

# APQNews

## (Issue 28)

### December 30, 2023



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2023

#### APQN Mission Statement

To enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening internal and external quality assurance in all kinds of organizations and extending the cooperation among them

#### APQN Values:

To be committed to the quality of higher education and supportive of both internal and external quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region



# **APQNews (Issue 28)**

**The Asia-Pacific Quality Network(APQN)**

**Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region**

**2023**

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***Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region***

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE FOR APQNEWS (Issue 28)

**Dear APQN members, dear friends and colleagues,**

**Welcome to the 28<sup>th</sup> issue of APQNews (2023)!**

Bells are ringing, and New Year is coming. On the occasion of New Year, APQN seventh Board Directors, are extending our festival greetings and best wishes to all of you, and extending our sincere appreciation and deep respect to those who care and support the sustainable development of APQN!

We are very happy to present you the 28 issue of APQNews at the eve of the new year. In this issue, there are over 30 articles in 8 columns, among which the most prominent things are worth reading.

**It is happy ending for APQN to hold APQN 2024 AAC and AGM at AIUB, Bangladesh!** The 4-day event saw around 200 participants from 40 institutes, QAAs and HEIs around the globe participated in this prestigious event from November 02-04, 2023, at Dhaka, Bangladesh. We witnessed an amazing platform of knowledge sharing .

It is remarkable that the Commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of APQN was held at the Opening Ceremony of 2023 AAC on November 3, 2023. The huge birthday cake of "Happy 20th Anniversary to APQN" was cut and the celebratory atmosphere reached to its climax.

It's worth mentioned that 2 QAAs have undergone external reviews by APQR and can now upload their accredited programmes to the Database of External Quality Assurance Results of the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (DAQAR); we have contributed to the II Global Survey initiated jointly by UNESCO and INQAAHE...

As always, we are happy to share valuable information on upcoming QA event: 2024 AAC and AGM to be held by "Russia Register" in St. Petersburg, Russia, on September 26-29 (Wednesday - Sunday), 2024! The main theme is "*Quality Assurance and Global Tertiary Education: Navigating Challenges and Embracing Innovation*". We are looking forward to seeing you all at APQN 2024 ACC in Bangladeshi!

Last but not the least, as the chief-editor, I am greatly appreciated for your contribution! At the same time I also cordially invite you to contribute articles for the next issue of APQNews (Issue 29). Please stay tuned for APQNews!

Best regards

**Chief Editor of the 28<sup>th</sup> Issue of APQNews: Jianxin Zhang**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jianxin Zhang', written in a cursive style.

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## NEW YEAR 2024 GREETINGS

**Dear APQN members, colleagues, and friends!**

Happy New Year to you all!

There is not much time left before 2023 ends. This year was full of events that are bound to have important implications for the academic community, ministries, governments, and QAAs in our countries. The future will show whether these events are going to have a positive or a negative impact on our lives in a short- and long-term run.

The passing year is regarded as a "post-COVID" period. During this year, we have witnessed a significant decrease in the amount of students' practical training and an increase in the effectiveness of distance and blended learning. New information and communication technologies, mainly fostered by the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), have penetrated education in many ways and at many levels. There are impressive advantages and serious concerns associated with the increasing integration of large language models like ChatGPT and artificial intelligence. Due to these innovations, the academic environment is undergoing irreversible changes. Our response to the changing nature of education should be adaptation to this evolutionary process rather than abolishing it.

Higher educational institutions are facing a more complex challenge: taking into account the ever increasing pace of change, they should forecast the future needs of national economies. Today, more than ever, we must work hard just to stay afloat, but to achieve our goals, we must double our efforts, like in "*Alice in Wonderland*", "it takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place. If you want to get somewhere else, you must run at least twice as fast as that!" (Lewis Carroll).

Quality assurance agencies (QAAs) are also facing serious challenges. The Fourth Industrial Revolution urges everybody involved in education to contribute to training incredibly creative professionals capable of thinking "outside the box", regardless of the type of education acquired—formal, informal, or non-formal. It is up to QAAs to develop innovative and flexible approaches to fulfilling their key mission of ensuring the quality of education as well as the quality of study programmes to meet the needs of innovative economy. By joining our efforts, we will be able to rise to the new challenges and advance the development of higher education.

2023 was an anniversary year for APQN. During this year, we at APQN have held an Annual Academic Conference and General Meeting in Bangladesh; a few QAAs have successfully undergone external reviews by the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) and can now upload their accredited programmes to the Database of External Quality Assurance Results of the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (DAQAR); we have contributed to the II Global Survey initiated jointly by UNESCO and INQAAHE; and we

have been involved in many other major and minor activities meaningful for education in our countries.

Not only have we become partners through our more than two decades of collaboration in the Asia-Pacific region, but we have also made lifetime friends within the Network. Through regular meetings during APQN conferences, summits, workshops and forums, extensive opinion exchange and experience sharing through the pages of conference anthologies and APQNews, we have learned about each other's concerns, celebrated each other's achievements, supported each other's work, and developed a trusting relationship.

APQN has ambitious plans for 2024 for the benefit of our members and the general academic community, and we expect everybody involved to actively participate and contribute in implementing them. 2024 is the year when APQN will continue to evolve. We are confident that it will be equally successful. It is up to us to promote creative ideas and implement prospective projects in order "to dissolve the boundaries for the quality region".

Dear friends, we urge you to take a proactive approach cherishing bilateral cooperation and regional development. We urge you to be open-minded and encouraging, always ready to provide support and share good practices for the benefit of all. This way, we will be able to maintain, strengthen, and expand our cooperation within our network and become reliable partners for other regional quality assurance networks.

May the New Year bring you happiness, peace, and prosperity !

Wishing you and APQN a joyous 2024!

*APQN President: Galina Motova*

*APQN Board Directors: Pingping Liu, Jianxin Zhang, Nar Bahadur Raika, Barry Aw Yong, Umankulova Onolkan, Timur Kanapyanov and Jagannath Patil*

APQN President  
Dr. Galina Motova  
(Elected)



RUSSIA

APQN  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Ms. Pingping Liu  
(Ex-Officio)



CHINA

APQN Past President  
Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang  
(Ex-Officio)



CHINA

APQN Board Director  
Dr. Jagannath Patil  
(Co-opted as APQR  
Chairperson)



INDIA

APQN Board Director  
Mr. Nar Bahadur Raika  
(Elected)



BHUTAN

APQN Board Director  
Mr. Barry Aw Yong  
(Elected)



SINGAPORE

APQN Board Director  
Ms. Umankulova Onolkan  
(Elected)



KYRGYZSTAN

APQN Board Director  
Dr. Timur Kanapyanov  
(Elected)



KAZAKHSTAN

APQN Administrator  
Mr. Le Fang  
(Appointed)



CHINA

## THE BOARD

### APQN 1<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting was held in Bangladesh

According to the 2023 APQN Annual Academic Conference (AAC) Program on November 2, 2023, APQN first Board Meeting was held at the premises of American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB), Bangladesh. The primary focus of this meeting was the preparation for the upcoming 2023 AAC & AGM.

6 Directors of the 7<sup>th</sup> APQN Board attended the meeting in person: Prof. Dr. Galina Motova (APQN Vice President), Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (Immediate Past President), Ms. Pingping Liu (APQN Secretary/Treasurer), Dr. Jagannath Patil (APQR Chair), Dr. Timur Kanapyanov (APQN Board Director) and Dr. Le Fang (APQN Administrator). Together with Board Directors special guests from the host of 2023 AAC & AGM, headed by the Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna (Member of Board of Trustees at AIUB) have participated at the meeting.



The Attendees of the First Board Meeting

During the meeting, Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna provided an update on 2023 AAC and AGM preparations. This update covered various aspects such as the presentation of conference materials, information on registered delegates, practical details related to participant transfers and venue arrangements, as well as the organization of the cultural program and Gala Dinner. Additionally, it was shared that AIUB planned to release daily news items in the local newspaper from November 2-4, 2023, and to conduct a Facebook live broadcast of the Conference.

Key follow-up tasks were discussed and agreed upon, including reports such as Report of 2023 AAC, Report of 2023 Quality Awards, Report of 2023 AGM and Publication of Academic Anthology of Selected Papers of 2023 AAC by AIUB.

The second part of the meeting centered around AIUB's interest and potential involvement in the Asia Pacific Quality Label (APQL). AIUB expressed its desire to become more active within APQN and even considered a partnership. To formalize



this interest, it was proposed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Bangladesh Accreditation Council (BAC) and APQN during the closing session of the Annual 2023 AAC .

The APQN First Board Meeting was characterized as productive and efficient, with the conclusion that the 2023 AAC Program aligns with APQN objectives. The Board Directors expressed high optimism that the conference will deliver valuable content to its attendees. The meeting concluded with best wishes for the success of the upcoming 2023 APQN Annual Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM).

*(Written by Timur Kanapyanov from APQN Board)*

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Board Meeting was Held at AIUB in Bangladesh

At 17:30–20:00 on November 4, 2023, APQN second Board Meeting was held at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB), Bangladesh. The theme is “the Sustainable Development of APQN”, chair by Dr. Galina Motova, APQN Vice President. The attendees are: (1) the Directors of the 7<sup>th</sup> Board: Galina Motova, Liu Pingping, Jianxin Zhang, Jagannath Patil, Timur Kanapyanov, and Le Fang (the administrator); (2) special guest from the host of 2024 APQN AAC and AGM: Mr. Pavel Stepanov (Development Director of Russian Register); and (3) special guest from the host of APQN 2023 AAC and AGM: Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna (Member of Board of Trustees at AIUB).



The Attendees of the Second Board Meeting

Based on the theme of “Sustainable development of APQN”, the Meeting discussed 5 sub-topics concerning over 30 items. Below is the brief report.

**Sub-topic 1: Human Resources** .The Board has reached the same agreement on human resources: (1) the personnel change of APQN Board Directors: Dr. Galina Motova acts as APQN President; (2) for the 88 members who could not pay because of the low development level of the countries in the Asia-Pacific Region as well as the economic stop during the COVID pandemic in the past 3 years, 50% reduction in membership fees is offered for them to encourage them back to APQN big family; and others.

**Sub-topic 2: Finance Matter**. The Board agreed, if the deficit is unavoidable because of the unexpected projects and expenses occurs, then the deficit must be controlled within 8000 USD.

**Sub-topic 3: Function of the Board and the Secretariat**. All Board Directors should unite together as a core family to move APQN forward for its sustainable development. (1) Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang is the chief editor of “APQNews” with the help of Dr. Galina Motova, all the Board Directors and the Secretariat; (2) except the Executive Committee and Finance Committee, all the other committees are open to all Directors; and (3) when the committees and the Secretariat seek the approval

from the Board, the reasonable deadline should be strictly obeyed.

**Sub-topic 4: 2024 APQN AAC and AGM.** 2024 APQN AAC is to be held in St. Petersburg, by Russian Register in the summer of 2024, whose theme is “Quality Assurance and Global Tertiary Education: Navigating Challenges and Embracing Innovation”. The four sub-themes are: (1) Quality Assurance for Cross-Border Higher Education: International Standards, Challenges and Solutions; (2) Embracing Digitalization for Quality Assurance: Innovations and Future Trends; (3) Quality Assurance in Higher Education Institutions: Fostering Excellence in Teaching and Learning in All Stages of Life; and (4) Enhancing Internal Quality Assurance of Quality Assurance Agencies: Innovations and Governance.

**Sub-topic 5: Follow-ups of APQN 2023 AAC and AGM.** With the guidance and financial support from APQN Board, AIUB is expected to publish “Innovation and Sustainable Development in Higher Education: the Anthology of 2023 APQN Annual Academic Conference(AAC)” before June, 2024.

The second Board Meeting is very successful, a truly "united, friendly and mutually respectable" meeting, which lays the basic function mode for the next two years.

*(Written by Jianxin Zhang from APQN Board)*

## Vice President Dr Galina Motova takes over as APQN President

APQN Board is pleased to announce that Vice President Dr Galina Motova has taken over as the President of APQN in view of stepping down by President NB Raika owing to personal reasons, while Mr. NB Raika is still one of the Board Directors.

Mr Raika has kindly proposed to step down from the elected position of President. This is mainly because of pressing engagements at his home country limiting his ability to attend APQN events and other tasks. As the meeting in Dhaka proposed and as consented by Mr Raika Board requested Dr Galina Motova to assume the role of President till the remainder of 7<sup>th</sup> Board term (Till election of 8th Board or the date on which AAC/ AGM for 2025 takes place). This is as per provisions of “APQN Constitution” that the Vice President takes over the President's task when such a situation arises.

APQN congratulates Dr Motova on this additional responsibility and feels confident that her vast experience at NCPA, Russia and also at APQN will add value to efficient functioning of APQN Board.

*(Written by Dr. Jaganath Patil on behalf of APQN Board)*

## KEY SPEECH

### Speech of Honorable Minister Dr. Dipu Moni

**Ladies and gentlemen!**

Good afternoon and Assalamu Alaikum.



I am delighted to receive the invitation of Asia-Pacific Quality Network and American International University – Bangladesh (AIUB) to be present in this esteemed APQN 2023 AAC. It is indeed a matter of pride for me to know that it is the first time APQN conference is held in Bangladesh. I sincerely thank AIUB and APQN for this significant achievement.

Distinguished scholars, educators, policymakers, and stakeholders from around the world, and most importantly the quality assure of the higher education, the theme of this year's conference is *"Innovation and Sustainable Development in Higher Education"*, which aligns with the vision of the dynamic Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina, daughter of the greatest national leader of all time, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

I am certain that APQN 2023 AAC is a noteworthy milestone for the higher education domain with its diversified participants from 15 different countries, 35 accepted research articles, 27 presentations and 4 keynote speeches.

In an increasingly interconnected world, the importance of higher education in fostering innovation and driving sustainable development cannot be overstated. Our collective future depends on the quality of education we provide to our youth, the innovators of tomorrow. This conference is particularly relevant for a country like Bangladesh, where we are committed to ensuring that our education system meets the needs of our people, contributes to global knowledge, and aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals. At the Ministry of Education, we have given synergistic focus on quality assurance in higher education by establishing the Bangladesh Accreditation Council (BAC). The University Grants Commission (UGC) has developed an outcome-based education (OBE) curriculum template for all the programs offered by the universities throughout the country. We acknowledge the efforts of Institute of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) for constituting the Board of Accreditation for Engineering and Technical Education (BAETE) to provide Washington Accord based accreditation for engineering degrees of Bangladesh. IEB, Bar council, pharmacy council and other professional bodies also have developed their own manual and curriculum template to ensure quality in their respective

disciplines. I would like to share some of my thoughts on the critical issue of quality assurance in higher education, especially in the context of innovation and sustainable development.

### **1. Ensuring Quality Assurance**

Quality assurance is the bedrock upon which the edifice of higher education stands. It is not merely a bureaucratic process but a commitment to providing students with an education that equips them for the challenges of the future. In Bangladesh, we have been striving to raise our standards by setting clear benchmarks, improving curriculum, enhancing faculty training, and developing effective assessment mechanisms.

To ensure the quality of our higher education institutions, we need robust quality assurance mechanisms. Regular assessments, peer reviews, and accreditation processes help maintain and enhance the standards of education. This conference provides a unique platform to share best practices and learn from each other's experiences in quality assurance.

### **2. Innovation in Education**

Innovation is the driving force behind any nation's sustainable development. To remain globally competitive, we must continually evolve our education systems. This means not only introducing modern technology into the classroom but also encouraging creative and critical thinking. We must foster an environment where new ideas are celebrated, risk-taking is encouraged, and multidisciplinary approaches are welcomed.

