



## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

between

**Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan**

and

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

This Memorandum of Understanding is made between the Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan, located at 7F., No.179, Sec. 1, Heping East Road, Da-an District, Taipei 10644, Taiwan, and hereafter referred to as "HEEACT",

and

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

### **Whereas**

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 program 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.

International Centre of Excellence in Tourism and Hospitality Education (THE-ICE) was established by the Australia federal government as one (1) of five (5) international centres of excellence (ICE) and seed-funded from 2004 to 2008. In July, 2008, it incorporated as an Australia-based not-for-profit international quality assurance agency for the assessment and accreditation at institutional and programme level, in the specialised field of tourism, hospitality, events and culinary arts (TH&E). In addition to conduct cross-border accreditation of TH&E programmes in alignment with THE-ICE Standards of Excellence, it is also committed in the development, the promotion and the benchmarking of excellence through the implementation of its strategic initiatives.

## **HEEACT and THE-ICE**

Having comparable missions and institutional objectives in the assurance of quality in Higher Education, both parties wish to continue and deepen further their cooperation upon the terms contained herein.

### **Aims**

HEEACT and THE-ICE agree through this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to cooperate for the benefit of both parties and to work towards enhancing external quality assurance in both jurisdictions and improving the quality of higher education in Taiwan and THE-ICE, and the internationalization of both systems. This MOU 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. However, HEEACT and THE-ICE agree to work together to implement this MOU in good faith.

The Memorandum of Understanding covers the following areas:

#### **(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 Taiwan and the international standards adopted by THE-ICE.

#### **(b) Information exchange and transparency**

Exchange information and offer professional advice about each other's activities and processes, higher education providers operating in each jurisdiction, and about developments in the higher education systems of Taiwan and globally, 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 the two agencies through activities such as staff exchange, observing each other's quality assurance review, and provision of training.

#### **(d) Use of each other's expertise**

Where appropriate and possible, taking account of operational constraints, draw on each other's expertise and auditors, accreditors or other specialists to strengthen the international dimension of institutional reviews and/or accreditations, including reviews of cross-border education.

#### **(e) Recognition**

Where appropriate and possible, in operations relating to quality assurance of higher education within one party's jurisdiction but originating from the other party's jurisdiction, have due regard to the relevant decisions and judgments of the other party.

#### **(f) Collaboration**

Where appropriate and possible, collaborate in relation to mutually agreed projects and activities for the benefit of both parties, including the quality assurance of transnational education, the identification of fraudulent institutions, awarding bodies or accrediting agencies in Taiwan and

globally, supporting student mobility, and undertaking research on quality assurance related issues.

**(g) Resources**

Unless alternative arrangements are specifically agreed to meet particular project requirements, each agency will normally cover their own costs of implementing the terms of the MOU. For particular areas of cooperation donor funding may be sought from other sources.

**Duration of Memorandum and Alteration**

The MOU will take effect for a period of five years (date set according to signing date below) and shall continue for five years unless it is terminated by the giving of three months' notice by either party, and may be altered at any time with the consent of both parties. It may be extended on mutual agreement of both parties.

**Management and liaison arrangements for the Memorandum**

The Chief Executive Officer of THE-ICE and the Executive Director of HEEACT will have responsibility for managing the implementation of the terms of the Memorandum. This responsibility may be delegated to relevant members of the agency's staff in relation to particular areas of cooperation.

Signature as follows:

Angela Yung-Chi Hou  
Executive Director, HEEACT

Pauline Tang  
Chief Executive Officer, THE-ICE



Higher Education Evaluation and  
Accreditation Council of Taiwan  
(HEEACT)

International Centre of Excellence in  
Tourism and Hospitality Education  
(THE-ICE)

Date:

2018. 0 18

Date:

18-10-2018