



ADVANCING BUILT ENVIRONMENT
COST PROFESSIONALS

AIQS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS POLICY

AUGUST 2018

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1. POLICY STATEMENT

This policy establishes the framework through which the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS or “the Institute”) establishes relationships and operates outside of Australia. This policy guides how the institute manages its position in the global construction cost management environment.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the International Relations Policy is to:

- a) foster relationships with kindred organisations in other countries
- b) enable the participation by the AIQS in regional and international quantity surveying/cost estimating organisations
- c) facilitate the adoption of the AIQS brand globally
- d) establish parameters for the establishment of AIQS operations in other countries, and
- e) enhancement of AIQS membership globally.

3. PROCEDURE

3.1 Relationships with Kindred Organisations in Other Countries

The AIQS has four levels of engagement with kindred organisations in other countries:

- a) Strategic Alliance (SA)
- b) Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)
- c) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- d) General Co-operation Agreement (GCA)

3.1.1 Strategic Alliance

A Strategic Alliance is typically only established with a kindred organisation in other country which has common socio-economic, legal, political, and construction frameworks as Australia. In addition, there is a commonality between the AIQS and the other organisation in relation to governance, membership, education, professional and technical standards, communication, and geo-political views.

The Strategic Alliance enables both the AIQS and the other organisation to develop common positions in respect of standards, education and governance systems, to the mutual benefit of both organisations.

At present the AIQS has a Strategic Alliance with the New Zealand Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NZIQS).

A copy of the Strategic Alliance template is appended to this policy.

3.1.2 Mutual Recognition Agreement

A Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) between the AIQS and an offshore kindred professional body may be entered into where the membership entry and advancement, professional standards, educational and disciplinary regimes of both organisations align.

In addition, MRA’s establish a premise whereby both organisations will work toward establishing frameworks for achieving common goals or systems in the areas of education, professional and technical standards, and membership, for the betterment of members of both institute’s.

By their very nature, Mutual Recognition Agreements are established to facilitate the transportability of quantity surveying / cost estimating professionals between countries, particularly those where the construction regime does not differ significantly from that in Australia.

A copy of the Mutual Recognition Agreement template is appended to this policy, which may be varied to meet the particular circumstance.

3.1.3 Memorandum of Understanding

A Memorandum of understanding between the AIQS and a kindred overseas professional body is typically established in instances where the educational standards, professional and technical standards, and governance and compliance regimes do not meet AIQS requirements.

Memorandum of Understanding include provisions enabling the AIQS to provide assistance and/or services to another professional body as a mechanism for the other professional body attain the educational and professional standards required for Mutual Recognition.

A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding template is appended to this policy, which may be varied to meet the particular circumstance.

3.1.4 General Co-operation Agreement

This policy sets out the requirements for use of bank accounts, including opening, closing authorisation, variations to terms and conditions and bank account transactions.

3.2 Participation in Regional and International Professional Bodies

Petty cash should be used to pay for small business expenses, where payments through accounts payable or credit card are not justified or appropriate.

3.2.1 International Cost Engineering Council

This policy provides guidelines for the issue and use of business credit cards.

3.2.2 Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors

All new suppliers to the business must be reviewed and accepted in accordance with this policy to ensure that the supplier service is aligned with the business objectives.

Guidelines must be followed for the purchase of goods, services, equipment and assets for the business.

3.3 Establishment of Operations in Other Countries

The Institute will typically only establish a legal presence in a country where there is no equivalent recognised professional body for the quantity surveying / cost estimating professions.

Where a recognised professional body does exist (e.g. HKIS, SISV, RISM etc), the Institute will establish a Mutual Recognition Agreement (in accordance with the aforementioned guidelines), through which AIQS membership services will be delivered.

3.4 Related Policies

- Membership Entry & Advancement Policy
- CPD Policy
- Code of Conduct