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| Book Name: | **Quality Assurance Practices for Transformative Higher Education in Southern Africa** |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_5086.7** |
| Title of the Manuscript:  | **Equitable quality education for transformative higher education in Southern Africa** |
| Type of the Article | **Book Chapter** |

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| PART 1: Comments |
|  | Reviewer’s comment**Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | Author’s Feedback *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | The manuscript provides a detailed discussion on equitable quality education in higher education systems, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. The topic is highly relevant as it aligns with global discussions on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education for all. The chapter explores issues related to equity, quality, and transformative education, making it a valuable contribution to research and policy discourse. |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?****(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | The title is appropriate and aligns well with the core themes discussed in the manuscript. |  |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | * The abstract presents a good overview but lacks a concise statement of key findings.
* Suggested improvements:
	+ Clearly define the main contributions of the chapter.
	+ Avoid repetitive phrases such as "equitable quality education."
	+ Emphasize the framework or recommendations provided.
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| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.**  | * The manuscript is well-structured and provides substantial theoretical backing.
* However, some arguments require further empirical evidence or case studies for validation.
* The section on challenges in equitable education could benefit from statistical data to strengthen claims.
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| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.****-** | * The references are mostly relevant and recent.
* Some citations are incomplete or inconsistent in format.
* It would be beneficial to include more recent studies (post-2020) on educational policies and equity challenges in SSA.
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| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | * The language is clear, but some sections contain grammatical inconsistencies.
* Suggested improvements:
	+ Enhance readability by breaking down long paragraphs.
	+ Avoid excessive use of jargon.
	+ Improve sentence structure for better flow.
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| Optional/General comments | * The section on international protocols is well-documented but could include a comparative analysis with other regions.
* Ethical concerns regarding equity in education should be explored more deeply.
* A concluding section summarizing key insights and policy recommendations would improve the manuscript’s impact.
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| **PART 2:**  |
|  | Reviewer’s comment | Author’s comment *(if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?**  | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in detail)* |  |

**Reviewers:**

**Aftab Alam, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, India**