

African Quality Assurance Network (AfriQAN)

**Initiative towards harmonization of higher
education quality assurance systems in Africa**

Mayunga H.H. Nkunya, AfriQAN President

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Why establish AfriQAN?

- 1) To address the importance of quality assurance and accreditation in the Africa's higher education harmonization process**
- 2) To promote effective networking of national quality assurance agencies**
- 3) To strengthen continental cooperation in quality monitoring, development of harmonized QA processes and procedures, and promote mutual recognition of academic qualifications**

AfriQAN establishment process

- 1) AAU initiated process to establishment of AfriQAN to higher education harmonization goals of the AU**
- 2) Formally launched in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania during the 2nd International Conference on QA, September 2007**
- 3) Established its own website to facilitate exchange of QA information with its stakeholders**
- 4) Activities more or less remained dormant**
- 5) The meeting of national QA agencies in Dodowa, Ghana in April 2009 came up with a declaration to revamping AfriQAN, and hence elected an interim committee to prepare draft constitution and plan of action**
- 6) Constitution finalized and adopted at the AfriQAN workshop and Annual General Meeting in Accra, Ghana in November 2009, and elected AfriQAN Executive Board according to the Constitution**

Legal status and location of AfriQAN

- 1) A nonprofit organization operating and governed by the provisions of its Constitution**
- 2) A body corporate registered with the Ghana Registrar General's Department under the Laws of Ghana**
- 3) Provisions of the Constitution are in accordance with the laws of Ghana**
- 4) Headquarters of the network to be located in Accra, Ghana**
- 5) Currently the secretariat is at the AAU offices**

AfriQAN Mission Statement

Committed to the assurance and enhancement of quality higher education in Africa through strengthening the work of quality assurance bodies in Africa and other associated organizations with similar objectives

Objects of AfriQAN

- a) Promote a culture of quality assurance in higher education in Africa;**
- b) Foster collaboration & linkages among quality assurance bodies in Africa;**
- c) Advance good practice in enhancement and maintenance of quality higher education in Africa;**
- d) Collaborate with quality assurance bodies in Africa in capacity building;**
- e) Facilitate research in the practice of quality assurance in higher education for purposes of improving the quality of higher education in Africa;**
- f) Provide advice and expertise for the development of new national and sub regional quality assurance bodies in Africa;**
- g) Assist members of the Network to articulate standards of institutions operating in member countries;**
- h) Foster harmonization of standards for quality assurance across countries in Africa;**
- i) Facilitate international recognition of qualifications to enhance mobility of staff and students in Africa; and**
- j) Promote the interests of Africa in other networks and international organizations with related focus.**

Functions of AfriQAN

- a) Support the development of quality assurance bodies through capacity building, seminars, workshops and conferences;**
- b) Disseminate information through newsletters, journals, books and other documents, in print and electronic forms;**
- c) Participate and collaborate in research projects;**
- d) Conduct other activities as specified by the General Assembly or the Board;**
- e) Mobilize resources;**
- f) Develop and maintain a database of quality assurance bodies and experts; and**
- g) Create and maintain a website.**

Membership of AfriQAN

Membership is open to organizations interested in furthering the objects of the Network.

Full members

- **National, sub-regional and regional organizations responsible for assuring the quality of higher education in Africa;**
- **Other organizations which meet the conditions for membership as decided by the General Assembly, from time to time and are legally recognized by the country of origin.**

Associate members

Institutions of higher education in Africa which are committed to enhance the quality provision of education and are in good standing with relevant quality assurance systems.

Organs of AfriQAN

- The General Assembly
- The Executive Board
- The Secretariat

Composition of the AfriQAN Executive Board

- **The President**
- **The Vice President**
- **The Treasurer**
- **Five other members representing the five sub-regions of Africa (West, Central, Eastern, Northern and Southern)**
- **Three members co-opted by the elected members**

Current AfriQAN Executive Board members

- **Prof. Mayunga H H Nkunya, Tanzania Commission for Universities (President)**
- **M. Zakari Lire, CAMES (Vice President)**
- **Mrs. Florence J. Asemadahun, Nigerian National Universities Commission (Treasurer)**
- **Prof. Chiedu Felix Mafiana, Nigerian National Universities Commission, (Western Africa)**
- **Prof. Honorine Ntahobavuka, Education et Recherche de la communauté économique des pays des grands lacs, Rwanda (Central Africa)**
- **Prof. Gaston Hakiza, Recteur Université du Burundi (Eastern Africa)**
- **Prof. Hamdy A. Nassar, National Authority of Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Education of Egypt (Northern Africa)**
- **Dr. Felix Rex O'MARA, Botswana Quality Assurance and Regulation Tertiary Education Council (Southern Africa)**
- **Prof. P.J. Ssebuwufu, AAU Director of Projects and Programs (representing AAU General Secretary)**

Emphasis of the AfriQAN work plan for 2009/2010

- 1) Setting up a strategic vision for AfriQAN, including formulating financing and sustainability mechanisms**
- 2) Establishing AfriQAN organizational set up within the broader mandate of the AAU that includes aspect of QA**
- 3) Setting up of the Secretariat at the AAU under an MOU and working out transition to an independent premises**
- 4) Documenting existing African QA systems by conducting a situation analysis**
- 5) Conducting capacity building campaigns in QA through sub-regional workshops**
- 6) Conducting sensitization and advocacy campaigns through sub-regional workshops**

**Thank you for your
attention**