

UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB

NOTIFICATION

The Syndicate in its meeting held on 09.07.2026 under Item No. 9 has approved the recommendations of the Academic Council (through circulation) vide No. D/3032/Acad. dated 03.07.2026 regarding adoption of Policy on Dual, Double and Joint Degree Programmes, 2026 issued by the Higher Education Commission, Islamabad vide No. 15-54/Coord/2019/Acad./HEC/320, dated May 14, 2026.

Copy of the said HEC Policy on Dual, Double and Joint Degree Programmes is enclosed.

Admin. Block,
Quaid-i-Azam Campus,
Lahore.

Sd/-
Dr. Ahmad Islam
Registrar

No. D/112/G.S.

Dated: 17/09/2026.

Copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:-

1. Pro-Vice Chancellor/Chairman, Admission/Implementation Committee
2. Deans of Faculties
3. Heads of University Teaching Departments
4. Chairperson, DPCC
5. Treasurer
6. Resident Auditor
7. Controller of Examinations
8. Director, IT Centre
9. Additional Registrar (Affiliation)
10. Deputy Registrar (General)
11. Secretary to the Vice-Chancellor
12. Private Secretary to Pro-Vice Chancellor
13. Private Secretary to the Registrar
14. Assistant Registrar (Academic Council Section)
15. Assistant Registrar (Syndicate Section)



Dr. Ahmad Islam
Registrar

POLICY ON DUAL, DOUBLE AND JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMMES



HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

2026

Foreword

The Higher Education Commission, in pursuance of its mandate to regulate and facilitate higher education in Pakistan, continuously strives to strengthen academic quality, relevance and global compatibility of the country's higher education system. In recent years, collaborative academic arrangements such as Dual, Double and Joint Degree Programmes have gained increasing importance internationally as mechanisms for promoting academic cooperation, student mobility and shared learning opportunities.

Recognizing these emerging trends, HEC has formulated the “**Policy on Dual, Double and Joint Degree Programmes**” to provide a clear and structured framework for collaboration between Pakistani Higher Education Institutions and recognized local and foreign partner institutions. The policy outlines the key principles, regulatory requirements and operational mechanisms necessary for the offering of collaborative degree programmes while ensuring quality assurance, institutional accountability and transparency.

The policy has been developed through extensive consultations with universities and relevant stakeholders, while also taking into consideration international best practices and evolving academic needs. It aims to facilitate academic collaboration, strengthen research linkages, improve international engagement and enhance the employability and global recognition of graduates.

It is hoped that this framework will enable Higher Education Institutions to establish innovative, sustainable and mutually beneficial partnerships that contribute positively towards the development and internationalization of higher education in Pakistan.



Meritorious Prof. Dr. Zia Ul Haq, S.I.
Executive Director, HEC



Engr. Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar, S.I.
Chairman, HEC

Preamble

Collaborative degree programmes have emerged globally as an important avenue of higher education internationalization, enabling institutions to strengthen academic cooperation through the sharing of expertise, resources, research, and educational opportunities. Recognizing the growing significance of such collaborations at the tertiary education level, the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan seeks to facilitate structured academic partnerships between Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Pakistan and their national and international counterparts, while ensuring academic quality, institutional accountability, and regulatory compliance.

Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred under Clauses 10(1)(k) and 10(1)(t) of the Higher Education Commission Ordinance, 2002 (LIII of 2002), HEC has devised the “Policy on Dual, Double, and Joint Degree Programmes.” This Policy shall apply to public and private HEIs intending to collaborate with local and/or foreign HEIs for the award of dual, double, and joint degree qualifications at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The Policy aims to provide a regulatory and operational framework for academic collaborations established through formal instruments or agreements for the purposes of:

- i. Dual Degree Programme(s)
- ii. Double Degree Programme(s)
- iii. Joint Degree Programme(s)

Definitions

“Collaborative Agreement” means an arrangement under which tuition, training, or academic facilitation is provided by two or more partnering institutions through a jointly designed Scheme of Studies duly approved by the statutory bodies of each collaborating institution. The assessment process shall be carried out by the partnering institutions in line with applicable national standards, leading to the award of one or more degree(s).

