

Dear Madam Chairperson

I write to you on behalf of the Hon. Yusuf Cassim MP.

The Hon. Cassim proposes that the Committee consider making the below amendments.

To clause 22, include an amendment to section 47(2) of the Act as follows:

“(2) The Minister must as soon as practicable, but not exceeding 60 days of receiving the report referred to in subsection (1), provide a copy of the report [referred to in subsection (1)] to the council concerned, table the report before the National Assembly for consideration by the relevant committee and publish such report in the *Gazette*.”

To clause 28, add a subsection (4) and (5) to section 49F, providing as follows:

“(4) Should an administrator’s term of office terminate for any reason, the administrator must, within a period determined by the Minister, but not exceeding 60 days, must report in writing to the Minister on:
(a) whether the mandate of the administrator set under section 49F was achieved, how it was achieved;
(b) whether any aspect of the mandate was not achieved, why it was not achieved and what should be done to achieve the mandate going forward;
(c) suggest appropriate measures and the reason why the measures are needed after the termination of the administrator’s term;
(d) on any other matter the Minister requests; and
(e) on any other matter the administrator deems relevant.

(5) The Minister must as soon as practicable, but not exceeding 60 days of receiving the report referred to in subsection (4):
(a) provide a copy of the report referred to the council concerned or an administrator replacing the outgoing administrator as the case may be;
(b) table the report before the National Assembly; and
(c) publish such report in the *Gazette*.”

It is our view that requiring a report to be produced by the administrator, and requiring the report of the administrator and the independent assessors to be tabled before parliament, gazetted and provided to the relevant council or administrator will strengthen accountability in the university system and empower councils, administrators, the Minister and parliament to make more informed decisions in the relevant circumstances. There is also no reason why the Minister cannot gazette, table and otherwise publish the report within 60 days of receipt of the report in question.

We trust the proposed amendment will receive due consideration by the Committee.

Yours faithfully

Wesley Timm