

## **CONVENTION ON UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS AND EQUIVALENCES OF DEGREES**

Note: The Convention entered into force, August 28, 1967.

The Government signatory hereto, being members of the South-East Asia Treaty Organization;

Considering their common desire to strengthen the fabric of peace and freedom and to uphold the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law and to promote the economic well-being and development of all peoples in the Treaty Area;

Having undertaken to strengthen their free institutions and to cooperate with one another in the further development of economic measures, including technical assistance, designed both to promote economic progress and social well-being and to further the individual and collective efforts of Governments towards these ends;

Considering that these objectives would be furthered by making the intellectual resources of each member country freely available to the people of the other member countries ;

Considering that the university constitutes one of the principal sources of the intellectual activity of the country;

Considering that their nationals should be afforded all possible facilities to enter a university of their choice in the territories of all Contracting Parties;

Considering that such facilities, which are also desirable in the interest of freedom of movement from country to country, require the removal of present obstacles in the equivalence of admission requirements to universities and in the mutual recognition of degrees;

Have agreed as follows:

### **ARTICLE 1**

#### **FIRST ENTRANCE TO UNIVERSITIES**

1. Subject to paragraph 7 of this Article, favourable consideration should be given to applications submitted by nationals of each Contracting Party for admission to a university of their choice in the territory of another Contracting Party in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) Students from Pakistan and Thailand who have successfully completed their elementary, secondary and higher secondary education, spread over twelve years, provided by the educational systems of the two countries, should be equated and allowed to enroll for the degree course in either of the two countries;

(b) Students from the Philippines who have finished their elementary and secondary education in the Philippines, and are seeking admission to a

university in Pakistan, should successfully complete the studies provided in Class 12 of the higher secondary stage in Pakistan before being enrolled for the degree course, except in the case of engineering and medicine;

(c) Students from the Philippines who have finished their elementary and secondary education in the Philippines, and are seeking admission to a university in Thailand, should successfully complete the studies provided in the last year of the higher secondary level in Thailand before being enrolled for the degree course;

(d) Alternatively, such students from the Philippines who have finished their elementary and secondary education in the Philippines may successfully complete studies for one year at one of the universities of the Philippines before being enrolled to the degree course in Pakistan or Thailand.

(e) Students from Pakistan and Thailand who have successfully completed their twelve years of elementary, secondary and higher secondary education in Pakistan or Thailand shall be given appropriate credits, corresponding roughly to a year's work in the Philippines, on seeking admission to a degree course in a university of the Philippines;

(f) In the case of students from the Philippines who have to complete successfully one year study at higher secondary level in Pakistan, where the study of the national language is compulsory at this stage, a special course of an elementary nature should be offered in a national language. In Thailand, where a knowledge of Thai is necessary for university studies, students from the Philippines should be given a special course in the Thai language so that they may acquire a working knowledge of it.

2. Students from Pakistan and Thailand who want to enroll in the first degree course in medicine in the Philippines must hold a Bachelor of Science degree from any university provided they have taken the special subject required by the Philippine law.

3. Students from the Philippines who have undergone ten years of education, and intend to seek admission to medical and engineering degree courses in Pakistan, will be required to complete the science subject for both Classes 11 and 12 which are prerequisite for the pursuit of engineering or medical studies. They will be exempted from all other subjects.

4. Each Contracting Party agrees that universities should give appropriate credit for special proficiency already attained in certain fields of study at the time of seeking admission.

5. Each Contracting Party recognizes the obstacles created by the difference in the media of instruction and agrees that universities should be urged to organize, where they are needed, special language courses for foreign students.

6. Each Contracting Party recognizes the need for providing special remedial courses by universities of the country offering admission to students of other member countries who are found particularly deficient in certain fields of study.

7. With due recognition given to the autonomy of the universities in the territories of the Contracting Parties, admission to any university should be considered in the light of existing requirements for admission, such limitations as may be imposed by existing facilities in each locality, and such reservation of places as may be provided in any agreement or otherwise between member countries bilaterally or multilaterally.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **ADMISSION TO POST-GRADUATE STUDIES**

1. Each Contracting Party recognizes for the purpose of admission to courses leading to master's degree or equivalent in its territory, bachelor's degree awarded by the universities of the countries signatory to this Convention.

2. Each Contracting Party recognizes for the purpose of admission to doctoral studies in the universities situated in its territory, master's degrees awarded in the territory of each other Contracting Party, subject to the following provisions:

(a) Students from Pakistan and Thailand who have already attained a master's degree should be exempted from the comprehensive examination which is a prerequisite to thesis work for a doctorate at the University of the Philippines;

(b) Students from the Philippines who do not hold a master's degree but have passed the comprehensive examination referred to at section (a) above will be admitted to work for a doctorate in Pakistan and in Thailand.

3. In fields such as medicine, dentistry and veterinary science, in which the first degree conferred is called a doctoral degree in one country and a bachelor's degree in another, these degrees shall be recognized as equivalent for the purpose of admission to higher studies.

## **ARTICLE 3**

### **EXEMPTION FROM ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS**

Where admissions are made on the basis of competitive entrance examinations, the Contracting Parties agree to exempt students proceeding from one country to another from taking those examinations. The Contracting Parties agree that universities should admit students from other member countries on the basis of the prior attainments of student in terms of conditions provided by this Convention.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **RECOGNITION OF DEGREES**

1. Each Contracting Party recognizes the bachelor's degrees awarded by the universities of the other Contracting Parties as equivalent to the bachelor's degrees awarded by the universities in its own territory.

2. Each Contracting Party recognizes the master's degrees awarded by the universities of the other Contracting Parties as equivalent to the master's degrees awarded by the universities in its own territory.