



ECZ

IN PERSPECTIVE

News about the Examinations Council of Zambia

Issue No. 9

July to December 2016

ECZ GOES TO KITWE – OPENS SERVICE CENTRE



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The Examinations Council of Zambia Goes International

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ECZ Vision: An Examining Body of Excellence



The Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ) was established by an Act of Parliament Number 15 of 1983 with a mandate to set and conduct examinations and award certificates to successful candidates. Before enactment, the Ministry of Education and Culture, under the Examinations Section used to conduct the examinations. The full launch and operationalisation of the ECZ begun in 1987 as a semi-autonomous public institution (parastatal).

VISION STATEMENT

An Examining Body of Excellence

MISSION STATEMENT

Efficiently Conduct Assessments and Award Certificates of Comparable International Standards.

VALUES

Accountability
Efficiency
Integrity
Confidentiality
Transparency
Teamwork
Competence
Innovation

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Editorial

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our 9th Edition of the 'ECZ In Perspective' Newsletter. This exciting publication will take you on an intriguing reading experience and as you read from the first page to the last, you will find interesting and detailed information on the continued growth and successes scored by the ECZ that concerns you.

One notable innovation is the rolling over of the Online Candidate Registration System (OCRS) to grade 7 and Teacher Education following the successful implementation of the system at grade 12 and General Certificate of Education (GCE) level. As ECZ we have continued to explore and adopt the use of Information Communication Technologies in examination administration.

We are happy that in this year (2016), we successfully launched and opened the Kitwe Service Centre. This marks yet another significant milestone of real innovation, growth and development in the provision of high quality assessment services to Zambia's education system and the community at large. The facility is also a testimony of ECZ dedication to the overall National vision of building an educated citizenry that will drive the nation to attain the status of a developed country by 2064.

Our boundaries have not been limited to Zambia. Through the revised Zambian School Curriculum that has ranked it fourth in Africa according to assessment carried out by St. Jeff College Primary School in South Africa; we have received applications to conduct Grades 7 and 9 examinations at St. Jeff College Primary School and Early Childhood Teacher Education Diploma examinations in two colleges in Botswana.

The ECZ also successfully participated in the 42nd International Association for Educational Assessment (IAEA) Annual Conference in Cape Town – South Africa in which Zambia was placed in the international limelight as ECZ Director, Dr Chilala was among the four key note speakers at the conference and delivered a much appreciated address entitled "The Art of Reporting Learner Performance." In a similar event, ECZ was for the first time recognised and got a seat at the 6th Annual Mobiles for Education Alliance International Symposium in Washington, DC.

We shall therefore continue on our journey to innovate, grow and improve on our service delivery as look forward to another ECZ Service Centre earmarked for Mpika District.

We wish you a prosperous 2017 and enjoy reading this edition.

Mr Nicolas Nkhuwa

Corporate Affairs Officer
Examinations Council of Zambia

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dr Michael M. Chilala

We Never Gave Up on Our Dreams No Matter the Setbacks on Our Way

The year 2016 was challenging and hence full of lessons. The year started with the aftermath of the challenging and highly publicised 2015 Grade 9 Computer Studies Practical Examination. After the release of all 2015 examination results, the Ministry of General Education and Examinations Council of Zambia consulted key stakeholders to determine measures that would ensure successful conduct of the 2016 Computer Studies.

No sooner had the dust over 2015 Grade 9 Computer Studies practical examination settled than the amended constitution of 2016 came, which among other issues, caused the Examinations Council to verify qualifications of those that were aspiring to participate in the August 2016 General elections.

As the second half of 2016 dawned, we went straight into successful conduct of the 2016 General Certificate of Education (GCE) examination in July, which was leakage free and whose results were processed and released in September. This was followed by the Grade 9 (Junior Secondary School – JSSL) examination, then the Grade 7, Grade 12 (School Certificate) and finally Teacher Education examinations. Though the Teacher Education and Grade 7 examinations were leakage free, the Grade 9 and Grade 12 examinations suffered serious setbacks during the period under review. These included the theft of examination papers on a truck that was destined to North-Western Province, the drowning of the motor vehicle that was carrying examination papers for 15 schools in Western Province, the loss of a box containing examination materials for once Centre in Central Province, the theft of examination materials in Copperbelt, Muchinga and also in Eastern Provinces. Following up on the stolen materials in Muchinga Province, a vehicle carrying four members of staff from the Examinations Council of Zambia overturned.

Despite all the challenges, the concerted efforts among the officials from the Ministry of General Education, Security Agencies, the Examinations Council of Zambia and members of the general public resulted in recovery of lost examination materials, replacement of damaged materials, arrests of perpetrators of examination malpractices and successful prosecution of cases. A good number of learners who were found in illegal possession of examination materials and prior knowledge were expelled from the entire examination across the country.

With determination among the Security Agencies, support from

the Council, guidance from the Minister and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of General Education, and the Examinations Council of Zambia with all stakeholders conducted the examinations successfully. The processing of Grade 7 results was completed by end of November, while the processing of Grade 9 results was headed for completion in such a way that Council would approve both sets of results by mid-December, 2016. The Council was on target to ensure that the Ministry of General Education announced the Grades 7 and 9 results jointly before Christmas and the 2017 Grades 8 and 10 would open on the first day of the school calendar together with other learners.

Other developments over the period included the launch of the Kitwe Service Centre on 14th October, 2016, exactly two years after the launch of the Lusaka Service Centre in 2014; the extension of the Online Candidate Registration System (OCRS) for Grade 7 pupils of 2017, the recoding of our records system that will allow the Grade 7 pupils of 2017 to carry their examination numbers to Grades 9 and 12 and the preparation and introduction of the separate Junior Secondary Examination for Grade 9 External candidates, which will run for the first time in August 2017 together with the GCE examination. The quality of examinations conducted by the Examinations Council of Zambia at Grades 7 and 9, and Teacher Education were recognised at SADC regional level. This was evidenced by the application from St. Jeff College of South Africa to the Examinations Council of Zambia requesting us to be examining their Grades 7 and 9 pupils effective 2018. We also received applications from two colleges based in Botswana namely, Nampol Vocational Training Centre and We Care Creations College of Education. The two colleges applied for their students to be sitting the Early Childhood Teacher Education Diploma examinations conducted by the Examinations Council of Zambia. The three learning institutions have since been inspected jointly by officers from the Ministry of General Education and Examinations Council of Zambia and have been approved as Examination Centres for the respective examinations.

Pursuant to demands of equity in our examination processes and systems, we pursued adaptation of question papers for our hearing impaired candidates through the use of Adaptive English. In this line, we invited experts from the Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) to train our members of staff from the Examinations Council of Zambia and Ministry of General Education in the use of Adaptive English. Following the training, we went ahead to train test item writers (setters) of various subjects in the use of Adaptive English, with the support of Irish Aid, Embassy of Ireland.

From the research side, we successfully collected data for the Grades 5 and 9 National Assessment surveys, and piloted the data collection instruments for the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) for Develop survey to be conducted in 2017. In addition, we participated in the International Association for Educational Assessment conference held in South Africa, where we presented a key note speech that was approved for publication in a Journal, together with another paper from the Council.

We can confidently say that despite the major setbacks experienced during the period July to December 2016, we continued on our reform path and grew our business successfully. The lessons learnt from the setbacks have given us renewed strength to innovate and develop. We therefore invite you all to continue with us as we pursue our vision to be 'an examining board of excellence.'

ECZ GOES TO KITWE – OPENS SERVICE CENTRE

By Nicolas Nkhuwa



The new opened ECZ Kitwe Service Centre

The Minister of General Education, Honourable Dr Dennis M. Wanchinga-MP officially opened the Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ) Kitwe Service Centre in the Copperbelt Province on Friday, 14th October, 2016.

The opening of the ECZ Kitwe Service Centre marked yet another significant milestone of real innovation, growth and development in the provision of high quality assessment services to Zambia's education system and the community at large by the ECZ. The Service Centre is located on Plot No. 6508 Four C Road, off Jambo Drive in Riverside, Kitwe.

Dr Wanchinga said the long awaited initiative could not have come at a better time than now when the people of Zambia ushered into power a new government that is geared to serve its citizens.

"A government that will continue to ensure that the welfare of the citizens of this country is improved for the better and that every individual benefits from the gains made," he said.

He said the opening of the Service Centre is envisioned to be responsive to community's needs, through bringing government services closer to its citizens,

thereby promoting access to opportunities for improved livelihoods as well as to promote cost-effective service delivery. "Such amenities will enable government to respond to the needs of the community," he said.

The facility is also a testimony of ECZ dedication to the overall National vision of building an educated citizenry that will drive the nation to attain the status of a developed country by 2064. "I commend the leadership of the Chairperson of the Council, Professor Samuel Banda, the entire Council, Management and Staff for this laudable achievement," he said.

And speaking at the same event, Professor Samuel Banda said the project to establish

a Service Centre that would provide services to members of the public on the Copperbelt and other surrounding Provinces was embarked on by the ECZ in its continuous efforts to expand and decentralise its services in line with the mandate of setting and conducting examinations. Professor Banda said "this Service Centre is designed to be a one stop shop that is equipped with all the relevant personnel and information technology systems that will facilitate effective and efficient service provision."

"On behalf of Council, I would also like to urge Management and Staff of the ECZ to forge ahead and begin planning for the next Service Centre destination as we desire as a Council, to decentralise the ECZ operations countrywide and to do this, finances are

Continued on next page>>





Minister of General Education – Honourable Dr Dennis M. Wanchinga, MP (Grey Suit) upon arrival during the official opening of the Kitwe Service Centre

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needed to acquire suitable infrastructure.”

“We shall therefore continually look up to Government for policy guidance, material and financial support in executing our mandate,” he said.

The Kitwe Service Centre will provide all Council services to the Provinces on the northern parts of the Country that include: Northern, Luapula, Northwestern, Copperbelt and the northern parts of Central Province. Among the services to be offered at the Kitwe Service Centre are:

- Accumulation of GEC results
- Verification and Certification of results
- Replacement of statements of results
- Combination of Grade 9 results
- Institutional verification
- Pre and Post exam queries among other Council services.

The ECZ has made a lot of progress in improving the services offered to the public and Two (2) years ago, on 16th October 2014, stakeholders gathered in Lusaka to celebrate the construction and launch of the ECZ first ever state of the art Service Centre located at Plot No. 1926 Msuzi Road in Woodlands, Lusaka.

