
Global Summit on Quality Assurance of Higher Education

On September 16-17, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), a premier National Quality Assurance Agency in India, in collaboration with the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN), held “Global Summit on Quality Higher Education: Sharing values and fostering trust beyond borders” in Bengaluru in India.

It was for the first time the key quality networks and agencies from Asia, Europe, America and Africa joined hands to be the partners of event and assembled on same platform. Global partners included organizations such as CHEA (Council for Higher Education Accreditation) from USA, ENQA (European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) and ECA (European Consortium for Accreditation in Higher Education) from Europe, ANQAHE (Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) from Arab region, AQAN (ASEAN Quality Assurance Network) and APQR (the Asia Pacific Quality Register) from Asia and leading quality agencies including QAA - UK (the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education) from United Kingdom, TEQSA (the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency) from Australia, QQA (National Authority of Qualifications and Quality Assurance for Education and Training) from Bahrain, and TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) from Mauritius, MQA (Malaysian Qualifications Agency) from Malaysia, AACCUP (the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines) from Philippines, HEEACT (Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan) from Taiwan, NIAD-QE (National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement for Higher Education) from Japan, etc..

120 delegates from India and abroad, over 20 foreign nationals representing global quality assurance bodies participated in the Global Summit focusing on Higher Education Quality Accreditation. This event is the culmination of the efforts by NAAC and APQN in bringing together global quality assurance agencies and heads of accredited institutions from across the country under one platform.

The inauguration of the Summit is held through video message from Union Minister for Human Resources Development Prakash Javadekar. Prof V S Chauhan (Chairman, Executive Committee) delivered the Presidential address. Dr. Judith Eaton (President of Council for Higher Education, USA), Prof Dr Jianxin Zhang (President of APQN, China) and Prof D P Singh (Director of NAAC) all delivered the welcome address. Dr Jagannath Patil (Adviser of NAAC and Chief Convener of the Global Summit) gave the vote of thanks and introduced the Summit.

The two-day Summit discussed and deliberated on some of the best practices, sharing information and resources in higher education quality assurance, exchange and promotion of good practices, serving global student community by facilitating student mobility, developing

strategies for creating global resources inequality assurance, sharing and creating value through power of alliance and a host of other objectives and themes.

“Bengaluru Statement 2016 on Next-Generation Quality Assurance of Higher Education: A Shared Vision and Commitment for Fostering Partnership Beyond Borders” was the culmination of the global summit and is counted as the major landmark in the International history of higher education quality assurance.



The Report of the Project of APQN Quality Label

In order to realize APQN’s value of “being committed to quality higher education, and supportive of quality agencies in the region” as per the APQN Constitution, to establish the standardization of the quality assurance system of higher education, and facilitate the communications of different international experiences within the Asia-Pacific Region, in January, 2014, the project of “APQN Quality Label” was launched under the leadership of Dr. Jagannath Patil (the 4th president) and Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (the 5th president). The project members are Prof. Galina Motova from National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA) in Russian, staff members from China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Center (CDGDC) of Ministry of Education in China and other members from four QAAs.

After a 20-month exploration, the project of *“APQN Quality Label as regional/international accreditation of internationalization”* has been finalized and is well under way in the implementation.

The overall objective of the APQN Quality Label initiative is to support, develop, improve and enhance international excellence in HEIs and programs in this region. It aims to achieve this by designing and testing an APQN Quality Label accompanied by a methodology to assess the internationalization of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region. There are general criteria for the acquisition of APQN Quality Label, which are made up of 5 criteria, 12 indicators and 34 review points:

Criterion	Indicator
1. International Mission & policy	1.1 Policy of internationalization
	1.2 System of internal quality assurance (IQA)
2. Organization & administration	2.1 Organization
	2.2 Administration
3. International Mobility	3.1 Mobility of programs
	3.2 Student mobility
	3.3 Staff mobility
4. Student Support	4.1 Availability of scholarships & investments
	4.2 Human resources
	4.3 extracurricular activities
5. Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)	5.1 Academic performance & qualification
	5.2 Graduate

At present, the APQN Board seeks for the possibility of cooperation with local QAAs to accredit and organize the review. Those who are interested in “*APQN Quality Label as regional/international accreditation of internationalization*” or other new programs such as nursing, accounting, MBA and others under your local context or setting, please write to the Secretariat for further information.

(Written by Jianxin Zhang)