財團法人高等教育評鑑中心基金會
Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan

Articles of Endowed Foundation

Approved at the 7th meeting of the inaugural Board of Trustees on August 17, 2006
Revisions approved at the 11th meeting of the inaugural Board of Trustees on June 13, 2007
Revisions approved at the 12th meeting of the inaugural Board of Trustees on October 5, 2007
Revisions approved at the 15th meeting of the inaugural Board of Trustees on June 11, 2008
Revisions approved at the 4th meeting of the second-term Board of Trustees on June 17, 2009
Revisions approved at the 6th meeting of the second-term Board of Trustees on December 9, 2009
Revisions approved at the 9th meeting of the second-term Board of Trustees on June 18, 2010
Revisions approved at the 12th meeting of the second-term Board of Trustees on March 17, 2011
Revisions approved at the 13th meeting of the second-term Board of Trustees on June 15, 2011
Revisions approved at the 3rd meeting of the third-term Board of Trustees on December 13, 2011
Revisions approved at the 5th meeting of the third-term Board of Trustees on June 26, 2012
Revisions approved at the 8th meeting of the third-term Board of Trustees on March 26, 2013
Revisions approved at the 12th meeting of the third-term Board of Trustees on March 31, 2014
Revisions approved at the 13th meeting of the third-term Board of Trustees on June 17, 2014
Revisions approved at the 2nd meeting of the fourth-term Board of Trustees on September 29, 2014
Revisions approved at the 4th meeting of the fourth-term Board of Trustees on March 26, 2015
Revisions approved at the 8th meeting of the fourth-term Board of Trustees on March 29, 2016
Revisions approved at the 6th joint meeting of the fifth-term Board of Trustees and Supervisors on October 8, 2019
Revisions approved at the 17th joint meeting of the fifth-term Board of Trustees and Supervisors on June 21, 2022
Revisions approved at the 1st joint meeting of the sixth-term Board of Trustees and Supervisors on September 21, 2022
Revisions approved at the 3rd joint meeting of the sixth-term Board of Trustees and Supervisors on March 28, 2023
Revisions approved at the 5th joint meeting of the sixth-term Board of Trustees and Supervisors on September 26, 2023
Revisions approved at the 14th joint meeting of the sixth-term Board of Trustees and Supervisors on December 23, 2025

Article 1

The Foundation, organized in accordance with the *Foundations Act*, *Civil Code*, and related laws and regulations, is named the "Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan" (hereinafter “the Council”).

Article 2

The Council aims to elevate the quality of higher education in Taiwan to reach the standards of developed countries around the world, and through refinements to enhance the professionalism of Taiwan’s higher education evaluations. The following affairs shall be conducted in accordance with related laws and regulations:

1. To assist the government and higher education institutions in conducting higher education evaluations and quality assurance.

2. To accept commissions from domestic and foreign institutions to conduct higher education evaluations and research.
3. To engage in cooperation and exchanges with foreign quality assurance institutions and international organizations.
4. To assist the government in planning and implementing all kinds of specific higher education programs.
5. To conduct other public-welfare related education affairs appropriate to the Council's purpose of establishment.

Article 3

The initial funds to establish the Council totaled NT$30,300,000. These funds were donated jointly by the Ministry of Education and public and private universities and colleges in Taiwan. The Council may continue to accept donations after completing registration as an incorporated foundation in accordance with the law.

Article 4

The Council's main office is located at 7F., No. 179, Sec. 1, Heping E. Rd., Da'an Dist., Taipei 106, Taiwan (R.O.C.). Based on operational needs, branch offices may be established domestically or overseas upon approved by the Ministry of Education.

Article 5

The Council is governed by the Board of Trustees which has the authority to do as follows:

1. Fundraising and asset management and use thereof.
2. Re-election and discharge of trustees.
3. Election and discharge of the President of the Board.
4. Establishment and management of the internal organization.
5. Formulation and implementation of work plans.
6. Examination and approval of the annual budget and final accounts.
7. Proposals for amendment of the *Articles of Endowed Foundation.*
8. Proposals for selling real estate or creating encumbrances attached thereto.
9. Proposals for merging.
10. Other proposals or resolutions specified in the *Articles of Endowed Foundation*.