Meanwhile, the Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ) developed and launched the new Strategic plan 2016 to 2020 to

guide its growth. The Strategic Plan has been developed in line with the Zambia's Vision 2030 on education which articulates Zambia's long term-development goals. The vision, 'to become a prosperous middle-income country by 2030,' challenges the education sector to provide innovative and productive lifelong education and training accessible to all by 2030.

The Plan has been set and will continue with the transformation agenda through innovations and reforms. The Strategy will propel the ECZ to develop creative examinations administration interventions

“I commend the leadership of the Chairperson of the Council, Professor Samuel Banda, the entire Council, Management and Staff for this laudable achievement,”

and champion stakeholder engagement in the education sector and beyond to make progressive decisions to enhance public service delivery systems and processes in a quest to attain vision 2030.

Therefore, the 2009-2015 Strategic Plan thus set the stage for building a solid foundation for takeoff at the Institutional, Human-Capital Development, Technology and Effective Assessment levels for the next strategic plan. The second Strategic Plan which has been set from 2016 to 2020 will continue with the transformation agenda through innovations and reforms.

The five (5) year Strategic Plan, 2016-2020 is informed by developments in the macroeconomic environment of Zambia, Government Policy on Free Education, the proposed split of the Ministry again into General and Higher Education, subsidization of Examination Fees, desire to deepen efficiency and effectiveness of Assessments, Reduction in the Cost of doing business with ECZ using e-platforms, need to decentralize operations countrywide and improved Corporate Image through zero tolerance for Examination leakages and malpractices.

The Vision of the Examinations Council of Zambia is “An Examining Body of Excellence” while the mission is to, “Efficiently Conduct Assessments and Award Certificates of comparable International Standards through a competent and motivated workforce using Appropriate Information and Communications Technology.”

During the same event, the ECZ also launched the new Financial Regulations. The Regulations are an important document that shall provide comprehensive guidance in ensuring an effective framework for communicating the Council's management and control of financial resources.



Kitwe Boys dance troops entertain the audience during the opening of the Kitwe Service Centre

ECZ Conducts 3rd Successful Separate GCE Examination

By Nicolas Nkhuwa

The 2016 General Certificate of Education (GCE) was the third separate successful GCE Examination to be conducted by the ECZ since 2014 when the decision to delink the GCE Examination from the School Certificate Examination was made. The exam was conducted from 1st July to 9th August 2016.

Working with various stakeholders, stringent measures have been put in place to curb any examination papers from leaking both in transit and on the ground. ECZ commends the PEOs, DEBS, School and various security wings and stakeholders for remaining vigilant during the period the examination.

We can only say the quality of education and its future lies in the hands of all of us charged to administer examinations and education at various levels.

ECZ in consultation with the Ministry of Education and various stakeholder delinked the GCE Examination from the School



Candidate writing the 2016 GCE examination

Certificate Examination in order to meet the demand of candidates who desired to improve their qualifications at this level but could not do so due to the limited space in school that could not allow both Internal candidates and those who were rewriting to be accommodated in the same examination rooms. The delinking was also thought of as

a remedy to curb examination malpractices that took place when the examinations were conducted jointly.

We urge all our stakeholders to remain steadfast as we endeavour to run leakage free examinations in Zambia.

Highlights of the 2016 July –August GCE Examinations

By Nicolas Nkhuwa



The Permanent Secretary – Mr Henry Tukombe announcing the 2016 GCE results in Lusaka

The 2016 July -August GCE examinations had a total of 124,780 registered candidates. Out of these, 43,070 representing 34.5 percent were males while 81,710 (65.5%) were females, an indication that more females sat the 2016 GCE examination than males. The number of candidates registering and sitting for

GCE Examinations has continued to grow indicating that more people are appreciating the importance of education.

There has been an increase of 18.60 percent in the 2016 GCE Examinations as compared to the 2015 August GCE Examination where a total of 105,208 candidates comprising 36,259 males and 68,949 females were registered. Of the 124,780 (2016 GCE

Examination) registered candidates, 116,883 (93.67%) sat the examinations, of whom 77,291 (66.13%) were females and 39,592 (33.87%) were males.

In 2016, a total of 7,897 candidates were absent from the examination, of whom 4,419 were female and 3,478 were male. This represents an absenteeism rate of 6.33 percent as compared to 9.67 percent obtained the 2015 session, therefore recording a decrease in the absenteeism rate. The proportion of candidates obtaining GCE Certificates was 108,595 representing 92.91 percent, an increase from 90.38 percent in the 2015 session. More females (65.88%) than males (34.12%) obtained GCE certificates.

During the conduct of the 2016 GCE Examinations, there were no reported cases of examination leakages. However, a total of 186 suspected cases of examination malpractices were recorded mainly in the form of assistance.

The results of the affected candidates have been withheld and are pending resolution by the relevant committee of the ECZ Council.

Government Happy with ECZ Operations

.....as Minister is taken on Familiarisation Tour of the Institution

By Nicolas Nkhuwa



ECZ Director Dr Michael M. Chilala leads the Minister of General Education – Dr Dennis M. Wanchinga during the familiarisation tour of the ECZ

The government has expressed happiness with the operations of the ECZ. The happiness was expressed by the Minister of General Education –Dr Dennis M. Wanchinga, MP when he visited the ECZ on a familiarisation tour on 16th October, 2016.

Since 2012, the ECZ has steadily repositioned itself through an open door policy and by creating public awareness on the various services provided in order to stay competitive as an examining body. Through the introduction and implementation of various innovations and systems, like the Electronic Candidate registration (ECRS) which has now been remodelled to Online Candidate Registration System (OCRS), we have continued to operate in the best interest of our stakeholders and the general public.

During the tour, the Minister visited and appreciated the ECZ state of the art Woodlands Service Centre located at Plot 1926 Msuzi Road, off Mwatusanga and Imapal Roads in Lusaka. He also visited the ECZ Main Offices in Longacres where he was taken round in various departments before going into a closed door meeting with Management.

The Minister expressed happiness at the level of security that the ECZ has put in place to secure examination materials and other sensitive documents. He also noted the various initiatives ECZ implemented using

internally generated funds and urged other government institutions to emulate what the ECZ has done for itself to ensure assessments are of comparable international standards. He later addressed and thanked all members of staff for maintaining an Institution's life through their hard work. Dr Wanchinga assured the Institution of government support in its operations including its plans to open a service centre in Mpika District of Muchinga Province.

Dr Wanchinga also addressed Journalist after the tour, "It is clear that the ECZ needs to decentralise its operations by opening up more service centres to decongest the Lusaka Service Centre and cut down on distance for individuals wishing to travel to Lusaka to access Council services" he said. The Minister also lauded ECZ for opening up a Service Centre in Kitwe - Copperbelt Province which was officially opened on Friday 14th October 2016.

Meanwhile Dr Wanchinga is confident that the ECZ will continue to grow and achieve great things that will put Zambia on the global map in as far as delivering efficient service comparable to international standards is concerned.

He said this when he officially opened the ECZ Kitwe Service Centre in the Copperbelt Province on 14th October 2016.

Dr Wanchinga said the establishment of the Kitwe Service Centre is a testimony that the Council, Management and staff at ECZ are

determined to deliver to the Zambian people what they have promised to achieve. "This facility is also a testimony of ECZ dedication to the overall National Vision by building an educated citizenry that will drive the nation to attain the status of a developed country by 2064," he said.

He further assured the ECZ continued support of the Ministry of General Education to ensure that the mandate of ECZ is efficiently fulfilled.

The ECZ has made a tremendous progress in improving the services delivery to the general public. Progress has been recorded in a number of areas such as timely processing and release of results, the development of examination syllabus, the construction of the Service Centre in Lusaka and now this one on the Copperbelt, development and roll out of the SMS Results Release System.

Major innovations have taken place in automating our major services by adopting Information Communication Technology (ICTs) to facilitate efficient and effective service provision.

The ECZ has made headways to reposition itself and claim its indisputable position as a professional examining body managing and administering public examinations in Zambia. Over the years, the Council has grown into an institution of honour and dignity that inspires staff, teachers, parents and indeed the learners at all levels.

Grade 7 And Teacher Education to use OCRS

By Kembani Kzasonde



Participants from Colleges during OCRS Training

Following the successful implementation of the Online Candidate Registration System (OCRS) at Grade 12 and GCE, the OCRS has been extended to Grade 7 and the following Teacher Education programmes;

- i. Early Childhood Education
- ii. Primary Teacher's Diploma
- iii. Junior Secondary Teacher's Diploma

The OCRS at Teacher Education level has a unique feature for submitting Continuous Assessment (CA) marks online thereby reducing the lead time for processing results whilst enforcing data quality and integrity. The OCRS comes with a number of advantages. With the OCRS, candidates can login and verify their registration information on their own than relying solely

on the printed provisional register. The need for consolidating data and submitting data CDs has also been eliminated as all data is securely stored in a central repository. Furthermore, the OCRS is light, user friendly and can be accessed anywhere on any Internet enabled device thus encouraging users to engage in anytime - anywhere computing.

The ECZ will continue to improve its operations by remaining innovative as we serve the general public in an efficient and effective manner and in attaining its Vision as "An Examining Body of Excellence."

2017 Approved Scale of Examination Fees

The Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ) wishes to inform all prospective candidates, stakeholders and the general public that candidate registration for the 2017 Examination Session commenced on Monday, 21st November, 2016. The following are the Scale of Examination Fees for the 2017 Examinations:

S/N	LEVEL	AMOUNT
1	GRADE 7	There are NO Examination fees paid at this level.
2	GRADE 9 INTERNAL - Administration fee	K5.00 per candidate
3	GRADE 9 EXTERNAL - Entry fee - Subject fee	K70.00 per candidate K75.00 per subject
4	GRADE 12 INTERNAL - Entry fee - Subject fee	K25.00 per candidate K23.00 per subject
5	GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (GCE) - Entry fee - Subject fee	K75.00 per candidate K120.00 per subject
6	TEACHER EDUCATION - Entry fee - Subject fee	K60.00 per candidate K100.00 per subject

The closing date for registering candidates in School/Centres for the 2017 Examination is Friday, 24th February, 2017. Please NOTE that there will be NO extension to the Closing Date for receipt of entries as the date for procurement of examination question papers cannot be changed.

The Examinations Council of Zambia Goes International

The Grades 7 and 9, and Early Childhood Teacher Education Diploma examinations conducted by the Examinations Council of Zambia have gone international in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region.



