Supplementary Submission from Department of Education, Science and Training GPO Box 9880 CANBERRA ACT 2601

The National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) facilitates the recognition of overseas qualifications in Australia and Australian qualifications overseas. NOOSR does this by publishing information on overseas education systems - which includes guidelines for gauging the educational level of overseas qualifications in Australian terms – and by assessing individual qualifications to determine their educational level. In assessing the comparative educational level of overseas qualifications, NOOSR takes into account a range of factors, including;

- the education system. This can include historical factors and influences, the organisation of the various sectors, the role of external moderation and examinations, and regulation and quality assurance measures;
- the status of awarding institutions in the country of origin. This can include the date of establishment of institutions, whether they are public or private, student and staff ratios, library and laboratory facilities, programs offered, and quality control mechanisms;
- programme entry requirements. This can include the level of education required for entry to programmes of study, the role of entrance examinations, and the competitiveness of entry;
- the programme structure eg the level, length, structure, orientation, breadth and depth of programmes of study.