

# Report

## Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes

29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017, Bangkok

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### Introduction

From 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017 the Office of the Higher Education Commission, Ministry of Education, Thailand hosted a meeting of the *Expert Group on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes* which held its first meeting in China in March 2016. The previous meeting was held during 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017 in Ghent, Belgium, together with a “*Peer Learning Activity on Qualifications Frameworks in relation to Quality Assurance and Recognition*”, where a group of selected experts from Asia and Europe brainstormed on a number of related topics including qualifications frameworks, quality assurance schemes, credit transfer mechanisms and the use of learning outcomes as an underlying concept.

Participants of the Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes include experts from Belgium / Flemish Community, Germany, France, Latvia, Indonesia, as well as representatives from DAAD, SEAMEO RIHED, ASEM Education Secretariat (AES), and the Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC), Thailand.

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## Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes

### State of affairs

In March 2016, the first ASEM Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes was held in Beijing (PRC). The meeting had representatives from *Brunei Darussalam, China, Estonia, Indonesia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Thailand, United Kingdom (& ASEAN University Network)*. Also, the following countries agreed to contribute as members but were not able to be present during the first meeting: *Australia, Belgium (Flemish & French Community), Portugal, Romania (& ASEM Education Secretariat)*.

The second ASEM Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes was held jointly with the Peer Learning Activity on Qualifications Frameworks in relation to Quality Assurance and Recognition during 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017 in Ghent (Belgium). Participants of the meeting included representatives from *Belgium/Flemish Community, Belgium/French Community, Lithuania, Romania, Germany, France, Norway, Brunei Darussalam, Thailand, SEAMEO RIHED, DAAD, EQAR, NVAO and the European Commission*.

During the third ASEM Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes held on 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017 in Bangkok (Thailand), the members of the Expert Group present determined that it is crucial that the Compendium on Credit Systems and Learning Outcomes in ASEM Member Countries is complete, up-to-date, relevant and practical / useful. The Compendium should clearly state its objectives and target groups, and most importantly, a glossary to describe relevant terms should be set up, and the explanations / descriptions, therefore, must be related to national contexts. Consequently, the main result of the meeting was a complete review of the set-up and structure of the said Compendium.

### TO DO's

In connection with the above, the members of the Expert Group present agreed to:

- Update a list of contact persons for the working group;
- Write a stocktaking report;
- Work on the improvement of the Compendium on Credit Systems and Learning Outcomes in ASEM Member Countries;
- Review the “Terms of Reference” for the future work of the expert group.

## Proposed concrete actions / focal points

Based on their specific discussions and the overall meeting, the members of the Expert Group present unanimously agreed on the importance of having clear definitions of relevant terms (especially those that could be interpreted in different ways, such as “Learning Outcomes”) and focused on the review of the Compendium on Credit Systems and Learning Outcomes in ASEM Member Countries.

The experts, therefore, proposed the following concrete actions for the improvement of the Compendium on Credit Systems and Learning Outcomes in ASEM Member Countries:

- Complete the review of the existing template;
- Specify in the introduction the main goal and target group of the compendium;
- Compile a glossary of all template-related terms;
- Prepare an online tool to gather the input of all ASEM members;
- Peer review the individual contributions with the support of the expert group;
- Discuss the future format and dissemination of the compendium (e.g. online version)

It was concluded that countries / representatives present at the meeting will be invited to participate / contribute to future actions.

## ANNEX 1: Programme



**Flanders**  
is education & training



### The 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEM Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes

29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017, Bangkok, Thailand

**Venue: Karaked Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Mandarin Hotel Managed by Centre Point**

#### Tuesday 29th August 2017:

- 9.00h Registration
- 9.30h Welcome
- 9.45h Introduction of participants
- 10.00h Follow-up meeting Ghent – State of play (Frederik De Decker & Magalie Soenen)
- 10.30h Review compendium
- Process on update compendium 2016 (ASEM education secretariat)
  - Example of the use of credits and learning outcomes in day-to-day practice in the ASEM- DUO mobility programme (Frederik De Decker)
- 11.15h Coffee break
- 11.45h Discussion on the final goal of the compendium
- 13.00h Lunch
- 14.00h DUO-work - Review of compendium entries
- In pairs (one Asian, one European participant) the contributions of the two individual countries are critically analysed.
- Is the information in the compendium accurate?
  - Is the information applicable for higher education institutions/individuals?
  - Are there missing headings?

- 15.00h First conclusions of the discussions of the DUO's
- 15.30h Coffee break
- 16.00h Prepare adapted compendium entries for each DUO of countries
- 17.30h End of first day
- 18.30h Dinner

### **Wednesday 30th August 2017**

- 9.30h Set up of a template to describe best practices in the use of learning outcomes in study/course catalogues as the result of course design
- 10.30h DUO-work
- In pairs (one Asian, one European participant) explore a system of credit transfer and grade conversion between the two countries.
- 11.15h Coffee break
- 11.45h First conclusions of the discussions of the DUO's
- 12.15h DUO-work
- Continue to work in pairs (one Asian, one European participant) on a system of credit transfer and grade conversion between the two countries.
- 13.00h Lunch
- 14.00h Prepare suggestions for non-present countries concerning the adapted compendium based on the experience of the expert group on CTS & LO
- 15.30h Coffee break
- 16.00h Conclusion and follow-up of the expert group on CTS & LO in relation to ASEMME6
- (Review terms of reference for next work programme)
- 17.00h End of second day
- 18.30h Dinner

## ANNEX 2: List of participants

Country	Name	E-mail
Belgium / Flemish Community	Frederik De Decker	Frederik.DeDecker@ugent.be
Belgium / Flemish Community	Magalie Soenen	magalie.soenen@ond.vlaanderen.be
Germany	Alexandra Angress	Alexandra.Angress@h-ab.de
France	Philippe Lalle	Philippe.Lalle@enseignementsup.gouv.fr
Latvia	Inara Dunska	inara@aic.lv
Indonesia	Alam Nasrah Ikhlas	Anikhlas@ristekdikti.go.id / Alamnasrahi@gmail.com
Thailand (OHEC)	Bundit Thipakorn	bundit@cpe.kmutt.ac.th
Thailand (OHEC)	Nongnuch Chunbandhit	nongnuch.ohec@gmail.com
Thailand (OHEC)	Siriporn Wiriyaukradecha	siriporn.wir@mua.go.th
DAAD	Saskia Weißenbach	weissenbach@daad.de
SEAMEO RIHED	Chantavit Sujatanond	chantavit@rihed.seameo.org
SEAMEO RIHED	Kohei Yamada	kohei@rihed.seameo.org
AES	Veronica Enda Wulandari	asem.education@kemdikbud.go.id
AES	Irma Imaniar	asem.education@kemdikbud.go.id