

## PROVISIONS ON THE EXPERT COUNCIL





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## PROVISIONS ON THE EXPERT COUNCIL

The present Provisions regulate the activity of the Expert Council at the Supreme Attestation Commission (hereinafter the SAC) at the Cabinet of Ministers in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'On Further Improvement of Postgraduate Education' № 4958 as of February 16, 2017; the Resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers 'On Postgraduate Education and Further Improving the Attestation of Scientific and Scientific-pedagogical Personnel' № 365 as of December 28, 2012 and 'On Measures of Further Improvement of Postgraduate Education' № 304 as of May 22, 2017.



### Chapter 1. General regulations

1

The following basic notions are used in the present Provisions:

**expertise** – giving an expert opinion on the compliance of the documents essence and attestation procedures with legal documents of undertaking attestation of highly qualified scientific and pedagogical personnel;

**scientific expertise** – giving an expert opinion on the novelty, theoretical and practical significance of the results of the dissertation and published scientific works, their compliance with legal documents of undertaking attestation of highly qualified scientific and pedagogical personnel;

2

The Expert Council complies with the appropriate legal documents in its activity.

3

The SAC authority controls the activity of the Expert Council and is responsible for creating appropriate conditions for its work.



## Chapter 2. The principle tasks and functions of the Expert Council

4

The following is considered as the principle tasks of the Expert Council:

consideration and evaluation of suggestions in training highly qualified scientific and pedagogical personnel and their certification;

preparation and consideration of proposals on the improvement of the list of highly qualified scientific and pedagogical specialties taking into consideration modern approaches to science and technology and international experience;

control of activities of the Scientific Councils on awarding scientific degrees and Scientific Councils on awarding academic statuses;

consideration of proposals on establishing Scientific Councils awarding scientific degrees;

working out the criteria of evaluation of scientific level of dissertations, their scientific and practical significance;

providing common requirements to all the applicants seeking for a scientific degree and academic status;

providing highly qualified expertise of dissertations;

analyzing dissertation results and evaluating their relevance to the development of science and technology; modernization of economic sectors and directions of socio-economic development of the country.

5

The Expert Council carries out the following functions to fulfill the determined tasks:

participates in the formation of the most optimal branch of the Scientific Councils that award scientific degrees;

considers the documents referring to the establishment and reapproving of the Scientific Councils that award scientific de-

grees and gives its conclusion whether it is appropriate or inappropriate to establish or reapprove them;

analyzes and generalizes the working experience of the Scientific Councils that award scientific degrees;

considers applications on obtaining scientific degrees and academic statuses and prepares appropriate recommendations for consideration at the meeting of the SAC Presidium;

considers applications on nostrification and prepares appropriate recommendations for consideration at the meeting of the SAC Presidium;

considers the issues of depriving and restoring scientific degrees and academic statuses and prepares appropriate recommendations for consideration at the meeting of the SAC Presidium;

considers appeals on the resolutions of the Scientific Councils that award scientific degrees and academic statuses and prepares appropriate recommendations for consideration at the meeting of the SAC;

analyzes scientific and practical results of the defended dissertations and prepares corresponding materials on them for the Cabinet of Ministers, ministries, agencies and the Academy of Sciences;

participates in considering the proposals on further improvement of the list of specialties of highly qualified scientific and pedagogical personnel and preparation passports of new specialties and programs of qualifying examinations;

participates in considering the citizens and organizations appeals;

prepares recommendations for the SAC Presidium on whether certain Scientific Council awarding scientific degrees and academic statuses is due to continue its activity or not;

participates in monitoring the quality of training of highly qualified scientific and pedagogical personnel by the basic doctorate research institutions, principle doctorate research institutions, individual (independent) research institutions assigned by the SAC authorities;

considers other issues related to attestation of highly qualified scientific and pedagogical personnel.



