



Increased Exchange in the Building Sector

Validation of competency requirements

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Introduction

Free provision of services in the enlarged European Union (EU) requires a simple and clear system for the recognition of professional qualifications. In order to facilitate the mobility of service operators and to improve public services, the EU has put in place a legislation, which states basic principles of mutual recognition. However, these principles do not give answers to all questions arising in recognition practice. Interpretation of recognition procedures as well as elaboration of specific requirements for each profession category is necessary. Such requirements are set forward also in the latest documents of European level.

The main attention in this project is paid to professions of building profile. From this point of view, only architect professions relate to the category of recognition options where main criteria for recognition are set already in the European directives. Other professions of building character as engineering and technician qualifications may be recognised on basis of the general system, which makes a greater freedom in rules and as a consequence greater variety of recognition schemes in different countries. For that reason implementation of the principle of mutual recognition faces divergences due to the different approaches to practical aspects of acceptance, as certain professions and titles more or less are protected in all countries by the national regulations. As a result, recognition is not automatic, and an authority may refuse to approve an applicant, if it deems that he or she does not fulfil the criteria. A lack of sound qualification criteria for regulated professions is another barrier impeding cross-border exchange and cooperation. The problem is fostered also by the obstacle that all these restricting provisions may be justified by the existing rules of the highest legislation level – EU directives allocated to recognition issues.

Identical conclusions were obtained by investigation of the situation in building sector in eight countries around the Baltic Sea initiated by *The Nordic Council of Ministers* and carried out under research management of Bengt Nyman (Building Sector Regulations, TemaNord 2004:547).

Thereby, motivation of this particular project may be justified by the following concerns:

- Different content and requirements of education programmes and, as a consequence granting engineering and technician titles varies from country to country;
- Absence of common criteria for recognition of professional experience, necessary for acquiring access to the market;

- Additional barriers, such as legislation discrepancies, existing national formal attestation procedures, registration of professional titles, etc.

An essential constituent of this report is a comparative study of situation in different participating countries, which is described in separate subsections and summarised in the table. These subsections are presented in alphabetical sequence and structure of each subsection is equal and contains twelve topics correspondent to questions in the Questionnaire (Appendix 2), distributed to all participants of the Project at the early stage of the study. In cases where citations of documents are necessary, correspondent text is presented in a smaller font for purposes of identification.

Due to applicability of the general system, recognition problems of the building sector to great extent are similar to problems of all-purpose character and latest development at the EU level may present also a great interest. Therefore, the first part of this report is devoted to documents highlighting these advancements.

In contradiction to the referenced report (Building Sector Regulations), which addresses to a wide scale of problems characteristic to the building sector, this particular project covers more specific issues – recognition of professional qualifications.

Goals and objectives

The overall goal of the project is to facilitate employment opportunities and the free provision of services through consolidation of existing routines of professional recognition of regulated professions.

Particular objectives are

- To make national systems easier to manage and more clear, quick and friendly to use, particularly making legal texts available to all parties interested in recognition issues;
- To improve transparency of qualifications to ensure that customers can rely on a more comprehensive service;
- To provide information and advice specific to individual interests of customers and interested parties in the construction and building process;
- To examine the possibility to harmonize national regulations in order to simplify the legislation and further facilitate free provision of services;
- To elaborate proposals for adjustment of qualification criteria for certain engineering professions through out the region and to reach agreement on the range of engineering and technician professions

that participating states will notify and get approved as officially recognised titles, if the agreed criteria is fulfilled.

The project is intended to be fulfilled in two stages. The first stage contains:

- Elaboration of a programme for the project and especially for the first stage;
- Institution of a communication network (a Working Group) for collecting information from each country in the Northern Dimension region;
- Examination of the existing situation in participating countries, including new initiatives of the European Commission on the subject;
- Analysis of collected information, elaboration of a programme for the second stage and preparation of a report.

The project has started in January 2006 and the first stage has been completed on July 1, 2006. This particular report covers results of the first stage.

Administration of the Project

The Steering Group discussed the project and made useful comments concerning the main emphasis and organisation of the first stage implementation.

The project was executed by the Working Group comprising representatives of all participating countries (see Appendix 4) according to the Action Plan (see Appendix 1). The Project management comprises a Project leader – Professor Imants Matiss and a technical secretariat located at the Certification Centre of the Latvian Academy of Sciences. The Project leader and membership of the Working Group have been approved by the Steering Group of the overall.

It is expected that the network established for execution of this particular project should be maintained for further integration and joint activities within the increased cross-border exchange and cooperation in the Baltic Sea countries.

Executive process and results

All members of the Working Group participated in fulfilment of the Action plan. However full answers to the Questionnaire as of 15 June 2006 (date of discussing results at the meeting of the Working Group) have been received from Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden. Danish WG representative has not sent the concluding part

of answers till this date, but Polish WG representative due to administrative restructuring of her Ministry was not in a position to take active part at the concluding stage of the Project.

Draft Report was sent to all members of the Working group and discussed in details and corrections introduced at the meeting of the Working Group in Riga 15–16 June 2006. The meeting was attended by the Coordinator of the Programme Bengt Nyman and all members of the Working Group except WG members from Denmark, Poland and Iceland.

Revised version of the Report was approved by the meeting, including main conclusions that the project is performed in accordance with the Action Plan, no delay or setback from the Plan was observed and objectives are reached.

Summary

Increased exchange of professionals, particularly in the building sector seems attractive from different points of view. On the one hand it would facilitate implementation of best practices from other countries, promote competence of personnel involved in the building sector bringing together opinions and thus creating the effect of synergism, encourage common understanding of factors influencing safety and quality of building structures and in that way to raise confidence in building industry. On the other hand, there are still problems unsolved, mainly connected with recognition of qualifications, for example lack of sound qualification criteria, absence of common guidelines for recognition of professional experience, national barriers, such as existing legislation, attestation procedures, registration of titles, different content and requirements for education programmes, etc.

In order to facilitate the mobility of service operators and to improve public services, the EU has put in place a legislation, which states basic principles of mutual recognition. However, these principles do not give answers to all questions arising in recognition practice. Interpretation of recognition procedures as well as elaboration of specific requirements for each profession category is necessary. Such requirements are set forward also in the latest documents of European level.

The main attention in this project is paid to professions of building profile. From this point of view, only architect professions relate to the category of recognition options where main criteria for recognition are set already in the European directives. Other professions of building character as engineering and technician qualifications may be recognised on basis of the general system, which makes a greater freedom in rules and as a consequence greater variety of recognition schemes in different countries. For that reason implementation of the principle of mutual recognition faces divergences due to the different approaches to practical aspects of acceptance, as certain professions and titles more or less are protected in all countries by the national regulations. As a result, recognition is not automatic, and an authority may refuse to approve an applicant, if it deems that he or she does not fulfil the criteria.

Identical conclusions were obtained by investigation of the situation in building sector in eight countries around the Baltic Sea initiated by *The Nordic Council of Ministers* and carried under research management of Bengt Nyman (*Building Sector Regulations, TemaNord 2004:547*).

The overall goal of this particular project is to facilitate employment opportunities and the free provision of services through consolidation of existing routines of professional recognition of regulated professions.

The project is intended to be fulfilled in two stages. This particular report covers results of the first stage (1 January 2006 – 1 July, 2006).

An essential constituent of this project stage is comparative study of situation in different participating countries, which is described in separate subsections and summarised in the table. These subsections are presented in alphabetical sequence and the structure of each subsection is equal and contains twelve topics correspondent to questions in the Questionnaire, distributed to all participants of the Project at the early stage of the study. The Questionnaire was chosen as a main working mode for reaching objectives of the Project due to the reasons of obtaining structured and compact knowledge in limited time scale and suitable for communication means of all participants.

With regard to engineering and technician professions, the situation varies between the participating states. Basically, there are three different regimes:

- The engineering and technician profession are not regulated and no title is protected. This is the case for Sweden and Denmark.
- There is no restriction on the right to practice as an engineer and technician. However, certain titles, whether academic or professional are protected, and recognition is needed in order to use these titles. This is the case for Norway and Iceland, and partly for Finland. In Finland, though, the recognition is needed only for positions in the public sector. Academic work in the private sector is regulated through project complexity and based on competency requirements.
- The profession is regulated, registration is obligatory and recognition is therefore necessary in order to practice. This is the case for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Results of the this survey may be considered as a contribution towards an increased exchange in the building sector between countries in the Baltic Sea region in order to stimulate competition and to reduce costs so that wider groups of society can afford new housing. In particular, information obtained would serve as a starting point for work out of the common platform at least for the region of the participating countries. The common platform is an important element of the New Directive (2005/36/EEC) and it will be required for Member states in the framework of implementation of this document (till 20 October 2007).

Due to applicability of the general system, recognition problems of the building sector to great extent are similar to problems of all-purpose character and latest development at the EU level may present also great interest. Therefore, the first part of this report is devoted to documents highlighting these advancements

The project was executed by the Working Group comprising representatives of all participating countries (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland,

Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden). The Project management comprises a Project leader – Professor Imants Matiss and a technical secretariat located at the Certification Centre of the Latvian Academy of Sciences. The Project leader and membership of the Working Group have been approved by the Steering Group at the Riga meeting on 12 December 2005.

1. Initiatives of the European Commission for improvement of the system for the recognition of professional qualifications

Factors leading to a new document – directive 2005/36/EC

Substantial reorganisation of this system has been carried out by the European Commission during last years. In order to make labour markets more flexible, further liberalise the provision of services, encourage automatic recognition of qualifications, and simplify administrative procedures activities were initiated for essential improvement of the existing system. In May 2001 at the time of the adoption of Directive 2001/19/EC on professional recognition, the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission agreed, “it is important to have consolidated versions, easily accessible to everyone, of the legal texts applicable in the field of mutual recognition of professional qualifications”.

As a result several attempts of improvement existing recognition systems and setting up constructive proposals for advanced development led to the essential new directive 2005/36/EC known as “New directive of the general system” (full titles of this and related directives see in Appendix 3). The new directive (hereafter – the Directive) consolidates fifteen directives earlier adopted in one piece of legislation. The directives, which came under revision cover twelve sectoral directives regarding seven specific professions (including architects) and three directives 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC and 1999/36/EC (known correspondingly as First, Second and Third General System Directives). The last three documents have set up a general system for recognition of professional qualifications and cover most of other regulated professions not falling in sectoral directives.

The Directive applies to all Member State nationals wishing to practise a regulated profession in a Member State other than that in which they obtained their professional qualifications, on either a self-employed or employed basis. In this particular overview of new EC initiatives, main attention is paid to regulated professions, which directly or in some extent may present interest for civil engineering profile.

1.1 Freedom to provide services and the right of establishment

The Directive makes a distinction between “freedom to provide services” and “freedom of establishment” on the basis of criteria identified by the Court of Justice regarding duration, frequency, regularity and continuity of the provision of services. In some interpretation sources distinction is emphasized between recognition requirements as “access to the market” and “rights to use titles”.

The recognition of professional qualifications enables beneficiaries to gain access in host Member States to the professions in which they are qualified, and to practice under the same conditions as nationals of that Member State in cases where these professions are regulated. Stipulations of service provision depend on temporary, occasional or permanent character of offer, branch of activity, levels and duration of education and training.

