



THE ZAMBIA QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK -IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

PHASE II ACQF INAUGURAL CONFERENCE

Session 9

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

11TH – 13TH JULY 2023





PRESENTATION OUTLINE

**About the
Zambia
Qualifications
Authority**

**About the
Zambia
Qualifications
Framework**

**Challenges
with the
Current
Framework**

**Proposed
Changes to
the Zambia
Qualifications
Framework**

**Consequential
Changes to
the ZAQA Act**

**Other
developments
to enhance the
recognition of
qualifications**

ABOUT THE ZAMBIA QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

Statutory Body under the Ministry of Education in Zambia

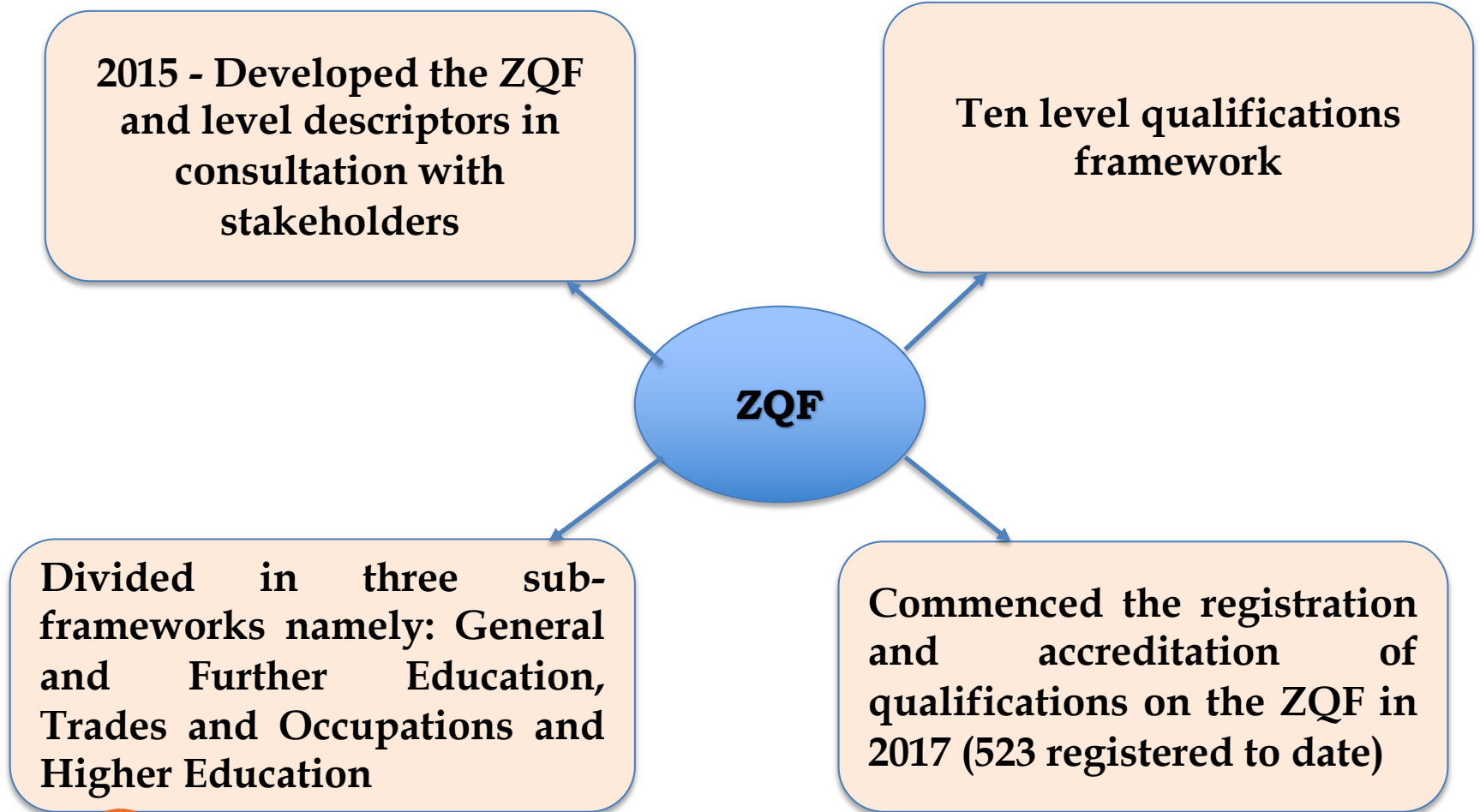
Established through an Act of Parliament, ZAQA Act No. 13 of 2011

