

## **SEMINAR**

### **'QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM OF UKRAINE:**

#### **PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES**

**Organized by the Ministry of Education and Science, Youth and Sport of Ukraine in co-operation with the Council of Europe**

**22 -23 MARCH 2011, KYIV**

#### **DRAFT CONCLUSIONS**

The seminar gathered representatives from the Ministry of Education and Science, Youth and Sport of Ukraine, Council of Europe experts on qualifications frameworks and a Secretary to the Steering Committee for Higher Education and Research of the Council of Europe, representatives of higher education institutions of Ukraine, representatives of employers' organisations.

The participants acknowledged the dynamic process of development of a national qualifications framework in Ukraine and considered this seminar as an important step in further advancing this work.

The participants took note of the European experience in developing national qualifications frameworks. They were reminded of the aim set by the Communiqué of the Conference of European Ministers Responsible for Higher Education (Leuven and Louvain-la-Neuve, 28-29 April 2009) to 'have national qualifications frameworks implemented and prepared for self-certification against the overarching Qualifications Frameworks for the European Higher Education Area by 2012'.

The participants discussed a draft qualifications framework of Ukraine and raised a number of important issues, which need resolution. They also took note of the comments provided on the Ukrainian draft national qualifications framework by Mr Stephen Adam and Ms Eva Gönczi, Council of Europe experts on qualifications framework.

The participants agreed that the next steps are to refine and further develop the draft document.

Special attention should be given to:

- defining aims and objectives of the NQF and its place in a reform strategy for the Ukrainian education;
- identify the consequential implications of a NQF on the Ukrainian higher educational system, structures, processes and law;
- developing and explaining the actual nature and role of the descriptors;
- clarifying Levels 0 and 9;
- defining the relationship of descriptors to qualifications, employability and the labour market;
- It is important to broaden stakeholder involvement.

Given the complexity of the task, tight schedule for its implementation and considering obligations taken upon by Ukraine when acceding to the Bologna Process in 2005, the Council of Europe would recommend the Ukrainian authorities to concentrate as a priority on higher education by developing an **outline** national qualifications framework for higher education. This should not preclude the development of a national qualifications framework for all levels of education at a later stage.

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