12th Session of the Regional Committee on the Recognition of Qualifications in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific Country Report: Australia

Elizabeth Campbell-Dorning
International Education and Science Division
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Higher education in Australia

- Higher education institutions, quality assurance, funding, and international education are regulated by Commonwealth and State and Territory laws
- 43 universities and 150 higher education institutions
- *Higher Education Standards Framework*
- Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA) is an independent auditor
- Commonwealth funds Australian students to study domestically and overseas
- AsiaBound program
- Australia Country Education Profile
Recognition in Australia and AEI-NOOSR

- Established in 1969, AEI-NOOSR is Australia’s NIC Party to Lisbon Recognition Convention in 2002
- Tabled Tokyo Convention in Parliament in May 2013 and expecting ratification in 2014

Strategic engagement, research and analysis, and information services:

- Support high quality recognition practices
- Provide information and advice about overseas education systems to Australian stakeholders
- Provide information about Australian education internationally
- Liaise with overseas governments, recognition authorities and international counterparts
- Participate in recognition forums (multilateral, bilateral and domestic)
AEI-NOOSR’s recognition role

- AEI-NOOSR is an advisory body that supports >100,000 recognition decisions annually
- Australian Qualifications Framework as benchmark
- Flexible assessment methodology
- Country Education Profiles online publication:
  - Recognition tool for more than 120 countries
  - Education system information
  - List of recognised institutions
  - Assessment guidelines
- Advisory service for Australian stakeholders
- Professional development and training
- Educational assessments
Decision making authorities in Australia

Make recognition decisions based on:
* AEI-NOOSR products/services
* Official or authoritative publications
* Organisational policies
* Organisational network
* Local country experts
* Country authorities
* Awarding body
Issues and challenges

- Australian Government's *Australia in the Asian Century* White Paper October 2012
- Increased outbound student mobility and engagement in Asia
- Rapid changes to education systems, increasing demand for recognition
- Information sharing and lessons learned
- Working collaboratively with international counterparts especially in the Asia Pacific
- Department’s innovative, productive and adaptive agenda aims to build a positive view of recognition in the region