



**QQI**

Quality and Qualifications Ireland  
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD  
KIA NOHO TAKATŪ KI TŌ ĀMUA AO!

## **Memorandum of Cooperation**

**between**

**Quality and Qualifications Ireland**

**and**

**the New Zealand Qualifications Authority**

This **Memorandum of Cooperation** is entered into

**BETWEEN:**

**Quality and Qualifications Ireland ("QQI")**, a State agency established by the Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012, whose offices are located at 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 D02 P266, Ireland

**AND**

**The New Zealand Qualifications Authority ("NZQA")**, a Crown entity established under Part 20 of the Education Act 1989, whose offices are located at 125 The Terrace, Wellington, New Zealand, 6140.

The QQI and NZQA (each a "Participant" and together "the Participants"):

**Recalling** the previous Memorandum of Cooperation between New Zealand and the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland dated February 2011 and the importance placed therein on the comparison of the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (Irish NFQ) and the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF);

**AND**

**Desirous** of further expanding and enriching cooperation on each other's quality assurance and qualifications recognition processes;

have reached the following understandings:

## 1

### OBJECTIVE

1.1 Together, the Participants desire to strengthen, develop and promote cooperation and understanding in order to:

- a. fulfil their respective roles of ensuring that New Zealand and Irish qualifications are accepted as credible and robust both nationally and internationally
- b. contribute to government and education sector priorities by increasing international understanding, comparability and recognition of New Zealand and Irish qualifications for both study and employment
- c. assist the mobility of learners and skilled workers by increasing their confidence that their qualifications and periods of study undertaken in New Zealand and Ireland will be recognized.

## 2

### AREAS OF COOPERATION

2.1 The Participants acknowledge the function of qualifications recognition in supporting education and lifelong learning and its contribution to economic, social and cultural success; and in making clearer mobility pathways to further education, training and employment between New Zealand and Ireland.

2.2 The Participants desire to encourage exchanges of experience with the purpose of developing greater understanding of, and confidence in, each other's qualifications and their quality assurance, which may include, but is not restricted to, the following:

- a. Exchanges of information on quality assurance practices and ideas on the future of quality assurance and other related initiatives;
- b. Revision and expansion of the technical comparison of the Irish NFQ and the NZQF to support the international recognition of qualifications on both qualifications framework.
- c. Encouragement and promotion of technical cooperation that will be of mutual benefit to the Participants in the implementation of qualifications recognition;

2.3 The Participants, within such time as determined by both Participants, may jointly develop a Terms of Reference (TOR) covering the activities and cooperation to be carried out. The TOR may be modified at any time with the mutual consent of the Participants.

### 3

#### **DESIGNATED CONTACT POINTS**

3.1 Each Participant will designate a contact point or points, and provide details of such contact points to the other Participant, to facilitate communications and coordinate responses between the Participants on matters covered by this Arrangement.

3.2 The Participants will notify each other promptly of any amendments to the details of their contact points.

4

**FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

4.1 Activities of cooperation and collaboration to be carried out under this Arrangement will be subject to the availability of funds and resources of both Participants.

4.2 Each Participant will bear its own costs and expenses in relation to the implementation of this Arrangement.

5

**CONFIDENTIALITY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

5.1 Where a Participant provides information to the other Participant in the implementation of this Arrangement and designates the information as confidential, the other Participant will maintain the confidentiality of the information. Such information will be used only for the purposes specified, and will not be disclosed without the written permission of the Participant providing the information, except to the extent that it may be required to be disclosed by law, or may need to be disclosed to Ministers of the Crown or relevant government agencies.

5.2 Where a participant provides information containing proprietary intellectual property to the other participant in the implementation of this Arrangement, such intellectual property will be protected in accordance with the respective laws and regulations of each Participant and in such manner consistent with their obligations under international agreements on intellectual property. Before providing such information, the Participants may discuss and conclude any specific additional arrangements regarding the treatment of such information

**ENTRY INTO EFFECT, DURATION AND TERMINATION**

6.1 This Arrangement will come into effect on the date on the second Participant's signing.

6.2 Any modification or revision to the content of this Arrangement will be made by mutual written consent of both Participants, which will come into effect on the date to be determined by them.

6.3 This Arrangement may be terminated at any time by either Participant by giving three months' prior notice in writing to the other Participant. Such termination will not affect activities that are ongoing at the date of termination of this Arrangement. The Participants may however discuss the further conduct of such activities.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, the Participants hereby have caused this Memorandum of Cooperation to be executed by their duly authorized representatives.

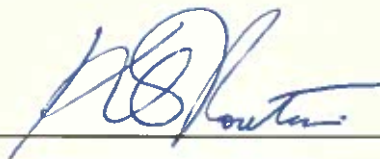
**For Quality and Qualifications  
Ireland**



**Dr Padraig Walsh**  
Chief Executive

Signed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December  
2017

**For New Zealand Qualifications  
Authority**



**Karen Poutasi (Dr)**  
Chief Executive

Signed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December  
2017