1.2 Facilitating temporary and occasional provision of cross-border services

The basic principle declares that any nationals of a Community Member State legally established in a given Member State may provide services on a temporary and occasional basis in another Member State under their original professional title without having to apply for recognition of their qualifications. However, if service providers relocate outside of their Member State of establishment in order to provide services, they must also provide evidence of two years’ professional experience if the profession in question is not regulated in that Member State.

The host Member State may require the service provider to make a declaration prior to providing any services on its territory and renew it annually including the details of any insurance cover or other means of personal or collective protection with regard to professional liability. The host Member State may also require that the first application be accompanied by certain documents listed in the Directive, such as proof of the nationality of the service provider, of their legal establishment, and of their professional qualifications

If the host Member State requires formal registration with the competent professional association, this must occur automatically upon the competent authority, which received the prior declaration forwarding the applicant’s file to the professional organisation or body. For professions, which have public health or safety implications and do not benefit from automatic recognition, the host Member State may carry out a prior check of the service provider’s professional qualifications within the limits of the principle of proportionality. Professions of civil engineering may be

considered also as professionals having consequences to the public health, but this issue is disputable and may be a subject of a common agreement (in some sources specified as a “common platform”).

In cases where the service is provided under the professional title of the Member State of establishment or under the formal qualification of the service provider, the competent authorities of the host Member State may require service providers to furnish the recipient of the service with certain information. Such information may include also insurance coverage against the financial risks connected with any challenge to their professional liability.

The competent authorities shall ensure the exchange of all information necessary for complaints by a recipient of a service against a service provider to be correctly pursued. The host Member State may also ask the Member State of establishment for information regarding the service provider’s legal establishment, good conduct, and the absence of any penalties for professional misconduct. With regard to both the temporary provision of services and permanent establishment in another Member State, the Directive provides for the proactive exchange of information relating to any serious circumstances which arose when the individual in question was established on their territory and which are liable to have consequences for the pursuit of the professional activities concerned. This exchange of information, at any rate, must be carried out in compliance with existing legislation on data protection.

1.3 Improving the existing systems of recognition for the purpose of permanent establishment in another Member State

With respect to establishment, the Directive comprises the three existing systems of recognition:

- *General system for the recognition of professional qualifications (Chapter I of the Directive)*

This system applies as a fallback to all professions not covered by specific rules of recognition and to certain situations where the migrant professional does not meet the conditions set out in other recognition schemes. This general system is based on the principle of mutual recognition, without prejudice to the application of compensatory measures if there are substantial differences between the training acquired by the migrant and the training required in the host Member State. The compensatory measure may take the form of an adaptation period or an aptitude test. The choice between one or other of these tests is up to the migrant unless specific if no restrictions exist;

- *System of automatic recognition of qualifications proved by professional experience (Chapter II of the Directive)*
The industrial, craft and commercial activities listed in the Directive are subject, under the conditions stated, to the automatic recognition of qualifications attested by professional experience;
- *System of automatic recognition of qualifications for specific professions (Chapter III of the Directive)*
The automatic recognition of training qualifications on the basis of coordination of the minimum training conditions covers paramedical and architects profession.

More in details the three systems of recognition of qualifications, which are applicable in the context of establishment, are set out and examined below.

1.4 General system for the recognition of professional qualifications (Chapter I of the Directive)

When in a host Member State access to a profession is regulated, i.e. subject to possession of specific professional qualifications, the competent authority in this Member State allows access to the profession in question and pursuit thereof under the same conditions as for nationals. Access is provided if the applicant holds a training qualification obtained in another Member State, which attests to a level of training at least equivalent to the level immediately below that required in the host Member State.

When, on the other hand, in the Member State of the applicant, access to a profession is not subject to possession of specific professional qualifications, the applicant should, in order to be able to gain access to the profession in a host Member State, which does regulate that profession, provide a proof. It includes two years of full-time professional experience over the preceding ten years on top of the qualification.

The Directive distinguishes five levels of professional qualifications in the framework of the general system.

- *Attestation of competence* which corresponds to general primary or secondary education, attesting that the holder has acquired general knowledge, or an attestation of competence issued by a competent authority in the home Member State on the basis of a training course not forming part of a certificate or diploma, or of three years professional experience;
- *Certificate* which corresponds to training at secondary level, of a technical or professional nature or general in character, supplemented by a professional course;

- *Diploma certifying successful completion of training at post-secondary level of a duration of at least one year, or professional training which is comparable in terms of responsibilities and functions;*
- *Diploma certifying successful completion of training at higher or university level of a duration of at least three years and less than four years;*
- *Diploma certifying successful completion of training at higher or university level of duration of at least four years.*

On an exceptional basis, other types of training can be treated as one of the five levels.

The host Member State can make recognition of qualifications subject to the applicant's completing a compensation measure (aptitude test or adaptation period of a maximum of three years) if:

- The training is one year shorter than that required by the host Member State or
- The training received covers substantially different matters to those covered by the evidence of formal training required in the host Member State or
- The profession as defined in the host Member State comprises one or more regulated professional activities which do not exist in the corresponding profession in the applicant's home Member State, and that difference consists of specific training which covers substantially different matters from those covered by the completed by the migrant.

The host Member State must, in principle, offer the applicant the choice between an adaptation period and an aptitude test. The host Member State can only derogate from this requirement in the cases specifically provided for, or with the Commission's authorisation.

1.5 Establishment of common platforms for recognition requirements

The Directive provides for representative professional associations at both national and European level to establish common platforms by determining measures to compensate for the substantial differences identified between the training requirements in at least two thirds of the Member States, and in all the Member States, which regulate that profession. That is, the platform must make it possible to provide adequate guarantees as to the level of qualification. If such a platform is likely to make the recognition of professional qualifications easier, the Commission may

submit it to the Member States and adopt an implementing measure under the recognition regulation (comitology procedure). Once this implementing measure has been adopted, the Member States shall not insist on the imposition of compensatory measures on applicants who meet the platform's conditions.

By late 2010, three years after the Directive is transposed by the Member States, the Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and the Council a report on the provision of the Directive relating to common platforms and, if necessary, make appropriate proposals for amending it.

1.6 System of automatic recognition of qualifications attested by professional experience in certain industrial, craft and commercial activities (Chapter II of the Directive)

In including the classes of professional activity covered by the Third General System directive 1999/42/EC and reducing the number of types of recognition to three, this Directive aims to continue the objective of simplifying the legislation, which sets the key conditions for the recognition of professional experience.

The elements taken into consideration for the recognition of professional experience are duration and form of professional experience (in a self-employed or employed capacity) in the reference sector. Previous training is also taken into consideration and it may reduce the amount of professional experience required. All previous training should, however, be proven by a certificate recognised by the Member State or judged by a competent professional body to be fully valid.

Recognition of professional activities in various sectors ranging from the textile industry through to the chemical industry, via the oil industry, printing, manufacturing industry, and construction is referred in the list I of Annex IV. It is noteworthy to draw attention that construction sector is also included in this list. With regard to other professional activities, requirements are referred in List II of Annex IV and List III of Annex IV.

1.7 System of automatic recognition of qualifications for the professions of doctor, nurse, dentist, veterinary surgeon, midwife, pharmacist and architect (Chapter III of the Directive)

Review of these clauses more in details is presented below only for architect professions and for general issues covering all professions equally. Each Member State automatically recognises certificates of training giv-

ing access to these professional activities if evidence provided meets criteria presented in Annex V to the Directive. For the purposes of equivalence in qualifications, this Directive sets minimum training conditions for all professions. Particularly, for architect professions the following conditions are set (Article 46):

- Admission to a course of training as an architect, which shall be contingent upon possession of a diploma or certificate;
- Training shall comprise a total of at least four years of full-time study or six years of study, at least three years of which on a full-time basis, at a university or comparable teaching institution;
- The training must lead to successful completion of a university-level examination;
- That training must be of university level and of which architecture is the principal component;
- The training must maintain a balance between theoretical and practical aspects of architectural training and guarantee the acquisition of certain knowledge and skills (a list of specific qualification items follows).

The Directive extends the possibility for Member States to authorise part time training for all professions of this Chapter, provided that the overall duration, level and quality of such training is not lower than that of continuous full-time training;

With the exception of the professions of doctor and architect, the Directive provides a minimum programme of subjects to follow, which leaves room for the Member States to draw up more detailed study programmes. These lists of subjects, which appear in Annex V, can be amended by a recognition regulation (comitology procedure) to the extent required to adapt them to scientific and technical progress. Following the professional training they have received, aspiring doctors, nurses, dentists, veterinary surgeons, midwives, pharmacists and architects will possess a training qualification which has been issued by the competent bodies in the Member States bearing the titles described in Annex V, and will enable them to practise their profession in any Member State.

Acquired rights specific to architects are presented in Article 49 and it declares that each Member State shall accept evidence of formal qualifications as an architect listed in Annex VI, awarded by the other Member States, and attesting a course of training specified by this Annex even if they do not satisfy the minimum qualification requirements (Article 46).

1.8 Procedure for the mutual recognition of professional qualifications

An individual application must be submitted to the competent authority in the host Member State, accompanied by certain documents and certificates as listed in the proposal (see Annex VII). According to the proposal, the competent authorities will in future have one month to acknowledge receipt of an application and to draw attention to any missing documents. A decision will have to be taken within three months of the date on which the application was received in full. Reasons will have to be given for any rejection and it will be possible for a rejection, or a failure to take a decision by the deadline, to be contested in the national courts.

Member State nationals shall be able to use the title conferred on them, and possibly an abbreviated form thereof, as well as the professional title of the corresponding host Member State.

If a profession is regulated in the host Member State by an association or organisation (listed in Annex I), Member State nationals must be able to become members of that organisation or association in order to be able to use the title.

1.9 Knowledge of languages

Member States may require migrants to have the knowledge of languages necessary for practising the profession. This provision must be applied proportionately, which rules out the systematic imposition of language tests before a professional activity can be practised. It should be noted that any evaluation of language skills is separate from the recognition of professional qualifications. It must take place after recognition, when actual access to the profession in question is sought.

1.10 Administrative cooperation and other provisions

In order to facilitate the application of the above provisions, this proposal seeks close collaboration between the competent authorities in the host Member State and the home Member State, and the introduction of the following provisions:

- Each Member State shall designate a coordinator to facilitate the uniform application of this directive;
- Each Member State shall designate contact points by no later than 20 October 2007. These will have the task of providing citizens with such information as is necessary concerning the recognition of professional qualifications and to assist them in enforcing their rights,

particularly through contact with the competent authorities to rule on requests for recognition;

- Each Member State shall nominate representatives to the Committee on the recognition of professional qualifications. This committee, which is chaired by the Commission representative, is to assist the Commission within the limits of the enforcement powers conferred on it by the Directive.
- The Commission shall consult with experts from the professional groups in an appropriate manner.

Every two years, the Member States shall send a report to the Commission on the application of the system. If the application of one of the provisions of this Directive presents major difficulties in a particular area, the Commission shall examine those difficulties in collaboration with the Member State concerned.

As from 20 October 2007, every five years the Commission will draw up a report on the implementation of this Directive.

As from 20 October 2007, the deadline is set for transposition by the Member States the Directive, which will repeal the following directives: 77/452/EEC, 77/453/EEC, 78/686/EEC, 78/687/EEC, 78/1026/EEC, 78/1027/EEC, 80/154/EEC, 80/155/EEC, 85/384/EEC, 85/432/EEC, 85/433/EEC, 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC, 93/16/EEC and 1999/42/EC (titles more in details see in the Table 3).

