2017) centered around decentralization and scalability that was launched in April 2014. The currency itself is completely donation-based, community driven and based entirely on proof-of-work. Whilst transactions in the network are private by default, users can set their level of privacy allowing as much or as little access to their transactions as they wish. Although it employs a proof-of-work algorithm, Monero is more similar to Litecoin in that mining of the currency can be done by any modern computer and is not restricted to specially designed hardware. It arguably holds some advantages over other Bitcoin-based cryptocurrencies such as having a dynamic block size (overcoming the problem of scalability), and being a disinflationary currency meaning that there will always exist an incentive to produce the Monero currency (Monero, 2017).
 - v. Dogecoin (Dogecoin, 2017) originated from a popular internet meme in December 2013. Created by an Australian brand and marketing specialist, and a programmer in Portland, Oregon, it initially started off as a joke currency but quickly gained traction. It is a variation on Litecoin, running on the cryptographic script enabling similar advantages over Bitcoin such as faster transaction processing times. Part of the attraction of Dogecoin is its light-hearted culture and lower barriers to entry to investing in or acquiring cryptocurrencies. One of the most popular uses for Dogecoin is the tipping of others on the internet who create or share interesting content, and can be thought of as the next level up from a “like” on social media or an “upvote” on internet forums. This in part has arisen from the fact that it has now become too expensive to tip using Bitcoin.
 - vi. Ripple was originally developed in 2012 and is the first global real-time gross settlement network (RTGS) which “enables banks to send real-time international payments across networks” (Ripple, 2017). The Ripple network is a block chain network which incorporates a payment system, and a currency system known as XRP which is not based on proof-of-work like Monero and Dash. A unique property of Ripple is that XRP is not compulsory for transactions on the network, although it is encouraged as a bridge currency for more competitive cross border payments (Ripple, 2017). The Ripple protocol is currently used by companies such as UBS, Santander, and Standard Chartered, and increasingly being used by the financial services industry as technology in settlements. Compared with Bitcoin, it has advantages such as greater control over the system as it is not subject to the price volatility of the underlying currencies, and it has a more secure distributed authentication process.

Some Important Concepts and Issues in Block Chain Technology

A number of important concepts/issues are associated with block chain technology, which is different from conventional banking transactions. Some of these terms are examined:

- i. **Block chain:** This is a ledger that keeps track of all cryptocurrency transactions that have ever been made. It is a global online data base that is internet-connected, but is not owned by any one person. With block chain, different persons can write entries into a record of information, but no one person controls the information space. Block chain is an endlessly growing list of records called "blocks", which are linked and secured by means of cryptography.
- ii. **Block chain technology:** It is the means by which one internet user transfer a unique piece of digital property to another internet user, such that the transfer is guaranteed to be safe and secure, with the knowledge by everyone that such transfer has been affected but nobody can transfer the legitimacy of the transfer.
- iii. **Mining:** This represents a record- keeping service. Through mining, block chain is kept consistent, complete and unchangeable by means of recurrently validating and gathering newly broadcast transactions into a new group of transactions termed blocks (Sampson, 2017).
- iv. **Miners:** Miners are participants of the value chain that confirm transactions, placing it into a transaction block and ultimately solving it.
- v. **Addresses:** It is a sequence of letters and numbers generated randomly, such that it can be viewed by every person on a block chain but it can only be unlocked by the private/personal key holder/owner in order to take out things (outflows) or put in things (inflows).
- vi. **Wallet and Wallet ID:** A wallet constitutes an electronic purse where inflows are stored and from where outflows are sent. Besides, in order to log into one's wallet, a Wallet ID, one's password any two-step verification allowed the person are required. A wallet ID is a string of random letters and numbers that function as a username.
- vii. **Public Key and Private Key:** In block chain technology, particularly, crypto currency transactions. Public Key are the address of the account through which funds are received. On the other hand, Private Key constitutes the holder's signature, which acts as a proof of ownership. Public Key and Private Key both represent sequences of numbers and letters. Nevertheless, while the Public Key may be disclosed to anybody one is expecting an inflow from to facilitate the sent currency, Private Key is kept in secrecy, as it is used by the holder to verify his inputs and outputs. This digital signature provides effective and robust ownership control and authentication of identity and management (Sampso, 2017).

Accounting Considerations of Block Chain Technology Practice

Block chain technology is exciting on account of its transparent and decentralized nature. Its emergence has challenged the status quo of the finance industry.

