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Steering Committee for Higher Education and Research (CD-ESR)

RECOGNITION ISSUES IN THE BOLOGNA PROCESS

**International seminar, Lisboa, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian
11 – 12 April 2002**

*A Council of Europe contribution to the European Higher Education Area, in
cooperation with the Ministry of Education of Portugal*

PRESENTATION AND PROGRAMME

Directorate General IV: Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport
(Directorate of School, Out-of-School and Higher Education/Higher Education and Research Division)

Distribution: Seminar

BACKGROUND

At the second Ministerial meeting in the Bologna Process (Praha, 18 – 19 May 2001), the Ministers in their communiqué included a list of activities and issues to be addressed in time for the next Ministerial meeting, to be held in Berlin in September 2003. One of the issues identified concerns the recognition of qualifications.

The Council of Europe, in cooperation with UNESCO and the Portuguese authorities, proposes to address this important topic at an international seminar to be held in Lisboa, at the Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, on 11 – 12 April 2002. The dates of the seminar coincide with the fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Council of Europe/UNESCO Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region, adopted in Lisboa on 11 April 1997. The present seminar will also be relevant for a seminar on the use of credit transfer, to be organised by the European University Association and the Swiss authorities in October 2002.

PURPOSE

The seminar is intended to take stock of the current situation with regard to the recognition of qualifications and in particular to highlight the priority issues for

the coming years and thus to outline how improving the recognition of qualifications can contribute to establishing the European Higher Education Area by 2010.

In particular, the seminar will aim to:

- address issues relating to the implementation of the Council of Europe/UNESCO Convention;
- thoroughly consider specific issues arising from the Council of Europe/ENIC report on Recognition Issues in the Bologna Process:
 - assessment of learning outcomes and non-traditional qualifications;
 - recognition of qualifications from transnational education arrangements: implementing the UNESCO/Council of Europe Code of Good Practice;
 - recognition for the labour market: what role for higher education institutions, ENICs and employers?
 - transparent qualifications: how can information on recognition be improved?

TARGET GROUP

Ministry representatives, representatives of higher education institutions and recognition specialists from all countries party to the Bologna Process with observers from other countries party to the European Cultural Convention.

FORMAT

The seminar will be held over two full days (Thursday – Friday), alternating plenary session and group sessions. The presentations in the plenary sessions

will be given by invited experts representing a variety of views and backgrounds.

WORKING LANGUAGES

English and French, with simultaneous interpretation in the plenary sessions.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- Programme
- Secretariat background document
- Implementation of the Convention and Contributions to the Bologna Process – Answers to a Questionnaire
- Council of Europe report on Recognition Issues in the Bologna Process
- Lisboa Recognition Convention and Explanatory Report (Council of Europe/UNESCO)
- UNESCO/Council of Europe Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education
- Recommendation on Criteria and Procedures for the Assessment of Foreign Qualifications
- Diploma Supplement and Explanatory Memorandum
- Report from the third workshop of the project on Lifelong Learning for Equity and Social Cohesion, on Structures and Qualifications in Lifelong Learning (Slovenia, November 2000)
- Practical information

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 11 APRIL 2002

15 30 Recognition of Qualifications for
the Labour Market: a View from an Employer

Dr. Kruno Hernaut, Siemens AG

16 00 Assessment of Learning
Outcomes/Non-Traditional Qualifications

*Mr. Jindra Divis, Dutch ENIC/NARIC (NUFFIC) and
President of the ENIC Network*

16 30 Discussion groups on the topics
presented above.

The groups will work in English (3 or 4 groups) and
French (1 or 2 groups) without interpretation.

18 00 End of session

Meeting of the General Rapporteur with the group
rapporteurs

Evening: Dinner

FRIDAY 12 APRIL

Part Three: Transparency and Information

Chair: to be confirmed

09 30 Recognition of Qualifications from

15 00 The External Dimension of the Bologna Process and the Recognition of Qualifications

Ms. Stamenka Uvali•-Trumbi•, Chief, Access, Mobility and Quality Assurance Section, Higher Education Division, UNESCO

Dr. A. Gnanam, Chair of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council of India

Professor Peter Okebukola, Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission, Nigeria

16 00 Recognition and Challenges to the Bologna Process

ESIB representative (to be confirmed)

Representative of the European Commission (to be confirmed)

Dr. Per Nyborg, Chair of the CD-ESR

16 30 Coffee

17 00 Recognition in the European Higher Education Area: an Agenda for 2010

Report by the General Rapporteur,
Mr. Lewis Purser, EUA – European University Association

Discussion

17 30 Closing of the conference