

Enquiries: Cindy Thomas (Ms)
Tel : 012 349 1510 ext. 294
Fax : 012 349 1511
Email : Cindy.Thomas@umalusi.org.za
Ref : 14/1/1/IS_NAISA

18 September 2019

Mr Ebrahim Ansur
Secretary-General
National Alliance of Independent Schools Associations
PO Box 74132
ROCHDALE PARK
4034

Dear Mr Ansur

RE: ACCREDITATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OFFERING OF FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS AND ALTERNATE CURRICULA IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Your letter dated 11 September 2019 refers.

Umalusi's mandate in terms of accreditation of private education institutions is limited to private education institutions offering qualifications that are registered on the General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-framework (GFETQSF). Therefore, accreditation of independent schools offering qualifications not yet registered on the GFETQSF can only take place once the registration of those qualifications on the GFETQSF has been finalised.

With regard to schools offering alternate curricula, the pilot project on evaluation of the Waldorf Curriculum that took place previously was limited to the Further Education and Training phase. The appraisal raised further questions which necessitated extending the appraisal to the General Education and Training phase, which is currently underway.

Developments that have taken place since the round-table discussions are highlighted in a separate communication which is being sent to you.

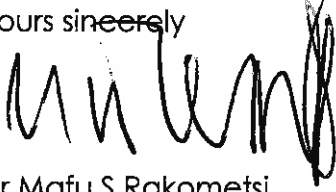
Umalusi recognises that the accreditation of independent schools offering foreign and alternate curricula is a priority, and is exploring the avenues available in legislation to be able to address the matter. It, however, has to be stated that Umalusi cannot pre-empt the outcome of this process nor make any firm commitments in this regard.

Tel: +27 (12) 349 1510 Fax: +27 (12) 349 1511 Email: Info@umalusi.org.za Website: www.umalusi.org.za UmalusiSA @UmalusiSA

37 General van Ryneveld Street, Persequor Technopark, Pretoria, South Africa, 0020, PO Box 151 Persequor Technopark, Pretoria, South Africa, 0020

In the meantime, Umalusi is not in a position to meet with individual stakeholders with an interest in the matter until a firm position has been arrived at.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mafu S Rakometsi', written in a cursive style.

Dr Mafu S Rakometsi

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

cc: Ms A. Baker: Chairperson - NAISA



NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATIONS

P O Box 74132

Rochdale Park, 4034

Tel: 031-2071116 • Fax: 0864017560 • Mobile 082 0828265

NAISA
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATIONS

11 September 2019

Dr M Rakometsi
Chief Executive Officer
Umalusi
37 General Van Ryneveld Street
Persequor Techno Park
Pretoria
0020

ACCREDITATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OFFERING OF FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS AND ALTERNATE CURRICULA IN SOUTH AFRICA

Dear Dr Rakometsi

NAISA has been engaging with both Umalusi and the DBE for a considerable length of time on the issue of accreditation of independent schools offering foreign and alternate curricula.

Almost two years have elapsed since the pilot project on the evaluation of the Waldorf Curriculum and close on to a year since Umalusi convened a round-table conference during which presentations were made by representatives of the affected independent schools' associations. When this issue was raised at the July 2019 meeting of the HEDCOM sub-committee for independent schools, the response from the Umalusi representative was that the matter had been referred to the Minister of Basic Education.

With accreditation now being linked to the registration of independent schools, the need for a resolution of this long-standing issue has assumed critical importance as the affected schools are being impacted negatively by the uncertainty around the matter.

NAISA would like to appeal to Umalusi to provide clarity on what progress has been made with regard to the submissions that Umalusi has made to the Minister on this matter.

We would also like, if protocol allows, to have sight of Umalusi's recommendations to the Minister.

The NAISA council considers the lack of progress in the accreditation of independent schools offering foreign and alternate curricula as a key priority. To this end, NAISA is considering all the available options that are open to it in order to ensure that our affected member schools are allowed to operate as fully-fledged accredited and registered educational institutions.

We look forward to your assistance and guidance in this matter.

With kind regards.

EBRAHIM ANSUR
SECRETARY-GENERAL