One of the 20 Buses for Learners at St. Jeff College Primary School

The proprietors wrote and I quote, *"...having done our assessment of all primary school education models of different countries in Africa – Zambia has emerged FOURTH BEST in AFRICA with the introduction of the NEW ZAMBIAN CURRICULUM, behind New Zealand, Mauritius and Ghana, a huge jump from the fourteenth best in 2011. We immediately moved towards implementing the New Zambian Curriculum in our pilot school in Johannesburg. The experiment has yielded excellent results. Since last year when we started using the Zambian Syllabus, our learners have emerged TOP of the list in all competition, beating the predominantly white schools' learners and this has left every person to wonder how we do it; our enrolment numbers speak for themselves."*

The school was inspected by the officials from the Ministry of General Education and Examinations Council and approved as an Examination Centre for Grades 7 and 9 examinations conducted by the Examinations Council of Zambia with effect from 2018.

The proprietors of the school indicated in their application for examination centre status that Zambia's Primary Education Curriculum was among the best in the world.



A Classroom at St. Jeff College Primary School - SA

They further wrote, *"our intention is now to formalise our relationship with the Examinations Council of Zambia – where we will have all learners that go through to sit for Grade 7 and Grade 9 Examinations that are set, marked and certified by the Examinations Council of Zambia for them to progress to the next grade."*

In another e-mail message dated 28th November, 2016, the proprietors wrote and I quote, *"I must say that your Zambian Primary School Education New Syllabus is ACTUALLY the BEST in the WORLD; the Gauteng Department of Education can still NOT believe it after*

we showed them the syllabus – HoD said in his own words "Yes the Zambians are very good". This was after our learners HIT their Provincial Common Exams.... – ONLY 4 of our Learners FAILED their Common Examinations out of 225 Learners."

In another related development, two colleges in Botswana, namely We Care Creations Teacher education College and Nampol Vocational Training College have applied to have their students sit the Early Childhood Teachers' Diploma examinations conducted by the Examinations Council of Zambia.



We Care Creations Teacher Education College - Botswana

The two colleges were inspected in the third quarter of 2016 by the officials from the Ministry of General Education under the Directorate of Standards and Curriculum and the Examinations Council of Zambia.

During the 2016 third quarter meeting of the Teacher Education Committee of Council, the two colleges were approved as Examinations Centres and have since been communicated to by management at the Examinations Council of Zambia.



It is clear that since the development of examinations syllabi based on the revised School and Teacher Education curricula, the profile of Zambia's education system has continued to go up. The revised curricula and the accompanying examination syllabi developed by the Examinations Council of Zambia through a PPP arrangement with Book World Africa have put Zambia's education system on the world map. We as Examinations Council of Zambia are proud to be part of this success story and flag carriers by exporting one of Zambia's Primary, Junior Secondary and Teacher Education qualifications. This is a dream come true in pursuit of our vision to be "An Examining Body of Excellence" and mission to "Efficiently Conduct Assessments and Award Certificates of Comparable International Standards."

Zambia Participates in 42nd IAEA Conference

By Dr. Charity M. Kombe and Boniface Lisuba



Zambia was among 40 countries across the globe that participated in the 42nd International Association for Educational Assessment Annual Conference that was held at the Westin Hotel in Cape Town – South Africa from 21st to 27th August 2016.

The conference that was convened under the theme “Assessing the Achievement of Curriculum Standards – An On-going Dialogue” attracted over 350 delegates. The conference was hosted by UMALUSI, which is the quality control council for general and further education and training in South Africa.

Zambia was represented by nine members of staff from the Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ). The Zambian delegation comprised the following officers: Dr Michael Chilala – Director; Mrs Teza N. Musakanya – Assistant Director, Research and Test Development; Mr Shadreck Nkoya – Principal Research Officer; Mrs Banji M. Shakubanza – Systems Manager; Dr Charity M. Kombe

– Senior Research Officer; Mrs Felidah M. Kiwala – Senior Examinations Specialist, Mathematics and Computer Studies and Mrs Munsaka C. Mabbolobolo – Senior Examinations Specialist, Business Studies; Mr Samson Shiwanwa – Network Administrator and Mr Boniface Lisuba – Senior Research Officer.

Zambia was placed in the international limelight as the ECZ Director, Dr Chilala was among the four keynote speakers at the conference and delivered a much appreciated address entitled “The Art of Reporting Learner Performance” which showcased the ECZ’s unique style of reporting learner performance with descriptors at each grade level for subject groups.

In his keynote address, Dr Chilala shared how Zambia has moved a step further in the reporting of learner performance by including descriptors of what constitutes “good”, “average” and “poor” performance in performance review reports so that there can be meaningful and accurate interpretation of what learners at different levels of performance were capable of doing

in respective subject groups. He posited that this could be one way of generating valid, reliable, fair and useful performance reports for various kinds of assessments and argued that a mere “grade” does not say much about the learner. Delegates were inspired to learn more from the way Zambia was reporting performance in public examinations.

In addition, six other ECZ delegates presented papers in which they shared experiences and research findings with the international community, while picking valuable lessons from other delegates. Mr Nkoya shared the findings of a study which investigated whether assessments should target the age or grade of learners using the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) framework. The results showed that learners who were younger by 1 or 2 years than the recommended age performed better across different subjects and concluded that the PISA Assessment Framework together with ISCED standards should be used in most education and assessment systems.

Dr Meki-Kombe, in a presentation entitled “Reporting Learner Performance through Benchmarks and Targets- the Case of the Grade 2 National Assessment Survey-Zambia” used data from the Early Grade Reading and Mathematics Assessment (EGRA and EGMA) conducted at Grade 2 level in 2014 to demonstrate how benchmarks and targets could be used to help students of all backgrounds and abilities to reach their maximum potential. Dr Kombe set out by drawing a clear distinction between benchmarks and targets.

Mr Boniface Lisuba presented a paper sharing the experiences of stakeholders during the implementation of the inaugural



ECZ Delegation: (from left to right) Mrs Munsaka C. Mabbolobolo, Mrs Felidah M. Kiwala, Mr Samson M. Shiwanwa, Dr Charity M. Kombe, Dr Michael M. Chilala, Mr Shadreck Nkoya, Mr Boniface Lisuba, Mrs Banji M. Shakubanza and Mrs Teza N. Musakanya

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Computer Studies Practical examinations at Grade 9. Delegates from other countries, such as Nigeria, where similar programs had been implemented encouraged Zambia to continue pushing the ICT agenda because they had also gone through similar experiences and had seen the benefits after persisting. Trinidad and Tobago also reported that they were implementing ICT-related programs in their schools and were yielding positive results.

Mr Samson Shiwanwa shared how ECZ plans to employ Business Intelligence to improve the way it makes available accurate learner performance information to stakeholders. The idea was applauded as delegates were eager to see how it would turn out once implemented.

Mrs Felidah M. Kiwala and Mrs Munsaka C. Mabbolobolo co-presented the experiences that ECZ has had on reporting learner performance in its quest to develop comprehensive school performance feedback systems for improving learner performance. They highlighted the effectiveness of the performance feedback system in improving teaching, learning and learner performance in Eastern Province. The practice discussed in the paper was appreciated as a best practice worth adopting by other delegates.

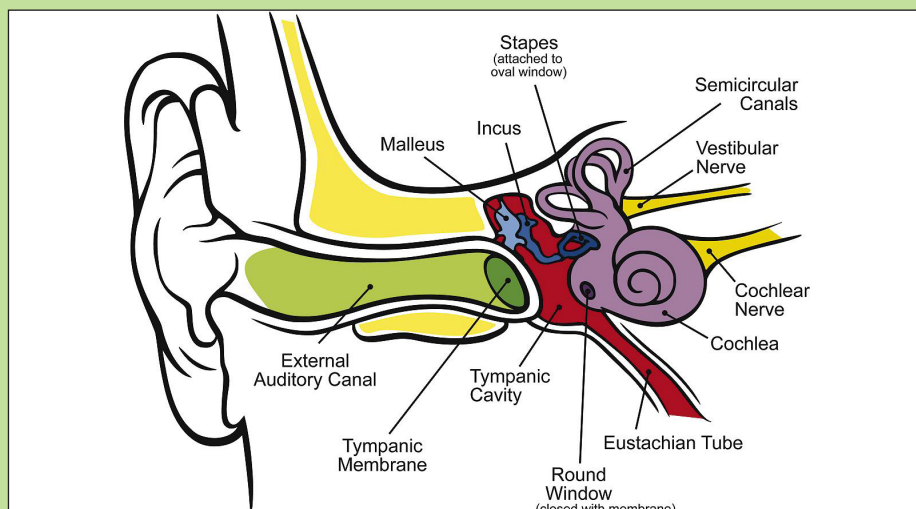
The IAEA offers a global forum for all those involved in all forms of educational assessment – in primary or secondary schools, colleges or the workplace. Its members include examining bodies, university departments, research Organisations and government agencies from more than 50 countries on all continents. The broad purpose of IAEA is to assist educational agencies in the development and appropriate application of educational assessment techniques to improve the quality of education.

IAEA believes that this is best achieved through international cooperation and seeks to facilitate the development of closer ties among relevant agencies and individuals around the world. IAEA believes that such international cooperation can help nations learn from each other without any diminution of their cultural autonomy.

South Africa is the first country in Africa to host the IAEA conference. Thumbs up to great nation of South Africa for successfully hosting the 42nd IAEA conference!

ECZ And Stakeholders Meet To Discuss The Adaptation Of Examination Papers For Hearing Impaired Candidates

By Ruth Msoni



The Examinations Council of Zambia successfully conducted a six (6) days training workshop to discuss the adaptation of Examination Papers for Hearing Impaired candidates. The workshop took place from Monday 1st August, 2016 to Saturday 6th August 2016 at Waterfalls Hotel, Chongwe.

Prior to the holding of the workshop, the Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ) paid a benchmarking visit to Uganda and the Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) in March 2015. This was what led to the need to have examination papers for learners with hearing impairment in Zambia modified using adapted English.

It was envisaged that a team from KNEC be nominated to carry out the training on how to adapt test items using adapted English to suit the communication needs of learners with hearing impairment. After much consultation, KNEC nominated two officers to carry out the training, one officer from KNEC – a specialist in English and test development for learners with Hearing impairment and a Curriculum Development Specialist for learners with Special Needs from the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development Mrs Beth Kahuthia.

On day 2, the ECZ Director – Dr Machael M. Chilala welcomed all the participants and noted that the success of the workshop would mark the beginning of improving education for learners with hearing impairment.

The workshop opened with a historical perspective of the journey made by the Kenyan government in addressing issues around the education of learners with

hearing impairment. It was noted that before the National Special Needs Education Policy was officially launched, there were challenges that were identified as barriers towards posting of better learning outcomes among learners with hearing impairment. Such challenges included:

Not all learners with hearing impairment would get to tertiary education because of the examinations offered. Learners with Hearing impairment rarely got higher educational qualifications;

Transition rate to secondary school stood at 9%;

Very few learners with hearing impairment were accessing primary school at the age recommended indicating late identification and educational placement;

Poor specialised-trained -teacher to pupil ratio;

Limited curriculum support materials that would aid in curriculum content conceptualization;

The language of instruction (LOI) and the language of assessment was not the same. The problem is that the language of instruction is Sign Language and the language of assessment is English;

Lack of guidelines from government on how to institutionalise inclusive education and integrated programs.

High incidents of repetition among these learners due to un-adapted syllabus content; High dropout rates; and

Deaf unfriendly schools.

Participants were engaged in a discussion to find out if the above named challenges were also experienced in Zambia. At every stage, the participants were asked to identify their institutional gaps/ challenges that were contributing to the situation in Deaf Education as it is in Zambia.

Day 3 was centered on the classroom practices

that inform the teaching and learning of the learner with Hearing impairment. Using the diagram of the ear, the participants were taken through understanding Deafness, types of Deafness, causes of deafness and their educational implications. This was done in order to help the participants understand how communication is the greatest barrier for a hearing impaired learner which must be overcome.

There is need to know and understand deafness in order to assess learners with hearing impairment according to their ability. Having this session helped bust common myths and misconceptions that hinder teachers and test providers from fully supporting learners with hearing impairment.

Deaf people depend heavily on their eyes. In the same way people talk and hear is the same for the deaf people. Thinking in signs or pictures rather than words constitutes a mental process. Best subject scored by the deaf pupil in Kenya is sign language.

Teaching Strategies for Learners with Hearing Impairment

Participants were informed that there is a shift from teacher-centred approaches to learner-centred approaches. You need to embrace the new focus on problem solving skills because how you teach should inform you on how to assess. The way of delivering a lesson must tally with the way of assessing them. This is an issue of Language of instruction vs language of assessment. The learner with hearing impairment is a highly visual learner therefore the lecture method does not work for deaf children. Deaf children are clever children too and they have embraced a new way especially in mathematics.

Teaching the deaf requires a deaf friendly teacher. A deaf friendly teacher is one who is:

Willing to learn;
Flexible (changes thinking style, thinks differently, seeing things from other people's perspective);
Fair (be fair to deaf children);
Able to explain things clearly (tells to do things clearly);
Able to understand deaf children
A good communicator; and
Good at setting an example.

As teachers of deaf, parents of deaf, we need to be direct with them.

When introducing a lesson:

give content to what you intend to teach, use visual aids (actual aids e.g. flour, cement, maize meal);
write key words, topic, heading or questions on the black board; and
allow for time for the children to look at the visual aids and use this as a point of finding out what they know about the topic to be covered. (learner perceptions/pre concepts).

How does this apply to assessment?

Using visual aids helps the deaf children group concepts easily

When learners ask questions, answer them immediately even if you think the questions are stupid and parallel to the topic

Good teaching in the class should be accompanied with the good practical illustrations

General Strategies

As a teacher you need to obtain feedback from your hearing impaired student at every opportunity as an indicator of the students' level of understanding. Do the following;

- Repeat
- Rephrase
- Explain
- Simplify
- Clarify

At school level, we do not have to re-phrase the examination questions in an examination

room; it has to be done at the test item setting level when preparing the questions. At examination level, we do not repeat the questions but simplify them for better clarity by learners with hearing impairment.

A Motivational activity made business for day 4. The facilitator led the participants into activities. In the first activity one of the participants was asked to sign any story in Zambian sign language. Thereafter, questions based on the story were asked to participants. However, most of the participants did not follow the story because of language barrier. The facilitator explained that the learners with hearing impairment experience the same problem if their teachers just talked without signing.

In the second activity, the facilitator told a story of different animals. In the story, the animals were asked to climb a tree. However, some animals could not climb a tree or fly. The moral lesson was that if we had a diverse candidature sometimes it was very difficult to decide the type of examinations to be given. The facilitator encouraged the participants to think of how best they can assist the learners with hearing impairments.

On day 5, participants looked at sign language for visually impaired candidates in the curriculum. The participants learnt that the learners with hearing impairments choose the tasks and one of the examiners gives instructions. All three (3) examiners score and the average mark is used to grade a learner. The facilitator emphasised that during such examinations, the learners are confined before and after the examination as sign language is open so as to avoid leaking the examinations.

The workshop ended with an encouragement to all participants who were advised to work hard towards achieving the core subject of improved results for learners with Hearing Impairments by administering an appropriate syllabus, curriculum and adapted examinations to promote equity.



The learner with hearing impairment is a highly visual learner...

Welcoming our Deputy Director

By Nicolas Nkhuwa



Mr. William M. Kapambwe

The Council, Management and Staff of the Examinations Council of Zambia are delighted to welcome and announce the appointment of Mr William M. Kapambwe as the New Deputy Director of the Examinations Council of Zambia. He was appointed Deputy Director on 1st December, 2016 and takes over from Mr Jolly S. Chembe.

Profile

Mr. William M. Kapambwe's career in education spans 33 years beginning as a Junior Secondary School Science Teacher in 1983 at St. Francis Secondary School where he actually did his secondary school. He later moved to St. Paul's Secondary school in Kabwe in 1985 where he taught Biology and Environmental Science. From 1991 to 1992 he taught English and Geography for a short time at Caritas Convent School in Kabwe before joining the ZCCM Education Trust School where he worked as a Primary school Teacher from 1992 to 1998. He also taught at Kalulushi Trust School and in 1996 to 1997 he was Guest Teacher in Denmark under the DANIDA Fellowship.

In 1998 Mr. Kapambwe joined the Examinations Council of Zambia as a Research Officer responsible for coordinating the Grade 4 Competence Tests under the World Bank Zambia Rehabilitation Project (ZERP). The position was later changed to Senior Research Officer and Mr. Kapambwe continued as Coordinator for the Grade 4 Basic Competence Tests under the Ministry of Education's Basic Education Sub-sector Investment Programme (BESSIP) 2000 to 2004. He later became the Coordinator for the Continuous Assessment Programme under the MOE/USAID EQUIP 2 Programme from 2004 to 2009.

In 2009 Mr. Kapambwe was promoted to the position of Principal Examinations Specialist and Head of Department for the TEVET Examinations Department. During this period he managed the transition of the transfer of the TEVET Examinations from the Examinations Council of Zambia to TEVETA. From February to June 2010 Mr. Kapambwe served as the Acting Council Secretary for the Examinations Council of Zambia.

As the TEVET Examinations were being phased out, Mr. Kapambwe decided to seek other avenues in which he could make contributions. From January to May 2011 he served as Program Advisor, Continuing Professional Development-Colleges of Education for the Teacher Training Support Program for the Flemish (Belgian) Association for Development Cooperation and Technical Assistance (VVOB). From

May 2011 to April 2012 Mr. Kapambwe served as the Assistant Registrar –Examinations for the Zambia Open University (ZAOU).

In April 2012 Mr. Kapambwe took up a position as Performance Monitoring Advisor in charge of School-Based Assessment for the Primary Literacy Programme (PLP) for the USAID Read to Succeed Project under the contractors Creative Associates International, Lusaka, Zambia.

Mr. Kapambwe's qualifications include a Masters of Arts in Education (M.A. Ed) in Curriculum and Assessment studies from University College Dublin, Ireland. He also holds Post-Graduate Certificate in Education: Comparative Education, Research, and Project Design, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. He has B.A. Ed., Geography, University of Zambia. His first qualification in education was Secondary Teacher's Diploma in Science Education, Copperbelt Secondary Teacher's College. He also completed the coursework for the Masters in Educational Administration (M.A.Ed) from the University of Zambia.

His special courses undertaken in the area of assessment are:

- Certificate in Developing a National Assessment Programme, Education Testing Services (ETS) Global Institute in Princeton, New Jersey, USA (August, 2001 August,19,2001 to August,26,2001) Sponsored by the USAID.
- Certificate in Theory and Practice of Testing, Dutch Institute of Educational Measurement(CITO), Arnheim, Netherlands, June 9th, 2009 to June 20th, 2009
- Certificate as Assistant Examiner for Regional/Human Geography Paper 2.,Examinations Council of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia – August 1994
- British Council IELTS Assistant Examiner for International English Language testing System(IELTS)
- Education Testing Services(ETS) Administrator for the Test of English as a Foreign Language(TOEFL)
- Certificate of participation in the UNESCO IIEP MOOC on Learning Assessment, 1 to 26 February, 2016

Mr. Kapambwe has been associated with the University of Lusaka as a Part Time Lecturer from 2011 to 2016 and he developed Post Graduate courses in Curriculum and Assessment. He also supervised Masters' students' thesis writing at the University of Lusaka (UNILUS) from 2011 to 2016. Mr. Kapambwe served as Board Chairman – Lake Road PTA School from 2010 to 2014.

He has presented academic and professional papers on educational assessment at various international conferences: SAEAA(2016,Lusaka); AEAA(2014;Livingstone); IAEA(2008;Cambridge); Sub-regional Conference(2003;Lusaka); ACEAB(2002;Malta). Mr. Kapambwe served as the Chief Rapporteur for the 17th AEAA Conference held at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Lusaka in 1999 as well as the 1st Sub-Regional Conference for the SAAEA in 2003.

Mr. Kapambwe is a Member of the Institute of Directors (IOD) and a Full Practicing Member of the Zambia Institute of Human Resource Management.

We wish the New Deputy Director the very best in his new appointment.

Welcoming New Members of Staff



Mr Makulo Musowe

He joined the ECZ on 1st December, 2016 as Senior Examinations Officer and will be in-charge of Grade 7 Examinations. Prior to joining the ECZ, he worked as a teacher of Mathematics at Kamwala Secondary School in Lusaka for over 20 years. Whilst at Kamwala Secondary School, Mr Musowe headed the Guidance and counselling section from 2012 till the time he left to join ECZ. He holds a Bachelor of Arts with Education from the University of Zambia.