1.11 Key terms used in the act

Regulated profession

A professional activity or group of professional activities, access to which, the pursuit of which, or one of the modes of pursuit of which is subject, directly or indirectly, by virtue of legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions to the possession of specific professional qualifications; in particular, the use of a professional title limited by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions to holders of a given professional qualification shall constitute a mode of pursuit.

Evidence of formal qualifications

Diplomas, certificates and other evidence issued by an authority in a Member State designated pursuant to legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions of that Member State and certifying successful completion of professional training obtained mainly in the Community.

Regulated education and training

Any training, which is specifically undertaken to the pursuit of a given profession and which comprises a course or courses complemented, where appropriate, by professional training, or probationary or professional practice. The structure and level of the professional training, professional traineeship or practical work experience shall be laid down in the legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions of the Member State in question or be subject to supervision or approval by the authority designated for that purpose.

Adaptation period

The pursuit of a regulated profession in the host Member State under the responsibility of a qualified member of that profession, such period of supervised practice possibly being accompanied by further training. This period of supervised practice shall be the subject of an assessment.

Aptitude test

A test limited to the professional knowledge of the applicant, made by the competent authorities of the host Member State with the aim of assessing the ability of the applicant to pursue a regulated profession in that Member State. In order to permit this test to be carried out, the competent authorities shall draw up a list of subjects not covered by the evidence of formal qualifications possessed by the applicant.

1.12 Conclusions in relation to objectives of the Project “Validation of competency requirements imposed on certain actors in the building process”

Despite expectations for more specific conditions regarding different recognition situations, grading of recognition procedures in the new document is proposed only for different education level. No specific guidance is given, which might facilitate recognition problems of the building sector. Therefore, there is still great freedom in recognition rules, which enables great variety of recognition schemes in different countries. These variation possibilities are described bellow.

1. Requirements of the New Directive should be observed also in countries of the Nordic Dimension. The basic principle declares that the host Member State shall require the same conditions for applicants seeking access in the profession as for nationals, if the applicant has obtained profession in his country.

2. Stipulations of service provision depend on temporary, occasional or permanent character of offer, branch of activity, levels and duration of education and training. Considerable difference in requirements is whether the profession is regulated in the host Member state and whether the same profession is regulated in the applicant country.
3. In cases where the service is provided under the professional title of the Member State of establishment or under the formal qualification of the service provider, the competent authorities of the host Member State may require service providers to furnish the recipient of the service with certain information (details are described in the Directive). Member States may require applicants to have the knowledge of languages necessary for practising the profession.
4. Automatic recognition may be required only for specific professions attributed to the Chapter III (earlier covered by so called “sectoral” directives) and if applicants meet requirements formulated in this Chapter and associated Appendices. Architects are the only category of civil engineering profile, which fall in this category and may present a claim for recognition on the basis of minimum training conditions.
5. The remainder professions of construction profile comply with requirements of the general system. Member State allows access to the profession in question and pursuit thereof under the same conditions as for nationals and in order to be able to gain access to the profession in a host Member State, which does regulate that profession, provide a proof (as specified more in details in the Directive).
6. The Directive distinguishes five levels of professional qualifications in the framework of the general system, starting from professions, which correspond to general primary or secondary education and lastly to certified applicants with successful completion of training at higher or university level of duration of at least four years. The host Member State can make recognition of qualifications subject to the applicant’s completing a compensation measure (aptitude test or adaptation period of a maximum of three years)
7. For professions, which have public health or safety implications and do not benefit from automatic recognition, the host Member State may carry out a prior check of the service provider’s professional qualifications within the limits of the principle of proportionality. Professions of civil engineering may be considered also as professionals having consequences to the public health, but this issue is disputable and may be a subject of a common agreement.
8. The Directive provides for representative professional associations at both national and European level to establish common platforms by determining measures to compensate for the substantial differences identified between the training requirements in at least two thirds of the Member States, and in all the Member States, which regulate that

profession. The European Commission will submit it to the Member States and adopt an implementing measure under the recognition regulation procedure. Once this implementing measure has been adopted, the Member States shall not insist on the imposition of compensatory measures on applicants who meet the platform's conditions.

9. The competent authorities of the Member states shall ensure the exchange of all information necessary for complaints by a recipient of a service against a service provider to be correctly pursued. Each Member State shall designate contact points by no later than 20 October 2007. These will have the task of providing citizens with such information as is necessary concerning the recognition of professional qualification.
10. A competent authority in the host Member State must be established where an individual seeking a job might submit an application, accompanied by certain documents and certificates as listed in the Directive.
11. Member State nationals shall be able to use the title conferred on them, and possibly an abbreviated form thereof, as well as the professional title of the corresponding host Member State.
12. If a profession is regulated in the host Member State by an association or organisation, Member State nationals must be able to become members of that organisation or association in order to be able to use the title. List of professional associations or organisations fulfilling the conditions of the Directive, Article 3(2) is presented. However, no professional associations of the Nordic dimension region are included in this List.

2. Analysis of the existing situation in countries of the Nordic Dimension. Situation analysis in Estonia

2.1 Comments and proposals for corresponding chapters of the report “Building Sector Regulations” (Bengt Nyman, Tema Nord 2004:547)

On our opinion, the access process to the building market is regulated quite adequately. There are plenty of directives and acts, which regulate this area but there is still a lot of work to do in harmonizing the qualification standards and legally recognizing the engineering and technician professions. *The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication* is currently concerned about the standardization process of qualification requirements.

The “Building Sector Regulations” (Bengt Nyman, Tema Nord 2004:547) reflects the situation in Estonia today thoroughly. The procedure of building is described exactly as the current situation is.

2.2. Disposition of the administrative structure for regulation of professions in building area

There are three levels in the building administrative system in Estonia – the State, Local authorities and the Guilds of professions.

The State in capacity of the Building and Housing department of *The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications*:

- Works out the laws, department is the building and housing department in *The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications* (working out the developments plans and running them, the standardization of building sector, rating the correspondence, supervision of the market, coordination of the supervision of the building and housing management, direction of *The State Register of Construction works*). The areas are building, engineering, exploration, supervision, direction of building, hereafter also fulfilment of accounting control of energy (in conjunction with the department of energetic).

The Local authority:

- In its administrative territory is engaged in planning and regulates the practical construction.

Inspectorate of the Technical Supervision administers:

- The Supervisory board, which inspects building procedures in order to access its compliance with the Building Act.

2.3 Non-governmental institutions and associations related to the building sector and its role in administration of regulated engineering professions

There are non-governmental institutions and associations for architects, general engineers, engineers of heating systems, ventilation, water supply, sanitation, low-electricity and construction of roads.

Unions of professions, unions of manufacturers and unions of undertakers (including manufacturers) develop vocational skills of its members, take part in the formation of the politics of the building area. They regulate also the politics of the technical science and give out the certificates of professions.

The unions of professions are the members of *The Council Board of the Building, Real Estate and Geomatics*. The member list is changing and the current list is available in the Internet address www.kutsekoda.ee.

2.4 Legal framework for regulation of professions in the building sector

The Housing Law and the subordinate acts are harmonized with correspondent legislation of EU.

There is the Professions Act, which regulates the obligatory qualification standards to practice in areas. The act can be found in the Internet address www.legaltext.ee in English.

2.5 Procedures for obtaining permission to practice as a building company in the country

There is legislation in our country, which requires the company to acquire a registration in the register of economic activities as a builder, and the company must have executive officers with appropriate certificates in areas they work. Residual acts, which regulate the work of the building

company, are the same as the acts, which regulate the work of other companies, e.g. the Code of Commerce and also the building act wholly.

Chapter 4

Requirements for Undertakings:

§ 41. Operation of contractors in field of construction

(1) A person is permitted to build, design, conduct site investigations, exercise owner supervision, perform expert assessments of building design documentation, evaluate construction works and engage in project management if the person is an undertaking within the meaning of the Commercial Code (RT I 1995, 26–28, 355; 1998, 91–93, 1500; 1999, 10, 155; 23, 355; 24, 360; 57, 596; 102, 907; 2000, 29, 172; 49, 303; 55, 365; 57, 373; 2001, 34, 185; 56, 332 and 336; 89, 532; 93, 565; 2002, 3, 6; 35, 214; 53, 336; 61, 375; 63, 387; 388; 96, 564; 102, 600; 110, 657; 2003, 4, 19; 13, 64; 18, 100; 78, 523; 88, 591) and the person has:

- 1) A registration in the register of economic activities (hereinafter register), and (10.03.2004 entered into force 15.04.2004 - RT I 2004, 18, 131)
- 2) A corresponding legal relationship with a competent person specified in § 47 of this Act (hereinafter specialist in charge) or, if the person is a sole proprietor, he or she must have the competence to act as a specialist in charge.

(2) If a building contractor performs construction work only within the limits of a profession in which an employee thereof or, if the contractor is a sole proprietor, the contractor himself or herself holds a professional qualification within the meaning of the Professions Act (RT I 2001, 3, 7; 2002, 61, 375; 2003, 13, 68; 83, 559) which does not grant such person the right to organize the distribution of funds or the work of other persons and does not impose on him or her the obligation to be responsible for such work, the building contractor need not comply with the provisions of clause (1) 2) of this section.

§ 42. Registration application

(1) An undertaking which wishes to build, design, conduct site investigations, exercise owner supervision, perform expert assessments of building design documentation, evaluate construction works or engage in project management (hereinafter an undertaking) shall submit an application to the register.

(2) A registration application shall contain:

- 1) The name and registry code of the undertaking, the name of the corresponding register, and the address and other contact details of the undertaking;
- 2) The area of activity specified in subsection (1) of this section in which the applicant wishes to operate;
- 3) Information concerning the specialist in charge in the undertaking who must meet the requirements prescribed for the desired area of activity if it is mandatory to have a specialist in charge;
- 4) Information concerning the qualifications of the building contractor and the document certifying such qualifications, if they exist;
- 5) The name, official title and contact details of the authorized person of the undertaking who signs the registration application.

(3) Information concerning the specialist in charge as specified in clause (2) 3) of this section is comprised of the following:

- 1) Name, and personal identification code or, in the absence thereof, date of birth;
- 2) Contact details;
- 3) The profession and other essential information entered in his or her professional certificate if he or she has a professional certificate;
- 4) In the absence of a professional certificate, the date of issue and the name of the issuer of the document certifying the professional education of the person;
- 5) Professional experience.

(4) The person who submits a registration application shall be responsible for the correctness of the information submitted to the register.

(5) (Repealed – 10.03.2004 entered into force 15.04.2004 – RT I 2004, 18, 131)

§ 43. Registration

(1) Based on information submitted in a registration application or an application for amendment of registry data, the registrar registers the information of an undertaking or amends the information pursuant to the procedure provided in the Register of Economic Activities Act (RT I 2004, 12, 79).

(2) In addition to the information prescribed by the Register of Economic Activities Act, the following data shall be entered in the register:

- 1) The area of activity of the undertaking as specified in the registration application;
- 2) Information concerning the specialist in charge who meets the requirements prescribed for the desired area of activity;
- 3) Information concerning the qualifications of the building contractor and the document certifying such qualifications if they exist.

(10.03.2004 entered into force 15.04.2004 – RT I 2004, 18, 131)

§ 44. Registration proceedings

(1) The provisions of the Register of Economic Activities Act apply to the registration procedure together with the specifications arising from this section.

