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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.** | Making sure that everyone in Southern Africa has fair access to high-quality higher education is a significant and current topic that is covered in this manuscript. In order to enhance academic excellence, student achievement, and inclusivity in higher education institutions, it identifies the obstacles and offers practical suggestions. The conversation is in line with the global education goals, especially SDG 4, and provides policy-driven insights that are helpful to researchers, academic institutions, and policymakers. |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | Indeed, the title appropriately captures the essence of the author's work. There is no need for modification. |  |
| 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. | Yes, the manuscript's focus is succinctly described in the abstract. Its clarity would be improved, though, by a quick summary of the main suggestions. One or two phrases that summarise the main tactics covered in the paper might be added by the author. |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.** | Yes, the manuscript does indeed give a structured effectively argument with relevant evidence and is scientifically sound. The logical ideas and tactics put forth for fair higher education are in line with the greatest practices in educational research and policy. |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.**  **-** | The manuscript's references are adequate and cover a wide range of pertinent subjects pertaining to higher education transformation and equitable, high-quality education. Journal papers, books, policy studies, and institutional publications from credible sources such as the OECD, UNESCO, and other academic periodicals are among the sources. Furthermore, a large number of the references are recent (2019–2024), guaranteeing that the most recent findings and debates in the subject are included. To further improve the text, other sources could be included if the reviewer recommends more detailed references on current policies or case studies from Southern Africa. |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | Although the manuscript is well-written, it might be made clearer with a few minor grammar and sentence structure corrections. To guarantee consistency and easy readability, a professional language edit is advised. |  |
| Optional/General comments | The manuscript makes a significant addition to the conversation about equity in higher education in Southern Africa. It makes well-founded claims and offers helpful suggestions for enhancing student achievement and access. |  |

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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:**

**Rinki Khatun, Baba Sahed Ambedkar Education University, India**