



CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT REPORT ON THE ALIGNMENT OF THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (NQF) TO THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (SADCQF)

1.0 BACKGROUND

In 2011 the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministers responsible for education and training approved the Southern African Development Community Qualifications Framework (SADCQF). The SADCQF is a comprehensive Regional Qualifications Framework (RQF) for schooling, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and Higher Education. Its purpose is to enable easier movement of learners and workers across the SADC region and internationally. It is a 10-level RQF underpinned by learning outcomes and quality assurance principles that will provide a regional benchmark for qualifications and Quality Assurance (QA) mechanisms in SADC.

The SADC Technical Committee on Certification and Accreditation (TCCA) was established to oversee the implementation of the SADCQF and proposed that member states align their National Qualifications Framework (NQF) or National Qualifications System (NQS) and QA mechanisms to the SADCQF. The TCCA proposed ten alignment criteria to guide alignment within the region. The vision is that, in the SADC region, all new qualification certificates, diplomas and other documents issued by competent authorities will show the relevant SADCQF level. Alignment would enable the recognition of achievement at a regional level.

The resulting transparency and information about the qualifications and QA of aligned Member States will further assist in embedding mutual trust amongst SADC Members. Regional alignment would also enable institutions and individuals to make comparisons of their learning and competence levels. This would reduce unnecessary duplication of learning and effort when moving through SADC for study or work purposes.

2.0 CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Mauritius Qualifications Authority (MQA), having the mandate to develop, implement and maintain the National Qualifications Framework of Mauritius, is **calling for public comments** on the **Draft Report on the Alignment of the Mauritian National Qualifications Framework (NQF) to the SADC Qualifications Framework (SADCQF)**.

The draft report is the official document where it is stated that the NQF is aligned to the SADCQF as well as provides the analysis, documentation and conclusions of the Alignment Committee of the MQA.

The report is also the official Mauritian response to the recommendations of the SADC Technical Committee on Certification and Accreditation (SADC TCCA) that the Mauritian NQF and its Quality Assurance (QA) mechanisms be aligned to the SADCQF.

The report was drafted following consultations with relevant stakeholders and is available on the following link: <http://www.mqa.mu/English/Documents/FS/Report15042019.pdf>

All stakeholders and the public are invited to engage with the draft report and submit their comments at latest by 30 April 2019 to The Director, Mauritius Qualifications Authority on the following e-mail address fs@mqa.mu.

15 April 2019