“Commission” means the Higher Education Commission (HEC) established under Ordinance LIII of 2002.

“Consecutive Study” means a mode of study in which a student pursues an academic programme on a continuous, uninterrupted basis, progressing from one term/semester or academic level to the next without any approved break, until completion of the qualification.

“Diploma Supplement” means a document attached to the degree certificate or transcript that describes the nature, level, context, content, and status of the studies that were pursued and successfully completed, including the collaborative nature of the programme, the partnering institutions involved, and the credit distribution across institutions.

“Double Degree” means two degrees in the same discipline awarded by partnering institutions.

“Dual Degree” means two degrees in distinct or related fields awarded either by a single institution or by partnering institutions.

“Foreign Higher Education Institution” means an HEI established outside Pakistan that is listed in the World Higher Education Database (WHED) maintained by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), or is recognized in its country of origin, and offers recognized undergraduate and/or graduate academic and research degree programmes.

“HEC Credit Unit” means the standard unit of academic credit as defined by HEC, where one credit hour represents a minimum of 16 contact hours of lecture or 48 hours of laboratory/practical work per semester.

“Intermittent Study” means a mode of study in which a student undertakes an academic programme with authorized breaks, gaps, or intervals between periods of enrolment, resulting in non-continuous progression toward completion of the qualification.

“Joint Degree” means a single degree in any discipline jointly awarded and signed by partnering institutions.

“Memorandum of Commitment (MoC)” means a written document/agreement between collaborating partners (local and/or foreign HEI(s)) containing the administrative, academic, financial, and legal parameters required to offer the specific degree programme(s).

“Pakistani Higher Education Institution” means an HEI duly established/incorporated and recognized by HEC and is empowered by virtue of its Charter/Act/Ordinance to offer academic and research degree programmes at the undergraduate or graduate levels.

“Partnering Institutions” mean two or more recognized HEIs formally collaborating to offer an integrated academic program.

“Professional Council” means a statutory or legally constituted body established under an act, ordinance, or other applicable law to regulate, supervise, and standardize education and professional practice within a specific discipline.

“Programme” means an educational programme leading to the award of one or more degrees at the undergraduate or graduate levels.

“Statutory Body” means a body established by or under a charter, act, or ordinance to regulate, determine, and maintain standards of teaching, examination, research, and educational programmes leading to the award of degrees in universities.

“Teach-Out Plan” means a written plan developed by the partnering institutions, approved by HEC, that provides for the equitable treatment of students if an institution, or an institutional location that provides all of a student’s education, ceases to operate, or if a collaborative programme is discontinued, before all enrolled students have completed their programme of study.

Types and Protocols of Degree Programmes

The principal categories of collaborative degree programmes covered under this Policy, along with their broad operational characteristics, are outlined below:

	Dual Degree	Double Degree	Joint Degree
Definition	An integrated scheme of study that, upon completion, leads to the award of two degrees in distinct or closely related fields either by one or more partnering institutions.	An integrated scheme of study that, upon completion, leads to the award of two degrees in the same discipline by partnering institutions.	An integrated scheme of study that, upon completion, leads to the award of a degree jointly awarded and signed by all partnering institutions.
No. of Degrees	Two distinct degrees	Two degrees in the same discipline	One degree
Mode of Degree Completion	Degrees may be awarded consecutively, i.e. one after another within an integrated or reduced overall duration, or intermittently, i.e. after a gap upon completion of the collaborative programme requirements.	Degrees may be awarded consecutively, i.e. one after another within an integrated or reduced overall duration, or intermittently, i.e. after a gap upon completion of the collaborative programme requirements.	A degree jointly awarded by the partnering institutions upon completion of the collaborative programme requirements.
Course Contents	The course contents of both degrees shall be covered completely, except for exemption from repeating common courses.	A joint curriculum shall be designed by the partnering institutions, resulting in award of two degrees by each partnering institution in the same discipline.	A joint curriculum shall be designed by the partnering institutions, resulting in award of a degree studied at more than one institution.
Credit Sharing/ Acceptance	Common courses shall be mutually acceptable in both degree programmes by partnering institutions.	The courses taught by one of the partnering institutions shall be acceptable by the other partnering institution for the award of degrees.	The courses taught by any of the partnering institutions shall be acceptable by the other partnering institution(s) for the award of a degree.

