



**MOTIVATION FOR  
THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR QUALITY  
PARTNERS**

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## Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE .....	3
2. QCTO VALUES AND IDEALS .....	4
3. PROFESSIONALISM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY .....	4
4. ACCEPTABLE CONDUCT .....	5
5. NON COMPLIANCE OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT.....	5

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## 1 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 The Code of Conduct is for Quality Partners engaged in the Development of Curricula, Qualifications and External Assessment Specifications, as well as for Establishment and implementation of the AQP function in terms of the Draft Policy on Delegation of Qualifications Design and Assessment to Development Quality Partners (DQPs) and Assessment Quality Partners (AQPs)(hereafter called the Delegation Policy).
- 1.2 In terms of Section 32 of the NQF Act and Section 261(1) of the Skills Development Act, SAQA and the Quality Councils have the power to delegate any of their functions.
- 1.3 The QCTO has prepared a Delegation Policy to govern such delegations, under which the QCTO is obligated to develop a Code of Conduct for both DQPs and AQPs (see sections 4(l) and 7(m) of the Delegation Policy).
- 1.4 This Draft Code of Conduct prescribes minimum conditions pertaining to the Quality Partners engaged in the functions in terms of the Delegation Policy
- 1.5 This Draft Code of Conduct for Quality Partners is a necessary condition for the achievement of the functions contained in the said Delegation Policy.
- 1.6 A common Code of Conduct to guide and regulate the behaviour of parties engaged in the development and assessment of occupational qualifications is necessary to establish the standards of behaviour that partners may expect from each other and against which their behaviour can be measured.

## 2 QCTO VALUES AND IDEALS

### 2.1 Innovation and Excellence

We rise to opportunities and challenges, we continuously learn, we are innovative and we consistently produce work of distinction and fine quality, on time, and in line with our clients' needs.

### 2.2 Empowerment and Recognition

We enable people to make things happen, we encourage and support one another when and where needed, and we celebrate successful accomplishment of work.

### 2.3 Respect and Dignity

We value and show consideration for all the people we work with, treat one another with kindness and thoughtfulness, and embrace inclusivity.

### 2.4 Ethics and Integrity

We embrace and practice a moral code of trustworthiness, honesty and truthfulness in everything we say and do, and we honour our promises and commitments.

### 2.5 Ownership and Accountability

We take ownership of our responsibilities and we answer for our decisions and actions.

### 2.6 Authenticity

We protect the public by issuing authentic, quality qualifications.

## 3 PROFESSIONALISM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

3.1 In upholding professionalism and social responsibility, the development of curricula, qualifications and external assessment specifications, as well as the establishment and implementation of the AQP function will be promoted by participant and stakeholder involvement. Those involved need to:

3.1.1 Have clearly stated and enacted corporate values;

3.1.2 Promote collaborative partnerships with other stakeholders;

3.1.3 Engage with and share best practice; and

3.1.4 Give due recognition to the respect of human rights;

#### **4. ACCEPTABLE CONDUCT**

- 4.1 The code of conduct serves to establish the broad framework within which an action, or omission, by any party to the qualification development and assessment process may be judged. Any action or omission which conflicts with the code is unacceptable.
- 4.2 The following examples are not exhaustive, but serve to highlight general acceptable actions and defaults.
- 4.2.1 Avoid causing unnecessary delays;
- 4.2.2 Enter the agreement with the objective of satisfying the spirit as well as the letter of the requirements as laid down in the said Delegation Policy.
- 4.2.3 Commit to meeting all the contractual obligations laid down in the delegation policy fully and timeously.
- 4.2.4 Censure all unfair or unethical practices.
- 4.2.5 Conduct themselves in the manner befitting the role which they are to perform in the development and/or the assessment of occupational qualifications.

#### **5. NON COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 5.1 Paragraph 10 of the Delegation Policy makes provision for the QCTO to withdraw such delegation.
- 5.2 Withdrawal of the delegation by the QCTO Council's, however, is a last resort to enforce the code of conduct. A more proactive way is for all parties to commit to adhere to the code and to do business only with those who do likewise. Should this be done, adherence to the principles of the code will form an integral part of all our business processes.
- 5.3 However, where a Quality Partner is accused of breaching the spirit or letter of the Code of Conduct, an enquiry will ensue, and if upheld by the Appeals Committee of the QCTO disciplinary action will be taken or delegation in its entirety withdrawn.