PROVIDER ACCREDITATION OUTCOME DECISION

Issued by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) following an External Quality Assurance (EQA) Audit of

The Malta Foundation for Human Resources Development (FHRD)

EQA Audit: Re-accreditation

Licence Category: Higher Education Institution

Date of Issue: October 2026

INTRODUCTION

The MFHEA Board has received and endorsed the report from the Quality Assurance Committee, which was drafted by the external peer review panel (experts) set up to carry out an EQA audit of The Malta Foundation for Human Resources Development (FHRD), in line with the requirements of the *National Quality Assurance Framework for Further and Higher Education (NQAF)* and the regulations of the MFHEA. The EQA audit took place on the 26th and 27th of February 2026, and the report reflects the findings at that time.

All providers that undergo an MFHEA audit are measured against the 11 Standards outlined in the External Quality Assurance Provider Accreditation Manual for Higher Education Institutions. These Standards are based on the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), which inform the quality assurance systems of all countries signatory to the European Higher Education Area.

The Board is determined that the Authority should carry out its regulatory responsibilities for standards in higher education independently, even-handedly, objectively and in a transparent manner.

ANALYSIS

The quality audit is a tool for both development and accountability; it has reviewed the internal quality assurance system of and assessed whether the system is:

- fit for purpose according to The Malta Foundation for Human Resources Development (FHRD) courses and service users;
- compliant with Standards and regulations, and contributing to the development of a national quality culture;
- contributing to the fulfilment of the broad goals of Malta's National Education Strategy 2024-2030;
- implemented with effectiveness, comprehensiveness and sustainability.

The audit benchmarks the QA system and procedures within an institution against 11 Standards as outlined in the External Quality Assurance Provider Accreditation Manual for Higher Education Institutions, namely:

Standard 1: Mission and strategic management

Standard 2: Governance, organisational structure and administration

Standard 3: Quality management

Standard 4: Integrity, accountability and information management

Standard 5: Teaching and administrative staff

Standard 6: Design, monitoring and review of programmes

Standard 7: Student-centred learning, teaching and assessment

Standard 8: Student administration and student support services

Standard 9: Learning resources and facilities

Standard 10: Research, development and/or other creative activity

Standard 11: Institutional cooperation, service to society and internationalisation

The main lines of inquiry focused on securing a better understanding and triangulating the information on the fitness for purpose and effectiveness of the internal quality assurance processes implemented by the provider. These include the set-up and structure of the quality management system, documentation and internal quality review and how these enhance the student learning experience.

FINDINGS

The panel considered 11 Standards. Of these, Standards 3, 5, 6 and 11 were considered fully compliant and Standards 1, 2, 4, 7, 8 and 9 were considered substantially compliant. Standard 10 (Research) was found not applicable for the institution since it deals only with programmes on the MQF level 5.

DECISION

Following its review of the External Quality Assurance Audit Report, the Quality Assurance Committee determined that **The Foundation for Human Resources Development (FHRD)** has demonstrated the continued effective implementation of the applicable Standards required to confirm the provider accreditation previously granted. Therefore, the Committee recommended that the licence be renewed for five (5) years.

In accordance with the Quality Assurance Committee's recommendations, and as endorsed by the MFHEA Board, **The Foundation for Human Resources Development (FHRD)** is required to submit a follow-up report within twelve (12) months from the date of this letter. The report shall outline progress in implementing the panel's mandatory and key recommendations and include supporting evidence.