# QUALITY ASSURANCE WORKSHOP

# ON THE THEME

# "QUALITY ASSURANCE, ENHANCEMENT & PROMOTION IN HIGHER EDUCATION"

## 17 FEBRUARY 2015

CHE

Council on Higher Education

# BACKGROUND

- CHE has over the years organised & facilitated QA Fora
- QA Fora served as a platform for the CHE to:
  a) Explain to stakeholders the QA systems as developed by the HEQC; and
  b) Receive feedback from the stakeholders on the implementation of the QA systems
- Stakeholders involved:
  a) Universities (public higher education institutions)
  b) Private higher education institutions
  c) Professional Councils
- Separate QA Fora used to be organised for each of the 3 stakeholder groups above

# FROM QA FORA TO QA WORKSHOPS

- Recent CHE survey suggested that:
  a) QA Fora had served their purpose
  b) More engagement & discussion amongst stakeholders, inclusive of the CHE, is required to entrench a culture of quality at a system level
- Workshop format therefore adopted as a way forward because it:
  a) Stimulates engagement, debate & discussions
  b) Is more participatory, allowing more voices to be held
  c) Allows for more focused & intense interrogation of issues through group work

# COMBINING PUBLIC & PRIVATE

- Moving away from compartmentalising providers of higher education into two exclusive blocks
- Stimulating interaction of the two sides that make the higher education system
- Providing an opportunity for understanding & appreciating the role of each other in the HE system
- Providing an opportunity for learning from each other
- Post-workshop feedback on this arrangement is most welcome

# PURPOSE OF TODAY'S WORKSHOP

**To engage in current discourses, discussions & dialogue on quality assurance, enhancement & promotion in higher education**

# WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Unpack current issues & trends pertaining to QA, Enhancement & Promotion in HE [Session 1]
- Deliberate on practical issues that facilitate or constrain implementation of quality systems in institutions [Sess 2]
- Discuss implications of global trends in QA on the continued development of local QA systems [Session 2]
- Develop understanding of the inter-linkages among the different components of the HEQC functions [Session 3]
- Explore possibility of forming a community of practice of QA practitioners in HE [Session 3]

# INTENDED OUTCOMES

- Further entrenchment & consolidation of a quality culture in HE
- Integrated & holistic perspective of QA in HE (doing away with the dualistic perspective of public *vs* private)
- Complete "big picture" of the HEQC functions
- Networking, including the possibility of a community of practice

# PRINCIPLES TO BE OBSERVED

1. Switch off phones or place them on silence
2. Participate fully in a positive & constructive manner
3. Speak only when acknowledged by facilitator/presenter
4. Respect ideas of others even if they contradict yours
5. Focus on issues & not on individual(s) raising them
6. Ask questions only for purpose of gaining clarity, & not to score points
7. Use simple language for all to understand your contribution(s)
8. Make sure groups are diverse in terms of institutions & demographics

# PRINCIPLES TO BE OBSERVED

9. Observe time: be on time for all sessions & stick to allocated time for all activities
10. Each one present here bears responsibility for the success of the workshop

**RELAX, BE YOURSELF, BE POSITIVE & ENJOY THE WORKSHOP**