

## **Memorandum of Understanding**

between

**National Accreditation Commission, CNA-Chile**

and

**Foundation for the Accreditation of Study Programs in Germany**

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into between the Comisión Nacional de Acreditación, Santa Lucía 360, Santiago, Mesa Central 26201100, hereinafter referred to as CNA-Chile

and

Foundation for the Accreditation of Study Programmes in Germany, Adenauerallee 73, 53113 Bonn, Germany, hereinafter referred to as the German Accreditation Council (GAC)

### **Recitals**

#### **Whereas:**

CNA-Chile verifies and promotes the quality of higher education through: the accreditation of universities, institutions for professional development, and autonomous technical academies. The Comisión de Acreditación aims to be an organization that contributes to the development of excellence in higher education in Chile through the public certification of processes and outcomes of its institutions and programs, and through the development of a culture of continuous improvement, recognized nationally and internationally for its excellence and transparency in addressing relevant societal issues.

GAC has the statutory task of organizing the system of quality assurance in learning and teaching through accreditation. Its main purpose is to contribute to the development of the quality of teaching and learning in Germany and, with this in mind, to cooperate in the realization of the European Higher Education Area.

#### **CNA-Chile and GAC**

Sharing similar missions and institutional objectives in advancing quality assurance in higher education, CNA-Chile and GAC now wish to establish a closer relationship as equal partners for the purpose of creating cooperative and collaborative mechanisms for the mutual benefit of both parties.

## Article I

### Aims of the Memorandum of Understanding

CNA-Chile and GAC hereby agree to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate for the benefit of both parties and to work toward establishing a strategic alliance to enhance the operation of external quality assurance in both jurisdictions and improve the quality of higher education in Chile and Germany

## Article II

### Areas of Cooperation and Collaboration

CNA-Chile and GAC declare their mutual interest in strengthening the quality of higher education in Chile and Germany, which entails gaining knowledge of the different national quality assurance systems and encouraging the exchange of knowledge and experience in evaluating and accrediting institutions of higher education and/or their study programs

CNA-Chile and GAC will work together:

- a) To exchange information and expertise as appropriate. This will include:
  - Key policy documents and operational information, where appropriate, from Chile and Germany jointly
  - Information on study programs and institutions in which each party has an interest, subject to any overriding confidentiality requirements to which either agency may be subject
  - Information on reviews or other activities related to programs offered by higher education institutions in both countries

Common quality assurance measures, depending on the legal possibilities of each party, may be implemented in a second phase once a common foundation and knowledge base have been established, e.g.

- b) To provide professional development opportunities, as appropriate, for the staff of both parties
- c) To collaborate on quality assurance projects
- d) To collaborate on joint research of mutual benefit
- e) To cooperate in any other mutually agreed activities for the benefit of both parties.

These steps may define the general framework for the cooperation. Additional annexes may follow to specify its terms and conditions

## Article III

CNA-Chile and GAC agree to establish a working group to explore the possibilities of implementing this agreement. The presidents of both agencies will chair this working group, along with one representative from each country who is an expert in the field of accreditation programs and institutional quality. The representative is to be appointed by each party.

## Article IV

### Term of the Memorandum

The Memorandum of Understanding shall take effect on the date of its signature and shall remain in force for five years unless terminated by either party upon three months' notice. It may be extended by mutual agreement of both parties.

**Article V**  
**Amendment of the Memorandum**

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

**Article VI**  
**Officers Responsible for Managing the Memorandum**

The President of CNA-Chile (at the time of signing, Professor Alfonso Muga Naredo) and the Chairman of GAC (at the time of signing, Professor Dr. Reinhold R. Grimm) will be responsible 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 specific areas of cooperation.

**Article VII**  
**Resources**

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

**Article VIII**  
**Schedule of Projects and Activities**

Joint projects and activities may consist of internships for members of both entities, the exchange of consulting, normative, and working instruments, as well as matters of mutual interest regarding the development of both institutions. Each project and activity will be formalized in an annex to this Memorandum drawn up by the parties listed in Article VI, in which the terms and conditions as well as the responsibilities are specified.

Signed in Bonn on November 30, 2016

**Alfonso Muga Naredo**

Professor Alfonso Muga Naredo  
President  
CNA-Chile  
Chile

**Oly Berk (s.c.)**

Professor Dr. Reinhold R. Grimm  
Chairman  
GAC  
Germany