### **3. Sustainable Development**

Sustainable development is not only about economic growth but also about social inclusiveness and environmental responsibility. Higher education plays a pivotal role in this endeavor. Our institutions should prepare students not only for careers but also to be responsible global citizens. This includes instilling values of environmental conservation, social equity, and ethical leadership.

### **4. International Collaboration**

In our pursuit of quality higher education, international collaboration is paramount. We can learn from each other's successes and challenges. The exchange of ideas, faculty, and students fosters global understanding and facilitates the transfer of innovative practices. As we stand here today, let us recommit ourselves to fostering stronger ties among educational institutions, researchers, and policymakers from around the world.

### **5. Challenges and Opportunities**

As we discuss innovation and sustainable development in higher education, we must recognize the challenges we face. Rapid technological advancements, shifting demographics, and financial constraints are just a few of the issues we encounter.

However, each challenge presents an opportunity for innovation. Embracing digital learning, personalized education, and alternative funding models can lead us toward a more dynamic and inclusive higher education landscape.

#### **6. Bridging the Digital Divide:**

In the era of innovation, it is critical that we bridge the digital divide, ensuring that no one is left behind. By expanding access to quality education through online and blended learning, we can make education more inclusive and equitable.

#### **7. Lifelong Learning:**

The landscape of higher education is evolving, with a growing emphasis on lifelong learning. To keep pace with rapid changes in technology and industry, individuals need to continually upgrade their skills and knowledge. Higher education institutions must adapt their programs to accommodate the evolving needs of learners throughout their lives.

In conclusion, I believe that the discussions and collaborations that will transpire during the APQN 2023 AAC will be instrumental in advancing the cause of innovation and sustainable development in higher education. The experiences, insights, and solutions shared during this conference will serve as beacons of hope in our collective mission to provide quality education that empowers individuals and fosters a sustainable future for all.

I urge all of you to engage actively, to network, and to take home the valuable lessons from these deliberations. Let us work together to transform our higher education institutions into hubs of innovation and sustainability. Together, we can shape the future we want, one that is marked by progress, prosperity, and inclusivity.

Thank you for your attention, and I wish you all a successful and fruitful conference. Shobaike dhonnobad.

Joy Bangla! Joy Bangbandhu! Bangladesh Chirojibi Hok!

*Dr. Dipu Moni, M.P., Honorable Minister of Ministry of Education, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh*

## Welcome and Theme Address by APQN Vice-President

**Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, dear colleagues, dear distinguished guests,**

I am happy to greet you at the APQN Annual Academic Conference (AAC). Thanks to our host, the American International University(AIUB), we can meet in sunny Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh.



On behalf of the APQN Board Directors, the APQN Secretariat and all the participants, I deeply appreciate the commitment and valuable support of the Ministry of Education of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Accreditation Council, and the University Grants Commission.

It is a great day for all of us. This is a jubilee Conference. APQN is twenty. I am sure you are as thrilled as I am. Everyone sitting here has supported APQN with their hard work and constant striving for betterment.

With my deep appreciation and respect, I would like to emphasize the great contributions made by APQN's former presidents: Peter Cheung, Concepcion Pjano, Antony Stella, Jagannath Patil, Jianxin Zhang, and all the past board directors.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Seventh Board of APQN and the Secretariat for all their work in getting everything ready for the conference.

Dear colleagues, we are living through a very demanding time right now. Over the last few years, humanity has experienced numerous challenges and risks. Each of these challenges has a direct impact on the sphere of education.

For more than two years of the COVID pandemic, we survived physically and morally exhausting lockdowns when the borders, the universities, and even our homes were closed. There was a lot of pressure on higher education, particularly in terms of students' practical training. Universities had little choice but to switch to online learning in almost no time at all. It was necessary to restructure the process of education, seek innovative teaching methods, and find new ways to evaluate student learning outcomes. These actions significantly accelerated the digital transformation of higher education in general. After the restrictions were lifted, higher education did



not give up on e-learning. On the contrary, e-learning has become part of the educational process, transformed into hybrid learning.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution is currently on the agenda. Digitalization has penetrated nearly all spheres of our everyday life. As a result, massive changes occurred in the labour market. We are currently witnessing the emergence and rapid evolution of artificial intelligence as the new global normality. The Fourth Industrial Revolution presents an existential challenge to higher education, questioning the traditional, long-established academic system.

Given the high rate of information growth, it has become evident that knowledge transfer is no longer a key concern of educational institutions. Today almost any knowledge becomes outdated very quickly. Rather, the ability to continuously acquire new knowledge on their own has become an increasingly crucial skill to be taught. Today, the concept of lifelong learning has to be replaced with an educational journey.

The traditional idea of a university, where students gain knowledge at the same time and place, has lost its relevance. Knowledge can be gained from any source at any time, via any intermediary. Universities are evolving to meet these contemporary needs by becoming more flexible and more open. They are not Institutions anymore. They have become EXtstitutions.

These changes are not limited to educational providers alone. Students' needs and requirements are evolving as well. In addition to the individual approach and flexibility of education that students normally take for granted, they now require a quick and facilitated entry into the labour market. In order to meet this particular requirement, new forms of education and new educational environments are emerging. These are so-called ed-tech companies and platforms offering online training courses as well as bootcamps for accelerated practical training. New concepts begin dominating the language as well. Never before have we used such terms as, micro credentials, nano-degrees, digital badges.

The emergence of artificial intelligence and large language models, such as ChatGPT, represent a fundamental paradigm shift in the educational sector. It seems not long ago that we were greatly concerned about the problem of bogus universities and diploma mills. Today we are facing the challenge of how to assess the skills required for effective critical thinking, teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving.

We cannot stop the evolutionary process and reject or postpone its advances. Today, shutting down the Internet seems next to impossible. All we can and should do is to change with the evolving world. The same is true for HEIs: in order to survive, they must adapt. No other sustainable option is available. The question is still open: how to speed up reaction to these changes in the sphere of education without compromising its quality.

The expert community is now engaged in heated debates on how to assess

micro-credentials. These mini-degrees are becoming an increasingly popular prerequisite to enter the labour market. They are more than simply fast food for people looking for or changing jobs. This is an opportunity for talented young people to swiftly achieve their goals.

Another topical issue is how to recognize certificates of education issued by overseas institutions and foreign qualifications. According to UNESCO report, 5.6 million students participated in academic mobility programmes in 2019, before the pandemic. “The International Student Mobility Report” estimates that by 2025, there will be 8 million students worldwide gaining their education in countries other than their own.

The recognition of the certificate of education directly relates to the recognition of the educational programme and the issuing institution, but more importantly, to the recognition of the national system of quality assurance.

Meanwhile, this is not a complete list of problems to be tackled right now.

Dear colleagues, I am addressing the experts in the sphere of internal quality assurance at HEIs, representatives of QAAs, and decision-makers!

We should all join our efforts to react to the emergence of new forms of education and guarantee that university graduates get high-quality training and are well-equipped for the labour market.

The global academic community has taken important steps to adopt international documents on the recognition of certificates of education and quality assurance. In 2019, “the Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications in Higher Education” was adopted. 193 UNESCO member countries participated in the preparation and extensive discussion of this convention. It is very important that QAAs are regarded as major participants in carrying out the Convention's requirements. The crucial role of QAAs in maintaining collaboration between domestic and global organizations is emphasized in the document.

“The Rome Ministerial Communiqué of 2020”, has the following important provision: “We will ensure automatic recognition of academic qualifications and periods of study within the European Higher Education Area so that students, staff and graduates are able to move freely to study, teach and do research. We will make the necessary legislative changes to guarantee automatic recognition at system level for qualifications delivered in European Higher Education Area countries where quality assurance operates in compliance with the ESG and where a fully operational national qualifications framework has been established. We also encourage the application of agreed and secure systems of digital certification and communication such as block-chain, as well as the further development of the Database of External Quality Assurance Results (DEQAR) to facilitate automatic recognition”.

Let me draw your attention to the fact that, according to the Convention, a country's ability to recognize the quality of education is based on the presence of

three components: (1) the national qualifications framework; (2) a national quality assurance system that meets international standards, and (3) public access to the quality evaluation results.

Such reference international standards are the International Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Tertiary Education, developed by INQAAHE and adopted on November, 2022. They take into account the diversity of HEIs and QAAs, as well as the diversity of forms of delivery, including micro-qualifications, cross-border, and transnational education.

For the Asia-Pacific region, the key documents are “the Tokyo Convention of 2011” and “the Chiba Principles: Higher Education Quality Assurance for the Asia-Pacific Region of 2008”. It is clear that these documents need detailed revision in order to reflect the highlighted changes. By combining the efforts of QAAs, HEIs, governments and ministries in the region, we could introduce changes in these international documents and enhance our actions. Taking into account the experience and good practices of other regional quality assurance networks, we should develop the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) of QAAs and form a Database of accredited universities and programmes. It will ensure transparency and evidence-based accreditation procedures, trust, and recognition in the quality of education of higher education institutions and the Regional higher education systems as a whole. Just think:

- The quality of our lives entirely depends on the quality of education.
- The safety of our lives in many aspects depends on the quality of education.
- The future development of every country and the whole world depends on the quality of education.

It means we are responsible for what the world will be like tomorrow.

Dear Colleagues, we will discuss quite a number of important issues at the conference, including: (1) the Quality of Trans-formative learning and Trans-formative teaching; (2) Blended Education from the perspective of 4th Industrial Revolution and the COVID Pandemic; (3) Digital Quality Assurance and Journey to Quality Enhancement; and (4) University-Industry Linkage in the background of internationalization.

I urge you to engage in active discussion of the challenges and risks that we are currently facing.

I suggest providing comments and recommendations, exchanging encouraging experiences, and offering solutions to the complex issues. I am sure we will hear a lot of good ideas today.

I wish all of us productive and successful work. Thank you!

*APQN Vice President: Dr. Galina Motova at the Open Session of APQN 2023 AAC*

## AAC & AGM

### APQN 2023 AAC and AGM successfully held in Dhaka, Bangladesh

Over the years we have known knowledge as the source of power, but with time the sharing of knowledge is considered more of a foundation of power.

We witnessed an amazing platform of knowledge sharing at APQN Annual Academic Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM), 2023. Around 200 participants from 40 institutes, QAAs and higher education institutes (HEIs) around the globe participated in this prestigious event. The event was cordially hosted by American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) from November 02-04, 2023, at Dhaka, Bangladesh.

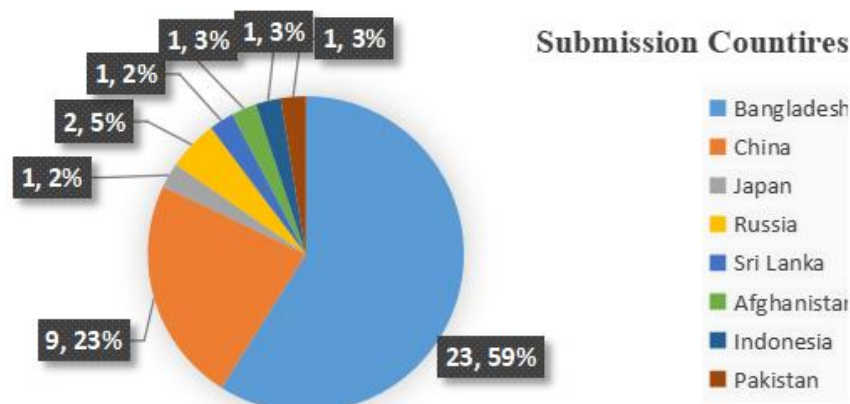


A brief Summary of APQN 2023 AAC and AGM is as follows:

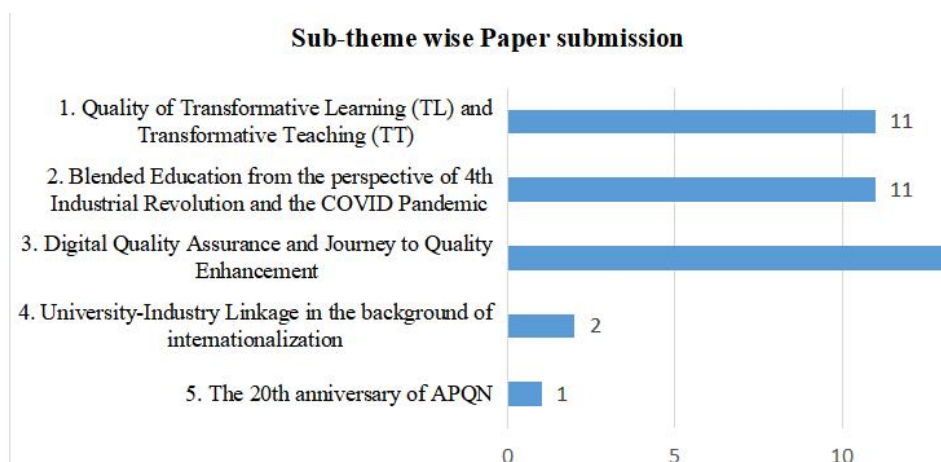
<b>Focal Theme</b>	Innovation and Sustainable Development in Higher Education
<b>Sub-Theme</b>	i. Quality of Trans-formative learning (TL) and Trans-formative teaching (TT),
	ii. Blended Education from the perspective of 4th Industrial Revolution and the COVID Pandemic,
	iii. Digital Quality Assurance and Journey to Quality Enhancement,
	iv. University-Industry Linkage in the background of internationalization
	v. The 20th anniversary of APQN.
<b>Number of Participant Countries: 15</b>	
<b>Number of Participant Institutes, QAAs and HEIs: 40</b>	
<b>Keynote Speakers from</b>	Bangladesh Accreditation Council, Bangladesh
	European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR), Belgium

Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), United States
International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), Kazakhstan
<b>Number of Academic Research Paper Submitted: 39</b>
<b>Number of Paper presented in different sessions of APQN 2023 AAC: 27</b>
<b>Plenary Sessions: 3</b>
<b>Parallel Sessions: 4</b>

The Organizing Committee of APQN 2023 AAC received a total of 39 academic research papers. These papers are submitted by over 95 authors from 8 countries and regions, among which the papers from Bangladesh cover 59% of the total, closely followed by China with 23% (see figures below).

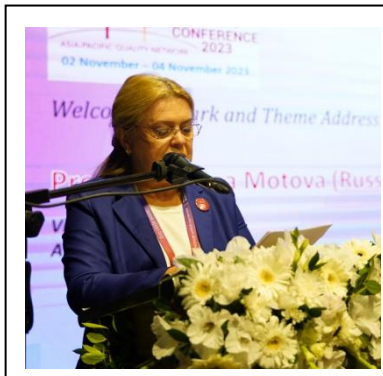


The highest number of paper submissions was for the sub-theme “Digital Quality Assurance and Journey to Quality Enhancement”. The other two sub-themes “Quality of Informativeness Learning (TL) and Informativeness Teaching (TT)” and “Blended Education from the perspective of 4th Industrial Revolution and the COVID Pandemic” closely followed with each having 11 paper submitted each, in these sub-themes (see figures below).



## 1. Opening Ceremony

In the Opening Ceremony Dr. Galina Motova (APQN Vice President), Mr. Ishtiaque Abedin (Chairman, Board of Trustees, AIUB), Prof. Dr. Haseena Khan (Member of University Grants Commission, UGC, Bangladesh), and Prof. Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed (Chairman of Bangladesh Accreditation Council) shared their valuable insight for the audience. The opening ceremony was hosted by Dr. Farheen Hassan (Director, Institutional Quality Assurance Cell and Associate Dean of Faculty of Business Administration, AIUB). The Opening Ceremony took place at the Auditorium of AIUB.



