Doc. 300.1.2

Date: Date.

# **Higher Education Institution's Response**

- Higher Education Institution:
   Cyprus University of Technology
- Town: Limassol
- Programme of study
   Name (Duration, ECTS, Cycle)

### In Greek:

Πτυχίο Εργοθεραπείας (4 έτη, 240 ECTS, Bachelor of Science)

### In English:

Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy (4 years, 240 ECTS, Bachelor of Science)

- Language(s) of instruction: Greek
- Programme's status: New
- Concentrations (if any):

In Greek: Concentrations
In English: Concentrations



The present document has been prepared within the framework of the authority and competencies of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education, according to the provisions of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws" of 2015 to 2021 [L.136(I)/2015 – L.132(I)/2021].

#### A. Guidelines on content and structure of the report

- The Higher Education Institution (HEI) based on the External Evaluation Committee's (EEC's) evaluation report (Doc.300.1.1 or 300.1.1/1 or 300.1.1/2 or 300.1.1/3 or 300.1.1/4) must justify whether actions have been taken in improving the quality of the programme of study in each assessment area. The answers' documentation should be brief and accurate and supported by the relevant documentation. Referral to annexes should be made only when necessary.
- In particular, under each assessment area and by using the 2<sup>nd</sup> column of each table, the HEI must respond on the following:
  - the areas of improvement and recommendations of the EEC
  - the conclusions and final remarks noted by the EEC
- The institution should respond to the EEC comments, in the designated area next each comment. The comments of the EEC should be copied from the EEC report <u>without any interference</u> in the content.
- In case of annexes, those should be attached and sent on separate document(s). Each document should be in \*.pdf format and named as annex1, annex2, etc.

# 1. Study programme and study programme's design and development

(ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)

| Areas of improvement and recommendations by EEC   | Actions Taken by the Institution  | For Official Use ONLY       |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| The support of external stakeholders could be strengthened also with a formal Memorandum of Understanding of collaboration              | The program has formalized partnerships with key stakeholders through active Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), including the State Health Services Organization (Cyprus' largest healthcare provider) and Melathron Agoniston EOKA (leading rehabilitation center) (See Appendix 1 with full list of 35 active MoUs and page 166 of the submitted application).  | Choose level of compliance: |
|   | <ol> <li>To further strengthen collaboration, we will:</li> <li>Expand MoUs with stakeholders in emerging practice areas (e.g., geriatric care) related to occupational therapy by June 2025, integrating curriculum co-design and mentorship terms.</li> <li>Establish a Clinical Partners         Advisory Committee (before the start of clinical placements for the first cohort of students in December 2025) to ensure annual feedback on graduate competencies and program relevance.</li> <li>Monitor MoU outcomes (e.g., placement quality, research output) through the program's annual review process.</li> </ol> |                             |
| To establish an external board of stakeholders acting as giving advice to the program on developments and trends in policy and practice | Preparatory steps for the External Stakeholder Advisory Board are underway, aligning with World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) requirements. Key local stakeholders (Cyprus Association of Occupational Therapists, Ministry of Health, public/private practitioners; some of whom were present on the day of the evaluation) and international academic partners (e.g., the University of West Attica, Brunel University London, European Network of Occupational Therapists in Higher Education) are provisionally engaged (see pages 16-17, 22 of the  | Choose level of compliance: |

application). Post-CYQAA accreditation, the board will be formalized with a Memorandum of Understanding of Collaboration to proceed with the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) approval. The Department will also use their feedback following quality assurance processes to identify necessary updates to course content based on labor market needs and industry developments. The Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) procedures will be followed throughout this process, which are already being implemented for the Department's Speech-Language Therapy BSc program, which has been running since 2013 (see page 17 of the application).

Choose level of compliance:

Add a clearly description of the design of the examinations into the application to enable smooth student progression. Thereby the progress of the development of the student towards more autonomy and agency should be highlighted, in relation to student-centered learning. We emphasize the importance of the support for the student to become a life-long learner.

The program's examination framework is designed to foster **student** autonomy, agency, and lifelong **learning**, aligned with Tuning CALOHEE guidelines (see page 50 of the **application**). (The Tuning CALOHEE Occupational Therapy 2024 project, led by the **ENOTHE** and the Tuning Academy as part of CALOHEE (Measuring and **C**omparing Achievements of Learning Outcomes in Higher Education in Europe), updated the Occupational Therapy **Q**ualifications Reference Frameworks (QRF) to standardize and enhance occupational therapy education across Europe).

