

## STAKEHOLDER COMMUNIQUÉ

**TO** : All Valued MQA Stakeholders  
**FROM** : Dr Thabo Mashongoane, Chief Operations Officer  
**DATE** : 23 July 2021

### **EXTENSION OF ACCREDITATION, WORKPLACE APPROVAL AND INTERIM VIRTUAL AUDIT FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROVIDERS (SDP)**

The MQA would like to advise all stakeholders to familiarise themselves with the interim Quality Assurance Accreditation arrangements as a result of the negative impact of COVID-19 pandemic on skills development across the country. In order to mitigate such adverse impact on training and after careful consideration of requests and views of stakeholders, MQA has resolved to adopt the following approach:

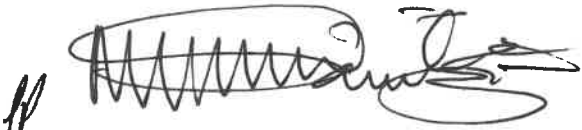
1. MQA will continue to issue accreditation extensions that lapse under the current regulation, which is in line with the QCTO COVID-19 Memorandum 3 issued on 01 March 2021 to the SDPs.
2. MQA has approved guidelines and procedures for Virtual Audit on accreditations for all stakeholders that have applied or intend to apply for accreditation, scope extensions and workplace approvals.
3. As per the current procedure, stakeholders are urged to continue to apply for accreditation (new) and scope extensions, ensuring that all applications are directed to the QCTO as follows:
  - 3.1 All applications for accreditation must be done as per the QCTO specifications. This applies to historical qualifications, where an application for Letter of Intent (LoI) must be made through the QCTO and once obtained should be submitted to the MQA Quality Assurance unit or specific Quality Partner specified in the LoI.
  - 3.2 MQA Quality Assurance official will be assigned to guide and advice on the procedures of conducting the virtual audit.

3.3 All requests for the accreditation of skills programmes and workplace approval must be submitted directly to the MQA.

**N.B: All Enquiries:** QA Manager: Mr Robert Mukhari – RobertM@mqa.org.za  
QA Specialist: Ms Peace Mashishi – PeaceM@mqa.org.za  
QA Administrator: Mr Stanley Mokgothu – StanleyM@mqa.org.za

The MQA is committed to finding appropriate solutions to respond to the skills development challenges amidst the pandemic.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thabo Mashongoane', with a stylized flourish at the end. To the left of the signature is a small, vertical handwritten mark that looks like 'ff'.

Dr Thabo Mashongoane,  
**Chief Operations Officer**