

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAQA mourns Mr Firoz Patel, Deputy Director-General: TVET Colleges

16 March 2018



On behalf of the SAQA Board and staff, the CEO of SAQA, Mr Joe Samuels conveys our sincere condolences to the Patel family and the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) on the passing away of Mr Firoz Patel, Deputy Director-General: TVET Colleges.

“Mr Patel had a long-standing relationship with SAQA, having served on the Inter-departmental Steering Committee of the Department of Education and Department of Labour which culminated in the drafting of the Joint Declaration of the Ministers of Education and Labour. Firoz later as DDG Planning, Monitoring, and Strategy chaired the Inter-departmental Steering of the DHET and DBE and as the chairperson of that Committee served on the CEO Committee of the NQF. We appreciated his candid approach and his eagerness to engage on NQF matters and representing the interests of the DHET. His sudden passing comes as a big shock to us and we experience it as a great loss to ourselves and to the education and training community. He will be sorely missed,” said Mr Samuels.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and the DHET during this difficult time. We join you in mourning his death, but also in celebrating his life through his many contributions to democratising our education system and working selflessly for the provision of access to education for the poor and marginalised,” he added.

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To ensure the development and implementation of a National Framework which contributes to the full development of each learner and to the social and economic development of the nation at large

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