



Memorandum of Understanding

between

**the National Quality Assurance Agency for Education under the Administration of the
President of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

and

the Association of MBAs and Business Graduates Association (AMBA & BGA)

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the “Memorandum”) is concluded between the National Quality Assurance Agency for Education under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as “NQAAE”) and the Association of MBAs and Business Graduates Association (hereinafter referred to as “(AMBA & BGA)”).

NQAAE and AMBA & BGA are hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Parties.”

Preamble

AMBA & BGA is an international membership and quality assurance body for world-leading and high-potential business schools, amassing more than 50 years of experience since our founding in 1967. AMBA is the leading impartial authority on MBA education, specifically offering MBA portfolio accreditation for leading business schools, while BGA is a whole-school membership and accreditation body, which stresses the importance of positive impact and responsible management practices while supporting innovation and differentiation.

According to Presidential Decree No. PF-76 of May 5, 2025, the National Quality Assurance Agency for Education (NQAAE) under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan was established in 2025 as a specially authorized state body responsible for external quality assurance in secondary specialized, vocational, higher, and postgraduate education, as well as in the fields of professional retraining, continuing professional development, and qualification assessment. The Agency carries out special and comprehensive state accreditation, which is mandatory for public, non-governmental, and foreign educational institutions operating in Uzbekistan. It also develops methodological guidelines for establishing internal quality assurance systems, conducts monitoring and evaluation activities, and prepares policy recommendations aimed at improving educational quality standards.

NQAAE compiles ratings of institutions providing secondary specialized, vocational, higher, and postgraduate education, as well as professional retraining and qualification improvement. These ratings assess academic reputation, quality of education, employment outcomes, social and moral indicators, research performance, and the level of international integration. Through this work, the Agency promotes transparency, accountability, and international recognition of Uzbekistan's education system.

NQAAE and AMBA & BGA

The Parties reaffirm their mutual interests and objectives in enhancing the quality of education, developing international cooperation, and introducing best global practices in accreditation and quality assurance processes. This Memorandum sets out the Parties' commitment to collaborate in support of these shared goals and their implementation.

Core Principles

The Parties acknowledge and mutually recognize each other's independent regulatory responsibilities as membership organizations authorized and/or recognized by their respective national governments. The Parties share similar objectives and institutional missions in ensuring quality in higher education and seek to establish closer professional relations as equal partners within the framework of this cooperation.

The Parties recognize the mutual benefits that can be achieved through dialogue and collaboration, which will serve the interests of both Parties and the educational institutions within their respective jurisdictions. The Parties also consider the protection of confidentiality of information related to educational institutions and accreditation activities to be of vital importance.

Accordingly, the Parties agree to operate within the following general framework of mutual support and cooperation. This Memorandum does not create any legal obligations between NQAAE and AMBA & BGA and shall not be considered a legally binding document, except where specific provisions are explicitly stated otherwise.

Areas of Cooperation and Partnership

The Parties, guided by mutual interests and strategic objectives, agree to cooperate in the following areas aimed at enhancing quality assurance in higher education, developing international accreditation processes, and expanding the global recognition of Uzbekistan's education system:

(a) Mutual Understanding and Familiarization with Systems

The Parties aim to gain a deeper understanding of each other's accreditation systems, methodologies, evaluation criteria, and quality assurance standards, and to strengthen mutual recognition through the alignment of these approaches.

(b) Recognition of AMBA & BGA as an Accreditation Agency in Uzbekistan

NQAAE shall, in accordance with established procedures, evaluate and consider the inclusion of AMBA & BGA in the national register of foreign quality assurance agencies authorized to operate in the Republic of Uzbekistan. Subject to successful evaluation, AMBA & BGA may be granted the right to conduct international accreditation of higher education institutions and their business education programs in Uzbekistan. Accreditation decisions and conclusions issued by AMBA & BGA shall be reviewed by NQAAE for potential recognition in coordination with Uzbekistan's national accreditation system.

(c) Accreditation Services and Fees

The Parties shall agree on the introduction of economically reasonable and competitive fee rates for accreditation services provided by AMBA & BGA to higher education institutions in Uzbekistan.

