



## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**Between**

**The Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality  
Assurance in Education and Healthcare (ECAQA),  
Republic of Kazakhstan**

**and**

**European Quality Assurance Agency (EQAA), Germany**

**Date: 10/16/2019**

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

**The Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Education and Healthcare (ECAQA), Republic of Kazakhstan**

and

**European Quality Assurance Agency (EQAA), Germany**

**The Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health care (ECAQA)** – is a non-governmental, non-profit organization for the quality assurance and quality improvement in higher education and focused on Medical and other Healthcare Professions Education. ECAQA is recognised by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan and included on the National Register of Recognised Accrediting Agency (Register 1). ECAQA is listed in Directory of Organizations that Recognize/Accredit Medical Schools (DORA) of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER), USA and the ECAQA as a specialized/professional accreditor in medicine, biomedicine and health sciences is included in CHEA/CIQG International Directory. ECAQA is External Quality Assurance Agency that authorised to evaluate and accredit the higher education institutions (institutional accreditation) and educational programmes (programmatic accreditation) including the medical and other healthcare professions education.

And

**European Quality Assurance Agency (EQAA)** - is the first international quality assurance agency for higher education that offers institutional accreditation. It offers universities and other higher education institutions international institutional accreditation and programme accreditation. EQAA is operating strictly in line with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), which have been developed in the context of the Bologna Process. However, EQAA offers accreditation to universities and higher education institution worldwide.

EQAA is operating in the public interest, offering its services so that universities and higher education institutions, their current and future students as well as society at large benefit.

EQAA places a great focus on the development and further improvement of a quality culture within universities and higher education institutions. EQAA sees its role as a guide and advisor, stimulating and encouraging the improvement of the quality of teaching and learning, research and other activities of an institution. This is achieved through focussing on the institutional systems and their strategic management.

**Recognising** the importance of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in the development and improvement of higher education including medical and other healthcare professions education;

**Mindful** of each party's achievements in the higher education field; and

**Desiring** to strengthen and broaden cooperation and mutual assistance in the provision of quality of higher education in their respective countries/region on the principle of equality and mutual benefit;



**Have reached the following understanding to interalia:**

**Clause 1**

The Parties agree to establish and develop cooperation in Quality Assurance and Accreditation in the development and improvement medical and other healthcare professions education.

The parties aim to work to enhance understanding of each other's approach to assuring quality in higher education including medical education and the respective systems in place.

**Clause 2**

This Memorandum provides the areas of cooperation for developing and implementation of joint projects, events and other forms of cooperation in purpose of achieving effective results. In order to reach common goals and results Parties consider the following ways (not limited to):

- Designing and implementing joint procedure and accreditation (institutional and programmatic), training, consultation, innovation or research projects;

- Conducting joint events such as the ECAQA and EQAA International Conferences in quality assurance in higher education including medical and other healthcare professions education, workshops and training courses for the reviewers (national experts) including the members of ECAQA's Accreditation Council;

- Sharing the ECAQA's developments and experience of using the WFME Global Standards for Quality Improvement in Medical Education (Basic Medical Education, Postgraduate Medical Education and CPD of Medical Doctors, Master's degrees Programmes) and Standards for PhD Education in Biomedicine and Health Sciences in Europe of the Organisation for PhD Education in Biomedicine and Health Sciences in the European System (ORPHEUS), Association of Medical Schools in Europe (AMSE) and World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) and Standards for programmatic accreditation in Nursing education as well as in Public Health, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Technology, Biomedicine;

- In collaboration with EQAA providing the integration and adaptation of the ESG2015 in national medical education accreditation system in CIS countries;

- Nomination the international experts by the EQAA to be the member of site-visit team that would be requested by ECAQA to carrying out the institutional and programmatic accreditation;

- EQAA international experts' assistance in the institutional/educational programme self-evaluation; external review of the institutional/educational programme self-evaluation report by nominated experts; international experts' participation as a part of the ECAQA's site-visit team;

- In partnership collaboration to carry out joint institutional and programmatic accreditation of higher education institutions with issuing the Certificate signed by both organization;

- Providing the consultancy services for institutional capacity building of the Kazakhstan Medical Universities' and the Higher Education Institutions' Quality Assurance Units to meet the ESG2015 (Part I) and development the quality culture within the university;

- Encouraging and actively involving the CIS' countries and Kazakhstan Medical Universities in events organized jointly or by the EQAA;

- Participation in events, seminars or conferences organized by one of the Party;

- Exchanging experiences in accreditation and quality assurance in medical and health professions education;

Staff exchange and development the programme for the capacity building of national experts from both organisations.

### Clause 3

Both Parties agree that all activities specified in Clause 2 of the present Memorandum are to be realized on the basis of specific contracts, to be concluded by Parties on each joint project and detailed work plans and programs which shall include specific information on planned joint activities, organizational forms, implementation requirements based on individual agreements and contracts.

### Clause 4

Both Parties regard the present Memorandum as a declaration of intentions, which entails no legal and financial liabilities on joint activities of the Parties. The Parties agree that all practical questions related to organization of specific activities based on Clause 1 and Clause 2 of the present Memorandum will be separately negotiated and agreed between the authorized representatives of both Parties. The partners respect the principles of mutual interaction and equality

### Clause 5

The Parties shall keep secret all confidential data and information which has become known in the process of the cooperative activities, except that data and information which has become public knowledge through no fault of the parties.

### Clause 6.

The memorandum will take effect from date of signing for a period of 5 years. The memorandum may be altered at any time with the consent of both parties. The Memorandum may be terminated by either party giving 6 (six) months prior notice.

### Clause 7.

The Director General, ECAQA and the Managing Director, EQAA will have responsibility for managing the Memorandum of Understanding. This responsibility may be delegated to relevant member of their staff in relation to particular areas of cooperation.

**Prof. Saule Sarsenbayeva**

#### Director General

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**Prof. Bastian Baumann**

#### Managing Director

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Date: 16.10.2019



Date: 28 October 2019