



**UPDATE ON THE ZAMBIA
QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK**

SADC - TCCA MEETING

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

11TH MAY 2023



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Presentation Outline

**About the
Zambia
Qualifications
Authority**

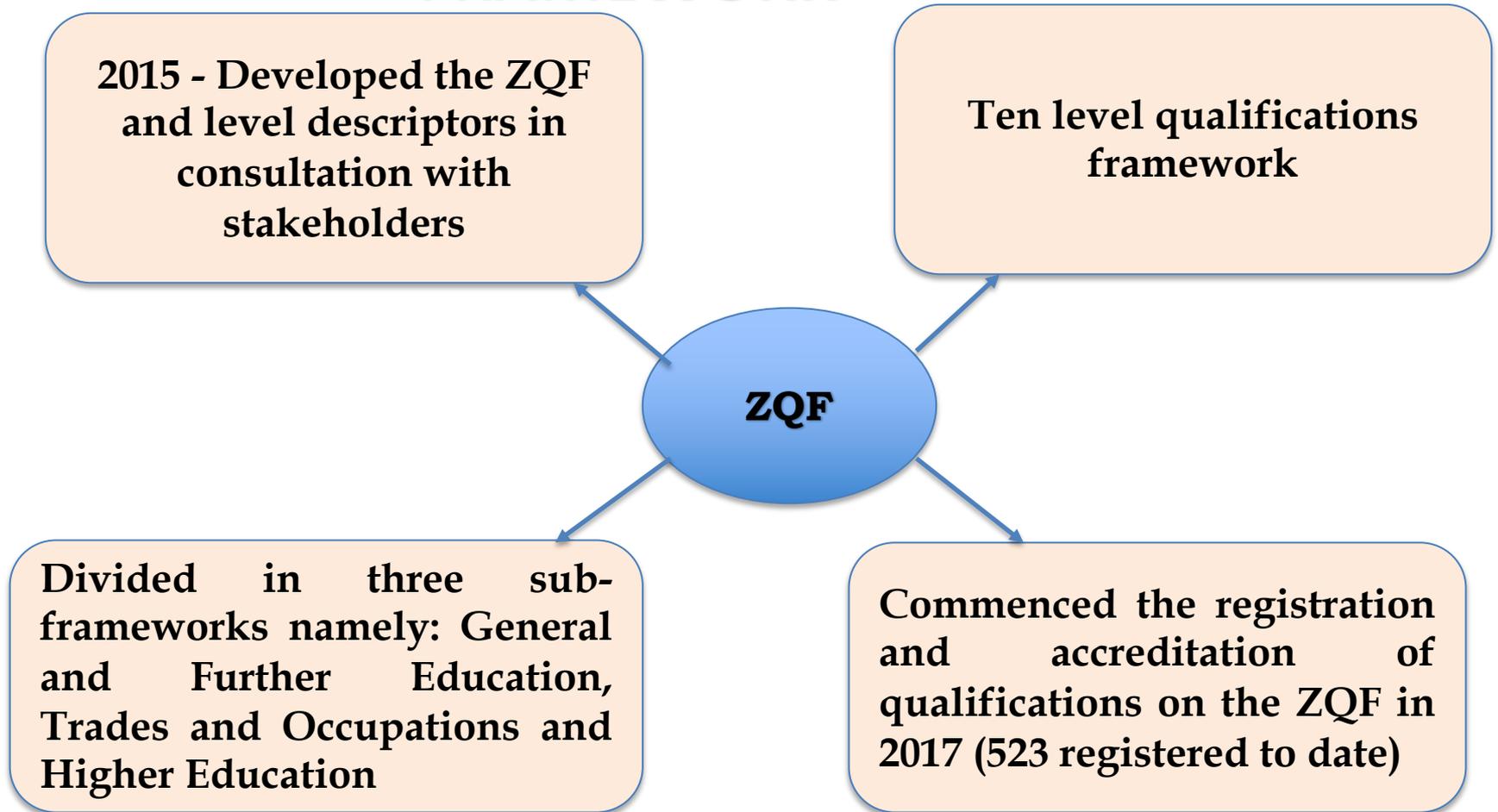
**Challenges
with the
Current
Framework**

**Proposed
Changes to the
Zambia
Qualifications
Authority**

**Consequential
Changes to the
ZAQA Act**

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

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 Qualifications Regionally and internationally due to A Levels