Article 6

The Board of Trustees is composed of 17 to 19 Board members, including the following:

1. Nine representatives of agencies/organizations are ex-officio Board members and will be chosen as follows:
   (1) The Ministry of Education appoints two Board members in charge of related affairs; and
   (2) Representatives shall be appointed by the following associations:
      (a) The Association of National Universities of Taiwan shall appoint three university presidents as representatives, one of whom shall be the president of a national university of technology; and
      (b) The Association of Private Universities and Colleges, and the Association of Private Universities and Colleges of Technology shall each appoint two university presidents as representatives.
2. One to two industry representatives who are interested in higher education; and
3. Seven to eight scholars and/or experts appointed by the Ministry of Education.

With the exception of ex-officio Board members and other members of the initiative-term Board of Trustees, future Board members will be appointed by the preceding Board of Trustees.

At least one-fifth of all trustees must have expertise or work experience related to the purpose of establishing the Council.

No more than one-third of all trustees is the spouse or a relative within the third degree of another trustee on the Board of Trustees.

Members of either gender shall account for at least one-third of total Board members as a principle.

To elect the President of the Board of Trustees, a Board meeting shall be convened within 30 days after the appointment of trustees is completed.

After the initiative-term Board of Trustees has been established, the *Articles of Endowed Foundation*, meeting minutes, and relevant documents must be submitted to the competent government authority for record-keeping, and the Council must complete registration as an incorporated foundation pursuant to law.

Article 7

The term of each trustee shall be four years. A trustee may be re-elected for consecutive terms, and the number of those trustees elected to serve his/her consecutive term may not exceed two-thirds of all trustees re-elected, unless an approval for lifting such limit is obtained from the

Executive Yuan due to special business needs. Whenever a trustee's seat becomes vacant in the middle of a term, the Board of Trustees may elect a suitable person to serve as substitute for the remainder of that trustee's original term.

However, while the trustee's seat in the preceding paragraph is concurrently held by a civil servant as an ex-officio trustee, and that trustee is changed along with the civil servant in the position, such trustee is not counted in the number of trustees so re-elected when applying the relevant limits set forth in the preceding paragraph.

Three months before the end of each term, a Board meeting shall be convened to elect the next-term trustees.

Handover must be carried out by the end of time limit between new-term trustees and former-term members of the Board of Trustees.

Article 8

Five members for the Board of Standing Committee are elected by and amongst trustees. The group of the Board of Standing Committee shall include at least one representative of the Ministry of Education, one representative of the Association of National Universities of Taiwan, one representative of the Association of Private Universities and Colleges, and one representative of the scholars and/or experts appointed by the Ministry of Education, amongst the five Committee members.

The President of the Board of Trustees shall be elected by the members of the Board of Trustees from amongst the five members of the Board of Standing Committee. Internally, the President chairs Board meetings; externally, the President represents the Council; the President may, from time to time, convene the meeting of the Board of Standing Committee.

Resolutions of the meeting of Board of Standing Committee shall be reported to the Board meetings.

While the President is on leave or unable to perform his/her duties for any reason or in accordance with the law, the President may appoint one member from Board of Standing Committee to act on his/her behalf. The Board of Standing Committee shall elect an acting President from amongst themselves, when the President fails to appoint an acting one.

Board meetings shall be convened by the President at least once every six months, and extraordinary meetings may be convened when necessary. Each trustee shall attend Board meetings in person, and may appoint another trustee in writing to attend the meeting on his/her behalf if the trustee is unable to attend in person.

Each trustee attending on behalf of other trustee in accordance with the preceding paragraph may only attend on behalf of one other trustee, and the total number of trustees attending on behalf of other trustees may not exceed one third of all members of the Board of Trustees.

