



PRESENTATION FOR THE 4TH AQVN WEBINAR

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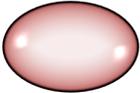
Presentation Outline



- Legal Mandate of ZAQA
- Overview of the Zambia Qualifications Framework
- Relationship with Appropriate Authorities
- Registration and Accreditation of Qualifications
- Validation and Evaluation of Qualifications
- QMIS and E-Certificate
- Database of Learner Achievement Records
- CATS and RPL
- Development of National Occupational Standards
- Cooperation and Information-sharing with Counterparts
- UNESCO Qualifications Passport (UQP)
- ZAQA in the face of Covid-19

Legal Mandate of ZAQA



-  **Zambia Qualifications Authority
Act No. 13 of 2011**
-  **Statutory Instrument No.4 of 2018**

Zambia Qualifications Authority

Act No. 13 of 2011

Establishment of the Zambia Qualifications Authority as an Institution governed by a Board under Ministry of Education

Implementation and maintenance of the Zambia Qualifications Framework (ZQF)

Registration and Accreditation of Qualifications

Validation and Evaluation of Qualifications

Ensure that Standards and registered qualifications are internationally comparable

Maintain a database of Learner Achievement records in Zambia

Statutory Instrument No. 4 of 2018

Accreditation, Validation and Evaluation of Qualifications

Application to accredit qualifications

Validation and Evaluation of qualifications

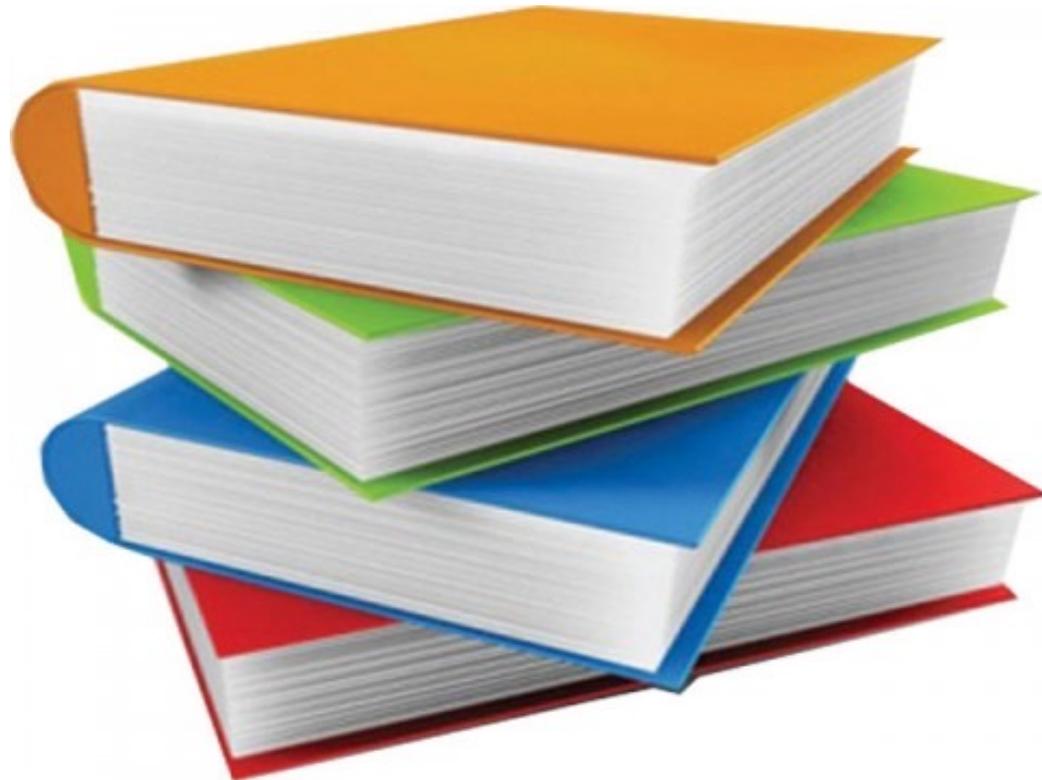
Transition Period

Maintenance of Register of Qualifications

The Primary Role of ZAQA



ZAQA is the
Custodian
of all Zambian
Qualifications
and the
Reference Point
for all Non-Zambian
Qualifications