(2) In addition to the cases to which the provisions of the Register of Economic Activities Act apply, the registrar shall refuse to register an undertaking if the registrar has deleted the registration information concerning the undertaking pursuant to subsection (3) of this section during the sixty days prior to application.

(3) In addition to the cases to which the provisions of the Register of Economic Activities Act apply, a registration shall be deleted based on a decision of the Technical Inspectorate provided for in subsection 64 (5) of this Act once the term for contestation of the decision has passed if the decision is not contested or, if the decision is contested, as of the date on which the court judgment to uphold the contested decision of the Technical Inspectorate enters into force.

(10.03.2004 entered into force 15.04.2004 – RT I 2004, 18, 131)

§ 47. Specialist in charge

(1) A specialist in charge is a person who:

1) Is competent to manage and inspect building, design, site investigations, owner supervision, expert assessments of building design documentation, evaluation of construction works or project management activities, and

2) Advises an undertaking in order to guarantee compliance with the requirements provided for in this Act and legislation established on the basis thereof.

(2) In order to build, design, conduct site investigations, exercise owner supervision, perform expert assessments of building design documentation, evaluate construction works or engage in project management activities, a specialist in charge shall:

1) Hold professional qualifications within the meaning of the Professions Act which grants the person the right to organize the distribution of funds or the work of other persons and imposes on him or her the obligation to be responsible for such work, or

2) Have completed higher education in an appropriate field and have three years' experience in work related to his or her profession.

2.6 Procedure for obtaining permission to practice as an engineer and technician in the country

There are qualification standards for different professions of civil engineering in Estonia. The delivery of qualification certificates by the institution is based on the qualification standards. There are the council boards of engineers, builders, mechanists, chemists and technologists of materials, heating systems, geology and geomatics. There is a qualification certificate of the profession, which is delivered by the union of the civil engineers.

The applicant must own corresponding education and apply for the certificate.

2.7 Protected professional titles and recognition provisions

There is no corresponding regulation in this area for nationals. Recognition of Foreign Professional Qualifications Act regulates the procedure to recognise the titles obtained in foreign country and to equalize them with the local system. It can be read from www.legaltext.ee

2.8 Procedures for recognition of professional titles

Procedure for recognition of professional titles obtained in foreign countries is described in details in the Recognition of Foreign Professional Qualifications Act.

2.9 Outline of the educational system regarding civil engineering professions

The engineer diploma corresponds to the master degree. There is no education required to work as a builder. It is necessary to practice as an engineer at least 3 years to get the registration in the register of economic activities.

The professions, which can be obtained in Estonia, are all kinds of civil engineering.

2.10 Contact points for acquiring information on issues connected with free movement of professionals

This area is coordinated by *The Ministry of Social Affairs*.

E-mail: info@sm.ee, Gonsiori 29, 15027 Tallinn.

2.11 Opinions on use of social rules of the residing country

It is necessary to provide professionalism in the building area because any kind building activity is more or less dangerous and the responsibility of civil engineering profession is very high.

In our opinion the social conditions of labour force, which arrive from abroad to Estonia should be granted by the home state and also the social conditions of persons who migrate to other EU countries should be granted by the home state.

2.12 Proposals and concepts on preferential treatment for increased exchange of professionals between countries and harmonisation of competency requirements

In our point of view there should be harmonized qualification standards in all of the EU member countries which can simplify the free movement of professionals and different EU countries could be sure in the qualification level on corresponding professionals. Also there should be common

register of professionals who have been given the permission to be sent to work in foreign country.

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3. Analysis of the existing situation in countries of the Nordic Dimension. Situation analysis in Finland

3.1 Comments and proposals for corresponding chapters of the report “Building Sector Regulations” (Bengt Nyman, Tema Nord 2004:547)

Comments concern the chapter covering Finnish processes and regulations. The text provides detailed information on the building process and permitting. However, if the purpose is to assist in accessing the market, the process described should be extended to the tender phase. The text could be supplemented, for example, with the following paragraph:

4.1.3. Procurement (numbering of current chapters 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5 and 4.1.6 should be changed accordingly)

Public procurement is ruled by General terms of public procurement for Finland (1994) and pertinent EU directives. These entail the requirement for open (or pre-qualified) competition and an announcement in the EU's official journal after a certain economic limit (€137,234 for goods and services; €5,278,227 for construction). The Finnish procurement law provides additionally that all public procurement (even below the threshold value) must be competed. When the project is above the threshold value the tender documentation must be available (if requested) also in English. In other cases, the documentation is generally written only in Finnish, which may create barriers for cross-the-borders competition. Private procurement varies from one client to another. The main principle – the larger is the project in terms of financing and social importance, the greater are opportunities for cross-the-borders competition.

Assistance in drafting contracts and tenders is provided by Building Information Files (RT 16-xxx and RT 17-xxx). In addition to the actual tender documentation, the applicant must often provide following information: extract from the trade register, information on the economic resources of the applicant, extract from the preliminary taxation register, certificate of tax debt and certificate of employment pension contributions. The applicant may also be required to provide evidence of an appropriate registration and licence in the country of origin. To make certain that the applicant has adequate technical resources and competence, he may be required to provide information on the education and experiences of the key personnel and on the latest/similar projects completed.

3.2 Disposition of the administrative structure for regulation of professions in building area

Ministry of Environment has overall responsibility for construction. The administrative work is done in the departments and units of the Ministry, namely, the Land Use Department, the Housing and Building Department, the Environmental Protection Department, the Administrative Unit, the Unit for International Affairs, and the Information Unit. Finland's Environmental Administration develops and controls land use planning and construction throughout Finland according to Land use and building legislation and The National Building Code of Finland. Additionally Finland's 13 regional environment centres control municipal planning and construction within their respective regions.

Regulation of construction related degrees is affected by education policy. The education policy is defined by Parliament and Government. *The Ministry of Education* is the highest education authority and is responsible for all publicly funded education in Finland. The Ministry is responsible for preparing educational legislation, all necessary decisions and its share of the state budget for the Government. Universities and polytechnics are directly subordinate to the Ministry. *The Finnish National Board of Education* is a development body responsible for primary and secondary education as well as for adult education and training (except for higher education). Above organisations and the regulations set by them, impose requirements on building professions that require higher education (engineers, architects, technicians, master builders, etc.). Building labour (bricklayer, carpenter etc.) is not regulated in the same manner, even though vocational education has naturally its own ruling.

3.3 Non-governmental institutions and associations related to the building sector and its role in administration of regulated engineering professions

There are non-governmental institutions and associations for different construction professionals:

- *Finnish Association of Civil Engineers (RIL)* is an organisation for civil engineers with Master of Science degree and university students of civil engineering. RIL has a corporate member, "Lämpöinsinööriyhdistys" Society of Heating Engineers in Finland, LIVI, which is a society for engineers MSc.(Tech) working in the area of heating engineering.
- *The Association of Finnish Construction Engineers and Architects (RIA)* is a central organization for the construction engineers (B.Sc.),

architects (B.Sc.) and environmental engineers (B.Sc.) graduated from technical colleges and polytechnics.

- *The Finnish Association of Architects (SAFA)* is a non-profit, professional organization for architects with a university degree from a Finnish university or equivalent qualification from another country.
- *Master builders and civil engineers (RKL)*
“RAKENNUSMESTARIT JA -INSINÖÖRIT AMK RKL ry” is a national association for professional construction organization.
- *The Confederation of Finnish Construction Industries (RT)* is the cooperative organisation of building contractors, special contractors and the construction product industry.

Also different organizations/associations (e.g. “*Rakennusteollisuuden koulutuskeskus*” (RATEKO), “*Kiinteistöalan koulutuskeskus*” (KIINKO)) provide professional qualification and supplementary training for persons working in the building sector.

3.4 Legal framework for regulation of professions in the building sector

The Ministry of Education produces legislation on education and recognition of degrees. *Ministry of the Environment* produces legislation on land use and building. Since Finland joined the EU in 1995, national legislation has been widely harmonised with community legislation.

Finnish legislation concerning recognition of degrees:

- Decree on the Implementation of the General System of Recognition of Professional Qualifications of EC Citizens (05/30/1997, 520/1997)
– The decree prescribes on the procedure of applying for the recognition of qualifications (harmonized).
- Decree on Competence for Civil Service Posts Conferred by Higher Education Studies Taken Abroad (05/30/1997, 519/1997) – The decree prescribes on the validation of higher education degrees taken abroad.
- Act on recognition of degrees of EU citizens (12/30/1992, 1597/1992) – The act prescribes on the recognition of degrees in the EU.
- Act on *The Centre for International Mobility* (02/01/1991, 238/1991)
– The act defines the tasks of *The Centre for International Mobility (CIMO)*, e.g. promoting international mobility, providing information services, granting scholarships and financial support.
- Municipal civil servant act (04/11/2003, 304/2003) – The act prescribes on the condition of work of municipal civil servants, e.g.

contract, responsibilities of the employee and the employer, and safety at work.

- Act on Competence for Civil Service Posts Conferred by Higher Education Studies Taken Abroad (07/11/1986, 531/1986) – The act prescribes on the validity of higher education degrees taken abroad for Finnish state or municipal posts.

3.5 Procedures for obtaining permission to practice as a building company in the country

Building companies need to be registered in the trade register either in Finland or in their country of origin. Generally, information to be included in tenders covers following data: extract from the trade register (business code), information on the economic resources of the applicant, extract from the preliminary taxation register, certificate of tax debt and certificate of employment pension contributions. The applicant may also be required to provide evidence of an appropriate registration and licence in the country of origin. Especially in public procurement, assessment of the company itself is an important part of pre-selection/bid assessment in order to ensure that the bidder has adequate resources and capabilities to complete the project. The companies acting in the Finnish market are also required to abide by the law. This means that their operation should comply with, e.g. occupational safety law.

In order to assist in providing adequate evidence of their competence and to promote quality in construction entrepreneurs have founded an association “*Rakentamisen Laatu Ry, RALA*”. The *RALA* qualification is applied voluntarily, and not all companies in the branch have it. The application procedure is strictly defined and the certificate must be re-applied annually. All companies and organisation that act in the Finnish construction market and that can provide adequate business accounting data may apply for the certificate. Three criteria are used in assessing the applicants: technical competence and resources, societal obligations and economic situation. *RALA* certificate or comparable competence may be required in an invitation for tenders. At the same time *RALA* certificate compensates most of the additional company-level data required in the tender.

Consultants and designers have their own qualification system that is also administered by *RALA*. The following criteria are used in assessing the applicants: leadership/management, development (R&D), tendering and contracting, design projects/building development, personnel and auxiliary activities.

3.6 Procedure for obtaining permission to practice as an engineer and technician in the country

Finland has no compulsory system of registration for engineers or technicians.

However, the *National Building Code A2* specifies the competence requirements on certain types of construction. Generally, the building supervision authority will ascertain the degree of difficulty of the design task in relation to the characteristics of the building project (AA Special demands, A Basic demands, B Smallish building/technical system or conventional technical properties, C Minor). On this basis, the building supervision authority will assess the demands of the task in relation to the proficiency of the designer, which includes examinations passed by the designer and other studies undertaken by him plus experience and evidence of it in the relevant design field. Detailed competency requirements for designers are given in the *National Building Code A2* (<http://www.ymparisto.fi/download.asp?contentid=23440&lan=en>). According to the ruling, even extensive experience can not compensate lack of adequate examination.

