13th session of the Regional Committee on the Recognition of Qualifications in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific in conjunction with the Regional Workshop on Quality Assurance in Higher Education

National Information Centre in New Zealand

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NZQA’s Qualification Recognition Services examines and evaluates international qualifications on a case-by-case basis.

Evaluation of international qualification(s) includes:

- Comparing the learning outcomes with the New Zealand Qualifications Framework level descriptors.
- Looking for comparability with a current New Zealand qualification on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework that has substantially similar outcomes and content. Where this is achieved a comparability finding is made.
• New Zealand has not ratified the 1983 Convention
• NZQA’s Qualifications Recognition Services is the competent recognition authority
• Other organisations can also recognise qualifications for specific purposes - eg. New Zealand Universities for further studies or entry to courses.
Recognition of Secondary School Leaving Certificates and other Diplomas for the Purpose of Further Studies

- The number of international students undertaking undergraduate study programs in New Zealand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International enrolments by qualification level</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>8691</td>
<td>9173</td>
<td>10038</td>
<td>10786</td>
<td>10379</td>
<td>10882</td>
<td>10023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>10470</td>
<td>8941</td>
<td>9038</td>
<td>11271</td>
<td>12276</td>
<td>13752</td>
<td>13754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor</td>
<td>23559</td>
<td>20503</td>
<td>18504</td>
<td>18635</td>
<td>19226</td>
<td>19880</td>
<td>20300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrolments</td>
<td>42720</td>
<td>38617</td>
<td>37580</td>
<td>40692</td>
<td>41881</td>
<td>44514</td>
<td>44077</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recognition of Secondary School Leaving Certificates and other Diplomas for the Purpose of Further Studies

- The number of international students undertaking postgraduate study programs in New Zealand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>5015</td>
<td>5478</td>
<td>6162</td>
<td>7114</td>
<td>7902</td>
<td>8214</td>
<td>8740</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The combined number of New Zealand Students going overseas for undergraduate and postgraduate was 6,099 in 2011 (Source – Education at a Glance – OECD 2013)
Recognition of Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees for the Purpose of Practicing a Profession

There are a number of professional registration bodies, which have their own processes and requirements. Some professional registration bodies require individuals to have their qualifications assessed by NZQA, as part of their requirements.

Professional Bodies include:

- Acupuncture
- Accountancy
- Architect
- Aviation
- Carpenter
- Chiropractor
- Dentist
- Dietician
- Engineer
- Electrician
- Environmental
- Hospitality
- Insurance
- Immigration Advice
- Law
- Maritime
- Midwifery
- Automotive
- Medical
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapy
- Nursing
- Optometrists
- Psychologist
- Speech therapy
- Plumbing
- Podiatrists
- Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Veterinary Surgeon

No designated agencies are authorised to provide recognition services AND advice to employers on recruitment of new staff, however NZQA's International Qualifications Assessments can be used to support an individual's application for employment.
Bilateral and Multilateral Recognition Agreements

- Australia
  - TTRMA (Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement)
  - Recognition of professional registration, not recognition of qualifications
- European Union
  - Referencing New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) to European Qualifications Framework (EQF)
  - Lisbon Recognition Convention
  - European Convention on the Equivalence of Diplomas Leading to Admission to Universities
- Malaysia
  - Bachelor Degrees pilot project for qualifications recognition
  - Free trade agreement between NZ and Malaysia that considers recognition of qualifications based on the compatibility of the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) and the Malaysian Qualifications Framework (MQF) and the quality assurance practices as well as the equivalency of qualifications
- China
  - Develop referencing framework to allow New Zealand and China to compare their vocational qualifications
- Hong Kong
  - Referencing New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) and Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF)
- Republic of Ireland
  - Compatibility of bachelor, bachelor honours, master and doctoral degrees
National Information Centers

- NZQA already operates a NIC office, which resides within the QRS business unit
- It provides information and advice to all enquirers on:
  - The recognition of foreign degrees, diplomas, and other academic or professional qualifications
  - The New Zealand education system and education systems in other countries
- Queries received 2013-14 from:
  - individuals: 462
  - organisations: 50
  - within New Zealand: 226
  - outside of New Zealand: 286
  - total: 512
National Qualifications Framework

- New Zealand has a well established, stable national qualifications framework
- The New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) covers senior secondary school qualifications and tertiary education qualifications
- In 1992, New Zealand developed one of the first qualifications frameworks in the world – the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).
- In July 2010, the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) replaced both the NQF and the New Zealand Register of Quality Assured Qualifications.
- The NZQF is designed to:
  - provide information about the skills, knowledge and attributes a graduate gains by completing a qualification
  - provide a clear education pathway, to establish what further education the qualification leads to
  - enable and support the development of integrated and coherent qualifications
  - give confidence in the quality and international comparability of New Zealand qualifications
  - contribute to the strengthening of Māori as a people by enhancing and advancing Mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge)
  - be sustainable and robust.
Ratification of the 2011 Revised Convention

- The passage of legislation to adopt the Convention is proceeding through the Parliamentary process
- Has reached Select Committee stage and is likely to be completed in the next Parliamentary session early in 2015
- The upcoming election in New Zealand has delayed the final ratification
Thank You