

## **Review of Mutual Recognition Agreement**

### **Questionnaire**

The AAE Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) is due for its five-yearly review in 2016. At the Standards, Freedoms and Professionalism Committee meeting in Barcelona in September, it was agreed that a questionnaire be sent to member associations as part of a review of the current MRA. The purpose of the questionnaire is to understand better the operation of the MRA, and ways in which it, and the accompanying guidance note (also called the "Heubeck letter"), should be improved by alteration.

The relevant section of the MRA states:

"After five years from 1 January 2011 each association shall prepare a report on the implementation of this Agreement, including any suggestions for alterations thereto. Each report shall be made available to other associations through the Actuarial Association of Europe (AAE), and a consolidated report shall be drawn up by AAE, who may propose appropriate amendments to the associations."

The SFPC agreed that, as at the previous review some 6 years earlier, a questionnaire response should act as the relevant report. Once completed responses have been received from associations, I will summarise them and submit a report to the Committee. It was also agreed that the MRA should be revised to amend the requirement for a formal report from each association.

Please complete the questionnaire by 15 December 2016, and send it by email to Ad Kok? / Monique Schuilenburg?

### **David Martin, Chairperson of the Standards, Freedoms and Professionalism Committee**

Question 1:

Does your association keep formal records on:

- a) In which countries members work? [Yes/No]
- b) In which other associations members have membership in? [Yes/No]

Question 2:

If you replied YES to Question 1 a) and/or b):

- a) How many full members (or your best estimate of how many full members) of your association have worked in other European countries in the last 5 years?
- b) How many members (or your best estimate) have joined a local association in another European country under the MRA?

Question 3:

- a) How many actuaries from other AAE member associations have become full members of your national actuarial association under the MRA?
- b) Is their status in any way different from that of your own full members? If so how?
- c) Are they required to retain membership of their home association?

Question 4:

- a) How many actuaries from other AAE member associations have been required to undertake a period of adaptation under the MRA?
- b) If a period of adaptation is required, does this involve a requirement for residency in the host country during the period of adaptation?
- c) How many actuaries from other AAE member associations have chosen to undertake an aptitude test under the MRA?
- d) Are there other ways such actuaries can become full members of your association under the MRA?

Question 5:

Does your national actuarial association cancel membership if an actuary who became a member under the MRA ceases to practise his or her profession in your host country? [Yes/No]

Question 6:

During the last 5 years, have there been any problems for full members of your association in obtaining mutual recognition in another signatory country? If YES please give details.

Question 7:

Have there been any problems in your association granting recognition to a full member of an association in another signatory country? If YES please give details.

Question 8:

If professional qualification as an actuary in your country is controlled, in whole or in part, by the universities or the State, have any difficulties in implementing the MRA arisen as a result of this? If YES please give details.

Question 9:

Have there been any issues in the last 5 years regarding discipline regarding your members working in another country under the MRA or members of other associations operating in your country under the MRA? Please describe briefly the nature of any problems that have arisen in this area.

Question 10:

Is full membership of your actuarial association compulsory (making use of the MRA necessary for an actuary from another association) in order for a national to practise as an actuary, or to fulfil certain functions (eg. Pension Scheme Actuary, Appointed Actuary, hold a "practicing certificate" ) in your country? [Yes/No] If yes which functions?

Question 11:

Please state if your association uses MRAs with non-European associations and, if so, whether or not it uses the AAE template for an MRA with ASSA (based on the main AAE MRA) for South African or other country arrangements.

Question 12:

In the view of your association, what changes, if any, are needed to the MRA or the accompanying guidance note (also called the "Heubeck letter")?

Question 13:

Does your association have any other comments to make or problems to report regarding implementation of the Mutual Recognition Agreement, and/or suggestions to alter the arrangements related to it?