

News Brief



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Quote of the Month

“

People will forget what you Said, People will forget what you did, but People will never forget how you made them feel.

-Andrew Carnegie



Editor's Note

Dear colleagues,
Welcome to our third issue of the KNQA Briefs. We are grateful for the teamwork, excellent coordination, and exemplary effort displayed at the ACQF workshop. The event was nothing short of a success.
We look forward to a successful November as we endeavour to keep you posted on the latest developments at the Authority.

Editorial Team

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Ouma Wanzala
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Upcoming Events

- KNQA Accredits Kitale National Polytechnic
- KNQA Implements Presidential directive of Tree Planting and Waste Management; taking part in this year's Nairobi StanChart Marathon.

RPL Launch and Graduation Postponement

It was regrettable to have the recognition of the Prior Learning Policy Framework Launch and Graduation of the First Cohort scheduled for the 6th of October this year postponed. We shall continue to update you on the new date as requisite arrangements are still in the pipeline.



Dear Team,

I hope this message finds you all in good health and high spirits. Allow me to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation for the dedication and hard work that each one of you brings to the Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) every day.

Let us carry this momentum forward as we face new opportunities and challenges on our path. Together, there is no obstacle too great, and I am confident that our continued collaboration will lead to even greater achievements.



Hon. Stanley Kiptis, Council Chairperson



Dear KNQA team,

The Kenya National Qualifications Authority was privileged to host the inaugural ACQF-II Project Capacity Development Workshop on 10th October, 2023. Allow me to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation for the exemplary tasks you all accomplished. Your hard work, dedication and teamwork did not go unnoticed and I am genuinely grateful for your exceptional contribution.

I am grateful for each and every one of you and I look forward to continuing the journey together with you all, accomplishing even greater tasks in future. Your dedication to excellence and your unwavering commitment to shared mission inspire us all. Thank you all once again, God bless you.



Dr. Alice Kande, Ag. Director General/CEO

Recent Events

CS MACHOGU APPOINTS KNQA COUNCIL MEMBERS: OYUU, MUGO AMONG THEM.

Education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu recently appointed five new members of the Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA).

Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) Secretary General Collins Oyuu and the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) are among the five picked for the positions by the CS, according to a gazette notice dated October 17, 2023.



Jacqueline Mugo, the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) and the IOE Vice-President for Africa. A lawyer by profession, she is a titular board member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization (ILO), a member of the Management Board of the International Organisation of Employers (IOE), she also holds other notable roles in the society the recent one being KNQA Council Member. (photo courtesy of internet)



Collins Oyuu- KNUT Secretary General, among the appointees to KNQA Council. (photo courtesy of internet)



KNQA Ag. Director General Dr. Alice Kande and NITA Director General Eng Stephen Ogenga take notes during a Consultative meeting with private sector industries on Dual Training under CBET curriculum that was convened by PS TVET Dr. Esther Muoria. An agreement on the possible collaboration between the SD-

TVET and the Private sector industries was explored under guidance of FKE, NITA and ILO for provision of extensive industry training and job opportunities for TVET trainees and graduates.



KNQA Director Technical Services (DTS) - Mr. Stanley Maindi hands a gift to Eduarda Castel-Branco of the European Training Foundation at the Authority's Headquarters.



KNQA Council Chairperson Hon. Stanley Kiptis (left), KNQA Ag. Director General Dr. Alice Kande, KNQA DTS Mr. Stanley Maindi(Kneeling) with some of the Delegates of the ACQF-II Training workshop during their visit to the KNQA offices.



A delegation from the Senegal TVET fraternity during their visit to KNQA to Benchmark how Kenya's Directorate of Technical Education (DTE) has implemented TVET training. During the discussion with the KNQA team led by Ag. Director General Dr. Alice Kande, the visitors were brought up to speed with the Mandate of the Authority and KNQA's role in implementing TVET training in Kenya.



PS TVET Dr. Esther Muoria (center) addresses members of the National Assembly Committee on Delegated Legislation during a sensitization workshop on the proposed KNQF Regulations 2023. The meeting was also attended by the Chairperson of KNQA- Hon. Stanley Kiptis, Ag. DG/ CEO - Dr. Alice Kande, Ag. DTS - Stanley Maindi and other KNQA staff.



