

## **On approval of the Concept of development of the higher education system of Uzbekistan until 2030**

### **The Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

In order to determine the priority areas of systemic reform of higher education in the Republic of Uzbekistan, to raise to a qualitatively new level the process of preparing independently thinking highly qualified personnel with modern knowledge and high spiritual and moral qualities, to modernize higher education, develop the social sphere and economic sectors based on advanced educational technologies:

1. Approve:

- a) The Concept of development of the higher education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030 (hereinafter referred to as the Concept) in accordance with Appendix No. 1, providing as follows:
- development of public-private partnerships in the field of higher education, raising the level of higher education access by more than 50 percent based on the organization of activity of state and non-state higher educational institutions in the country regions, creation of a healthy competitive environment;
  - ensuring the development of the National University of Uzbekistan and Samarkand State University as the leaders of higher educational institutions of the country;
  - inclusion of at least 10 higher educational institutions of the country in the first 1,000 positions of the list of higher educational institutions in the ranking of internationally recognized organizations (Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings, Times Higher Education or Academic Ranking of World Universities), including the National University of Uzbekistan and Samarkand State University - in the first 500 positions of this list;
  - gradual transfer of the educational process of higher educational institutions to the credit-modular system;
  - the introduction of advanced standards of higher education, in particular, a gradual transition from education with curricula aimed at obtaining theoretical knowledge, to an educational system aimed at developing practical skills based on international experience;
  - raising the content of higher education to a qualitatively new level, establishing a system of training highly qualified personnel able to find their place in the labour market, to

make a worthy contribution to the stable development of the social sphere and economic sectors;

- ensuring the academic independence of higher educational institutions;
  - gradual implementation of the concept of "University 3.0", which provides the interconnection of activities for the commercialization of the results of education, science, innovation and scientific research in higher educational institutions;
  - creation of techno-parks, foresight centres, transfer technology centres, start-ups and accelerators in higher educational institutions through the wide attraction of foreign investments, expanding the scale of paid services and other extra budgetary funds, upbringing them to the level of scientific and practical institutions for forecasting and researching socio-economic development relevant industries, spheres and regions;
  - ensuring the publication of articles by professors, teachers, scientific applicants, doctoral students, undergraduate and graduate students of higher educational institutions in reputable international scientific journals with a high impact factor, increased citation rates of articles, and the phased inclusion of national scientific journals in the international database of scientific and technical data;
  - transformation of the higher education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan into a hub for the implementation of international educational programs in Central Asia;
  - increasing the investment attractiveness of higher education, attracting foreign educational and scientific technologies;
  - implementation of five initiatives into practice, including a set of measures aimed at creating additional conditions for the training and education of students;
  - improving the infrastructure and material and technical base of higher educational institutions, including through the wide attraction of preferential funds from international financial institutions, gradual transfer of higher educational institutions to a self-financing system
  - and ensuring their financial stability;
  - establishing mutually beneficial educational cooperation with manufacturing enterprises and research institutes;
  - increasing the level of higher education access for people from socially disadvantaged, including persons with disabilities, with improving infrastructure conditions for them;
- b) The Road Map for the implementation of the “Concept for the Development of the Higher Education System of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030” in 2019 in accordance with Appendix No. 2.

Determine that the gradual implementation of the Concept is carried out through the annually separately approved "Road Map" based on the target parameters and main directions for the corresponding period.

2. To agree with the proposal of the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education and the State Inspection for Quality Supervision of Education under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the establishment of the Republican Council of Higher Education in the form of a non-governmental non-profit organization (hereinafter - the Council) on the basis of the Public Council under the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education and the Council of Rectors of higher educational institutions of Uzbekistan.

