Recognition of Foreign Degrees in China

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Recognition Mechanism

1. Convention and bi-lateral Mutual Recognition Agreements-guiding principles and methods of mutual recognition
2. Implementing the Convention and Fulfilling the Obligations of Agreements
   - Promulgating Laws and Policies
   - Establishing Institutions and Organizations for Implementation
     A. The MOE and the Academic Degree Committee of the State - supervisory role.
     B. CSCSE - Verifying overseas academic credentials
     C. CDGDC – Equivalency consultation
       – Verifying Chinese academic degrees
Principles, Criteria and Procedure

Principles
- Voluntary; Academic qualifications only
- Legal frameworks of China and other countries
- International Convention
- Bilateral Agreements
- Quantity and quality approaches

Criteria
- Factors to consider for the assessment

Procedure
- Transparency, time limit for assessment
- Fees charged
- Appeal & Reassessment
- Access to service
Issues and Challenges

1. Diversified higher education systems and degree awarding policies
2. Rapid changes and multiple mode of cross-border education provision
   A. Programme & institution mobility
   B. Student mobility
3. Multiple demands from employers, applicants
4. Timely reply from overseas organizations or HEIs not certain (eg, fee charge)
5. Fraudulent documents, diploma mills, hacker attacks, etc
Ratification of the Revised Convention

On-going Process

1. Report submitted to the State Council for approval
2. MOE work priority: encouraging and facilitating higher education international cooperation, promoting the mutual recognition of academic credit, encouraging the award of joint degrees and double degrees
3. Government setting up People-to-People exchange mechanisms, educational exchanges being one of the most prioritized.
Global Convention

1. Diversified Systems VS One Convention

2. Feasibility Study Important

3. From Inter-Regional Conventions to Global Convention?
Thank you!

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