- i. The digital ledger has the potential to revolutionize many industries.
- ii. The use of block chain technology by accounting firms to eliminate the necessity of entering accounting information into multiple databases is also evident.
- iii. Pharmaceutical companies are using block chain technology to radically change track-and trace serialization processes through the utilization of a transparent immutable digital ledger of data.
- iv. The utilization of block chain technology by fashion retailers to enhance their supply chain logistics, including the creation of greater level of transparency for customers is also noticeable.

- v. However, block chain technology is predominantly used for crypto currency coins, tokens and NFTs (ACCA Bulletin, 2023).
- vi. Block chain technology is now being used in the service sector to collectively knit vital service data/information together through a centrally regulated system that provides security and reliability of the data preserved. This has greatly enabled the maintenance of diverse data that are used in decision making in such service sector. Hospitals, for instance, have transformed from traditional paper recording-keeping, and now use block chain technology to store patient data, which is kept confidential. The patient is given a digital ID or a number key to access these records. Thus, block chain gives the patient control over who can see that data. In so doing, the secrecy of a patient's health information and the applicable medication are kept and enclosed from prying eyes, thus ensuring the safety and security of the patient block chain technology has helped in immutable digital record, as property deeds, birth certificates, death certificates, financial transactions, insurance records, legal disputes, hospitals data and other sensitive documents can be safely recorded in encrypted code and stored on the block chain.
- vii. Citizens can use the publicly available record data of the crypto currencies in the block chain to monitor the way in which the state funds are used. It would also allow governments to track their spending better and to improve their budget allocation (Mills, 2016; Schmidt, 2017).

Despite the fact that block chain technology-enabled cryptocurrency has come into normal, the financial reporting for digital assets is still not effectively incorporated into existing accounting guidance under the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) or International Financials Reporting Standards (IFRS). In the US, for instance, many firms that specialize in crypto accounting have made requests to the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) to come out with an updated guidance to reduce quell concerns and create clarity. Currently, the available guidance on cryptocurrency accounting posits that for tax purposes, cryptocurrency, at least should be conceived as capital asset and subject to capital gains tax. This issue, has, however not been cleared too because despite not being recognized as a fiat currency or its equivalent, in certain instances, crypto will be subject to income tax, depending on the transaction (ACCA Bulletin, 20123).

Without doubt, the use of block chain technology as the basis for all forms of cryptocurrencies (such as Bitcoin, Ether) and tokens (for example utility tokens, non-fungible tokens, security tokens). has brought new dynamics into the financial and investment space in line with the Financial and Accounting Standards Board (FASB), cryptocurrencies are intangible assets because they are assets that lack physical substance. Cryptocurrencies are generally not considered to be any other type of asset because they are not physical cash and are not backed by sovereign governments, and generally not accepted as legal tender. Cash includes not only currency on hand but demand deposits with banks and other financial institutions. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to cash.

Cryptocurrencies are highly volatile and typically lack maturity dates. Treating cryptocurrencies as intangible assets is in line with the views shared by the staff of SEC and Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) that when crypto-assets are not deemed securities or subject to specialized guidance, they probably are accounted for as intangible assets under the US GAAP (FASB Bulletin, 2023).

Cryptocurrency platforms often use block chain technology to validate changes to the ledgers (Jaikaran, 2020). Block chain technology uses cryptographic protocols to prevent invalid alteration or manipulation of the public ledger. Specifically, before any transaction is entered into the ledger and the ledger is

irreversibly changed, some member of the network must validate the transaction. In certain cryptocurrency platforms, validation requires the member to solve an extremely difficult computational decryption. Once the transaction is validated, it is entered into the ledger (Yaga, 2018).

Financial Policy and Regulation of Crypto currency,

The CBN is the institution that manages the currency and monetary policy of Nigeria, and oversees the commercial banking system. In pursuant to its powers under section 27(1)(b) of the CBN Act, the CBN released a “Circular to Banks and Other Financial Institutions on Virtual Currency Operations in Nigeria”, on January 12, 2017, wherein it warned against the risks of virtual currencies and directed banks and other financial institutions to take the following actions, pending substantive regulation or decision by the CBN (CBN, 2017):

- i. Ensure that you do not use, hold, trade and/or transact in anyway in virtual currencies;
- ii. Ensure that existing customers, that are virtual currency exchanges, have effective AML/CFT controls that enable them to comply with customer identification, verification and transaction monitoring requirements;
- iii. Where banks or other financial institutions are not satisfied with the controls put in place by the virtual currency exchanges/customers, the relationship should be discontinued immediately; and
- iv. Any suspicious transactions by these customers should immediately be reported to the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU).

