**Agreement**

**between**

**the Government of the Republic of Latvia**

**and**

**the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh**

**on Cooperation in the Field of Higher Education**

The Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”),

Willing to develop and strengthen mutually beneficial relations between the two States,

Affirming that cooperation in the field of higher education contributes to extension of relations and better mutual understanding between the nations,

Have agreed on the following:

**Article 1**

The Parties shall contribute to the development of different forms of cooperation in the field of higher education based on the principles of mutual respect, interests and partnership.

**Article 2**

The Parties shall promote the exchange of information about education systems and practices, national legislation in force, planned and implemented reforms, publications, and other relevant information on education that is needed to implement successful cooperation between the Parties.

**Article 3**

The Parties shall encourage the following:

* Establishment and development of direct contacts between state recognized higher education institutions of the Republic of Latvia and the People's Republic of Bangladesh and collaboration between these institutions with relevant industrial sectors/ enterprises in both States;
* Academic networking and exchange of academic and research faculty between the higher education institutions of both States for academic as well as research work;
* Organization and participation in joint projects, international conferences, fora, seminars, symposiums, exhibitions, workshops and other events on the topics of mutual interest organized in both States;
* Exchange of information on training opportunities, teaching and study materials, study manuals, as well as any other materials, including information about various aspects of educational activities, as may be requested or as may appear relevant by either Party.

**Article 4**

The Parties shall encourage the higher education institutions to promote studies and research work of academically and professionally accomplished students of both States at all study levels, especially, at master and doctoral level studies in state recognised higher education institutions.

**Article 5**

In order to support studies and research work in accordance with Article 4, the Parties may consider offering to each other merit-based scholarships for studies at master and doctoral level study programmes in state recognized higher education institutions in accordance with their existing laws and regulations.

**Article 6**

The Parties shall cooperate and promote information exchange and consultations between the relevant government institutions of both States on the issues related to mutual recognition of educational documents, degrees, professional qualifications and academic titles obtained in both States.

**Article 7**

The Parties shall strive to create conditions allowing the nationals of the other Party to familiarize themselves with its language, culture, history, literature, geography, customs and traditions.

**Article 8**

The Parties shall agree to cooperate in the framework of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Education Process, programmes and projects of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), of the European Union and other international programmes and projects available to the Parties.

**Article 9**

The Parties shall support the exchange of delegations, as deemed necessary by the Parties, with representatives from the relevant government institutions, organizations and higher education institutions to develop contacts between the administrative and policy bodies in higher education. The delegations shall exchange knowledge and best practices, discuss matters of further development of cooperation and to hold consultations related to the implementation of this Agreement.

**Article 10**

All activities carried out in the framework of this Agreement are subject to available financial resources of the Parties and shall be undertaken in accordance with their national legislation.

**Article 11**

This Agreement shall not affect the rights and commitments of the Parties under any other agreement where both States participate, and shall not limit the rights of the Parties for applying any other forms of international cooperation.

**Article 12**

This Agreement may be amended by written mutual consent of both Parties by setting up additional protocols as an integral part of the Agreement and they shall enter into force in accordance with Paragraph 1 of Article 14 of this Agreement.

**Article 13**

Any disputes between the Parties concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled through consultations and negotiations.

**Article 14**

This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period of time and shall enter into force on the day after the receipt of the last written notice through diplomatic channels confirming that the internal procedures for the entry into force of this Agreement are fulfilled.

Either Party may terminate this Agreement by a written notice to the other Party through diplomatic channels 6 (six) months prior to the date of expiration. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the projects or programmes already undertaken under this Agreement and not yet completed at the time of such termination.

Done in duplicate in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, in Latvian, Bengali and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

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| On behalf of the Government  of the Republic of Latvia | On behalf of the Government of the  People's Republic of  Bangladesh |

Iesniedzējs:

izglītības un zinātnes ministrs K.Šadurskis

Vīza: Valsts sekretāre L.Lejiņa

06.11.2018. 11:18

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M.Zvirbule, 67047896

maija.zvirbule@izm.gov.lv