



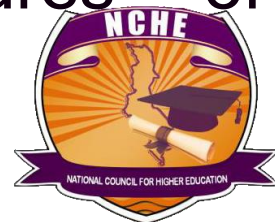
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

# SUMMARY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE CONFERENCE

## OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

To build capacity of stakeholders in higher education institutions in quality assurance and improve standards.

- 1) To sensitise key stakeholders on the mandate of NCHE in enhancing and promoting quality higher education in Malawi;
- 2) To share experiences in quality assurance in higher education institutions.
- 3) To strengthen networking and collaboration of professionals in quality assurance through benchmarking
- 4) To acquaint stakeholders with procedures of registration & accreditation of HEI



## SESSION 1 – University Classification & Regional quality assurance frameworks

- Benchmarking has been used for quality improvement
- Several models exist- Association of Commonwealth University Universities measure, PASET,

### TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- High Education Institutions should benchmark, share best practices, network & continue improvement in quality assurance

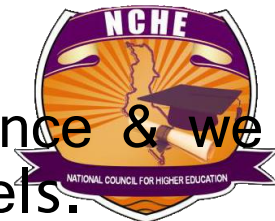


# Session 2– Quality Assurance in Malawi & Zimbabwe

- Looked at structures in implementation of Quality assurance in Malawi, Zimbabwe & South Africa
- Emergence of regulatory institutions in the management of quality assurance.
- Requirements for effective application of quality assurance- leadership, governance, resources

## TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- All higher education institutions need to set up quality assurance units.
- University leadership need to support quality assurance & we should have a culture of quality assurance at all levels.



## Session 3. Improving quality assurance, and leadership

- Good working environment is prerequisite for implementation of quality assurance in HEI
- All policies that promote quality assurance should be in place & jealously implemented

### TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- Implementation of Quality assurance mechanism requires commitment from institutional leadership.
- Participation of all staff in quality assurance shall improve performance of an institution.



## Session 4. Iso 9001 MBS standards, experiences of HEI in accreditation process

- ▶ Adequate preparation required in the accreditation process
- ▶ Implementation of ISO 9001 require all staff to be committed towards mission of the institution
- ▶ Need for continuous improvement– Act, Plan Check, Do

### TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- ▶ Cooperation by all is required for a smooth assessment for accreditation
- ▶ Verification on required information would improve relation between regulator & institutions.
- ▶ HEI should work with NCHE not against NCHE to improve standards of education.





## Session 5 . Self assessment, curriculum development & teaching , learning & Research

- ▶ All institutions should regard self assessment as an opportunity for improvement.
- ▶ Familiarity with the minimum standards for accreditation from institutional to programmes

### TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- ▶ HEI should invest in self assessment & regularly conduct honest self assessment.
- ▶ Availability of a complete checklist for use in self assessment shall improve self assessment
- ▶ Use of peer review can support self assessment
- ▶ HEI teaching should be informed by research & investment in research & development crucial in recognition of universities



# Session 6 . Curriculum development process– Local & global perspectives

- ▶ Curriculum to be developed based on requirement of a country, demand of the market.
- ▶ Need for involvement of different stakeholders
- ▶ Curriculum to be driven by institutional vision, mission, values and strategic plans

## TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- ▶ Curriculum should cover all required areas– knowledge, skills & attitudes (3 Hs= head, hand & heart)
- ▶ Urgent need for development of National qualifications framework
- ▶ Need to reconsider contribution of cont. assessment to attainment of learning.





