

# **ACCELERATED PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC INTEGRATION**

**WORKSHOP ON EDUCATION SECTOR SERVICES  
TRADE AMONG APEI MEMBER STATES  
12TH-13TH SEPTEMBER 2016**

*Labourdonnais Hotel, Caudan Waterfront, Port Louis,  
Mauritius  
12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016*

**Education Services Sector Meeting**  
**12-13 September 2016**  
**Labourdonnais Waterfront, Port Louis, Mauritius**

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**Table of Abbreviations**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| <b>APEI</b> | Accelerated Program for Economic Integration     |
| <b>DGF</b>  | Development Grant Facility                       |
| <b>RMCE</b> | Regional Multi-Disciplinary Centre of Excellence |
| <b>RWG</b>  | Regional Working Group                           |
| <b>TMP</b>  | Talent Mobility Partnership                      |

## Introduction

1. The workshop of the Education Sector services was held on **12-13 September 2016** at Labourdonnais Hotel, Caudan Waterfront, Port Louis, Mauritius. The Chairperson of the APEI Technical Committee, coordinators of the education sector study from Malawi, Mauritius Mozambique, Seychelles and Zambia along with their consultants attended the workshop. RMCE and representatives of World Bank Group were also present in the meeting. The list of participants is attached at **Annex I**.
2. Professor Roubina Juwaheer, Associate, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of University of Mauritius welcomed the delegates in Port Louis, Mauritius. In opening the meeting, Dr Juwaheer stated that the APEI members agreed to consider Tertiary Education Mobility as one of the areas of cooperation among the countries with a view to promoting the development of educational services in the APEI region under the Trade in Services pillar. The RMCE commissioned the Education Sector study in all 5 APEI countries as part of the DGF financed Intra-Africa Talent Mobility Partnership Program (TMP). She further added that RMCE engaged consultants in each of the 5 countries to do analytical work on issues clearly identified in the TORs. National round tables were convened to review the draft reports. She also mentioned that a lead consultant has synthesized the country findings into a draft framework for the APEI region.

She declared that over the next two days, this workshop will consider the presentations from each country and the draft regional framework. The report that comes out of this workshop will feed into the APEI Senior Officials Meeting, September 14-15 and submitted to the Ministerial Meeting.

She noted that the World Bank team managing the APEI portfolio is among us. This is important because implementing a regional approach to education sector development as envisaged for the APEI will need resources for policy reforms and also for private sector to access investment funds to create the tools and materials for education improvement.

Dr Juwaheer expressed that as a background to what will be discussed on the two days workshop is that the five countries of the APEI and seven (7) others across the continent have been implementing the TMP with World Bank DGF support, through RMCE to build capacity and carry out policy reforms aimed enhancing mobility of businesspersons and professionals as part of facilitating trade in services. This is because of the realization that constraints on the mobility of businesspersons and professionals amidst the lack of qualified personnel and professionals in the APEI countries and across Africa are seriously hampering competitiveness, efficiency and growth of the economies at national, regional and global dimensions.



3. The RMCE Officer-in-charge, Mr. P. Hurry, on behalf of the Board of Directors of RMCE, welcomed all participants present. He highlighted that when the APEI countries met, they adopted the action matrix targeting trade in services, trade in goods and capacity building and peer to peer learning. He thanked World Bank for its financial support in the implementation of this study. The OIC further stressed that the education sector study is a prime study and he hoped that by 13<sup>th</sup> we shall come up with a tangible synthesis.
4. Mr. Ricaud Auckbur, Director, Ministry of Education And Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research welcomed the delegates and briefed the meeting on the expansion of universities in Mauritius which assist in the visibility of trade to promoting the development of educational services under the Trade in Services pillar. He stated that there is a need to pursue more perspectives for linking up the education sector to a broader dimension.
5. Ms. Godze Isik, Trade Economist, Trade and Competitiveness, World Bank Group, thanked all the technical teams for their hard work for conclusion of this study on the movement of professionals in the education sector study. She emphasized that World Bank fully supports this initiative.
6. Mr. Crispin Kulemeka, Chair of the APEI in his opening remarks, shows recognition for the presence of the Pro-Vice Chancellor of University of Mauritius, the World Bank officials and all the officials present in the workshop. The APEI Chair also stressed that we are privileged to have World Bank support and wished all of us fruitful discussions throughout and wished to conclude the agenda in the next few days.
7. The agenda of the workshop was adopted as at Annex II.

