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TRIBUTE FOR THE LATE DR ANSHU PADAYACHEE



SAQA has learned with shock and great sadness of the passing of Dr Anshu Padayachee. Dr. Anshu Padayachee was the CEO of the Technological Higher Education Network South Africa (THENSA), a strong and successful umbrella body for the consortium of technology focused higher education institutions (HEIs) in South Africa. Prior to this, she was the CEO of SANPAD, a well-established bilateral research programme between South Africa and the Netherlands. She has served as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at the then ML Sultan Technikon and Acting Vice Chancellor of the same institution.

Most recently SAQA worked in partnership with THENSA and its members and partners, in cooperation with European partners,

to establish a Higher Education Reform Experts (HERE) group in South Africa, which could be extended in the future to other higher education institutions in the country and the whole of Africa. This work included leading developments in Entrepreneurship Education (EE), Work Integrated Learning (WIL), and Competency-Based Learning and Teaching (CBLT) in participating HEIs.

Dr Padayachee played leading roles in these HERESA initiatives and spearheaded the formation of professional associations. She contributed to establishing entrepreneurship and skills programmes for HEIs and TVET colleges, and a SAQA-accredited programme in Waste Management. She has helped to establish electronic waste plants at six Universities of Technology.

We will remember her as a much-loved, dynamic, tireless, warm, inspiring leader, and colleague who welcomed and embraced innovative ideas and developments in the education, training, and development sectors. While Dr Padayachee was a natural and highly respected leader, she was also an enthusiastic co-worker, setting a wonderful example with her energy and commitment. In embodying the spirit of inclusivity, quality, transparency, progression, and upliftment, she was a formidable National Qualifications Framework (NQF) champion who will be greatly missed at the national, organizational, and personal levels.

The leadership and staff of SAQA express heartfelt condolences to the Padayachee family during this difficult time.

Board Chairperson: Professor Peliwe Lolwana.

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