Course assessments are further structured to progressively build independence and foster agency, empowering students to take ownership of their learning journey. A variety of assessment methods are used, aligned with Tuning CALOHEE 2024, depending on the learning outcomes being assessed, including:

Theoretical course assessments:
active participation, critical
thinking, and ownership through
oral assessments (seminar
participation, presentations, critical
reviews or oppositions, feedback
sessions), written assessments
(written examinations, case study
reports, reflection papers or diaries,
identification of learning needs,

critical reviews, literature review, posters, project proposals, quality improvement plans, research proposals, theses), or **creative assignments** (creating a video or a podcast).

 Practical skills assessments (e.g., for Practice Placement): Focus on real-world application, fostering autonomy through Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), Objective Structured Practical Examination (OSPE), Triple Jump & Clinical Viva).

Following this recommendation, we have incorporated these elements into the application, referencing the corresponding options defined by the Tuning CALOHEE guidelines <u>based on the skills required, the learning outcomes, and the promotion of lifelong learning</u> (see section "Assessment" of Appendix 2).

We recommend to use the possibilities of Erasmus+, possibly to start with staff mobility as for example job shadowing in other European OT programs which could support inside to the developed program and would strengthen the occupation-focused starting point of the program

The Department has initiated **Erasmus+ staff mobility** to enhance occupation-focused education. Key actions include:

- CRRF Hospital Partnership: A
   January 2024 visit to France's CRRF
   COS Pasteur 2 Hospital (funded by EUt+) finalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for reciprocal staff exchanges, focusing on curriculum design and clinical practice.
- Curriculum Development: Mrs. Marianna Tsiakoulia (Program Co-Coordinator) attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Occupational Therapy Europe Congress, integrating insights from the *Tuning Competences* 2024 course into curriculum design aligned with the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning (EQF for LLL) and Qualifications Frameworks for the European Higher Education Area (QF of the EHEA).
- Future Collaborations: We have initiated discussions for additional international collaborations (prioritizing job shadowing) to

Choose level of compliance:

|                                      | establish Erasmus+ partnerships          |                             |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
|                                      | with institutions Escola                 |                             |
|                                      | Universitària d'Infermeria i Terapia     |                             |
|                                      | Ocupacional de Terrassa (Spain),         |                             |
|                                      | Université Paris-Est Créteil (France),   |                             |
|                                      | Brunel University London, Royal          |                             |
|                                      | Holloway University of London,           |                             |
|                                      | Cardiff University (UK), FH Campus       |                             |
|                                      | Vienna (Austria), and the University     |                             |
|                                      | of Ljubljana (Slovenia). Significant     |                             |
|                                      | curriculum changes are reviewed          |                             |
|                                      | and approved by the                      |                             |
|                                      | Undergraduate Studies Committee          |                             |
|                                      | and the Departmental Council (see        |                             |
|                                      | page 17 of the application).             |                             |
| In the presented program there are   | (a) International Student Accessibility: | Choose level of compliance: |
| no opportunities for international   | While Cypriot law mandates               | choose level or compliance. |
| students to participate in the study | undergraduate teaching in Greek, the     |                             |
| program of review (we were           | program offers English-language          |                             |
| informed that the courses/modules    | courses (e.g., Evidence-Based Practice   |                             |
| needs to be taught in the Greek      | in Rehabilitation Sciences, see page 133 |                             |
| language). As the study program      | of the application) and practice         |                             |
| outlines we also agree that clinical | placements via Erasmus+. Following       |                             |
| supervisors should have 5 years of   | this recommendation, when                |                             |
| work experience.                     | international students enroll, three     |                             |
| work experience.                     | additional courses (Therapeutic Use of   |                             |
|                                      | Groups, Social and Cultural Context in   |                             |
|                                      | OT, and Technology in OT) will be        |                             |
|                                      | taught in English. Partnerships with     |                             |
|                                      | EUT+ (e.g., CRRF France) and Erasmus+    |                             |
|                                      | enable exchanges, internships, and       |                             |
|                                      | collaborative research (see page 22 of   |                             |
|                                      | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·    |                             |
|                                      | the application).                        |                             |
|                                      | (b) Clinical Supervisor Qualifications   |                             |
|                                      | (b) Clinical Supervisor Qualifications:  |                             |
|                                      | All clinical supervisors meet the 5-year |                             |
|                                      | experience requirement (see page 15      |                             |
|                                      | of the application). External Clinical   |                             |
|                                      | Supervisors are selected through MoUs    |                             |
|                                      | with leading institutions (e.g., Cyprus  |                             |
|                                      | Ministry of Health, private              |                             |
|                                      | rehabilitation centers), with            |                             |
|                                      | qualifications reviewed during           |                             |
|                                      | partnership negotiations.                |                             |
| The quality assurance of the         | The program has strengthened quality     |                             |
| program would benefit of strong      | assurance through strategic              |                             |
| partnerships and networks with       | partnerships:                            |                             |
| external stakeholders, such as the   | 1. Cyprus Association of Occupational    |                             |
| Cyprus Association of OT, European   | Therapists: The Coordination             |                             |
| visiting professors, ENOTHE and      | Committee has held meetings with         |                             |
| SPOT-Europe                          | the association since 2021               |                             |
|                                      | regarding the program structure          |                             |
|                                      | and content (see page 16 of the          |                             |
|                                      | application). A post-accreditation       |                             |

