



NiNAS Impartiality Policy Statement

At NiNAS, impartiality is vital in the provision of accreditation services and is important in maintaining the confidence and trust of stakeholders. NiNAS is committed to adhere to the requirement of ISO/IEC 17011:2017-‘Conformity assessment – Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies’ that accreditation shall be undertaken impartially and the maintenance of impartiality is a priority in the conduct of NiNAS’ business.

It is the policy of NiNAS to operate in fair, unbiased and impartial manner and to eliminate or manage any potential conflicts of interests. One of the main mechanisms to achieve this is through the use of the Advisory Committee whose balanced membership of interested stakeholders ensures the fairness of NiNAS’ policy. Policies are reviewed to ensure they are non-discriminatory; procedures are written to reflect these policies to help ensure their application in a non-discriminating manner. NiNAS’ accreditation services are accessible to all bodies, irrespective of size or affiliation, whose operations include activities for which NiNAS’ accreditation services are available. Access is not conditional based on the size of the applicant, the number of applicants already in the programme, the affiliations of the organisation or the location of the organisation within the operational area of NiNAS.

NiNAS enters into contracts and agreements with individuals and organisations, and therefore by definition has established related bodies. NiNAS will not establish a relationship that threatens its impartiality and will continue to establish formal relationships, both at an individual and organisational level that will promote the application of NiNAS’ accreditation services in conformity with ISO/IEC 17011:2017 – *Conformity assessment – Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*. NiNAS assesses its relationships and potential relationships with a view to eliminating conflict of interest and maintaining confidentiality, objectivity and impartiality.

All NiNAS employees, members of Board of Trustees, Board of Directors and Advisory Committee, contractors and assessors commit to act in an objective and impartial manner, and to declare any actual or potential financial, commercial or other pressures that could compromise the accreditation process.

Celestine Okanya
DG/CEO, NiNAS

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