Josias Mwale

He joined the ECZ on 12th December 2016 as Computer Operator. Prior to joining the ECZ, he worked as Programmes Officer in-charge of Documentation and ICT at the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) from 2011 till the time left to join ECZ.

5 ECZ Officers Graduate in Various Disciplines

By Gay M. Phiri

The year 2016 has recorded a number of successes. At Institution level, the ECZ developed and launched the 2016 to 2020 Strategic Plan, the rolling out of the Online Candidate Registration System (OCRS) to Grade 7 and Teacher Education levels, the opening of the Kitwe Service Centre among other great achievements. Besides what goes on in achieving the milestones ECZ has recorded, officers took time to upgrade themselves by studying.



Mrs Honester Kabanda

She is the Senior Human Resource Development Officer at ECZ. She graduated on 29th September, 2016 with a Master of Arts in Human Resource Management from the Copperbelt University (CBU).



Mr Kunda Kuku

who is the Centre Manager at the ECZ Kitwe Service Centre graduated on 28th October 2016 with Masters in Business Administration with Education from the University of Lusaka (UNILUS).



Mr Nicolas Nkhuwa

He is the Acting Information, Education and Communication Specialist at ECZ. He graduated on 30th September, 2016 with a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication from Cavendish University Zambia (CUZ).

Mr Morten Chisenga

He is the Assistant Accountant at ECZ. He completed his studies on 30th June 2016 in Bachelor of Arts Business Studies and Finance from University of Greenwich, from United Kingdom (UK).



Mrs Edith K. Talimi

She is the Assistant Examinations Officer in the Examinations Administration Department at ECZ. She graduated on 25th November, 2016 with a Bachelor of Arts with Education from the University of Zambia (UNZA).



The Council, Management and Staff of the ECZ join hands to congratulate the five Officers for their deserved achievements. We wish them the best and God's continued favour.

Congratulations!!!

Eight (8) Employees Awarded during 2016 Labour Day

By Fidelis M. Makala and Nicolas Nkhuwa

The best performers in 2016 were acknowledged and honoured during the Labour Day Awards Celebrations that took place on 24th June 2016 at the ECZ Offices in Lusaka. Council staff from various departments of ECZ were recognized and appreciated for specific achievements, dedication to work, quality work output, exemplary behavior among other attributes that saw the ECZ attain its Strategic

objectives. Other scoring performance indicators were Accountability, Efficiency, Integrity, Confidentiality, Transparency, Teamwork, Competence and Innovation.

There were four (4) award Categories for the 2016 Labour Day;

- i. Long Service
- ii. Most Hardworking Employee
- iii. Most Improved Employee

- iv. Most Innovative Employee

The Council, Management and Staff of ECZ Congratulates the recipients of the Awards for the 2016 Labour Day as listed hereunder:

Long Service

Mrs Patricia Nshimbi

She has been dedicated to work and exhibited excellent levels of Integrity in the discharge of her duties.



Mr Saul Shimbi

He is a hardworking and experienced Council employee. He is also efficient and works with minimal supervision. His commitment to duty is exceptional.



Most Hardworking Employee

Mr Joseph Mukunka

He has been instrumental in maintaining a good working condition of ECZ machinery. He is also innovative, a team player and always available to resolved challenges user face with various equipment in the Council.



Dr Charity M. Kombe

Her integrity, exposure, knowledge, team work and commitment to duty are remarkable. She has provided valuable input and leadership in research and Test development.



Most Improved Employee

Mr Mulako Mukenani

He is a hardworking and proficient Council employee. He is reliable and committed to duty. His expertise has greatly added value to the Council.



Mr John Chola

He is dependable and hardworking. Mr Chola was appointed as Assistant Examinations Officer from Security Officer. He works with minimal supervisor and is able to plan his work effectively.



Most Innovative Employee

Mr Smart Milambo

His appointment as Head Driver has improved the operations of the Council especially in the transport section where he has ensured the safety and road worthiness of Council Vehicles and Comfort of all employees who use the vehicles.



Mr Menny Nachibinga

He has been instrumental in providing specialised skills to the Council. His experience and knowledge has benefited the Council greatly.



The Council, Management and Staff wish to congratulate the following Officers on their appointments:



Name:
Mr Kunda Kuku
New Appointment:
Service Centre Manager
Location:
ECZ Service Centre - Kitwe
Date of Appointment:

Previous Position:
Senior Examinations Officer in charge of Grade 12 Examinations



Name:
Mrs Prisca Michelo Mgogo
New Appointment:
Stenographer
Location:
ECZ Service Centre - Lusaka
Date of Appointment:

Previous Position:
Typist



Name:
Mrs Dorothy K. Katuta
New Appointment:
I.T Officer
Location:
ECZ Service Centre - Kitwe
Date of Appointment:
12th October, 2016
Previous Position:
Computer Operator



Name:
Mrs Agness M. Manyando
New Appointment:
Senior Records Officer
Location:
ECZ Service Centre - Kitwe
Date of Appointment:
12th October, 2016
Previous Position:
Senior Typist



Name:
Mike Hatembo
New Appointment:
Analyst Programmer
Location:
ECZ Headquarters
Date of Appointment:
09th December, 2016
Previous Position:
Programmer

FAREWELL

The ECZ Bid Farewell to.....



Mrs Jacqueline Chikwama

She separated from ECZ as Council Secretary on 12th December, 2016. What is sad is how much we will miss the congenial experience of working with her. She will be remembered for her great contribution and leadership in ensuring the ECZ successfully attains its strategic objectives as we pursue the vision to be 'an examining board of excellence'.

TRANSFERS

Mr Sepiso Namakando

He was transferred to ECZ Kitwe Service Centre on 12th October 2016 as Security Officer, the position he held prior to his transfer. Mr Namakando has continued to work above self and has proved to be reliable and dedicated to his work. Management and Staff of ECZ wish him the best in his new location.



Mr Eugene Siloka

He was transferred to the ECZ Kitwe Service Centre on 12th October 2016 as Driver, the position he held prior to his transfer. Mr Siloka is very hard working and dedicated to work. Management and Staff of ECZ wish him the best in his new location.



Mr Moffat Mwale

He was transferred to ECZ Kitwe Service Centre as Assistant Examinations Officer, the position he held prior to his transfer. Mr Mwale is a dependable and hardworking employee. Management and staff of ECZ wish him the best in his new location.



PHOTO FOCUS



The Permanent Secretary-Ministry of General Education (2nd from right) during the receipt of examination materials at the ECZ main offices in Lusaka



ECZ Members of Staff pose for a photo after the successful launch of the Kitwe Service Centre



Some of the ECZ Delegates at the 42nd IAEA Conference in Cape Town, South Africa



A member of Staff explains the Service offered by ECZ



ECZ Staff During the 2016 International Trade Fair in Ndola



ECZ Officers during preparations to open the Service Centre in Kitwe

Members Elect Two Trustee for ECZPTS



Returning Officer - Mrs S. Zimba Announcing Results after the close of voting and counting of votes

On Friday 09th December 2016, ECZ members of staff belonging to the Examinations Council of Zambia Pension Trust Scheme (ECZPTS) queued up to elect two Trustees to serve on the Trustees Board. This came after the positions fall vacant following the expiration of the tenure of Trusteeship of two that were serving on the Board of Trustees as member elected Trustees.

The elections had three nominees namely; Mr Chifwenge Chibambo, Mr Boscow Mubita and Ms Mwinga Sichula. Mr C. Chibambo and Mr B. Mubita were recontesting their Trusteeship while Ms M. Sichula was standing for the first time. After the close of the polls by the Returning Officer, votes were counted and results were as follows; Ms M. Sichula polled 57 votes and Mr C. Chibambo polled 42 votes while Mr B. Mubita got 40 votes. Since the elections were to elect two Trustees, the polls went in favour of Ms M.



Candidates celebrate to victory after announcement of election results

Sichula and Mr C. Chibambo as two newly elected trustees to the Board.

Other Trustees on the Board are Mrs Namwandi Ndhlovu (Chairperson and employer elected), Mr Harvesto Mwandila (Employer elected), Mr Pritchard Haboongo (employer elected), Mr Fidelis M. Makala (employer elected), Mr Dominic Kangwa (employee elected) and Mr Nicolas Nkhuwa (employee elected).

The ECZPTS is an occupational Pension Scheme for ECZ employees only and is superintended over by this board of Trustees representing both the employees and the employer. The full board of Trustees is made up of eight (8) Trustees.

Trustees are called upon to manage the affairs of the scheme diligently to its growth and benefit of the members.



Scheme Members Que up to Vote

ECZ Commemorate 2016 National Library Week

By Milimo Mweemba

National library week is an event organised by Ministry of General Education in conjunction with Zambia library Services and, Library and information association of Zambia. The event takes place every year presenting an opportunity for institutions and organisations to promote library and information services to the community. During this event institutions exhibit information sources and services to members of the general public.

This event is globally commemorated on different dates in different countries. 2016 event was a success just like the previous ones though this year there was more to talk about the event. Institutions that participated includes; National archives of Zambia, Ndola city council, Zambia Revenue Authority, Zambia police, Ministry of Health HQ, Ministry of General Education HQ, Zambia education publishing house, Priya education solution, Plan international,

Energy regulation board, UNESCO, Lubuto library partners in Zambia, Ministry of Mines, Kwame Nkuluma university, Auditor general, Road transport and safety agency (RATSA), Mansa trades, Muflarila municipal Council, University of Zambia and Gatsen publishers.

National library week does not only promote information accessibility and awareness but also helps to revamp and actualise literacy skills among pupils. As a result of this, schools organised reading and spelling competitions for grade 5, 6 and 7. On an interesting part there was an event that stunned participants when some pupils from selected schools in Mansa started reading in Chinese and interpreting into English, it left many with dropped jaws wondering what was happening while others thought it was comedy when in actual sense it was exhibition of literacy skills acquired by pupils in a foreign language.

As for examinations Council of Zambia it was an opportunity to disseminate information

that helps to answer questions that arise from the services offered by Examinations Council of Zambia. We also distributed 2014 National Assessment Survey Reports for grade 5 to all 11 district education secretary boards (DEBS), Luapula provincial minister, Teachers, and pupils. The provincial library also received ECZ information resources and we encouraged them to open an ECZ section in their library where the public can have access to ECZ information with easy access.

