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DATE OF BIRTH; 10TH JUNE, 1984.

NATIONALITY; KENYAN

MARITAL STATUS; MARRIED

## PERSONAL STATEMENT

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A conscientious and professional quality focused scientist with extensive experience in food safety, food microbiology, quality control, research and development; and related management systems in manufacturing environments. A highly organised and efficient leader, whose positive drive and meticulous approach to corporate and project management has continuously yielded solid, measurable results that spur on company objectives and stimulate growth.

## KEY SKILLS

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- ✚ Proper understanding of local and international regulatory requirements on food handling, processing, manufacturing, value addition, packaging and labelling.
- ✚ Good handle on FSMS ISO 22000:2005 (Lead Auditor) and HACCP, Working knowledge in ISO 9001:2008 QMS and Occupational Health and safety OHSAS 18001:2007. Most recently, led QC, R&D department in a successful company implementation and certification of ISO 9001:2015.
- ✚ Extensive exposure to manufacturing and processing environments with adherence to international standards .
- ✚ Proven leadership ability to take up new challenges; create, unite and keep teams focused to achieve set goals.
- ✚ Proficiency in SAP-ERP especially Quality Module (QM).
- ✚ Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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**APR 2015 TO DATE;**  
**QUALITY CONTROL, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ASS. MANAGER**  
**GOLDEN AFRICA KENYA LIMITED.**  
**Edible oil manufacturer under the brand names *Avena* and *Pika***

### **Responsibilities:**

- ❖ Setting and managing of raw material quality standards and coordinating in-warding activities
- ❖ Coordinating all quality aspects in the shipping , transfer, handling and bulk storage of Crude Palm oil from port of Loading to the company .
- ❖ Ensuring regulatory compliance with regional and international standards; KEBS, KBHC, *Codex Alimentarius*, AOCS, ISO, MPOB.
- ❖ Managing and facilitating quick decision making in handling of Non-conforming products and processes.
- ❖ Following, investigation and closing of all consumer and customer complaints. Analysing and interpreting customer complaint and market return data and verifying corrective actions.
- ❖ Coordinating market investigations to establish extent and depth of a defect and recommend actions.
- ❖ Monitoring and maintaining product traceability, coordinating out mock recalls and withdrawals.
- ❖ Developing packaging material standards, raw material specifications, Finished product technical specifications, and generating trade COAs
- ❖ Coordinating QC and R&D activities in developing and approval of new suppliers in conjunction with the Procurement and Costing department.
- ❖ Generating detailed monthly Quality report for Top management review
- ❖ Leading in creation and implementation of departmental cost cutting activities.
- ❖ Managing R&D projects to ensure proper flow of activities and formulating project timelines and budget
- ❖ Review and ratification of product formulations for lower cost, higher quality and process efficiency.
- ❖ Review of monthly competitor samples to keep abreast with competition and formulate quality strategies.
- ❖ Reviewing annual departmental budget before presenting to the QCM for management review.
- ❖ Entrenching quality culture by regular trainings on company quality policies, quality control procedures, identification and handling of non-conformances

### **Achievements;**

- ✓ Led the implementation of **YUM standards Food Safety audit** requirements that brought on board **KFC** as a high level GAKL client.
- ✓ **Successfully defended** the GAKL nutritional labelling claims in a high stakes inquisition by the Competitions authority of Kenya (CAK).

- ✓ Oversaw the acquisition of all **regulatory certification for all GAKL products'** including KEBS Standardization marks (S-MARK), Fortification marks (F-MARK) certifications; as well as HALAL certification.
- ✓ Pioneered the **GAKL Quality Management System** that was instrumental in the overall acquisition of ISO 9001:2015 QMS Certification.
- ✓ Developed oil and fat **formulations, technical specifications** and **process parameters** in the production
- ✓ Developed all GAKL **packaging** material and **raw material specifications**
- ✓ Developed regulatory and technical aspects of all consumer related **label information** including Nutritional profiles, ingredient panels and health claims.
- ✓ Leading team that developed the **GAKL Policies** on non –conformance handling, Market returns, Product Withdrawals and recall.
- ✓ Developed **GAKL traceability system** with ability to trace back packed product to the crude palm oil; encoded in the GAKL batch coding and dispatch policies.
- ✓ Developed **personnel and laboratory capacity** to a high level able to carry out complex analyses e.g. SFC, Oxidative Stability index (OSI) and DOBI etc.
- ✓ In conjunction with the Purchase department, **developed all suppliers** according to the GAKL policies.