MoU will formalize roles in program reviews and graduate employability tracking.

- 2. European Network of Occupational Therapists in Higher Education (ENOTHE): Consultations with former ENOTHE leadership (the latest was in January 2025) guided curriculum revisions. Membership was requested from ENOTHE last year, but we were informed that it would only be granted once the program receives accreditation from CYQAA.
- 3. European Visiting Professors:
  Academics from institutions like the
  University of West Attica
  contributed to course design (see
  page 12 of the application) and
  guest lectures. Erasmus+
  agreements with the Royal
  Holloway University of London and
  FH Campus Vienna will expand joint
  research and supervision.
- 4. Student Platform of Occupational Therapy (SPOT)-Europe: From 2025-2026, students will participate in SPOT-Europe conferences and projects supported by departmental funding for equitable access.
- 5. **Erasmus+**: Partnerships with institutions like Université Paris-Est Créteil will co-develop quality assurance benchmarks for clinical education.

# 2. Student – centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3)

| recommendations by EEC  We advise to develop a clear vision on the pedagogical approach on education and examination  The program has established a student-centered pedagogical philosophy (see page 28) rooted in Tuning CALOHEE and CUT's Quality Assurance Handbook for Teaching and Learning (see page 50 of the application). This philosophy prioritizes active student engagement, critical thinking, and life-long and self-directed learning through:  Blending Teaching Methods: Case-Based Learning (see page 52), Problem-Based Learning (see page 52), Problem-Based Learning (see page 55), Flipped Classroom (see page 61), Collaborative Classroom & Online Work (see page 133), Practical Exercises (see page  | Areas of improvement and   |  |                       |
|--|--|--|-----------------------|
| on the pedagogical approach on education and examination  student-centered pedagogical philosophy (see page 28) rooted in Tuning CALOHEE and CUT's Quality Assurance Handbook for Teaching and Learning (see page 50 of the application). This philosophy prioritizes active student engagement, critical thinking, and life-long and self-directed learning through:  Blending Teaching Methods: Case-Based Learning (see page 52), Problem-Based Learning (see page 52), Problem-Based Learning (see page 61), Collaborative Classroom & Online Work (see page 133), Practical Exercises (see page   | •  | Actions Taken by the Institution   | For Official Use ONLY |
| a 141), Role-Playing (see page 86), Simulations (see page 91)  Formative Assessments: Reflective assignments, clinical reasoning, and critical thinking using Frameworks such as Borton's Developmental Framework, Gibb's Reflect Cycle, and John's model of reflection (see page 126), self- assessment tasks and individual/group reflection (see page 126), presentations regarding the development of professional identity and self- directed learning (see page 141)  Summative Assessment: Student-led presentations (see page 141), portfolio & oral presentations (see page 75), practical skills & critical thinking assessments, such as Clinical Viva (see page 158)  Academic Staff Training: The CUT offers the "Design of Learning Experience in Higher | We advise to develop a clear vision on the pedagogical approach on | The program has established a student-centered pedagogical philosophy (see page 28) rooted in Tuning CALOHEE and CUT's Quality Assurance Handbook for Teaching and Learning (see page 50 of the application). This philosophy prioritizes active student engagement, critical thinking, and life-long and self-directed learning through:  • Blending Teaching Methods: Case-Based Learning (see page 52), Problem-Based Learning (see page 52), Problem-Based Learning (see page 55), Flipped Classroom (see page 61), Collaborative Classroom & Online Work (see page 133), Practical Exercises (see page 141), Role-Playing (see page 86), Simulations (see page 91)  • Formative Assessments: Reflective assignments, clinical reasoning, and critical thinking using Frameworks such as Borton's Developmental Framework, Gibb's Reflect Cycle, and John's model of reflection (see page 126), self-assessment tasks and individual/group reflection (see page 126), presentations regarding the development of professional identity and self-directed learning (see page 141)  • Summative Assessment: Student-led presentations (see page 141), portfolio & oral presentations (see page 75), practical skills & critical thinking assessments, such as Clinical Viva (see page 158)  • Academic Staff Training: The CUT offers the "Design of |                       |