The public appreciated that information was at their fingertip and this will help them to know the prerequisites before visiting Examinations Council of Zambia. Participants in their own remarks appreciated our information resources and services. Expect more For 2017 National library week which is likely to be held in either Kasama in Northern Province or Chipata in eastern province. We encourage you to visit ECZ stand so that you don't miss out on information you need so much just like breathing itself.

Mpika District Earmarked for Third ECZ Service Centre

By Nicolas Nkhuwa

In a bid to improve service delivery and bring Council services closer to our clients, the Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ) has embarked on a decentralisation programme to open up service centres around the country.

The ECZ plans to open a service centre in Mpika District of Muchinga Province after it recently opened another one in Kitwe District of the Copperbelt Province. The plan was endorsed by the Minister of General Education – Dr Dennis M. Wanchinga during a familiarisation tour of the ECZ Offices in Lusaka on Wednesday, 16th November, 2016.

"Management has assured me of their plan to open up a service centre in Mpika District to decongest the Lusaka Service Centre" he said when he addressed Journalists from various media house who came to cover the tour. This initiative will help in reducing the distances people have to travel in order to access Council services.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

The ECZ has opened a Service Centre in Kitwe located at Plot No. 6508 Four C Road, off Jambo Drive, Riverside near the Copperbelt University.

You can translate foreign results to the **Zambian Standard** at the Examinations Council of Zambia.

The 2016 July GCE Examinations were the last to be conducted under the old curriculum

You can now call **8383 ECZ Toll Free Line** to make general enquiries and report all any suspected case of malpractice.

ECZ Gets a Seat at the 6th Annual Mobiles for Education Alliance International Symposium in Washington, DC

By Samson M. Shiwanwa



The Examinations Council of Zambia participated at the 6th Annual mEducation Alliance International Symposium that was held from 18th to 20th October 2016, in Washington, DC at the United States Institute of Peace. ECZ was participating for the first time at this event that attracted over 200 leading donor organizations, private sector, NGO, ICT4E researchers, project innovators, and key policymakers from around the world engaged in the field of technologies and education to deepen knowledge exchange and collaboration for sharing and scaling project impact.

The overall theme for this year's Symposium was "From Innovation to Impact" and featured selected projects and initiatives that have and for which there is already a compelling case for impact (e.g., significant increase in data collection, mPayments), particularly in lower resource and/or developing country context.

The Mobiles for Education (mEducation) Alliance is committed to reducing barriers to access appropriate, scalable, and low-cost mobile technologies to help improve learning outcomes in formal and non-formal education across all levels, especially in low-resource and developing country contexts. In this regard, the Alliance is committed to an ethical and holistic approach to understanding the impacts, accessibility and inclusivity of mobile technologies in education. By focusing on mobile solutions for the full continuum of basic knowledge and skills acquisition, the Alliance will be able to identify a set of common needs that can also be applied to a wide variety of other educational areas.

The Alliance is committed to supporting the identification and applications of mobile technologies that can be effectively leveraged to address pressing educational issues including: literacy, appropriate educational content development and dissemination, system strengthening (such as education data for decision making), accessibility for learners with disabilities, professional development for educators, and workforce development.

In partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ) nominated Mr. Samson Shiwanwa to attend the symposium. Mr. Shiwanwa was given a slot in the event programme under a Plenary Panel on National ICT4E Partnerships. His discussion areas included:

- issues characterising successful national ICT4E partnerships, and how these partnerships have a lasting impact on educational outcomes
- some of the partnerships ECZ has so far engaged in

In response to the characteristics of successful national ICT4E partnerships, having a favourable policy environment was identified as a key area. Zambia was

acknowledged as having taken steps in the right direction as key strategies and policies were already in place to support such partnerships. Specific strategies identified included The 'Vision 2030 National Strategy' document broadly which outlines the country's aspiration to become a prosperous middle income country by 2030. The country's ICT vision is embedded in this document as "A Zambia transformed into information and knowledge based society supported by increased access to ICTs by all citizens by 2030."

As to how to make sure that these partnerships had a lasting impact on educational outcomes, it was observed that capacity building was required and key for personnel on the ground as well as at the central level. It was also imperative to ensure that ICTs be embedded in the teacher training curricula. With regard to capacity building, it was suggested that more personnel be trained to have a greater pool of personnel with required skills as retention was usually an issue due to government employees' movement.

Regarding some recent partnerships ECZ has engaged in include the partnership between the ECZ and USAID, Research Triangle Institute (RTI) in 2014 which resulted in capacity building for personnel and successful implementation of the first ever National Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA). Equipment used during this exercise was handed over to the ECZ. Another notable partnership is that between ECZ and Zambia Education and Research Network (ZAMREN) which has seen ECZ acquire and maintain high speed internet at an affordable fee.

It is envisaged that participation in such international engagements like the mEducation Alliance Symposium and knowledge acquired therefore, will surely propel the ECZ to greater heights of knowledge and awareness.



Your Privacy and Social Networking

By Samson M. Shiwanwa



'If you feel like someone is watching you, you're right. If you're worried about this, you have plenty of company. If you're not doing anything about this anxiety, you're just like almost everyone else.' (Bob Sullivan, 2011).

The use of social media has been on the increase in the recent past. Popular social networking sites in Zambia include Facebook, Twitter, and Linked In. Other popular sites in use worldwide include MySpace, Orkut, Google Plus, etc. A recent entry into social networking is WhatsApp which is mainly a social messaging application and also allows users to display profile pictures and put up status updates.

A major concern about these social networking sites is the privacy of the users. Most of these sites allow users to publish personal information such as date of birth, residential address, email addresses, phone numbers, current location, relationship statuses, etc. Such information, when landed in wrong hands can cause social networking users serious problems such as identity theft, abuse, stalking, etc.

Social networking sites collect private information this information is often collected in a very casual manner making it seem as if it's really nothing when it is really something. Social networking sites will, for

instance, ask you to allow them to access your email address in order to help you find friends easily. This in actual sense implies allowing a third party application to read and access your email details and use those to find the people already signed up to the social site and suggest them to you. This may not be a good idea as you may not want everyone in your contacts to be associated with your social life. It is also not good because the third party application now has your details and it could potentially sell or share your details with others which puts you at risk. Remember that your email could be associated with other important systems such as online banking or other work related accounts.

Beware of Social Dangers

Most of our time nowadays is spent online. Social networking has brought us together and seems to have enriched our personal lives and business relationships. However, wherever computer users are, so are the bad guys. Cybercriminals flock to social sites, seeing an opportunity to steal personal information, spread malware for future attacks and defraud unsuspecting users.

Below are just some of the privacy dangers social media users are confronted with today: Facebook Likejacking: using intriguing posts often referencing current events to trick users into clicking on a malicious or phishing

links. The result is often a compromised account as third party apps may begin to secretly control the users' profile in stealth mode.

Rogue apps: which could lead to spam, phishing or malware via Facebook. These in some cases end up having access to your social media account and starts posting to your public profile things you may not very well agree with. The owner of the account may not even see such posted content.

Facebook Chat attacks: These usually spread malware via unsolicited links and promote phishing apps and lead to compromised user accounts.

Simple steps that could save you from being exploited

- Think before you click: Think before you click on any link or before you accept any friend request. They could be very tempting but resist the temptation and put your head first
- Think before you accept: Think before you accept any suggestion or agreement you are presented with on any website.
- Think before you respond: Think before you respond to private messages, especially unsolicited ones. It could be a trap

So be very careful as you go about social networking.

"Children must be taught how to think, not what to think"

~ Margaret Mead

"Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think"

~ Albert Einstein

Benefits Of Good Record Keeping

By Mwamba Lesa



Picture by Michael & Christa Richert

Just as history is important to us all by helping us to understand the past so that we can predict the future, good record keeping in an Organisation is vital. Keeping good records helps to ensure that the organization runs efficiently and effectively as well as complying with legal requirements. The memory of the any institution is in its records.

How then should records be kept and who is responsible? First and foremost, any organisation should have a record keeping system. This involves having an office set up

for this purpose, personnel to manage the records and a proper filing system. Secondly, all employees in an organisation are responsible for keeping records. Records of daily transactions should be kept in order to have easy retrieval of information whenever need arises.

Poor record keeping hampers on decision making. When records are kept in a manner that is not easy to retrieve, certain decisions that depend on reference to specific sets of information cannot be made. This therefore slows down processes in an institution. Imagine a situation in which employee data

is not properly stored. The results would be disastrous.

A proper record keeping system can indicate past trends in an organization's effective operation. This historical data can be used to answer specific questions about the change in the organization over time and can make a difference between success and failure.

Good records minimize loss of knowledge and ensure business continuity especially where there is staff turnover [rate at which employees leave the organization]. Former staff takes their memories with them and without records new staff is unable to fully understand past practices. Memories are moreover notoriously unreliable within the passage of time and you need good records to recall past actions and to make good decision.

Institutional memory often becomes background data for future management decisions and planning. Records are required for accountability purposes; they provide evidence of actions and decision taken in a day to day running of the institution. They document compliance or non-compliance with laws, rules, and procedures. They also provide the means by which to hold people accountable. Without records, institution cannot adequately account for their actions and decisions.

You are challenged to check yourself as an individual or employee on the subject of good record keeping.

Better Grades at School and in an Exam Awaits You

By Darius Mukangwa

Getting good grades at school and in an exam seems to be an issue of worry for many school going children even adults. But how can this be dealt with?

First and foremost, you need to THINK positive! Don't set yourself up for disaster by thinking that you're simply not capable of improving. When beset with negative thoughts about your abilities, replace them with POSITIVE THOUGHTS. Be aware of your weaknesses and KNOW YOUR STRENGTHS. What are your strengths? If you can't think of them, why not ask a supportive person such as your teacher, lecturer or your parents those will help you to identify your strengths

and to make the most of them.

Secondly, you need to cultivate good STUDY HABITS. There's no shortcut to success at school. Sooner or later, you have to study. Granted, that very word might have an unpleasant ring to it. However, study is beneficial. In fact, with a little effort, you may find it ENJOYABLE. To cultivate good study habits, you will need to organize your TIME.

Remember, study should be a PRIORITY. True, the Bible says that there's "a time to laugh" and "a time to skip about." (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4; 11:9) So, like most youths, you probably want to leave some time for recreation. But Ecclesiastes 11:4 warns: "He that is watching the wind will not sow seed; and he that is looking at the clouds will not reap."