### **Education Sector Services Trade Among APEI Member States**

This workshop followed country analytical studies conducted in each of the 5 APEI Countries. The country work also includes national stakeholders consultations in each country. The Lead Consultant produced an APEI regional report.

The country reports that the regional summary were discussed at the workshops. This work was financed by resources of the World Bank DGF provided to RMCE on Talent Mobility which also benefitted APEI States. The same funds are being used by RMCE to support other countries in the EAC and West Africa.

## **APEI Regional Framework for Trade in Education Sector Services**

The workshop agreed on a draft framework at **Annex III** which will be presented and discussed further by senior officials, starting from this week's meeting until end of October which will also produce an action matrix. Following discussions, it was also agreed that:

- Members will submit comments on the draft Memorandum of Understanding on Training and Education by end of October 2016;
- Members will prepare a National Action matrix on Trade in Education Sector Services and submit to the RMCE Secretariat by end of October 2016 for consolidation
- RMCE to prepare a Regional Action Matrix

### **Adoption of the Report**

The report has been adopted with amendments.

### **Closure of Meeting**

The Acting Chairperson thanked the World Bank for financing the APEI agenda and in particular the education sector services study which is one of the important pillars of the APEI under Trade in Services.

Further, the Acting Chair thanked RMCE for assisting member states to undertake APEI agenda further through the education sector services study among other initiatives.

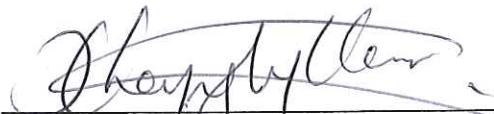
The Acting Chairman also thanked Professor Robin Sannasee and the country consultants for a well done job.

In her closing remarks, she also stated that now that the reports have been presented, the implementation phase starts which shall require the support of World Bank and RMCE in particular.

The Acting Chairman expressed gratitude as well to all participants who attended the workshop inspite of their busy schedules.

Last but not least, she thanked RMCE for excellent organisation of the event and wonderful environment and hotel.

The minutes have been agreed by all five participating countries on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in Port Louis, Mauritius.

  
Mrs Cindy Chan Leng (Ag Chairman)

Annex I: List of Participants

Annex II: Agenda of Workshop

Annex III: Draft Framework on Education and Training in the APEI Region



**WORKSHOP ON EDUCATION SECTOR SERVICES TRADE AMONG APEI MEMBER STATES  
12<sup>TH</sup> and 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

| <b>SN</b>         | <b>Name (First &amp; Last)</b> | <b>Designations</b>                               | <b>Institutions</b>  | <b>Email Addresses</b>   | <b>Contact Numbers</b> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Malawi</b>     |                                |   |  |                          |                        |
| 1.                | Mr. Crispin Kulemeka           | Chair of APEI                                     | Ministry of Finance,<br>Economic Planning<br>and Development | cckulemeka@gmail.com     | +265-888952116         |
| 2.                | Dr. Steeve L. Sharra           | Lecturer & Consultant for<br>TMP Education Sector |  | slasharra@gmail.com      | +265-991357089         |
| <b>Mozambique</b> |                                |   |  |                          |                        |
| 3.                | Mr. Agonias Antonio Macia      | Head and Coordinator                              | Department<br>International                                  | amacia.agonias@gmail.com |                        |



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|                   |                                |   | Organizations,<br>Ministry of Industry<br>and Trade<br>(Ministério da<br>Indústria e<br>Comércio) |                              |                |
| 4.                | Mrs. Angela Amado<br>Nhantumbo | Lecturer & Consultant for<br>TMP Education Sector | University of<br>Maputo   | angelaamado572@g<br>mail.com | +258-827676    |
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| 6.                | Dr. Marie Therese Purvis       | Consultant, TMP Education<br>Sector               |   | purvismt@gmail.co<br>m       | +248-2589001   |
| <b>Zambia</b>     |                                |   |   |                              |                |
| 7.                | Mr. Mwamina Ngwale             | Trade and Investment<br>Promotion Officer         | Ministry of<br>Commerce, Trade<br>and Industry  | mwaminangwale@g<br>mail.com  | +260-966337994 |