|  | skills to create effective,                      |                             |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
|  | student-centered learning                        |                             |
|  | experiences (see page 28).                       |                             |
|  | <ul> <li>Peer-feedback mechanisms are</li> </ul> |                             |
|  | intended to be included in                       |                             |
|  | group discussions, projects (see                 |                             |
|  | page 52), and reflections (see                   |                             |
|  | page 126) as part of formative                   |                             |
|  | assessments.                                     |                             |
| Regarding the proposed                                 |  | Chaosa layal of compliance: |
| Regarding the proposed examinations we advise to focus | The program's examination                        | Choose level of compliance: |
|  | framework aligns with the Tuning                 |                             |
| more on situated learning, problem-                    | CALOHEE guidelines (as referenced                |                             |
| based learning and peer-learning.                      | on page 50 of the application) and               |                             |
|  | incorporates situated learning,                  |                             |
|  | problem-based learning, and peer                 |                             |
|  | learning:  |                             |
|  | Situated Learning: Practical skill               |                             |
|  | courses (e.g., Practice                          |                             |
|  | Placements 1–5)                                  |                             |
|  | utilize OSCEs, OSPEs, Triple                     |                             |
|  | Jump, and Clinical Vivas (see                    |                             |
|  | page 158 <u>)</u>                                |                             |
|  | <ul> <li>Problem-Based Learning:</li> </ul>      |                             |
|  | Assessments like activity and                    |                             |
|  | occupational analysis, case-                     |                             |
|  | study reports, identification of                 |                             |
|  | learning needs, critical reviews,                |                             |
|  | quality improvement plans,                       |                             |
|  | research proposals, thesis,                      |                             |
|  | essay, reflection papers or                      |                             |
|  | diaries (see page 69 at Course                   |                             |
|  | Purpose and Objectives)                          |                             |
|  | Peer-Learning: Summative                         |                             |
|  | Group Projects (see page 75)                     |                             |
|  |  |                             |
|  | and formative Group                              |                             |
|  | Discussions (see page 85)                        |                             |
|  | integrate peer feedback                          |                             |
|  | mechanisms, fostering                            |                             |
|  | collaborative skills.                            |                             |
|  | Following the EEC                                |                             |
|  | recommendations, we have                         |                             |
|  | included in each course description              |                             |
|  | the corresponding examination                    |                             |
|  | options outlined in the Tuning                   |                             |
|  | CALOHEE guidelines, aligned with                 |                             |
|  | the learning outcomes according to               |                             |
|  | Tuning CALOHEE (see an example in                |                             |
|  | section "Assessment" of Appendix                 |                             |
|  | <u>2).</u>                                       |                             |
| We advise to develop a table about                     | A comprehensive table detailing the              | Choose level of compliance: |
| the hours of practice placement to                     | Practice Placement hours was                     |                             |
| add into the application                               | created to ensure clarity and                    |                             |
|  | compliance with WFOT (2016)                      |                             |
|  | standards (see Appendix 3, Table                 |                             |
|  | The same of the same of the same                 | ]                           |

