

Australian Qualifications Framework

Australian Qualifications Framework

AQF Council Terms of Reference July 2008 – June 2011

Level 4, 11 Waymouth Street
Adelaide SA 5001

GPO Box 320
Adelaide SA 5001
Australia

Tel: +61 8 8226 2775

Email: aqfc@saugov.sa.gov.au
www.aqf.edu.au

Australian Qualifications Framework Council

A Committee of the Ministerial Council on
Education Employment Training and Youth Affairs



Terms of Reference of the AQF Council

Object of the Council

The Australian Qualifications Framework Council (AQFC) is established by the agreement of, and with the authority of MCEETYA, and by agreement of MCVTE. The objective of the Australian Qualifications Framework Council is to provide strategic and authoritative advice to Ministers on the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) * to ensure it is nationally and internationally robust and supports flexible cross-sectoral linkages and pathways.

** The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) was introduced by MCEETYA in 1995 as the primary policy instrument which underpins the national system of qualifications in Australia*

Terms of Reference of the AQF Council

The Australian Qualifications Framework Council will be responsible to MCEETYA (and MCVTE as appropriate) based on a three year (reviewable) strategic plan and an annual business plan agreed by MCEETYA (and MCVTE as appropriate) and on matters referred from MCEETYA and MCVTE.

The functions of the Council are grouped under two key areas:

1. Provision of policy advice to MCEETYA (and MCVTE as appropriate) on:

- Strategic strengthening of the AQF required to meet identified needs such as improving national consistency and contemporary relevance, including national and international portability
- Improving flexible qualification linkages and pathways in education and training within and across all sectors, including recognition of non-formal and informal learning
- Relevant national and international issues and their implications for national qualifications policy
- National and international recognition and comparability of qualification standards and alignment of qualifications standards/frameworks

2. Maintenance, monitoring and support for the implementation of the AQF including to:

- Review and revise the AQF and existing AQF qualifications criteria and guidelines in consultation with key stakeholders
- Actively monitor and support implementation of the AQF, particularly changes to the AQF with key stakeholders
- Provide advice on the AQF to interested parties including in national and international forums
- Maintain the AQF Implementation Handbook (or any replacement documents(s), and other key AQF materials
- Maintain and review the AQF Register of Recognised Education Institutions and Authorised Accreditation Authorities in Australia
- Maintain a current, accessible and effective AQF advisory service to users, including via the internet
- Promote nationally consistent implementation of the AQF
- Promote the quality assurance processes that underpin the AQF in each sector.