What lesson do we learn from that? Don't PROCRASTINATE. You won't get important work done. Study first, play second. Don't worry, you can find time for both!

Just as lifting weights can build your muscle, good study habits can strengthen your performance at school.

Lesson: Think positive, know your strengths and cultivate good study habits. Organise your time and make studying your priority. You will enjoy this. And hey, do not say I will do it tomorrow! Procrastination is the mother of all delays.

Reference: <http://www.jw.org/en/bible-teachings/family/teenagers/ask/failing-school/>

ECZ Successfully conducts 2016 pretesting exercise across the Country

By Dr. Charity M. Kombe and Boniface Lisuba



The Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ) successfully conducted its 2016 pretesting of examination items in over 100 schools across the country in the month of October 2016.

What is pretesting?

Pretesting involves testing draft examination questions or items on subjects (learners) from the target population before they are used in the final examinations.

Why pretest?

Pretesting is a vital stage in the ECZ examination development process. Pretesting or trialing of examination items with students before they are used in examinations is done to ensure:

- our exams are accurate and fair, with each individual item pitched at the right level.
- test content is appropriate and that people from all backgrounds and characteristics can do equally well.

Pretesting therefore gives guidance on what items need to be reviewed or eliminated from the examination. The exercise is a part of the Council's commitment to provide quality, accurate and reliable examinations. This is in line with its vision and mission of becoming 'An examining body of excellence' as well as its mission to "Efficiently conduct

assessments and award certificates of comparable international standards'.

What is the target examination level?

Currently, the Council conducts the pretesting exercise at Grade 7 and 9 levels.

What is the target population?

The draft examination questions are administered to Grade 7 and 9 learners, both male and females in rural and urban schools in all the ten provinces of Zambia.

When is it conducted?

Pretesting is usually done in the third term of the school calendar around September and October annually when learners would have covered most, if not all the content of the syllabus; and are therefore basically ready for the examination.

What subjects are pretested?

All the examinable subjects at Grade 7 and 9 levels are pretested. In the 2016 exercise, a total of three (3) pretest papers per examinable subject at Grade 7 level were exposed to learners. The subjects included the following: Social Studies, Special Paper I, Special Paper II, Creative and Technology Studies, English Language, Mathematics, Integrated Science and all the Zambian Languages (Chinyanja, Chitonga, Icibemba, Kiikaonde, Lunda, Luvale and Silozi).

What will happen after pretesting?

Using a software called FAIM, item analysis will be conducted and statistical data provided for each item. The data generated will allow ECZ staff to construct accurate and fair examinations with the appropriate content.

Highlights of the 2016 Pretesting Exercise

During the pretesting exercise, ECZ staff met different individuals and learnt many lessons. Worth reporting is the story shared by the ECZ team that was assigned to Chimpumfi Primary School, a school located in one of the remotest parts of Luano District. There, the team met Mr Benson Bwale, the Head of the school who was awarded by the Provincial education Officer (PEO) for Central Province for being 'The Most Innovative Teacher'.

In his own words, Mr Bwale explained that he was awarded for 'being innovative by making use of the unemployed or undeployed teachers and trained teachers to help in the smooth running of the schools instead of waiting for the government to improve the staffing levels of the school'. He added that 'with the help of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA), the school paid the said teachers an allowance for their services.' His school was also recognized as the cleanest school in the province.

Zambia Successfully Conduct PISA-D Field Trial

By Shadreck Nkoya



The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the International Contractors for Programme for International Student Assessment for Development (PISA-D) have congratulated Zambia and ECZ in particular for successfully conducting the field trial of this international student assessment programme. In their message dated 27th October, 2016, the OECD also urged Senegal the other African country participating in the project to also have a successful field trial before the end of November. The field trial was conducted in Zambia in 53 sampled schools across the country targeting learners who were born between 1st June, 2000 and 31st May, 2001. The PISA-D is age specific in terms of target population which makes it very robust in terms of school and student

sampling, survey operations and adaption of international tests, questionnaires, manuals and forms.

The PISA for Development initiative launched by the OECD and its partners aims to encourage and facilitate PISA participation by interested and motivated low- and middle-income countries. It builds capacity for managing large-scale student learning assessment and using the results to support policy dialogue and decision making in participating countries of Cambodia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Senegal and Zambia. PISA-D also contributes to the monitoring and achievement of the Education Sustainable Development Goal, which emphasises quality and equity of learning outcomes for children, young people and adults.

Every three years, some 80 countries and economies collaborate to compare how well their school systems prepare young people for life and work. The framework for these comparisons is an international assessment of the knowledge and skills of 15-year-old students known as PISA, the Programme for International Student Assessment. PISA does not just examine whether students have learned what they were taught, but also assesses whether students can creatively and critically use what they know. While such international comparisons are never easy or perfect, they show what is possible in education, they help governments to see themselves in comparison to the education opportunities and results delivered by other education systems, and they help governments to build effective policies and partnerships for improving learning outcomes.

As the number of countries joining PISA increases, PISA evolves to successfully cater for a larger and more diverse group of participants. The OECD along with technical and development partners launched the PISA for Development (PISA-D) initiative to support evidence-based policy making globally and offer universal tools in monitoring progress towards the Education Sustainable Development Goal.

Participating countries, Cambodia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Senegal and Zambia, were invited to join the project based on their experience and interest in large-scale assessment and the support of development partners.



The Fruit of Paradise

By Meldah M. Malungo



Picture by: Hernan Herrero

Grape fruit often referred to as the “fruit of paradise” is rich in Vitamin A, carotene and lycopene. The fruit has a slightly thick and tough skin than that of oranges. The fruit is very juicy and acidic varying in colours ranging from white, pink and red.

The grape fruit has a lot of vitamin c that help to combat the formation of free radicals known to cause cancer. In addition, it has high fiber and low calories that protect against serious diseases like heart diseases, diabetes, cancer of the stomach, bladder, prostate, colon, esophageal and breast. The powerful combination of potassium, lycopene and choline help to maintain a healthy heart and lowering blood pressure relax, and lessening the heart attacks and strokes. Furthermore, vitamin C, B, B6, and E provide good and regular nourishment for the body leading to the strong immunity system.

Furthermore, Grape fruit consumption helps to reduce kidney stones. Its rich nutritional content helps to prevent the formation of cysts and stones and reduce swelling in the kidneys that is caused by fluid retention. Drinking the juice on a regular basis i.e. a liter of grapefruit juice daily would help prevent the formation of kidney cysts.

Urinary Disorders are very common in our society and the consumption of the grapefruit helps to fight such infections. The fruit contains flavonoid that helps the body to fight off infections and keep the body safe from illness and diseases. Moreover, Grapefruit juice is quite rich in potassium and vitamin C, making it one of the best treatments for reduced urination that is often caused by liver, kidney or heart problems. Eating a grapefruit every day or drinking grapefruit juice daily provides immunity against cardiovascular diseases.

The Grapefruit is a liver cleanser. It has a number of liver detoxifying and cleansing agents like antioxidants and phyto nutrients called limonoids. These help to excrete toxics from the liver by making them more water soluble. Grapefruit on the other hand contains naringenin which causes the liver to burn fat rather than store it and the high enzymes in the grape fruit help to cut down on fat thereby promoting weight loss. Eating one grapefruit a day will help you to regulate your body and correct weight problems because the fruit helps to burn stored fat.

The grape fruit is good for skin care due to vitamin C, A and other nutrients that stimulate the production of skin collagen. These nutrients help to fight against skin damage, reduce wrinkles, renew damaged skin, treat skin pigmentation and improve skin texture. The potassium present in the grapefruit provides a protective shield against UV rays.

The hair also benefits from Grapefruit as adequate consumption of Vitamins is very important for health and growth of hair. Vitamin C has strong antioxidant properties that helps to enhance the immunity system and strengthens the connective tissues within hair follicles. Grapefruit seed extracts can help to fight the bacteria on the scalp by helping to soothe the skin and ward off the dandruff. This helps to get rid the follicles debris and encourage new hair to grow. It as well helps to boosts blood circulation in the scalp which promotes hair grow.

Pink and red grapefruits have huge amounts of beta carotene that are essential to keep the eyes healthy and improve the vision. The fruit contains good level of Vitamin A and flavonoid antioxidants such as naringenin and naringin and is also a good source of lycopene, beta carotene, xanthin and lutein. These anti-oxidant properties are good for vision. One grapefruit a day is enough to

maintain the vision and fight the ravages of eye strain and ageing.

The salicylic acid contained helps to prevent arthritis by breaking down the body's calcium which builds up the cartilage of joint paints which may lead to arthritis.

Drink grapefruit juice along with apple cider vinegar for best results.

Respiratory problem such as asthma, chronic cough, shortness of breath and runny nose are prevented by the consumption of Grape fruits as a result of Vitamin C content. . Vitamin C is also vital for healthy gums, which helps keep our teeth firmly in place. Eating two grapefruits a day can prevent and even reverse damage caused by gum disease. The high water levels and fiber content helps to prevent and promote regularity for a healthy digestive track.

Caution:

1. Despite abundant benefits of the grape fruit, it should be consumed moderately as some studies suggest that consuming grapefruit in large quantities may cause melanoma (the deadliest form of skin cancer).
2. Those that are on special medication should be very careful taking medicine and consuming grapefruit at the same time because some chemicals in grape fruit such as naringin and other fewer compounds can negatively interact with various drugs and cause harm to the organs. It is advisable to consult your doctor whilst on medication

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CARING FOR YOUR EYES

.....as ECZ Employees Get 2 Days free Eye Checkup

By Evans Zulu



Most people both the young and the old have not done much when it comes to caring for their eyes. For them it's like business as usual.

The EXAMINATIONS Council of Zambia employees were treated to a 2 day free eyes screening by Vision Care Opticians and DR Agawal eyes Hospital. The eyes checkups were conducted on 28th July, 2016 by Dr Agwal Eye Hospital and Vision Care on 16th August, 2016 respectively.

Having healthy eyes is important as they help us see the world to be what it is and be able to understand our surroundings as we go about our daily work activities. Getting regular eye screening and maintaining a healthy diet are just some of the ways to take care of our eyes.

The work we do and pretty much everything about our lives would be affected if our eyes are not in good shape. Eyes need vitamins like omega 3 fatty acids, vitamins A and C just to mention a few. Eat foods like eggs, fish and beef just to make sure you do not miss out on the importance nutrients for your eyes. Carrots, corn, tomatoes and much of colourful vegetables are good for your eyes.