ZQF

Custodian of ALL Qualifications in Zambia through Registration and Accreditation

Reference point for ALL Non-Zambian qualifications for Validation and Evaluation

ABOUT THE ZAMBIA QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK



Zambia Qualifications Framework

ZQF Level	General Education	Trades and Occupations	Higher Education	
10			Doctorate Degree	
9			Masters Degree	
8			Post-Graduate Diploma	
7			Bachelor's Degree (Honours)	
			Bachelor's Degree (Ordinary)	
6			Diploma	
5			Level 5 Certificate	
4			Level 4 Certificate	
3			Level 3 Certificate	
2			Senior Secondary Education Certificate (Grade 12)	
	Junior Secondary Education Certificate (Grade 9)			
1	Primary Education Certificate (Grade 7)			

CHALLENGES WITH THE CURRENT FRAMEWORK



Recognition of
Zambian
qualifications in
the region and
internationally
has been affected
by the O-Level
entry requirement
into tertiary
education;



A-Levels are
provided at
University without
any certification



Does not provide
for some
qualifications
such as Trade
Test certificates
(micro
credentials) and
Honours
Bachelor's Degree



Does not provide
for HEIs to offer
diploma
programmes



Misunderstandin
g on progression.

**Introduction of Secondary Education –
Advanced Level Certificate, under the
General and Further Education Sub
Framework**

**Removal of Junior Secondary
Education Certificate (Grade 9)**

❖ **Introduction of Level 1 Certificate
(Skills Awards & Trade Test III)
and Level 2 Certificate (Trade Test
II) under the Trades and
Occupations Sub Framework.**

**PROPOSED
CHANGES TO
THE
FRAMEWORK**

Distinguishing the Honours Bachelors Degree from the Ordinary Bachelors Degree

Replacing Post – Graduate Diploma with Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate qualifications at Level 8

Introduction of Level 1 Certificate (Skills Awards & Trade Test III) and Level 2 Certificate (Trade Test II) under the Trades and Occupations Sub Framework.

**PROPOSED
CHANGES TO
THE
FRAMEWORK**

Each qualification has been assigned a purpose – what the qualification equips the holder with (benefit of the qualification)

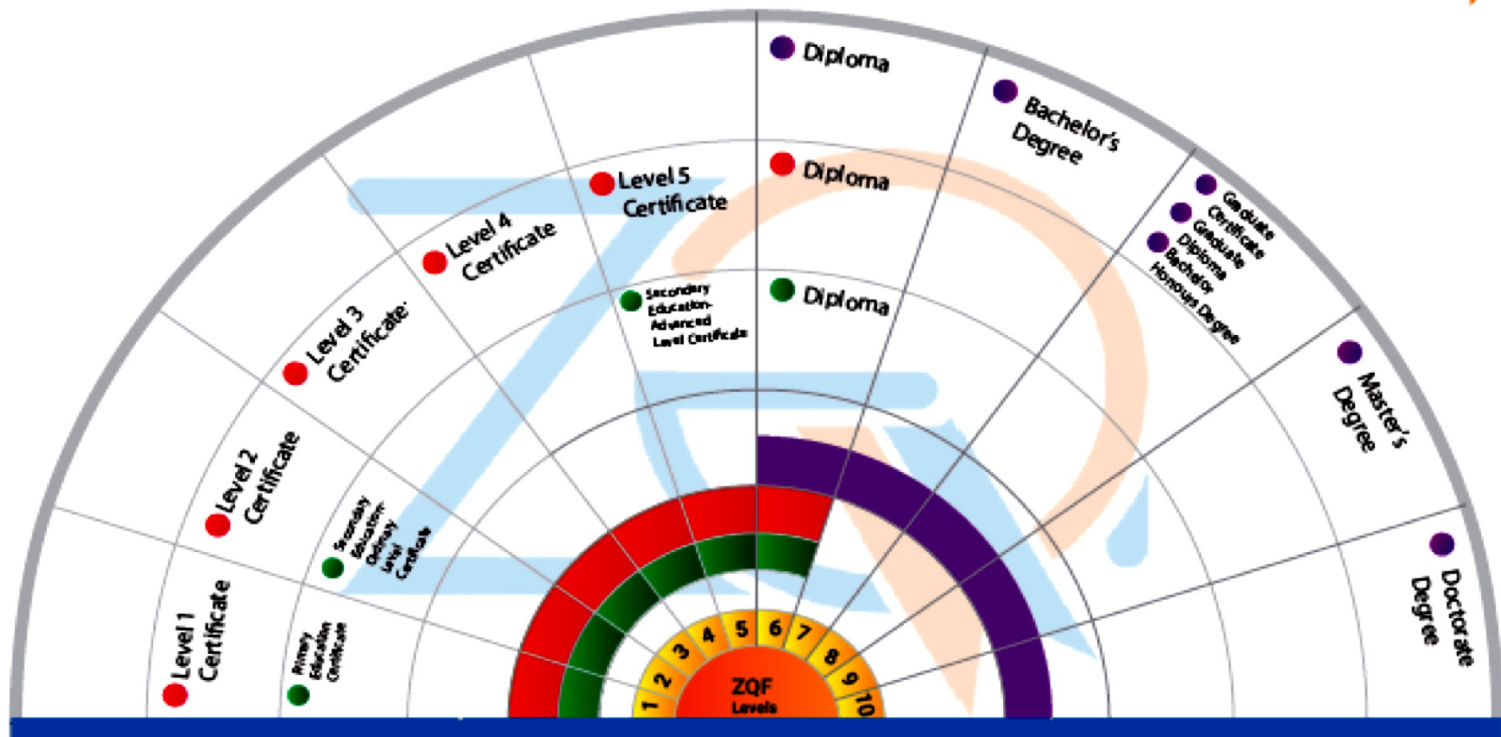
All existing Level Descriptors have been comprehensively reviewed and updated

