UNITED ARAB EMIRATES MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



Executive Summary

Renewal of Licensure Emirates Institute of Citizenship, Residence & Ports (Renamed to Emirates Academy for Identity and Citizenship)

October 14 – 17 2018

An External Review Team (hereafter ERT) visited the Emirates Institute of Citizenship, Residence & Ports – EICRP (currently Emirates Academy for Identity and Citizenship – EAIC) from 14 to 17 October 2018, to evaluate the *Self-Study* (hereafter the *Self-Study*) for Renewal of Licensure.

The EICRP was established by Federal Law No 37 of 2008 and began operating in 2009 as a unit within the Ministry of the Interior with a mission to act as a specialist institute for vocational training. It offered, and continues to offer, non-degree vocational training. It gained the status of an institution of higher education in 2012 when it received Initial Licensure through the CAA. EICRP applied for initial accreditation of a Diploma in Citizenship, Residence and Ports (DCRP) and the Bachelor of Science in Citizenship, Residence and Ports (BScCRP) in 2013. The programs received initial accreditation in 2014. Following issue of a Federal Decree in 2017 for establishment of the Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship, the Institute became a unit within the newly created Authority and was renamed to the Emirates Academy for Citizenship and Residence. At the time of submission of the *Self-Study*, the academic programs had been offered for one full year. The Institute stated that it had nine full-time and two part-time faculty at the time of the visit and that it had 115 enrolled students. Having previously been located in the Mushrif district of Abu Dhabi, EICRP relocated to the Between the Bridges district of Abu Dhabi in June, 2018.

The ERT identified issues in all areas of the *Standards, of* particular concern are the following:

1. Issues of Governance.

The ERT understands the difficulties that EICRP is encountering following the merger of the Ministry of the Interior and the Emirates Identity Authority. As soon as possible, however, EICRP needs to:

- i. Establish a revised and functional governing entity;
- ii. address outstanding matters concerning the internal organizational structure of the institute;
- iii. Develop and then follow a comprehensive portfolio of policies, procedures and

regulations that are appropriate for the institute.

- 2. Issues of Quality Assurance.
 - *i*. EICRP needs to develop a complete approach to institutional effectiveness that links the goals and objectives to performance indicators;
 - *ii.* Program effectiveness needs to be strengthened with annual activities in addition to periodic review;

3. Issues Concerning the Programs.

- *i.* The specializations in the BCRP Program need to be linked to specialist program-level learning outcomes;
- *ii.* The DCRP needs to be developed as a stand-alone program, with program-level learning outcomes, matrices, and associated program effectiveness activities;
- *iii.* The General Education needs to the developed as a stand-alone program, with programlevel learning outcomes, matrices, and associated program effectiveness activities.

4. Adherence to Probationary Admission Regulations.

It is clear that the Institute is not adhering to the requirements of the Standards with respect to limitations imposed on students admitted on a probationary basis due to insufficient competence in English.

5. Faculty Matters.

Faculty adjustments need to be made to ensure compliance with the *Standards* regarding faculty qualifications.

6. *Public Disclosure and Integrity.*

The ERT has concerns regarding the:

- *i.* The name of the institution. The approved name uses the word *institute* not *academy*;
- *ii.* The name of the academic programs. Various inaccuracies in titles are to be found in institutional documentation;
- *iii.* The use of policy materials that come from another institution. This is unacceptable the institution must develop its own policy frameworks.

7. Physical Resources.

The present accommodation meets current needs but is unlikely to do so beyond 2019 in its current configuration. There is need to have plans in place for reconfiguration to meet needs beyond 2019.

8. Matters Requiring an Application for Substantive Change.

Where necessary, changes discussed under 1, above, are likely to be substantial and the approach described in the *Standards*, Stipulation 2, should be followed. Similarly, a change to the name of the institution and the location of its campus requires such an application.

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