



**WORKSHOP FOR TRAINING OF ASSESSORS ON WASHINGTON ACCORD ACCREDITATION
STANDARDS FROM 2ND – 4TH SEPTEMBER 2024 IN NAIVASHA.**



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Engineers Board of Kenya is a statutory body established under Section 3(1) of the Engineers Act 2011. The Board is mandated with the responsibility of regulating standards in the engineering profession and building capacity for individual engineers and engineering firms. The Board also registers engineers and engineering firms and regulates their conduct for improved performance of the engineering profession.

Since February 2021, the Board has been actively working towards achieving provisional signatory status at the Washington Accord.

Thus far, the Board has accomplished the following milestones: -

- i) Joined WFEO as an affiliate member
- ii) Drafted and submitted for approval instruments for establishment of the Engineering Accreditation Council
- iii) Appointed assessors who have been trained on OBE requirements
- iv) Identified 4No. universities with candidature programmes to partner with
- v) Developed accreditation standards aligned to Washington Accord requirements
 - a. Engineering Accreditation Standards
 - b. Guidelines for Evaluators

1.1 Legal Basis

The legal authority for this workshop stems from several provisions of the Engineers Act 2011:

- Section 7(1)(r) of the Engineers Act 2011 allows the Board to, “collaborate with engineering training institutions, professional associations, engineering organizations and other relevant bodies in matters relating to training and professional development of engineers”.
- Section 7 (1)(l) of the Engineers Act 2011 provides that the Board shall “evaluate other engineering programmes both local and foreign recognition by the Board”.

2.0 OVERVIEW OF THE WORKSHOP

Following the approval of the accreditation standards by the Board during its 195th meeting, there was need to train the appointed assessors on the approved standards.

The Board conducted a three-day workshop from 2nd – 4th September to train the appointed assessors on the approved standards and the guidelines for evaluators. The main objective of the three-day training workshop was to build the capacity of assessors in the application of the approved Engineering Accreditation Standards and Guidelines for Evaluators.

The training contributed to: -

- i) A clear understanding of the Engineering Accreditation Standards and Guidelines for Evaluators.
- ii) Preparation of assessment reports as per the requirements of the standard.

The workshop physical participants included: -

1. Eng. Margaret N. Ogai, CE – Registrar/CEO
2. Eng. Grace Onyango, PE– Director, Capacity Building & Accreditation
3. Eng. Dr. Hiram Ndiritu, PE – Assessor
4. Eng. Gabriel Jabongo, CE – Assessor
5. Eng. Prof. Simiyu Sitati, PE – Assessor
6. Eng. Bone Eliud Wanyonyi, CE – Assessor
7. Eng. Susan Ombuya, PE – Assessor
8. Eng. Prof. Abel Mayaka, PE – Assessor
9. Eng. Faith Mercy Gicugu, PE – Assessor
- 10.Eng. Paul Ochola, CE – Assessor
- 11.Eng. Prof. Kionga Kamau, PE – Assessor
- 12.Eng. Mathew Waita, PE – Assessor
- 13.Eng. Albrian Mueke Maundu, PE – Assessor

Virtual participants

1. Eng. Erastus K. Mwongera, CE – Chairman, EBK
2. Eng. Prof. Silvester Abuodha, CE – Chairman, AQC
3. Eng. Grace Kagonda, PE
4. Eng. Nathaniel Matalanga, CE
5. Eng. Emmanuel Kipkorir, PE
6. Eng. Jean Bosco Byiringiro, PE
7. Eng. Prof. Alex Muumbo, PE
8. Eng. Peter Wachira, PE
9. Eng. Andrew Wahome, CE
10. Eng. James N. Mwangi, CE
11. Eng. Prof. Japheth Onyando, PE
12. Eng. Timothy Musiomi, CE
- 13.Eng. Jennifer Gache, PE
- 14.Eng. Dr. Charles Kabubo, PE
- 15.Eng. Prof. Clement Kiptum, PE
- 16.Eng. Wilfred N. Omari, CE
- 17.Eng. Prof. George Rading, PE
- 18.Eng. Douglas Omenda, PE
- 19.Eng. Prof. Henry Kirimi Kiriamiti, PE
- 20.Eng. Victor Mwongera, PE

3.0 PROGRAMME SUMMARY

3.1 Day 1

3.1.1 Session 1: Opening

The workshop began by opening remarks by the Registrar/CEO, Eng. Margaret N. Ogai, who invited the participants to the workshop and highlighted the following key points; -

- a) Objectives of the workshop and the expected outcomes
- b) Overall progress on Accreditation Matters

The Chairman of the Board, Eng. Erastus K. Mwongera highlighted the following points: -

- a) Emphasized the importance of the workshop as a crucial step towards achieving provisional signatory status with the Washington Accord.
- b) Described the Washington Accord as a commitment to quality and equivalence in engineering education.
- c) Stressed the importance of international mobility and recognition of engineering graduates to meet global engineering standards.
- d) Reinforced the Board's commitment to align engineering programs with best practices and standards of leading engineering institutions worldwide.
- e) Highlighted the potential and challenge presented by Kenya's youth bulge.

