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## Press release

## HEA RANKS AFRICA RESEARCH UNIVERSITY AS TOP UNIVERSITY IN ZAMBIA

The Higher Education Authority (HEA), a public institution in Zambia mandated to register and regulate Universities has ranked Africa Research University (ARU) as one of the top Universities qualified to offer upto doctorate level.

The HEA after its audit of Universities has classified ARU as one of the few Universities in Zambia that is qualified to offer programmes upto level ZQF 10 which is doctorate (PHD) level on Zambia Qualification framework.

This is contained in a letter dated January 31, 2022 by HEA Director General Prof. Stephen Simukanga to the Vice Chancellor of Africa Research University.

"Based on findings of the audit for each institution, Universities have been classified into four tiers which are ZQF7, ZQFB, 2QF9 and 2QF10 institution," reads the letter in parts. "In this view your institution can offer learning programmes leading to qualifications upto ZQF10."

This is the highest learning level.

And ARU Vice Chancellor Prof Malan said the classification is particularly important since it indicates formally that the HEA has inspected the university, audited its procedures and capacity, and found them on standard.

Prof Malan who is also the Chief Executive Officer and one of the founders of both ARU and University of Africa (UoA) said the classification of universities in Zambia will provide a clear indication of the quality of learning that the particular university offers. He said the classification will also provide his students with peace of mind that the institution is managed well, and that his students benefit from the quality standards.

"The classification will also put to rest the many fake and misleading websites where universities in Zambia are rated without providing a sound basis for the ratings," Prof Malan said in a circular to the Students. "I for example, has never been approached by any rating agency, other than the HEA, and I wonder why students bother to consider ratings of ill repute."

Prof Malan a prominent Academician Entrepreneur further explains that this development where university ratings are officially published by the HEA, as the representative of the Republic, students will be able to select their university of choice based on the quality of the institution.

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