



Memorandum of Understanding

Between

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)

And

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

Whereas:

- A. **The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)** is an executive non-departmental public body sponsored by the Scottish Government Schools Directorate. It is the national body in Scotland responsible for the development, accreditation, assessment and certification of qualifications other than degrees. SQA is constituted under the Education (Scotland) Act 1996 (as amended) and has a place of business at The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DG and at Ironmills Road, Dalkeith EH22 1LE.

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).

SQA and NAQAAE share an interest in establishing quality systems in relation to the delivery, assessment and quality assurance of vocational education and training.

- B. SQA 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 of national accreditation body 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
 - *The development of vocational standards and qualifications.*
- b) Supporting NAQAAE in its role in national qualifications framework development.

SQA 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 NAQAAE

Signature.....

Name Prof. Magdy Kassem

President, NAQAAE

Date.....23/3/2009

On behalf of SQA

Signature.....

Name: Dr. Janet Brown

Chief Executive, SQA

Date.....23/3/2009