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To

Director

The Cyprus Academy of Arts

Subject: Preliminary review of compliance on the programmes of study of the University for Creative Arts, which will be offered with the method of franchise from The Cyprus Academy of Arts

I have the instructions to refer to the above issue and to inform you of the preliminary verification of compliance with the requirements under the The Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws, 2015 and 2016 as regards as regards the programmes of study of the University for Creative Arts, which will be offered with the method of franchise from The Cyprus Academy of Arts.

It should be noted which are the programmes of the University for Creative Arts which will be offered by The Cyprus Academy of Arts (qualification, duration, number of ECTs, level of study) and for each of them what is the response to the Agency's law.

Please include in your letter of reply all the information required for each point that the Council has identified from the preliminary review that it is absent on the basis of the abovementioned Law.

11.-(1) Every higher education institution may award itself higher education qualifications of educational institutions of member states with the method of Accreditation or give the opportunity to educational institutions of member states to award their own qualifications in the Republic with the method of franchise, provided that the following conditions, which are checked by the Agency, are fulfilled:

(a) The educational institution of a member state is recognized in its country and duly authorized and accredited to provide courses and grant higher education qualifications with the method they are offered;

It is noted that "UCA is recognized by UK QAA" but it should include evidence that the University for Creative Arts is recognized in Great Britain by its respective Quality Assurance Agency and duly authorized and accredited to provide courses and the grant higher education qualifications with the method of franchise.

(b) the programme of study leading to the award of the higher education qualification in the Republic has been officially accredited by the authorized and accredited Agency established in the member state of origin of the higher education qualification;

You have mentioned in your application that "UCA is recognized by UK QAA. All UK study programs franchised by UCA and delivered by CAA in Cyprus are therefore recognized by UK QAA and the Department of Education".

Apart from this statement, however, no evidence has been found that the programmes of study, which should be noted in detail, have been officially certified by the respective UK Entity (QAA). To include the relevant data for each of the courses offered by franchising.

(c) the higher education qualification issued is the same as that which would have been awarded if the education had taken place entirely in the member state of origin of the higher education qualification;

The relevant documentation is included in Appendix 2 "All qualifications granted by the UCA and delivered by CAA Cyprus are the same as the qualifications that would have been awarded if they had been fully delivered to UK by UCA. ... The certificate awarded to the student undertaking the UCA validated course with CAA will indicate the location of delivery as Cyprus.

However, further clarification as to the UCA assessment as given in the relevant section "In the delivery of the CAA program will be subject to internal verification by UCA and external audit by an external Examiner appointed by UCA".

(d) the higher education qualification, in case it certifies a vocational qualification, confers the same vocational rights in the territory of the member state of origin of the higher education qualification; and

The relevant documentation is included in Appendix 2. It is noted that the specific qualifications do not certify a professional qualification. Please include in your letter of reply what the English nationals are doing when they finish the program in England. What they need to do in order to acquire professional rights and whether the same applies to those studying in Cyprus.

(e) the higher education qualification issued in the Republic confers the same rights as those applicable in the territory of the member state of origin of the higher education qualification.

Please give documentation confirming that the higher education qualification issued in the Republic confers the same rights as those applicable in the territory of the member state of origin of the higher education qualification.

(2) Before the commencement of the offer of the programme of study ending in the award of a higher education qualification, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (1), the higher education institution informs in depth and in detail the Agency, submitting to it- (a) All relevant reports and evaluations made by the education institution the higher education qualification of which will be awarded;

(b) full details of the educational facilities and services that will be offered by the institution as well as those offered by the institution the higher education qualification of which will be awarded;

Please refer in detail to the educational facilities and services offered by both University for the Creative Arts and The Cyprus Academy of Arts for each study program offered by the franchise method.

(c) full details of the admission criteria, Evaluation and graduation, to be applied by the educational institution, as well as those applicable to the educational institution the qualification of which will be awarded;

the admission, assessment and graduation criteria are set for three courses (BA Animation, BA Fine Arts, MA Fine Arts). However, it is not clear whether they are the ones to be applied by The Cyprus Academy of Arts or whether they are being implemented by the University for the Creative Arts.

It is noted that the units credited to the student correspond to credits and not to ECTS. Appropriate adjustment is required.

(d) the list of names of members of the teaching staff and their relationship with the institution and the certificates of the academic and professional qualifications of the teaching staff which will be used for the provision of the programme by the institution, as well as the corresponding particulars of the staff used in the educational institution the higher education qualifications of which will be awarded; and

Certificates with the academic and professional qualifications of the teaching staff are not included as required.

(e) the relevant agreements between the institutions

A letter from the University for the Creative Arts for the partnership / franchised agreement is included. However, the relevant agreements between the institutions have not been included.



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THE CYPRUS AGENCY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION



(Dr Eleni Deliyianni)

on behalf of the President
of the Council Cyprus Agency for Quality Assurance
and Accreditation in Higher Education