The professional associations have founded an organisation to administer certification of competencies for construction, HPAC and facility management “*Rakennus, LVI- ja kiinteistöalan henkilöpätevyydet, FISE*”. *FISE* qualifies (based on voluntary applications) experienced and competent persons who meet the pre-set standards. These qualifications provide assurance of the competence of the person. Competence certification is granted for instance to project managers, supervisors, principal designers, architects, inspectors, structural engineers, building physics engineers, HPAC engineers, renovation engineers, project/site managers, site technicians and foremen.

VTT also administers and maintains so called person certificate register. The person certification pursues to ensure that the individual is capable of doing what he proclaims to be (sanitary cabin waterproofing, measurement of structural humidity, installation of roofing, expert on building health). The applicant must participate in the training organised by an approved/certified institution and pass a test and demonstration. The certificate is granted for 5 years.

3.7 Protected professional titles and recognition provisions

The information is available in *National Board of Education's* web-pages: <http://www.oph.fi/english/SubPage.asp?path=447,490,4951>

The main principle behind the recognition of qualifications is that if an EU citizen has completed a major part of his or her qualification in one

EU country it will be recognised in all EU countries. This principle of recognition also applies to EFTA countries, (Liechtenstein, Iceland and Norway) and Switzerland. A decision of recognition is needed only if a citizen of an EU/EFTA country wishes to apply for a post or position in the public sector for which the eligibility requirement is a higher education degree (polytechnic degree, lower or higher university degree or the degree of Licentiate or Doctor) or a post-secondary level qualification that has taken a minimum of three years to complete for post-secondary school graduates. The decision may also be made out to confer eligibility to posts or positions for which the requirements include a degree of a certain title or certain study attainments.

The citizens of Nordic countries do not need a decision of recognition for eligibility to posts or positions in the public sector if their qualification has been taken in a Nordic country and the main content of the qualification can be shown to be comparable with that of a corresponding Finnish qualification (law 651/1998).

A decision of recognition is not needed for qualifications that are lower than post-secondary level (three-year) qualifications. Professional competence achieved in an EU/EFTA country qualifies for the same jobs in Finland as it does in the country it was completed in. However, The National Board of Education may provide advisory statements on foreign vocational qualifications. Advisory statements do not confer eligibility for civil service positions, but they can be useful when seeking employment in Finland.

In practice, the competence of job applicants is evaluated by employers. Private sector employers can independently evaluate the competencies provided by the foreign qualifications of their employees. A National Board of Education decision of recognition is not required, although a decision of recognition can help employers determine the level of the foreign qualification.

3.8 Recognition procedures for professional qualifications

The information is available in *National Board of Education's* web-pages: <http://www.oph.fi/english/SubPage.asp?path=447,490,4951>

When the recognition of qualifications is required, the decisions are based on law (1597/1992) that governs qualifications taken by EU/EFTA citizens in EU/EFTA countries. The process is administered by *The National Board of Education* who decides on the competence of the applicant.

A decision of recognition is applied with a signed application form that can be downloaded from *National Board of Education's* web-pages or ordered by e-mail from recognition@oph.fi. They are also available at employment offices. Instructions for applicants, including information on the required documents, are attached to the application form. *The National Board of Education* requires certified copies of the documents. If the original qualification certificate and its appendices are in a language other than English, French, German, Swedish, Icelandic, Nor-

wegian or Danish, they must be translated into either Finnish or Swedish by a certified translator who is certified to translate into the chosen language.

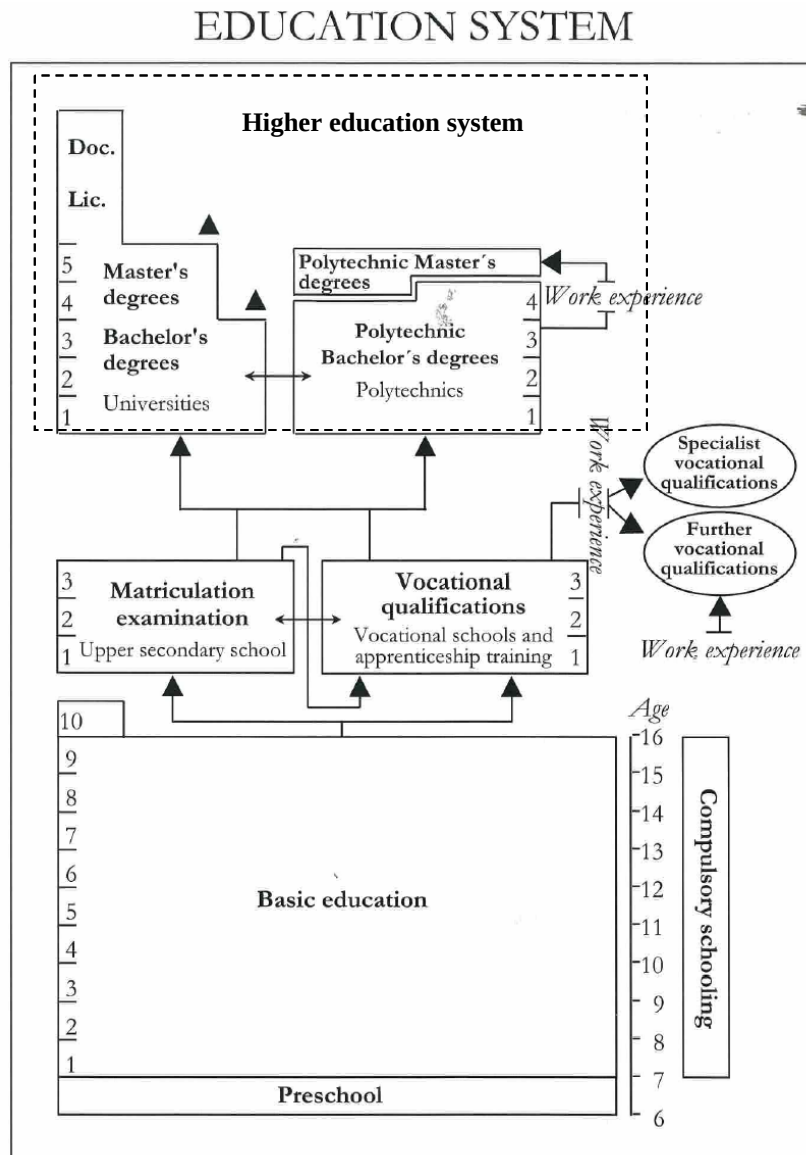
The average processing time is approximately two months. The process may take longer if *The National Board of Education* needs to acquire advisory statements from experts outside *The National Board of Education* (a Finnish university or the authorities of the country in which the qualification has been completed). The fee for the decision is 178 € (+ 10 € for postage). In processing applications, *The National Board of Education* assesses the level and scope of education on the basis of qualification certificates. The required education may be a qualification of a certain level, a qualification of a specific title, or specified studies. The main requirement for a foreign qualification to be recognised in Finland is for the qualification to be an official qualification of higher education in the country it was completed in and for the higher education institution to be legally recognised by the authorities of the country.

A decision of recognition confers the applicant the eligibility to apply for a post or position in the public sector after the completion of any supplementary study requirements or other requirements the decision may have been subjected to. The decision of recognition fulfils the qualification requirements only for the part of the qualification. It should be noted that posts or positions in the public sector may also be subjected to other requirements, such as language proficiency skills.

The recognition of foreign qualifications is not automatic, nor are there ready-made lists of correspondences between the qualifications of different countries. Instead, each application is processed individually. An application is refused if the level or scope of the foreign qualification does not correspond to one or the other of the Finnish higher education qualification. The decision can be appealed against to *The Administrative Court*.

When advisory statements on foreign vocational qualifications are sought, the statement describes the content and level of the qualification and the professional competencies it provided in the country it was completed in.

3.9 Outline of the educational system regarding civil engineering professions



The Finnish higher education system comprises 20 universities “yliopisto/universitet” and 29 polytechnics “ammattikorkeakoulu, AMK/yrkeshögskola, YH”. Architecture and civil engineering can be studied in three universities. All universities engage in both education and research and have the right to award doctorates. In polytechnics civil engineering is taught in 17 institutes. The polytechnics engage in applied research and development.

Higher education studies are measured in credits “opintopiste/studiepoäng”. Study courses are quantified according to the work load required. One year of studies is equivalent to 1600 hours of student work on the average and is defined as 60 credits. The credit system complies with the *European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)*.

Polytechnic education

Polytechnics are multi-field institutions of professional higher education with a practical orientation. The government decree on polytechnics (352/2003 including amendments) defines the objectives, extent and overall structure of polytechnic degrees. *The Ministry of Education* confirms the degree programmes of polytechnics, and within the framework of these regulations, the polytechnics decide on the content and structure of their degrees in more detail. The polytechnics also decide on their annual curricula and forms of instruction.

The first-cycle polytechnic degree consists of 180, 210 or 240 credits (3 to 4 years of full-time study) depending on the study field. The first-cycle polytechnic degree is called “ammattikorkeakoulututkinto / yrkeshögskoleexamen”. The determined English translation for the degree is Bachelor of Science. The first-cycle polytechnic degree comprises basic and professional studies, elective studies, a practical training period and a Bachelor’s thesis or a final project.

The second-cycle polytechnic degree consists of 60 or 90 credits (1 or 1.5 years of full-time study). The degree is called “ylempi ammattikorkeakoulututkinto/högre yrkeshögskoleexamen”. The determined English translation for the second-cycle polytechnic degree is Master of Science. Eligibility for second-cycle polytechnic degrees is given by a relevant first-cycle degree with at least 3 years of relevant work experience. The second-cycle polytechnic degree comprises advanced professional studies, elective studies and a final thesis or a final project.

University education

Universities “yliopisto/universitet” award lower “Bachelor” and higher “Master” academic degrees and scientific postgraduate degrees “Licentiate, Doctor”.

The Government Decree on University Degrees (794/2004) defines the objectives, extent and overall structure of degrees. The universities decide on the detailed contents and structure of the degrees they award. They also decide on their curricula and forms of instruction.

The first-cycle university degree consists of at least 180 credits (3 years of full-time study). The degree is called “kandidaatti/kandidat”. The determined English translation is Bachelor of Science. Studies leading to the degree may include: basic and intermediate studies; language and

communication studies; interdisciplinary programmes; other studies and work practice for professional development. The degree includes a Bachelor's thesis (6–10 credits).

The second-cycle university degree consists of at least 120 credits (2 years of full-time study). The extent of studies required for a programme leading to the second cycle university degree which is geared towards foreign students is a minimum of 90 credits. The degree is usually called “diplomi-insinööri/diplomingenjör” or “arkkitehti/arkitekt”. The determined English translation is Master of Science. The admission requirement for the second-cycle university degree is a first-cycle degree. The studies leading to the second-cycle university degree may include: basic and intermediate studies and advanced studies; language and communication studies; interdisciplinary study programmes; other studies; and internship improving expertise. The degree includes a Master's thesis (20 – 40 credits).

Students can apply for doctoral studies after the completion of a relevant second-cycle degree. The Doctor's degree takes approximately 4 years to complete after the second-cycle degree or 2 further years following the pre-doctoral degree. A pre-doctoral degree of “lisensiaatti /licentiat” (Licentiate) generally takes 2 years of full-time study to complete. A student who has been admitted to complete the Doctor's degree must complete a given amount of studies, show independent and critical thinking in the field of research and write a Doctor's dissertation and defend it in public.

