



SAQA Board Statement of Deliberations 2 of 2018

The South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) Board once again met on 26 July 2018 to perform its functions. The Board deliberated on issues including the Auditor-General's report on the audit of SAQA's Annual Financial Statements for 2017/18, SAQA's audited annual financial statements for 2017/18, the SAQA Annual Integrated Report 2017/18, the appointment of a new member to the Finance Committee, the registration of new qualifications and part-qualifications, the recognition of new professional bodies and the registration of their professional designations. The SAQA Board also approved the continued recognition of the International Baccalaureate (IB) qualifications. In doing this, the SAQA Board continued to protect and inspire confidence in our education and training system.



Auditor-General's Report on the Audit of the 2017/18 Annual Financial Statements

As a public entity and to build public confidence, SAQA's external audit is conducted by the Auditor-General South Africa. After rigorous scrutiny of SAQA's governance, financial and management practices, processes and procedures, the Auditor-General produced his report on the audit of SAQA's 2017/18 Annual Financial Statements. The SAQA Board discussed and accepted the Auditor-General's Audit report which declared another unqualified audit opinion. This report will be made public when it is presented to Parliament before the end of year.



Audited Annual Financial Statements for 2017/18

SAQA's Audited Annual Financial Statements as at 31 March 2018 reflect an organisation that is in a sound financial state. Its assets exceed its liabilities and SAQA is able to cover its operational costs for the foreseeable future. The SAQA Board approved the Audited Annual Financial Statements for 2017/18 and congratulated management and staff for their contribution. These Audited Annual Financial Statements will also be available to the public when they are tabled in Parliament before the end of the year.



Annual Integrated Report 2017/18

SAQA is required to produce an Annual Integrated Report in line with legislation that govern public entities as well as the King Report on Corporate Governance in South Africa adopted by the SAQA Board. SAQA's Annual Integrated Report 2017/18 meets all the legislative criteria and guidelines set by National Treasury. It reflects the operations, performance information, environmental sustainability, social responsibility, human resources and financial affairs of SAQA. The SAQA Board approved this report, which will also be made public when it is tabled in Parliament before the end of the year.



Appointment of a New Member to the Finance Committee

In her foreword to the SAQA Annual Integrated Report 2017/18, the Chairperson of the SAQA Board, Dr Vuyelwa Toni-Penxa, writes "SAQA is very proud to be, and seen to be, a model statutory body, which continues to execute its statutory mandate in a transparent, responsible and accountable manner. Our culture of good governance and accountability is firmly embedded throughout the organisation with zero tolerance for fraud and corruption." To continue with this culture, the SAQA Board approved the appointment of Mr Seelan Moonsamy to the Finance Committee. The SAQA Board believes Mr Moonsamy has the leadership capabilities, the requisite experience and the gravitas to contribute meaningfully to SAQA's mission of building a world-class National Qualifications Framework (NQF) for South Africa.



Registration of New Qualifications and Part-Qualifications

The registration of qualifications and part-qualifications on the NQF is an important part of SAQA's legislative mandate. It enhances the quality our education by ensuring that genuine qualifications and part-qualifications of high quality are availed to learners. It also facilitates the movement of learners from one level to another as they advance their levels of competence in contribution to the country's development. In this regard, the SAQA Board approved the registration of 38 new higher education qualifications and 35 new work-based qualifications on the NQF. These new 73 qualifications were registered within the required timeframes and they add to [a host of quality-assured qualifications and part-qualifications already registered on the NQF](#), and available to learners.



Recognition of New Professional Bodies

Another part of SAQA's legislative mandate is to recognise professional bodies and register their professional designations on the NQF. This happens if the professional bodies meet the SAQA [policy and criteria for recognising professional bodies and registering professional designations](#). The SAQA Board therefore approved the recognition of two new professional bodies and the registration of their respective professional designations on the NQF. These two professional bodies were recognised within the required timeframes. This takes the number of [SAQA-recognised professional bodies](#) to 106. These recognised professional bodies should be trusted as they protect the public interest in relation to the services provided by their members.



Continued Recognition of IB Qualifications

In line with the [policy and criteria for evaluating foreign qualifications within the South African NQF](#), the SAQA Board approved the continued recognition of the International Baccalaureate (IB) qualifications. This means that IB is a recognised international issuing body of the qualifications it offers outside of South Africa and in South Africa exclusively if offered to the children of diplomats. In line with our legislation, the IB will be required to register its qualifications offered in South Africa on the NQF and will be given a reasonable timeframe to comply. Such compliance with legislation ensures that South Africans are protected from bogus qualifications that may be offered by foreign institutions.

The SAQA Board continued to execute its mandate in a transparent and accountable manner. The Board complied with its legislative mandate by approving its 2017/18 Annual Integrated Report and Audited Financial Statements within the required timeframes. It also executed its other legislative mandate by registering new qualifications and recognising new professional bodies within the agreed timeframes. Registering new qualifications within the required timeframes enables providers to offer these qualifications and for learners to take up these qualifications. Further, recognising new professional bodies promotes professional development of various sectors thereby contributing to the economic development of the country. The SAQA Board will continue to do its work and will keep the public informed of its decisions as they affect the public.

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