Memorandum of Commitment (MoC) between Partnering Institutions

Academic collaboration under this Policy shall be governed through a mutually agreed Memorandum of Commitment (MoC) between partnering institutions, covering all modalities relating to the collaborative arrangement (e.g., examination processes, credit recognition, and issuance of transcripts), in addition to the requirements laid down herein below. This MoC shall form an integral part of the application submitted to HEC for issuance of NOC to launch any collaborative degree programme under this Policy. The NOC shall be issued subject to fulfilment of all requirements prescribed in Annexure-I.

Operational and Regulatory Framework for Collaborative Degree Programmes

1. Credit Recognition and Transfer

- i. Course mapping of the degree programme shall be jointly undertaken by the partnering institutions to determine the modalities for delivery of coursework.
- ii. Credits earned at one institution shall be recognized and counted towards the degree requirements at the partner institution(s).
- iii. Credit transfer and acceptance shall be duly approved by the relevant statutory bodies of the respective institutions.

- iv. Students shall be registered for the award of degrees at the partnering institutions, and each institution shall comply with its own university-specific and country-specific rules and regulations.
- v. The minimum credit hours under a dual, double, or joint degree shall be determined after course mapping of the degree programmes of the partnering institutions.
 - a. For the award of degrees, fulfilment of the prescribed credit hours shall be mandatory as agreed through the MoC; however, exemptions may be granted for common or overlapping coursework.
 - b. Collaboration or partnership may be established between departments, between departments of different universities, or between local and foreign university/universities.
 - c. All collaborative programmes shall use the HEC-approved Credit Equivalency Matrix (Annexure-II) to map credits between partnering institutions. The matrix shall demonstrate equivalence based on learning outcomes, contact hours, and assessment methods.

2. Collaborative Arrangements for Dual/Double/Joint Degree Programmes

- i. Partnering institutions shall be obligated to comply with the rules, regulations, and policies of the respective country/countries.
- ii. The collaboration shall be established only between recognized or chartered institutions.
- iii. All collaborative MoCs shall have a minimum validity period of five years and may be renewed subject to satisfactory performance as reviewed by HEC. Renewal shall be contingent upon meeting the KPI benchmarks prescribed under the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (Annexure-III) of this Policy.
- iv. Before commencing student enrolment, institutions shall publish clear, accurate information about the collaborative programme(s) on their websites, including, *inter alia*, the nature of the collaborative arrangement; the partnering institution(s); the degree(s) to be awarded; the credit distribution; the mobility requirements; the complete fee structure for the full duration of study; and the language(s) of instruction.
- v. Partnering institutions shall mutually agree and specify in the MoC the protocols relating to transcripts, degree awarding, and course offerings.

3. Institutional Oversight and Corrective Measures

Programmes approved under this Policy shall be subject to periodic quality assurance monitoring and audits by HEC to ensure continued compliance with applicable academic, regulatory, and quality assurance standards. During the initial three years of programme implementation, HEC's relevant divisions may conduct annual quality assurance reviews focusing on, *inter alia*, student outcomes, curriculum delivery, institutional support mechanisms, and adherence to approved programme requirements. Such reviews and audits shall be conducted in accordance with predefined quality assurance parameters, benchmarks, and review mechanisms prescribed by HEC, including those set out under the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (Annexure-III).