#### **FEB 2012 TO MAR 2015:**

#### **FACTORY MICROBIOLOGIST, HYGIENE AND IPM COORDINATOR; SAMEER AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK LIMITED.**

**Kenya's fastest growing dairy manufacturer under the brand Name 'Daima'.**

#### **Responsibilities;**

- ❖ Co-ordinating Microbiological analysis of all incoming raw milk to determine quality and Grade according to microbial load. This includes TPC, Total Coliform Counts [TCC], *Escherichia Coli*, *Staphylococcus* spp. and *Bacillus* spp. and spores.
- ❖ Leading and coordinating plant microbiological testing program for all aspects of plant hygiene i.e. machines, air, finished products and water.
- ❖ Verification of all tanker and process line CIPs to ensure sterility and avoid recurrent contamination of successive loads
- ❖ Verification and validation of process efficiency e.g. Pasteurization and sterilization.
- ❖ Carrying out Hazard analysis and Critical control [HACCP] studies to identify contamination loopholes; Formulating and implementing solutions to identified problems.
- ❖ Offering critical input in CAPA activities in case contaminations are noted or in hygiene lapses

- ❖ Supporting training of company personnel in areas of hygiene and GMPs
- ❖ Leading and coordinating all activities for pest control management and compliance; as well as waste management.
- ❖ Monitoring delicate bioprocesses such as culture inoculation during processing of fermented milk products e.g. yoghurts
- ❖ Co-ordination of factory and personnel hygiene,
- ❖ Maintaining the internal audit program to ensure we are continually validating and improving the QMS

#### **Achievements;**

- ✓ As first ever factory Microbiologist, Successfully set up **from scratch to establish and run a fully functional in-house Microbiology** Laboratory bringing it to regulatory compliance within 6 months. This led to massive savings due to replacement of outsourced microbiological services.
- ✓ Leading the QA during the **implementation of ISO 9001:2008** through successive audits achieving the certification from NEMKO certification body.
- ✓ Led the **successfully implementation and integration of SAP-ERP** into our business activities and **trained** the whole QA team in to efficiently manage through the software.

#### **AUGUST 2011 TO FEB 2012:**

#### **MICROBIOLOGIST ASSISTANT (GENERAL MICRO AND SALMONELLA LABS); NESTLE' KENYA LIMITED.**

**Global leader in infant formula, breakfast cereals and other high nutritive food categories.**

#### **Responsibilities;**

- ❖ Routine analysis of *Salmonella* presence in raw material, bulk product before release, Line material during processing and finished product.
- ❖ MRE tests for serological and Biochemical confirmation of suspect colonies including the use of API test Kit and Anti- Serum agglutination tests. Special analysis for Staphylococcus
- ❖ Routine analyses for *enterobacteria* (EB), yeast and mould presence; Colony enumeration analyses (AMC).
- ❖ Sampling and analysis of process environment to ensure for pathogen and hygiene monitoring; maintaining EB trends in these areas
- ❖ Hazard analysis and CCP monitoring to ensure the Quality assurance system is working efficiently
- ❖ Overall raw and process Water analysis

**Achievements;**

- ✓ Managed to handle intense pressure due to massive influx of Microbiological analysis samples from all Nestle companies in West Africa during the tumult in Nigeria that disrupted the regional Lab situated in Nigeria.
- ✓ Successful run of the *Salmonella* lab producing timely results for both internal and external samples without fail.
- ✓ Participation and excelling in the annual Laboratory Proficiency tests.

**JULY 2010-JULY 2011:****BIO-TECHNICIAN;****SESELA RESOURCES LTD.**

A company dealing with supply of the Naiade Water Purification Unit that uses ultra violet (UV) radiation to kill water borne pathogens.

