

Arab and MENA network for Quality Assurance

This is a brief report on the Arab and MENA regional network initiative of Quality Assurance in higher education

1- Arab regional Network initiative

- In 2005 eight Arab countries decided to collaborate together and establish an Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ANQAHE)
- Various people, including QA experts like Richard Lewis, were involved in writing a constitution
- The constitution was approved
- The activation has been postponed due to an initiative from the World Bank to establish a Middle East and North African (MENA) network and include the Arab countries
- Finally in June 2007 the ANQAHE became active

2- MENA regional Network initiative

- During the World Bank seminar in Paris, June 2006, the World Bank suggested to establish a MENA network for quality assurance in higher education.
- By doing this the World Bank wants to increase the number of countries involved with the ANQAHE.
- The MENA network will cooperate with the Association of Arab Universities
- The World Bank promises to fund the network
- A proposal for the MENA network was submitted by the leaders of the Arab Network
- The MENA network is waiting for the result

3- NENA regional initiatives

- Near East North Africa (NENA) is an initiative from the British Council
- Five countries, Jordan, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt are involved in this initiative
- The main objectives are capacity building and the establishment academic standards for programs that are concentrated on Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- Member countries have met in Syria and Cairo in 2006
- More meetings have been planned