Where concerns relating to adherence to the prescribed requirements are identified, HEC may adopt appropriate facilitative and regulatory measures, including enhanced monitoring or, where necessary, review of collaborative arrangements in accordance with applicable regulations. Such matters shall, as far as possible, be addressed through a graduated approach, including: (a) issuance of advisory observations along with a corrective action plan for minor deficiencies; (b) placement under enhanced monitoring with periodic reporting requirements for matters requiring continued improvement; (c) temporary restriction on new enrolments pending implementation of remedial measures in cases of significant concern; and (d) discontinuation of the collaborative arrangement in cases involving persistent or serious irregularities.

Institutions shall be afforded reasonable notice and an opportunity to present their position before any adverse measure is finalized. Any action beyond issuance of advisory observations shall be considered by a committee comprising at least three members designated by the Executive Director, HEC.

4. Entry and Exit Requirements

Requirements for entering and exiting Dual/Double/Joint Degree Programmes shall be mutually established and finalized by the partnering institutions. In addition, the following safeguards shall also be established for the students:

- i. **Teach-Out Plan:** Before NOC issuance, partnering institutions shall submit a Teach-Out Plan to HEC specifying the arrangements for enrolled students in the event that either institution withdraws from the partnership or the programme is discontinued. The plan shall guarantee that all enrolled students can complete their degree programme or, where completion is not feasible, receive a full refund of fees paid and transfer of credits to an equivalent programme.
- ii. **Minimum Notice Period:** Either of the partnering institution(s) intending to withdraw from the collaborative arrangement shall provide at least twelve months' written notice to the other institution(s) and to HEC. No new student enrolments shall be undertaken following issuance of such notice.
- iii. **Individual Exit Pathway:** Students who are unable to complete the collaborative programme requirements shall be provided with a defined exit pathway, which may include the award of a single degree from the home institution, transfer of credits to another programme, or a certificate of completed coursework.

5. Financial Arrangements

Clear financial arrangements, fee structures, and quality assurance mechanisms shall be defined by partnering institutions.

In addition, the following financial transparency requirements shall apply:

- i. The complete fee structure for the entire duration of the programme, including, *inter alia*, tuition fees, mobility-related costs, examination fees, shall be disclosed to prospective students before enrolment and such structure shall also stand incorporated into the MoC.

- ii. Any increase in fee shall be capped at a rate agreed in the MoC and disclosed to students at the time of admission. Unilateral fee increases by either institution shall not be permissible during the enrolled cohort's programme duration.
- iii. The MoC shall specify refund policies in the event of programme discontinuation or student withdrawal, consistent with the Teach-Out Plan provisions under Section 4.
- iv. Partnering institutions shall submit, as part of their NOC application, a financial sustainability assessment, demonstrating that the programme is financially viable for its intended duration.

6. Curriculum and Programme Standards

Curriculum standards, programme objectives, and grading criteria shall be mutually established by the partnering institutions, ensuring compliance with the academic standards of the respective countries. Institutions shall also demonstrate how language competency is assured and supported throughout the programme.

Partnering institutions shall also comply with the procedural and academic coordination requirements set out in Annexure-II.

7. Regulations and Governance

Programmes shall be governed by mutually agreed regulations, policies, and guidelines of the partnering institutions. The governance structure for each collaborative programme shall include provision for student representation in programme-level decision-making, consistent with international best practices. Additionally, where student records are shared across jurisdictions, the partnering institutions shall comply with the applicable data protection laws of the respective countries, and the MoC shall specify the data protection obligations of each party.

8. Thesis Supervision

Thesis research undertaken under degree programmes at the graduate level (MS/MPhil/PhD) shall be supervised jointly by the partnering institutions. The MoC shall include explicit provisions for intellectual property rights arising from research conducted under joint supervision, addressing ownership of research data and findings, patent and commercialisation rights, publication rights and authorship conventions, and any revenue-sharing arrangements. In the absence of specific provisions in the MoC, intellectual property rights shall be governed by the policies of the student's home institution.

