



## National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council



### MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF NATIONAL AGRICULTURE EDUCATION ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

24 OCTOBER, 2016

The 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council (NAEAC) was held on **October 24, 2016 at 10:30 A.M. in the Mural Hall of Higher Education Commission (HEC), H-9, Islamabad**. The meeting was Chaired by Dr. M. E. Tusneem, Chairman, National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council (NAEAC) and attended by 16 members including two proxies. There were two apologies and three absentees (Annexure-IV).

2. After recitation from the Holy Quran, the Chair welcomed the Members to the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council. He congratulated the new Vice Chairperson Prof. Dr. Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi and five new members of the Council. The Chair also paid compliments to the outgoing Chairperson Prof. Dr. Shahana Urooj Kazmi for her contributions, commitment and keen interest in the Council activities. The Chair was also pleased to note the good working relationship of NAEAC with all stakeholders, in particular Agriculture Education Institutions concerned, Agri. Research and Extension and agro-industry.

#### **Overview of NAEAC's Operational Activities by Chairman, NAEAC**

3. The Chairman presented the status of major activities accomplished by the Council including the accreditation and evaluation visits by the Accreditation Inspection Committee (AIC), review meetings, zero visits, awareness seminars, and training workshops for Program Evaluators (PEs). He observed that number of institutions offering an agriculture degree program increased from 17 in 2008 to 35 in 2016. The Council had accomplished evaluation and rating of all the 299 degree programs offered by these institutions. It would initiate second cycle of accreditation from December, 2016. Based on NAEAC evaluation criteria, nearly half of the programs were in W & X i.e. satisfactory category, and the other half in Y & Z i.e. substandard category (Annexure-I). Further, it was noted that 86 percent of substandard program were in the newly established institution and 37 percent in old institutions.

4. Evaluation rating of 68 degree program during 2015-16, out of which 25 percent degree programs fall in category X (Satisfactory) while 75 percent degree programs falls in category Y & Z {(Substandard) (Annexure-II)}. The degree programs rated in Y & Z categories (Substandard) i.e. 75 percent failed to meet HEC criteria for accreditation. The Chairman discussed in detail the deteriorating quality issues of agriculture degree programs, primarily due to opening of new institutions, large intake of students, inadequate faculty, and physical infrastructure. He informed the Council that the worsening quality situation has already been brought to the notice of HEC to take urgent measures to address the problem. The members shared the concern of chair and stressed the need for quality improvement of agriculture degree programs. The Council agreed that HEC must

not issue NOC for new institutions or programs unless minimum requirements are met by an institution and verified by NAEAC.

5. Some of the Council members were of the view that like PEC & PMDC, the Council should consider registration of agriculture graduates and adopt quota system for encouraging more students from rural areas. After deliberations, it was considered that in majority of the newly established institutions, the faculty, infrastructure, learning resources and related facilities are grossly inadequate. HEC may initiate appropriate policy measures to set up guidelines and approve procedures for the establishment of new institutions. Also, there is a need to link HEC funding with the accreditation ratings rather than number of students. Members representing the Agro-Industry also expressed their serious concern on the quality and lack of practical knowledge of most graduates seeking private sector jobs.

6. After the overview of NAEAC's activities by the Chair; the Secretary, NAEAC presented item-wise agenda of the meeting for consideration of the Council members. A summary of the decisions taken in the meeting is given below:

**Item# I: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of NAEAC**

7. Secretary, NAEAC presented minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council for confirmation of the Council members. In the absence of any comments, *the minutes of Eleventh Meeting of the Council were approved as presented.*

**Item# II: Approval of the Accreditation Ratings of Agriculture Degree Programs evaluated during 2015-16**

***Decision: The Council members reviewed the evaluation ratings of 68 degree programs in 16 institutions of Punjab, Sindh, KPK and Balochistan covered by NAEAC during 2015-16 and approved the ratings as recommended. They however, expressed their concern over the disappointing evaluation rating i.e. 75 percent in less than satisfactory category mostly representing the newly established institutions.***

**Item# III: Review Meetings with Directors and HODs regarding Implementation Status of AIC Recommendations**

8. The Secretary, NAEAC briefed the Council on the review meetings held with VCs, Deans, and Directors/HoDs. The conclusions of these meetings are summarized below:

**i. University College of Agriculture, University of Sargodha**

- Need to induct senior level PhD faculty on top priority basis in all programs. (Since last visit in 2013-14, little or no improvement observed in the urgently required infrastructure and learning

resources, and the number of recommended text books, as well as access to IT-facilities and HEC digital library).