Zambia Qualifications Framework

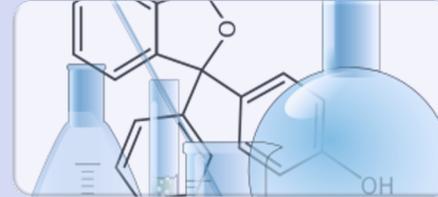
- Zambia Qualifications Framework (ZQF) was developed and implemented in 2016;
- It comprehensively covers all learning achievements and pathways;
- The Zambia Qualifications Framework (ZQF) is a 10 Level Framework made up of a single integrated system comprising three (3) coordinated qualifications sub-frameworks:



**General &
Further
Education Sub
Framework**



**Trades and
Occupations Sub
Framework**



**Higher Education
Sub framework**

Importance of the Zambia Qualifications Framework

Integration

- To create a single integrated national framework for learning achievements

Access, Mobility and Progression

- To facilitate access to, and mobility and progression within education, training and career paths

Quality

- To enhance the quality of education and training

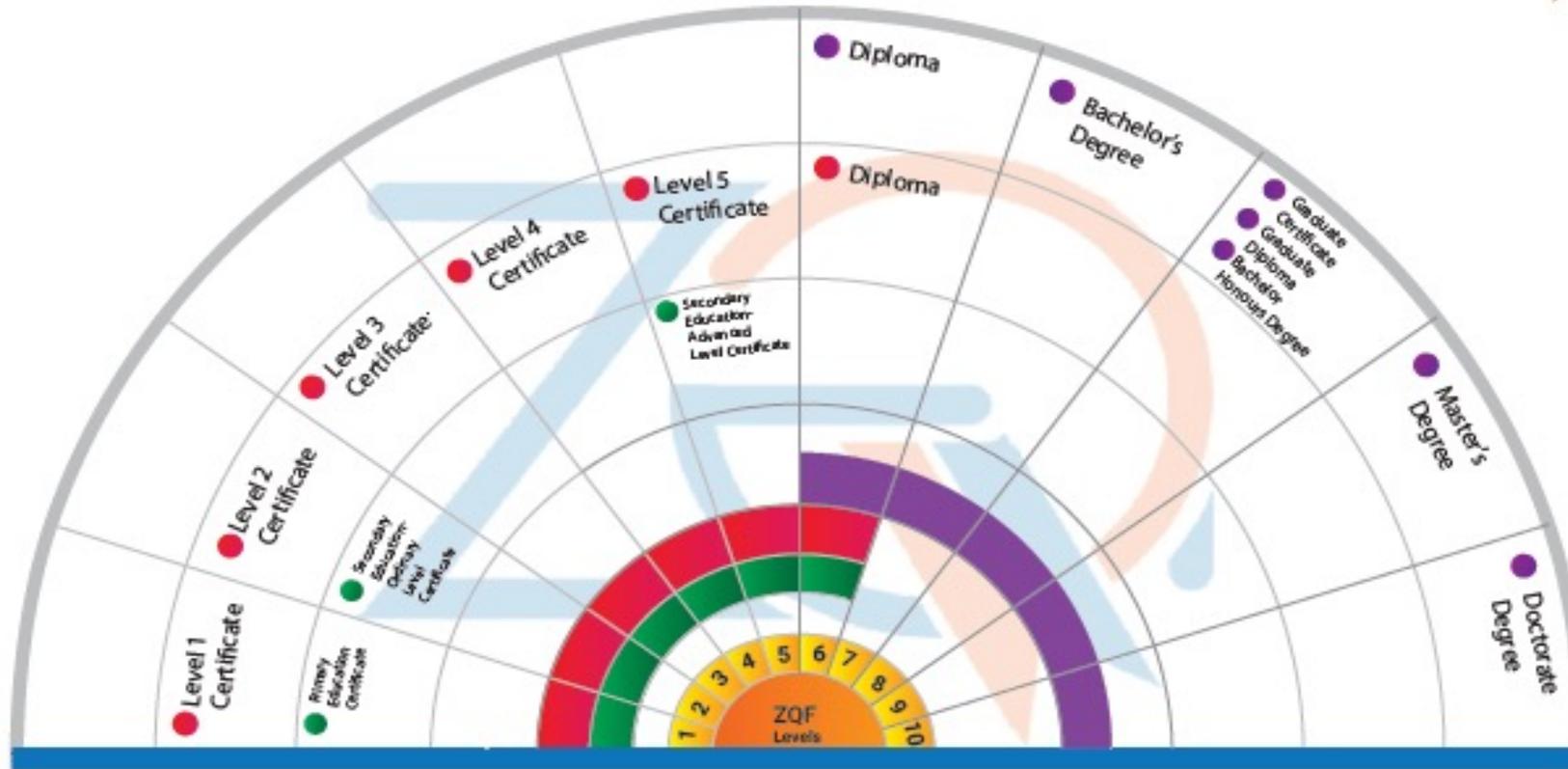
Employment

- To promote education, training and employment opportunities

Structure of Zambia Qualifications Framework

ZQF Level	General Education	Trades and Occupations	Higher Education	
10			Doctorate Degree	
9			Masters Degree	
8			Post-Graduate Diploma	
7			Bachelors Degree	
6			Diploma	
5			Level 5 Certificate	
4			Level 4 Certificate	
3			Level 3 Certificate	
2B			Senior Secondary Education Certificate	
2A			Junior Secondary Education Certificate	
1	Primary Education Certificate			
Appropriate Authority	Quality Assurance Bodies established by Acts of Parliament in Zambia			
Co-ordinating Body	THE ZAMBIA QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (ZAQA)			

Proposed Revised Structure of the ZQF



SUB FRAMEWORKS

- General and Further Education and Training
- Trades and Occupations
- Higher Education

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- Ministry of General Education/Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ)
- Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Authority (TEVETA)
- Higher Education Authority (HEA)

QUALIFICATIONS

- Zambia Qualifications Authority (ZAQA)

ZQF Level Descriptors

Each level of the ZQF is described by a statement of learning achievement known as a level descriptor

A level descriptor provides a generic indication of learning achievements or outcomes that are appropriate to a qualification a particular level

The descriptors are competence based and describe learning outcomes in terms of:
Foundational competences (Knowledge – what learners ought to comprehend)
Practical competences (Skill – what learners can do)
Reflexive competences and applied skills (Autonomy and Responsibility)

