



COMENSA

COACHES AND MENTORS OF SOUTH AFRICA

FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS

Policy on Foreign Qualifications submitted in support of applications for professional designations for Coaches and/or Mentors as offered by COMENSA as required by Section 58 of the South African Qualifications Authority Policy and Criteria for Recognising a Professional Body and registering a Professional Designation for the Purposes of the National Qualifications Framework Act, Act 67 of 2008, as amended January 2023.

FOREWORD

Professional bodies, such as COMENSA, play a vital role in ensuring quality assurance and standards development within the South African National Qualifications Framework (“NQF”). By setting professional standards and registering designations, these bodies contribute to enhancing social accountability, fostering professional integrity, and promoting a sense of pride and recognition within various professions and occupations.

A fundamental principle within the South African policy and regulatory landscape is redress. It is imperative to proactively address any perceptions of exclusionary practices and to ensure that access to professions is governed by fair, transparent, and just policies. Professional bodies must uphold these principles to foster inclusivity and equity within their respective fields.

COMENSA is committed to working in collaboration with the South African Qualifications Authority (“SAQA”), the custodian of the NQF, to advance professional development and ensure that all South Africans have equitable opportunities to benefit from recognised professional standards.

Dated and signed at Randburg on this the 12th day of February 2025



**Vice President
Ms MP Modisaesi**

Purpose

1. The purpose of this policy is to define the process of evaluating internationally acquired qualifications for the purpose of aligning them with the minimum qualification requirements of the COMENSA professional designations as registered with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA).

Procedure

2. A COMENSA member, whether a foreigner or a South African citizen, who holds foreign qualifications and intends to apply for a COMENSA designation on the basis of the foreign qualifications, must first apply to the South African Qualifications Authority, (SAQA) for evaluation of the foreign qualifications.
3. SAQA has an online application process that can be accessed at <https://dfqeas.saqa.co.za/dfqeas/user/home>
4. The evaluation certificate issued by SAQA would, *inter alia*, state the following:
 - a) The Title of the Foreign Qualification; and
 - b) The Closest comparable South African Qualification; and
 - c) South African NQF Level; and
 - d) South African Credit Value of the Qualification.
5. The COMENSA member must include the SAQA evaluation certificate in their application for a designation.

Policy Alignment

6. This Policy applies and must be read in conjunction with the following two COMENSA Policies:
 - a) The COMENSA Policy for Credentialing; or
 - b) The COMENSA Policy for Recognition of Prior Learning.

Costs

7. All costs for the SAQA evaluation of Foreign Qualifications will be for the COMENSA member's account.

Review of the policy

8. The Policy will be reviewed annually or as and when required to ensure that they remain relevant and aligned with the evolving needs of the coaching and mentoring profession and the objectives of COMENSA. The Committee will recommend amendments to the Board for approval.

Delegation of Authority

9. The completion and signing of the application for re-recognition as a professional body by SAQA are authorised under the delegated authority of the President. Accordingly, the Vice President, Ms Mpho Portia Modisaesi, is hereby authorised to sign the application on the President's behalf. This delegation of authority is granted with the approval of the COMENSA Board of Directors.

Approval of the Policy

10. The Policy, including the delegation of authority outlined herein, has been reviewed, and approved by the COMENSA Board of Directors.