- Accordingly, it was stressed the faculty be placed/ /accommodated in well-equipped offices.
- Adequate arrangements be made of the research farms with well-equipped labs.
- Appropriate action initiated to induct qualified lab technicians and other technical support staff.
- Local stakeholders be associated with the Board of Studies (BoS) and Faculty Board of the university for problem-oriented feedback.

#### **ii. Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam**

- Teaching faculty of various disciplines be strengthened including few senior professors and several lecturers.
- Mid-Term and long-term faculty development plans be chalked out and implemented for building academic capacity of the faculty.
- Only qualified persons in the relevant field be recruited in the libraries, laboratories and experimental farms.
- Need to equip the labs of other remaining disciplines lacking equipment, lab protocols and safety measures be adhered.
- SAU need to set up a small lab. equipment and maintenance unit (LEMU) headed by an Instrumentation Engineer for the whole labs system of the university.
- Main library is upgraded but still sufficient numbers of text books/reference books are required with access to HEC digital library.
- Experimental research farms of the university need to be upgraded with farm machinery and implements, trained manpower and operational funds.

#### **iii. Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, BZU, Multan**

- There is shortage of senior faculty in the disciplines of PBG, Entomology and Food Sciences etc. At least one Professor in each discipline to be inducted, soon.
- Most of the Labs have been upgraded and well equipped. However, greenhouses, glasshouses, (controlled condition environments) require further expansion, and improvement.
- No faculty Development Plan in place. Both long-term and short-term plans have to be developed and implemented.
- All PhD faculty members to be motivated to write research projects for grants from other than the university sources.
- Experimental farms, experimental orchards and Plant Nurseries need to be developed on scientific lines for research and training purposes.
- Internship program of B.Sc. (Hons) has not yielded desired results. There is a need to make it more effective, rigorous and meaningful.

- Lab and field staff with only relevant qualifications and training need to be inducted and existing staff be provided training opportunities for capacity building.

**Decision:** *Members appreciated the review meeting process initiated by the Council and recommended its continuation and follow-up.*

**Item# IV: Proposed Annual Work Plan and Proposed Budget Allocations FY 2016-17**

9. The annual work plan proposed for FY 2016-17 consists of five major activities including evaluation of 58 degree programs through on-site visits of 12 institutions including Crop Physiology and Biotechnology degree programs of SAU, Tandojam, three review meetings, five zero visits, four awareness seminars and a training workshop of program evaluators. In all, the Council plans to undertake at least 20 visits to the concerned institutions. Based on the annual work program, the estimated budget for 2016-17 is Rs.6.20 million (Annex-III).

**Decision:** *The proposed allocation is in line with the activities planned for the year. The Council members reviewed the work plan and proposed budget for implementation and endorsed the same for FY 2016-17.*

**Item# V: Enhancement in NAEAC Annual Grant Received from HEC**

10. The Council noted and appreciated that NAEAC exercises due diligence and financial prudence in its budget utilization and maintains a good utilization record of 95-98%. It however noted that the increase in HEC grant from Rs.2.00 million to Rs.4.00 million in 2012 is becoming inadequate and falling short due to inflation, rise in the salary and benefits of the Secretariat staff and higher costs of accreditation logistics and Council Meetings.

**Decision:** *The Council agreed that the amount of Rs. 4.00 million approved in 2012 would not be adequate to meet the future needs of the Council and endorsed the proposed budget. Further, the Council members observed that enhancement in the HEC grant should be revised upward based on the current costs for next 4-5 years and recommended the proposal for enhancement of grant from Rs. 4.00 million to Rs. 7.00 million for next five years.*

**Item# VI: Revision of the Accreditation Fee Structure**

11. The meeting was informed that the present accreditation fee structure is modest and is not meeting even the cost of on-site visit expenses. NAEAC accreditation fee is based on disciplines consisting {B.Sc. (Hons) and M.Sc. (Hons)} degree programs whereas the other Councils charge the accreditation fee based on degree program. As such, there is a need to revise the accreditation fee, keeping in view the current actual costs, the budgetary support from HEC and need to eventually making NAEAC financially self-supporting

entity. The present and proposed accreditation fee structure is placed below for the consideration and approval of the Council Members. It suggests modest and affordable increase which is still far below the actual cost of accreditation.