Prof. Galina Motova elaborated on the fourth industrial revolution and the potential challenge it has imparted on to higher education, academicians, and also on the opportunities it offers in terms of knowledge transfer. She emphasized that the higher educational institutes all over the world should adopt the new form of education to be relevant for the labor market, and for ensuring quality everywhere, quality of education is important in every aspect. “The quality of

education, the future development of every country and the whole world’s quality of education, each are responsible for what the world will be like”, with the statement Prof. Galina urged everyone to be on the righteous path of quality assurance.

Mr. Ishtiaque Abedin (Chairman of Board of Trustees, AIUB) in his welcome speech thanked APQN for choosing AIUB for their esteemed conference. He showcased AIUB’s commitment and journey for Quality Education from back in 1990s. To outline the efforts of educational institutes around the Asia-Pacific region he mentioned “This is an undeniable reflection of the growing pace of globalization and the subsequent pressures imposed by it, aspiring to become globally competitive and to position favorably in the global university league tables governments in Asia have either engaged in a serious quest to become a regional education hub, or they have concentrated on developing transnational higher education to create more opportunities in order to meet their citizens.” With some examples of new generative AI applications, he imposed that they’re forcing education, policy makers and institutions to revisit why, what, and how we learn.





Prof. Dr. Haseena Khan (Member of University Grants Commission), portrayed the educational journey of Bangladesh and congratulated AIUB on working on quality assurance for higher education from 2008. She concluded her speech with “We are working on it and the government, as I said, is trying to change the education landscape, the landscape through quality assurance.”

Prof. Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed (Chairman of Bangladesh Accreditation Council) opened his speech with the hope that APQN 2023 AAC is going to be very useful and will help towards the journey to quality enhancement of higher education in Bangladesh as well as in other countries. He mentioned that all public and private universities in Bangladesh have founded a cell called Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and they are very much in operation now. As an accreditation agency, they have received requests for accreditation for 12 universities of their 104 academic programs. In conclusion, Dr. Ahmed hoped “Bangladesh is at the crossroad, which means that in coming years and very near future we shall have quality of Bangladesh higher education substantially improved.”



## 2. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of APQN

APQN commemorated a significant milestone in the history of APQN at 2023 AAC, their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, with two decades of tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to quality assurance. Dr. Timur Kanapyanov (APQN Board Director)



hosted the event. Dr. Jagannath Patil (APQR Chairperson, former APQN President), shared his congratulatory message for APQN, as he mentioned APQN as a “family, which comprises more than half of the population of the

world, Asia and the Pacific.” He appreciated the numerous projects and platforms APQN has provided to its member agencies to share their experiences and learn from each other.



Prof. Dr. Jianixin Zhang (Immediate past President of APQN) presented the research entitled “The Pursuit of Quality Assurance of Higher Education without Boundary: A Case Study of APQN’s Striving for its Ultimate Goal for 20 Years”. She introduced the 20-year history with deep affection and also demonstrated that APQN has achieved a lot on the long march of “Quality Region without Boundary”, such as 19 AACs, publishing over 50 QA periodicals, anthologies and other evidences.

A video greeting for 20 years of remarkable achievements from past network presidents and present network presidents (INQAAHE president, ENQA president, WFME president and EQAR president) was shown at APQN 2023.

With video messages from all the past presidents and a cake cutting, the celebration of the 20th Anniversary of APQN was successfully held with a promise to carry on with the quality assurance journey.

### 3. Keynote Sessions

APQN 2023 AAC was ornamented with 4 distinguished keynote speakers from across the world.



Prof. Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed in his keynote speech “Future of the university”, talked about University of the Future which focus on interdisciplinary education and research. Quoting several authors and futurists, he delineated that universities would cross traditional disciplinary boundaries to address complex global challenges, such as climate change and social inequality. Thus Dr. Ahmed urged “Embracing

innovation and focusing on the skills and knowledge that will be most valuable in coming days, universities can ensure their relevance and help to prepare students for success in an ever-changing world.”

In the keynote speech “Navigating Boundaries: Digitalization, Democratic Values, and the Future of European Higher Education Quality Assurance”, Mr. Stéphane Lauwick (President of European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education), provided an introductory overview of the EHEA, and the positioning of EQAR as one of the standard-bearers of the values of the EHEA. He also articulated a framework for Quality Assurance (QA) in the EHEA, which is co-developed and agreed upon over the last 25 years. In this context, the mission of EQAR and DEQAR





is explained, and digitalization was considered as relevant to internal QA, such that to the institutions themselves, less so to agencies or accreditation bodies. The true operators of Informativeness learning and teaching are the new European Universities, as mentioned by Mr. Lauwick, and therefore the new University alliances are drawing attention to the limitations inherent to practicing QA nationally in an open world. He concluded that “we are equipped with the relevant tools and supported by seemingly adequate funding from the European Commission and governments, we are opening a new era in European QA, one which will lead us to “dissolving boundaries” wider for the good of the people of Europe”.



Mr. Jan Friis (Senior Vice President for Government Affairs of CHEA, Council for Higher Education Accreditation, United States of America), in his keynote speech “Innovation and Sustainable Development in Higher Education”, spoke about the innovation and sustainable development in higher education, in post pandemic world. He portrayed the structure and activities of CHEA, to address the issues of

education that has gone through the evolvement of technology. He emphasized the importance of competency-based education, credit for prior learning, synchronous and asynchronous on-line education, stackable micro-credentials, reverse transfer, quality in the AI environment and other educational modalities.

Through his keynote speech “The importance of University – Industry Linkage for Quality Assurance during post-pandemic era”, Dr. Olgun CICEK (INQAAHE Board Director, Member of CHEA/CIQG, Vice President of the Association of Quality Assurance Agencies of the Islamic World) outlaid the importance of partnerships and collaboration among HEIs and QAAs for “Internationalization” strategies



during the post-pandemic era. “Internationalization is not a goal in itself, but a means of enhancing quality and excellence of higher education and research”, was mentioned by him when he was speaking about the need of rapid adaptability now. Dr. Cicek suggested a reciprocal arrangement of “industry input” into the design of the curriculum, while simultaneously offering internships or co-op opportunities, which will yield graduates who are well-prepared for employment and possess the necessary skills to make meaningful contributions to the workforce.

The amalgamation of the European context, the USA context, and the Asia Pacific context of Quality Assurance at the keynote sessions presented an amazing opportunity for the audience to gather knowledge on global QA scenario.

#### 4. Plenary and Parallel Sessions



APQN 2023 AAC hosted 3 plenary sessions and 4 parallel sessions. The plenary sessions were chaired by Ms. Pingping Liu (APQN Secretary, Deputy Director of Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute, China), Dr. Abdul Hannan Waheed (CEO of Maldives Qualifications Authority, Maldives) and Dr. Timur Kanapyanov (APQN Board Director of IAAR Deputy General Director, Kazakhstan).

In the plenary sessions Akinori Matsuzaka (University Accreditation Association, Japan), Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (Yunnan University, China), Md Imranul Haque (American International University, Bangladesh), Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan (University Grants Commission of (UGC) Bangladesh), Nazia Farhana (American International University, Bangladesh), Maria Islam (Daffodil International University, Bangladesh), Prof. Galina Motova and Dr. Oksana Tanikova (National Centre for Public Accreditation, Russia) and Nehreen Majed (University of Asia Pacific (UAP), Bangladesh) brought in 8 thought provoking topics in three sub-themes: (1) Quality of Informativeness learning (TL) and Informativeness teaching (TT); (2) Blended Education from the Perspective of 4th Industrial Revolution and the COVID Pandemic and (3) Digital Quality Assurance and Journey to Quality Enhancement. The plenary sessions took place at the Multipurpose Hall of AIUB.

APQN 2023 AAC experienced 4 parallel sessions with 13 presentations in the following topics; (1) Quality of Informativeness learning (TL) and Informativeness teaching (TT); (2) Blended Education from the Perspective of 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution and the COVID Pandemic; (3) Digital Quality Assurance and Journey to Quality Enhancement and University-Industry Linkage in the Background of Internationalization. The sessions were chaired by Dr. Abdul Hannan Waheed (CEO of Maldives Qualifications Authority, Maldives), Prof. Dr. Farheen Hassan (Associate Dean, Faculty of Business Administration, Director of AIUB-IQAC) in AIUB), Dr. Sanjoy

Kumar Adhikary (Professor of Khulna University, Bangladesh) and Prof. Dr. Olgun Cicek (INQAAHE Board Director, CHEA/CIQG member, USA, Vice President of IQA).

The research presentations were presented for 15 minutes maximum and there were 10 minutes for discussion. The sessions left the audience with new, innovative knowledge and opportunities to look forward to. The parallel sessions took place at Level 9 of AIUB

### 5. Gala Dinner



AIUB hosted a Gala Dinner for the participants of 2023 AAC at the Westin Dhaka. A cultural program upholding the cultures of Bangladesh were organized by AIUB Performing Arts Club. The APQN Award Show added a hint of celebration to the grandeur of the event. The dinner was a quick refreshment after a whole day of intense

knowledge sharing. (More information can be found in the article entitled “APQN Quality Awards 2023”).

### 6. Closing Ceremony

After two-day exploration of insights into educational quality and the challenges of the future, the Closing Ceremony of 2023 AAC was held on November 04 at AIUB Auditorium. Ms. Liu Pingping (APQN Secretary), inaugurated the session with heartfelt thanks to the host, AIUB, and participants. She excitedly declared the next host of APQN Academic Conference is Russian Register, Russia. The representative of Russian Register, Mr. Pavel Stepanov presented the details of 2024 AAC.

The highlights of the Closing Ceremony were two Memorandum of Understandings (MoU).



1) **MoU between the National Centre For Public Accreditation (NCPA), Russia and Education Quality Evaluation Agency (EQAA), Ministry of Education, P.R. China:** The MoU between the two QAAs opened a new chapter in bilateral cooperation and will greatly contribute to the construction

and the development of HE quality assurance system in the two countries and

even in the Asian Pacific region. The NCPA Director, Dr. Galina Motova and Dr. Oksana Tanikova, represented NCPA in the MoU, whereas EQAA Deputy Director, Mr Li Zhi and Ms. XU Jingran, represented EQAA in the MoU.

**2) MoU between Bangladesh Accreditation Council (BAC) and Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN):** The MoU initiates collaborative activities like



exchanging staff, exchanging expertise and also a possibility of joint accreditation by the BAC and APQN. This agreement opens avenue for potential

Bangladeshi universities to be acknowledged by APQN Quality Label and be internationally competitive. Dr. Galina Motova, Vice President, APQN and Prof. Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Chairman, Bangladesh Accreditation Council, represented their respective institutions in this MoU.

In her closing remarks, Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna, (Member of Board of Trustees at AIUB), congratulated the dedication of individuals, dedication of the organizations committed to driving innovation and sustainable development in higher education. She articulated the commitment of AIUB in ensuring quality in everything they do. Dr. Lamagna said, success is measured after the conference and so “Let us return to our countries with renewed energy, a broader perspective and a deeper commitment to the values of higher education”.



In his closing speech, Prof. Dr. Md. Abu Taher, (Member of UGC) depicted the journey of UGC with more than 160 private universities and 4.4 million students in higher education in Bangladesh. To ensure the quality of higher educations, he mentioned, UGC has taken undertaken a lot of time different initiatives like outcome-based curriculum, revised curriculum under outcome-based education, institutional coalition, introduction of PhD and post-doctoral fellowship, funding research project and others.

On an online message, Dr. Dipu Moni, M.P., Honorable Minister, Ministry of Education, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, insisted on the importance of higher education in fostering innovation and driving sustainable development cannot be overstated in this overly interconnected world. She hoped that the discussions, experiences, collaborations, insights, and solutions that transpired during the APQN 2023 AAC will be instrumental in advancing the cause of innovation and sustainable development in higher education.



The closing ceremony ended with a traditional “Pitha Utsob” ( a traditional event of the Bangladeshi culture in winter) at the scenic student lounge of AIUB, with renewed commitment to carry forward the assurance of quality in higher education.



*(Written by Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna, Dr. Farheen Hassan, Nazia Farhana and AIUB-IQAC, AIUB)*

## APQN 2023 Quality Awards

On the evening of November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, at the Westin Dhaka, APQN 2023 Quality Award show was held as part of APQN Academic Conference and Annual General Meeting.



The evening was felt bright and joyous with colorful and vibrant performances from the host AIUB's Performing Arts Club. The performers were all students of AIUB. They showcased and upheld the Bangladeshi culture through 5 songs covering folk, modern and Bangladesh's very close to heart Rabindra Sangeet songs.

After these melodious retreat, Dr. Jagannath Patil, APQR Chairperson and former APQN President, took the stage to host the APQN Award Ceremony. He thanked the audience for being there and provided a short briefing on the APQN Award values. Every year APQN Award is awarded to entities showcasing dedication and commitment towards Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

This year APQN Award of International Cooperation in QA was awarded to Russian Register. Mr. Pavel Stepanov from Russian Register received the award. APQN's Best/Model Internal QA Award 2023 went to three participants: (1) Hong Kong Police College, Hong Kong; (2) Our Lady of Fatima University, Philippines; and (3) JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, India. AIUB, the host, received APQN's Successful Host Award for successfully hosting 2023 AAC.

The chairman of AIUB, Mr. Ishtiaque Abedin, and Board of Trustee members, Dr. Hasanul A. Hasan, Ms. Nadia Anwar and Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna received the Award

for AIUB. The Board of Trustee members handed over a plaque of Appreciation to APQN for coming to Bangladesh and choosing AIUB for their host. The APQN Vice President Dr. Galina Motova, and other board members Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang, Dr. Jagannath Patil, Dr. Timur Kanapyanov, Ms. Pingping Liu received the plaque on behalf of APQN.

Dr. Jagannath Patil (the host of the event) called several APQN members, who has travelled to Dhaka from different corners of the world to attend 2023 AAC, on stage to award the awardees of APQN Awards, to show respect for their presence.

The event rolled by with lovely dance performances by once again AIUB Performing Arts Club. They performed 3 dances showcasing different forms of cultural branches of Bangladesh. The day ended with delicious foods, cheerful and relaxed networking and discussions.

*(Written by Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna, Dr. Farheen Hassan, Nazia Farhana and  
AIUB-IQAC, AIUB )*

## 2023 APQN AGM was Held in Bangladesh

The 2023 APQN Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, at 16:20 – 17:10 on November 4, 2023. It was chaired by APQN Vice President: Dr. Galina Motova. The participants included Prof Dr. Jianxin Zhang (APQN Immediate Past President), Ms. Pingping Liu (APQN Secretary/Treasurer), Dr. Jagannath Patil (APQN Board Director), Dr. Timur Kanapyanov (APQN Board Director), Dr. Le Fang (APQN Administrator), and representatives from APQN members.