3.10 Contact points for acquiring information on issues connected with free movement of professionals

Potential contact points for acquiring information on all issues connected with free movement of professionals are following:

On issues concerning free movement of labour:

Ministry of Labour

P.O. Box 34

FIN-00023 Government

Tel. +358 10 60 4001

Fax +358 10 60 48990

<http://www.mol.fi/mol/en/index.jsp>

On issues concerning mobility of youth/students:

CIMO, Centre for International Mobility

PO Box 343

FIN-00531 Helsinki

Telephone +358 9 7747 7033

Telefax +358 9 7747 7064

<http://www.cimo.fi/>

On issues concerning the approval of foreign professional titles/qualifications:

Finnish National Board of Education

P.O. Box 380

FIN-00531 Helsinki

Tel. + 358 9 774 775

Fax + 358 9 7747 7865

E-mail: kirjaamo@oph.fi, opetushallitus@oph.fi,

<http://www.oph.fi/english/frontpage.asp?path=447>

3.11 Opinions on use of social rules of the residing country

For companies it might be beneficial to apply the social rules of the residing country. However, at the same time it might create undue competitive advantage for the company. It must be ensured that the cross-the-borders competition does not dilute the general quality, occupational safety etc. of construction. Thus, as long as the legislation is not fully harmonised in the EU, the companies operating in the Finnish market should comply with the Finnish laws and regulations, for example in terms of occupational safety, construction quality and liabilities.

3.12 Proposals and concepts on preferential treatment for increased exchange of professionals between countries and harmonisation of competency requirements

Increased exchange of professionals is desirable as it facilitates implementation of best practices from other countries and improves the image of construction industry as a progressive and opportunities providing industry. Increased exchange may be attained only through harmonisation of qualifications. However, harmonisation must ensure adequate retention of competencies in the sector. There already exist problems/deficiencies in building physical engineering and structural engineering of demanding structures. This is evidenced by European-wide collapses of hall roofs and mould problems in houses. Thus, the harmonised qualifications should be based on the higher/tighter level requirements of the European countries even though it might mean changes to the education of building professionals in some countries. The harmonised requirements should not

be based on the lowest requirements, which enable any professional from any EU country to move to any other EU country without any supplementary educational requirements.

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4. Analysis of the existing situation in countries of the Nordic Dimension. Situation analysis in Iceland

4.1 Comments and proposals for corresponding chapters of the report “Building Sector Regulations” (Bengt Nyman, Tema Nord 2004:547)

Very little that report references directly to Iceland.

Ch. 10.1.5 is correct as it is, comment about situation in Iceland in 10.1.6 §4 and following that paragraph is correct (and restated in text here). Text on p. 152 is correct as long as it is interpreted as discussion on codes being prescriptive vs. the functional requirement approach to be aimed for now. Text on p. 153 is correct, but in Iceland it is also valid (as stated for Sweden) that a neighbour may protest if he considers an activity as hampering to him. Text on page 156 “In Iceland, the authorities... development of damages”, is not correct, very little is actually known about damages or faults in the building sector, except when insurance companies pay for the bill (water and fire damages). Text on p. 157 (middle of page) is correct but text at bottom of page is misleading.

4.2 Disposition of the administrative structure for regulation of professions in building area

The Ministry of Environment “Umhverfisstofnun”, <http://umhverfisstofnun.is>, is responsible for the building law, regulations and specifications for the building authorities in different communities. *The Ministry of Industry and Trade* “Iðnaðarstofnun”, <http://idnastofnun.is>, has responsibility for certain issues such as giving permission for a person using some of the academic titles e.g. the title engineer (see more in p.4.4, 4.6 and 4.8).

4.3 Non-governmental institutions and associations related to the building sector and its role in administration of regulated engineering professions

There are following associations in Iceland, which are involved in different activities of building character:

- *Association of Chartered Engineers* “Verkfræðingafélag Íslands” – all types of academic engineering, www.vfi.is;
- “Tæknifræðingafélag Íslands”, www.tfi.is;
- *Association of Icelandic Architects* “Arkitektafélag Íslands”, www.ai.is;
- *Federation of Icelandic Industries* “Samtök iðnaðarins”, www.si.is;
- *Association for Building Education* “Menntafélag byggingariðnaðarins”, www.mfb.is.

These professional associations through Committees of education carry out assessment of applications for granting professional titles of building profile (see also p. 4.6 and 4.8).

4.4 Legal framework for regulation of professions in the building sector

Iceland being a part of the market though does not mean that a person (foreign or not) can work without restrictions in all fields. New constructions and renovation of old buildings are regulated by the Construction Law and Building Regulation. The Law clearly states that all main actors must be registered and with appropriate approval of education and training.

The Building Law and Building Regulation are in the hands of *the Ministry of Environment*.

Specific competency requirements are set to the most academic works (e.g. engineering and architecture) and also for individual sectors of workmanship in industry.

On 1st of May 2006 a new law was accepted by *The Icelandic Althingi*. From this day Iceland has become a part of the integrated EU labour market. It means that an EU inhabitant, who has got an offer for a work in Iceland, may ask a permit for this. The permit will be granted according to the existing procedures.

4.5 Procedures for obtaining permission to practice as a building company in the country

Civil engineering professions (as many professions in the construction sector) are regulated in Iceland, and the company must have its key persons with registered rights for work in Iceland.

The following is a list of regulations and laws where requirements are made to professions (they are not translated in English yet):

- Skipulags og byggingarlög: Skipulags- og byggingarlög nr. 73/1997, sbr. 135/1997, 58/1999, 117/1999, 170/2000 og 74/2001. Tóku gildi 1. jan 1998.
- Reglugerð nr. 621/1997 um úrskurðarnefnd samkvæmt 8. gr. skipulags- og byggingarlaga nr. 73/1997.
- Reglugerð nr. 747/1997 um störf prófnefndar mannvirkjahönnuða, sbr. 354/2004.
- Skipulagsreglugerð nr. 400/1998, sbr. nr. 47/2001 og sbr nr. 420/2002.
- Byggingareglugerð nr. 441/1998, sbr. nr. 563/2000 og sbr. nr. 425/2002.
- Reglugerð nr. 168/2000 um skilyrði fyrir löggildingu iðnmeistara samkvæmt 10 tölul. í ákvæði til bráðabirgða laga nr. 73/1997, með síðari breytingum
- Reglugerð nr. 730/2000 um löggildingu iðnfræðinga, sbr. 188/2001.

4.6 Procedure for obtaining permission to practice as an engineer and technician in the country

The requirements for engineers are discussed under p. 4.8.

Craftsmen and master craftsmen must be registered according to the Construction Law and therefore they have to apply for the rights to call them (master-) craftsmen. The application must be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, which asks an education committee at *The Association for Building Education* “Menntafélag byggingariðnaðarins” about their opinion regarding education and training. Each new application for an education, not contemplated before, is handled individually. Requirements (as number of academic points in different subjects, each point taken as 1 weeks work) are formally described. The evaluation is carried out by a Committee of Education at each professional association.

If a master craftsman wishes the right to be responsible party for his profession in a capital construction (new buildings), he must ask for a special registration, and an opinion of *The Federation of Icelandic Industries*, which is responsible for granting the right. Such master craftsmen

are required by the Law for each kind of the fields, for example, wood-, electricity-, floorings-, mortar-, etc.

4.7 Protected professional titles and recognition provisions

Requirements on academic studies in engineering area were worked out some 30 years ago by *The University of Iceland* and *The Association of Chartered Engineers*, on behalf of the appropriate ministries, mainly of *The Ministry of Industry and Trade*.

These requirements make specific demands regarding depth of knowledge in mathematics, physics and chemistry. Historically this is because most of Icelandic engineers by tradition have studied the first 3–4 years in Iceland and then are going abroad for further studies. Therefore, students being prepared in such way are able to seek studies at any school they were interested in.

There are two main kinds of engineering education in Iceland:

- Academic engineering education at The University of Iceland (HI) – this education is according to the requirements discussed above, and comparable to engineering education in the Nordic countries. The education, “verkfræðingur”, has been compared to, and ranked according to rules in the USA engineering education system. The studies are 3 year BSc, + 2 years MSc and finally + 3 years PhD (according to the Boulogne regulation).
- Technical/practical education, formerly done in one technical school, but now this education is part of a rather new university – The University in Reykjavik (HR). The education in Icelandic is called “tæknifræðingur” and in English “BSc engineer”, which does not fulfil fully the requirements mentioned above (academic engineering education). The university HR now intends to start engineering education, and claims that it will complete the above mentioned requirements to such education, and the Boulogne regulation.

4.8 Recognition procedures for professional qualifications

A person after fulfilling the requirements to academic study may apply to *The Ministry of Industry and Trade* for the right to call himself an engineer “Verkfræðingur”, for example, civil-, electrical-, chemical-, industrial-, etc. engineer. The individual fulfilling the requirements of BSc according (b) may similarly apply for a title “Tæknifræðingur” (in Icelandic there is a clear difference between two types of engineers, but in English the word “engineer” has been used in both instances). There are

two associations for these different “kinds” of engineers, but the working areas for both kinds overlap very much and difference in salaries may be small.

To get full freedom to work in the specific area a prescribed training period must be finished, for example, architectural and structural drawings of buildings that according to the Building Regulation must be done and then accepted by building authorities. However, such work may be done by a person even lacking formal rights for a corresponding work title on condition that a firm has a person with full rights for this work and the firm (and its key person in question) signs all working documents and thus undertakes obligations to ensure the quality of the work done.

In order to get rights to the title “structural engineer” the applicant after finishing academic engineer studies must undergo three years training period under supervision of an experienced structural engineer. In addition, a specific course in Icelandic regulations and an examination is required.

An individual with studies abroad and wishing for a title “verkfræðingur” or “tæknifræðingur” in Iceland asks for the title at *The Ministry of Industry and Trade*. Depending on the title he seeks, the Ministry asks one of the two different associations to evaluate the quality of the applicant’s education (for architects it will be their association). The applicant is required to give a description of his education together with necessary diplomas etc. The problem here is to make the comparison between different schools, and this is usually done on an individual basis at the first time a new education is contemplated.

4.9 Outline of the educational system regarding civil engineering professions

Engineering education in Iceland may be obtained in the following Universities (see also p. 4.8):

- *The University of Iceland* (“Háskóli Íslands” – HÍ), www.hi.is;
- *Reykjavik University* (“Háskólinn í Reykjavík” – HR), www.ru.is;

4.10 Contact points for acquiring information on issues connected with free movement of professionals

No information is distributed amongst a number of official and unofficial actors. The best way will be to contact the association of interest, and ask them for specific information. A valuable contact also should be *the Trade Council of Iceland* “Útflutningsráð”, www.icetrade.is.

4.11 Opinions on use of social rules of the residing country

Use of social rules of the residing country is against Icelandic laws, and changes of the laws will be based on a discussion on the working market as such, and what requirements are put on the firms and employees.

4.12 Proposals and concepts on preferential treatment for increased exchange of professionals between countries and harmonisation of competency requirements

It is of greatest interest that the market is open for people to move between countries. That is also the case for people that wish to work in Iceland, but they have to fulfil exactly the same requirements as are put to Icelanders working in the same field. There are no hampering – technical requirements put on people to keep them out from Iceland, for now nearly 10% of all working people in Iceland are foreigners.

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5. Analysis of the existing situation in countries of the Nordic Dimension. Situation analysis in Latvia

5.1 Comments and proposals for corresponding chapters of the report “Building Sector Regulations” (Bengt Nyman, Tema Nord 2004:547)

Technical report “Building sector regulations” comprises general information on wide scale of subjects. It is very useful for obtaining answers to different questions and would support this particular project devoted to one specific issue of exchange of experience. In such studies advisable to give summary in comparable form.