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| 8.               | Dr. Chrispin Mphuka                            | Chair, Department of Economics & Consultant, TMP Education Sector  | Department of Economics, University of Zambia | <a href="mailto:mpbukac1@yahoo.com">mpbukac1@yahoo.com</a>                 | +260-211290475 |
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| 9.               | Associate Professor (Mrs.) Thanika D. Juwaheer | Pro-Vice-Chancellor  | University of Mauritius                       | <a href="mailto:roubina@uom.ac.mu">roubina@uom.ac.mu</a>                   | 5257-0600      |
| 10.              | Mr. Raj Makoond                                | Chief Executive Officer  | Business Mauritius                            | <a href="mailto:info@businessmauritius.org">info@businessmauritius.org</a> |                |
| 11.              | Professor Robin Sannasse                       | Dean of Faculty of Law and Management, Co -Chair - WTO Chairs Programme and Lead Consultant for the Education Sector Services in the APEI Region | University of Mauritius                       | <a href="mailto:rvsan@uom.ac.mu">rvsan@uom.ac.mu</a>                       |                |
| 12.              | Dr. Boopen SEETANAH                            | Associate Professor/ Co Chair - WTO Chairs Programme,  | University of Mauritius                       | <a href="mailto:b.seetannah13@gmail.com">b.seetannah13@gmail.com</a>       | 5252-2233      |

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|-----|--------------------|--|--|---------------------|-----------|
|     |                    | Faculty Research Advisor,<br>Faculty of Law and<br>Management<br>And Local Consultant of<br>Education Sector Study |  |                     |           |
| 13. | Mr. Sin Li         | Partner and M&E Consultant   | Baker Tilly Mauritius  | sl@bakertillymu.com | 403-0842  |
| 14. | Mr. Ricaud Auckbur | Director   | Ministry of<br>Education And<br>Human Resources,<br>Tertiary Education<br>and Scientific<br>Research |                     |           |
| 15. | Mr R Phoolchund    | Ag. Director   | Mauritius<br>Qualifications<br>Authority   | rphoolchund@mqa.mu  | 5258-7867 |
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| 29.         | Trishilla Benyidin Koolwant | Manager                 |  | Board of Investment                                   | trishilla@investma<br>uritus.com |                      |  |
| 30.         | Aslam Sobratee              | Administrator           |  | Ministry of<br>Education                              | sobs@govmu.org                   | 6015200<br>5255-2073 |  |
| <b>RMCE</b> |                             |                         |  |   |                                  |                      |  |
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*APEI-TMP Workshop on Education Sector Services Trade, September 2016, Port Louis, Mauritius*  
**THE ACCELERATED PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC INTEGRATION (APEI)**

**WORKSHOP ON EDUCATION SECTOR SERVICES TRADE AMONG APEI MEMBER STATES**  
**12<sup>TH</sup>-13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016**

**LABOURDONNAIS WATERFRONT HOTEL, CAUDAN, PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS**

*This event is financed from a World Bank Group's Development Grant Facility (DGF) to the Regional Multidisciplinary Center of Excellence (RMCE) for implementing the Intra-Africa Talent Mobility Partnership (TMP) Program*

## WORKSHOP PROGRAM

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11:**      Arrival and Registration of Delegates / Participants

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### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

08:00-08:30      Registration (Continued)

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09:00-10:00      **SESSION ONE: WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS**

**Session Chair: Dr. (Mrs.) Roubina Thanika Juwaheer, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Planning & Resources), University of Mauritius**

**Introduction of Delegates**

**Welcome Remarks:**

- **RMCE:** Prakash Hurry, Officer-in-Charge,
- **Government of Mauritius:** Mr. Richard Auckbur, Director, Ministry of Education
- **The World Bank:**
- **APEI Chair:** Malawi, Mr. Crispin Kulemeka, Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development

**Discussion and Adoption of Workshop Agenda**

10:00-10:30      **Tea / Coffee Break**

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10:30-12:00      **SESSION TWO: DISCUSSIONS ON COUNTRY ANALYTICAL REPORTS**

**Session Chair: Mr. Crispin Kulemeka, APEI Chair & Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Government of Malawi**

**45 min: Presentation and Discussions of the Education Sector Services Report from Seychelles:**

- **Dr. Marie-Therese Purvis**, Consultant for the APEI Education Sector Services Trade in Seychelles; and, **Cindy Chan Leng**, Trade Officer, Ministry of Finance, Trade & Blue Economy / APEI Coordinator for Seychelles