The Chairman of the Academics Qualifications Committee Eng. Prof. Silvester Abuodha highlighted the following points:

- a) Stated the Boards achievements and key milestones in acceding to the Washington Accord.
- b) The Criteria for joining the Washington Accord.
- c) adhering to the standards and timelines, significantly enhance the employability and credibility of our engineering graduates, making them competitive on the global stage

3.1.2 Session 2:

Training of Assessors on Washington Accord Standards (Accreditation Standards and Guidelines for Evaluators – Eng. Grace Onyango, PE

The presentation covered the following: -

- a) The IEA requirements for the criteria for Admission to Provisional Signatory Status i.e., principles of operational accreditation system with documented procedures and practices
- b) Outcome-Based Education which focuses on what graduates should be able to achieve in terms of skills, knowledge, and behavior by the end of the programme
- c) The Accreditation Criteria which focused on the following: -
 - Program Design - the programme must align with national, and stakeholder needs and provide a balance between theoretical, practical, and experiential knowledge.

- Curriculum Content - programmes must offer courses in mathematics, engineering sciences, design, and complementary study subjects
 - Faculty and Facilities - institutions must have qualified academic staff, appropriate student-to-staff ratios, and sufficient laboratory and workshop facilities.
 - Industrial Training - programmes must provide industrial training lasting at least eight weeks to expose students to real-world engineering practices.
 - Quality Assurance - institutions must demonstrate that they have systems in place to continuously monitor and improve the quality of their programs, with a focus on achieving educational objectives and program outcomes.
- d) The roadmap/ key timelines to acceding to the Washington Accord
 - e) Qualifying requirements and accreditation criteria
 - f) EAC Standards that outline details for accreditation of existing and new engineering programmes.
 - g) The standard emphasizes the need for Continual Quality Improvement (CQI), requiring programmes to adapt to technological advancements and global engineering standards.
 - h) Review of accreditation policies, qualifying requirements, and documents, i.e.
 - Engineers Rules 2019 (4th Schedule)
 - Engineers Act 2011
 - Rules, Procedures and Criteria for Accreditation
 - IEA Graduate Attributes and Professional Competencies
 - Accord Rules and Procedures

See Annex I for Presentation on Training of Assessors on Washington Accord Standards (Accreditation Standards and Guidelines for Evaluators)

3.2 Day 2 – Guidelines for Evaluators

Day 2 of the workshop reviewed the templates and had detailed discussion on the Guidelines for Evaluators. The guidelines provided evaluators with their responsibilities during accreditation, aiming for consistency and objectivity in evaluating whether degree programmes meet Outcome-Based Education (OBE) requirement as follows; -

- a) Preparation for accreditation visit (Mock Assessments) – assessors to assess the documentation based on set criteria, requesting additional information if necessary. Pre-visit meetings to address potential issues are recommended.
- b) Activities During the Accreditation Visit i.e., two days exercise, involving meetings with university leadership, faculty, students, and stakeholders. There is also an assessment of facilities, curriculum, and program objectives
- c) Preparation of evaluation panel reports that indicate whether the programme meets the accreditation criteria, highlighting strengths, concerns, and areas for improvement.

3.3 Day 3– Way Forward and Closing

The assessors thanked the Board for organizing the training which had given them guidance on the preparation for the upcoming transition and mock assessments. The following action plans and way forward were identified as follows: -

S/No	Action	Description	Actor	Timelines
1.	Provide the SARs to assessors 4 weeks before the actual mock assessment visits	Assessors to familiarize themselves with the SARs before actual visits to the universities	Universities EBK	Immediate
2.	Development of a detailed roadmap	Development of specific dates for the upcoming activities	EBK	Immediate
3.	Enhanced support mechanisms	Identify areas for further support and mentorship from mentors. Regularly update the support plan based on feedback.	EBK Universities	
4.	Update Engineering Accreditation Standards and the Guidelines for Evaluators	The Guidelines and EAC Standards to be updated based on the feedback and discussions from the assessors during the workshop	EBK	Immediate
5.	Training of faculty	Prepare and Conduct training for the Engineering Faculty on the Accreditation Standards	EBK IHLs	
6.	Carry out mock assessments	Conduct reviews and mock assessments to ensure continuous preparedness for the Washington Accord evaluation.	EBK Assessors WA Taskforce	Strathmore - 27 th Sep 2024 JKUAT – 30 th Sep 2024 DeKUT- 3 rd -4 th Oct 2024 Moi Uni – 7 th – 8 th Oct 2024
7.	IEA Visits	Preparation for the International Engineering Alliance Assessors	EBK Mentors Assessors IHLs	Last week of October 2024
8.	Development of an engineering policy	EBK to spearhead the development of an Engineering Policy which can inform among other things, the importance of STEM in the Kenyan economy, involvement	EBK	

		of Foreign Engineers among other things		
9.	Development and sensitization of AMS	Fast-track the development of the Accreditation Management System (AMS) and conduct sensitization workshops for all stakeholders	EBK BEM	System development by October 2024
10.	Fasttrack development of the joint accreditation framework with CUE	Leverage the support from the Commission for University Education to strengthen the bid to accede to the Washington Accord.	EBK CUE	

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16/09/2024

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16/9/2024

Approved By:
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Registrar/Chief Executive Officer



19/9/2024

Annex I: Photos