|                                      | A). The Table on page 36 of the        |                             |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
|                                      | application has been modified          |                             |
|                                      | accordingly to reflect Practical       |                             |
|                                      | Training with 42 ECTS (refer to        |                             |
|                                      | Appendix 2, Table B).                  |                             |
|                                      | Additionally, the clinical placements  |                             |
|                                      | were renamed to Practice               |                             |
|                                      | Placements following the               |                             |
|                                      | recommendation by the                  |                             |
|                                      | Registration Board of Occupational     |                             |
|                                      | Therapists representative serving on   |                             |
|                                      | the EEC.                               |                             |
| Provide a clear description of the   | Following the EEC                      | Choose level of compliance: |
| possible assessment and the          | recommendations, we have               |                             |
| examinations for reaching the        | included in each course description    |                             |
| learning outcomes                    | the corresponding examination          |                             |
|                                      | options outlined in the Tuning         |                             |
|                                      | CALOHEE guidelines, aligned with       |                             |
|                                      | the learning outcomes according to     |                             |
|                                      | Tuning CALOHEE (see an example in      |                             |
|                                      | section "Assessment" of Appendix       |                             |
|                                      |  |                             |
|                                      | 2).                                    | Chance level of compliance  |
| Insert the methodological approach   | Qualitative and participatory action   | Choose level of compliance: |
| of qualitative research and          | research methodologies have now        |                             |
| participatory action research that   | been explicitly integrated into the    |                             |
| very well-established used method    | program's curriculum for the           |                             |
| in OT research                       | course Research Methods in             |                             |
|                                      | Rehabilitation Sciences. These         |                             |
|                                      | approaches are now emphasized in       |                             |
|                                      | learning materials and assignments     |                             |
|                                      | to align with contemporary OT          |                             |
|                                      | research standards (See updated        |                             |
|                                      | course syllabi in Appendix 2 – Table   |                             |
|                                      | C).                                    |                             |
| Reframing the course title and the   | Course titles and descriptions were    |                             |
| descriptions focusing on the         | revised to emphasize occupational      |                             |
| occupational perspective and take    | performance, participation in daily    |                             |
| not diagnosis as a starting point.   | life activities, and client-centered   |                             |
| The daily activity and the           | practice, shifting the focus away      |                             |
| participation in everyday life needs | from the medical model and             |                             |
| to be visualized as a strong         | aligning with the biopsychosocial      |                             |
| importance for both OT practice and  | model (see updated course syllabi      |                             |
| research                             | in Appendix 4, where changes are       |                             |
|                                      | highlighted). For example, the         |                             |
|                                      | Occupational Therapy and               |                             |
|                                      | Neurodevelopmental Disorders           |                             |
|                                      | course was renamed <b>Occupational</b> |                             |
|                                      | Transitions During Lifespan            |                             |
|                                      | <b>Development,</b> with its content   |                             |
|                                      | emphasizing the importance of          |                             |
|                                      | occupational performance and not       |                             |
|                                      | the diagnosis.                         |                             |

| The soft skills need to be more | Soft skills (e.g., communication,    |  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| addressed in the content of the | cultural competence, teamwork) are   |  |
| program.                        | systematically integrated into the   |  |
|                                 | curriculum through dedicated         |  |
|                                 | learning tasks, simulations, and     |  |
|                                 | Practice Placements. For example,    |  |
|                                 | Introduction to Occupational         |  |
|                                 | Therapy (see page 52) explicitly     |  |
|                                 | addresses these skills in its final  |  |
|                                 | week, while other courses reinforce  |  |
|                                 | them via role-playing, case studies, |  |
|                                 | and reflective assignments (See in   |  |
|                                 | which courses these soft skills are  |  |
|                                 | practiced in Appendix 5.)            |  |

## 3. Teaching staff

(ESG 1.5)

| Areas of improvement and recommendations by EEC | Actions Taken by the Institution      | For Official Use ONLY       |
|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| We advise to go for a strong                    | The University has allocated three    | Choose level of compliance: |
| academic in the field of                        | open-rank faculty                     |                             |
| Occupational Therapy and                        | positions and four Clinical           |                             |
| Occupational Science to support the             | Supervisor roles to the Department    |                             |
| OT team   | of Rehabilitation Sciences dedicated  |                             |
|   | to the Occupational Therapy           |                             |
|   | program (see page 15 and              |                             |
|   | Appendix 6). Recruitment will         |                             |
|   | prioritize OT and Occupational        |                             |
|   | Science qualifications starting in    |                             |
|   | 2025.                                 |                             |
|   | Dr. Christos Ioannou (Assistant       |                             |
|   | Professor, Occupational               |                             |
|   | Rehabilitation Sciences; Google       |                             |
|   | Scholar profile) was recently offered |                             |
|   | an Assistant Professor position and   |                             |
|   | will join the Department in August    |                             |
|   | 2025 <b>(see page 11)</b> .           |                             |