5.2 Disposition of the administrative structure for regulation of professions in building area

The Ministry of Economics has overall responsibility for all matters connected with building sector, including recognition of qualification. Access to the building market is permitted only to companies, which have certified personnel (the full list of qualifications see in p.5.6) in the profile applied. Certification bodies authorised by Ministry of Economics issue certificates for these qualifications, as well as grant extension of validity and withdrawal of certificates. List of certification bodies, which are authorised for the certification market, is published in the central governmental periodical “*Latvijas Vestnesis*”. Competence of certification bodies is assessed according to the Latvian Law on Conformity Assessment and National standard (adapted from the identical European and International standard) LVS EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003, Conformity assessment — General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons. Certification procedures comprise general requirements covered by the standard mentioned above and specific criteria elaborated by each certification body in accordance with the profile applied for accreditation.

Latvian National Accreditation Bureau (LATAK) is responsible for assessment of competence all certification bodies applying for operation in the certification market.

The Ministry of Education and Science is responsible for education, including recognition of titles obtained in foreign countries.

5.3 Non-governmental institutions and associations related to the building sector and its role in administration of regulated engineering professions

The following certification bodies are authorised for certification of professional in building sector as of 1 May 2006:

- Certification Body of Latvian Association of Civil Engineers;
- Certification Body of the Latvian Association of Heat, Gas and Water Technologies Engineers;
- Certification Body of the Latvian Marine Association;
- Certification Body of Latvian Melioration Association;
- Certification Body of the Latvian Railwayman Association;
- Certification Body of the Latvian Association of Energy Construction;
- Certification Body of the Latvian Association of Electric Power;
- Certification Body of the Latvia's Electricians' Brotherhood.

5.4 Legal framework for regulation of professions in the building sector

Main legislation acts regulating recognition of qualification in building area are Latvian Law on Construction; Latvian Law on Regulated Professions and Recognition of Qualifications in the Building Area; Regulations of *Cabinet of Ministers* N0 453 of 28 June 2005 On Registration of Building Companies.

These legislation acts are harmonised with General Systems Directives (89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC and 99/42/EC); not yet harmonised with the New Directive (2005/36/EC).

5.5 Procedures for obtaining permission to practice as a building company in the country

In accordance with the Latvian Law on Construction (Clause 10) and Regulations of *Cabinet of Ministers* No 453 of 28 June 2005, On Registration of Building Companies legal persons applying for permanent building practice shall have personnel with architects and/or builder's practice certificates of one or several specific qualifications.

5.6 Procedure for obtaining permission to practice as an engineer and technician in the country

Natural persons applying for permission to practice as an engineer or technician have to go through procedure of certification (see p.5.2). The main requirements for application are: architect or civil engineering educational background of specific profile, 3–5 years experience in the qualification applied. As exclusion in some cases 3 years experience is sufficient, if the applicant has master degree of 3 year's programme or secondary professional education of 5 year's programme.

Certificates of architect or civil engineering profession are issued for 5 years period. Prolongation of validity of certificates shall be carried out after each 5 years in accordance with the full certification programme.

Certification procedures are available for the following professions:

1. Architect's practice
2. Builder's practice:
 - 2.1. Engineering research – geotechnical research
 - 2.2.1. Design of building construction
 - 2.2.2. Design of water supply and sewerage systems
 - 2.2.3. Design of heat supply and ventilation systems
 - 2.2.4. Design of freezing systems
 - 2.2.5. Design of local gas systems
 - 2.2.6. Design of long distance gas and oil pipelines
 - 2.2.7. Design of electrical installation
 - 2.2.8. Design of telecommunication systems
 - 2.2.9. Design of melioration systems
 - 2.2.10. Design of marine hidrotechnical buildings
 - 2.2.11. Design of river hidrotechnical buildings
 - 2.2.12. Design of railways
 - 2.3.1. Design, management of construction works and supervision of roads
 - 2.3.2. Design, management of construction works and supervision of bridges
 - 2.4.1. Management of construction works and supervision of buildings
 - 2.4.2. Management of construction works and supervision for reconstruction
 - 2.4.3. Management of construction works and supervision of water supply and sewerage systems
 - 2.4.4. Management of construction works and supervision of heat supply und ventilation systems
 - 2.4.5. Management of construction works and supervision of freezing systems
 - 2.4.6. Management of construction works and supervision of local gas systems
 - 2.4.7. Management of construction works and supervision of long distance gas and oil pipelines
 - 2.4.8. Management of construction works and supervision of electrical installation
 - 2.4.9. Management of construction works and supervision of telecommunication systems

- 2.4.10. Management of construction works and supervision of melioration systems
- 2.4.11. Management of construction works and supervision of marine hidrotechnical buildings
- 2.4.12. Management of construction works and supervision of river hidro-technical buildings
- 2.4.13. Management of construction works and supervision of railways

5.7 Protected professional titles and recognition provisions

Use of professional titles (engineers, technicians or other professionals on the basis of a post-secondary course) is not protected and no register of titles is maintained in Latvia.

5.8 Procedures for recognition of professional titles

No compensation measures, such as adaptation period, aptitude test, language examination, etc, applicable in cases where experience of the applicant claiming permission to practice as an engineer or technician differs from requirements established for nationals.

5.9 Outline of the educational system regarding civil engineering professions

Outline of the educational system regarding civil engineering professions comprises the following levels and extent of education:

1. Primary education – 9 years;
2. Secondary education – 3 years, secondary professional education (technician) – 4 years;
3. University professional education of the first level (bachelor) – 4 years;
4. University professional education of the second level (civil engineer) 1– 2 years;
5. Extent of education for application of certification is: for architects and civil engineers 3 years; for civil technicians 5 years.

5.10 Contact points for acquiring information on issues connected with free movement of professionals

Contact point for acquiring information on all issues connected with free movement of professionals including the building sector is:

Academic Information Centre
Valnu iela 2, LV-1050 Riga, Latvia
tel.+371- 7225155,
fax. +371-7221006,
E-mail: diplomi@aic.lv

5.11 Opinions on use of social rules of the residing country

There is no finalised opinion yet regarding granting rights to applicant building companies for practice in Latvia and use social rules of their residing countries.

5.12 Proposals and concepts on preferential treatment for increased exchange of professionals between countries and harmonisation of competency requirements

Agreement should be reached between Member States (at least of Nordic Dimension region) on common requirements for education (programmes and extent), professional experience of post graduates and conditions for exchange of service in building sector.

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6. Analysis of the existing situation in countries of the Nordic Dimension. Situation analysis in Lithuania

6.1 Comments and proposals for corresponding chapters of the report “Building Sector Regulations” (Bengt Nyman, Tema Nord 2004:547)

The building sector is an object of harmonisation with EU requirements in Lithuania. Therefore, any information about legislative system and practical issues creates great interest. In this regard, Technical report “Building sector regulations” provides very important information on this subject about the Baltic Sea region countries and assists in acquiring information on very different items, which would support actors in building sector. However, this report covers very wide range of issues and it is understandable that not all items can be explained in details, particularly experience in recognition of qualifications. For this reason, the initiative to proceed with thorough study of regulated professions in building sector seems to be very grateful.

6.2 Disposition of the administrative structure for regulation of professions in building area

Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania is responsible for all the matters of the building sector, including recognition of competence for specialists, who have obtained their qualification in other countries. The main areas of technical construction activities may be managed only by professionals, who have undergone attestation, including such professions as designers for construction, engineers of design documentation, implementation supervisors of design documentation, general managers of construction and of special works, technical supervisors of construction in general and of special works, experts for examination of design documentation and examination of constructions. These professionals must meet qualification requirements approved by an institution authorized by the Government and demonstrate evidence – attestation documents (certificates). Such authorised institution in the country is Construction and Building Department of this Ministry of Environment,

which is responsible for issue of qualification certificates for all professionals of building profiles mentioned above. Attestation rules are binding for individuals of construction profile, as well as for building companies.

The full list of specialists and companies, which have undergone attestation of qualification is published in *Lithuanian Official Journal "Valstybes Žinios"*. Additionally such data are available in the web page of *The Certification Centre of Construction Products (SPSC)* www.spsc.lt (English version – CCBP – *Certification Centre of Building Products*), which is a substructure of *Construction and Building Department*. Thus, attestation of individuals and companies is voluntary, but access to the building market regulated.

6.3 Non-governmental institutions and associations related to the building sector and its role in administration of regulated engineering professions

Non-governmental associations in the building sector are as follows: Builders Association, Architects Associations, Construction Industry Association, Association of Lithuanian Design Companies, Union of Lithuanian Civil Engineers, Association of Construction Companies for Telecommunications. Lithuania has no legal-based system for registration of consultants and contractors; therefore, these associations have no role in recognition of competence and regulation of this process. These organisations have only rights to act in the field of teaching process and to express their opinion during qualification tests for national professionals.

6.4 Legal framework for regulation of professions in the building sector

Lithuanian legislation in building sector is harmonised with EU legislation, i.e., corresponding EU legal acts are transposed into national law. The following legislation acts administer the building sector:

- Law on Construction, No I-1240, adopted 1996.03.19 by SEIMAS and Law on Amendment of the Law on Construction, No. IX-583, adopted 2001.11.08 by SEIMAS (.Umbrella law);
- Building Technical Regulation STR 1.02.06:2005 „Rules for getting permission to become a supervisor of the main branches of construction works and the main rules of recognition the diplomas of foreign construction works engineers in Lithuanian Republic, adopted 2005.06.23 by the Order No D1-321 by the Minister of Environment;

- Building Technical Regulation STR 1.02.07: 2004 „Rules for getting permission to become a designer of construction works, a contractor of a construction works, a manager of design and construction of a construction works. Rules for recognition the documents verifying the rights to practice in the field of construction works and issued by foreign natural or legal persons or other foreign institutions in Lithuanian Republic“, adopted 2004.10.21 by the Order No D1-549 of the Minister of Environment.

6.5 Procedures for obtaining permission to practice as a building company in the country

The main requirements for obtaining permission to practice as a building company are defined in Article VI of Building Technical Regulation STR 1.02.07: 2004 (the full title of the document is given in p.6.4). The set of rules for recognition documents issued by foreign countries are laid down in Article VII of this Regulation.

Note: The related extracts of this Regulation would be possible to present after official translation into English.

6.6 Procedure for obtaining permission to practice as an engineer and technician in the country

The main criterion for obtaining permission to practice as an engineer and technician in the country is level of education. However, in order to obtain permission to practice as an engineer and technician the applicant has to go through certain procedure described in Articles V and VI of the Building Technical Regulation STR 1.02.06:2005. It covers categories of professionals listed in Article I of Building Technical Regulations STR 1.02.06:2005. The same list is available in Article 6.1.1 of „Building sector regulations“, page 76.

Note: The related extracts of this Regulation would be possible to present after official translation into English.

6.7 Protected professional titles and recognition provisions

The professional titles (engineers, technicians or other professionals on the basis of a post-secondary course) are not protected. The procedure for registration of titles is not regulated also in the legal acts.

The attestation of qualifications is under responsibility of *the Certification Centre of Construction Products (SPSC)*, which is a substructure of *the Construction and Building Department* (more in details see in p.6.1). The full list of qualification certificate issued is available in the website: www.spsc.lt.