9. Grievance Redressal Forum

Student grievances shall be addressed by the respective institutions in accordance with their prevailing policies. In case of non-settlement of the dispute/grievance, the matter may be referred to the HEC for appropriate resolution.

Students shall be informed at the time of admission of the grievance redressal procedures available to them at each partnering institution and at HEC. The MoC shall designate a joint grievance redressal officer at each institution responsible for coordinating cross-institutional complaints. Grievances shall be resolved within sixty calendar days of filing, failing which the student may escalate the matter directly to HEC.

10. Diploma Supplement and Transcript Requirements

All degrees awarded under collaborative programmes shall be accompanied by a Diploma Supplement that clearly states, *inter alia*:

- i. the names and jurisdictions of all partnering institutions;
- ii. the nature of the collaborative arrangement (dual, double, or joint);
- iii. the credits completed at each institution;
- iv. the mobility periods undertaken; and
- v. the grading scales used at each institution with equivalency information.

The Diploma Supplement Template set out in Annexure-IV shall be used across all collaborative programmes. Transcripts shall use a consistent format clearly distinguishing courses completed at each of the partnering institutions.

11. Maximum Programme Duration

The maximum duration for completion of a collaborative degree programme shall not exceed twice the standard duration of the programme. Extensions beyond this limit may be granted in exceptional circumstances with the joint approval of the partnering institutions and intimation to HEC.

12. Equivalence by HEC

Equivalence for foreign-awarded degrees shall be required from HEC to ensure that the degree is officially recognized within Pakistan. This process involves HEC's verification that the foreign degree meets the minimum academic standards, credit requirements, and programme outcomes comparable to the corresponding degree offered by recognized Pakistani institutions.

13. Accessibility and Inclusion

Partnering institutions shall ensure that collaborative programmes are accessible to students with disabilities and shall make reasonable accommodations to facilitate their participation, including in mobility components of the programme. Institutions are also encouraged to establish scholarships or financial support mechanisms to enhance access for students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Legal Requirements

- i. Only foreign HEIs that are listed in the World Higher Education Database maintained by UNESCO, or are otherwise duly chartered and recognised in their respective jurisdictions, shall be eligible to collaborate with HEC-recognized Pakistani HEIs for a specified degree programme, provided that the relevant programme of the foreign institution is ranked among the top 1000 in QS or Times Higher Education (THE) subject/discipline rankings. However, foreign HEIs of established repute – particularly those specializing in professional or emerging disciplines – that do not participate in such global rankings may also be considered for collaboration on a case-to-case basis, provided they demonstrate credible international standing through alternative indicators such as membership in recognized international academic or professional

accords, participation in global academic consortia, accreditation by reputable international bodies, significant research output, or a well-established reputation in specialised fields, subject to evaluation and endorsement by a Committee of Experts headed by the Executive Director, HEC.

- ii. For indigenous collaborative programmes (between two Pakistani HEIs), both institutions must hold valid HEC recognition and, where applicable, accreditation from the relevant Professional Council. The programme to be offered collaboratively must either be an existing approved programme at each institution or, in the case of a new programme, be approved by HEC and the relevant statutory/professional body prior to issuance of the NOC.
- iii. Pakistani HEIs shall need approval from their statutory bodies for academic collaborations with foreign HEIs.
- iv. The academic infrastructure of Pakistani institutions must comply with the requirements of the relevant Professional Council, if applicable.
- v. Institutions shall comply with the provisions of this Policy and any additional conditions that may be prescribed by HEC from time to time; provided that such additional conditions shall not apply retrospectively.

Interpretation

Any query relating to the interpretation of the provisions of this Policy shall be determined by HEC, and any decision so rendered shall be final and binding upon all concerned.

