

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our first quarterly newsletter of 2026. This edition highlights our key activities, achievements, and initiatives carried out from January to March

Vision

To effect change in Tongan society whereby the needs of learners across post compulsory education and training (PCET) are at the centre of an open, responsive and integrated qualifications system.

Mission

To lead the implementation of the Tonga Qualifications Framework (TQF) in partnership with qualifications awarding bodies, Education and training providers so as other key stakeholders. TNQAB will ensure the quality and effectiveness of the TQF and that it benefits learners, the economy and society.

Appointment
of new CEO
for TNQAB -
Mr. Vili
maka
Foliaki



Launching of
new TNQAB
Website



HIGHLIGHTS



TNQAB 3rd Board Meeting 2026

L-R: Mr. Sione Lolohea (CEO-Tonga Statistics), Mr. Vili Maka Foliaki (CEO-TNQAB, Board-Secretary), Dr. Mo'ale 'Otunuku (Chairman, Minister of Education and Training), Dr. Robin Havea (Director, Tonga Campus, USP), Dr. Fotu Valeli Fisi'iiahi (CEO-Tonga Ministry of Public Enterprises), and Dr. Siaosi Maeakafa Jr



TNQAB Staff Photo 2026

Absent from photo - Halalotoangi Fonokalafi, Mele Fakahua, Uinimila Kakapu & Siniva Tangitau

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

TNQAB WEBSITE LAUNCH

TNQAB has launched its redesigned website, improving access to information for stakeholders and providers. The event was opened by His Excellency, Mr Brek Batley, the Australian High Commissioner to Tonga and attended by the CEO for Education, School Directors and senior officials. The reigning Miss Heilala, Patricia Lavula entertained the guests in this joyful event.

The TNQAB Office extends its sincere appreciation to the Tonga Australia Support Platform (TASP) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) for their generous support in funding this project.



Web launch group photo with His Excellency Brek Batley Australian High Commission, Center front row

TQF TRAINING WORKSHOP

Training was held for PCET providers and key stakeholders on the revised Tonga Qualifications Framework (TQF), helping them understand key changes and better align programme accreditation applications with required standards.



TQF Training Workshop group photo with Sione Lolohea (CEO Statistics) and Robin Havea (Director USP) Center front row

QUALIFICATION REVIEW

Productive discussion with Tupou Tertiary Institute (TTI) on the Qualification Quality Review (QQR) consistency process, held on Friday, 6 February 2026 at TTI. Present from TNQAB were Siosi Tapueluelu, Tupou Pasikala Fiu, and Tuukaunga Taulua, alongside the Dean of Academic Studies, Latu Mavae, and TTI representatives.



Qualification review with Siosi Tapueluelu, Tupou Pasikala Fiu, and Tuukaunga Taulua, alongside the Dean of Academic Studies, Latu Mavae, and TTI representatives



L-R: Mrs. Kolotina Laualuepa'alu, Mrs. Lapulou Tu'ipulotu, Mrs. Siniva Tangitau, Ms. Patricia Lavulo (Miss Heilala), Mr. Sione Hoelt, Sosina Lavulo - Roberts



Siale Jr Akauola during the presentation of the new TNQAB website



L-R: Mr Sione Lolohea (CEO Stats), Sofilisi Hingano (TIOE), Mr Robin Havea (Director for USP) during the TQF Training Workshop

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

APPOINTMENT OF NEW CEO

The TNQAB Office was very pleased to welcome **Mr. Vilimaka Foliaki** as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the Tonga National Qualifications and Accreditation Board, effective 29th January 2026.

Warmest congratulations to Mr. Foliaki on your well-deserved appointment!



Mr. Vilimaka Foliaki, Chief Executive Officer, TNQAB

TNQAB SOCIAL COMMITTEE HOSTS A LUNCHEON TO CELEBRATE THE APPOINTMENT OF TNQAB'S NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



PROCUREMENT WORKSHOP

TNQAB Staff Participate in Procurement Workshop Led by the Pacific Australia Skills (PAS)

The Tonga National Qualifications and Accreditation Board (TNQAB) staff participated in a Procurement Workshop held on 25 March 2026 at the Ministry of Education and Training Main Conference Room, at Havelu.



*Procurement Workshop led by Pacific Australia Skills
Presenter: Ms Rebekah Prole (PAS Regional Operations Manager)*

BUDGET PROPOSAL MEETING

TNQAB Consults Ministry of Education Finance Division on 2026–2027 Budget Proposal



*TNQAB (Left): Vilimaka Foliaki (CEO), Sela Falevai (Accountant), Halalotoangi Fonokalafi (PQO)
MET (Right): Kalolaine Moeaki (Deputy Director - Account Division) and MET Senior Official*

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

TNQAB 3RD BOARD MEETING FOR 2026

The 3rd Board meeting for the current year was held at 2pm on the 25th March 2025, at the TNQAB Corporate Office, Salote Road, Nuku'alofa. The meeting was chaired by the Hon Minister of Education, Dr. Mo'ale 'Otunuku. The meeting was well attended by the Board Directors, reflecting strong engagement and commitment



L-R: Mr. Sione Lolohea (CEO, Statistics), Mr. Vili Maka Foliaki (CEO, TNQAB), Dr. Mo'ale 'Otunuku (Minister, MET), Dr. Robin Havea (Director, USP Tonga Campus), Dr. Fotu Valeli Fisi'iiahi (CEO, MPE), and Dr. Siaosi Maekakafa Jr (Board Member)

TV PROGRAM

The National Qualification Division's first TV program for the year was recorded on the 25th of March, 2026. It focused on the completion of the review of the National Certificate in Sustainable Energy Level 1 and National Certificate in Sustainable Energy Level 2 qualification descriptors and unit descriptors.



Mr. Samiuela Matakaiongo (Principal Energy Planner, Department of Energy, Mele Fakahua (Senior Analyst, TNQAB) and Mr. Sosefo Tofu (Energy Specialist PCREEE)

IN-HOUSE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (PMS) TRAINING

One of our in-house training was Performance Management System (PMS) Training, held on 30th March 2026, at the TNQAB Conference Room. The training was conducted by Deputy CEO Mrs Pauline Moa which helped staff improved understanding and timely implementation of the PMS.



In house PMS Training presented by Mrs. Pauline Moa (DCEO TNQAB)

RETIREMENT ENTITLEMENT AWARENESS SESSION

The TNQAB conducted an in-house awareness session on the 31st March 2026 in collaboration with the National Retirement Benefit Fund (NRBF) to clarify staff entitlements under the national retirement scheme.



R-L: Letisia Moli (Finance Manager), 'Amelia Palei (Superannuation Officer), Kalolaine Paletu'a (Senior HR Officer)