Resolution of the Regional Forum

Development of Higher Education in Central Asia: The Role of Quality Assurance, Relevant Information and Rankings

Al-Farabi KazNU, 25 October 2012, Almaty

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University in collaboration with IREG Observatory on Academic Ranking and Excellence held the Regional Forum Development of Higher Education in Central Asia: The Role of Quality Assurance, Relevant Information and Rankings on 25th Octobers, 2012.

During the Forum the participants had a great opportunity to share the presentations of keynote speakers, the leading foreign experts and scholars engaged in university rankings and accreditation such as **Jan Sadlak**, President of IREG International Observatory on Academic Ranking and Excellence (France), **Gero Federkeil**, Vice-President of IREG Observatory, the Director of the Centre for Higher Education CHE (Germany), **Zoya Zaitseva**, the Regional Director of Central Europe & Central Asia QS (UK), **Waldemar Siwinski**, the Vice-President of IREG-Observatory, President of Perspektywy Education Foundation (Poland), **Angela Yung-Chi Hou**, the Director of Center for Faculty Development & Instructional Resources, Fu Jen Catholic University (Taiwan), and **Maxim Khomyakov**, the Vice-Rector for International Policy of Ural Federal University (Russian Federation). In addition, presentation was made by Ashraf Darwish, Cultural and Educational Attaché, Embassy of Egypt in the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Forum was attended by the rectors and other academic leaders, researchers and students of Kazakhstan and Central Asian universities.

The Forum served as the platform for the heads of Kazakhstan and other universities of Central Asia region for the constructive exchange of views and relevant information on involvement of institutions of higher education in university rankings process and provided the opportunity for building partnerships between the Central Asian universities and ranking agencies. The participants of the Forum have agreed on the need for further enhancement and intensification of multilateral partnerships in quality assurance.

After considering the results of the Forum the participants have come up with the following recommendations:

- The need for the development of quality assurance in higher education with special attention to university rankings as information and transparency tools.
- The need for the promotion of Kazakhstan and Central Asian universities in the system of the world university rankings.
- The importance of national rankings as an integral part of the world university rankings.

The Resolution has been approved by the participants of the Forum held on 25 October, 2012.