

Press Release

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Curriculum reform agenda has not been shelved-KICD.

There are no plans to start the curriculum reform process a fresh following revelations that its implementation is within the globally acceptable standards.

Claims that the reform agenda had stalled are misleading and meant to cause unnecessary panic, according to the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development.

KICD Director, Dr Julius Jwan said an internal evaluation report deliberated by the multi-sectoral National Steering Committee on curriculum reforms indicated satisfaction with the progress.

The committee chaired by Education Cabinet Secretary, Amb. Amina Mohamed has representatives from Government Ministries, Professional Bodies, Teachers Unions, Trade Unions, Commission for University Education, Religious Organization, Civil Society Organizations, Kenya Private Sector Alliance, Youth Organizations, Universities, Media and Development Partners.

The report indicated that the overall quality of Competence Based Curriculum (CBC) implementation is rated at 56% against the minimum global threshold of 50%.

"It was an honest feedback and just like any report, challenges have been highlighted, which in our case are being addressed to guarantee a smooth roll-out of the new curriculum next year," Dr Jwan said.

During the national steering committee meeting, the Education Cabinet Secretary, said the government will supply necessary curriculum support materials to all schools.

The Cabinet Secretary said, the Ministry of Education will also step up the level of preparedness amongst teachers.

Those teaching upper classes have been asked to be patient and wait for their turn to be taken through the new curriculum.

"The new curriculum will be implemented in phases and therefore the teachers will be trained progressively as the implementation moves to upper classes" Dr Jwan explained.

The ongoing external evaluation is not a reactive measure but one of the mandatory checks to ensure delivery of a quality curriculum.

"We cannot only rely on an internal evaluation. We need a third eye to generate comparative findings on our state of preparedness for a full roll-out. That is why even piloting was necessary to bring out gaps so that they can be fixed," Dr Jwan clarified.

The government plans to roll out the new curriculum from Grade one to Grade 3 next year.

The CEO confirmed that this is an exciting moment because topical

issues affecting the country are being addressed in the CBC.

This include values as critical components of society, soft skills that learners require to live harmoniously and flexibility in learning through pathways in technical training, arts, sciences, entrepreneurship and sports.

"Emphasis is to produce learners who have the ability to think beyond being a job seeker and be job creators," Dr Jwan said.

TVET has been included at the senior school level to prepare learners for technical training, as an important pathway rather than for those who could not go to universities.

Dr Jwan observed that citizenship and identity as captured in the CBC, which embeds patriotism and tolerance within diversity, have been adopted by many progressive countries.

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