A-Levels are provided at University without any certification



Does not provide for some qualifications such as Trade Test certificates (micro credentials)



Does not provide for HEIs to offer diploma programmes



Misunderstanding 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

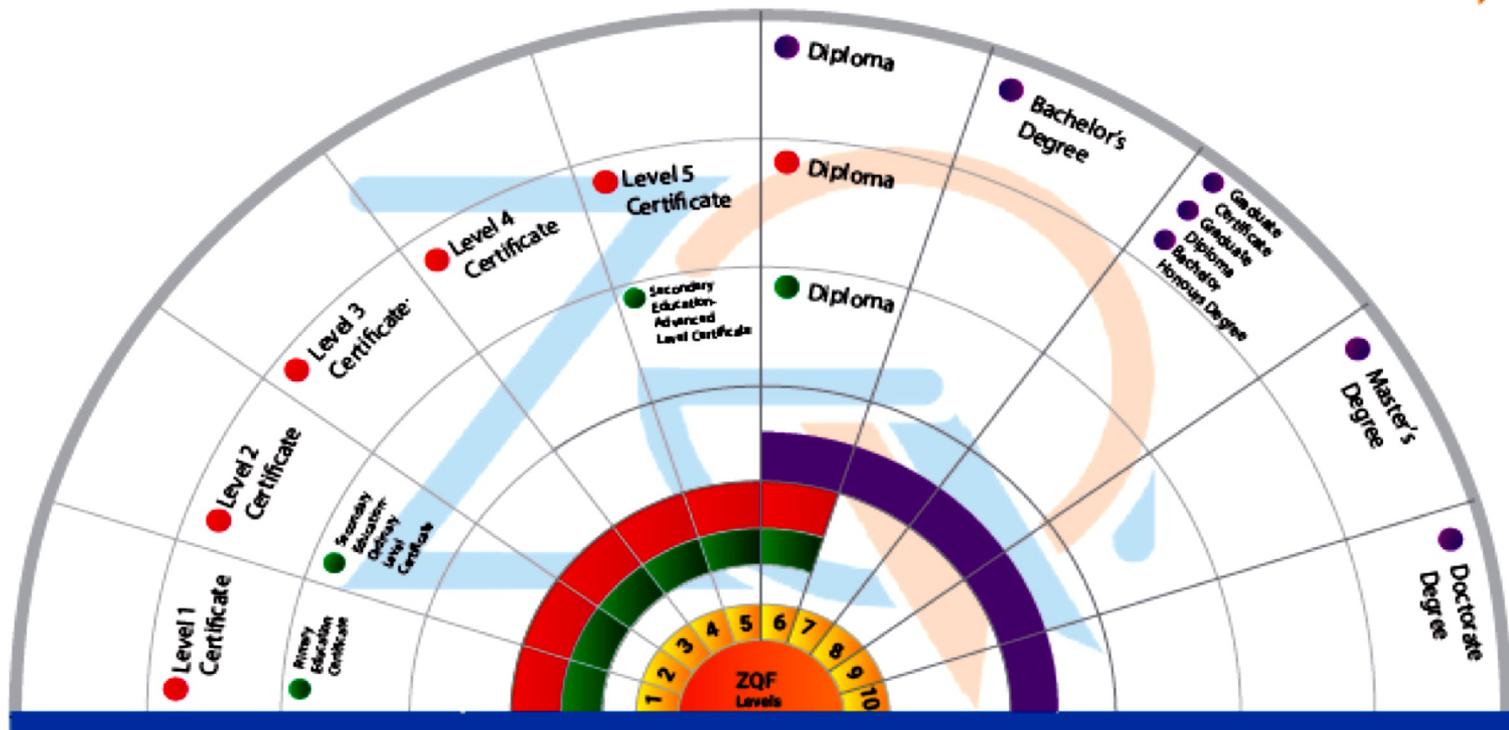
Level Descriptors have been introduced for all new qualifications

Credits have been assigned to relevant qualifications

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

**CHANGES TO
THE ZQF
LEVEL
DESCRIPTORS**

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	Level 3 Certificate	1 year	1 year	1,200	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 institutions that have been given mandate over education and training as **Appropriate Authorities** in order to strengthen Quality assurance function for the respective sub frameworks;
- ❖ Review the role of professional bodies in education and training;
- ❖ Review composition of the ZAQA Board to remove members with an interest in the functions of the Authority to improve quality assurance;
- ❖ Streamline functions of the Authority and AA's .

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!



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