**Template 2: Memorandum of Understanding Degree Recognition**

**Agreement/Arrangement for Mutual Recognition of Accreditation Systems of Architectural Programmes**

**between**

**[Registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1]**

**and**

**[Registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2]**

**THIS AGREEMENT/ARRANGEMENT FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF ACCREDITATION SYSTEMS OF ARCHITECTURAL PROGRAMMES is made on this …….… day of ……………………….**

**BETWEEN:**

**THE [REGISTRATION/LICENSING AUTHORITY OF PARTICIPATING ECONOMY 1]
[PHYSICAL ADDRESS], in the first part**

**AND**

**THE [REGISTRATION/LICENSING AUTHORITY OF PARTICIPATING ECONOMY 2]
[PHYSICAL ADDRESS], in the second part.**

**RECITALS**

1. The [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1] is the [description of entity and the basis of its authority].
2. The [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2] is the [description of entity and the basis of its authority].
3. The parties acknowledge that the primary purpose of this Agreement/Arrangement is to facilitate the mutual recognition of professional academic qualifications in architecture obtained from schools of architecture in [participating economy 1] and [participating economy 2].

**AFFIRMING their common interest in the accreditation of courses/programmes in architecture, THE PARTIES WISH TO RECORD THEIR COMMON UNDERSTANDING IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS:**

1. **Definitions**
	1. In this Agreement/Arrangement, unless the contrary intention appears:

	“*Accreditation*” refers to the formal endorsement of a course or program of study, which has been tested to produce results of an acceptable standard against set criteria meeting the required education standard for the purposes of registration as an architect.

	*“[Initials]”* refers to the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1]

	*“[Initials]”* refers to the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2]

	“*Parties*” refers to [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1] and [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2]

	“*Agreement/Arrangement*” refers to the Mutual Recognition Agreement/Arrangement between the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1] and the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2]

	“*Architect*” means a person:
2. who is registered/licensed as an architect in [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1] which entitles an architect to [description of what registration/licensing means in economy 1];
3. who is registered/licensed as an architect in [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2] which entitles an architect to [description of what registration/licensing means in economy 2];
4. **Mutual Recognition**
	1. The parties agree/mutually decide that:
		1. The [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1] shall recognise the *[economy 2] Architecture Program Accreditation Procedure* as being deemed equivalent to the *[economy 1] Accreditation Procedure*; and
		2. The [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2] shall recognise the *[economy 1] Architecture Program Accreditation Procedure* as being deemed equivalent to the *[economy 2] Accreditation Procedure.*
	2. The parties agree/mutually decide that as a result of their mutual recognition of the respective Procedures documents detailed at clause 2.1.1 and 2.1.2:
		1. The courses or programmes of study in architecture accredited by the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1] detailed at clause 2.1.1 may be accepted as meeting the professional academic qualification requirement for registration as an Architect by the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2]; and
		2. The courses or programmes of study in architecture accredited by the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2] detailed at clause 2.1.2 may be accepted as meeting the professional academic qualification requirement for registration as an Architect by the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1]
5. **Implementation**
	1. The parties agree/mutually decide that the arrangements detailed in this Agreement/Arrangement will commence when both the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1] and the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2] have executed this Agreement/Arrangement.
	2. Both parties resolve to regularly exchange information on:
		1. any changes to the accreditation *Procedures* detailed in clauses 2.1.1 and 2.1.2; and
		2. any changes to the accreditation status of courses or programmes of study in architecture within their jurisdiction.
	3. Both parties acknowledge that the other party may enter into comparable agreements or arrangements with the competent authorities of other countries, provided that each party keeps the other informed in regard to any proposed agreements/arrangements.
	4. Both parties agree/mutually decide that a comparable agreement or arrangement entered into with the competent authority of another country by either the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1] or the [registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2] will not lead to mutual recognition of the accreditation procedures or professional academic qualifications in architecture from that other country.
6. **Exchange of Information**
	1. The Parties agree/mutually decide to notify each other and provide copies of any major changes in policy, criteria and procedures that might affect this agreement/arrangement.
7. **Consultations**
	1. The parties will at all times seek to reach a common understanding in relation to matters concerning the interpretation and application of this Agreement/Arrangement, and will make every attempt through co-operation and consultation to arrive at a mutually satisfactory resolution of any matter that may affect its operation.
	2. A party to this Agreement/Arrangement may request (in writing) consultations with the other party relating to any matter that it considers might affect the operation or interpretation of this Agreement. A party who has received a consultation request should endeavour to reply as soon as practicable.
	3. The parties to the Agreement/Arrangement agree/mutually decide that they will, at least every five (5) years, review and update the status of implementation and report on the effectiveness of this Agreement, and recommend changes where appropriate. The Agreement/Arrangement will be subject to renewal by mutual consent every five years from the day of signing.
8. **Termination**
	1. The parties agree/mutually decide that this Agreement may be terminated by any party by giving to the other party at least six (6) months prior written notice.
9. **Signatories**

 **SIGNED this ………………….. day of ……………………………..**

**[ECONOMY 1]**

**(signature) …………………………..
[Name], [Title], [Registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1]**

**In the presence of**

**(signature) …………………………..**

**[Name], [Title], [Registration/licensing authority of participating economy 1]**

**AND**

**[ECONOMY 2]**

**(signature) …………………………..
[Name], [Title], [Registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2]**

**In the presence of**

**(signature) …………………………..**

**[Name], [Title], [Registration/licensing authority of participating economy 2]**