



NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

NATIONAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CONFERENCE

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

08TH AUGUST, 2017

SUNBIRD - NKOPOLA LODGE

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- **Background**
- **Why minimum standards**
- **Consultative process**
- **Sections of the minimum standards**
- **Registration and accreditation requirements**

BACKGROUND

- Minimum standards were developed in accordance with the NCHE Act.
- The NCHE Secretariat drafted the Minimum standards based on both national, regional and international standards
- Minimum standards are one of the core regulatory tools used in the assessment of higher education institutions
- The process of developing the standards involved many stakeholders before the approval by QAAC and Council.
- HEIs and Reviewers will be given printed copies of the standards for reference

WHY MINIMUM STANDARDS ?

- To promote quality higher education
- To align to best practices of higher education
- To conform to legislative requirements for registration and accreditation ;

USERS OF MINIMUM STANDARDS

- ❖ All public universities;
- ❖ All private universities;
- ❖ All foreign universities operating in Malawi;
- ❖ All constituent colleges/affiliates established in Malawi;
- ❖ All campuses of universities operating in Malawi;
- ❖ All learning/satellite centres of universities operating in Malawi.

DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- **Desk reviews of documents on accreditation from:**
 - **European Higher Education Area,**
 - **Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia,**
 - **Nigeria, South Africa,**
 - **Tanzania, Uganda and**
 - **United States of America.**

DEVELOPMENT PROCESS -II

- Consultation with experts in various HEIs on
 - Infrastructure
 - Administration
 - Library
 - ICT
 - Curriculum
- Stakeholders' meetings at regional and national level

AREAS OF THE MINIMUM STANDARDS

I. Institutional Standards

Governance , Policies, infrastructure, resources and support to students

II. Programmes Standards

Programme requirements

GOVERNANCE

- Act, Statutes and Constitution
- Public disclosure
- Board of Directors, Councils or Board of Governors
- Executive Leadership
- Senate or its equivalent
- Faculty and its committees
- Deans
- Departmental Committees
- Heads of Department
- Staff Involvement
- Student involvement

GOVERNING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Strategic Plan
- Qualification Framework
- Risk Policy
- Safety and Health Policy
- Staff and Students Disciplinary Procedures
- Procurement Procedures
- Codes of Ethics
- Public Accountability
- Other related Policy Documents

FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL RESOURCES

- Annual Budget
- Budget allocation to departments
- Financial Statement
- Annual Structure
- Institutional Assets
- Banking Facility
- Transport facility for administrative, teaching and research support.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES

- Drawings and design of different buildings
- Facilities support for persons with physical challenges
- Library and Learning resources
- ICT Infrastructure
- Security of the premises
- Laboratories

WATER AND SANITATION

- **Water Supply :**
 - **Clean, safe and continuous supply**
 - **Storage facilities**
- **Wastewater collection, treatment and disposal system**
- **Toilets and Bathrooms**
- **Sanitary Disposal facilities**

STUDENT SUPPORT

- **Accommodation**
- **Cafeteria**
- **Recreation Facilities**
- **Health and Support Services**
- **Counselling services**

PART II: EVALUATION FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

- Programme design
- Teaching & Learning Strategy
- Policies, structures, procedures for maintaining internal and external quality standards
- Physical Resources & Infrastructure
Financial resources
- Library resources & ICT support
- Sufficient level of teaching staff support
- Admissions Criteria

EVALUATION FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

- **Assessment of learners' attainment**
- **Student Support Services specific to a programme**
- **Research & Innovation**
- **Community outreach /Industry engagement**
- **Benchmarking of programmes**
- **Open & distance learning**

THANK YOU



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