

Cooperation Agreement

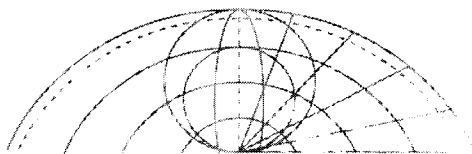
Between

*the Akkreditierungsagentur für Studiengänge der
Ingenieurwissenschaften, der Informatik, der
Naturwissenschaften und der Mathematik e.V. (ASIIN)*

and

*the National Centre for Professional Education Quality
Assurance, Foundation (ANQA)*

August 21st, 2009



Preamble

The ***Akkreditierungsagentur für Studiengänge der Ingenieurwissenschaften, der Informatik, der Naturwissenschaften und der Mathematik e.V. (ASIIN – Accreditation Agency for Study Programs in Engineering, Informatics, Natural Sciences and Mathematics)*** is the German accreditation agency specialised in accrediting degree programmes in the fields of engineering, informatics/computer science, the natural sciences and mathematics. It was founded in 2002 as a non-profit, registered association and officially accredited by the German Accreditation Council (*Akkreditierungsrat*) on December 12 of the same year. The reaccreditation for ASIIN was issued by the Accreditation Council on June 22, 2006.

The ASIIN membership structure is divided into four groups: (1) coordination group of German Universities; (2) coordination group of German universities of applied science; (3) industrial federations; and (4) technical and scientific associations and trade unions. Undisputedly, the ASIIN thereby represents the entire cross-section of the scientific, economic and social forces that play a decisive role in the education and further training of students.

The National Centre for Professional Education Quality Assurance, Foundation (ANQA) is an independent foundation for promoting quality education at tertiary level in Armenia. It was established in December, 2008. ANQA is founded and subsidized by the Armenian government and is projected to be financed through entrepreneurial initiatives. It is governed by the board of stakeholders and is independent of the RA Ministry of Education and Science and institutions at tertiary level.

The “Akkreditierungsagentur für Studiengänge der Ingenieurwissenschaften, der Informatik, der Naturwissenschaften und der Mathematik e.V. (ASIIN)” and the “*Armenian National Quality Assurance Center (ANQA)*” (in the following: the contracting parties) agree to conclude the following cooperation agreement.

§ 1 – Goals of the Cooperation

The contracting parties cooperate within the framework of their respective competences.

The cooperation takes place with the goals of

- furthering the building of quality assurance systems for higher education in Armenia;
- evaluation and accreditation of degree programmes in Armenia;
- training of Armenian peers;
- supporting the quality management of regional networks of higher education institutions;
- working together in cross-border projects aiming at quality improvement and assurance in higher education.

These goals shall be attained through:

- mutual information and discussion about the execution and development of the accreditation procedures and quality assurance systems of the respective contracting parties;
- joint participation in international projects on a case by case basis;
- joint organization of information and training events for members of Higher Education Institutions and representatives of the industry for participation in accreditation processes;
- cooperation in accreditation processes in Armenia.

§ 2 – Actions

1. The contracting parties agree to inform each other regularly about their activities in the stated areas of activity.
2. The contracting parties intend to organise and carry out joint workshops on specific topics related to quality assurance in engineering higher education.

§ 3 – Costs

No financial obligations infer from this agreement. Costs will be subjected to a case by case decision.

§ 4 – Cooperation with other (Accreditation) Institutions

This agreement is not exclusive and does not impede each of the contracting parties to sign agreements with other evaluation and/or accreditation bodies.

§ 5 – Language

The contracting parties agree to formulate cooperation agreements and all other written documents concerning their cooperation in English. Documents regarding specific accreditation processes are provided either in English.

§ 6 – Termination of the Cooperation

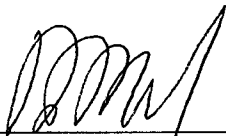
This agreement is signed for a normal period of four years, automatically reconducted for a new period of four years, except if one of the contracting parties has given a six month written notice in advance of its will to terminate it.

In any case the contracting parties may terminate this agreement for important reasons with six months' notice before the date which corresponds to the terminating date of this cooperation agreement.

§ 7 – Final Regulations

1. Changes or additions to this cooperation agreement must be provided in written form and signed by both contracting parties to be valid.
2. The respective managing directors of the contracting parties are in charge of the implementation of this cooperation agreement.
3. This cooperation agreement enters into force through the signature of both contracting parties.

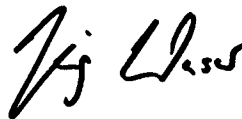
Yerevan, August 21, 2009.



Dr. Ruben Topchyan

ANQA Director

Düsseldorf, August 21, 2009



Dr. Iring Wasser

ASIIN Managing Director