The AGM commenced by welcoming all participants by Dr Galina. First, Dr. Le Fang announced the list of the eight new members and made a brief introduction about their home countries/territories, membership categories, and so on. APQN warmly welcomes more institutions who strive to enhance the quality of higher education to join. Those who are interested in APQN can submit an application at <https://www.apqn.org/members/directory/entry/add>



No.	New Agency	Country	Membership
1	Chongqing Educational Evaluation Institute	China	Full
2	upGrad Institution	Singapore	Institutional
3	Government College University Lahore	Pakistan	Institutional
4	Nav Vihar Shiksha Samiti	India	Institutional
5	Health Services Academy	Pakistan	Institutional
6	Pangasinan State University	Philippines	Individual
7	International Education Board Limited	United Kingdom	Associate
8	HCERES(High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education)	France	Observer





Vice President Dr. Galina presented the “APQN President Report for 2023”. In her report, Dr. Galina first introduced APQN Administration and Status - APQN now has 186 APQN members from 44 countries/territories, being the largest and most influential non-profit and non-government international/regional network in this Region. Dr. Galina also summarized APQN’s work in 2023. APQN released three publications in 2023: APQNews( Issue 27), Anthology of 2022 AAC, and 2022 Annual Report. Dr. Galina also introduced the Committees, Councils, and Projects of APQN. In 2023, APQN also made progress in public relations: cooperation in conferences with Macao Polytechnic University and the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (NIAD-QE), Japan. APQN’s tasks/focus in 2024 were also put forward, including the following: 1) 2024 AAC & AGM in Russia with the theme “Quality Assurance and Global Tertiary Education: Navigating Challenges and Embracing Innovation”; 2) Asia Pacific Quality Register (APQR) with the inspirational target, quality hallmark, the basis for cross-border education as the purpose. 3) APQN Quality Label for HEIs: Online-teaching Quality Assurance, aiming at developing quality criteria for online teaching, developing a PDCI plan to maintain good quality for online teaching in HEIs & non-traditional HE providers, developing a feasible and efficient action plan to implement high-quality online teaching; 4) Plans for celebrating APQN 20 Years Anniversary: 1) Publish the article in the next issue of APQNews 2) Publish the article in the Annual Report 2023 3, etc.



Following the APQN Vice President’s report is the report from the APQN Secretary/Treasurer by Ms Pingping Liu. Ms Liu started her report by showing the structure of the Secretariat Team: Ms. Pingping Liu as the Secretary/Treasurer, both Dr. Le Fang and Ms. Yingjie Xu as administrators, and Ms. Cunyao Fan as the accountant. The Routine work of the secretariat includes information updating, project forwarding, question solving, website maintenance, and others. Special attention was paid to APQN members. APQN welcomed 8 new members in 2023. In the report, the Financial Statement was presented in an open and transparent way. In the year 2022, the total income amounted to \$49,440.95 while the total expenses came to \$35,614.96. This resulted in a surplus of \$13,825.99 for the year, leaving APQN with a forward balance of \$259,453.51. The report reviewed the major events and projects in 2023, including APQN 2023 AAC and AGM and 2024 AAC Host & APQN Awards. In closing the report, Ms Pingping Liu conveyed her sincere gratitude to the APQN Board, AIUB (the local host), and all APQN members and friends for their trust and support to the APQN Secretariat as always.



Dr. Jagannath Patil, APQR Chairperson, presented the APQR Annual Report, showing the efforts in reviewing and renewing quality assurance agencies. The report underlined APQR's commitment to inclusivity, accepting reviews from distinguished quality assurance organizations, and collaborating with APQN. As of now following 10 QAAs are registered on APQR: (1) "Fiji Higher Education Commission" (FHEC) based in Suva, Fiji; (2) Certification Association "Russian Register" (RR) based in Saint Petersburg, Russia; (3) "National Centre for Public Accreditation" (NCPA) based in Russia; (4) "Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health" (IAAHEH) based in Jakarta, Indonesia; (5) Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA), Mongolia; (6) Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), Republic of Kazakhstan; (7) Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health care (ECAQA), Republic of Kazakhstan; (8) Finance Accreditation Agency (FAA), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; (9) "EdNet" Agency on Quality Assurance in Education, Kyrgyzstan; and (10) Samoa Qualification Authority (SQA), Samoa. Dr. Patil also introduced the DAQAR database, aiming to provide information on accredited programs and institutions in the Asia-Pacific region.

The representatives of APQN members all approved the three reports mentioned above. At the same time, Prof. Dr. Olgun Cicek gave good suggestions on the 88 members who could not pay for several years. He said, in order to achieve double wins for both parties, APQN should take some measurements and encourage them back to APQN big family again. Dr. Patil supported his proposal.

At the conclusion of the 2023 AAC and AGM, Vice President Dr. Galina delivered the closing remarks. She emphasized the positive trajectory of APQN, noting its success in fostering connections among members through various activities. Dr. Galina expressed her belief that by leveraging the shared experiences and expertise of APQN members, the organization will continue to advance swiftly and strengthen the bonds among its members.

The AGM 2023 was a successful conference and of great importance for the further development of APQN.

*(Written by Yingjie Xu from APQN Secretariat)*

## Development of APQR and DAQAR

The Asia-Pacific region as a whole remains diverse in terms of education and QA systems, so the launch of the Asia-Pacific Register (APQR) and DAQAR database serve as a reliable source of information on the quality of Asia-Pacific higher education and its quality assurance systems.

DAQAR database was for the first time presented at the APQN 2023 Annual Academic Conference by Prof. Galina Motova and Oksana Tanikova (National Centre for Public Accreditation, Russia).



DAQAR is not the only database of external results in the world. Such databases exist in Europe (DEQAR) and US (CHEA Database). So by now the Asia-Pacific region is also covered and has its own unique database of the external quality assurance reports and other relevant evidence prepared by APQR-registered agencies in order to make them available to various stakeholders and the general public.

As of September 2023, the DAQAR database includes external results from 9 agencies in the Asia-Pacific region with more than 4,000 review reports and 264 higher education institutions (HEIs): (1) Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health, IAAHEH (Indonesia); (2) Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating, IAAR (Kazakhstan); (3) Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health Care, ECAQA (Kazakhstan); (4) National Centre for Public Accreditation, NCPA (Russia); (5) Russian Register (Russia); (6) Agency for Quality Assurance in Education, EdNet (Kyrgyzstan); (7) Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation, MNCEA (Mongolia); (8) Samoa Qualifications Authority, SQA (Samoa); and (9) Finance Accreditation Agency, FAA (Malaysia).



The two speakers also described the results of the questionnaire among quality assurance agencies that are members of APQN. Survey results showed:

1. the benefits of membership in the global and regional quality assurance networks, such as networking with other members and professional development, access to information and expertise (news updates, bulletins, seminars/webinars, etc.), visibility of the agency through involvement in a wide range of activities, possibility to contribute to positive changes in the academic environment; confirmation of adhering to and compliance with the relevant standards;
2. the benefits of being included in the global or regional quality assurance register: registered agencies have a shared understanding of the quality of HEIs and programmes; have the right to disseminate their external review results by uploading data on the accredited HEIs and study programmes to the register’s database; contribute to increasing the visibility, competitiveness, and international recognition of accredited institutions; indirectly promote academic mobility of students from accredited HEIs; serve as a quality hallmark to accredit HEIs;
3. challenges that agencies encounter when registering with APQR: insufficient information on the benefits of registering with APQR, limited value of registering with APQR, insufficient financial resources of the agency, lack of professional staff capable of maintaining the database after inclusion in APQR, lack of clarity of the available information.

The main mission of DAQAR is to provide reliable information on the external review outcomes and to raise quality awareness, trust and competitiveness of study programmes on the national and international levels. It serves as a single database of study programmes accredited by APQR registered agencies, provides a free and easy access to quality assurance reports and decisions on HEIs and programmes and contributes to facilitating automatic recognition of qualifications and diplomas in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The presentation devoted to the launch of DAQAR generated wide-ranging discussions involving Mr. Stéphane Lauwick (EQAR President), Dr. Jagannath Patil (APQR Chairperson, former APQN President) and Mr. Jan Friis (Senior Vice President for Government Affairs of CHEA, US).

On the one hand, the panelists agreed that no matter what part of the world the

database is set up in, they face the same challenges. Among them are slow process of mutual qualification recognition, lack of information, technical difficulties in implementing and using the centralized database, the burden of additional responsibilities in QA agencies, and others.

On the other hand, the speakers confirmed that the amalgamation of the European context (EQAR), the USA context (CHEA Database), and the Asia-Pacific context (APQR) in the form of databases of accreditation results has been shaped and all these databases contribute to internationalization of quality assurance policies and transparency of external quality assurance worldwide.

*(Written by Oksana Tanikova from NCPA, Russia)*

## 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

### APQN Celebrates the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Bangladesh

On November 3, 2023, the Commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of APQN was held at the Opening Ceremony of 2023 AAC held at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB), Bangladesh. It was witnessed by around 200 participants from 40 institutes, QAAs and higher education institutes (HEIs) around the globe. The great event was chaired by Dr. Timur Kanapyanov (the chair of the programme and APQN Board director)



First of all, the 5-minute video entitled **“Happy Birthday, APQN!”** was watched by all, which was made by Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (APQN immediate past President). The video consists of 6 parts: (1) Prologue: APQN, Happy Birthday; (2) APQN’s Attribute; (3) 20-year Development History; (4) Efforts to realize the ultimate goal; (5) Publications; (6) Conclusion. Over 100 photos are vividly shown with animation effect. It describes the 20-year nonstop exploration, the 20-year trials and tribulations, the 20-year endeavor and hard-work. The historical development reflects the great changes of a non-governmental and non-profit international quality assurance organization from its birth to its 20-year youth. [\(The video can be downloaded from APQN website\)](#)



**Secondly, the congratulatory remark by Dr. Jagannath Patil** (APQR Chairperson, former APQN President, Advisor of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, India) was given. Dr. Patil spoke with enthusiasm about two aspects: (1) two decades of quality movement; (2) two thoughts for humanity. Over last 2 decades APQN has done remarkable work in bringing together quality assurance fraternity members across Asia Pacific on a single platform. He also warned that two major global challenges: (1) about continued conflicts and wars among various countries and groups causing concern to the humanity; (2) the unprecedented climate change crisis which has put at risk very existence of mankind in decades to come. He proposed that each responsible member of APQN quality fraternity would contribute to the cause of quality and humanity by incorporating elements related to human values and climate change as part of quality assurance frameworks..



Thirdly, **the 6-minute congratulation video from six QA networks and agencies** was watched, which was made by Dr. Galina Motova (APQN Vice President). They are: (1) Founder and ex-President of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE): Dr. David Woodhouse; (2) APQN third President: Dr. Stella Antony, Australia; (3) INQAAHE President: Dr. Deborah Adair; (4) WFME President: Prof. Ricardo Leon-Borquez; (5) ENQA President: Dr. Douglas Blackstock; and (6) EQAR President: Dr. Stéphane Lauwick. All of them expressed their congratulations to APQN on this important Anniversary, and gave high praise for APQN’s enhancing the quality of higher education in the Asia Pacific Region and “dissolving boundaries for a quality region”. They all wish APQN all the best for the next 20 years. [\(The video can be downloaded from APQN website\)](#)



Last but not the least, the research entitled **“The Pursuit of Quality Assurance of Higher Education without Boundary: A Case Study of APQN’s Striving for its Ultimate Goal for 20 Years”** was presented by Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (APQN fifth and sixth President). To continue the topic of “Happy Birthday, APQN” shown at the very first beginning, Prof. Dr. Zhang introduced the 20-year history with deep affection. In January, 2003, APQN was born in Hong Kong, China, marching forward with the sunrise...20 years later, today the APQN people celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ! In the past 20 years, APQN has been continuously striving for its ultimate goal, which has been shared and carried on by all APQN members, no matter what kind of difficulties it met. APQN has achieved a lot on the long march of “Quality Region without Boundary”, such as focusing on QA themes without boundary at 19 AACs, publishing over 50 QA periodicals, books, tools anthologies and other evidences.



To end the memorial moment, the **huge birthday cake of “Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to APQN”** was cut by the Board Directors, the local host, the guests and the keynote speakers. The celebratory atmosphere reached to its climax. Today, in the dawn of the bright sun in the east, the new era of APQN re-organized and started off again. The APQN people look back on the turbulent times, share great glory, and embark on a new journey.



When APQN embraces the first glimmer of dawn at its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the APQN people from 47 countries/regions come together on a common platform to trust each other, learn from each other and communicate with each other. A brilliant red sun is rising brightly to realize the great dream of “dissolving boundaries for a quality Region”

Standing at a new historical starting point, we are confident and proud, we are filled with expectation and hope, and we are full of great aspiration and actions.

Blessing APQN! Blessing APQN QA people!

*(Written by Jianxin Zhang from APQN Board)*



## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Address by APQN former President

Dear brothers, sisters and family members of grand APQN family, Namaskar, Assalam walekum, Konnichiva, Selamat datag and good morning!



It gives me immense pleasure to send these greetings on occasion of 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of APQN held at Dhaka Bangladesh.

### 1. Two decades of quality movement

Over last 2 decades APQN has done remarkable work in bringing together quality assurance fraternity members across Asia Pacific on a single platform.

It has not only helped in sharing good practices, exchange of professional expertise ideas and resources but also it has immensely benefited in strengthening bond of humanity among people across the borders.

Even in cases of countries like India, Pakistan, China and other neighbors who can be seen in heated exchanges around real borders, we see how they greet and respect each other as APQN family members. This is a very rare strength and achievement of APQN. Various initiatives of APQN such as annual conferences, workshops, quality awards, research projects, publications have greatly contributed in development of quality assurance resources within Asia Pacific region.

Asia Pacific Quality Register built on lines of European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR) is a phenomenal success. Out of 40 plus QAAs in the region, 10 have already underwent review and included on Asia Pacific Quality Register. More are in process. Developed as an autonomous council by APQN, now APQR is in search of a permanent home or secretariat where it can be registered as separate legal entity.

Asia Pacific Quality label (APQL) is another big initiative of APQN. Our collaboration with Bangladesh Accreditation Council [ BAC] is likely to take forward this initiative.

### 2. Two thoughts for humanity

I thank APQN Board for giving me this honour of special address at 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of APQN. While celebrating 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I convey deep sense of gratitude to all founding members of APQN past presidents, vice Presidents, secretariats, and Board directors who contributed in developing APQN as the creditable voice of quality assurance community in the Asia Pacific region.

On this momentous occasion I consider it my duty to put forward two thoughts in the minds of leaders of quality assurance agencies.

These thoughts have become more relevant because of the two major global challenges we are witnessing worldwide. One challenge is about continued conflicts and wars among various countries and groups causing concern to the humanity.

The second challenge is the unprecedented climate change crisis which has put at risk very existence of mankind in decades to come. Keeping these two global challenges in mind it is time for us to reflect whether our notion and concepts of quality in education should invariably include human values, humanity and respect for the nature as some of the non negotiable components. Our definitions, tools and frameworks for quality assurance rights from school education to higher education need to integrate criteria on evaluating emphasis given by programs and institutions on value education, global citizenship, sustainable development goals (SDGs). Indicators and metrics of quality should also focus on actions needed for addressing climate change, promoting green good practices considering educational institutes as prime movers of change in thought and action for global good.

I believe that unless these elements are enshrined not only in our notions of quality but also as a part of our life duty Dharma we will be falling short of our duty-Karma to protect the humanity and our mother earth. I hope each one as a responsible member of APQN quality fraternity will take back this message to our home countries and territories and contribute to the cause of quality and humanity.

*Dr Jagannath Patil, Adviser, NAAC India, Former President of APQN, Chairperson of Asia-Pacific Quality Register*

## Congratulations from INQAAHE ex-President

**Dear Colleagues,**

The creation of INQAAHE was a massive initiative in helping the world's quality agencies to work together.

Following its inception, INQAAHE quickly recognize that different regions of the world have different characteristics, and so it facilitated the creation of regional networks. In the INQAAHE conference in 2001 in Bangalore, India, the INQAAHE members from Asia decided that they would like a regional network and asked Hong Kong and India to facilitate this. As a result, APQN was created at a meeting in Hong Kong in 2003.

I was privileged to be present at that meeting and am delighted to be able to send my best wishes and congratulations to the network on its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



*Dr. David Woodhouse, Australia  
 Founder and ex-President of the International Network for Quality Assurance  
 Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE)  
 (1997 -2001, 2007 – 2011)*

## Congratulations from APQN 3<sup>rd</sup> President by Dr. Stella Antony

**Dear Board, distinguished APQN members and guests,**

I am delighted that APQN is growing from strength to strength, helping the member agencies very constructively.

