

2023 ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

ENGINEERING REGISTRATION COUNCIL

REPORT ON WORK DONE, ACHIEVEMENTS AND
CHALLENGES

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. Documents prepared
2. Members registered
3. Appointment of new mentors
4. Certificates issued
5. Continuing Professional Development
6. Challenges encountered and proposed solutions
7. Conclusions

DOCUMENTS PREPARED IN 2023

No.	Document	Status
1	Guidelines for Engineering Qualifying Examinations	Finalized
2	Report on Engineering Qualifying Examinations	Finalized
3	Guidelines for Graduate Engineers and Mentors	Finalized
4	Guidelines for Mentors Training Graduate Engineers	Finalized
5	Regulations for Fees for Professional Engineering Services	In draft form
6	Guidelines for Accreditation of Higher Engineering Programmes in Malawi	In draft form
7	Regulations for accepting engineers registered with Foreign Bodies	In draft form

DOCUMENTS PREPARED/REVIEWED SINCE MAY 2021

- Format for Main Registers of all Classes of Membership
- Format for Current Registers of all Classes of Membership
- General Membership Application Form
- Membership Application Form for the Class of Fellow
- Membership Application Form for the Class of Fellow for Applicants Registered as a Fellow by other Engineering Bodies
- Guidelines for Registered Mentors for Training of Graduate Engineers

DOCUMENTS PREPARED/REVIEWED SINCE MAY 2021 (cont'd)

- Notes for Guidance of Registered Graduate Engineers
- Training Records for Registered Graduate Engineers
- Agreement Form - Mentor & Graduate Engineer
- Annual report on Training
- Certificate of Completion
- Report on Engineering Qualifying Examination
- Notes for Guidance to Applicants, Proposers and Supporters for Registration of Technician Engineers and Engineering Technicians

MEMBERS REGISTERED IN 2023

Membership Category	Registered		Rejected		Unsuccessful PEQ Examination Results		Being Processed	
	Local	Foreign	Local	Foreign	Local	Foreign	Local	Foreign
Fellows	0	0	0	0	0		0	0
Professional Engineers	11	8	1	0	2	0	3	7
Graduate Engineers	341	1	0	0			100	86
Technician Engineers	91	0	0	0			14	0
Engineering Technicians	87	0	0	0			71	0
Craftspersons	54	0	0	0			104	0
Student Engineers	163	0	0	0			174	0

MEMBERS REGISTERED FROM 2021 TO 2023

Membership Category	Registered		Rejected		Unsuccessful PEQ Examination Results		Being Processed	
	Local	Foreign	Local	Foreign	Local	Foreign	Local	Foreign
Fellows	2	0	0	0			0	0
Professional Engineers	24	8	1	0	2	0	3	7
Graduate Engineers	341	1	0	0			100	86
Technician Engineers	100	0	0	0			14	0
Engineering Technicians	95	0	0	0			71	0
Craftspersons	74	0	0	0			104	0
Student Engineers	169	0	0	0			174	0

TOTAL REGISTERED MEMBERS

Membership Category	Registered
Fellows	2
Professional Engineers	201
Graduate Engineers	1,088
Technician Engineers	257
Engineering Technicians	237
Craftspersons	210

- New Certificates were designed and issued to all members registered in 2022-2023
- Annual practicing cards were also designed and issued to those who renewed their membership

NEWLY APPOINTED MENTORS

Field of Specialization	Number
Civil Engineering - Transportation	17
Civil Engineering - Water Supply	9
Civil Engineering Structures	6
Civil Engineering General	5
Geohydrology	1
Agricultural Engineering	6
Electrical Engineering	5
Mechanical Engineering	2
Total	51

The total number of Mentors is now 119.

OTHER CRITICAL TASKS UNDERTAKEN

- Conducted stakeholder consultations in all regions.
 - Emphasized on employers to adhere to the Act when recruiting.
- CPD guidelines were developed
 - Working on electronic management platform
 - Implementation of CPD will commence by January 2024

MEETINGS

ERC has held the following number of meetings:

May to June 2021 -	July to Sept 2021 -	11
Oct to Dec 2021 -	Jan to March 2022-	0
April to June 2022-	July to Sept 2022 -	8
Oct to Dec 2022 -	Jan to March 2023-	1
April to June 2023-	July to Sept 2023 -	4
Oct to Nov 2023 -		1

CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

- Number of mentors is low, making allocations a challenge, especially in mechanical and electrical engineering
 - ✓ The requirement for 7 years' post registration practice was reviewed to 5 years and appointed more mentors
- Financial constraints - ERC has not been implementing all its planned activities
 - ✓ As more graduates register, finances should improve.
- The Registrar who doubles as CEO for MEI is overwhelmed with work - consequently he is not supporting the ERC as quickly as expected
 - ✓ Capacity building of the Secretariat in progress

REGISTRATION A PREREQUISITE FOR PRACTICE

Registration is a prerequisite for practice,

Registration with the Institution must be done before practice

Section 25. (1) Save where this Act otherwise provides, a person shall not engage in the practice of engineering in Malaŵi, or hold himself out as being entitled so to do, unless the person is registered under this Act.

(2) A person who engages in the practice of engineering in contravention of subsection (1) commits an offence.

The Registration Council is maintaining, for each class or category of membership, a 'Main Register' and a 'Current Register'

The 'Main Register': in which is registered every person, whether resident in Malaŵi or not, who is registered under the MEI Act to practice engineering and whose registration has not been cancelled under the Act, [Ref. Sub-Section 26(6)(a)]

CODE OF CONDUCT

- **Part III of the Regulations (Sections 8 – 12):** present a Code of Conduct which persons registered under the MEI Act must comply with.
- **8. Primary obligations of persons registered under the Act:** A person registered under this Act shall:
 - (a) conduct himself in such a manner as to uphold the reputation of the profession
 - (b) discharge his duties with fairness and impartiality to the public, his employer and clients with efficiency, competence and confidentiality, without undue delay
 - (c) exercise care in the performance of his duties, including adherence to workplace safety obligations and responsibilities; and
 - (d) not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, corruption or misrepresentation.

CODE OF CONDUCT - continued

9. Competence and other considerations: A person registered under this Act shall:

- (a) only undertake work for the execution of which his training and experience have rendered him competent and employ only adequately qualified personnel as demanded by the task for which he is employed
- (b) maintain, develop and employ appropriate levels of knowledge and skills for the task for which he is employed;
- (c) refrain from, either personally or through the agency of another person, whether or not such person is in his employ, making or offering to make by way of commission or otherwise, payment or other consideration for the obtaining of professional employment;
- (d) not misrepresent data or its relative significance in any Malaŵi Engineering Institution report;

CODE OF CONDUCT - continued

- 9. Competence and other considerations: A person registered under this Act shall:
 - (e) not knowingly permit the publication or use of his data, reports, maps, or other professional documents for unlawful purposes;
 - (f) only express professional opinions and make statements that have a basis in fact or experience or accepted principles and on the basis of adequate knowledge and when required to give evidence with fairness and honesty without prejudice or discrimination;
 - (g) be fair and impartial in the provision of advice and judgement to an employer or any other party to an engineering assignment in which he is involved;
 - (h) attribute proper credit to others for their professional work or professional contribution and not misappropriate the professional work of others;

CODE OF CONDUCT - continued

- . Competence and other considerations: A person registered under this Act shall:
 - (i) not claim as his own, or suppress, work carried out and recommendations made by any other engineer nor alter work done by another engineer in such a way as to distort the latter's professional opinion;
 - (j) not undertake any duties or carry out any instructions of an employer or supervisor which involve making statements purporting to be his own but which are contrary to his *bona fide* professional opinion, and must not instruct any other engineer to do so;
 - (k) undertake to notify another engineer where, to his knowledge, the other engineer has prior appointment relating to any work he is being approached for possible appointment;
 - (l) be modest in scale and frequency, when advertising for his professional work as an engineer;
 - (m) not undercut when charging his clients; or
 - (n) not, in undertaking his professional activities, discriminate on any ground.

CODE OF CONDUCT - continued

- 10. Avoidance of unfair competition - A person registered under the Act shall build his reputation on merit and shall refrain from any form of unfair competition, including:
 - (a) use of a professional designation to which he has no entitlement;
 - (b) the offer of inducements to secure work or advancement;
 - (c) the undermining of another person registered under the Act with prior appointment relating to any work; or
 - (d) breach of the regulatory framework of engineering

CONCLUSIONS

ERC has made good progress on its functions in the past 2.5 years by developing a number of guiding documents critical for maintaining the reputation and professionalism of MEI.

ERC is currently working on the guidelines for accrediting engineering education/programmes.

GOD BLESS YOU

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION