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Quality and Qualifications Ireland Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

### MEMORANDUM OF ARRANGEMENT

### BETWEEN

# THE MALAYSIAN QUALIFICATIONS AGENCY (MQA)

## AND

# THE QUALITY AND QUALIFICATIONS IRELAND (QQI)

# ON CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF QUALITY ASSURANCE

**MALAYSIAN QUALIFICATIONS AGENCY**, a body corporate established under the Malaysian Qualifications Agency Act 2007 whose address is at of 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Menara PKNS-PJ, No. 17, Jalan Yong Shook Lin, 46050 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia and shall include its lawful representatives and permitted assigns; and QUALITY AND QUALIFICATIONS IRELAND, a statutory body established under the Qualifications and Quality Assurance Act 2012, whose address is at 26-27, Denzille Lane, Dublin 2, Ireland, and shall include its lawful representatives and permitted assigns; (hereinafter referred to singularly as "the Participant" and collectively as "the Participants"),

## WHEREAS:

The Participants are desirous of entering into this Memorandum of Arrangement to declare their respective intentions and to establish a basis of co-operation and collaboration between the Participants upon the terms as contained herein,

The Participants are both striving to put into practice the recommendations for quality assurance and accreditation bodies contained in the UNESCO guidelines for quality assurance in cross-border higher education,

## HAVE REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING as follows:

# PARAGRAPH I OBJECTIVE

The Participants, subject to the terms of this Memorandum of Arrangement and the laws, rules, regulations and national policies from time to time in force in each Participant's country, will endeavour to establish, strengthen, promote and develop co-operation between the Participants on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

# PARAGRAPH II AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

 Each Participant will, subject to the laws, rules, regulations and national policies from time to time in force, governing the subject matter in their respective countries, endeavour to take necessary steps to encourage and promote technical co-operation that will be of mutual benefit to both participants in the following areas:

- (a) Exchange of Information e.g., exchange non-confidential policy documents and operational information and expertise as and when appropriate;
- (b) Staff Development e.g., provide developmental opportunities for staff of both Participants as and when appropriate;
- (c) Exchange of Experts e.g., draw on the list of experts/specialists of both parties to strengthen the international dimension of institutional audits and/or accreditations, programme accreditations and special-purpose reviews as and when appropriate;
- (d) Joint Research e.g., collaborate in research on quality assurance related issues of mutual benefit as and when appropriate;
- Joint Activity e.g., cooperate in any other mutually agreed activities of mutual benefit as and when appropriate;
- (f) Any other areas of co-operation to be mutually agreed upon by the Participants.
- 2. For the purpose of implementing the co-operation in respect of any area stated in Paragraph 1, the Participants will enter into a legally binding agreement subject to terms and conditions as mutually agreed upon by the Participants including clauses on "confidentiality", "suspension", "protection of intellectual property rights" and "settlement of dispute".

# PARAGRAPH III FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 1. This Memorandum of Arrangement will not give rise to any financial obligation by one Participant to the other.
- 2. Each Participant will bear its own cost and expenses in relation to this Arrangement.

# PARAGRAPH IV EFFECT OF ARRANGEMENT

This Memorandum of Arrangement serves only as a record of the Participants' intentions and does not constitute or create, and is not intended to constitute or create, obligations under domestic or international law and will not give rise to any legal process and will not be deemed to constitute or create any legally binding or enforceable obligations, expressed or implied.

# PARAGRAPH V NO AGENCY

Nothing contained herein is to be construed so as to constitute a joint venture partnership or formal business organisation of any kind between the Participants or so to constitute either Participant as the agent of the other.

# PARAGRAPH VI OTHER RIGHTS AND INTERESTS

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Memorandum of Arrangement, where the implementation of this Memorandum of Arrangement affects any Participant's rights and interests with respect to its national security, national and public interest or

public order, protection of intellectual property rights, confidentiality and secrecy of documents, information and data, the Participant may undertake appropriate steps or consultations to ensure that its rights and interests are protected and safeguarded.

# PARAGRAPH VII

### ENTRY INTO EFFECT, DURATION AND TERMINATION

- This Memorandum of Arrangement will come into effect on the date of signing and will remain in effect for a period of three (3) years, unless closed earlier by mutual agreement.
- This Memorandum of Arrangement may be extended for a further period as may be agreed in writing by the Participants.
- 3. Notwithstanding anything in this Memorandum of Arrangement, either Participant may terminate this Memorandum of Arrangement by notifying the other Party of its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Arrangement by a notice in writing at least one (1) month prior to its intention to do so.

The foregoing record represents the understandings reached between the Malaysian Qualifications Agency and the Quality and Qualifications Authority of Ireland upon the matters referred to therein.

Signed in duplicate in Dublin and Kuala Lumpur in English language by the representatives of both participants.

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#### FOR THE MALAYSIAN QUALIFICATIONS AGENCY

**RUJHAN MUSTAFA** 

Chief Executive Officer Malaysian Qualifications Agency

Date: 3/5/2016

#### SECOND SIGNATORY



HAZMAN SHAH ABDULLAH

Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Quality Assurance) Malaysian Qualifications Agency

Date: 3/5/2016

### FOR THE QUALITY AND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY OF IRELAND

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PADRAIG WALSH

Chief Executive Officer Quality and Qualifications Authority of Ireland

Date: 29/4/2016

SECOND SIGNATORY

**BRYAN MAGUIRE** 

Director of Quality Assurance Quality and Qualifications Authority of Ireland

Date: 3/5/2016