**Existing and Proposed Accreditation Fee Structure of Agriculture Degree Programs w.e.f 2016-17**

S. No	Existing Accreditation Fee Structure, 2015-16	Proposed Accreditation Fee Structure, 2016-17	
		Public Sector	Private Sector
	<b>All Institutions</b>		
i.	Minimum of Rs.75,000/- with at-least Rs.25,000/- for each additional discipline accredited.	At least Rs. 100,000 up-to three disciplines	At least Rs. 150,000 per discipline. (Based on full cost recovery)
ii.	Maximum of Rs.150,000/- up to ten disciplines	Rs.150,000/- Four to six disciplines	Rs.200,000/- Four to six disciplines
iii.	Maximum of Rs.200,000/- for more than 10 disciplines	Rs. 200,000/- Seven to Ten disciplines	Rs. 250,000/- Seven to Ten disciplines
iv.	--	Rs.250,000/- more than ten disciplines	Rs.300,000/- more than ten disciplines

**Decision:** *After discussion and satisfactory justification of the proposed increase, the Council approved the revised fee structure of each discipline for the public sector and private sector agriculture education institutions.*

Summary of Evaluation Rating of Agriculture Degree Programs, 2008-16

Institution	Programs Evaluated	Evaluation Rating of Degree Programs					Y + Z
		W + X	Y <sub>1</sub>	Y <sub>2</sub>	Y <sub>3</sub>	Z	
<b>A. Established Institutions (16)</b>	<b>214</b>	134	37	32	9	2	<b>80</b>
<b>Percent (%)</b>	72	63	17	15	4	1	<b>37</b>
<b>B. Newly Established Institutions (15)</b>	<b>85</b>	12	26	25	17	5	73
<b>Percent (%)</b>	28	14	31	29	20	6	<b>86</b>
<b>All Institutions (31)</b>	<b>299</b>	146	63	57	26	7	153
<b>Percent (%)</b>	100	<b>49</b>	21	19	9	2	<b>51</b>

**External Evaluation Rating of Agriculture Degree Programs, 2015-16**

S. No	Institution	Degree Programs Evaluated	Recommended Evaluation Rating								
			X <sub>1</sub>	X <sub>2</sub>	X <sub>3</sub>	Y <sub>1</sub>	Y <sub>2</sub>	Y <sub>3</sub>	Z <sub>1</sub>	Z <sub>3</sub>	
1	Karakorum International University, Gilgit (Food Technology)	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	
2	Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta (PBG, Agronomy, Soil Science, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Horticulture)	8 (B.Sc. & M.Sc.)	0	0	0	5	0	3	0	0	
3	University of Haripur (Entomology, Soil Science, PBG, Horticulture, FST, Agronomy)	6	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	
4	Bacha Khan University, Charsadda (PBG, Agronomy, Entomology)	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	
5	University of Agriculture Faisalabad (Agribusiness & Marketing, Seed Science & Technology)	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	
6	Govt. College University for Women Faisalabad (Food Science and Technology)	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
7	University of Swabi (FST, Agronomy, Entomology, Horticulture)	4	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	
8	Jinnah University for Women, Karachi (Food Science and Technology)	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
9	BZU Sub-Campus, Layyah (Horticulture, Entomology, )	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	
10	Govt. College University Faisalabad, Layyah-Campus (Agronomy, Food & Nutrition)	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
11	UAF Sub-Campus Burewala (Soil Science, Agronomy, Plant Pathology, Horticulture)	4	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	
12	Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan (Agronomy, Entomology, Soil Science, PBG)	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	
13	IAGS, University of the Punjab, Lahore (Food Science)	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	
14	The University of Poonch, Rawalakot (Food Science, Agronomy, Horticulture, Entomology)	8 (B.Sc. & M.Sc.)	0	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	
15	UCA, Islamia University, Bahawalpur (Agronomy, Entomology, FST, PBG)	8 (B.Sc. & M.Sc.)	0	0	2	4	2	0	0	0	
16	Ghazi University, D. G. Khan (Horticulture, Soil & Environmental Science, Agronomy, PBG, Entomology)	10 (B.Sc. & M.Sc.)	0	0	0	2	6	2	0	0	
<b>Total (2015-16)</b>		<b>68</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Percent (%)</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	
										<b>75%</b>	
										<b>94.1%</b>	

W <sub>1</sub> :	95-100%	X <sub>1</sub> :	75-79%	Y <sub>1</sub> :	60-64%	Z <sub>1</sub> :	46-49%
W <sub>2</sub> :	88-94%	X <sub>2</sub> :	70-74%	Y <sub>2</sub> :	55-59%	Z <sub>2</sub> :	43-45%
W <sub>3</sub> :	80-87%	X <sub>3</sub> :	65-69%	Y <sub>3</sub> :	50-54%	Z <sub>3</sub> :	40-42%

