



## **MEMORANDUM OF CO-OPERATION**

**between the  
International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in  
Higher Education**

**and the  
Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education**

**July 2008**

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International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE)  
and the  
Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education ( ANQAHE)**

### **1. Introduction to the Memorandum of Co-operation**

The International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) is the global network of quality assurance agencies in higher education. It exists to

- enable quality assurance agencies to share information and experiences;
- lead the theoretical and practical foundations of the profession;
- develop and promote standards of professional practice in QA; and
- encourage and assist continuous improvement in member agencies, including professional development and capacity-building

for the benefit of Higher Education institutions, their students and their societies.

The ANQAHE exists to

- Support, promote and disseminate good practice of quality assurance in higher education in the Arab region and to enhance continuous improvement and capacity building for quality assurance agencies in the region;
- Advise, consult and establish standards and guidelines, to assist the development of new quality assurance agencies in the region;
- Facilitate links and communication between quality assurance agencies;
- Provide a platform for information on quality assurance standards, good practices and professional institutional and program reviewers among member organizations;
- Provide members of ANQAHE with information on the quality assurance organizations in the Arab region;
- Facilitate research in the field of quality assurance in higher education in the region;
- Provide the service of evaluating the quality assurance agencies upon request.

Recognising their mutual interest in the quality of higher education and higher education institutions, it is in the interests of INQAAHE and ANQAHE to formalise a memorandum of co-operation between the two organisations to establish the objectives, parameters and resourcing of joint activities and mutual support.

The memorandum of co-operation covers the following areas.

### **2. The nature of the relationship between INQAAHE and ANQAHE**

ANQAHE is a regional network that intends to operate as an independent non-profit organization in association with the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) (ANQAHE constitution, 2007)

“INQAAHE wishes to strengthen its links with the other networks in order to be able to advocate for the interests of the totality of regional networks and their members. It also needs the operational and political input from the regions to help ensure that INQAAHE’s agenda is aligned with the regional development and that of the members of the local networks.”  
(*Networks of Quality Agencies: Working Together, INQAAHE position paper, October 2007*)

The two organisations will work to enhance their understanding of each other’s particular concerns and priorities.

### **3. Relation of INQAAHE to ANQAHE**

INQAAHE renders assistance for development of ANQAHE.

### **4. Relation of ANQAHE to INQAAHE**

ANQAHE presents INQAAHE information about state quality assurance in higher education in the Arab region

### **5. Overall objectives of this Memorandum**

This Memorandum is intended to reinforce and provide a platform for the desired co-operation between INQAAHE and ANQAHE. It aims at strengthening the work of INQAAHE and its member agencies, and the work of ANQAHE and its member agencies, as well as their interrelations, with the overall goal of enhanced global understanding and practice in the field of quality assurance in higher education. It also aims at increasing contacts and cooperation between the various regional networks that are working together with INQAAHE.

The Memorandum sets out the detailed areas in which co-operation may be possible and the desired consequences of that co-operation.

More detailed objectives are as follows.

### **6. Exchange of information**

The two organisations will exchange non-confidential policy documents and relevant non-confidential operational information to enable the two organisations to support and learn from each other.

### **7. Targets**

If possible, the following activities will be carried out during the next three years:

- Regular meetings and participation of representatives of the two organisations in each others’ events.
- Exchange of information on each others’ activities.
- Exchange of expertise.
- Mutual consultations and discussions on current quality assurance issues, involving also the other regional networks.

### **8. Database of consultants and reviewers**

ANQAHE and INQAAHE will collaborate with each other and with the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) on extending globally the regional database of consultants and reviewers in quality assurance initiated by APQN. ANQAHE will make the database accessible via its website.

## **9. Resources**

The two organisations will cover their own costs for the co-operation, unless there is project funding available for some fields of collaboration. Other fund sources include INQAAHE's Development Fund and the World Bank, through GIQAC

ANQAHE and INQAAHE have both received GIQAC funds for identified purposes, which are relevant to this Memorandum.

## **10. Agency Officers responsible for managing the Agreement**

The President of INQAAHE and the General Secretary of ANQAHE will have responsibility for managing the Memorandum of Co-operation. Either party may delegate the responsibility from time to time in relation to particular areas of co-operation. The President of INQAAHE will appoint a member of the INQAAHE Board to exercise the overall responsibility for this Memorandum on behalf of INQAAHE.

## **11. Signatures**

There are two identical copies of this Memorandum, one for each signatory.

**Dr. Nadia Badrawi**  
**General Secretary**  
**ANQAHE**

**Dr David Woodhouse**  
**President**  
**INQAAHE**

**Contact details:**

**INQAAHE**

**Secretariat:**

Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands & Flanders (NVAO)

Parkstraat 28

2514 JK The Hague

*P.O. Box 85498*

*2508 CD The Hague*

The Netherlands

Tel: +31(0)70 312 23 00

Fax: +31(0)70 312 23 01

e-mail: [inqaahen@nvaonetmailto:inqaahen@hetac.ie](mailto:inqaahen@nvaonetmailto:inqaahen@hetac.ie)

**ANQAHE**

**General Secretary:**

Dr Nadia Badrawi

Cornich El Nile, Maadi

Cairo

PO.Box 533, Egypt

Tel: +2(0)2 2524 0113

Mob: +2(0)1 1901 9001

Fax: +2(0)2 2524 0343