*APEI-TMP Workshop on Education Sector Services Trade, September 2016, Port Louis, Mauritius*

45 min: **Presentation and Discussions of the Education Sector Services**

**Report from Mozambique:**

- **Angela Amado Nhantumbo**, Lecturer, University of Maputo & Consultant for the APEI Education Sector Services Trade in Mozambique; and, **Agonias António Macia**, Head, Department for International Organizations, Ministry of Industry and Trade / APEI Coordinator for Mozambique

12:00-13:30

**Lunch**

13:30-15:00

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**SESSION TWO (Contd.): DISCUSSIONS ON COUNTRY ANALYTICAL REPORTS**

**Session Chair: Cindy Chan Leng, Trade Officer, Ministry of Finance, Trade and Blue Economy, Government of Seychelles**

45 min: **Presentation and Discussions of the Education Sector Services**

**Report from Malawi:**

- **Steve Sharra, Ph.D.**, Department of Education and Teaching Studies, Faculty of Education, Catholic University of Malawi & Consultant for the APEI Education Sector Services Trade in Malawi; and, **Crispin Kulemeka**, Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Government of Malawi

45 min: **Presentation and Discussions of the Education Sector Services**

**Report from Zambia:**

- **Dr. Chrispin Mphuka**, Chair, Department of Economics, University of Zambia & Consultant for the APEI Education Sector Services Trade in Zambia; and, **Mwamina Ngwale**, Trade and Investment Promotion Officer Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Government of Zambia

15:00-15:30

**Tea / Coffee Break**

15:30-16:15

**SESSION THREE (Contd.): DISCUSSIONS ON COUNTRY ANALYTICAL REPORTS**

45 min: **Presentation and Discussions of the Education Sector Services**

**Report from Mauritius:**

- **Dr. Boopen Seetanah**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law and Management, University of Mauritius & Consultant for the APEI Education Sector Services Trade in Mauritius

16:15-16:30

**SUMMARY OF DAY ONE DISCUSSIONS**

- **Dr. Raja Vinesh (Robin) Sannasee**, Dean, Faculty of Law and Management, University of Mauritius, and Lead Consultant on the APEI Education Sector Services Trade

16:30-16:45

**WRAP-UP OF DAY ONE**

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**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

09:00-10:00      **SESSION FOUR: APEI REGIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR TRADE IN EDUCATION SECTOR SERVICES**

**Session Chair: Agonias António Macia, Head, Department for International Organizations, Ministry of Industry and Commerce (Ministério da Indústria e Comércio), Mozambique**

**Presentation, Questions and Discussions of the Report:**

- **Dr. Raja Vinesh (Robin) Sannasse**, Dean, Faculty of Law and Management, University of Mauritius, and Lead Consultant on the APEI Education Sector Services Trade

10:00-10:30      **Tea / Coffee Break**

10:30-11:30      *(Contd.)* **Questions and Discussions on the APEI Regional Framework For Trade In Education Sector Services**

(11:30-14:30 **Consultants Prepare Final Report**)

12:00-13:00      **Lunch**

14:30-16:00      **SESSION FIVE: PLENARY DISCUSSIONS ON THE FINAL REPORT ON THE EDUCATION SECTOR SERVICES TRADE AMONG APEI MEMBER STATES**

**Session Chair: Mwamina Ngwale, Trade and Investment Promotion Officer Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Government of Zambia**

- Presentation and Review of the Report
- Adoption of the Report

16:00-17:00      **Closing**

- **APEI Chair: Mr. Crispin Kulemeka, Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Government of Malawi**
- **RMCE (TMP-DGF): Mr. Prakash Hurry**





**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING (APEI)**

**PREAMBLE**

**WE, the Heads of State or Government of**

**The Republic of Malawi**

**The Republic of Mauritius**

**The Republic of Mozambique**

**The Republic of Seychelles**

**The Republic of Zambia**

AWARE that human centered development is one of the most essential means by which to achieve the objectives of the Treaty;

RECOGNISING that the development of human resources to its fullest potential is the for tackling socio-economic problems facing the Region;

RECOGNISING FURTHER that high literacy and numeracy are the major contributory factors to the achievement of sustainable development;

ACKNOWLEDGING that socio-economic and technological research is crucial for sustainable development;