I have known APQN from its early days, when the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) of India was involved in establishing it, working with other agencies such as HKCAA.

Later, as an audit director of the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) my bond with APQN became stronger. I am honored that I had the opportunity to serve as the President of APQN for a couple of years and experience its potentials in bringing the quality assurance agencies of the region together for a common cause.



I appreciate the numerous projects and platforms APQN has provided to its member agencies to share their experiences and learn from each other.

I wish all the best for APQN to flourish in all its work!

*Dr. Stella Antony, Australia  
3rd President of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (2010-2011)  
APQN Board member (2005-2010)*

## Congratulations from INQAAHE President by Dr. Deborah Adair

### Greetings, colleagues,

I am Dr. Deborah Adair, the 8<sup>th</sup> President of INQAAHE and the CEO for Quality Matters, a quality assurance provider for digital learning in the United States.

On behalf of the entire INQAAHE Board of Directors and Secretariat, I am delighted to be able to offer congratulations and best wishes on APQN's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Through our Global Network of 300 Quality Assurance Bodies, INQAAHE's central purpose is to promote an advanced excellence in higher education to the support of an active international community of quality assurance agencies. APQN, with its large network of 268 members from 47 countries and territories, has long been a strategic partner for INQAAHE. Our memorandum of cooperation with APQN goes back to 2008. Our collaboration has strengthened the work of member agencies of both APQN and INQAAHE.



Together, we are enhancing the global understanding of practice of quality assurance in higher education. We are quite proud of our relationship with APQN, the exchange of best practices, and the numerous collaborations that have ensued over the years.

On this notable Anniversary, we recognize our colleagues for their significant efforts in advancing the theory and practice of quality assurance, for supporting the exchange of best practice, promoting cooperative relationships, and overall advancing the quality of higher education in the Region.

As we acknowledge the successes, we know that there are many challenges as well as opportunities for the future. INQAAHE stands with you and looks forward to continuing our strong relationship as we walk the path that lays ahead.

May the next 20 years be as fruitful. Congratulations and best wishes on the event today!

*Dr. Deborah Adair, USA  
President of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE)*

## Congratulations from WFME President by Prof. Ricardo Leon-Borquez

**Hello,**

It is my desire that you all are having a good day.

I am professor Ricardo Leon-Borquez, President of the World Federation for Medical Education.

I want to congratulate all the members of the Asia Pacific Quality Network for the celebration of your 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

During this time, you have been enhancing the quality of higher education in the Asia Pacific Region and “dissolving boundaries for a quality region”. Your efforts during all these years have contributed in improving the quality of assurance mechanisms, enhancing theory and practice experiences, promoting substantive cooperation, establishing a consultant bank, reviewing Asia Pacific Quality Register and the Asia Pacific Quality Label in the whole region. All those efforts have been able to improve the quality of medical education in the Region.



So once again, congratulations, and I hope that there are many more years to come.

Thank you and goodbye.

*Prof. Ricardo Leon-Borquez, México President of the World Federation of Medical Education (WFME)*

## Congratulations from ENQA President by Dr. Douglas Blackstock

### Colleagues,

I'm really pleased to offer my congratulations to our friends in Asia Pacific Quality Network, APQN on this important Anniversary.

I've worked with colleagues from APQN over many, many years in my time in the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in the UK.

Indeed, QAA was, I think, the first affiliate from outside of the region. But also in my current role, as president of ENQA, the European Association, your regional counterpart, we were greatly pleased at the contribution and collaboration with colleagues from APQN on the QACHE, the Quality Assurance of Cross-border Higher Education Project. That is as relevant today as it was when it was written several years ago.

In fact, with the launch of the UNESCO Global Convention, the importance of collaboration between quality assurance agencies individually, but also in regional networks is really important.

I wish you well in your conference!

I wish you well on your Anniversary, and I send greetings from all of the members of ENQA across the European Higher Education area!

Congratulations, and keep up the good work!

Thank you.



*Dr. Douglas Blackstock, United Kingdom  
President of European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education  
(ENQA)*

## Congratulations from EQAR President Dr. Stéphane Lauwick

**Dear President, dear colleagues,**

By my voice, EQAR, the European Quality Assurance Register, wishes to congratulate you, the Asia Pacific Quality Network, on your 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

In the last 20 years, the world of higher education and research has changed as never before. It has also had to face unexpected challenges. The road ahead is fraught with questions, perhaps even uncertainties. Digitalization, the green transition, but also the assertion of scientific truth, scientific integrity, and, dare I say, the rule of law, are the issues the whole academic community is facing. All your members, and certainly EQAR's members, expect quality assurance agencies and registers to collectively reflect on these pressing issues.



The Asia Pacific Quality Network has been advancing the course of higher quality education for the last 20 years. You provide guidance for your member institutions, their staff, and their students. We congratulate you for successfully carrying out this mission for the last 20 years.

Beyond our differences and because of our diversity, diversity that we all cherish and defend, I am struck by how our cousin associations pursue the same aim to equip higher education systems and institutions with transparency tools that help them face their responsibilities in educating your and our youth and providing better education and research for our societies. EQAR will always be happy to exchange views and collaborate with you and your members.

We wish you all the best for the next 20 years.

*Dr. Stéphane Lauwick, France  
President of the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR)*



## APQN's Striving for its Ultimate Goal for 20 Years

To mark APQN's 20th anniversary, Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (APQN Immediate Past President) conducted the research entitled "The Pursuit of Quality Assurance of Higher Education without Boundary: A Case Study of APQN's Striving for its Ultimate Goal for 20 Years" .

Founded in 2003 in Hong Kong, China, APQN enters its 20th anniversary in 2023. In the past 20 years, APQN has been continuously striving for its ultimate goal of "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region", which has been shared and carried on by all APQN members, no matter what kind of difficulties it met.

Focusing on the ultimate goal, the present paper tries to describe what APQN has done on the long march of "Quality Region without Boundary" in 2 aspects: Part I is APQN's 20-year historical development for a Quality Region , and Part II is the signal achievements for a Quality Region, which include the following 6 points: (1) Serving the huge QA cohort without boundary; (2) Cooperating with QA organizations without boundary; (3) Focusing on QA themes without boundary at 19 AACs; (4) Conducting over 50 QA projects without boundary; (5) Implementing 14 QA actions without boundary under the COVID; and (6) Publishing over 50 QA periodicals, books/ tools anthologies without boundary.

"Quality Region without Boundary" represents not merely a beguiling ideal, but a provable reality and compelling evidence for the potential of quality assurance in education for the whole globe, especially for the Asia-Pacific Region.

The PPT of the research paper was presented at the "Commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of APQN" at the Open Session on Nov. 2, 2023.



2023 APQN Academic Conference (AAC) in Dhaka, Bangladesh , on  
Nov.2-5, 2023

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**Pursuit of Quality Assurance of Higher Education  
without Boundary: A Case Study of APQN's Striving for  
its Ultimate Goal for 20 Years**

**Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang**  
Immediate Past President of APQN, Advisor of the International Quality Group  
(CHEA/CIQG) , General Secretary of Yunnan Higher Education Associatio,  
Professor of Yunnan University, China

apqn  
ASIA PACIFIC QUALITY NETWORK

Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region



## Outline



### CONTENTS

1. APQN's **20-year historical development** of "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region"

2. APQN's **6 signal achievements** of "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region"



## 1 APQN's **20-year historical development** of "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region"



On a sunny day **20** years ago ( in 2003), in **Hong Kong**, a small core group had a meeting, with a **common wish** for excellence in quality of higher education... & here APQN came into being!

APQN's ultimate goal was "**Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region**". Since 2003, the **shared-value** has been carried on for the past **20** years, the common value has been shared by all APQN members. The **pivot** of the ultimate goal is on the **integration** of the cultures of the **53** countries/territories in the Asia-Pacific Region with **over half** of the world's population.

## 4 stages of APQN historical development



## 1-2-3-4-1: Mission- Values-Visions-Principles- Goal

**1 Mission:** To enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening internal & external QA in all kinds of organizations & extending the cooperation among them.

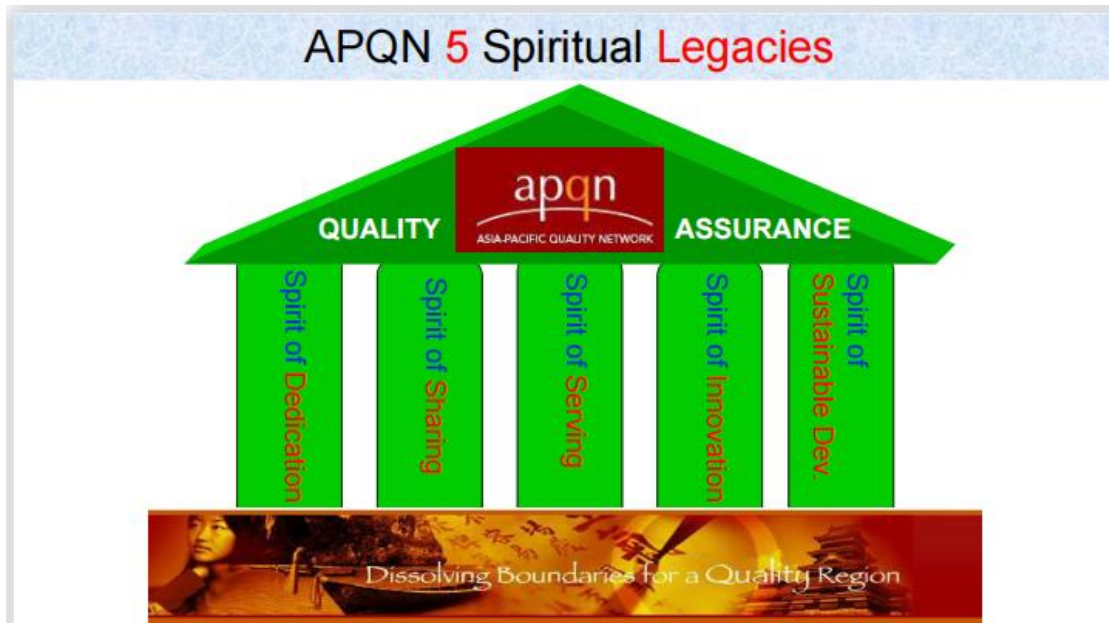
**2 Values:** 1) to be committed to HE quality; 2) supportive of both internal & external QA in the Asia-Pacific Region

**3 Visions:** 1) to promote quality culture; 2) to be a self-sustaining non-government & non-profit organization; 3) to be the first point of reference, efficient in its operations & sharing information among members

**4 Principles:** 1) procedure-based; 2) capacity building; 3) self-reliance & information-sharing; & 4) sustainable development for final goal;

**1 Ultimate goal: Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region**





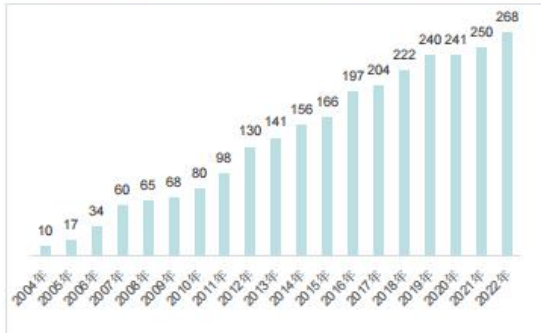
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**APQN's 6 signal achievements of "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region"**

apqn  
ASIA-PACIFIC QUALITY NETWORK

Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region

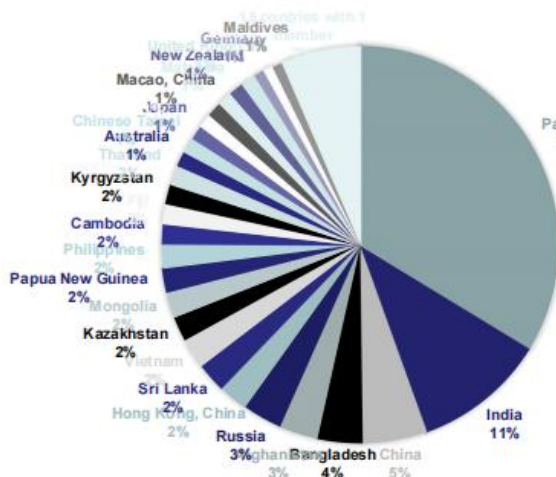
# 1. Serving the huge QA cohort without boundary



**By February, 2023, APQN has 268 members from 47 countries/territories.**

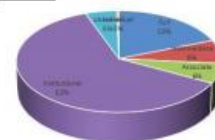
**53 countries/territories, covering half of the world's population**

## The countries/territories of APQN members



### 5 Membership Categories:

1. Full members
2. Intermediate
3. Associate
4. Institutional
5. Individual



## 2. Cooperating with QA organizations without boundary

Asia Development Bank (ADB)

ANQAHE (Arab Network for Quality Assurance in

APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation)

AQAN (ASEAN Quality Assurance Network),

ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations),

AUN (ASEAN University Network)

CHEA/CIQG (Council for Higher Education Accreditation/ International Quality Group)

EC (European Commission), ECA (Economic Commission for Africa)

European Union

ENQA (European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education)

INQAHE (International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education)

JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)

SEAMEO (South East Asian Ministers of Education Organization)

UNESCO Paris (global), UNESCO Bangkok (regional)

WB (World Bank)...



## Example: APQN-INQAHE Global survey



亞太地區高等教育質量保障  
發展現狀與趨勢

### Report of APQN-INQAHE Survey of Internal and External Quality Assurance Landscape.

Authors: Jianxin Zhang-Guo Qun

The Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN)



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III. The operation and influence of external quality assurance (EQA) .....	10
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2nd Global Survey  
began this year!

## Example: **MPI-APQN** International Conferences

Since 2015, **MPI-APQN** Successful Held **8** International Conferences, which focused on “**quality Assurance**”, & MPI published “**6 Proceedings**”



The 14th Higher Education International Conference on  
Online Teaching and Sustainable Quality Assurance: Challenges and Perspectives  
第十四屆高等教育國際學術研討會——  
線上教學與可持續發展之質量保證：挑戰與展望

Year	Theme
2016	The New Frontiers of Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in Higher Education
2017	The New Developments of Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in Higher Education
2018	Innovation and Developments in Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance
2019	Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in International Contexts
2020	Education Innovation and Teaching Quality Assurance in the Post-Pandemic Era
2021	Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in the Post-Pandemic Era
2022	Online Teaching and Sustainable Quality Assurance: Challenges and Perspectives

### 3. Focusing on **QA themes** without boundary at **19 AACs**

1	Aug., 2004	Melbourne, Australia	Global Initiative for Quality Assurance Capacity (GIQAC)
2	Feb., 2005	Hong Kong, China	WTO and International Trade in Education Services: The Opportunities and Challenges of Transnational Higher Education
3	Mar., 2006	Shanghai, China	Regional Mobility: Cooperation in Quality Assurance
4	Feb., 2007	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Emerging Challenges, Emerging Practices: Sharing a Global Vision of Quality Assurance in Higher Education
5	Feb., 2008	Chiba, Japan	Future of Quality Assurance in Asia-Pacific: Cooperation amidst Diversity
6	Mar., 2009	Hanoi, Vietnam	Quality Assurance in Higher Education: Balancing the National Contexts and International Aspirations
7	Mar., 2010	Bangkok, Thailand	Enhancing Quality of Higher Education in the Developing World
8	Mar., 2011	Bangalore, India	Quality Assurance in Higher Education: Expectations and Achievements
9	Mar., 2012	Sjem Reap Angkor, Cambodia	External Quality Assurance in the Asia-Pacific: What has changed over a decade?
10	Apr., 2013	Taipei, China	Has external QA made an impact? Looking back at the decade of quality assurance
11	Mar., 2014	Hanoi, Vietnam	Higher Education Quality Assurance in a Changing World: Envisioning the future of Asia Pacific
12	Apr., 2015	Kunming, China	Globalization and Diversification of Quality Assurance of Higher Education
13	May, 2016	Natadola, Fiji	Sustainable Development of Quality Assurance in Higher Education
14	May, 2017	Moscow, Russia	New Horizons: Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region
15	Mar., 2018	Nagpur, India	Capacity Building for Next- Generation Quality Assurance in Higher Education
16	Mar, 2019	Colomba, Sri	Quality Assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Insight into the Future

## The focus is “Quality Assurance”



2013 APQN Conference & AQE Globalization & Diversification of Quality Assurance of Higher Education

2011年亚太区高等教育质量保证网络学术研讨会 - 高等教育质量保证的全球化与多元化



## 4. Conducting over 50 QA projects without boundary

- In the past 20 years, APQN has conducted over 50 projects on QA to “dissolve boundaries for a quality region” :
- APQN Website: Expansion/Maintenance & Database Development” (2005),
  - External Evaluation Review of the APQN by Bateman & Giles Pty Ltd (2009)
  - GIQAC - Global Initiative for Quality Assurance Capacity(2007-2011)
  - QACHE - Quality Assurance of Cross-border Higher Education (2013-2015),
  - APQR - Asia-Pacific Quality Register (2015-present)
  - MPU-APQN International Conferences on Quality Assurance(2015-present)
  - APQL - APQN Quality Label,(2016-present)
  - Global Summit on Quality Assurance (2016-present)
  - INQAAHE-APQN Global Survey on IQA EQA Landscape” (2019-2021; 2022-present)
  - ...





