



**Title:** “Temporary recognition criteria for Qualified Experts”

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## 0. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

While national UAE criteria for the official recognition of UAE Qualified Experts are being prepared, temporary recognition criteria should be available, and a temporary List of available Qualified Experts in the UAE should exist.

This List will allow Licencees to comply with the requirements of the UAE Legislation, enabling them to rely on an existing pool of Qualified Experts in the UAE.

This document formulates a proposal for the temporary recognition of Qualified Experts in the UAE, and outlines a process that could be implemented in the short term.

**It is addressed to the Radiation Protection Committee, for its approval and endorsement.**

This document addresses the Suggestion S4 of the EduTA Mission Report ([http://www-ns.iaea.org/downloads/rw/training/eduta/eduta\\_2017-uae.pdf](http://www-ns.iaea.org/downloads/rw/training/eduta/eduta_2017-uae.pdf))

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## 2. Introduction

The Working Group on the “UAE National Strategy for Education and Training in Radiation Protection”, created in May 2017 as a subgroup of the “Radiation Protection Committee in the State” [1], is currently developing a draft National Strategy Document [2], to be submitted for endorsement to the Radiation Protection Committee and to the UAE Government.

The Strategy will contain provisions for the qualification and recognition of “Qualified Experts” [3], among other professions in the Radiation Protection field.

At the end of the process, the professional title of “Qualified Expert” is likely to be recognised at the UAE level, with the direct involvement of the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR), the National Qualification Authority (NQA), and major Stakeholders involved in Radiation Protection in the UAE.

However, the deployment of the full qualification/recognition process is likely to require some time, and temporary criteria for accepting Qualified Experts in the workplace are already needed, given the Regulation in force in the UAE ( [3], [4]). Ionizing radiation sources are indeed extensively used in the UAE in several applications, belonging to the industrial, medical, veterinary, educational, security, oil&gas and electronuclear sectors, among many others: the number of UAE Licensees (Legal subjects authorised to import, store and/or use radiation sources) has almost reached 3000, in 2017.

The criteria here indicated serve the purpose of creating, in a short term, the “QE Temporary List”: therefore, they are necessarily simplified and easily applicable.

Worth to be noted, the final UAE recognition criteria requirements may be different from the ones here indicated: the present criteria have validity only in the temporary preliminary recognition phase, and once the recognition scheme will be in place, they will be repealed. A Candidate who has been qualified to be inserted in the “QE Preliminary List” does not automatically qualify to apply to the final UAE Qualified Experts’ recognition scheme.

As part of the Recommendations and Suggestions contained in the EduTA Report to the UAE, Suggestion S4 reads: “a survey should be carried out to identify existing potential qualified experts that could form a pool of expertise for a transition period until the recognition scheme is operational”.

The Working Group has therefore defined temporary recognition criteria, as a consensual basis for FANR to create a (temporary) pool of Qualified Experts in the UAE.



### 3. Requirements

The following requirements are to be simultaneously satisfied, for a Candidate to request to be inserted in the “**(temporary) List of Qualified Experts in the UAE**”

*Any Candidate who is not formally fulfilling those criteria should provide evidence why their candidature should be taken into consideration.*

*Please note that being listed in the “**(temporary) List of Qualified Experts in the UAE**” does not automatically imply that the Applicant will be appointed in that position by her/his Employer.*

#### **A. Educational Requirements and Work experience requirements**

To possess a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree [5] in Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Biology (or other scientific subjects with a significant proportion of courses in radiation physics and radiation protection) or equivalent AND a minimum of eight years of work experience in the Radiation Protection field, of which at least three years’ direct work experience as “Qualified Expert” (or equivalent title).

OR

To possess a Master of Science (MSc) degree [5] in Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Biology (or other scientific subjects with a significant proportion of courses in radiation physics and radiation protection) or equivalent AND a minimum of five years of work experience in the Radiation Protection field, of which at least three years’ direct work experience as “Qualified Expert” (or equivalent title).

#### **B. Certification/ Qualification requirement**

To:

1. possess a certification as “Qualified Expert” (or equivalent title) from an official national recognition/qualification body OR
2. Have been formally appointed in Expert RP role by an Employer.

