MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

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

and

Magyar Felsőoktatási Akkreditációs Bizottság (MAB)
Hungarian Accreditation Committee (HAC), Hungary

Budapest
15.11.2019.
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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

Magyar Felsőoktatási Akkreditációs Bizottság (MAB)
Hungarian Accreditation Committee (HAC), Hungary - is a national body of experts facilitating the control, assurance and evaluation of the scientific quality of education, scientific research and artistic activity at higher education institutions. The HAC conducts ex ante and ex post evaluation of both programs and institutions. Ex ante evaluation of programs comprises giving opinion on the national-level educational and outcome
requirements (which are framework requirements for all degree programs in Hungary and appear in a ministerial decree), and new programs to be launched at institutions. In compliance with the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG 2015), the HAC was evaluated by an external team of experts in 2018 and consequently has renewed its membership in ENQA, the European Association of Quality Assurance for another five-year term.

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 HAC 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, 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;

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

- International experts are involved in each other's procedures;

- In partnership collaboration to carry out the institutional and programmatic accreditation/joint degree programme 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 HAC;

- 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 of the ECAQA and the President of the HAC 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

Prof. Valéria Csépe

President

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Date: 2019. 11. 15.

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