## The Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR)

Since 2015, APQR began to work on **improving the Quality of the QAAs**. To date, APQR has become the **second** in the international QA networks to implement QA register. **11 QAAs** have been accepted onto APQR.

#	Country	Name of the Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs)	Review Time
1	Fiji	Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC)	2015
2	Russia	Russian Register (RR)	2017
3	Russia	National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA)	2017
4	Indonesia	Indonesian review Agency for Higher Education in Health (IAAHEH)	2018
5	Kazakhstan	Eurasian Centre for review and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health Care (ECAQA) in Kazakhstan	2019
6	Mongolia	Mongolian National Council for Education review (MNCEA)	2019
7	Kazakhstan	Independent Agency for Review and Rating (JAAR) in Kazakhstan	2019
8	Malaysia	Finance review Agency (FAA) in Malaysia	2020
9	Samoa	Samoa Qualifications Authority	2022
10	Kyrgyz	EdNet Agency on Quality Assurance in Education	2022
11	Samoa	Samoa Qualifications Authority	2023



## APQN Quality Label (APQL) for HEIs: Accreditation of Internationalization

In 2019, **Symbiosis International University** in India has accepted on to APQL.

APQL for HEIs, aiming at : 1) establish the **internationalization criteria** of first-class HEIs or Programmes in Asia-Pacific Region; 2) promote the **international mobility** of students, faculty, programs, researchers, projects, exchanges of HEIs...



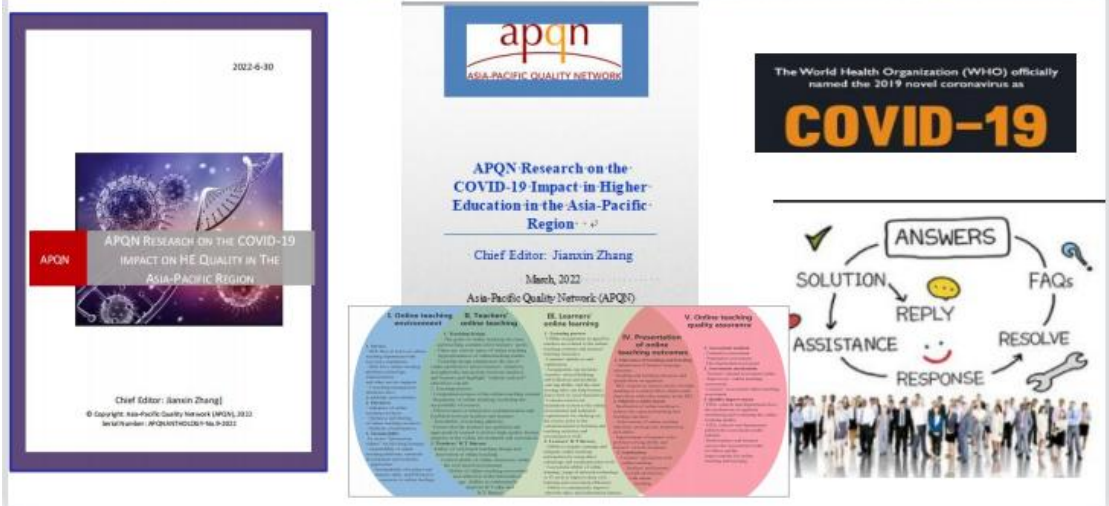
Symbiosis International (Deemed University), SIU

## 5. Implementing 14 QA actions without boundary under the COVID

APQN conducted **14 actions**: 4 surveys, 1 interview, 1 online forum, 3 online conferences, 1 face-to-face conference, 1 online-teaching standard, 3 books & other researches.

#	Time	14 Actions to Fight against the COVID
1.	March-May, 2020.	APQN global survey on the COVID impact in higher education institutions (HEIs)
2.	April-June, 2020.	APQN survey on the COVID impact in quality assurance agencies (QAAs)
3.	June-July, 2020.	Interviews with APQN Board Directors on COVID impact on HE quality
4.	July 28, 2020.	APQN 8 <sup>th</sup> online forum entitled "Influence of COVID on higher education quality assurance: the new normal of higher education 4.0"
5.	July, 2020.	APQN Survey on Effectiveness of On-line Teaching during the COVID pandemic
6.	Nov.25-26, 2020.	MPU-APQN 12 <sup>th</sup> International Conference (online) on Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in Higher Education under the Pandemic
7.	June to December, 2020.	Qualitative Research on Effectiveness of Online Course during the COVID-19 Pandemic
8.	May 31, 2021.	"APQN Standard for Online Teaching Quality Assurance"
9.	Nov. 22, 2021.	MPU-APQN 13 <sup>th</sup> International Conference (online) on Education Innovation and Teaching Quality Assurance in the Post-Pandemic Era
10.	Nov. 25, 2021.	AAC (online) on COVID-Response Mechanism and Impact on Quality Assurance for Higher Education in the Asia-Pacific Region
11.	June, 2022.	Anthology: Selected papers of 2021 AAC (online) in Singapore under COVID Pandemic (Singapore, 2022)
12.	June, 2022.	Book: APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the HE Quality (China, 2022)
13.	Nov., 2022.	APQN face-to-face academic conference "Quality Assurance for Higher Education under COVID Pandemic & Beyond in Asia-Pacific Region"
14.	June, 2023.	Anthology: Selected papers of 2022 AAC on "Quality Assurance for Higher Education under COVID Pandemic & Beyond in Asia-Pacific Region" (Singapore, 2023)

## 3-minute Video Presented at 2022 AAC in Singapore



The collage features several key elements:

- APQN Research on the COVID-19 Impact in Higher Education in the Asia-Pacific Region:** A book cover with a purple and blue design, dated 2022-6-30, edited by Jianxin Zhang.
- APQN Research on the COVID-19 Impact in Higher Education in the Asia-Pacific Region:** A white cover with the APQN logo, dated March 2022, edited by Jianxin Zhang.
- WHO COVID-19 Graphic:** A black and orange graphic with the text "The World Health Organization (WHO) officially named the 2019 novel coronavirus as COVID-19".
- ANSWERS/REPLY/RESPONSE Cycle:** A circular diagram showing a cycle of "ANSWERS", "REPLY", "RESPONSE", and "ASSISTANCE", with icons for a lightbulb, a speech bubble, a smiley face, and a wrench.
- Online Teaching Quality Assurance:** A circular diagram with five sections:
  - I. Online teaching assessment
  - II. Teachers' online teaching
  - III. Learners' online learning
  - IV. Presentation of online teaching resources
  - V. Online teaching quality assurance

## 6. Publishing over 50 QA books without boundary

APQN has taken a wide range of methods & actions to share QA information, experiences, theories, & practices, including APQNews, Anthologies, books & others.



### Publication 1: APQNews

APQNews plays an excellent role in communicating with APQN members. Since 2008, two issues have been published each year. As of 2023, APQN published 28 issues, a total of over 500 articles.



## Publications 2: APQN Annual Report

Each year APQN holds the Annual General Meeting (AGM) & reports to its members what has happened in one year.

As for 2023, 17 volumes of “APQN Annual Report” have published.



## Publication 3: AAC Anthologies

By 2023, APQN published 8 Anthologies, a total of 210 papers.

APQN is the only professional network that publishes the Anthologies of their annual conferences, which reflect the results of current research & advancements in the sphere of QA in education.



## Publication 4: QA Tools & Books

A series of QA academic works were developed in different kinds of activities & cooperation, e.g.

- UNESCO-APQN Toolkit:
- Regulating the Quality of Cross-Border Education,
- Cross-Border HE: Road towards Capacity Building,
- ...



APQN Ultimate Goal of **DBQR** - Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region is a 1000-mile Long March in the continuous Quality Improvement Cycle for Quality Culture!



## PRESS RELEASE of 2023 AAC

The Daily Star: APQN 2023 AAC was held at AIUB



### APQN Academic Conference 2023 was held at AIUB

The three-day APQN Academic Conference 2023 has ended at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) on November 4. In the last day, there were two keynote speeches and four parallel sessions where the researchers discussed the quality of transformative teaching-learning, blended education, digital quality assurance and university-industry linkages.

The first keynote speaker, Jan Friis, Senior Vice President for Government Affairs at Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), USA, focused on



the scope and challenges of quality of transformative learning and shared the experience of CHEA. The second

keynote speaker, Prof. Dr Olgun Cicek, board director of INQAAHE and member of international advisory council of

CHEA, discussed the importance of internationalisation.

Education Minister Dr Dipu Moni, MP, was the Chief Guest and delivered her message virtually. She elaborated the activities undertaken by the Bangladeshi government to ensure quality education in higher education.

The Special Guest, Prof. Dr Md. Abu Taher, Member of UGC, explained the role of UGC to maintain quality education. Dr Timur Kanapyanov, the APQN Board director, expressed his gratitude to AIUB for overall support.

09/11/2023 | Campus | Page : 06  
Source : <https://epaper.thedailystar.net/>

## The Daily Star

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## Daily Sun: APQN 2023 AAC inaugurated at AIUB

11/8/23, 11:14 AM

about:blank

TRUE AND IMPARTIAL  
**daily sun**

### APQN Academic Conference 2023 inaugurated at AIUB

Saturday, 04 November, 2023, 06:54PM



daily sun TRUE AND IMPARTIAL

APQN 2023 AAC was inaugurated at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) on Saturday (3 November).

In the opening remarks, Vice President of APQN, Dr. Galina Motova, highlighted the theme of this year's conference, read a press release.

Chairman of the Board of Trustee of AIUB Ishtiaque Abedin has elaborated the journey of AIUB towards quality education.

Prof. Dr Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Chairman of Bangladesh Accreditation Council (BAC), was the chief guest and first keynote speaker in the opening session. He discussed the importance of quality assurance and the role of BAC to ensure quality

*Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region*

enhancement in higher education.

In the second keynote presentation, Stephane Lauwick, the president of the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR), explained how the quality of education is ensured in the European universities and the benchmark they follow.

On the opening day, there were 9 papers presented in 3 plenary sessions focusing on quality of trans-formative teaching-learning, blended education from the perspective of 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution and the COVID pandemic.

Prof. Dr. Haseena Khan, Member of UGC, was the special guest in the opening session of the conference. Dr. Jagannath Patil, Advisor of National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), India, highlighted the importance of ensuring quality level at institutional and program level accreditation. Prof. Dr. Jianxin discussed the journey of APQN for the last 20 years to pursuit quality assurance of higher education without boundary.

National and international researchers from 15 countries are attending this conference. Vice Chancellor, Pro-Vice Chancellor, and Treasurer of different public and private universities were present in the opening ceremony. Members from BAC, representatives from different local and international agencies, APQN board members, academic and administrative staff of AIUB were also present. Prof Dr Farheen Hassan conducted the opening session of APQN academic conference 2023.

TRUE AND IMPARTIAL  
**daily sun**



## The Business Standard: The 3-day APQN 2023 AAC ended at AIUB .

11/8/23, 10:32 AM

APQN Academic Conference 2023 held at AIUB | The Business Standard

**THE  
BUSINESS  
STANDARD****WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 08, 2023****Press Release**

05 November, 2023, 04:35 pm

Last modified: 05 November, 2023, 04:37 pm

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 08, 2023**

Press Release

05 November, 2023, 04:35 pm

Last modified: 05 November, 2023, 04:37 pm

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/corporates/apqn-academic-conference-2023-held-aiub-733606>

### The 3-day APQN 2023 AAC ended at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) on Saturday (4 November).

On the last day, there were two keynote speeches and four parallel sessions where the researchers discussed the quality of trans-formative teaching-learning, blended education, digital quality assurance and university-industry linkages.

The first keynote speaker, Jan Friis, Senior Vice President for Government Affairs at Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) of USA, focused on the scope and challenges of quality of informativeness learning and shared the experience of CHEA.

The second keynote speaker, Prof Dr Olgun Cicek, board director of INQAAHE and member of the international advisory council of CHEA, discussed the importance of internationalization.

He further highlighted the issues on ranking and quality assurance. According to him, quality assurance ensures ranking, but ranking may not ensure quality assurance.

Education Minister Dr Dipu Moni was the chief guest and delivered her message online. She has elaborated the activities undertaken by the Government of Bangladesh to ensure quality education in higher education.

The special guest, Prof Dr Md Abu Taher, Member of UGC, explained the role of UGC to maintain quality education. Dr Timur Kanapyanov, the APQN Board director, has expressed his gratitude to AIUB for overall support.

Dr Hasanul A Hasan, Nadia Anwar and Dr. Carmen Z Lamagna, the Board of Trustees members, thanked the Board of APQN for giving AIUB the opportunity to host this conference. They acknowledged the contribution of the local and international researchers and participants to making this conference a memorable event.

The APQN academic conference ended with a high note and looking forward to implementing the proposals discussed during the conference for sustainable development in higher education.

**THE  
BUSINESS  
STANDARD**

Dhaka Tribune: APQN 2023 AAC held at AIUB

# Dhaka Tribune

Date : November 5, 2023

## APQN Academic Conference 2023 held at AIUB

- Two keynote speeches
- Four parallel sessions



Attendees pose for a photo at the APQN Academic Conference 2023 at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) in Dhaka on Saturday, November 4, 2023. Photo: Courtesy

### Press Release

Publish : 05 Nov 2023, 05:14 PM | Update : 05 Nov 2023, 05:14 PM

The three-day APQN 2023 AAC has ended at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) on Saturday.

In the last day, there were two keynote speeches and four parallel sessions where the researchers discussed the quality of trans-formative teaching-learning, blended education, digital quality assurance and university-industry linkages, says a press release.

The first keynote speaker, Jan Friis, senior vice president for Government Affairs at Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) of US, focused on the scope and challenges of quality of informativeness learning and shared the experience of CHEA.

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The APQN academic conference ended with a high note and looking forward to implementing the proposals discussed during the conference for sustainable development in higher education.