### Chapter 3. Rights and responsibilities of the Expert Council

6

The Expert Council has the following rights:

- to send dissertations to Scientific Councils awarding scientific degrees to get additional conclusion;
- to send back insufficiently grounded conclusions for their revision to Scientific Councils awarding scientific degrees;
- to invite to its meetings the applicants, the Head of the Scientific Council awarding scientific degrees where the defense and public review of dissertation was held, official opponents, supervisors (scientific advisors) as well as the members of the leading organizations;
- to listen to the reports of the Heads of Scientific Councils awarding scientific degrees and academic statuses at their meetings;
- to send its representatives to the Scientific Councils meetings awarding scientific degrees;
- to recommend official opponents of the dissertation, if necessary;
- to participate in examining the activity of Scientific Councils awarding scientific degrees on behalf of the SAC;

7

The Expert Council is responsible for fulfilling the tasks and functions determined by the present Provisions and other legal documents.



### Chapter 4. The establishment of an Expert Council

8

The Expert Councils are set up consisting of leading specialists-scientists of various fields of science and branches of economy.

The chairperson and the members of an Expert Council are approved by the SAC Presidium on the basis of recommendations given by the authorities of the SAC to people from higher educational and research institutions, ministries, agencies and the Academy of Sciences.

9

The members of an Expert Council can be Doctors of Science who have at least 5 years of scientific and pedagogical experience and trained a person who received a scientific degree. A specialist having a scientific degree of a Candidate of Science or a Doctor of Philosophy or other scientific degree equal to it may be appointed as a scientific secretary of an Expert Council as an exception.

The members of an Expert Council can consist of, at least, 9 and not more than 21 specialist-scientists.

10

The members of an Expert Council are approved by the SAC Presidium for 3 years given that one third of the members is certainly renewed. In case of urgency a partial change to the list of members of an Expert Council can be made according to the order of the SAC chairperson, this change is discussed at the following meeting of the SAC Presidium.

It is not allowed to work as a member of an Expert Council continuously for more than 2 terms. The members of an Expert Council whose term has expired can again become members of it in a year.

A chairperson, a vice-chairperson and a scientific secretary of an Expert Council successfully executing their obligations may continue their functions according to the SAC resolution.

11

The members of the same organization cannot work as the chairperson, a vice-chairperson and the scientific secretary of the same Expert Council, also the members the Scientific Council awarding scientific degrees cannot work as members of an Expert Council.

In case a member of an Expert Council does not take an active part in its meetings, including the cases when he/she releases the information concerning the expertise process (scientific expertise) as well as dissertation expertise in public, he/she is expelled from the membership of an Expert Council.



## Chapter 5. The work of the Expert Council

12

Doctors of Sciences of relevant fields of science can work as experts of an Expert Council and take part in the expertise of dissertations and attestation works.

13

The members of the SAC Presidium cannot take part in the discussions of an Expert Council.

14

The meetings of an Expert Council are conducted by the chairperson. In case the chairperson cannot take part in the meeting of an Expert Council, a vice-chairperson or a member of an Expert Council appointed by the SAC assumes the responsibility of the chairperson.

The meetings of an Expert Council are considered valid if two thirds of its members are present at the meeting.

15

The decisions of an Expert Council (recommendations, conclusions) are accepted by open voting. If necessary, in order to check the objectiveness of the decisions of an Expert Council or upon a proposal of the majority members of an Expert Council close voting can be conducted.

The decision of an Expert Council is considered valid when two thirds of its members have voted in favour of the decision.

16

The decisions of an Expert Council have a recommendation character. They are accepted independently by an Expert Council and become valid since the SAC Presidium approval.

17

In case the Expert Council session does not meet the requirements of the present Provisions and the decision of an Expert Council is found to be groundless, the SAC authority can recommend the dissertation consideration to independent closed expertise. Based on the results of an independent closed expertise the SAC authority can offer an Expert Council to reconsider the issue.

18

Following the tasks entrusted by the SAC Presidium or its authority, in case of necessity, a joined meeting of Expert Councils can be held.

19

The SAC responsible person for an Expert Council can take part in the meetings of an Expert Council and together with the scientific secretary of a Scientific Council is responsible for the attestation folder, full storage and timely discussion of dissertations. The SAC authority may take part in the meetings of an Expert Council.

