

**Memorandum of Understanding**

**Between**

***The FH Council***

**And**

***The National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Education  
(NAQAAE)***

**Whereas:**

- A. **The FH Council** is the national authority responsible for the accreditation and evaluation as well as the state recognition of FH degree programmes. The Fachhochschule Studies Act, Federal Law Gazette no. 340/1993 as amended, which entered into force on 1 October 1993, serves as the legal basis for the operations of the FH Council. The FH Council aims at ensuring and enhancing the quality of education in the FH sector. The educational mandate of FH degree programmes is to provide a scientifically sound and practice-oriented professional education at higher education level.

**The National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Education – NAQAAE**, is an authority that reports to the Prime Minister directly. It is located in Cairo and is in the process of establishing several branches to service the 27 Governorates. NAQAAE main goal is supporting more than 50,000 Egyptian educational institutes in fostering quality assurance measures and preparing them for accreditation. It is the accrediting body for all Egyptian educational society (higher education, pre- university, and Al-Azhar education).

**FH Council** and **NAQAAE** share an interest in establishing quality systems in relation to the delivery, assessment and quality assurance of practice – oriented education at HE level.

- B. **FH Council** and **NAQAAE** wish to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding to set out the areas of co-operation between the two organisations.

**1. Term of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

This agreement is valid from the day it is signed by both parties and shall be reviewed at any time either party wishes to make substantial changes to the terms contained herein. The agreement may be terminated by either party giving no less than 6 months notice in writing to the other party.

**2. Areas of Co-Operation**

Both parties shall explore collaboration that falls within the scope of this agreement as follows:

- a) Supporting NAQAAE in its role in the accreditation system for Egyptian education and training institutes by assisting with:
- The development of a national accreditation and quality assurance strategy based on international best practice
  - The provision of staff development on accreditation and quality assurance systems which underpin the strategy
  - *Supporting the development of accreditation standards*
- b) Supporting NAQAAE in its role in national qualifications framework development.

FH Council and NAQAAE may formalise any or all of the areas of collaboration listed above by signing individual contracts.

**3. Consultation and Communication**

Both parties agree to:

- Communicate regularly via e-mail and telephone communications.
- Meet formally to review progress, as necessary.
- Update their respective Senior Managers/Executive team quarterly on the progress of this MOU.

**4. Confidentiality Agreement**

Both parties agree that any contract concluded pursuant to clause 2 will include a confidentiality clause.

**5. Status**

Notwithstanding the terms of any other provisions of this MOU, this MOU is not legally binding and nothing contained in this MOU shall impose any legal obligations on either party whatsoever.

**6. Signatories**

Both parties do here sign the memorandum of understanding

On behalf of FH Council

FH Council. *President*

Signature *L. März*

Name: O.Univ.-Prof. DI Dr. Leopold März

Date *February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010*

On behalf of NAQAAE

NAQAAE President

Signature 

Name: Dr. Magdy Kassem

Date January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010