ACKNOWLEDGING FURTHER that no APEI Member State can alone offer the full range of world quality education and training programmes at affordable costs and on a sustainable basis;

MINDFUL of the fact that programmes of human resource development, utilisation and increased productivity must have both national and regional dimensions;

CONVINCED that in education and training a concerted effort by Member States is necessary to adequately equip the Region for the 21st century and beyond;

CONVINCED FURTHER that a concerted effort can only be effected through the implementation of coordinated comprehensive and integrated programmes of education and training that address the needs of the Region;

DESIROUS of launching a concerted effort to achieve the above mentioned aims;

HEREBY AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

## **CHAPTER ONE: DEFINITIONS**

### **ARTICLE 1 DEFINITION**

In this MoU, unless the context otherwise requires,

"Distance Education": means a system of learning and teaching that is grounded in the principles of open and resource-based learning and takes place in different contexts at a multiplicity of sites, through a variety of mechanisms and learning and teaching approaches;

"Equivalence": means accepted arrangements of quality of educational competence and qualitative value of the various levels of the education and training systems and of whole education systems;

"Harmonisation": means agreed and accepted arrangements which match the educational competence and qualitative value of one educational and training system with another or among a group of education and training systems;

"Standardisation": means agreed arrangement of fixed same levels of educational competence and quality attached to whole education and training systems;

"University": includes any recognised degree awarding institution;

## **CHAPTER TWO: PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES**

### **ARTICLE 2 PRINCIPLES**

Member States agree to act in common in pursuit of the objectives of this MoU which shall be implemented in accordance with the following principles -

- (a) recognition of the equality of all Member States;
- (b) equitable participation, balance and mutual benefit in regional co-operation;
- (c) maximising the effective utilisation of existing regional expertise, institutions and other resources for education and training in the Region, in order to ensure long-term sustainability of the co-operative effort;
- (d) reduction and eventual elimination of unnecessary and costly duplication of effort in provision of education and training and in particular, at tertiary and professional training levels;
- (e) active involvement and participation of all key stakeholders in education and training at the level of Member States and regionally, including in institutions executing regional education and training programmes;
- (g) guaranteeing academic freedom in institutions of learning and research as it is the sine qua non for high quality education, training and research and as it ensures freedom of enquiry, experimentation and critical and creative thinking;
- (h) Member States shall take all steps possible to act together as a Community, in the gradual implementation of equivalence, harmonisation and standardisation of their education and training systems under this MoU. However two or more Member States may progress at a differential rate than that achieved by any other Member States.

### **ARTICLE 3 OBJECTIVES**

Member States agree to co-operate in education and training under this MoU for purposes of achieving the following objectives -

- (a) to develop and implement a common system of regular collection, sharing and reporting of information by Member States about the current status and future demand and supply, and the priority areas for provision of education and training in the Region;



(b) to establish mechanisms and institutional arrangements that enable Member States to pool their resources to effectively and efficiently produce the required professional, technical, research and managerial personnel to plan and manage the development process in general and across all sectors in the Region;

(c) to promote and coordinate the formulation and implementation of comparable and appropriate policies, strategies and systems of education and training in Member States;

(d) to develop and implement policies and strategies that promote the participation and contribution of the private sector, non-governmental organisations and other key stakeholders in the provision of education and training;

(e) to promote and coordinate the formulation and implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the promotion and application of science and technology, including modern information technology and research and development in the Region;

(f) to work towards the reduction and eventual elimination of constraints to better and freer access, by citizens of Member States, to good quality education and training opportunities within the Region;

## **CHAPTER XX: AREAS OF CO-OPERATION**

### **ARTICLE XX CO-OPERATION IN POLICY FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Member States acknowledge that whilst currently each Member State has its own policies for education and training and whilst co-operation and mutual assistance in education and training is desirable and possible, the co-operation can be facilitated more effectively and can be expanded to cover more areas by the development and formulation of coherent, comparable, harmonized and eventually standardised policies with regard to the following matters, amongst others:

(a) widening provision and access to education and training as well as addressing gender equality;

(b) increasing equitable access, improving the quality and ensuring the relevance of education and training;



- (c) rationalising admission requirements to education and training institutions and accreditation of qualifications;
- (d) encouraging joint development and production of teaching and learning materials;
- (e) achieving a partnership approach to financing education and training, among governments, beneficiaries and employers;
- (f) promoting academic freedom and creating an enabling environment with appropriate incentives based on merit, for educated and trained persons to effectively apply and utilise their knowledge and skills for the benefit of Member States and the Region;
- (g) achieving comparability, equivalence and standardisation of education and training systems.

