



Letter of Intent to cooperate

between

Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, United Kingdom

and

**Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan, Taiwan
(Republic of China)**

This Letter of Intent for cooperation is made between the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, Southgate House, Southgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 1UB, hereafter referred to as "**QAA**".

and

Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan, 7F, No.179, Section 1, Heping East Road, Da-an District, Taipei City 106, Taiwan (R.O.C), hereafter referred to as "**HEEACT**".

Collectively referred to as "the Parties".

Whereas

QAA was established in 1997 and is the independent body entrusted with monitoring and advising on standards and quality in UK higher education. To this end, QAA carries out reviews of UK higher education providers and develops and maintains the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, the definitive national point of reference for academic standards and the quality of learning opportunities.

Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT) was established jointly by the Ministry of Education (MOE) and all higher education institutions in Taiwan under the University Act in 2005. Since 2006, HEEACT has conducted higher education accreditations that help the universities to contribute to society through the pursuit of quality education and research. HEEACT's responsibilities include three major areas: (i) to conduct institutional and programme accreditation on Taiwan's universities and colleges; (ii) to carry out quality assurance activities and research projects on higher education and (iii) to cultivate the specialists and experts in quality assurance.

QAA and HEEACT

In the context of establishing links of friendship and cooperation, QAA and HEEACT have agreed the content of this Letter of Intent (LoI).

This Lol is not intended to create legally binding relations between the Parties, and neither Party has the authority to act on behalf of or otherwise bind the other Party.

Both Parties, in accordance with the framework of British and Taiwanese laws and regulations, agree to exercise their best efforts to explore possible opportunities for cooperation in the following fields:

(a) Mutual understanding

Work to enhance their understanding of each other's approach to assuring quality in higher education, the respective systems in place for quality assurance and enhancement in higher education, and the critical matters relating to quality and standards in higher education in both countries.

(b) Information exchange

Exchange information and offer professional advice about each other's activities and processes, higher education providers operating in each jurisdiction, and about developments in each country's higher education systems, having regard for the confidentiality of the information and relevant Data Protection legislation.

(c) Staff development

Where appropriate and possible, support the development of staff from both parties through activities such as staff exchange, observing each other's review processes, and provision of training.

(d) Collaboration

Where appropriate and possible, collaborate in relation to mutually agreed projects and activities for the benefit of both parties.

Duration of Letter of Intent

The Letter of Intent will take effect from the date of its signature and shall continue for two years unless it is terminated by the giving of two months' notice in writing by either Party. The Lol may be extended on mutual agreement of the Parties, such agreement to be made in writing.

Alteration of Letter of Intent

This Lol is signed by the parties in a spirit of amicable cooperation, and its provisions are not intended to be binding. The provisions of the Lol may be altered with the consent of both Parties, such alteration to be confirmed in writing.

Management and liaison arrangements for the Letter of Intent

The Chief Executive of QAA (at the time of signing Douglas Blackstock) and the Executive Director of HEEACT (at the time of signing Angela Yung-Chi Hou) will have responsibility for managing the implementation of the provisions of the Lol and for reviewing the Lol to ensure its ongoing appropriateness and relevance on an annual basis. This responsibility may be delegated to relevant members of each Party's staff in relation to particular areas of cooperation.

Resources

Unless alternative arrangements are specifically agreed and confirmed in writing, with a view to meeting particular project requirements, each Party will cover any of their own costs incurred in the application or implementation of the provisions of the Lol.

Signed by QAA in Gloucester (United Kingdom) on 15 March 2019, and by HEEACT in Colombo (Sri Lanka) on 26 March 2019



Douglas Blackstock
Chief Executive, QAA

**The Quality Assurance Agency
for Higher Education**

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