ANNEXURE-I**Prescribed Terms of Reference (ToRs) for Instrument of Collaborative Arrangement**

- i. Any collaborative arrangement entered into by partnering institutions shall be consistent with the respective charters, statutes, and applicable regulatory frameworks governing the institutions.
- ii. Collaborative arrangements shall comply with the laws of Pakistan and shall include mutually agreed mechanisms for dispute resolution and enforcement.
- iii. Rules and procedures relating to student admissions, curriculum, examinations, assessments, academic progression, and award of qualification(s) shall be clearly defined and approved by the relevant statutory bodies of the partnering institutions.
- iv. partnering institutions shall establish appropriate arrangements relating to student obligations, attendance requirements, duration of study, academic supervision, graduation requirements, intellectual property rights, and student support mechanisms and these shall be duly laid out in the MoC entered into by partnering institutions.
- v. Professional qualifications offered under collaborative arrangements shall, where applicable, be accredited or recognized by the relevant professional or regulatory bodies.
- vi. The MoC shall be formally executed in the name of, and under the signatures of, the respective heads of the partnering institutions, and each institution shall designate a focal person for effective implementation, coordination, and monitoring of the arrangement.
- vii. The collaborative arrangement shall comprehensively address, *inter alia*, the following matters:
 - a. Name and description of the degree programme(s)
 - b. Academic structure of the programme, including courses/modules, study progression, and specializations, where applicable
 - c. Intended learning outcomes and their academic, professional, or societal relevance
 - d. Language(s) of instruction and teaching methodologies/pedagogical approaches
 - e. Admission requirements
 - f. Assessment procedures and grading scales applicable at the partnering institutions
 - g. Place(s) of study for different courses/components of the programme
 - h. Student and faculty mobility arrangements
 - i. Residency requirements, where applicable
 - j. Financial arrangements, including, *inter alia*, fee structures, funding schedules, and scholarship provisions

- k. Exit pathways and arrangements for students unable to complete programme requirements
 - l. Quality assurance and quality enhancement mechanisms, including arrangements through the Quality Enhancement Cells (QECs) or equivalent bodies of the partnering institutions
 - m. Validity period of the programme – which shall ordinarily cover at least one complete programme cycle, including admissions, delivery, and completion requirements
 - n. Procedures for dispute resolution, amendment, suspension, or termination of the collaborative arrangement in accordance with the applicable laws of the relevant jurisdiction
 - o. Teach-Out Plan specifying arrangements for enrolled students in the event of programme discontinuation or dissolution of the collaborative arrangement
 - p. Arrangements for intellectual property rights relating to research data, patents, publications, and commercialization activities
 - q. Data protection obligations and protocols relating to the sharing and management of student records and academic information
 - r. Diploma Supplement, in the prescribed format, specifying the information to be included with each awarded degree and the associated academic documentation to be issued with the qualification(s)
 - s. Language proficiency requirements and support mechanisms for students participating in mobility arrangements
 - t. Student representation and participation mechanisms in programme governance and feedback processes
- viii. The agreement should contain a clear clause that the institution shall be required to strictly comply with and respect the constitutional provisions.
- ix. Each partnering institution shall designate focal person for effective implementation and monitoring of collaborative arrangements.

ANNEXURE-II**Procedural Framework for Key Operational Elements****1. Credit Equivalency Validation**

Partnering institutions shall utilize a standardized HEC-approved Credit Equivalency Matrix for mapping courses on the basis of learning outcomes, contact hours, assessment methods, and corresponding credit weightage. The completed matrix shall be submitted along with the Memorandum of Commitment (MoC) at the time of seeking NOC from HEC. An indicative template for the HEC-approved Credit Equivalency Matrix is provided below:

Course Title	Course Code	Learning Outcomes	Contact Hours	Assessment Methods	Credit Hours	Equivalent HEC Credit

2. Harmonization of Academic Calendars

The MoC shall include a joint academic calendar alignment plan specifying overlapping semesters, holiday adjustments, examination schedules, and contingency arrangements for any academic calendar mismatches. HEC shall review such arrangements during the NOC process to minimize academic disruptions and ensure smooth programme delivery.