## **ARTICLE XX CO-OPERATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

### **(A) Access To Universities: Student And Staff Mobility**

1. Member States agree to recommend to universities and other tertiary institutions in their countries to reserve at least XX of admission, for students from APEI nations, other than their own.
2. Member States agree, through the setting up of a Regional Qualification Authority to work towards the harmonisation, equivalence, and eventual standardisation of University entrance requirements.
3. Member States agree that in order to prevent costly repetition of courses taken at universities within the Region and in order to contribute towards the mutual recognition of qualifications throughout the Region, universities shall be encouraged to devise mechanisms to facilitate credit transfer from one University to another within the Region. **OR Members agree to the implementation of a Mutual Recognition Agreement to foster the mutual recognition of qualifications.**
4. Member States agree that it is desirable to work towards the harmonisation of the academic years of universities in order to facilitate staff and student mobility.

5. Member States reiterate their agreement that they shall treat students from APEI countries as home students for purposes of fees and accommodation.

6. Member States agree to facilitate movement of students from the Region for purposes of study and any other pursuits relating to education and training.

7. Member States agree to facilitate movement of staff from the Region for purposes of research, teaching and any other pursuits relating to education and training. To that end, Member States agree to implement the Framework on the 'Facilitation of the movement of businesspersons and professionals between APEI countries' within a XX year time frame.

8. Member States agree to review and realign the different legislative frameworks to ensure the harmonization of laws relating to the issuance of students' permits and the conditions attached thereto including students' right to take up employment.

To this end, Member States agree to work towards the gradual relaxation and eventual elimination of immigration formalities that hinder free student and staff mobility, notwithstanding compulsory requirements pertaining to health related procedures.

### **(B) Programme of Studies**

1. Member States agree that whilst education and training at both under-graduate and post-graduate levels shall continue to be largely the responsibility of each Member State, co-operation and mutual assistance is possible and shall take place in some fields of study which can be agreed to by the institutions concerned.

To this end, Member States agree to recommend to their universities:

(a) to co-operate in the design of academic programmes where appropriate, in particular in programmes which are jointly taught;

(b) to establish links between themselves bilaterally and multilaterally for purposes of joint or split-site teaching, collaborative research and consultancy work, and for other academic activities where appropriate. The format, content and implementing modalities shall be worked out by the concerned universities between themselves;



(c) to collaborate in the production of teaching and learning material, such as textbooks, computer software and others in order to achieve the economies of scale and to support the move towards harmonising academic and professional programmes in the Region as necessary;

(d) to promote student and staff exchange programme negotiated on a bilateral and multilateral basis by the sending and receiving universities for educational purposes and to promote cultural ties and engender commitment to the Region;

(e) to increasingly make use of external examiners from the Region as this shall not only contribute towards the building of a regional community of scholars but shall also lead to the development of comparable standards in higher education in the Region;

2. Member States agree to, but without prejudice to the normal admission requirements, provide XX scholarships to Member States on an annual basis, in areas to be mutually agreed by the Member States.

3. Member States undertake to provide, where necessary, resources to enable their universities to develop high quality under-graduate programmes through the provision of the necessary teaching and research requisites such as qualified staff, physical infrastructures, library holdings, equipment and in particular scientific and information technology equipment.

## **ARTICLE XX: CO-OPERATION IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

1. Member States affirm that for the mastery of science and technology, the Region requires first rate programmes beyond under-graduate education and training and both basic and applied research, for the development of the Region. Member States acknowledge that the higher education systems are major performers of research and are critical for the development of human resources for research and development work, and therefore Member States emphasise that research effort in the Region shall be in line with national and regional needs.

2. Member States recognise that research, especially in science and technology is expensive and that not every country can enable its institutions to develop excellent research capacity in all fields, hence the need to allow access and to jointly develop and share research facilities.

3. Member States shall strengthen research capacities in their countries by allocating adequate resources to universities and research institutes to enable them to pursue socio-economic and technological research.

#### **(A) Universities And Research**

1. Member States agree to urge universities to take the necessary steps to strengthen basic and applied research and consultancy work in order to assist the development effort of their countries and the Region, through programmes beyond under-graduate research programmes and those of university research institutes.