Eduarda Castel-Branco of the European Training Foundation during a courtesy visit at the KNQA Offices ahead of the Capacity Development and Networking ACQF-II Workshop.



KNQA signs a contract with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) at its Headquarters in Loresho. "We acknowledge the skills and knowledge which refugees have and therefore, we must ensure the policy is well implemented as we embrace our stakeholders who are our key players," said KNQA Ag. Director General/C.E.O Dr. Alice Kande in her remarks during the Signing session.



KNQA team led by the Authority's Ag. Director General Dr. Alice Kande held a consultative meeting with a team from Don Bosco Boys Town Technical institute at the Authority's Headquarters, where matters Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) policy took a centre stage

Part of KNQA officers participate in the 20th Edition of the Stanchart Marathon at Uhuru Gardens in Nairobi. The event that saw an overwhelming attendance from organizations across the country culminated with the implementation of a presidential directive on tree planting.



KNQA CELEBRATES CUSTOMER SERVICE WEEK WITH A FLOURISH

A Week of Appreciation for Valued Clients

The Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) took center stage in celebrating Customer Service Week with a series of events aimed at recognizing and appreciating its valued clients.

Customer Service Week, an annual international event celebrated globally, is a dedicated time for organizations to honor the importance of exceptional customer service and express gratitude to their clientele. KNQA, a leading authority in the field of qualifications and quality assurance, took this opportunity to highlight its commitment to providing top-notch services to individuals and institutions alike.



Engaging Activities for a Memorable Week

KNQA spared no effort in creating a memorable experience for its customers during the special week. The organization organized a range of engaging activities, including interactive customer care desk, issuance of information communication material to clients, and giving gifts and goodies to its customers. These events aimed to not only showcase the expertise and dedication of KNQA staff but also to provide clients with valuable insights into the organization's operations.



Spotlight on Client Success Stories

As part of the celebrations, KNQA put the spotlight on the success stories of its clients who had benefited from the organization's services. Through testimonials and case studies, KNQA illustrated the positive impact it had had on individuals and institutions seeking guidance and accreditation in the field of education and qualifications.

Employee Recognition for Exceptional Service

Customer Service Week is not only about acknowledging the clients but also recognizing the efforts of the KNQA team. The organization instituted various awards and recognition ceremonies to honor

employees who had demonstrated exceptional dedication to customer service. By celebrating its staff, KNQA aimed to foster a culture of continuous improvement and commitment to excellence.

Open Dialogue for Continuous Improvement

KNQA also set up channels for open dialogue with its customers. The organization is actively seeking feedback on its services and processes, with the goal of identifying areas for improvement. KNQA believes that fostering transparent communication is crucial for building lasting relationships with its clients.

Looking Ahead: A Commitment to Ongoing Excellence

As Customer Service Week unfolded, KNQA is not only celebrated the past achievements but is also looking ahead with a commitment to ongoing excellence. The organization is unveiling plans for new initiatives and services aimed at further enhancing the customer experience and maintaining its position as a trusted authority in the field.

In the spirit of Customer Service Week, KNQA invited individuals and institutions to join in the celebrations and engage in the various activities planned throughout the week. As the organization continues to thrive in its dedication to customer satisfaction, the week served as a reminder of the vital role that exceptional service plays in building strong and enduring relationships.

KNQA JOINS OTHER STAKEHOLDERS' CONVERSATION ON SKILLS

KNQA takes Center Stage in Policy Dialogue on Strengthening Kenya's Skills Development Ecosystem

The Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) recently participated in a pivotal Policy Dialogue on the theme "Strengthening Kenya's Skills Development Ecosystem: The Role of Sector Skills Bodies and Work-Based Learning." The event drew key stakeholders from various sectors, including representatives from the International Labour Organization (ILO), National Industrial Training Authority (NITA), Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA), Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), TVET Curriculum Development Assessment and Certification Council (TVET CDACC), Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI), Central Organization of Trade Unions (COTU), and other influential bodies.

At the forefront of the discourse was the Acting Director General of KNQA, Dr. Alice Kande, whose presentations echoed the urgency of fostering a robust skills development ecosystem to meet the evolving needs of Kenya's workforce.