3. Assessment Parity

Partnering institutions shall ensure equivalence and consistency in assessment practices through harmonized grading scales, aligned assessment rubrics, and joint moderation mechanisms (e.g., 20% of exams co-evaluated by both institutions). Where appropriate, a portion of assessments may be jointly reviewed or co-evaluated by the partnering institutions to maintain academic integrity, fairness, and comparability of standards. Provisions shall also be included for external academic review in cases where significant discrepancies arise, with such arrangements being subject to review and approval by HEC, where applicable.

For this purpose, partnering institutions shall develop and implement appropriate mechanisms and guidelines relating to rubric harmonization and joint moderation of assessments, including the following:

Rubric Harmonization: Institutions shall develop and implement standardized assessment rubrics to promote transparency, consistency, and comparability in evaluation practices, including alignment of grading and CGPA frameworks where applicable.

Joint Moderation of Assessments: Partnering institutions shall undertake joint moderation of assessments to maintain assessment quality, fairness, and consistency across collaborative programmes.

ANNEXURE-III**Monitoring and Evaluation Framework****Periodic Review and Performance Indicators**

Programmes shall be subject to periodic review by HEC to assess academic quality, institutional effectiveness, and outcomes against agreed performance indicators. These indicators shall include, inter alia, enrolment trends, graduation rates, student satisfaction, research collaboration and output, and graduate employability. Participating institutions shall submit annual reports containing relevant data and progress updates to facilitate review, benchmarking, and continuous improvement, with HEC publishing aggregated data, where appropriate, for transparency and benchmarking purposes. HEC shall also conduct comprehensive reviews periodically, ordinarily every three years, to evaluate overall programme performance against the prescribed performance indicators, academic quality (including the quality of both the curricula and the faculty), governance arrangements, and supporting infrastructure.

The indicative performance indicators, benchmarks, reporting frequency, and data sources for such reviews are outlined below:

Performance Indicator	Description	Target / Benchmark	Data Source	Reporting Frequency	Remarks
Enrolment Rates	Percentage of admission capacity filled annually	≥ 80% of capacity	Institutional Admission Data	Annually	Monitor growth and access
Graduation Rates	Percentage of students graduating within programme duration	> 70%	Institutional Records	Annually	Evaluate programme efficacy
Student Satisfaction Scores	Satisfaction level from student surveys	> 80% satisfaction score	Student Surveys	Annually	Measure student engagement and programme quality
Research Output	Number of joint publications, conference presentations, etc.	Increase annually; targets set per program	Research Office / Institutional Reports	Annually	Encourage research collaboration
Employability Metrics	Percentage of graduates employed within 6-12 months post-graduation	> 75%	Alumni Surveys	Annually	Assess programme relevance to labour market

Institutional Review and Corrective Measures

Where concerns are identified during monitoring or review processes, HEC may advise participating institutions to undertake appropriate corrective or improvement measures within a reasonable timeframe. Such matters shall be addressed through a graduated approach, including advisory observations, enhanced reporting or monitoring arrangements, temporary restrictions relating to new admissions where necessary, or other measures considered appropriate under the applicable regulatory framework. Persistent or serious concerns (including sustained underperformance against prescribed performance indicators across successive review cycles, evidence of fraudulent practices, or significant concerns relating to student welfare) may result in reconsideration of the continuation of the collaborative arrangement in accordance with HEC policies and procedures.