**Responsibilities;**

- ❖ Planning and executing product demonstrations, and answering any technical queries arising from prospective buyers
- ❖ Analyzing and interpreting laboratory test results from various test agencies on the quality and efficacy of the product to purify water.
- ❖ Coming up with well written proposals and preparing reports on various company projects and activities.
- ❖ Coordinating activities of the sales team from the main office and keeping the management abreast on them
- ❖ Managing of correspondence, alerting the concerned department and facilitating efficient and reliable transfer of information

**Achievements;**

- ✓ Managed to **create product knowledge and acceptance** thereby facilitating entry into Rwanda, Tanzania and Burundi markets.
- ✓ Partnered with the county water companies in ASAL Regions in Northern Kenya, to provide safe drinking water at the water pans and shallow dams

**MAY 2009-JUNE 2010:****ASSISTANT YOUTH FACILITATOR (VOLUNTEER);****AFRICA YOUTH BIO-FORUM**

A non- profit organization involved in granting the youth in rural Africa access to knowledge and information on agricultural biotechnology for optimal development (under the Africa Biotechnology Stakeholders Forum-ABSF). It supports local youth innovative initiatives aimed at addressing the consistently high levels of poverty, starvation and malnutrition.

**Responsibilities;**

- ❖ Organizing workshops and seminars to create awareness on the role of Agriculture in enhancing food production, alleviating hunger and economic empowerment.

- ❖ Coordinating activities of the organization with those of like-minded youth initiatives.
- ❖ Resource mobilization by reaching out to donor organizations that support like causes.

### **Achievements;**

Successfully organized the First Ever 'Inter-Varsity Biotechnology Awareness Conference' that included students from as far as Uganda and Tanzania.

## **EDUCATION**

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**2019 JUNE;**

**CERTIFICATE IN ENZYME TECHNOLOGY IN DETERGENTS  
NOVOZYME**

**2017 AUGUST:**

**PALM OIL FAMILIARIZATION TRAINING PROGRAMME**

Certificate from Malaysia Palm Oil Board (MPOB)

Putrajaya, Malaysia.

**2014 SEPTEMBER:**

**ALISON certified professional courses MOOC**

Diploma in Project Management

**2014 JULY:**

**BUREAU VERITAS QUALITY KENYA LIMITED (BVQ)**

Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS) 22000:2005

Lead auditor Certificate.

**2013 AUGUST:**

**UNIVERSAL WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSULTANTS**

Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety (OHSAS 18001:2007)

**2005-2009 DECEMBER:**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Biochemistry;

Major: Biotechnology and Molecular Biology.

Undergraduate Research: African capacity to produce clean, high energy content/unit weight, green biofuel by use of agricultural waste as raw material.

**2004-2005:**

**INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY (IAT)**

International Computer Driving Licence (cert no: u107607)

**2000-2003**

**MARANDA HIGH SCHOOL,**

**Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE)**

**Mean Grade of A-(minus) with A (plain) in Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, and Commerce**

## **PROFFESIONAL SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS**

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1. September 28<sup>th</sup> 2019; Workshop on Palm oil industry emerging threats to health, and Round table on sustainable palm oil (RSPO) held at **Radisson Blue Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya.**
2. Feb 28 to March 3 2017; Represented Kenya in the World Palm Oil technical seminar (MTecs) on in **Dar- es- Salaam, Tanzania.**
3. May 2016; Quality Control, Research and Development procedures training at Palmindo Industries, Pamin Industry and Oleo in **Medan, Indonesia.**
4. June-August 2016: Part of Kenya Bureau of Standards (**KEBS**) Technical Committee on Insoluble impurities in the Edible oils and Fats industry in Kenya, **Nairobi, Kenya.**
5. Nov 2015. Attended a 2 weeks training programme in Arma industries for Edible oil and Oleochems in **10<sup>th</sup> of Ramadhan, Egypt.**
6. Oct 2014; Kenya Institute of management (KIM) Leadership Seminar on Shifting trends in Total Quality Management (Business Excellence through Quality)-Hilton Hotel, **Nairobi, Kenya.**

## **PROFESSIONAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP.**

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### **INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY NETWORK ( IFSQN)**

**MICROBIOLOGY KENYA;** Professional Microbiologists including Bacteriologists, Virologists, Mycologists, Plant pathologists, Microbial ecologists, Biotechnologists

**WORLD BIOTECHNOLOGY FAMILY;** Forum for like-minded professionals in this field networking on Linked in.



## HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

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I enjoy articles and books on personal development as well as Biblical Theology. Food Quality and safety journals are also high in my reading preference. Am enthralled by travel and culture; automobiles and gadgets; and performing arts.

## REFERENCES

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### **LORRAINE LULU AGUTU,**

REGIONAL CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT AND QUALITY SPECIALIST,  
NESTLE' EQUATORIAL AFRICAN REGION (EAR) LIMITED,  
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