



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
INTERNATIONAL QUALITY AND ACCREDITATION BOARD

ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATION DIVISION

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Ref No.: IQAB/ACD/2026/65379

Date: 07/01/2026

NOTIFICATION

No. IQAB/HE-ACAD/STAT/2025-26/18.—In exercise of the sovereign statutory powers conferred by Section 7 read with sub-sections (2) and (5) of Section 16 and Section 35 of the International Quality and Accreditation Board Charter Act, 2018 (Act No. 4 of 2018) and the Statutory Global Assemblies, Inter-Agency Multilateral Accords and Transnational Higher Education Quality Governance Regulations framed thereunder, the International Quality and Accreditation Board (IQAB), on the recommendation of the Directorate of Higher Education & Specialized Academies and with the unanimous assent of the Supreme Governing Board, hereby formally enacts, promulgates, and notifies the mandatory statutory quality benchmark standards, outcome-based accreditation framework, and digital registry compliance directives for all affiliated, accredited, and applicant Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Autonomous Colleges, Post-Graduate Institutes, and Specialized Professional Academies worldwide, along with its specialized evaluation panels and statutory wings specified herein below:—

- (1) Higher Education Pedagogical Quality & Outcome-Based Competency Harmonization Directorate;**
- (2) International University Articulation, Dual-Degree & Cross-Border Credit Equivalence Senate;**
- (3) Autonomous Academies & Specialized Professional Institutes Accreditation Round Table;**
- (4) Faculty Scholarship, Research Vitality & Academic Integrity Surveillance Bureau;**
- (5) Enterprise Ed Tech, Digital Learning Ecosystems & AI Pedagogical Governance Commission;**
- (6) Global Medical, Healthcare & Allied Health Sciences Academic Standards Directorate;**
- (7) Engineering, Applied Sciences & Technical Accords Harmonization Bureau;**
- (8) Institutional ESG, Sustainability Benchmarking & Ethical Governance Senate;**
- (9) Transnational Student Mobility, Cross-Border Degree Validation & Grievance Redressed Tribunal;**
- (10) Supreme Assembly of Academic Signatories, Digital Registry & Gazette Promulgation Council.**

As the sovereign statutory quality governance directive and mandatory benchmarking framework for the purpose of validating institutional quality, standardizing outcome-based curricula, and ratifying cross-border academic equivalences with immediate effect for Academic Year 2025–2026.

1. Statutory Quality Directives & Institutional Compliance Covenants

The formal accreditation, academic audit, and quality governance of all Higher Education Institutions and Specialized Academies under the IQAB regulatory umbrella shall be subject to strict compliance with the following statutory conditions, benchmarking standards, and institutional **protocols**, namely:—

- (1) **Mandatory Outcome-Based Curriculum Alignment:**— That all academic departments, faculties, and constituent academies shall map their degree and diploma curricula to internationally benchmarked learning outcomes, competency ontologies, and industry-aligned mastery indicators on or before Friday, 29th May, 2026;
- (2) **Integration with IQAB Global Verifiable Digital Registry:**— That every accredited institution shall establish secure API nodes to synchronize student academic records, degrees, and transcripts with the IQAB Verifiable Digital Registry for instant, tamper-evident cross-border employer and university verification;
- (3) **Institutional Internal Quality Assurance Covenants:**— That participating universities and autonomous academies shall enact appropriate institutional measures on or before Monday, 31st March, 2026 to:
 - (i) Establish a designated Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) headed by an executive Dean/Director on or before Friday, 27th February, 2026;
 - (ii) Submit institutional Annual Quality Performance Indicators (AQPI) and cross-border articulation dossiers on or before Monday, 30th June, 2026;
 - (iii) Implement mandatory continuing faculty professional development programs (minimum 40 verifiable hours per academic year);
 - (iv) Enforce institutional policies on ethical AI usage, academic integrity, and research anti-plagiarism verification;
 - (v) Participate mandatorily in the Annual Transnational Lead Assessor Calibration and Peer Review Sessions.

2. Statutory Audit Powers, Global Registry Indexing & Legal Effect

- (1) **Binding Legal Authority of Accreditation Ratings:**— That all institutional accreditation grades, program certifications, and academic equivalencies ratified by the Board shall carry full statutory authority under international quality

conventions and be recognized across all signatory institutions and partner jurisdictions.

- (2) Consequences of Non-Compliance or Default:— That failure of constituent universities or academies to submit mandatory self-study dossiers or maintain prescribed academic benchmarks shall result in provisional suspension of global registry badging and revocation of expedited credit transfer privileges.

Mandatory Phased Timelines & Statutory Compliance Milestones For Higher Education & Academies (2026)

The following Key Institutional Milestones Schedule and Mandatory Target Dates (all strictly scheduled on official working days) shall be legally binding upon all affiliated universities, autonomous colleges, and specialized professional academies:—

Item No.	Conclave Milestone & Statutory Treaty Deliverable	Mandatory Target Date	Responsible Authority
HEA-01	Gazette Notification & Promulgation of 2026 Higher Education Quality Standards	15 Jan 2026	Secretariat of Higher Education, IQAB
HEA-02	Establishment of Institutional Quality Assurance Cells (IQAC) & Portal Registration	28 Feb 2026	Institutional Leadership & Registrar Office
HEA-03	Submission of Digital Infrastructure, LMS & Registry Integration Readiness Reports	31 Mar 2026	University EdTech & IT Directorate
HEA-04	Submission of Outcome-Based Curricula Mapping Dossiers & Competency Rubrics	30 May 2026	Academic Senate & Deans of Faculties
HEA-05	Mid-Year Institutional Self-Appraisal & Annual Quality Performance Submission	30 Jun 2026	Institutional IQAC & Academic Councils
HEA-06	Global Verification API Sync & Digital Credential Node Activation	31 Jul 2026	IQAB Verifiable Registry Commission
HEA-07	On-Site & Virtual Peer Reviews by International Board of Assessors	15 Sep 2026	IQAB International Evaluation Panels
HEA-08	Publication of 2026–2027 Official Higher Education & Academies Accredited Roll	31 Oct 2026	Inter-Agency Editorial & Ratings Council
HEA-09	Annual Faculty Research Impact & Academic Integrity Compliance Audits	26 Nov 2026	Board of Academic & Research Vitality
HEA-10	Final Statutory Review & Promulgation of Multilateral Articulation Roll	15 Dec 2026	IQAB Supreme Governing Board & Gazette

3. Sovereign Quality Governance Execution & Authentication

The Quality Assurance, Benchmarking & Accreditation Directive for Higher Education Institutions & Academies herein notified shall operate as the official statutory standard of the International Quality and Accreditation Board for Academic Year 2026–2027. All certifications, accreditations, and registry listings issued under this framework shall possess binding international authority across all member institutions.

By synthesizing high-touch human expert peer review with agile, data-empowered standards, IQAB is not merely documenting quality—it is actively defining its international architecture for decades to come.

Regards,



(Dr Shubhangi Chauhan)
President
International Quality and
Accreditation Board

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