In line with the CBN’s January 12, 2017 circular, the monetary authority stressed that virtual currencies are not legal tender in Nigeria and cryptocurrencies, as well as exchanges where cryptocurrencies are traded, are not licensed or regulated by the CBN. Consequently, investors in cryptocurrencies are not protected by law (CBN, 2017, 2021). A similar directive by the CBN recently maintained that cryptocurrencies do not constitute legal tender in Nigeria, with the apex monetary author directing all banks to restrict and freeze all accounts connected with cryptocurrencies. With the assumption of office of the new CBN Governor, Olayemi Cardoso, all hitherto restricted cryptocurrency accounts have been opened. Nevertheless, the apex monetary authority has imposed strict regulation and control on cryptocurrency trading.

Brief Survey of the Literature

The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), originally proposed by Davis 1989), provides a robust framework for understanding how users accept and adopt new technologies within an organizational context. TAM posits that perceived ease of use and perceived usefulness are critical factors influencing users' behavioral intention to adopt a technology. Contextualizing this theory in terms the link between block chain technology and the new wave of accounting practice, the adoptions, accommodation and integrations of in block chain technology powered currency/assets in modern accounting is critical to the further development of the accounting practices/standard in the light of traditional accounting principles or standards incapable of meeting the needs of the current trend or dynamics. Block chain technology and the ensuing digital money/assets thus, thus has vast implications for accounting practice and reports in terms of financial statements, balance sheet, taxation and son on.

Complementing TAM is the Decision Support System (DSS) Theory, developed by Scott-Morton (1971), and Keen and Scott-Morton (1978), which centers on the integration of information technologies to

facilitate better decision-making processes within organizations. The foundational principles of DSS involve providing relevant information and analytical tools to enhance the decision-making capabilities of individuals and groups. Relating this theory to the subject matter being explored, it can be observed that the adoption, accommodation and integration of block chain technology-enabled money/assets is expanding the scope of accounting practice beyond the traditional periphery, as it has necessitated new rules and standards in accounting that must be accommodated and integrated in the light of the yearning requirements of modern-day accounting practice. The integration of such developments, without doubt, has vast implications for accounting practice with respect to the preparation of financial statements, tax and audit reports etc., and thereby enhancing decision making process in organizations (Ozekhome, 2023).

Regarding the empirical link between block chain technology and accounting practices, very few studies have been carried out on the subject matter, The focus of studies have, particularly been centered on the digital money/assets and accounting standards For example, the study by Yaga (2018) examined block chain technology in relation to National Institute of Standards Technology (NSIT), the study focused on how block chain technology has impacted on accounting practices of the National Institute of Standards Technology. The study concluded that block chain technology and its attendant result is bringing into fore new dynamics in the field of accounting that require harmonization. FASB (2023) focused on the link between digital assets and accounting standards, revealing the implications of cryptocurrencies in the incorporation of financial statements and reports. The implications of cryptocurrencies in the incorporation of financial statements are that, accountants are put on their toe so as enable them to embrace the unique class of digital assets to answer the demand for cryptocurrency accounting which is not really easy. Therefore, with the absence of specific accounting standards and the volatile nature of these currencies, accountants must grasp the complexities involved in their recognition, measurement and reporting so as to enhance accuracy and efficiency in reporting it in financial statements.

