



BRIDGING POLICY

Background

In pursuing its statutory functions provided in Section 30 of the Health Professions Act (Chapter 27:19), Council has noted the challenges faced by the members of the profession of the delay in processing applications or finalizing issues presented to Council caused by the processes of the Council. Some issues that require Policy guidance usually cause delay as the process of Policy making takes time. The delays have not only contributed to the negative perception towards the image of the Council but has negatively affected members of the profession financially in particular, delays of approval on applications for registration of premises, Certificates of Good Standing and practice issues amongst others. One of the functions of the Council in terms of **S. 30 (1) (k)** of the Act is to enhance the standing and effectiveness of the profession. It is against this background that Council has evolved a Bridging Policy that will enable Secretariat to expedite processes with relevant Committees by circulation and through the action of the Chairman of Council, a decision is made and conveyed to the respective applicants without delay. The action will be ratified at the next Committee meeting. The process will also apply to a decision that requires a Policy, a decision guided by the views of the respective Committee will be made through the action of the Chairman of the Council and such action will be ratified at the next meeting of a Committee or Council.

Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of the Policy is to expedite the decisions of the Committees of Council through Chairman's action in applications submitted to Council and areas that require Policy guidance with a view to enhance the processes whilst the due process of assessment of applications as well as Policy development is in progress.

Policy

1. Issues that require Policy Guidelines

- 1.1 Council shall formulate Policies on any issue that require Policy guidelines.
- 1.2 Whilst a Policy is being formulated on any matter, Secretariat shall seek recommendations from the respective Committee and by the Chairman's action the decision on the matter is conveyed to the practitioner. This will be ratified at the next Committee meeting.

2. Committee Issues

- 2.1. Following assessment of any application or any issue by a majority of a Committee and where there is a consensus recommendation, Secretariat shall seek the Chairman's action and thereafter implement the decision. The Chairman's action shall be ratified at the next Committee meeting.

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