Whenever the President fails to convene a Board meeting in accordance with regulations, one-third or more of current trustees may request in writing to convene a Board meeting by a proposal with specified purpose and reason to do so. The President shall convene a meeting within ten days after receiving such request. If the Board meeting was not convened by the end of the ten-day period, the requesting trustees may convene a Board meeting after having obtained permission so to do from the Ministry of Education.

Article 9

Board meetings shall be convened and chaired by the President, and there must be at least more than half of all trustees in attendance to start the meeting.

Trustees shall submit proposal(s), if any, for a Board meeting to the Council within two weeks before a meeting is convened, and such proposal(s) shall be listed at the meeting's agenda after verification by the President.

When an on-line Board meeting is conducted via video conferencing, the trustees attending such on-line meeting shall be deemed to have attended the Board meeting in person.

President's approval of holding an on-line Board meeting shall be obtained in advance. The audio and video of the entire process of such on-line Board meeting must be recorded and the fact that such Board meeting is conducted via video conferencing shall be specified in the meeting minutes.

Any Board meeting agenda items to be approved requires the approval of the simple majority of trustees in attendance during a Board meeting. However, resolutions for the important matters listed below require the approval of more than one-half of trustees in attendance during a Board meeting which is attended by two-thirds or more of all trustees, and any such resolution must be reported to the Ministry of Education for approval before being implemented.

1. Proposals to amend the Articles of Endowed Foundation.
2. The use of funds.
3. Use of the fund to cover any shortfall.

4. The disposition of real estate or creation of encumbrances attached thereto.
5. Election, Appointment and discharge of trustees.
6. Other matters specified by the Ministry of Education.

Resolutions on mergers shall be handled in accordance with Article 34, Paragraph 1 of the *Foundations Act*.

The resolutions in the preceding two paragraphs may not be proposed as extempore motions during the Board meeting. All trustees and the Ministry of Education must be notified of the agenda of the Board meeting 10 days before the meeting convened, and the Council shall request the Ministry of Education to send personnel to attend the Board meeting for guidance.

Minutes of Board meetings must be mailed to trustees within two weeks after the meeting and be submitted to the Ministry of Education for records.

Article 10

The Council will appoint three to five Supervisors from amongst the following groups:

1. One to two government representatives, including the Director of the Accounting Office at the Ministry of Education, and/or another representative with a background relevant to the affairs in conducting higher education evaluations and quality assurance; and
2. Two to three scholars, or experts, including university presidents or scholars/experts in the fields of finance, taxation, accounting or financial law.

Except the first-term Supervisors and ex-officio Supervisors serving as government representatives, all next-term Supervisors will be appointed by the preceding Board of Trustees in accordance with the regulations specified in subparagraph two of the preceding paragraph.

Members of either gender must account for no less than one-third of Supervisors.

If new-term Supervisors have not been elected after the term of out-going Supervisors expires, the term of out-going Supervisors shall be extended until the new-term Supervisors are elected and they assume their posts.

Article 11

The term of each Supervisor shall be four years.

Where an ex-officio Supervisor is a government representative and his/her position within the government changes before the expiration of his/her term, the Council may request the Ministry of Education to appoint a replacement.

Where a scholar or specialist serving as Supervisor is unable to serve out his/her term, the Board of Trustees shall elect a replacement.

The term of the new ex-officio supervisor replacing the former ex-officio supervisor or newly elected supervisor in the preceding two paragraphs shall be the remainder of that substituted Supervisor's original term.

Article 12

The powers of Supervisors include:

1. Supervising business execution and financial status.
2. Auditing financial books, documents, and property information.
3. Overseeing operations in compliance with relevant laws, regulations, and the Articles of the Endowed Foundation.

Article 13

There is no fix salary or remuneration for the positions of Board Members and Supervisors, but holders of those positions may be compensated for meeting attendance, and reimbursed for transportation costs resulting therefrom as well, with an exception for the President of the Board of Trustees only when the same is employed full-time by the Council and receives no salary, monthly retirement payments (pension), monthly severance payments for those who severed from public service, or similar payments from sources other than the Council.