3. Define the main tasks of the Council:

- development of proposals to improve the quality of higher education, improve curricula and introduce modern pedagogical technologies by conducting surveys among professors, teachers and students, studying the opinions of the public and employers, as well as analysing international best practices;
- an objective assessment of the effectiveness of the public administration system of higher education and the conditions created for professors and teachers, the effectiveness of their teaching and upbringing methods in the educational process;
- establishing effective public control over ensuring high quality education, close cooperation between the media and other civil society institutions in this direction;
- preparation of proposals for the development and implementation of a set of measures aimed at ensuring openness, transparency and impartiality, addressing the causes and conditions of corruption in the activities of higher educational institutions;
- development of proposals and recommendations on the meaningful and targeted organization of activities for the training, retraining and advanced training of personnel in the higher education system, as well as the development of scientific and innovative activities of teachers;
- preparation of proposals for analysing the effectiveness of international relations, evaluating the effectiveness of joint programs, developing new forms of cooperation, attracting foreign professors, teachers and compatriots abroad;
- development of recommendations for the application of advanced foreign experience in assessing the effectiveness and improvement of the activities of higher educational institutions on the basis of its study in the conditions of higher educational institutions.

4. To determine that:

- the results of the Council's activities, as well as the developed proposals and recommendations, are considered at meetings of the collegium of the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan together with members of the Council at least twice a year and appropriate decisions are made based on the results of the review;

- proposals and recommendations prepared by the Council are compulsory considered by the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan, ministries and departments that supervise higher educational institutions, as well as higher educational institutions that provide comprehensive assistance to the Council in fulfilling its tasks and provide him with the required information;
- The Council quarterly reports to the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Cabinet of Ministers about the developed proposals and recommendations based on the results of its activities, the development of the higher education system.
- The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan within two weeks should adopt a Governmental decision on the organization of the Council.

5. In order to accelerate the processes of studying and introducing into practice best foreign practices aimed at improving the educational process, introduce the procedure for official business trips of senior employees of state higher educational institutions (with the exception of higher educational institutions of the State Security Service, the National Guard, and the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Defence, State Customs Committee) to foreign countries following notification the respective ministry and department on subordination.

At the same time, leading employees of higher educational institutions, before the business trips to foreign countries, on the website of the higher educational institution should post the basic data, in particular, the name of the country, the purpose and visit plan, and afterwards the results of the business trip, a travel report and expenses to be submitted to the Council of a higher educational institution.

6. The Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

Until December 1, 2019, develop and submit for approval to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan an action plan for the inclusion of at least 10 higher educational institutions of the country in the first 1000 positions of the list of higher educational institutions in the ranking of internationally recognized organizations (Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings, Times Higher Education or Academic Ranking of World Universities) by 2030, including the National University of Uzbekistan and Samarkand State University - in the first 500 positions of this ranking, with introduced at the same time modern mechanisms of public support for these institutions of higher education;

annually until December 1, based on a thorough study of the results of the implementation of the approved Roadmap of the outgoing year, develop and submit for approval to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan a draft Roadmap for the implementation of the Concept next year;

conduct continuous monitoring of the implementation of the Roadmaps with the quarterly submission of its results in the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

7. The sources for funding of measures according to this Decree are as follows:

- State budget funds of the Republic of Uzbekistan,
- funds of the Development Fund of Higher Educational Institutions under the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- extra budgetary funds of higher educational institutions;
- charitable donations of individuals and legal entities;
- loans (credits), grants from international financial organizations, foreign countries and other donors;
- other sources not prohibited by law.

8. Assign personal responsibility to:

Vice Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan A. Abdukhakimov - for the efficient organization of activities and the interaction of the responsible ministries and departments for the implementation of the Concept and the Road Maps, timely elimination of deficiencies identified during the monitoring of the implementation of the Road Maps;

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, khokims of regions and the city of Tashkent, heads of responsible ministries, departments and other organizations - for the timely, high-quality and full-fledged implementation of the measures provided for in the Concept and "Road Maps";

Minister of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan I. Majidov - for achieving the target indicators of the Concept.

9. The Uzbekistan National News Agency and the National Television and Radio Company of Uzbekistan will organize appearances and thematic programs for wide communication of the objectives and tasks of this Decree in mass media.

10. The Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan together with participated ministries and agencies will submit proposals on amendment and changes in law arising from this Decree within two months.

11. The Advisor to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Abduvakhitov A. A. and Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan Mr. Abdukhakimov A. A. are responsible for supervision on implementation of this Decree.

*President of the Republic of Uzbekistan*

*Sh. MIRZIYOEV*

*October 8, 2019*