Dr. Kande emphasized the pivotal role of Sector Skills Bodies (SSBs) in aligning education and training programs with industry demands. She stressed the importance of collaboration between SSBs, educational institutions, and businesses to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and practical skills.

"In today's rapidly changing economic landscape, it is crucial that our education and training systems are agile and responsive to the demands of the job market. Sector Skills Bodies play a pivotal role in ensuring that our workforce is equipped with the right skills for the jobs of the future," remarked Dr. Kande.

The dialogue also delved into the significance of work-based learning as a catalyst for skill acquisition and real-world application. Dr. Kande highlighted successful models of work-based learning and urged stakeholders to actively engage in creating more opportunities for students and workers to gain practical experience.

Representatives from ILO, NITA, TVETA, KEPSA, TVET CDACC, FKE, KNCCI, and COTU lauded Dr. Kande's insightful contributions, acknowledging KNQA's commitment to driving transformative change in Kenya's skills development landscape.



The event concluded with a consensus among stakeholders to establish a collaborative framework for continuous dialogue and implementation of policies aimed at enhancing the skills development ecosystem in Kenya. Dr. Alice Kande's leadership and KNQA's proactive approach were pivotal in setting the tone for a new era of synergy and progress in the nation's pursuit of a skilled and competitive workforce.

KNQA SUCCESSFULLY HOSTS ACQF-II WORKSHOP WITH OVER 35 AFRICAN COUNTRIES ATTENDING.

The Kenya National Qualifications Authority recently hosted the Africa Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF-II) training workshop themed: Making National Qualifications (NQF) operational in the Changing world. A three-day deliberation attracted a good number of Delegates from different institutions responsible for the coordination and Management of NQFs, Regional Economic Communities (IGAD and SADC), organizations responsible for Quality Assurance in Education and Training (CAMES, IUCEA, GQAA) among other Qualifications representative

players across the continent. The Kenya National Qualifications Authority recently hosted the Africa Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF-II) training workshop themed: Making National Qualifications (NQF) operational in the Changing world. A three-day deliberation attracted a good number of Delegates from different institutions responsible for the coordination and Management of NQFs, Regional Economic Communities (IGAD and SADC), organizations responsible for Quality Assurance in Education and Training (CAMES, IUCEA, GQAA) among other Qualifications representative players across the continent. In his opening remarks of the Workshop at Fairview Hotel in Nairobi, Principal Secretary for Trade and Industry-Dr. Juma Mukhwana



underscored the need to have education aligned to skills relevant in the job market. He observed that skills education serves as the cornerstone for empowering individuals. It equips them with practical knowledge and abilities, fostering self-reliance and confidence. In the dynamic landscape of the trade industry, a skilled workforce is not just an asset but a driving force. Dr. Mukhwana said skills education acts as a bridge, connecting the aspirations of individuals with the demands of the trade industry. It narrows the gap between academic learning and real-world application, ensuring that professionals are not just knowledgeable but also adept in their chosen fields. He further said the trade industry encompasses a diverse range of professions, from electricians to plumbers, carpenters to mechanics. Skills education tailors itself to this diversity, recognizing and cultivating talents across various trades. It's a celebration of the varied skills that collectively build a resilient economy. The Principal Secretary asserted that in the ever-evolving trade landscape, adaptability is key. Skills education instills not just specific techniques but also a mindset of innovation and adaptability. This prepares individuals to navigate changes in technology, regulations, and market trends, ensuring a workforce that can thrive in any environment.

In a speech read by PS-TVET Dr. Esther Muoria, Cabinet Secretary for Education Hon. Ezekiel Machogu said, a country that invests in policies aiming to give credibility and align qualifications with emerging global trends is a foresighted nation. He said in response to the megatrends that have been taking place globally, Kenya's National Qualifications Frameworks are evolving, expanding their horizons, and embracing the digital age. Hon. Machogu said the



transformation of work, rapid technological advancements, and the imperative of greening economies all demand swifter re-skilling and up-skilling and a flexible approach to acquiring credentials for lifelong learning.

Kenya has underscored the need for African countries to develop their own qualifications guidelines. Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) acting Director General, Dr Alice Kande, during the workshop said, these frameworks represent a critical step towards advancing education, fostering regional collaboration, and enhancing the global competitiveness of African nations.