ANNEXURE-IV

Diploma Supplement
(for Dual, Double and Joint Degree Programmes)

[NAME OF THE UNIVERSITY/INSTITUTION]

[NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT/FACULTY/SCHOOL]

[ADDRESS] [CITY, COUNTRY]

1. Information Identifying the Holder of the Qualification (i.e. Student Information):

1.1. Full Name: [FULL NAME]

1.2. Date of Birth: [DD/MM/YYYY]

1.3. Student Identification Number: [NUMBER]

1.4. National ID / Passport Number: [NUMBER]

2. Information Identifying the Qualification

2.1. Name of Qualification and Title(s) Conferred: [FULL OFFICIAL DEGREE TITLE(S)
– CLEARLY SPECIFYING WHETHER DUAL, DOUBLE OR JOINT DEGREE]

2.2. Main Field(s) of Study: [DISCIPLINE / ACADEMIC FIELD]

2.3. Name and Status of Awarding Institution(s):

Primary Institution: [NAME, COUNTRY, LEGAL STATUS]

Partner Institution(s): [NAME(S), COUNTRY(S), LEGAL STATUS]

**2.4. Name and Status of Institution(s) Administering Studies (If different from
awarding institution(s)):** [NAME(S), COUNTRY(S), LEGAL STATUS]

2.5. Language(s) of Instruction and Examination: [LANGUAGE(S)]

3. Information on the Level and Duration of the Qualification

**3.1. Level of Qualification – Aligned with National Qualifications Framework of the
respective country(s):** [UNDERGRADUATE / GRADUATE]

3.2. Official Duration of Program: [START DATE (DD/MM/YYYY) – END DATE
(DD/MM/YYYY)]

3.3. Access Requirements: [ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS AND ADMISSION CRITERIA]

4. Information on the Contents and Results

4.1. Mode of Study: [FULL-TIME / PART-TIME]

4.2. Programme Requirements: [e.g., SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF PRESCRIBED
COURSEWORK, RESEARCH COMPONENTS, AND ASSESSMENTS AS
APPROVED BY THE COMPETENT ACADEMIC AUTHORITIES OF THE
PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION(S)]

4.3. Programme Details:

Total Credits / Units: [NUMBER OF TOTAL CREDITS / UNITS EXPRESSED IN HEC-APPROVED CREDIT EQUIVALENCY MATRIX OR EQUIVALENT CREDIT SYSTEM]

Curriculum Structure: [SUMMARY OR REFERENCE TO OFFICIAL SYLLABUS]

4.4. Grading Scheme and, if available, Grade Distribution Guidance:
[INSTITUTIONAL GRADING SYSTEM EXPLANATION]

4.5. Overall Classification of the Qualification: [e.g., DISTINCTION, MERIT, GPA, DIVISION]

5. Information on the Function of the Qualification

5.1. Access to Further Study: [INDICATE WHETHER THIS QUALIFICATION PROVIDES ACCESS TO FURTHER ACADEMIC STUDIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS]

5.2. Professional Status: [INDICATE IF THE QUALIFICATION GRANTS PROFESSIONAL RIGHTS OR ELIGIBILITY, WHERE APPLICABLE]

6. Additional Information

6.1. Additional Information: This qualification was awarded under a formally approved Dual / Double / Joint Degree arrangement governed by institutional agreements and applicable regulatory frameworks.

6.2. Collaboration Framework: The programme was delivered in academic cooperation between [NAME OF PRIMARY INSTITUTION] and [NAME OF PARTNERING INSTITUTION(S)]. Such cooperation complies with internal quality assurance mechanisms and, where applicable, external accreditation standards.

6.3. Quality Assurance: The programme is subject to quality assurance and accreditation processes in accordance with national regulatory bodies and internationally accepted standards.

7. Certification of the Supplement

7.1. This Diploma Supplement is issued by the competent authority of the institution and is valid for academic and professional recognition purposes internationally.

7.2. Date of Issue: [DD/MM/YYYY]

7.3. Authorized Signatory:

[NAME]

[DESIGNATION]

[INSTITUTION]

[OFFICIAL SEAL / STAMP / LOGO]

8. Information on the National Higher Education System

A description of the national higher education system is attached or referenced to provide context for the qualification.

9. Legal and Recognition Statement

This Diploma Supplement does not replace the original degree certificate, does not by itself confer automatic recognition or guarantee automatic equivalence in another jurisdiction, and is intended only to facilitate assessment by relevant academic, professional, or other competent authorities where required.