

## Communiqué 11 of 2024

**To:** Public and Private Higher Education Institutions in the Republic of South Africa and other interested stakeholders and roleplayers.

**Subject:** Public comment on the new *QAF Manual for Standards Development*.

1. In the implementation of the Quality Assurance Framework ([QAF](#)) as described in the [implementation Protocols for the Quality Assurance Framework](#), the development of Standards plays a central role.

Two types of Standards are required for implementation of the QAF, namely

- Higher Education Practice Standards (HEPS), and
- Qualification Standards.

The Qualifications Standards are intended to guide institutions in developing new qualifications, as well as for these qualifications to be accredited against such Standards, and for undertaking qualification reviews.

The HEPS are intended to guide HEIs in developing and enhancing their Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) systems towards greater quality and continuous improvement in specific areas of practice. They will also form the basis for capacity development in the sector, and will form the basis for external quality assurance (EQA) functions such as accreditation and quality reviews. The QA-Dashboards and the notion of IQA Functionality is also crucially dependent on the HEPS that will be operational in the QAF.

The *QAF Manual for Standards Development* outlines the way in which the HEPS and Qualification Standards will continue to be developed in future.

2. The *QAF Manual for New Standards Development* is hereby released for public comment.
3. Institutions are invited to submit their comments by 14 October 2024 on the attached template to [qaf@che.ac.za](mailto:qaf@che.ac.za).

The Council on Higher Education is the Quality Council for Higher Education in South Africa

Yours sincerely



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Dr Whitfield Green  
Chief Executive Officer

Date: 2 September 2024



The Council on Higher Education is the Quality Council for Higher Education in South Africa

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