| We advise to increase the number of permanent staff for the OT team to build a strong team within the University department | The Department has prioritized hiring permanent academic staff specializing in Occupational Therapy, including three open-rank faculty positions and four Clinical Supervisors (see page 15 and appendix 6). At the beginning of the program, for the academic year 2025-2026, 10 out of 13 courses (i.e. 77%) will be taught by permanent staff members (see pages 41-43 and 48), ensuring stability and expertise in delivering high-quality education. This structured recruitment plan demonstrates the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences' commitment to building a strong academic and clinical team, supporting the new Occupational Therapy curriculum's effective implementation and ongoing development. | Choose level of compliance: |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| Click or tap here to enter text.  | Click or tap here to enter text.  | Choose level of compliance: |
| Click or tap here to enter text.  | Click or tap here to enter text.  | Choose level of compliance: |
| Click or tap here to enter text.  | Click or tap here to enter text.  | Choose level of compliance: |

# 4. Student admission, progression, recognition and certification $(ESG\ 1.4)$

| Areas of improvement and recommendations by EEC | Actions Taken by the Institution                  | For Official Use ONLY       |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| The standards for examination or                | The general examination                           | Choose level of compliance: |
| repeating of courses are not well               | requirements are outlined on page                 |                             |
| described, as a recommendation we               | 9 of the application.                             |                             |
| advise to develop a Teaching and                |   |                             |
| Examination Regulation Plan                     | In addition, the Cyprus University of             |                             |
|   | Technology (CUT) has established                  |                             |
|   | comprehensive policies and                        |                             |
|   | procedures governing these areas,                 |                             |
|   | as detailed on the official CUT                   |                             |
|   | website under Marking System and                  |                             |
|   | Study Regulations.                                |                             |
|   | Examinations                                      |                             |
|   | The Marking Policy defines:                       |                             |
|   | <ul> <li>A marking scale from 0 to 10,</li> </ul> |                             |
|   | with a passing mark of 5.0.                       |                             |
|   | A student wishing to improve a                    |                             |
|   | module mark, being at least 5,                    |                             |
|   | may repeat the module after                       |                             |

|                                  | approval by the Teaching staff. Repeating a module is allowed only once.  Course Repetition The policy for course repetition is as follows:  • For compulsory courses: Students must retake the course if they fail.  • For elective courses: Students may either retake the failed course or replace it with another elective.  • Both grades are recorded on the transcript, but only the most recent grade is used for calculating the final grade. In case of failure in the repeated course, a grade of 5 is recorded and calculated in the final grade.  Undergraduate students are expected to complete their studies within 8 academic semesters, with a maximum extension to 12 semesters (excluding any suspension or interruption of studies). |                             |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Click or tap here to enter text. | Click or tap here to enter text.  | Choose level of compliance: |
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## 5. Learning resources and student support

(ESG 1.6)

| Areas of improvement and recommendations by EEC | Actions Taken by the Institution  | For Official Use ONLY       |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Well-presented nothing to                       | We thank the EEC for the positive | Choose level of compliance: |
| recommend at present                            | remark.                           |                             |
| Click or tap here to enter text.                | Click or tap here to enter text.  | Choose level of compliance: |
| Click or tap here to enter text.                | Click or tap here to enter text.  | Choose level of compliance: |
| Click or tap here to enter text.                | Click or tap here to enter text.  | Choose level of compliance: |
| Click or tap here to enter text.                | Click or tap here to enter text.  | Choose level of compliance: |

## 6. Additional for doctoral programmes

(ALL ESG)

| Areas of improvement and recommendations by EEC | Actions Taken by the Institution | For Official Use ONLY       |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Click or tap here to enter text.                | Click or tap here to enter text. | Choose level of compliance: |
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## 7. Eligibility (Joint programme)

(ALL ESG)

| Areas of improvement and recommendations by EEC | Actions Taken by the Institution | For Official Use ONLY       |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Click or tap here to enter text.                | Click or tap here to enter text. | Choose level of compliance: |
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| Click or tap here to enter text.                | Click or tap here to enter text. | Choose level of compliance: |

