

## Memorandum of Understanding

between

**Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders**

and

**International Centre of Excellence in  
Tourism and Hospitality Education**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made between Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders, located at Parkstraat 28, 2514 JK, the Hague, the Netherlands, and hereafter referred to as NVAO, and International Centre of Excellence in Tourism and Hospitality Education, located at 28 Orpheus Street, Robertson, Qld 4109, Australia, and hereafter referred to as THE-ICE.

### Recitals

#### Whereas:

NVAO is a statutory body, established by a Treaty signed in 2003, to perform as the accreditation and quality assurance authority of the Netherlands and Flanders as well as other functions related to assessing and accrediting higher education programs and institutions, contributing to the increase of quality awareness within higher education and improving the position of higher education in the national and international context.

THE-ICE is an international accreditation body established in 2004, originally funded by the Australian federal government from 2004 to 2008. Its focus is on programme accreditation, benchmarking, the development and the promotion of excellence for tourism, hospitality, events and culinary arts (TH&E) education. THE-ICE is a not-for-profit organization governed by an elected Board of Directors that supports its member institutions through a range of strategic initiatives.

1

2016 2585  
14 NOV. 2016

RD

DB AM MF

## **Memorandum of Understanding**

between

**Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders**

and

**International Centre of Excellence in  
Tourism and Hospitality Education**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made between Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders, located at Parkstraat 28, 2514 JK, the Hague, the Netherlands, and hereafter referred to as NVAO,

and International Centre of Excellence in Tourism and Hospitality Education, located at 28 Orpheus Street, Robertson, Qld 4109, Australia, and hereafter referred to as THE-ICE.

### **Recitals**

#### **Whereas:**

NVAO is a statutory body, established by a Treaty signed in 2003, to perform as the accreditation and quality assurance authority of the Netherlands and Flanders as well as other functions related to assessing and accrediting higher education programs and institutions, contributing to the increase of quality awareness within higher education and improving the position of higher education in the national and international context.

THE-ICE is an international accreditation body established in 2004. Its focus is on programme accreditation, benchmarking, the development and the promotion of excellence for tourism, hospitality, events and culinary arts (TH&E) education. THE-ICE is a not-for-profit organization governed by an elected Board of Directors that supports its member institutions through a range of strategic initiatives.

## **NVAO and THE-ICE**

Having similar objectives in the advancement of quality assurance in higher education, NVAO and THE-ICE now wish to establish closer relations for the purpose of creating cooperative and collaborative mechanisms for the mutual benefit of both parties, as well as for the benefit of higher education programmes in the Netherlands and Flanders (where applicable).

### **Article I: Aims of Memorandum of Understanding**

NVAO and THE-ICE agree hereby to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate and to work towards developing a joint accreditation process for the accreditation of tourism, hospitality, events and culinary arts higher education programmes in the Netherlands.

### **Article II: Areas of Cooperation and Collaboration**

NVAO and THE-ICE will work together to consider the feasibility of joint accreditation of tourism, hospitality, events and culinary arts higher education programmes in the Netherlands. This will include:

exchanging existing procedures and guidelines of evaluation or accreditation in both parties;

discussing the feasibility of preparing a common methodology to implement joint accreditation when possible;

aiming to sign a collaborative agreement that further specifies a joint accreditation process as soon as possible; at the time of signing, the enclosed draft agreement is in the final stage of finalisation.

### **Article III: Duration of Memorandum**

The Memorandum of Understanding will take effect from the date of its signature and shall continue for one year, unless:

- a) the final agreement, as mentioned in Art. II, is signed by both parties;
- b) the Memorandum of Understanding is terminated by the giving of three months' notice by either party.

The Memorandum of Understanding may be extended based on the mutual Memorandum of both parties.

### **Article IV: Alteration of Memorandum**

This Memorandum is signed by the parties in a spirit of amicable cooperation. The terms of the Memorandum may be altered with the consent of both parties in writing.

### **Article V: Resources**

The two agencies will work together to look for necessary resources to carry on the activities planned in this Memorandum.

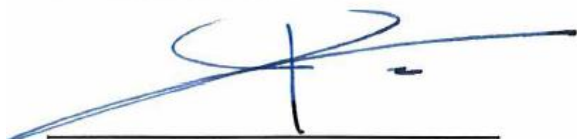
### **Article VI: Officers responsible for managing the Memorandum**

The member of the NVAO Board (at the time of signing Paul Zevenbergen) and the CEO of THE-ICE (at the time of signing Pauline Tang) will have responsibility for managing the implementation of the terms of the Memorandum. This responsibility may be delegated to relevant members of the agencies' staff in relation to particular areas of cooperation.

### **Article VII: Schedule of projects and activities**

Specific details on any projects of accreditation of programmes or institutions (procedures, agenda, budget) that are entered under the terms of this Memorandum shall be negotiated and agreed by both parties and will be described in a specific agreement.

Signed in Lucerne,  
On November 9th 2016



On behalf of NVAO  
Paul Zevenbergen  
Member of the Board  
NVAO

Signed in Lucerne,  
On November 9th 2016



On behalf of THE-ICE  
Pauline Tang  
CEO  
THE-ICE