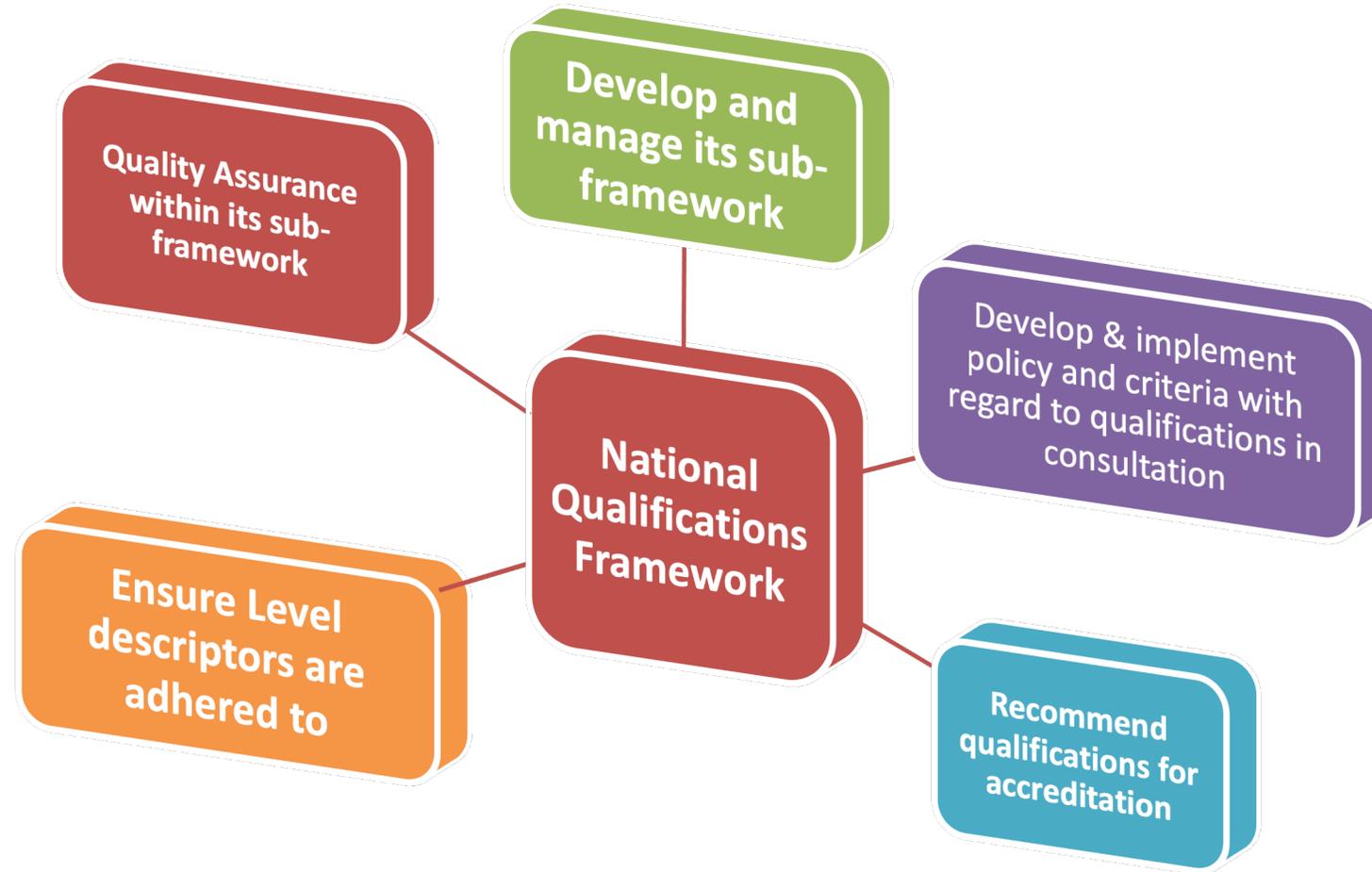
Relationship with Appropriate Authorities

Quality Assurance of the ZQF

ZAQA coordinates outputs of Appropriate Authorities responsible for the three(3) sub-Frameworks of the Zambia Qualifications Framework

Appropriate Authorities include HEA, TEVETA, ECZ, Training institutions, Professional bodies

Roles of Appropriate Authorities in the Sub - Frameworks



Registration and Accreditation of Qualifications on the ZQF

- Appropriate Authorities recommend qualifications for registration and accreditation on the ZQF.
- Conduct evaluation of qualifications for the purpose of determining if the qualification meets the requirements to be placed on the ZQF.
- Evaluations are conducted by a team of subject matter experts.
- Standard time to complete registration and accreditation of a qualification is 30 days from date of receipt of completed application
- **377 qualifications have been registered and accredited to date.**

Importance of Registration and Accreditation of Qualifications on the ZQF

- Uniformity of learning achievements and learner progression.
- Guaranteed quality of qualifications and the awarding bodies.
- Recognition of graduates as qualified and fit for purpose.
- Register of registered and accredited qualifications provide the learners with all the necessary information about accredited qualifications.

Validation and Evaluation of Qualifications

- **Validation** – involves verifying the authenticity of a qualification.
- **Evaluation** – involves determining the comparability of a foreign qualification to the Zambia Qualifications Framework.
- Standard time to complete Validation and Evaluation from date of receipt of completed application:
 - 14 days for local qualifications;
 - 30 days for foreign qualifications.
- **8,886 qualifications have been validated and evaluated to date.**

Importance of Validation and Evaluation of Qualifications

- Surety to stakeholders that an individual holds a genuine qualification.
- Affirmation that an individual has undergone training and possesses the appropriate competencies expected from the learning programme.
- Indication of the level at which a qualification is recognised on the Zambia Qualifications Framework.

QMIS and E-Certificate

The Qualifications Management Information System (QMIS) has been implemented and the E – Certificate was launched in June 2020.

All services offered by ZAQA can be accessed via the system:

- Application for validation and evaluation of qualifications;
- Application for registration and accreditation of qualifications; and
- Submission of learner achievement records by awarding bodies/ appropriate authorities.