#### B. Conclusions and final remarks

| Conclusions and final remarks <b>by EEC</b> | Actions Taken by the Institution             | For Official Use ONLY       |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| The external evaluation committee           | Actions Taken:                               | Choose level of compliance: |
| agree to the needs of developing            | All recommendations from the EEC             |                             |
| and offer a Bachelor of Science in          | have been systematically addressed           |                             |
| Occupational Therapy. This program          | in this response.                            |                             |
| will be the first public Occupational       |  |                             |
| Therapy program in Cyprus offering          | Specifically, the following changes          |                             |
| Cypriot and Greek students the              | have been implemented:                       |                             |
| opportunity to be educated in               | • Formal Partnerships: MoUs                  |                             |
| science and practice of                     | established with 35 key                      |                             |
| Occupational Therapy.                       | stakeholders. Preparations are               |                             |
|   | underway for an External                     |                             |
| First, we would like to express our         | Stakeholder Advisory Board and               |                             |
| satisfaction with the hard work             | more MoUs. Collaborations with               |                             |
| undertaken by the Department of             | local and international                      |                             |
| Rehabilitation, especially as by the        | organizations/occupational                   |                             |
| program co-coordinator Marianna             | therapists are initiated.                    |                             |
| Tsiakoulia.                                 | Erasmus+ Staff and Curriculum                |                             |
|   | Development: An MoU with                     |                             |
| By reviewing the application of the         | CRRF COS Pasteur 2 Hospital in               |                             |
| program of study and the one-day            | France was finalized for                     |                             |
| visit together we got provided with         | reciprocal staff exchanges and               |                             |
| extensive information for                   | curriculum design. Program Co-               |                             |
| conducting a thorough reviewing             | Coordinator participated in the              |                             |
| process.                                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> OT Europe Congress.          |                             |
|   | International Student                        |                             |
| Overall, we are impressed by the            | Accessibility in English-                    |                             |
| development of the program, the             | language: Three additional                   |                             |
| resources of the university and the         | courses will be taught in English            |                             |
| plan to expand the building to              | to accommodate international                 |                             |
| enhance the Rehabilitation and the          | students.                                    |                             |
| Occupational Therapy program as             | <ul> <li>Research Methods Course:</li> </ul> |                             |
| well.                                       | Qualitative and participatory                |                             |
|   | action methodologies have                    |                             |
| As outlined in the evaluation report,       | been added.                                  |                             |
| several sub-areas are identified as         | Assessment Methods: Options                  |                             |
| partially compliant. The                    | for assessment methods have                  |                             |
| recommendations provided in the             | been included in all course                  |                             |
| evaluation report should support            | descriptions, aligned with the               |                             |
| the achievement of a fully                  | learning outcomes defined by                 |                             |
| compliant status of the program             | the Tuning framework.                        |                             |
| under review.                               | Course Titles and Content: The               |                             |
|   | titles and content of five                   |                             |
| Therefore, we suggest identifying           | courses have been revised to                 |                             |
| the partially compliant sub-areas           | align with a broader                         |                             |
| and revise them according to our            | occupational perspective,                    |                             |
| feedback provided.                          | shifting the focus awayy from a              |                             |
|   | medical model to the                         |                             |
| We are confident that with                  | biopsychososial model.                       |                             |
| additional support the team and the         |  |                             |

| university can implement necessary changes to establish a fully compliant Bachelor of Science program.  We are looking forward to seeing a running accredited program that fulfils the minimal standards of the WFOT in the future. | <ul> <li>Practical Training Hours: Tables related to practical training hours have been corrected.</li> <li>Faculty and Clinical Supervisor Recruitment: The Department has committed to recruiting permanent faculty, including three open-rank faculty positions and four Clinical Supervisors, ensuring stability and expertise in delivering the new curriculum. Dr. Christos loannou is a new faculty recruitment who will join in August 2025 as an Assistant Professor in Occupational Rehabilitation Science.</li> <li>WFOT requirements: With the recruitment of staff and the expansion of the clinic, the program will be ready to apply for approval from the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT).</li> </ul> |                             |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
|   | Commitment: The Department of Rehabilitation Sciences reaffirms its dedication to launching Cyprus's first public Occupational Therapy program as a hub for academic excellence, clinical innovation, and evidence-based practice. We welcome ongoing collaboration with all relevant stakeholders and CYQAA to ensure sustained compliance and impact.  |                             |
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## C. Higher Education Institution academic representatives

| Name                | Position                | Signature |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Click to enter Name | Click to enter Position |           |
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