Level Descriptors have been introduced for all new qualifications

Credits have been assigned to relevant qualifications

International counterparts such as SAQA, UK NARIC, QQI, provided feedback

ZAMBIA QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (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)

Proposed Qualification Standard Durations and Allocation of Credits

ZQF Level	Qualification	Current Duration	Proposed Duration	Notional Hours	Credits
10	Doctorate Degree	Min. 3 years	Min. 3 years	3,600	360
9	Master's Degree	1½ to 2 years	1 to 2 years	1,200 to 2,400	120 to 240
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor Honours Degree • Graduate Diploma • Graduate Certificate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 to 7 years • 1 year • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 year • 1 to 2 years • 6 months to 1 year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,200 • 1,200 to 2,400 • 600 to 1,200 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 120 • 120 to 240 • 60 to 120
7	Bachelor's Degree	4 to 7 years	3 to 6 years	3,600 to 7,200	360 to 720
6	Diploma	3 years	2 years or 3 years	2,400 or 3600	240 or 360
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 5 Certificate • Secondary Education – Advanced Level Certificate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1½ to 2½ years • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2½ years • 2 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3,000 • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 300 • N/A
4	Level 4 Certificate	1 to 2 years	2 years	2,400	240
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 3 Certificate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,200 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 120
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 2 Certificate • Junior Secondary School Certificate • Secondary Education – Ordinary Level Certificate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • 2 years • 3 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 months • N/A • 4 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 900 • N/A • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90 • N/A • N/A
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 1 Certificate • Primary Education Certificate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • 7 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 to 6 months • 6 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 to 600 • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 to 60 • N/A

**CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES TO
THE ZAQA ACT**

Review of the role of Institutions with mandate to oversee education and Training known as Appropriate Authorities to strengthen Quality Assurance for sub-Frameworks

Review of Professional Bodies' role in Training and Education quality assurance

Review of the ZAQA Board composition to remove members with conflicting interest in ZAQA's mandate

Streamline the functions of the Authority and Appropriate Authorities.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL POLICY ON EDUCATION



- ❖ Access and participation – Review of RPL and CATS Policies;
- ❖ Quality and relevance:
 - ❖ Strengthening the legal frameworks of the institutions charged with QA in Education;
 - ❖ Enhancing skills in QA;
 - ❖ Improving funding to QA activities.
- ❖ Efficiency, effectiveness and equity

REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL POLICY ON EDUCATION CONT.....



- ❖ Integration of emerging issues (Employability) e.g.
 - ❖ Education for sustainable development;
 - ❖ Digital literacy;
 - ❖ Collaboration and inclusive learning;
 - ❖ Climate change, renewal and clean energy;
 - ❖ Global Citizen education;
 - ❖ Human rights and cultural diversity.

- ❖ Provision for enhancing management and administration of the education system.



Thank you!
you learn , we standardize