

## **Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the Establishment of the ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN)**

**Adopted on 8 July 2008 during the “ASEAN Quality Assurance Agencies Roundtable Meeting” organised by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)**

The officials of the quality assurance agencies and ministries responsible for higher education from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED), as listed in the Appendix, on the occasion of the first ASEAN Quality Assurance Agencies Roundtable Meeting on Tuesday, 8 July 2008

**REALISING** the active movement towards the development of an ASEAN Economic Community,

**CONSCIOUS** of the benefits of collaboration and sharing, and the crucial role of quality assurance in promoting harmonisation in higher education,

**MINDFUL** of the diversity and the different stages of the development of quality assurance systems and agencies at national levels,

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the mutual interests and common concerns amongst them,

**AFFIRMING** the need for closer relationship between people in the region through mobility of students, faculty and programmes,

**DESIRING** to complement the role of regional and international quality assurance networks,

**DO HEREBY DECLARE:**

**FIRST**, the establishment of a network of quality assurance agencies among Southeast Asian Countries to be known as ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN).

**SECOND**, the aims and purposes of the AQAN shall be:

- i. to share best practices of quality assurance;
- ii. to develop an ASEAN Quality Assurance Framework;
- iii. to collaborate on capacity building; and
- iv. to facilitate recognition of qualifications and cross-border mobility.

**THIRD**, to carry out these aims and purposes, the following machinery shall be established:

- i. An Annual Roundtable Meeting of representatives of quality assurance bodies and ministries responsible for higher education shall be convened. Special meetings may be convened as and when agreed upon.
- ii. A Standing Committee shall be formed and its members shall be determined at a later date.
- iii. A temporary Secretariat shall be established in the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA). A permanent Secretariat shall be determined at a later date.

**FOURTH**, the network is open for participation to all quality assurance agencies or agencies responsible for quality assurance of higher education in Southeast Asian countries.

**DONE** in Kuala Lumpur on the Eighth Day of July in the Year Two Thousand and Eight.

## Appendix

No.	Country	Participant	Agency
1	Brunei	Datin Hajah Khadijah Haji Akbar Acting Executive Secretary Email: <a href="mailto:dh_khadijah@yahoo.com">dh_khadijah@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council (BDNAC)</b> Room B211, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Block B Ministry of Education Bandar Seri Begawan BB 3510 Brunei Darussalam Tel.: 673 238 1238 ext 2209/2210 Fax: 673 238 1238 Email: <a href="mailto:mkpk@moe.edu.bn">mkpk@moe.edu.bn</a> Website: <a href="http://www.moe.edu.bn">www.moe.edu.bn</a>
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3	Brunei	Mr. Fairul Rizal bin Haji Rashid Email: <a href="mailto:fairul@fbeps.ubd.edu.bn">fairul@fbeps.ubd.edu.bn</a>	<b>Universiti Brunei Darussalam</b> Department of Business and Management Faculty of Business, Economics and Policy Studies, UBD Jalan Tungku Link Brunei Darussalam. BE1410 Tel: (O) 673-246 3001 ext 2034 Fax: 673-246 3017
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18	Thailand	Dr. Varaporn Seehanath Email: <a href="mailto:varaporn@mua.go.th">varaporn@mua.go.th</a>	<b>Bureau of Standards and Evaluation, Commission on Higher Education</b> 328, Sri Ayutthaya Road, Ratchathewi, Bangkok, 10400 Thailand Tel: +662-6105383 Fax: +662-3545530 Website : <a href="http://www.mua.go.th/users/bhes/">http://www.mua.go.th/users/bhes/</a>
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