It is imperative that you take time to care for your eyes in the best possible way to avoid any problems. You too should have your eyes checked.



"Educating the mind without Educating the heart is no education at all"

~ Aristotle

"The best teachers are those who show you where to look, but don't show tell you what to see"

~ Alexandra K. Trenfor

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

By Benjamin Kasweka

Q. Hello ECZ? I would like to find out if people that will be writing GCE next year 2017 will write under the new curriculum. If so I would like to find out what the charges are. I will appreciate your response.

Ans: We are pleased to inform you that the 2016 GCE examination was the last one to be written under the old curriculum. Therefore, the 2017 GCE Examination will be administered under the new curriculum. You are further advised to visit any Book World Africa Store and buy yourself copies of Examination Syllabus. For more details, you can get in touch with the school (s) near you.

Q. I would like to find out if the ECZ Kitwe Branch can combine two Certificates to make one Grade Twelve (12) Certificate after selecting those subjects you passed with good grades from the Grade Twelve School Certificate and how much does it cost. Thank you

Ans: With the opening of service centres in Lusaka and Kitwe, it therefore means that all services offered by ECZ have now been moved to these service centres. The public is there for notified that the Kitwe and Lusaka service centres are offering all the services that have previously been offered at the Headquarters and that no services will be offered to the public from the ECZ HQ. You are further advised that ECZ does not combine results for School Certificate and GCE but instead we combine GCE results for candidates who sat under GCE more than once and obtained five credits or better under different sittings. If you got GCE results during the time you sat for School certificate examinations, we can combine your results with the other GCE results you got after resitting. The cost currently is K1,000.00.

Q. I completed my Grade 12 in 2006 but I have not collected my Grade 12 Certificate. I want to find out if I can collect it from ECZ?

Ans: It is gratifying to note that you have remembered to collect your Certificate. However, be advised that once certificates are printed, ECZ dispatches them to various school so that candidates can collect Certificates from their respective school. We do not keep certificates at ECZ once they are printed. The 2006 Grade 12 Certificates have already been dispatched to schools. You are encouraged to visit your former school and collect your certificate.

Q. When are you starting registration of candidates for those who want to write under GCE in 2017?

Ans: Registrations for examinations starts in November every year and ends in February the following year. So, all those who wish to register for Grade 7, 9, Grade 12 and GCE exams should contact the school near them for further guidance. Be advised that registration for GCE examination depends on the availability of space in accredited GCE Centres. The earlier you register the better.

Q. what can we do as a Centre, we all wrote mathematics and our results are showing malpractice.

Ans: If your result slip shows 'Malpractice' then it means that your results have been withheld pending investigations. All schools that have their candidates results withheld as such are usually written to. As a school or a pupil, there is nothing you can do when your results have been withheld until such a time when the final resolution by ECZ committee that looks into malpractice cases seats to consider whether your results be nullified or released depending on the malpractice evidence presented before the committee. The committee seats quarterly and the cases of malpractice are considered in the quarter that precedes the released examination results. When the results are nullified, the affected candidates cannot seat for another exam until 2 years and can only seat as a GCE. Depending on the resolution of the committee, all affected candidates have a right to appeal within 30 days and after which the resolutions of the committee holds. If the evidence is not admissible and is dismissed by the committee, the withheld results (showing as malpractice) shall be released immediately and sent to the schools.

PUZZLE

By Nicolas Nkhuwa

P	A	R	T	I	C	I	P	A	T	E	D	A	D	V	I	S	E	D
D	K	E	M	A	I	L	E	A	C	C	E	S	S	U	N	D	E	R
E	I	I	A	E	A	S	K	I	P	Q	A	D	C	M	U	P	E	B
A	O	B	T	J	F	L	V	C	Q	U	E	R	I	E	S	L	F	L
D	E	J	O	W	D	R	I	V	E	N	S	B	L	E	N	O	L	D
L	E	A	L	C	E	N	T	R	E	F	E	L	O	C	A	T	E	D
I	R	M	L	S	Y	Z	W	P	S	F	L	N	V	E	R	I	F	Y
N	F	B	P	K	P	R	O	V	I	N	C	E	S	S	L	A	S	T
E	C	O	N	F	E	R	E	N	C	E	N	T	R	I	E	S	E	Z
F	K	S	U	H	F	A	C	E	B	O	O	K	H	J	N	L	C	X
W	E	B	S	I	T	E	S	G	N	F	W	X	P	L	Y	B	M	E
Q	D	G	N	R	E	C	A	N	D	I	D	A	T	E	S	H	K	E

Instructions: Read the sentences below and Spot the Underlined Words from the Puzzle.

Remember, as you read and work out the puzzle, you will get important information about the Examinations Council of Zambia that concerns YOU!

- On 14th October 2016, the Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ) has opened a new Service Centre in Kitwe. The Service Centre is envisioned to serve our clients from Northwestern, Copperbelt, Luapula and Central Provinces respectively.
- The Kitwe Service Centre is located at Plot 6508 Four C Road, off Jambo Drive, Riverside.
- You can now access all Council Services at our Kitwe Service Centre.
- ECZ participated at the 42nd International Association for Educational Assessment – IAEA Conference held at the Westin Hotel in Cape Town – South Africa from 21st to 27th August 2016.
- The 2016 GCE Examination was the last one to run under the old Curriculum.
- The deadline for resolving of queries for the 2016 examinations conducted by the ECZ is 31st May 2017.
- You can use the ECZ Facebook page, website, email or dial 8383 Toll Free line to interact with us or make general enquiries. The Toll Free line is available to Zamtel Subscribers only and it is absolutely free!
- All candidates sitting an examination are advised to verify their entries at their examination centre to avoid any omissions and errors. Ensure to verify the spelling of names, the subjects entered, date of birth, sex and other details within the period of registration.

ECZ DRIVERS Dominate at 2016 Toyota Zambia Hino Drivers Competition

By Joseph Mwanza

Picture courtesy: Toyota Zambia



The 2016 Toyota Zambia 'Driver of the Year Competition' saw drivers from different clients of Toyota Zambia operating Hino Trucks in their Fleets compete for cash prizes in the first, second and third place at the event.

The one day competition saw two ECZ drivers scooping 1st and 3rd Prizes for demonstrating splendid driving skills at the competition. Mr Mulako Mukenani got the 1st Prize while Mr Smart Milambo got the 3rd Prize.

The Competition was born after the HINO team at Toyota Zambia identified the need for a professional drivers training to assist truck fleet owners to maximize the benefits of owning and operating a HINO truck.

To this effect, Toyota Zambia has been organizing training sessions aimed at teaching the finer points to drivers in improving their truck driving skill that include driver health tips, proper driving techniques to improve fuel consumption (also known as eco-driving), pre-trip inspections and safe driving techniques.

Participation in the competition was based on the outcome of a post-training written assessment. The drivers were put through their paces by assessing their driving skills in a simulated docking yard, a road driving test and a written theory assessment with the aim of awarding the overall winner with the '2016 HINO Driver of the Year' accolade.

Congratulations to Mr M. Mukenani and Mr S. Milambo



Mr M. Mukenani



Mr S. Milambo



WORLD VIEWS VS BIBLE WORLD VIEW

By James Banda

Most of us profess to be Christians. But what do we use as the basis of our decisions for our lives. Do we use the Bible? We call ourselves Christians but when we have to make decisions we make them based on the world views. Do you know that in the Bible believers never called themselves Christians? The name Christian was a nickname meant to ridicule them or expose them as fanatics of Christ to the public. Christians meant; 'tuma small Christs,' Christ like in behaviour, attitude, speech, conduct, or faith. So they used the name to mock the believers in Christ. They never called themselves Christians it was a mockery name given to them: tu yesu tunono!

Look at us today; we are even proud to call ourselves Christians; when in character, action, speech and nature there is nothing to show any likeness to Christ Jesus. If someone with a gun came to prosecute anyone calling themselves a Christian, how many would call themselves Christian? *'Here shoot me I'm Christian.'* *Would I? Would you?*

Okay No guns no threat to your lives! How do you run your family, church, work, community etc. Who do you depend on to make life's decisions? A lot of so called Christians wouldn't dare consult God or the Bible.

There four (4) world views which are commonly used today.

1. Materialism: What matters in life is to have money. No life without money. Everything works with money. Anything! See the fuel price has gone up. Everything is going to require more money.

TRUE. So let's make money, more money. And some think only making money is the decision to keep and practice. The economy controls us. Money is in control of our lives. Money has become our greatest pursuit in life. But be careful not to make it your god. An idol in your life. Every decision hovers over money.

2. Hedonism: Some of us it is pleasure. To be happy! Whatever thrills is good for us. Beer, food, sports, sex, etc Happiness is our goal in life. Feeling good, whatever feels good is good. Having fun! Anything wrong with that view? Well it matters what happens when you have the Pleasures, when you are driven only in life with what Thrills you. This is making pleasure your god in life. Is this all that matters in life for you?
3. Individualism: What I want comes first in life. It must be me first. I must satisfy myself first. I must have it my way. Self-seeking, Self-centered, Living for self. I am god! I got to do what I have to do. No responsibility in life but self-serving.

It is stupid to think about yourself only; Jesus taught us to deny self and to follow Him. Living for God and others. Deny yourself and live for God – you are designed for love (made in the image of God). Give yourself away for others – that's Love.

4. Socialism: Government should be in charge of everything. Should control everything. God created everything, not the Government. Government can't do everything. We people make government our god when we expect it to do everything for us. Government must make this; do this... Boma iyanganepe..... That is making Government a god. Because we think Government can give us everything. Any Government formed by anybody cannot give us everything.

God can give us everything. Government must protect freedom of people and orderliness, justice and must protect peace of the people.

People must give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar; and to God what belongs to God which is worship.

Greater loyalty to God

SUMMARY OF THESE COMMON WORLD VIEW

Resulted: crisis in schools, culture breakdown, corruption, controversy in courts, ignoring the Laws of God, conflicts in personal lives, confusion in church etc.

Biblical World View is in the Bible: Help the poor, Care for the sick, Truthfulness and fairness, Respect everyone, Love of God and people, Take care of the environment.

These are non-controversial Christians agree

But Christians view become Controversial

- Sanctity of Life (Bible against Abortion of life)
- Sanctity of sex (sex is only for marriage)
- Sanctity of Marriage (one man and one woman)

Where do you base your views?



Types of Examination Malpractices