# **Dhaka Tribune**

## The Business Standard: APQN 2023 AAC to be held at AIUB

11/11/23, 4:31 PM

APQN Academic Conference 2023 to be held at AIUB from 2-4 November | The Business Standard

**THE  
BUSINESS  
STANDARD**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023

Press Release

02 November, 2023, 02:10 pm

Last modified: 02 November, 2023, 02:12 pm



**THE  
BUSINESS  
STANDARD**

Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) Academic Conference 2023 is going to be held at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) from 2-4 November 2023.

Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) 2023 AAC is going to be held at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) from 2-4 November 2023.

APQN has been working to enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region for the last 20 years, reads a press release.

There are 268 institutional and academic members of APQN from 47 countries. AIUB is proudly hosting the 2023 conference for the first time in Bangladesh at the AIUB campus.

This conference expects participants from 15 countries who will be discussing innovation and sustainable development in higher education. The researchers will also focus on the quality of informativeness teaching-learning, blended education, digital quality assurance, and university-industry linkages to ensure quality education.

At this conference there will be 4 keynote Speakers: Stephane Lauwick, the President of the European Quality Assurance; Jan Friis, Senior Vice President of CHEA, USA; Prof Dr. Olgun Cicek, Board Director of INQAAHE, and Prof. Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Chairman of Bangladesh Accreditation Council; and 3 Plenary, along with 4 parallel sessions where 27 papers will be presented.

Honorable Minister, Ministry of Education, Chairman of Bangladesh Accreditation Council, Members from UGC, representatives from different local and international agencies, APQN board members along with APQN secretariat, and AIUB Management will be attending the 3- day conference at AIUB.

## Bengali Press

PDF	02 প্রথম আলো -এআইইউবিতে তিন দিনের এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স শুরু _
PDF	03 Jugantor - এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩
PDF	04 Bangla Tribune - এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স
PDF	05 Kalerkantho - এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩
PDF	06 JagoNews - এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স শুরু
PDF	08 Amader Shomoy - এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত
PDF	10 bdpratidin - এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত _
PDF	12 Dhakapost - এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত
PDF	13 Jugantor - এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স
PDF	14 The Daily Campus -এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত
PDF	15 Purboposhchimbd -এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত
PDF	16 সারাদিন - এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত
PDF	18 Bdpratidin - এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স-২০২৩
PDF	19 bonikbarta- এআইইউবিতে তিন দিনের এপিকিউএন অ্যাকাডেমিক কনফারেন্স
PDF	20 Ajker Patrika এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত হবে এআইইউবিতে
PDF	21 সারাদিন -এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত হবে এআইইউবিতে
TV	Banglavisision - এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩
TV	Jamuna TV- এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক কনফারেন্স-২০২৩ শুরু

11/9/23, 6:06 PM

এআইইউবিতে তিন দিনের এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স শুরু | প্রথম আলো

প্রথম আলো

Q | Login

### এআইইউবিতে তিন দিনের এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স শুরু

নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক ঢাকা

১১/০৯/২৩ ১০:০৫



আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি বাংলাদেশে এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্কের (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্সে অতিথি ও অংশগ্রহণকারীরা। ছবি: সংগৃহীত

11/02, 11:56 AM

এসিইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩  
এসিইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩

## সুপ্রভা

এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩

👤 সংবাদ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

🕒 ০৪ নভেম্বর ২০২৩, ২০:৩৮:২০ | অনলাইন সংস্করণ



আজ ৩ দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩ এর উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠান আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশ (এআইইউবি)-তে অনুষ্ঠিত হয়েছে। গত ২০ বছর ধরে এপিকিউএন এশিয়া-প্রশান্ত মহাসাগরীয় অঞ্চলে উচ্চশিক্ষার মান উন্নয়নে কাজ করেছে। এপিকিউএন কনফারেন্স ২০২৩ প্রথমবারের মতো বাংলাদেশে এআইইউবি-তে অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে। এই কনফারেন্সে ১৫টি দেশের খ্যাতনামা শিক্ষাবিদ ও গবেষকগণ অংশগ্রহণ করছেন।

## বাংলা ট্রিবিউন

এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স

বাংলা ট্রিবিউন ডেস্ক

০২ নভেম্বর ২০২৩, ০৪:০২



আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি বাংলাদেশে একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩-এর উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠান

তিন দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩-এর উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠান আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি বাংলাদেশে (এআইইউবি) অনুষ্ঠিত হয়েছে। যা শুরু হয় শুক্রবার (৩ নভেম্বর)।

রবিবার (৫ নভেম্বর) এআইইউবির প্রধান জনসংযোগ কর্মকর্তা আবু মিয়া আকব্দ তুহিন স্বাক্ষরিত পাঠানো এক সংবাদ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে এ তথ্য জানানো হয়।

বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে বলা হয়, গত ২০ বছর ধরে এপিকিউএন এশিয়া-প্রশান্ত মহাসাগরীয় অঞ্চলে উচ্চশিক্ষার মান উন্নয়নে কাজ করেছে। এপিকিউএন কনফারেন্স ২০২৩ প্রথমবারের মতো বাংলাদেশে এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে। এই কনফারেন্সে

## এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স শুরু

📍 অংশ নিউজ ডেস্ক  
🕒 প্রকাশিত: ০৯:৩৫ পিএম, ০৪ নভেম্বর ২০২৩



রাজধানীর আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি বাংলাদেশে (এআইইউবি) অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্কের (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩। শুক্রবার (৩ নভেম্বর) তিন দিনের এই আয়োজন উদ্বোধন করা হয়েছে।

গত ২০ বছর ধরে এপিকিউএন এশিয়া-প্রশান্ত মহাসাগরীয় অঞ্চলে উচ্চশিক্ষার মান উন্নয়নে কাজ করছে। এপিকিউএন কনফারেন্স ২০২৩ প্রথমবারের মতো বাংলাদেশে এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে। এই কনফারেন্সে ১৫টি দেশের ব্যাচনামা শিক্ষাবিদ ও গবেষকরা অংশগ্রহণ করছে।

এ কনফারেন্সে মূল বক্তা হিসেবে উপস্থিত ছিলেন ইউরোপিয়ান কোয়ালিটি অ্যাসুরেন্সের প্রেসিডেন্ট স্টিফেন লউইক, সিএইচইএ এর সিনিয়র ভাইস প্রেসিডেন্ট জান ফ্রিস, আইএনকিউএএইচই এর বোর্ড অব ডিরেক্টর প্রফেসর ড. ওলগুন সিসেক। কনফারেন্সে বিভিন্ন বিষয়ে ২৭টি গবেষণাপত্র উপস্থাপন করা হবে।

নতুন ধারার সৈনিক

## আমাদের মমতা

### এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত

অনলাইন ডেস্ক  
০৪ নভেম্বর ২০২৩, ০৯:৩৪ পিএম



আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশ (এআইইউবি)-তে অনুষ্ঠিত হলো ৩ দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩। আজ কনফারেন্সের সমাপনী অনুষ্ঠানে প্রধান অতিথি হিসেবে অনলাইনে উপস্থিত ছিলেন শিক্ষা মন্ত্রী ড. দীপু মনি।

এ সময় ড. দীপু মনি উচ্চ শিক্ষায় মানসম্মত শিক্ষা নিশ্চিত করতে বাংলাদেশ সরকারের গৃহীত কার্যক্রম বিস্তারিত তুলে ধরেন।



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এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত

আমরা জনগণের পক্ষে

## বাংলাদেশ প্রতিদিন

আপডেট : ৭ নভেম্বর, ২০২৩ ০০:০৭

### এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত

অনলাইন ডেস্ক



আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশ (এআইইউবি)-এ অনুষ্ঠিত হলো তিনদিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩।

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এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত

## DHAKAPOST

### এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত

ঢাকা পোস্ট ডেস্ক

৫ নভেম্বর ২০২৩, ১৬:৫৪



আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশ (এআইইউবি)-এ অনুষ্ঠিত হলো তিন দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩।

রোববার (৫ নভেম্বর) কনফারেন্সের সমাপনী অনুষ্ঠানে প্রধান অতিথি হিসেবে অনলাইনে উপস্থিত ছিলেন শিক্ষামন্ত্রী ড. দীপু মনি। তিনি উচ্চশিক্ষায় মানসম্মত শিক্ষা নিশ্চিত করতে বাংলাদেশ সরকারের নেওয়া কার্যক্রম বিস্তারিত তুলে ধরেন। বিশেষ অতিথি হিসাবে উপস্থিত ছিলেন বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরি কমিশনের সদস্য প্রফেসর ড. মো. আবু তাহের। তিনি উচ্চশিক্ষার মান বজায় রাখতে ইউজিসির ভূমিকা উল্লেখ করেন।

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এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স  
এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স

## সূত্র

### এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স



🕒 ০৭ নভেম্বর ২০২৩, ০০:০০:০০ | প্রিন্ট সংস্করণ

আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশ (এআইইউবি)-তে অনুষ্ঠিত হলো ৩ দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩। রোববার কনফারেন্সের সমাপনী অনুষ্ঠানে প্রধান অতিথি হিসাবে অনলাইনে উপস্থিত ছিলেন শিক্ষামন্ত্রী ড. দীপু মনি। কনফারেন্সের সমাপনী অনুষ্ঠানে এআইইউবির ট্রাস্টি বোর্ডের প্রতিষ্ঠাতা সদস্য ড. হাসানুল এ হাসান, এআইইউবির ট্রাস্টি বোর্ডের প্রতিষ্ঠাতা সদস্য ও ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান নাদিয়া আনোয়ার এবং এপিকিউএন বোর্ডের পরিচালক ড. তৈমুর কানাপিয়ানভ উপস্থিত ছিলেন। সংবাদ বিজ্ঞপ্তি।

সম্পাদক : সাইফুল আলম, প্রকাশক : সালামা ইসলাম

প্রকাশক কর্তৃক ক-২৪৪ প্রগতি সরণি, কুড়িল (বিশ্বরোড), বারিধারা, ঢাকা-১২২৯ থেকে প্রকাশিত এবং যমুনা প্রিন্টিং এন্ড পাবলিশিং লিঃ থেকে মুদ্রিত।

পিএবিএক্স : ৯৮২৪০৫৪-৬১, রিপোর্টিং : ৯৮২৩০৭৩, বিজ্ঞাপন : ৯৮২৪০৬২, ফ্যাক্স : ৯৮২৪০৬৩, সার্কুলেশন : ৯৮২৪০৭২। ফ্যাক্স : ৯৮২৪০৬৬

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এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত - The Daily Campus

THE  
DAILY CAMPUS

## এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত

০৬ নভেম্বর ২০২৩, ২২:৪৯



এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স ২০২৩

আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশ (এআইইউবি)-তে অনুষ্ঠিত হলো ৩ দিনব্যাপী

## এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত

প্রকাশ | ০৫ নভেম্বর ২০২৩, ২১:৪৬

👤 নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক

আমেরিকান  
ইন্টারন্যাশনাল  
ইউনিভার্সিটি-  
বাংলাদেশ  
(এআইইউবি)-এ  
অনুষ্ঠিত হলো তিন  
দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া  
প্যাসিফিক  
কোয়ালিটি  
নেটওয়ার্ক  
(এপিকিউএন)  
একাডেমিক  
কনফারেন্স ২০২৩।



রোববার (৫ নভেম্বর) কনফারেন্সের সমাপনী অনুষ্ঠানে প্রধান অতিথি হিসেবে অনলাইনে উপস্থিত ছিলেন শিক্ষামন্ত্রী ড. দীপু মনি। তিনি উচ্চশিক্ষায় মানসম্মত শিক্ষা নিশ্চিত করতে বাংলাদেশ সরকারের নেওয়া কার্যক্রম বিস্তারিত তুলে

সারাদিন.নিউজ  
আমরা সত্যের পক্ষে

## এআইইউবিতে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত

🕒 প্রকাশিত: ২:০৯ অপরাহ্ন, নভেম্বর ৪, ২০২৩

👤 নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক:



আমরা জনগণের পক্ষে

# বাংলাদেশ প্রতিদিন

আপডেট : ২ নভেম্বর, ২০২৩ ১৯:০০

## এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স-২০২৩ | অনলাইন ডেস্ক



আগামী ২-৪ নভেম্বর ৩ দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স-২০২৩ আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশ (এআইইউবি) -এ অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচ্ছে।

## বনিব বার্তা

### এআইইউবিতে তিন দিনের এপিকিউএন অ্যাকাডেমিক কনফারেন্স

প্রকাশ: নভেম্বর ০২, ২০২৩

নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক



আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশে (এআইইউবি) অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচ্ছে ৩ দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) অ্যাকাডেমিক কনফারেন্স। আজ বৃহস্পতিবার (২ নভেম্বর) শুরু হয়ে অনুষ্ঠান চলবে ৪

<https://bonibarta.net/aiub-news/559758>

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# আজকের পত্রিকা

## এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত হবে এআইইউবিতে

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

প্রকাশ : ০১ নভেম্বর ২০২৩, ১১:৫৬



আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশ। ছবি : সংগৃহীত

তিন দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশে (এআইইউবি) অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচ্ছে। ২-৪ নভেম্বর এই কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

**সারাদিন.নিউজ**  
আমরা সত্যের পক্ষে

## এপিকিউএন একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত হবে এআইইউবিতে

🕒 প্রকাশিত: ১:৫২ অপরাহ্ন, নভেম্বর ২, ২০২৩

✍️ নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক:

তিন দিনব্যাপী এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক কোয়ালিটি নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিকিউএন) একাডেমিক কনফারেন্স আমেরিকান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইউনিভার্সিটি-বাংলাদেশে (এআইইউবি) অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচ্ছে। আগামী ২-৪ নভেম্বর আইইউবিতে হতে যাচ্ছে এ কনফারেন্স

গত ২০ বছর ধরে এপিকিউএন এশিয়া-প্রশান্ত মহাসাগরীয় অঞ্চলে উচ্চশিক্ষার মান উন্নয়নে কাজ করেছে। এপিকিউএন কনফারেন্স ২০২৩ প্রথমবারের মতো বাংলাদেশে এআইইউবিতে অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচ্ছে। এই কনফারেন্সে ১৫টি দেশের খ্যাতনামা শিক্ষাবিদ ও গবেষকগণ অংশগ্রহণ করতে যাচ্ছে।

## QA ACTIVITIES

### MQA Held Conference on Qualifications Recognition

On 26 August, 2023, *Conference on Qualifications Recognition* was held by Maldives Qualifications Authority (MQA) at Manhattan Business Hotel in Malé. 150 participants from higher education institutions, companies, government departments attended the conference. Mariyam Fizaana Rashyd (Director general of MQA) introduced the conference



Dr. Ibrahim Hassan, the Minister of Higher Education gave an opening speech. He thanked all the participants, especially Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang, APQN Immediate Past President. He called on the contribution from all the persons both from internal QA and external QA.

First of all, Dr. Abdul Hannan Waheed, CEO of MQA, gave a report on “*Qualifications Recognition at a Global Level*”. He presented from 6 aspect: (1) what is recognition? (2) related concepts & definitions; (3) UNESCO & Qualifications Recognition – Regional conventions; (4) UNESCO & Qualifications Recognition – Global Convention on Recognition of Qualifications Concerning Higher Education; (5) ENIC (European Network of Information Centers in the European Region) and NARIC (National Academic Recognition Information Cent res in the European Union) Networks; and (6) qualifications recognition in some countries. His report gave the participants a clear picture of qualifications recognition at a global level.