- 20** The members of other Expert Councils and specialist-scientists can take part in the meetings of an Expert Council according to the Expert Council decision. The specialists invited to an Expert Council can participate in its work with their advice vote.
- 21** An official opponent, a scientific adviser and the members of an Expert Council who have signed the review of a leading organization do not have the right to participate in the meetings of an Expert Council.
- 22** The decision (recommendation, conclusion) of an Expert Council and the minutes of an Expert Council meeting are signed by the acting chairperson and the scientific secretary of an Expert Council and is delivered within 5 days to the SAC responsible person of an Expert Council.
- 23** Appeals on awarding a scientific degree of a 'Doctor of Science' and an academic status of a professor are considered within 2 months by the Expert Council. Appeals on awarding a scientific degree of a 'Doctor of Philosophy' and academic statuses of an associate professor and a senior fellow are considered within 1,5 months.
- 24** The members of an Expert Council are responsible for the timely delivery of their conclusions and for the objectiveness and validity of the decisions (recommendations, conclusions) made on the issues discussed at the meetings of an Expert Council.
- 25** The decisions of Expert Councils concerning dissertations and attestation works are presented by the Senior scientific secretary and the chairperson or a vice-chairperson of an Expert Council at the meeting of the SAC Presidium.
- 26** An Expert Council does not take into account July and August when appointing the periods of considering attestation folded book.
- 27** An Expert Council is annually to present to the SAC the report of its activity of the past year not later than January 10.





## Chapter 6. Consideration of deprivation or restoration of a scientific degree or an academic status.

28

In case reasonable materials are received by the Expert Council on rejection or restoration of a scientific degree or an academic status, the materials are sent for analysis to the commission group which should consist of at least 5 members.

Conclusions are made on the reviewed materials by the commission and the very conclusion with the materials is given for review in the Expert Council meeting. The conclusion of the commission is reviewed by the Expert Council within a month.

29

The Expert Council meeting is held in the presence of the person whose scientific degree or academic status is under consideration for deprivation or restoration. The person is to be warned on the matter 5 days before the meeting. If a person could not attend the meeting inadequately or refused to come, the decision on holding the meeting without him/her is accepted by the Expert Council. If this person informs of the failure to attend the meeting due to a reasonable excuse beforehand, the Expert Council meeting is to be postponed.

30

Deprivation or restoration of a scientific degree or an academic status by the Expert Council is held by secret ballot. The conclusion of an Expert Council is to be valid if two thirds of the Council members and those who have the right to vote approve it.

31

The Expert Council approves one of the following conclusions:  
on the deprivation or restoration of a scientific degree or an academic status;

on the denial to deprive or restore a scientific degree or an academic status;

In this case a conclusion including a substantiated report is made by the Expert Council.

The conclusion of the Expert Council is included into the SAC Presidium meeting agenda to get a final conclusion on this issue and a relevant conclusion is made by the SAC.



## Chapter 7. Consideration of an appeal

**32** An appeal given on the decision of the Scientific Council awarding scientific degrees or the Council awarding academic statuses or the SAC Presidium is considered by the Expert Council in line with the SAC's Order-regulations commission.

**33** The Expert Council has the right to ask and use necessary materials and documents from the relevant Councils and persons who filed an appeal.

**34** Persons concerned, as well as a person who filed an appeal, a supervisor (scientific advisor) and opponents and specialist-scientists invited by the chairperson of the meeting may be present during the consideration of the appeal at the Expert Council meeting.

A person who filed an appeal and other persons concerned are to be warned of the venue, day and exact time of the meeting 5 days before it starts.

**35** A conclusion on the results of the appeal consideration is to be taken by a secret ballot. A conclusion of an Expert Council is to be taken into account if two thirds of the Council members, entitled to vote, have voted in favour of it.

The Expert Council's conclusion and a final decision on the appeal are included in the SAC Presidium's meeting agenda and a relevant resolution is adopted by the SAC Presidium.



## Chapter 8. Final regulation

**36** The present Provisions have been coordinated with the State Committee on Physical Culture and Sports, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Public Education, the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Academy of Sciences and the Agency of Science and Technologies of the Republic of Uzbekistan.