



GOBIERNO DE CHILE  
MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES



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Memorandum of Understanding on  
Cooperation in  
Human Capital Development

between

the Government of the Republic of Chile

and

Universities Australia



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## Chile – Universities Australia Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Human Capital Development

### GENERAL STATEMENTS

Universities Australia is the peak body representing the Australian university sector and is a company incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), it was formed out of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee (AVCC) in May 2007 and 38 of Australia's universities are members of the company.

The Government of the Republic of Chile as represented by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Alejandro Foxley is responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum through its various Ministries, offices and the Bicentennial Committee for Human Capital Development.

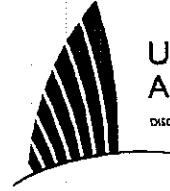
An Australia – Chile Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will be signed in July 2008 for mutual implementation from 1 January 2009. This FTA includes a chapter on cooperation that states that both countries agree to establish a framework for cooperative activities as a means to expand and enhance the benefits of the FTA.

Further, the Australian Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and the Chilean Ministry of Education are signatories to a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the fields of education and training. That MoU, signed in April 2004, outlines the intent of both parties to encourage and facilitate the development of contacts and cooperation between government agencies, educational institutions and other bodies for the conduct of cooperative activities.

In line with the FTA and MoU, the Government of the Republic of Chile and Universities Australia (hereinafter referred to as the Parties) wish to enhance cooperation between their two countries under the Chilean Bicentennial Fund in the interests of promoting higher education in both countries.



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Acknowledging friendships and excellent bilateral relations;

Recognising a long standing relationship between the Chilean Government and the Australian Government and the need to strengthen cooperation under the Chilean Bicentennial Fund for human capital development;

Considering this Memorandum of Understanding complements the existing Government-to-Government agreements on cooperation between both countries;

The Parties agree the following:

## Article I

### PURPOSE

- 1.1 Under this Memorandum the Parties agree to promote cooperation and work together to increase access for Chilean students to masters, doctoral, internship and postdoctoral studies in Australian universities. This Memorandum complements the Free Trade Agreement and Government-to-Government agreement on cooperation in the field of education between Chile and Australia.
- 1.2 Australian universities will be invited to negotiate individual agreements with the Chilean Government through its representatives in Australia. These individual agreements will be included in a Register of Agreements.
- 1.3 All member institutions of Universities Australia shall be eligible for consideration as participants in the program of cooperative activities.



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## Article II

### FIELDS OF COOPERATION

- 2.1 The Parties will cooperate in relation to scholarships and student exchanges in the following fields of study and training:
- PhD and Masters studies;
  - Graduate Internship and Fellowship programs;
  - Joint research programs;
  - Postdoctoral programs; and
  - English teacher training.
- 2.2 Priority fields of study for Chilean scholarship recipients and joint research programs could include among others: Mining, Agriculture and Food Industry, Aquaculture and Fishing, Tourism and Hospitality, Biotechnology, Information and Communication Technologies, Energy, Environmental Issues, Health, Education, Housing and Public Security.
- 2.3 Further fields of cooperation may be added by mutual written consent of the Parties.



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### Article III

#### CHILEAN BICENTENNIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

- 3.1 The Chilean Government has created the Bicentennial Fund to improve the quality of higher education. In response to the Chilean Government's desire to increase access and promote equal opportunities to Chilean students to advanced degree studies in Australia, the Parties have established a scholarship program, known as the "CHILE-UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA Cooperation in Human Capital Development Program", (hereinafter the "Program").
- 3.2 The Program will emphasise Chile's need to strengthen human capital development and improve the scope and quality of education, scientific & technological research and innovation, in areas associated with its socio-economic development.
- 3.3 It is an objective of the Program to grant up to 500 scholarships to Chilean students to study or undertake research in Australia per year.
- 3.4 Under the Bicentennial Fund, the Government of Chile will:
- (a) Determine annually, in collaboration with the Steering Committee, and after the scholar selection process, the number of scholarships to be awarded in Australia during the following academic year.
  - (b) Meet the costs of living expenses for scholarship holders while enrolled in Australia.
  - (c) Fund university tuition and fees for scholarship holders not granted funding from Australian universities.
  - (d) Provide the roundtrip air ticket (economy) from Chile to the corresponding destination in Australia, for each scholarship holder.
  - (e) Fund English language training courses in Chile for scholarship holders who do not meet the language entrance requirements established by the relevant Australian university.



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- (f) Provide up to six months allowances for living expenses for scholarship holders who require full time English language proficiency courses in Australia.
- (g) Cover administrative costs incurred for selection, data processing, supervision and monitoring of scholarship holders.
- (h) Cover additional expenses of the scholarship holders and/or their dependents that the Chilean Government might deem necessary.

3.5 Universities Australia through the Steering Committee and its member universities will:

- (a) Following the selection process under the Program, determine each year, in collaboration with the Bicentennial Committee for Human Capital Development, the number of university places in Australia available under the Program for the following academic year.
- (b) Subject to Australian laws and regulations, provide scholarship holders and their dependents with access to accurate information on student visas required for entry into, and to enable studying in, Australia.
- (c) Seek support from member universities to include in their individual annex agreements to fully cover or subsidise tuition and fees for students in the Program.
- (d) Seek support from member universities to include in their individual annex agreements supervision and monitoring of participants, including academic progress, visa compliance and emergencies.
- (e) Supply guidance as needed and available to participants to make their applications to Australian Universities.
- (f) Seek support from member universities to include in their individual annex agreements health insurance cover for participants and their dependents, in accordance with Australia requirements, laws and regulations.
- (g) Seek support from member universities to include in their individual annex agreements cover for a maximum of six months' English language proficiency courses in Australia for scholarship recipients who may need training to improve their proficiency prior to beginning their academic programs.



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#### Article IV

#### IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The Parties will implement this Memorandum of Understanding via a Steering Committee that will convene periodically in order to evaluate and serve as an advisory body with regard to the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding. Membership of the Steering Committee will be determined by the Parties but should at a minimum include: one representative of the Ministers of Education of Chile; one representative of Universities Australia, the Executive Officer of the Chilean Bicentennial Committee for Human Capital Development; representatives of the Chilean Scholarship Program Agencies; a representative of the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and representatives of Australian universities.
- 4.2 Meetings of the Steering Committee shall be held in Australia or Chile as agreed between the Parties.
- 4.3 Universities Australia through the Steering Committee shall:
- (a) Identify appropriate study and research programs in accordance with Chilean and Australian requirements;
  - (b) Support information dissemination activities related to the Program including recruitment; and
  - (c) Provide information as required and as available for scholarship holder placement, enrolment and associated procedures, subject to privacy obligations under Australian law.



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#### Notice

5.5 A notice must be:

- (a) in writing, signed by a person duly authorised by the sender; and
- (b) hand delivered or sent by prepaid post or facsimile to the recipient's address for notices specified in clause 5.6 below, as varied by any notice given by the recipient to the sender.

5.6 The notice details of the Parties are:

- (a) Government of the Republic of Chile  
His Excellency Jose Luis Balmaceda  
Ambassador of the Republic of Chile in Australia  
10 Culgoa Circuit  
O'Malley ACT 2606
- (b) Universities Australia  
Dr. Glenn Withers AO  
Chief Executive Officer  
GPO Box 1142  
Canberra ACT 2601