

### Volume 01, Issue 20: Elevate your Standards of Excellence

Now that we already set goals at the beginning of the year, it is worth reminding ourselves that goal setting is merely the first part of the journey of success. The larger part of the rest of the journey is goal getting. We must keep striving to attain the objectives we set for ourselves. This calls for being more intentional in the way that we spend our time.

Though planning is crucial, we shouldn't stop at merely making plans. With the information and experience gained during the implementation stage, we should continually review our plans and carry out midcourse revision of strategy to achieve the set objectives. If we hold ourselves truly accountable, we will find that we can do better than we initially planned, and hence raise the standards.

Place your goals where you can see them on a regular basis. Keep them constantly before you to keep them from slipping out of your mind, and ultimately out of your daily agenda. Looking at your goals constantly increases the chances of attaining them as it provides you with a constant reminder to take action. The more you focus on your plans and seek to improve them, the more you elevate your standards of excellence.

Don't wait until the end of the year to evaluate how well you have done. Carry out mid-term reviews to see how well you are doing well before it is too late to save the game. This will enable you to realign your priorities based on your performance on the different areas of focus. Assign more effort on the areas you find you are not doing so well at; and manage your focus on the areas you are over achieving, so as to create a balance. Midcourse evaluation also avails us the opportunity to consider threats to our progress and adjust our plans to attain better results.

*Standards of excellence are not to be chiseled in stone. They are constantly being refined. It is important to realize that what was graded excellent last year may not be so this year. That is why we keep mastering new skills.* Bob Biehl.

Lillian Chebosi