These rates shall be determined fairly, in line with the conditions of Uzbekistan, and in the spirit of partnership.

(d) Exchange of Information and Experience

The Parties shall regularly exchange information, reports, and advice on accreditation processes, evaluation methodologies, quality enhancement mechanisms, and international practices and trends on a mutually beneficial basis.

(e) Capacity Building and Expert Exchange

When necessary, the Parties shall organize training programs, seminars, professional development courses, and expert exchange initiatives for the staff of their respective agencies and members. This will contribute to developing human resource capacity in Uzbekistan's education system in line with international accreditation requirements.

(f) Joint Events and Initiatives

The Parties shall jointly organize international conferences, seminars, webinars, collaborative research projects, and other initiatives aimed at improving the quality of education in related fields.

(g) Recognition and Confidence Building

In accordance with national legislation, the Parties shall take into account each other's accreditation decisions and quality evaluation outcomes. This will strengthen mutual trust and contribute to the international recognition of Uzbekistan's higher education programs.

(h) Monitoring of Cooperation

All initiatives within the framework of cooperation shall be periodically reviewed by the Parties, their effectiveness shall be analyzed, and joint recommendations shall be developed regarding future prospects.

Confidentiality

The Parties agree to ensure the protection and confidentiality of any information exchanged between them that is of a confidential nature ("Confidential Information"). The Parties undertake not to disclose any Confidential Information received from the other Party without the prior written consent of the Party that provided such information.

The Parties acknowledge that, where necessary, they may reach a separate written agreement governing the handling of certain confidential information or specific categories of such information.

The Parties recognize and agree that the provisions of this Article shall constitute legally binding obligations.

Data Retention

The information exchanged within the framework of this Memorandum shall be stored and managed in accordance with the retention schedules of the Parties. The retention period for both Parties is set at up to five (5) years.

Intellectual Property Rights

The protection of intellectual property rights shall be carried out in accordance with the national laws, regulations, and normative acts of the Parties.

The use of either Party's name, logo and/or official emblem, trademark (or any variation thereof), or other intellectual property (hereinafter referred to as "Brand Materials") in any publication, document, and/or article is prohibited without the prior written consent of the other Party. Furthermore, any use of Brand Materials must strictly comply with the conditions established by the respective Party.

Notwithstanding the above provisions, intellectual property rights created in the process of technological development and during the creation of products and services shall be governed as follows:

- Scientific and research outcomes jointly carried out by the Parties or resulting from their joint activities shall be recognized as joint property, in accordance with mutually agreed terms;
- Scientific and research outcomes developed independently by one Party, or as a result of its separate activities, shall be the sole property of that Party.

Dispute Resolution

Any disputes arising between the Parties shall be resolved through amicable dialogue.

Validity of the Memorandum

This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of its signing and remain valid for five (5) years, unless one of the Parties terminates it by providing a written notice at least three months in advance. The Memorandum may be extended by mutual agreement of the Parties through written confirmation signed by both Parties.

Amendments to the Memorandum

This Memorandum is signed by the Parties in the spirit of friendly cooperation. The terms of the Memorandum may be amended only with the written consent of both Parties.

Management and Coordination of the Memorandum

The Chief Executive Officer of AMBA & BGA (at the time of signing – Andrew Main Wilson) and the Director of NQAAE (at the time of signing – Bakhtiyor Yuldashev) shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the provisions of this Memorandum and for reviewing its terms on an annual basis. This responsibility may be delegated to relevant staff members of the respective agencies for specific areas of cooperation.

Resources

Unless otherwise specified in separate agreements to meet the requirements of particular projects, each Party shall normally bear its own costs related to the implementation of this Memorandum. Donor funding from other sources may be attracted to support certain areas of cooperation.

This Memorandum is prepared in two original copies, in English and Uzbek, each having equal legal force. Each Party shall receive one copy.

Signatures of the Parties:

Andrew Main Wilson

Date: 28/10/2025

Place: London - England

Bakhtiyor Yuldashev

Date: 28/10/2025

Place: London, England.

Andrew Main Wilson
Chief Executive Officer

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Bakhtiyor Yuldashev
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