



TERTIARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

COMMUNIQUE

Press Report on Open University of Mauritius

The Tertiary Education Commission ('The Commission') wishes to dissociate itself from press/media reports that are being disseminated in relation to the recent Quality Assurance Exercise conducted at the Open University of Mauritius. The Commission brings the following clarifications:

1. The Quality Assurance Exercise of the Open University of Mauritius (OU) was conducted as part of the normal course of activities of the Commission. Consequently the press report that this exercise was carried out following complaints is inaccurate and unfounded.
2. As is the case in any Quality Assurance Exercise by the Commission, strengths and weaknesses have been identified in the present exercise of the Open University of Mauritius and remedial actions have been recommended. The reference made by the press reports to 'criticisms' by the Commission is therefore misleading.
3. The reference made by media to medical programmes by the OU is irrelevant as it was not discussed at the Special Board meeting of 5 January 2016. As such, false information has been reported on this issue reflecting *mala fide* by the media.
4. The Report on the Quality Assurance Exercise of the Open University of Mauritius is still in the process of being finalised before being submitted to OU.
5. The Commission confirms that nothing critical or alarming has been identified during the Quality Assurance Exercise of the Open University of Mauritius, contrary to the perception that the media reports tend to create.

The Commission hereby makes an appeal to the press to practice more responsible journalism in future and to seek confirmation from the relevant authority before disseminating inaccurate information, which tarnishes the image of The Commission and the Tertiary Education Sector as a whole.

6 January 2016