#### **C. Nationality/Residence requirement**

To be either UAE National or UAE Resident (possessing a valid UAE Visa).



#### 4. Temporary recognition process and creation of the “(Temporary) List of Qualified Experts in the UAE”

The following process will be implemented, for the creation and population of the List:

- 1) FANR will publish on its website a “call for application” for potential Candidates (UAE Nationals and UAE Residents) to be temporarily recognised as “Qualified Experts in the UAE”
- 2) Candidates will submit their applications to FANR, in electronic form, by including:
  - a) a motivation letter which will clarify the fulfilment of the criteria indicated in §3, or a justification why, even if are not formally fulfilling the criteria, they esteem that their candidature should be taken into consideration
  - b) an electronic copy of the passport, showing nationality and valid UAE Visa (if applicable)
  - c) a (translated, if needed) copy of the MSc/BSc degree in Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Biology OR in other scientific subjects (in which case, including a statement indicating which courses in radiation physics and radiation protection were successfully taken)
  - d) a CV showing that the Candidate possesses eight years of work experience in the Radiation Protection field (for BSc) OR five years of work experience in the Radiation Protection field (for MSc), of which at least three years’ as “Qualified Expert” (or equivalent title, in which case further explanation is needed)
  - e) experience letters by Employers showing direct experience in radiation Protection
  - f) a (translated, if needed) copy of the official national recognition/qualification body certification as “Qualified Expert” (or equivalent title, in which case further explanation is needed), if applicable
- 3) FANR will review the application within the “National Strategy for Education and Training in Radiation Protection” Working Group, and will contact the candidate if further information is needed
- 4) FANR will contact NQA or other UAE Entities if any further clarification on equivalency of titles is needed
- 5) The “National Strategy for Education and Training in Radiation Protection” Working Group will make a decision on the acceptance of Candidatures
- 6) If the Candidate is deemed suitable, FANR will notify her/him of acceptance, and publish her/his name in the public List on FANR’s website
- 7) If the Candidate is not deemed suitable, FANR will notify her/him of rejection and motivation
- 8) The list will be published on FANR’s website, and will include name, telephone number and email address of the “(temporary) List of Qualified Experts in the UAE”
- 9) The temporary list will remain valid until the availability of official UAE-wide qualification/recognition criteria. Candidates will need to re-apply, in order to be recognised under the full recognition scheme
- 10) A temporary Qualified Expert will be removed from the List if the residence requirement (point 3.C) is no more fulfilled



- 11) A temporary Qualified Expert will be removed from the List, at the request of the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation, if he/she fails to comply with professional duties and integrity requirements

## 5. REFERENCES

- [1] UAE , “Federal Law by Decree n. 6 of 2009, concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy,” 2009. [Online]. Available: [https://www.fanr.gov.ae/en/Lists/LawOfNuclear/Attachments/1/20101024\\_nuclear-law-scan-eng.pdf](https://www.fanr.gov.ae/en/Lists/LawOfNuclear/Attachments/1/20101024_nuclear-law-scan-eng.pdf).
- [2] IAEA, “Building Competence in Radiation Protection and the Safe Use of Radiation Sources,” 2001. [Online]. Available: <http://www-pub.iaea.org/books/IAEABooks/6148/Building-Competence-in-Radiation-Protection-and-the-Safe-Use-of-Radiation-Sources>. [Accessed 31 07 2017].
- [3] Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation, “FANR-REG-024: Basic Safety Standards for Facilities and Activities Involving Ionising Radiation Other Than in Nuclear Facilities,” [Online]. Available: <http://fanr.gov.ae/en/Documents/REG-24-English.pdf>. [Accessed 15 JUN 2017].
- [4] Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation, “FANR-REG-011,” [Online]. Available: <https://www.fanr.gov.ae/en/Documents/FANR-REG-11-ENGLISH.pdf>.
- [5] IRPA, “IRPA Guidance on certification of a Radiation Protection Expert,” 2016. [Online]. Available: [http://www.irpa.net/docs/IRPA%20Guidance%20on%20Certification%20of%20a%20RP%20Expert%20\(2016\).pdf](http://www.irpa.net/docs/IRPA%20Guidance%20on%20Certification%20of%20a%20RP%20Expert%20(2016).pdf). [Accessed 31 07 2017].