The Working Group on Mobility of Higher Education and Ensuring Quality Assurance of Higher Education among ASEAN Plus Three Countries (WG) is an intergovernmental meeting under the ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (APTEMM). It was established by Japan’s initiative to enhance the quality-assured mobility of higher education within the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) region. Since the first meeting in 2013, there have been annual regular meetings and expert meetings under the same umbrella. The WG so far has achieved concrete outcomes such as the APT Guidelines on Student Exchange.

While placing the focus on actions and strategies related to development of a credit transfer system and harmonizing various types of university standards, as in the APT Plan of Action on Education 2010-2017 (approved by the 1st APTEMM), the working group conducts the following policy dialog, cooperation and promotion related to quality assurance and mobility of higher education in the APT countries.

- Share information on projects and programs related to higher education quality assurance and mobility.
- Promote capacity building (especially in developing countries) related to quality assurance for policymakers and those involved in higher education.
- Strengthen the mutual relationship, communication and expansion of the network between policymakers and those involved in higher education.
- Propose and implement joint projects and programs among the APT countries.
Achievements

**APT Guidelines on Student Exchange and Mobility**
(Approved in May 2016 at 3rd APT Education Ministers Meeting)
- Determine what factors should be incorporated in the region’s international student exchange programs and what information should be conveyed to students. Then present the guidelines that should be used as reference when building and implementing the programs.
- Seek information and implementation of exchange based on these guidelines when implementing international student exchange programs at universities in each country.

**APT Guidelines on Transcripts for Exchange Students, including a Conversion Table of the Credit Transfer Systems** (Currently under deliberation)
- In response to the details of deliberations at the Expert Meeting for APT Guidelines on Transcripts, the future draft will be discussed at the working group meeting and be approved at the APTEMM.
- The main draft format for the transcripts of exchange students at present is as follows:
  - Information on holders of transcripts/information on learning programs at host universities/ information on details and achievements of learning/credit system (e.g., ACTS, ACTFA, UCTS, ECTS)/grades/ transcript certification/other

- The only intergovernmental working group set up under the APTEMM.
- Has achieved a great deal as the practical activities of the meeting.
Outline of Certified Evaluation and Accreditation (CEA) in Japan

- **Mandatory review** scheme under the School Education Act.
- All universities, junior colleges and colleges of technology are responsible for:
  - assess their own provision of education, research, management and facilities in order to enhance the quality
  - publish the self-assessment results
- **Evaluation cycle:**
  - Institutional CEA - **once every 7 years**
  - CEA for Professional Graduate School - **once every 5 years**
### NIAD-QE’s Standards for Institutional CEA of Universities

#### The 2nd Cycle (FY 2012-2018)

1. Mission of the University
2. Teaching and Research Structure
3. Academic Staff and Teaching Supporting Staff
4. Student Admissions
5. Academic Programs
6. Learning Outcomes
7. Facilities and Student Supports
8. Internal Quality Assurance System of Teaching and Learning
9. Finance and Management
10. Public Information on Teaching and Learning

#### MEXT ordinance revision for the 3rd cycle - Examples

For each QAA to focus specifically on the institution’s internal quality assurance (IQA). To streamline the next evaluations of universities with good practices related to IQA.

For universities to establish and publish principles as regards graduation, curriculum and admissions.

For each QAA to set out standards for the evaluation of those principles.

For universities to provide opportunities for staff development (SD).