Secondly, Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (former president of APQN) presented on “*Cross border Higher Education and Quality Assurance*”. She introduced Cross-Border Higher Education (CBHE) in the globe by the example of UNESCO Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications (in force in 2023). She described the global solutions of CBHE Problems using the survey results of “the Quality Assurance of Cross-border Higher Education” (QACHE) led by ENQA, APQN, ANQAHE & QAAs in Europe, Asia Pacific & Arab region. Taking Maldives as an

example, at the end, she talked on the best practice of qualification framework & quality assurance in Maldives. Her global perspective drew the attention of the participants to clearly realize the Maldives National Qualification Framework (MNQF) by MQA.

Thirdly, Dr. Ahmed Ali Manik, member of the advisory board of MQA presented on “*Fake qualifications by Degree / Diploma Mills*”. He talked about the following questions: (1) What are degree mills?; (2) How big a concern is this? (3) Who are motivated to buy fake certificates? Why? (4) How do DMs flourish? (5) Impact? Can we do anything about DMs? His questions made the participants think deeply and well aware the severity and harmfulness of Degree / Diploma Mills.



At last, Panel Discussion entitled “*Challenges, issues and considerations in Qualifications Recognition in the Maldives*” was conducted by certificate panel members and experts. They are Mr. Abdul Wahid Ibrahim, Dr. Almed Ashraf, Ms. Zeenaz Fahumy and Nazima Mohamed. The panel members had a heated discussion on QR challenges, issues and considerations, and the participants also actively joined in the discussion. The representatives from the HEIs think that they should play a central role in recognition matters and be involved in recognition of prior learning.

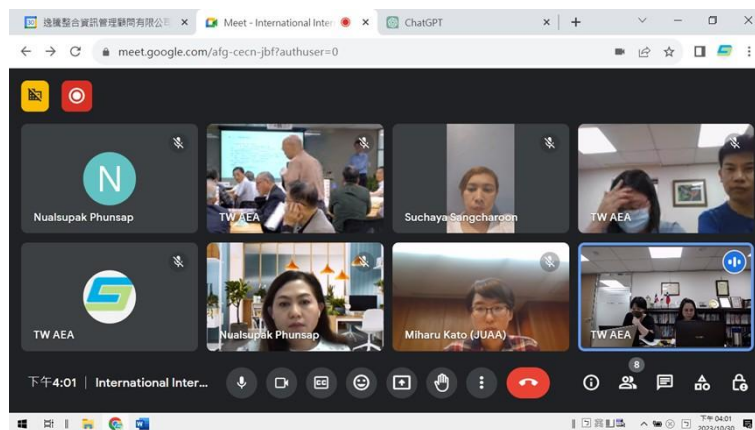


*(Written by Maldives Qualifications Authority, Maldives)*

## TWAEA Promoting International Internship Program

In recent years, the Taiwan Assessment and Evaluation Association (TWAEA) has established a strong and mutually beneficial partnership with the Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) and the Thailand's Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (ONESQA), becoming significant partners in the international arena.

In 2023, TWAEA inaugurated the "International Internship Program" among the three QAAs, which was anticipated to forge a fresh avenue for fostering collaboration and to facilitate future development.



Following the online opening ceremony held on August 17<sup>th</sup>, three online exchange activities on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, and October 30<sup>th</sup> were strategically organized to align with TWAEA's efforts in implementing the "Technical University Evaluation Project" commissioned by the Ministry of Education. The theme of the 3<sup>rd</sup> one was "Reviewer Training Session." During the exchange, Assistant Secretary-General of TWAEA, Ms. Ying-Li Chou, provided an overview of the reviewer training system. The session was simultaneously broadcast through live equipment, creating a real-time experience for international interns.

The international interns for this year are arranged to come from December 18<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, the purposes of the face-to-face activity are to facilitate knowledge exchange, experience sharing, and mutual understanding of viewpoints. By participating in the institutional evaluation of technical universities in Taiwan, the interns will have the opportunity to engage in valuable physical exchanges, while the collaboration between international partners can be fostered, and in-depth professional discussions can also be enlightened.





*(Written by Taiwan Assessment and Evaluation Association)*

## Success for THE-ICE 16<sup>th</sup> International Panel of Experts Forum 2023

On 30<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023, THE-ICE International Panel of Experts (IPoE) Forum was successfully hosted by William Angliss Institute in Melbourne, Australia. More than 50 participants, representing over 22 institutions and organisations across 10 countries, joined THE-ICE 16<sup>th</sup> IPoE Forum 2023 to share ideas and discuss the future of learning across the global network of THE-ICE and beyond. Proudly, the IPoE Forum explored the theme “*Leading Change in Challenging Times – Finding and Framing the Trans-formative TH&E graduates for the 21st Century*”.



The IPoE Forum offers a series of high-level panel sessions, workshops, and roundtable discussions that focus on strategic issues facing tourism, hospitality, events, and culinary arts education, bridging research, education, and industry.

### *Listening Lunch Student Panel*



### Highlights of the IPoE Forum 2023 included:

- Recipients of THE-ICE Research Grant Scheme 2023 presented their findings.
- Students from William Angliss Institute, Melbourne Polytechnic, and Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School at Torrens University Australia participated on the Listening Lunch Panel.

- Seven (7) of THE-ICE member institutions received Premier Ranking Awards for achieving #1 ranking on the i-graduate International Student Satisfaction Global Index 2023 in 37 of the elements.
- The winning teams of THE-ICE Global Revenue Management Challenge 2023, the organization's annual student competition, were acknowledged at the IPoE Forum Gala Dinner.
- The launch of THE-ICE & Hosco Alumni Award, an exciting new incentive that recognize THE-ICE member institution that best displays initiative in supporting and encouraging alumni engagement. This year it was presented to Dusit Thani College, Thailand, for the most active alumni community within THE-ICE global network.

Photos of THE-ICE 16<sup>th</sup> IPoE Forum 2023 can be viewed on THE-ICE Facebook page and LinkedIn profile, and the panel presentations and video resources are available on THE-ICE website. [www.the-ice.org](http://www.the-ice.org) <https://the-ice.org/the-ice-ipoe-forum-2023/>

*THE-ICE 16<sup>th</sup> IPoE Forum 2023 Gala Dinner*



*(Written by Ms Jade Rheeder, THE-ICE Project Coordinator)*

## NAAC in India Signs MoU with NCPA in Russia

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), India Signed/extended the MoU with National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA), Russia on 26th November 2022 during APQN AAC and AGM conference held at the Lifelong Learning Institute in Singapore from 24th to 27th November, 2022.

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is an autonomous institution established by the University Grants Commission (UGC) of India to assess and accredit institutions of higher education in India. The National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA) is an autonomous non-profit organization established in 2009 on the initiative of the Guild of Experts in the Sphere of Professional Education and other legal entities to organize and carry out the accreditation procedures of higher education institutions.

Having comparable mission and objectives in quality assurance in higher education and in order to create a collaborative and cooperative mechanism both the parties signed a MoU during the APQN conference 2022. The MoU intends to establish amicable collaborative fellowship and strategic alliance to enhance quality assurance in both the jurisdiction and improve the quality of higher education in India, Russia and the international community.

The areas of operation and collaboration includes exchange of information, good practices, understanding quality assurance system, staff exchange, joint capacity building initiatives etc.

The MoU signing ceremony was represented by Dr. Vladimir Navodnov, Director NCPA (Russia), Dr. Galina Motova, Deputy Director NCPA (Russia) and Dr. Shyam Singh Inda, Dr. Vinita Sahu, Mr. M Arun, Mr. V Umashankar from NAAC, India.



*(Written by NAAC -National Assessment and Accreditation Council, India)*

## INQA AHE International Conference at Astana, Kazakhstan

On 29<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023, INQA AHE International Conference on “17<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference Roadmap to Enabling Quality in Tertiary Education 2030” hosted by Independent Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (IQAA) Astana, Kazakhstan.



In this connection Dr. Ruchi Tripathi, Assistant Adviser, and Dr. B. S. Ponmudiraj, Adviser from NAAC, participated in this conference and presented a poster- *“Quality Assurance Issues & Practices in Higher Education Institutions in India with special reference to National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Accredited Institutions.”* Also Dr. B. S. Ponmudiraj presented another poster *“Quality Assurance for Flexible Learners: Experiences and Expectations.”*



*(Written by NAAC -National Assessment and Accreditation Council, India)*

## UP-COMING EVENT

### Welcome to APQN 2024 AAC and AGM in Russia: Navigating the Future of Global Tertiary Education

**Dear APQN members, dear colleagues,**

Welcome to 2024 AAC and AGM to be held by "Russia Register" in St. Petersburg, Russia, on September 26-29 (Wednesday - Sunday), 2024!

The view to the St. Petersburg from the Neva River



#### **APQN 2024 AAC and AGM: Navigating Challenges and Embracing Innovation**

The Agency for the Assessment of the Quality of Tertiary and Vocational Education (AAQTVE), a part of the Certification Association "Russian Register," is excited to extend a warm invitation to the prestigious APQN Annual Academic Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) in St. Petersburg, Russia. The great event will take place in September 26-29 (Wednesday - Sunday), 2024.

APQN AAC seeks to contribute both globally and nationally to the enhancement of quality assurance in tertiary education. Internationally, the conference is designed to facilitate the exchange of best practices, insights, and experiences among practitioners, policymakers, and educators worldwide. On a national level, it empowers representatives from national quality assurance agencies (QAAs) and higher education institutions (HEIs) to gain insights into global trends and innovative solutions, refining their quality assurance frameworks for better-informed international recognition.

The theme of APQN 2024 AAC is "*Quality Assurance and Global Tertiary Education: Navigating Challenges and Embracing Innovation*", which offers an exhilarating journey. Picture yourself immersed in an intellectual adventure that transcends borders, sparking conversations that will shape the future of global tertiary education. The event unfolds as a dynamic expedition, exploring 4 sub-themes: (1) QA for Cross-Border Higher Education: International Standards,

Challenges and Solutions; (2) Embracing Digitalization for QA: Innovations and Future Trends; (3) QA in Higher Education Institutions: Fostering Excellence in Teaching and Learning in All Stages of Life; and (4) Enhancing Internal Quality Assurance of QAAs: Innovations and Governance.

Additionally, the conference will encompass discussions on student-centered education, problem-based approaches, micro-credentials, and skills mismatch concerning the development of competences for future jobs. The focus will extend to the development of new skills and expertise considering emerging challenges, such as those posed by artificial intelligence.

Dear all, please note down the following dates:

Time	Key Event
December, 2023	Press release the announcement of APQN 2024 AAC and AGM
January 1, 2024	Call for Papers for 2024 APQN Academic Conference (AAC)
Before May 30, 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deadline of Call for Papers for 2024 Academic Conference (AAC)</li> <li>2. Call for the Host for Hosting 2025 AAC and AGM</li> <li>3. Call for Nominations for 2025 APQN Awards</li> </ol>
Before June 30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deadline for the EoI for Hosting 2025 AAC and AGM</li> <li>2. Deadline for the Applications for APQN Awards</li> </ol>
July 1-20	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Online Registration is open</li> <li>2. Announcement of accepted papers</li> <li>3. Announcement of the EoI for by APQN Board</li> <li>4. Announcement of the Applications for APQN Awards by APQN Board</li> <li>5. The first draft of the Programme of 2024 AAC &amp; AGM</li> </ol>
September 26 (Wednesday)	<b>Arrival in St. Petersburg, Russia for APQN 2024 AAC and AGM</b>
September 27-28 (Friday-Saturday)	<b>APQN Academic Conference and Annual General Meeting</b>
September 29 (Sunday)	<b>Half-day City Tour to St. Petersburg, Russia</b>

### APQN 2024 AAC Venue: CORT INN Hotel & Conference center

The venue for the conference is planned as CORT INN Hotel & Conference center, located on the Griboyedov Canal embankment, in the historical center of St. Petersburg.



The conference venue provides an experience of allure, with each hall named after a distinguished Russian literary figure, adding a touch of cultural richness to the event. The grand "Tolstoy" hall mirrors Leo Tolstoy's literary grandeur, offering a spacious backdrop for the exchange of profound ideas. Feel the essence of Russian literature in the "Chekhov," "Gogol," and "Dostoevsky" halls, each honoring the intellectual vigor and emotional intensity of these iconic writers. These intimate settings are crafted to foster meaningful discussions, enveloping participants in the literary heritage of Russia and as you gather in these distinguished spaces, be prepared for an ambiance that sparks creativity, enlightens the mind, and sets the stage for thoughtful conversations.

Notably, the city tour is seamlessly integrated into the conference program, allowing the participants to discover the enchanting sights of St. Petersburg while enhancing the conference experience. St. Petersburg in September is an invitation to immerse yourself in the city's grandeur, history, and artistic splendor, all woven into the fabric of this exceptional conference event.

In September St. Petersburg offers a delightful blend of cultural richness and favorable weather for sightseeing. As summer transitions into autumn, the city's iconic landmarks come alive in a mild and pleasant atmosphere. The renowned Hermitage Museum, housed in the Winter Palace, beckons with its unparalleled art collection. A stroll along the historic Nevsky Prospect reveals the city's vibrant energy, adorned with elegant boutiques, cafes, and theaters.

The majestic Peter and Paul Fortress, set against the backdrop of the Neva River, invites exploration of its historical significance. The city's numerous canals and bridges, often referred to as the "Venice of the North," provide a picturesque setting for boat tours, offering unique perspectives of St. Petersburg's architectural marvels.

However, it is worth remembering that some foreign citizens intending to enter the Russian Federation are required to obtain a visa. Please, get registered for the conference in time to allow us to proceed with your visa invitation.

### **Introduction of the local host: Russian Register**





Formally established in 2015, the Agency for the Assessment of the Quality of Tertiary and Vocational Education (AAQTVE), a part of the “Russian Register” focusing on the Quality Assurance in Education, has been actively engaged in collaborative efforts with educational organizations since the year 2000. Acknowledged both within Russia and internationally, the Agency holds a distinguished status as an independent expert and accreditation organization specializing in quality assessment. With extensive experience in collaborating with educational institutions, it has garnered wide-ranging national and international recognition. AAQTVE is committed to supporting the aspirations of educational institutions and diligently adheres to the requirements outlined in federal legislation governing the field of education.

Participation in this trans-formative experience, where global perspectives converge to navigate challenges and embrace innovation in tertiary education, is crucial for shaping the future of quality education on a global scale. The drive to organize this conference is firmly rooted in a commitment to providing a global platform for promote dialogue, exchanging insights, and shaping the future of tertiary education worldwide – a realm where quality is not merely a measure but a philosophy.

APQN 2024 AAC and AGM goes beyond the ordinary; it is a narrative intricately woven with threads of progress, collaboration, and the relentless pursuit of excellence. Join us in St. Petersburg, Russia, for an immersive experience where thought leaders, practitioners, and stakeholders come together to share insights, uncover innovative solutions, and collectively steer the future of quality education. Your presence will be a pivotal chapter in this vibrant tale of education and innovation.

**See you in St. Petersburg!**



*(Written by Olga Safonkina, International Project Manager of Russian Register,  
Jianxin Zhang from APQN Board)*



## Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region

### APQNews (Issue 28, 2023)

#### *Call for Contribution for the Next Issue*

APQNews is a half-year periodical newsletter on updating APQN development within the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN). It also gives members an opportunity to share QA activities within their organization. All members are invited to contribute articles for the next issue of APQNews.

A great way to get involved with the APQN community is to share your thoughts and ideas. Do you have something you would like to share with your APQN colleagues? Are there any upcoming quality events that you would like to release in APQNews? APQN welcomes all contributions for the next issue of APQNews! Please kindly e-mail them to Chief Editor and APQN Administrator at: [apqnsecretariat@163.com](mailto:apqnsecretariat@163.com).

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