The salary for the President of the Board of Trustees as promulgated in the proviso of preceding paragraph shall be set with reference to the standard salary of the Political Deputy Minister of the R.O.C. central government. This salary standard to be resolved by the Board of Trustees requires approval from the Ministry of Education. The same procedure applies to any changes in the salary standard.

Article 14

Should any of the following situations happen to any one member of the Board of Trustees or Supervisors, the Ministry of Education shall remove such trustee or supervisor from his/her position and duties, and submit notification to the court to register the dismissal:

1. A trustee or supervisor is sentenced to imprisonment, with no probation announced. However, this does not apply to committing

crimes on negligence;
2. A trustee or supervisor, when performing trustee or supervisor duties, has violated the laws/regulations or *Articles of Endowed Foundation*, causing damage to public interests or the Foundation's interests; and
3. Any trustee or supervisor appointed by the Ministry of Education in accordance with the law, or any one of the ex-officio trustees and supervisors specified in Article 48, Paragraph 3, Subparagraph 2 or 3 of the *Foundations Act* has failed to comply with government policy when performing his/her duties, so as to have resulted in violating the purpose of their appointment.

Individuals with any one of the following situations may not serve as a qualified trustee or supervisor. Should any one of such individuals already serve as a trustee or supervisor, such person shall be automatically removed from his/her position, and the Ministry of Education shall notify the court to register the dismissal:

1. Be declared bankrupt or ruled by the court to begin liquidation procedures in accordance with the Consumer Debt Clearing Act and rights of such person have not yet been restored; and
2. Be declared of guardianship or assistantship in accordance with the law, and has not been revoked.

Article 15

An Executive Director of the Council shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees, and shall oversee affairs of the Council pursuant to the instructions of the Board.

The Executive Director shall be nominated by the President, passed by the Board of Trustees, and reported to the competent authority for approval before being appointed. A Deputy Executive Director, chosen from full-time employees of the Council, may be appointed after approval from the Board of Trustees to serve as that position when necessary.

Article 16

The Council may establish branch offices, and may also appoint several scholars and experts to render services as consultants with a three-year term, who shall be recommended by the Executive Director and passed by the Board of Trustees before being appointed.

The Council shall establish an Appeals Review Committee to review appeals from those institutions subject to education accreditation. Regulations for the organization and operations of the Appeals Review Committee shall be separately promulgated and implemented after being

passed by the Board of Trustees.

To conduct education accreditation of special discipline, the Council may establish Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council and other like education accreditation committees. Regulations for the organization and operations of the Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council and other like education accreditation committees shall be separately promulgated and implemented after being passed by the Board of Trustees.

Discipline-specific accreditation committees may be established as needed.

Article 17

When a trustee seat becomes vacant due to position changes or other reasons in the middle of a term, where the trustee was appointed by a government agency, the agency may appoint a new representative as replacement to serve the remainder of the original term. However, where the trustee was not appointed by a government agency as ex-officio trustee, the vacant seats of such trustee shall be filled by the Board of Trustees through a by-election in accordance with Article 6, and such elected trustee shall serve the remainder of the original term.

When the President falls vacant, after having filled vacant trustee seat(s) in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph, Paragraph 1 of Article 7, and Paragraph 1 of Article 8, the President shall be elected in accordance with Paragraph 2 of Article 8.

When a member of Board of Standing Committee seat becomes vacant, the vacant seat shall be filled in accordance with Paragraph 1, Paragraph 1 of Article 7, and Paragraph 1 of Article 8.

The new President shall nominate an Executive Director candidate and appoint the Executive Director in accordance with Article 15, Paragraph 2.

Handover must be carried out by the end of time limit between new and former Presidents and between new and former Executive Directors.

Article 18

The business/fiscal year of the Council runs from January 1st until December 31st of the same year, and the following matters must be handled according to the contents and time limits specified by the Ministry of Education:

1. Within one month after the start of the business/fiscal year, to review and approve annual work plans and budgets, and upload them to the

Education Foundation website for future reference. A risk assessment report must be attached if the work plan and budget involve those countries or regions with high risk of money laundering or terrorist financing.

