



Executive Summary

Renewal of Institutional Licensure Imam Malik College for Islamic Sharia and Law

March 8-11, 2020

An External Review Team (hereafter ERT) visited Imam Malik College for Islamic Sharia and Law (IMC) from 8 to 11 March 2020 to evaluate its Self-Study (hereafter the *Self-Study*) for Renewal of Institutional Licensure. The exit interview was held on 11 March 2020.

IMC was established in 2001 in the Academic City in Dubai. In 2014, the organizational structure of the IMC was approved by Dubai government. IMC currently offers the following programs: Bachelor's in Sharia, Bachelor's in Sharia and Law, Master's in Jurisprudence and its Fundamentals, Master's in Private Law, and Master's in Public Law. The number of students enrolled in the first semester 2019/2020 in bachelor and master's programs is 781. There are 19 full-time faculty members across all programs in IMC, (9) in the Sharia Department, (8) in the Sharia and Law Department, and (1) in the General Education Department.

The ERT evaluated the *Self-Study* submitted by IMC and would like to record the following strength that were observed:

- Vision and Mission: IMC has vision and mission statements that reflects its identity and educational goals, and they consist of education strategies in the UAE and meets the needs of the local labor market. Therefore, it is consistent in its entirety with the requirements of the *Standards*.
- Effective Administration: IMC leadership provides direct supervision and follow-up of achievements through an administrative organization and functional hierarchy that is in line with international norms for educational institutions. This ensures effective work environment and administrative coordination.
- A good level of equipment and laboratories that support learning and teaching.
- The “Sharia and law” department distinguishes IMC graduates who are qualified in both Sharia and law.
- Special and distinguished support for research through the IMC Scientific Research Council.

Although IMC has a strong legacy, there is still room for improvement in the following areas:

- The *Self-Study* submitted by IMC did not reflect actual status of the College, and in most cases, it referred to ERT to review the annexes without providing details. This



needs revisions for future submissions of organized, clear, and nonconflicting *Self-Studies*.

- There is a shortage in certain specialized faculty members in the Department of Sharia and Law in areas of Civil Procedures and Public and International Law.
- There is a need to activate the role of the department councils as per IMC's organizational structure with consistently recorded meeting minutes.
- The submitted documents did not include policy and procedures related to students who face academic difficulties for academic advising to improve their academic achievement.
- Ensuring adherence admission criteria stipulated by the *Standards* and guidelines, especially for admission to the Sharia and Law program.
- Activating the role of the quality unit and supporting it with the necessary human and technical resources to utilize the results of the internal evaluation performed by the unit to improve the quality of the programs.

The ERT makes its recommendations in a spirit of constructive engagement, with the aim of ensuring that the *Standards* are met, and to aid IMC in its desired objective to renew its licensure.