



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

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

and

The Association of Medical Schools in Europe (AMSE)

Date: October 2, 2019

ALMATY-BERLIN

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

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

and

The Association of Medical Schools in Europe (AMSE)

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 recognized by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan and included on the National Register of Recognized 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

The Association of Medical Schools in Europe (AMSE) creates a forum for European Faculties of Medicine to share experiences in the fields of education, research and management. AMSE seeks to stimulate co-operation between Medical Schools in Europe and to initiate and sustain relations with other professional, governmental and non-governmental organizations in education, research and health care.

AMSE is primarily concerned with the leadership and management of medical schools, and the question of how to run the medical school, and how to manage its relationship with the university hospital and other health-care partners. AMSE is also interested in the regulatory, quality assurance, political and economic contexts in which the medical school works to fulfil its mission of medical education and medical research.

AMSE promotes the development of a closer collaboration with the Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE) to provide the joint activities for quality assurance and quality improvement in medical education.

AMSE organizes regular conferences on topics of particular interest to deans, heads of school and other staff members of Faculties of Medicine.

AMSE recognizes the importance of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in the development and improvement of higher education including medical and other healthcare professions education. AMSE aims at the improvement of standards, value and relevance of all Medical Schools in Europe through education, research, service and collaboration.

AMSE – together with a European-recognized accreditation agency – organized a project where AMSE Member medical schools can apply for an accreditation leading to an AMEE certificate which certifies that the medical school meets the Global Standards in Basic undergraduate WFME standards.

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 AMSE International Conference in quality assurance in medical 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);

- In collaboration with AMSE providing the integration and adaptation of the WFME Global Standards for Quality Improvement in Medical Education (Basic Medical Education, Postgraduate Medical Education and CPD of Medical Doctors) in national medical education accreditation system in CIS countries as well as to meet the ECFMG 2023 Medical School Accreditation Requirement in accreditation undergraduate medical education;
- Nomination the international experts from Medical schools in Europe (AMSE Members) by the AMSE to be the member of site-visit team that would be requested by ECAQA to carrying out the institutional and programmatic accreditation;
- AMSE 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;
- Providing the consultancy services for institutional capacity building of the Kazakhstan Medical Universities' Quality Assurance Units to meet the WFME Global Standards in Basic and Postgraduate Medical Education, CPD (2015) and the ESG2015 (Part I) and development the quality culture within the university;
- Encouraging and actively involving the CIS' countries and Kazakhstan Medical Universities as a Members of AMSE in events organized jointly or by the AMSE;
- 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 President, AMSE 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.

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Date: 08.10.2019

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