2. Within five months after the end of the business/fiscal year, to review annual work reports and financial statements for the previous year, and upload them to the Education Foundation website for future reference.

In addition to following the procedures above, the final accounts of the previous year shall be submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval before April 15th each year, then sent to the Legislative Yuan for review, in accordance with the *Budget Act*, *Financial Statement Act*, and related laws and regulations. The annual budget for the next year shall also be submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval before July 31st each year, then sent to the Legislative Yuan for review.

The Ministry of Education shall evaluate the situation based on the Council's annual work performance report, which is used, for reference purpose, as the basis for determining the funding for work plans in the following year.

Should there be obvious poor performance of the Council, severe violation, or gross negligence found on part of the Council, the Ministry of Education may require the Board of Trustees to urge certain measures be taken so that improvements can be made or to replace the Executive Director.

The President of the Board of Trustees is authorized to grant appropriate incentives to the Executive Director based on operational performance rendered by the latter. With respect to the incentives, among them, the maximum amount in terms of reward is one month's salary per year, funded by the remaining revenues pursuant to Article 19 of the Articles of the Endowed Foundation.

Article 19

The funding required for the Council's operations derive from the Ministry of Education's subsidies or funding for commissioned matters, interests accrued by the fund, and donations received after the Foundation was established. For events not using the Ministry of Education's above subsidies or funding and not related to affairs commissioned by the Ministry of Education, the remaining revenues from fees collected for such events may be retained by the Council to enrich its source of funding.

Article 20

The safekeeping and use of the Council's assets shall be under the Foundation's name and supervised by the Ministry of Education. The funds may not be entrusted or lent to any of the trustees, supervisors, other individuals, or non-financial institutions.

Methods for the safekeeping and use of the Council's assets are as follows:

1. To deposit in a financial institution;
2. To purchase government bonds, treasury bills, Central Bank savings bonds, financial bonds, transferrable bank's certificates of time deposit, bills of exchange with acceptance from bank, or commercial promissory notes guaranteed by a bank or bills finance company;
3. To purchase real estate and movable property required for operations;
4. Based on the principles of safety and reliability, to purchase secured publicly issued corporate bond, or fixed income beneficiary certificates issued by a domestic securities investment trust company;
5. To purchase stocks at the cost within 5% of the Foundation's total assets, and the shareholding ratio of a single company may not exceed 5% of such stock-issuing company's capital; and
6. The purchase, sale, or transfer of real estate or establishment of other rights thereon shall first be passed by a special resolution of the Board of Trustees and submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval. Photocopies of all ownership certificates shall be submitted to the Ministry of Education for future reference.

Article 21

Any changes to the approved fundamental matters regarding the incorporation of the Council shall be passed by the Board of Trustees, and then reported to the Ministry of Education within 30 days after the change occurs for approval. Change of the fundamental matters regarding incorporation registration must be done at the appropriate court within 15 days after gaining such approval. Within the next 15 days after obtaining the reissued certificate of foundation registration as modified, a photocopy of the certificate must be submitted respectively to the Ministry of Education and the local tax collection authority overseeing the Council's main office for future reference.

Article 22

Should the Board of Trustees adopt the resolution for dissolution in accordance with the *Articles of Endowed Foundation*, the Council's approval be revoked or annulled by the Ministry of Education, or the

Council's dissolution be declared by the appropriate court, the Council shall carry out the dissolution process and registration of the completion of liquidation in accordance with the provisions under *Civil Code* and *Non-Litigation Matters Law*.

Assets remaining after liquidation in the preceding paragraph shall belong to the central administrative authority overseeing education, and shall not go to any natural person or profit-seeking enterprise.

Article 23

This *Articles of Endowed Foundation* was hereby amended in accordance with the *Foundations Act*. Any matters not specified herein shall be handled in accordance with the *Foundations Act*, *Civil Code*, and related laws and regulations.

Article 24

These *Arti*cles shall take effect upon being passed by the Board of Trustees, approved by the Ministry of Education, and registered at the appropriate court. Whenever the *Articles* need to be amended, the same procedure shall be followed.