Sample E-Certificate

 **CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION OF QUALIFICATION**

Qualification Holder: [REDACTED]
National Registration Card Number / Passport ID: [REDACTED]
ZAQA Reference Number: 25279
Date of Validation/Evaluation: 11/06/2020
Recognised Zambian Qualification: Bachelors Degree

This qualification bearing title of:
BACHELOR OF MEDICINE AND BACHELOR OF SURGERY
has been validated as genuinely awarded to:
[REDACTED] on [REDACTED]
by THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA
a registered and recognised public institution established by the University of Zambia Act No. 66 of 1965 of the Republic of Zambia.
This qualification is recognised in Zambia as Bachelors Degree At Level 7 of the Zambian Qualification Framework.

Issued by The Zambia Qualifications Authority

MIRIAM M.A. CHIYABA (MRS.)
Director & Chief Executive Officer

ZAQA has confirmed the above information, for digital certification and sharing by PrivySeal Limited, at 17:29 PM (Africa/Lusaka) on 11 Sep 2020


PRIVYSEAL

Database of Learner Achievement Records

- **ZAQA is responsible for maintaining an integrated database of learner achievements in Zambia - key component under QMIS.**
- **Reduced turnaround time for the validation of qualifications.**
- **Strategic tool that can be used to generate vital information and statistics about most aspects of the education and training system.**
- **A template for submission of learner achievement records by institutions has been developed.**

CATS and RPL

- ZAQA has developed and is promoting the implementation of RPL by appropriate authorities.
- Guidelines on CATS developed, to be fully implemented once review of the ZQF is complemented.

Development of National Occupational Standards

- NOS are statements of the standards of performance individuals must achieve when carrying out functions in the work place.
- Occupational Standards will be used in the development of curricula and learning programmes.
- NOS will ensure that curricula and learning programmes are tailored to meet the aspirations of key stakeholders e.g. industry.
- NOS developed in Tourism, Agriculture, Manufacturing, Mining, Construction and Energy.

Cooperation and Information-sharing with Counterparts



Regional and International Engagements – SAQA, SADC, COMESA, GDN, UNESCO, AU



ZAQA is the current Chair for the African Qualifications Verification Network (AQVN)



Provided Secretariat Support to SADC Technical Committee on Accreditation and Certification (TCCA)

Cooperation and Information-sharing with Counterparts...



Provided Technical support to COMESA Secretariat on Recognition of qualifications for COMESA recruitment purposes



UNESCO, NOKUT and ZAQA Refugee Qualifications Passport Pre - Pilot



ZAQA has served as an Expert on the UNESCO Global Committee on the Recognition of Qualifications

Cooperation and Information-sharing with Counterparts...



SADC Qualifications Framework – Alignment of the ZQF underway
African Continental Qualifications Framework – Currently under development



Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications – Approved at 40th UNESCO General Assembly



Revised Addis Convention - Approved by Parliament for ratification – only remaining with lodging in the ratification instruments



Collaboration with other Qualifications Authorities – QQI, UK NARIC, CHEA, ENIC NARIC

UNESCO Qualifications Passport (UQP)

- Pilot Project for documenting and recognising qualifications of Refugees/displaced persons, even without documentation.
- UQP is issued for a five year period.
- UQP is not an educational award and does not substitute formal recognition of qualifications.
- Collaborating Partners are: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), Commissioner for Refugees Zambia, Ministry of Higher Education, and Ministry of Home Affairs.
- 11 candidates have been awarded qualifications passports to date.

ZAQA in the face of COVID-19

First 2 COVID-19 cases confirmed in Zambia in March, 2020

The Government implemented measures to prevent, detect and to ensure that the risk of the spread of COVID-19 was averted

The day to day operations of ZAQA were negatively affected

Reduction in number of clients seeking ZAQA services, lengthy delays in validation and evaluation of qualifications

ZAQA was able to sustain operations thanks to QMIS, flexible work schedules, adherence to safety and healthy measures, use of embassies and private credential evaluators

The COVID situation has now normalised, health and safety restrictions have been relaxed or lifted



THANK YOU