**Activity-wise Budget Utilization for FY 2015-16 and Proposed Allocation for FY 2016-17**

S. No.	Activity	Budget Utilization 2015-16	Proposed Budget Allocation 2016-17
<b>A. Accreditation Related Activities</b>			
i)	On-Site External Evaluation and Accreditation visits to 16 Institutions (68 degree programs including three zero visits)	Rs. 1,606,833	Rs. 1,600,000* (58 degree programs including 5 zero visits)
ii)	Review Meetings with Institutions (3)	Rs. 90,095	Rs. 100,000 (3)
iii)	Awareness Seminars (4)	Rs. 44,712	Rs. 80,000 (4)
	Printing of Annual Report, 2015-16, NAEAC documents	Rs. 96,613	Rs. 160,000
v)	Publicity & Advertisement including Parents Alert & APQN Annual Membership Fee	Rs. 325,828	Rs. 390,000
vi)	Computer & Office Equipment, Furniture & Fixture, Audit Expenses, Stationery, telephone bills, etc.	Rs. 110,151	Rs. 200,000
vii)	Repair and maintenance work	Rs. 23,536	Rs. 70,000
<b>Sub-Total (A)</b>		<b>Rs. 2,297,768</b>	<b>Rs. 2,600,000</b>
<b>B. Staff Salaries</b>			
i)	Staff Salaries and Allowances	Rs. 3,090,528	Rs. 3,600,000
<b>Sub-Total (B)</b>		<b>Rs. 3,090,528</b>	<b>Rs. 3,600,000</b>
<b>Grand Total (A+B)</b>		<b>Rs. 5,388,296</b>	<b>Rs. 6,200,000</b>

**Receipts and Expenditures for FY 2016-17**

1. Opening balance as of July 01, 2016	=	Rs. 1,600,000
2. HEC Annual Grant	=	Rs. 4,000,000
3. Accreditation Fee	=	Rs. 600,000
<b>Total Receipts (2016-17)</b>	=	<b>Rs. 6,200,000</b>
4. Total Estimated Expenditure for FY 2016-17	=	Rs. 6,200,000

\*Some of the degree programs are based on the remote areas which need extra funding.



**List of Participants of 12<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting held on October 24, 2016**

1. **Dr. M.E. Tusneem**, Chairman - NAEAC
2. **Prof. Dr. Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi**, Vice Chairman, NAEAC/Dean FCFS, PMAS AAU Rawalpindi
3. **Prof. Dr. Muhammad Amjad Aulakh**, Dean Faculty of Agri., University of Agriculture, Faisalabad
4. **Prof. Dr. Saghir Ahmed Sheikh**, Dean Faculty of Crop Production, Sindh Agri. University, Tandojam
5. **Prof. Dr. Ghulam Jilani**, Dean, Lasbela University of Agriculture, Water & Marine Sciences, Lasbela, Uthal
6. **Prof. Dr. Saifullah**, Dean Faculty of Crop Protection, The University of Agri., Peshawar
7. **Dr. Nadeem Amjad**, Member Natural Resource Division, PARC, Islamabad
8. **Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq A. Rajwana**, Dean, FA&ES, Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan
9. **Dr. Naveed Akhtar**, Director General, Agriculture Research Institute, Tarnab, Peshawar
10. **Prof. Muhammad Aslam Niazi**, Principal, Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta
11. **Mr. Abid Hussain Qureshi**, Director, Agriculture Extension, Hyderabad
12. **Dr. Liaqat Ali Bhutto**, Cotton Botanist, Agriculture Research Institute, Tandojam
13. **Mr. Waseem Amjad Mahmood**, Secretary, Pak. Fruit Processors Association, Lahore
14. **Mr. Iskandar Mehmood Khan**, Director, Premier Sugar Mills Ltd, Islamabad

**Proxies:**

1. Dr. Abid Mahmood, Director General, Ayub Agriculture Research Institute, Faisalabad
2. Mr. Abdullah Gaddani Baloch, PRO, PCST, Islamabad

**Apologies:**

1. Prof. Dr. Riaz Hussain Qureshi, Ex-Advisor, HEC, Islamabad
2. Mr. Sheikh Muhammad Akmal, Director M/s Acro Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd, Lahore

**Absentees:**

1. Dr. Muhammad Javed Tareen, Director General, Agriculture Research Institute, Quetta
2. Mr. Ahmad Said, Chief Planning Officer, Department of Agriculture, KPK, Peshawar
3. Mr. Karim Aziz Malik, Chief Executive, M/s Barkat Rice Mills

**NAEAC Secretariat Staff:**

1. Mr. Naseer Alam Khan, Secretary – NAEAC
2. Mr. Raja Mehtab Yasin, Dy. Director, Admin & Finance
3. Mr. Abdullah, IT Coordinator