The study by Neldecheva (2023) examined crypto currencies and the challenges of classification and entry in accounting books. The study suggested that, price fluctuations for cryptocurrencies make it challenging to keep the accounting records accurate in determining the fair market value of crypto assets. This, in turn, makes financial reporting challenging, especially if one has to audit or rely on these financial statements. Furthermore, the volatile nature of cryptocurrency values can change drastically between time of transaction and the subsequent reconciliation, thus, impacting on the financial statements. The lack of standardized accounting principles which has led to individuals and businesses to resort to various accounting practices, leading to inconsistencies and challenges when comparing financial statements across the cryptocurrency landscape. Michael and Beheran (2023) examined new rules of cryptocurrencies on company financial settlement. Using a conceptual-based approach, the study concludes that there are vast implications in terms of new rules for cryptocurrencies in company financial segments and reports. The study opined that the tax implications of cryptocurrency transaction is a fundamental issue. Each action, whether buying, selling, trading or using cryptocurrencies trigger a taxable event and accurately valuing these assets at any given time is crucial. Cryptocurrencies high volatility requires careful tracking of transaction dates, prices and associated fees, which can be demanding for individuals and businesses. Legge (2024) discussed and examined cryptocurrency, bringing to the fore the foundational basis of the requirements of the understanding of digital money/assets. In understanding the concept of cryptocurrency, there is need to explain the concept of crypto assets. Crypto asset is a digital asset that is recorded as an asset on the statement of financial position, but it's not a physical asset. Crypto assets encompass both cryptocurrencies and cryptographic assets. These assets rely on cryptography for security, utilize distributed ledger technology and don't

require third parties like banks for issuance. While cryptocurrencies are a type of crypto assets, not all crypto assets are necessarily cryptocurrencies.

In a conceptual paper, Ngo (2024) posit that the IMF and World Bank together see potential in block chain technology. The potentials for block chain technology have the capacity to reduce transaction costs and counter-party risks. Generally, the multilateral financial organizations presented a constructive assessment of the technology, particularly with respect to its operational features, which could be used to building more secure and cheaper-to-use payment systems.

At an annual meeting both international financial institutions disused the effect of the differences in emerging economies in a context of weak financial development and inclusiveness and the necessity of digital crypto currencies and financial innovations that can drive rapid growth.

The Mexican Bank however observed that digital crypto currencies, notably, Bitcoin generate much skepticisms among stakeholders on their use as stores of value, as well as global currencies. The position of this study is that without doubt, block chain technology offers diverse and incredible prospects and opportunities for the virtual world, which, if fully explored and maximized has the capacity to generate greater output. Furthermore, the prospect of accounting practice has become broadened, defining and integrating new limits with cryptocurrency. This, without doubt, is creating a more harmonized accounting practice in the global professional space.

From the fair review of the related literature, it observed that there is a palpable gap in the block chain technology- new wave of accounting practices nexus in Nigeria. The recognition of this gap is the basis of this paper, as it seeks to examine block chain technology and the new wave of accounting practice nexus.

Prospect of Block Chain Technology and Accounting Practice

A number of important prospects are discernible for block chain technology and accounting practice as follows.

First, there is the need to review and redirect the orientation of traditional accounting practices by adopting, accommodating, integrating and harmonizing block chain technology and its by-products, cryptocurrencies into current development in accounting practices and report.

Second, with the new development in asset and investment portfolio brought about by block chain technology, the conventional entry for the treatment of asset in the statement of financial position and reports needs to acknowledge, accept, accommodate, adopt, integrate and redirect its focus on the actual type of assets to be entered.

Thirdly, the use of block chain technology in businesses as a medium of exchange would be more competitive than ever before, presenting more issues to the accounting field in terms of book-keeping. Given a challenging business environment with vast medium of exchange, unit of account and store of value, a regulatory framework that can partially make cryptocurrency a legal tender will mitigate the yawning difficulties of reports. Finally, the prospect of accounting practice has become broadened, defining and integrating new limits with block chain technology and its by-product cryptocurrencies. This, without doubt, is creating a more harmonized accounting practice in the global professional space.

5.0 Conclusion and Recommendations

Block chain technology leverages innovation in developing new and safely secured digital currencies, obscuring boundaries, creating new service and business, finance and accounting practices. The existing complementarities among these technological innovations are creating an incredible collection of new applications focusing on currency, payments, transactions and investment. Without doubt, given the fast pace with which block chain technology is sweeping the business, financial and investment environment, well-informed, innovative-centered enterprises can acquire a competitive advantage in the commercial space. Given the growing spate of technology and innovation in the digital space, it is important that the implications of block chain technology for modern day accounting practice are explored. With the accounting practice taking into cognizance the implications of this highly technological and innovative opportunities in money, asset and investment, it is imperative that consistent transformations and redefining of existing practice and standards to meet current realities be accommodated. Doing this, will in no doubt make the future practice of accounting interesting, diverse, competitive and all-embracing in a dynamic technological and innovative environment. The future practice of accounting in terms of rules, principles and standard require constant reforms in line with the fluidity of the environment, a matrix of dynamic change that were hitherto not present. After all, change, they say, is the only constant thing in life.

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