APPROVED

by Resolution No 1317 of 22 September 2010 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania

ACCREDITATION PROCEDURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1. The accreditation procedure of higher education institutions (hereinafter referred to as 'the Procedure') shall govern the procedures, criteria and types of accreditation of public and private higher education institutions (hereinafter referred to as 'higher education institutions').
- 2. The terms used in the Procedure are those defined in the Law on Research and Studies of the Republic of Lithuania (*Official Gazette*, 2009, No 54-2140).
- 3. The accreditation of higher education institutions shall be performed by the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as 'the Centre').
- 4. The aim of accreditation shall be the confirmation, based on the judgements of the external review, of the higher education institution's conformity to the legislative requirements.

II. ACCREDITATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

- 5. Higher education institutions shall undergo regular accreditation based on the judgements of their external review.
- 6. To obtain accreditation, a higher education institution shall submit a request to the Centre within 14 calendar days of the receipt of the external review report accompanied with the external review or its copy certified in accordance with the legal requirements.
- 7. Within 20 working days of the receipt of the accreditation request and the external review report, the Centre shall take a decision:
- 7.1. to accredit the higher education institution for 6 years if, after the latest external review, the institution authorised by the Ministry of Education and Science took a decision on the positive evaluation of the higher education institution;
- 7.2. to accredit the higher education institution for 2 years if, after the latest external review, the institution authorised by the Ministry of Education and Science took a decision on a negative evaluation of the higher education institution (except in cases where the negative evaluation was given repeatedly or it was given to a new institution of higher education because its performance was found to be at variance with the establishment requirements and the requirements set at the time of the issue of the licence for the running of studies and related activities (hereinafter referred to as 'the establishment requirements');
- 7.3. not to accredit the higher education institution because it has received a negative evaluation or because the performance of a new institution of higher education does not meet the establishment requirements.
- 8. The Centre shall inform the higher education institution about its decision to accredit and not to accredit the higher education institution within 5 working days of the decision date.