“Experiences of countries like Kenya, South Africa and others which have embarked on this journey, provide valuable lessons and insights for others in the region,” said Dr. Kande during the workshop in Nairobi. “We have a unique opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue, exchange best practices, and address the challenges that lie ahead in our collective pursuit towards achieving transparency of qualifications and mutual trust between qualifications frameworks.” She said in an era characterized by rapid technological advancements, shifting economic



paradigms, and the relentless march of globalization, the world is characterized by complexity and interconnectedness. Such changes demand countries to evolve continuously.

“Africa is in the intensive process of catching up and staying abreast with the rest of the globe. This is not easy. The qualifications frameworks we are maintaining play an integral role in defining the quality and relevance of education in our nations,” said Dr Kande.

Dr Kande said the Kenya National Qualifications Framework (KNQF) offers structured pathways for learners, professionals, and institutions to keep pace with the change.

Dr Kande added that the continent must consider issues such as educational reforms, quality assurance, harmonization and mutual recognition of qualifications, mobility of learners, and response to labor market trends, inclusivity and technological evolutions. “We can create qualification frameworks that will empower our learners, strengthen our economies, and contribute to the overall well-being of our societies,” said the acting Director General.

KNQA Council Chairperson Stanley Kiptis also present at the Training Workshop said the African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF) aims to contribute to the development of National and Regional Qualifications Frameworks, in accordance with the objectives of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (2016-2025).

The training program of the Project ACQF-II IN 2023 Contributes to the enhanced Knowledge and understanding on the development and operationalization of the NQFs: moving from initial ideas to policies, and from policies to action. Among the countries who participated in the ACQF-II in 2023 include; Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Ethiopia and South Sudan.

KNQA ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS ON CBET COURSES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



The Nyandarua National Polytechnic organized a significant youth forum on Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) courses, aiming to enhance collaboration and integration among Key stakeholders. With the attendance of various influential organizations and authorities, the Forum addressed crucial aspects of CBET implementation, recognizing its significance in fostering a skilled and adaptable workforce. The forum saw the participation of several essential organizations, including MoE, KNQA,

KASNEB, TVETCDACC, KUCCP, TTS, MasterCard Foundation, the County Government of Nakuru CEC, the Chair of County Assembly on Education and students from various secondary Schools in Nyandarua.

Recognizing KNQA's pivotal role in ensuring quality and relevance in CBET, the discussion Highlighted the significance of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). Nyandarua National Polytechnic is scheduled to conduct a sensitization program on RPL, intending to engage 400 Participants from the region on the 4th November, 2023.

The Nakuru County Government's CEC emphasized plans to implement RPL targeting the youth, emphasizing the utilization of certified skills under the Affordable Housing pillar.

The discussions underscored the critical role of quality assurance in CBET courses, emphasizing the need for collaboration between KNQA and Qualifications Awarding Institutions. The forum served as an essential platform for stakeholders to comprehend the importance of CBET in enhancing the skills of the youth, fostering inclusivity, and enabling lifelong learning opportunities.

The stakeholders deliberated on the following recommendations;

1. Establish a collaborative framework between KNQA and Qualifications Awarding Institutions to ensure the quality and relevance of CBET courses.
2. Expand the scope of sensitization programs on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) to engage a broader audience, fostering inclusivity and equitable access to opportunities.
3. Encourage other counties to emulate Nakuru County's approach in leveraging RPL certified for the development of initiatives such as Affordable Housing.
4. Continuous dialogue and collaboration among all stakeholders to ensure the effective implementation and sustainability of CBET programs in Nyandarua and beyond.

This forum has set a promising precedent for the effective integration of CBET courses, demonstrating a collective commitment to empowering the youth and fostering a skilled workforce that meets the demands of a rapidly evolving job market.



MISSION:

To establish and manage the KNQF aimed at promoting globally recognized and competitive qualifications for sustainable development.

VISION:

Globally Recognized and Competitive Qualifications Transforming Kenya.

CORE VALUES:

Professionalism, Integrity, Teamwork, Accountability, Quality, Relevance, Equity, Responsiveness

A publication of Kenya National Qualifications Authority
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