2. Member States agree to urge universities and non-university research institutes to co-operate in the area of research and to forge links with the industry/private sector and other relevant sectors for the purpose of determining priority areas of research and conducting research for those sectors.

3. Member States agree to recommend to university research organs and non-university research institutes to allow access and to jointly develop and share research facilities including costly sophisticated scientific equipment and materials in order to maximise the use of scarce resources.

4. Member States agree to encourage and support the creation of professional associations of researchers in the Region through which researchers shall share ideas, views and experiences to enhance the quality and relevance of their research programmes.

#### **ARTICLE XX CO-OPERATION IN DISTANCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

1. Member States agree that the objectives of distance education are, amongst others - to improve access to education and training and to reduce the inequalities in the acquisition of education and training; to work towards achieving universal literacy and numeracy; to reduce the cost of education and training by maximising on the economies of scale offered by distance education;

2. Member States agree to formulate national policies on distance education so as to provide a framework for co-operation at the regional level.



3. Member States agree that where no distance learning institutions exist in a Member State, that Member State shall establish distance learning institutions to cater for all levels of education and training.

4. Member States agree to promote co-operation among distance education institutions in the Region in the design, production and dissemination of distance learning materials, in the training of distance educators and trainers and in teaching some of their programmes.

#### **NEED TO DECIDE WHERE TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING**

1. Members agree to review the different legislative frameworks to ensure the harmonization of legislations underpinning tertiary education provision by Private and/or Foreign tertiary institutions and the accreditation of such higher education institutions. **OR Members agree to the setting up of a regional regulatory and accreditation body to promote the harmonization of the legislations underpinning tertiary education provision by Private and/or Foreign tertiary institutions and the accreditation of such higher education institutions and their programme of studies.**

#### **DATA COLLECTION**

1. Members recognize the increasing importance of labour market data which allows for the identification of skills scarcity areas in member states. To that end, Member States agree to collaborate to develop a Labour Market Information System (LMIS). The information provided by the latter may be used for the design and formulation of appropriate policies and as a guiding principle for the design of appropriate and pertinent programme of studies.

2. To ensure the effectiveness of the proposed LMIS, members recognize the importance of readily available and up to date data from Member States. To that end, Member States agree to develop an appropriate framework, either in each Member State, if not already available, or at a regional level, for collecting data in such Member State or at a regional level.

3. Member States agree to, where there is a lack of expertise in the priority areas for the individual Member States, review and amend their existing regulatory framework to facilitate the setting up of satellite campuses by Universities from other Member States with the requisite credentials in such priority areas.

## CHAPTER XX: INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. Member States hereby undertake to establish appropriate institutional mechanisms within the Education and Training Sector as are necessary for the effective implementation of this MoU.

2. To that end, Member States agree to the following -

(a) to develop and implement a common system of regular collection, reporting, and sharing of information by Member States about the current status and future demand and supply, and the priority areas for provision of education and training in the Region;

(b) to establish mechanisms and institutional arrangements that enable Member States to pool their resources to effectively and efficiently produce the required professional, technical, research and managerial personnel to plan and manage the development process in general in the Region;

(c) to promote and coordinate the formulation and implementation of comparable and appropriate policies, strategies and systems of education and training in Member States;

(d) to develop and implement policies and strategies that promote the participation and contribution of the private sector and other key stakeholders in the provision of education and training;

(e) to promote and coordinate the formulation and implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the promotion and application of science and technology including modern information technology, and research and development in the Region;

(f) to work towards the reduction and eventual elimination of constraints to better and freer access, by citizens of Member States, to good quality education and training opportunities within the Region;


(g) to promote policies for creation of an enabling environment, with appropriate incentives based on meritorious performance, for educated and trained persons to effectively apply and utilise their knowledge and skills for the general development of the Region;

(h) to mobilise finances and other resources for implementing education and training programmes and projects;

(i) to provide upon request and in furtherance of the objectives of this Protocol, technical assistance to Member States, Organs and Technical Committees;

(j) to progressively achieve the equivalence, harmonisation and standardisation of the education and training systems in the Region which is the ultimate objective of this MoU;

**(k) to achieve gradually and over a period not exceeding XXX years from the date of entry into force of this MoU, the implementation of the ultimate objective.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. K. G. G. G.', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