The overall procedure for attestation is binding only for citizens of the Lithuania Republic. Particular requirements for approval of qualifications in different fields of construction, which are obtained in foreign countries, are described in the Law on Construction, Building Technical Regulation STR 1.02.07: 2004 and Building Technical Regulation STR 1.02.06:2005). The procedure for attestation differs from the procedure of qualification recognition. Qualification recognition procedure, which comprises verification of documents approving rights to work in the same field of construction works in foreign country is applicable in case, if the applicant claims a position of designer of construction works, a contractor of a construction works, a manager of design and construction of a construction works and other positions described in p.6.2.

Non-attested professionals (citizens of Lithuania Republic), who have not obtained rights for a works in areas enlisted in p.6.2 are not in a position to practice in the correspondent profession. The same restrictions are applied for foreigners, who have not attained recognition of their qualification and therefore not gained rights to work in the anticipated construction field.

Profession classification codes ISCO are not binding for professions of building sector.

6.8 Procedures for recognition of professional titles

Professional titles are not protected in the country.

6.9 Outline of the educational system regarding civil engineering professions

Duration of professional education for civil engineering professions in order to obtain bachelor degree is 4 years of University studies, to obtain master degree – additional 2 years of University studies. No special training after graduation required, but qualification requirements to obtain permission to practice as an engineer should be met. Qualification requirements are listed in Annex 1 and Annex 2 of the Building Technical regulation STR1.02.06:2005 (more in details see p.6.2).

Note: The related extracts of this Regulation would be possible to present after official translation into English.

The list of titles in civil engineering and architecture, which is possible to obtain in Lithuanian universities and colleges, changes every year according to the market demand. The full list of titles is under responsibility of Universities.

6.10 Contact points for acquiring information on issues connected with free movement of professionals

Contact points in Lithuania for acquiring information on all issues connected with free movement of professionals including the building sector will be covered under requirements of the Directive of Services, which is not yet adapted in the National legislation. Governmental institutions are responsible for acquiring information under the competency, particularly in building sector – *The Ministry of Environment*.

6.11 Opinions on use of social rules of the residing country

The applicant building companies practicing in Lithuania are obliged to use social rules of Lithuania.

6.12 Proposals and concepts on preferential treatment for increased exchange of professionals between countries and harmonisation of competency requirements

Lithuania makes emphasis more on recognition of competence not on formal recognition of professions. These concepts are observed also in the legislation acts, particularly in the article VII of Building Technical Regulation STR 1.02.07: 2004 „Rules for getting permission to become a designer of construction works, a contractor of construction works, a manager of design and manager of construction works“, „Rules for recognition documents verifying the rights to practice in the field of construction works and issued by foreign natural or legal persons or other foreign institutions in Lithuanian Republic“, adopted 2004.10.21 by the Order No D1-549 of the Minister of Environment. These documents cover also rules for recognition of documents issued by foreign countries and assigned for natural and legal persons, who have confirmed their rights to work in various fields of construction works. These legal acts are not yet translated into English.

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7. Analysis of the existing situation in countries of the Nordic Dimension. Situation analysis in Norway

7.1 Comments and proposals for corresponding chapters of the report “Building Sector Regulations” (Bengt Nyman, Tema Nord 2004:547)

The information in the “Building Sector Regulations” about Norwegian building rules and regulations will give companies from other countries valuable information. No additions or corrections are necessary at this time.

7.2 Disposition of the administrative structure for regulation of professions in building area

The Norwegian Planning and Building Act (1985, with amendments of 2005) is the main document for all matters concerning building business, but it does not regulate specific professions. The Act states that buildings that are complex or where there is a high degree of risk involved must be built by firms with civil engineering knowledge and experience. The act makes no specific listings of types of professions, but states that it must be a relevant profession.

The Municipal Council is responsible for and administers municipal planning and work on zoning plans in the municipality. In each municipality there is a *Standing Committee for Planning Matters*. The municipality performs the functions assigned to it in this Act, in regulations and in by-laws, and oversees compliance with planning and building legislation in the municipality.

The planning and building authorities seek cooperation with other public authorities pursuant to the Planning and Building Act, and collect comments in matters pertaining to the area of responsibility of the authorities concerned.

7.3 Non-governmental institutions and associations related to the building sector and its role in administration of regulated engineering professions

Norway have many different non-governmental and associations related to the building sector. We have included some of the largest here:

NITO – Union for engineers and technologists. NITO consists mainly of engineers and technologists who have completed a three year degree course at college or university level. www.nito.no.

RIF – *Association of Consulting Engineers* – Organization for approved consulting companies in Norway, and the Norwegian member association of the global consulting association FIDIC. The member firms adhere to the FIDIC Code of Ethics, have to satisfy relevant liability insurance coverage according to Norwegian standard contract and standards of competence set by RIF. As an element of this standard of competence member firms are required to have a minimum of one RIF-approved consultant per 10 staff members working on projects. To gain this professional title requires competence at university level and normally 8 years relevant practice in addition to ability to act as advisor for others (www.rif.no).

TEKNA – *The Norwegian Society of Chartered Technical and Scientific Professionals*, an organisation for individual professionals in various engineering fields, unites 44 000 members with objectives – professional development, promotion of the members' interests vis-à-vis decision-makers and public opinion (www.tekna.no).

“Arkiteksbedriftene” – *Association for the architects in Norway*, unites over 430 member companies (www.npa.no).

Standard Norge – *The Standardization Organizations in Norway*. *Standards Norway* is responsible for all standardisation areas except electrotechnical and telecommunications. *Standards Norway* adopts and publishes some 1,500 new Norsk Standard (Norwegian Standards), NS annually. NS is adopted by SN based on nationally made standards and on European and International standards. *Standards Norway* is the Norwegian member of CEN and ISO. Norwegian authorities make reference to standards in laws and regulations. Standards also play an essential role in the removal of technical barriers to trade. www.standard.no

SINTEF – SINTEF Building and Infrastructure consists of twelve departments situated in Oslo and Trondheim. It is a research institute serving the building, construction and housing sectors. They have laboratories and testing facilities for R&D and certification/approval. SINTEF are also appointed Notified Body for several product areas. They also develop and publish knowledge products and research documents, the most important being the Building Research Design Sheets. www.sintef.no.

7.4 Legal framework for regulation of professions in the building sector

The Norwegian Planning and Building Act (1985, with amendments of 2005), is the responsibility of two different ministries. *The Ministry of the Environment* is responsible for the planning part of the act, and *The Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development* is responsible for the building part.

The most important regulations concerning the building sectors are:

- Regulations under the Planning and Building Act concerning approval of enterprises for responsibility (Competence Regulations, 1997)
- Regulations concerning administrative procedures and inspection under the Planning and Building Act (1997)
- Regulations concerning requirements for construction works and products for construction works (1997)

All works with electricity is not part of the planning and building act, and have separate regulations where restrictions apply.

7.5 Procedures for obtaining permission to practice as a building company in the country

The government and national authorities have no direct role in a building project. The national authorities provide the building regulations, which all projects have to comply with. There is no procedure necessary to be able to practice as a building company. If a company wants to apply for approval of liability for certain tasks in a project, it must do so as stated in the Regulations under the Planning and Building Act concerning approval of enterprises for responsibility (Competence Regulations, and Regulations concerning administrative procedures and inspection under the Planning and Building Act.

The local authority is acting as the building authority – an administrative unit within the local authority with powers delegated by the council. The building permit is granted by the local authority. The local authority approves the liable contractors, and may decide on the type, method and level of inspection (self inspection/independent inspection).

The client can be the building owner or the developer or someone who on his behalf acts as the client.

The Competence Regulations under the Planning and Building Act contain rules concerning the approval of enterprises for responsibility.

The procedure in general comprises the following activities. In all cases, the company is directly liable to the building authority. This is to

ensure that their work shall comply with a building permit or similar. All firms liable to the building authority shall have local authority approval for the work they plan to carry out, and for each building project. Building works or parts of works are classified in three categories according to the complexity of the work to be done, and the consequence of faults. The required competence depends on the class, from one to three. The requirements regarding competence, which specifies professional abilities, experience and knowledge of the building regulations are set out in the Regulations. There is also the requirement of an operational quality system. For instance, an architectural firm doing work on a building in class three, perhaps a complex office building, will have to employ a person with a university degree in architecture and at least six years of experience. The assessment of competence and subsequent approval is the responsibility and duty of the local authority if the company is not centrally approved.

All companies, which apply for liability, must have a technical staff with relevant education and relevant practice. All companies, which apply for liability, must also have a limited system for quality assurance, containing:

- Organization plans, both for the company as such, and for project organization,
- System for identification of technical and procedural requirements relevant for the project,
- System for identification and handling of deviations,
- System for handling of documents and
- In addition, there is also a practice for a requirement of the handling of sub-contractors.

7.6 Procedure for obtaining permission to practice as an engineer and technician in the country

There are no procedures in the Norwegian Planning and Building Act restricting rights to practice as an engineer and technician.

7.7 Protected professional titles and recognition provisions

No titles are protected by the Norwegian Planning and Building Act. Only “Civil Engineers” and “Civil Architects” are protected in Norway by educational laws. The title for “Master Craftsman” is also protected for certain fields like for example “masonry” and “carpentry”.

7.8 Procedures for recognition of professional titles

Information on recognition of foreign higher education, on evaluation and accreditation of Norwegian qualifications and a general overview of higher education in Norway is managed by *The Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education*, NOKUT.

The purpose of NOKUT is to supervise and help to develop the quality of higher education in Norway through evaluation, accreditation and recognition of quality systems, institutions and course provisions. In addition, NOKUT considers individual applications for general recognition of foreign qualifications.

NOKUT is also responsible for providing foreign institutions and partners with information on the Norwegian educational system and the system for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications.

7.9 Outline of the educational system regarding civil engineering professions

There are many colleges in Norway that offer a degree as Bachelor of engineering (3 years), and a few universities that offer a master degree, or “Civil engineer” degree. The largest technical university is NTNU. www.ntnu.no.

Norway started to use the terms Bachelor and Master in 2003 and it should therefore be easy to compare different educations in this area.

The Norwegian system of approval of liable companies has a classification with four levels of education, from professional training and up to university level. In combination with requirements for practice within a range from 2 to 8 years, the companies may qualify for design or construction of projects in the 3 classes of project types relating to complexity and risk (consequences of defaults). The more detailed requirements for type of education and length of relevant practice appear in the Competence Regulations.

7.10 Contact points for acquiring information on issues connected with free movement of professionals

Information on Norwegian planning- and building regulations is available at be@be.no

Address of the National office of building technology and administration is www.be.no

7.11 Opinions on use of social rules of the residing country

This is a political question, and it is one that is highly debated in Norway. At the moment I feel that I don't have enough information about this subject to respond to your question.

7.12 Proposals and concepts on preferential treatment for increased exchange of professionals between countries and harmonisation of competency requirements

To better facilitate increased exchange between countries we need better knowledge of the different education systems and different degrees in the member states. Other difficult barriers will of course be language, knowledge of rights and duties in a new country and knowledge of other relevant rules and regulations like regulations on work safety and working hours.

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8. Analysis of the existing situation in countries of the Nordic Dimension. Situation analysis in Sweden

8.1 Comments and proposals for corresponding chapters of the report “Building Sector Regulations” (Bengt Nyman, Tema Nord 2004:547)

All issues regarding the process and regulations for access to the building market, recognition of engineering and technician professions are still unchanged and applicable.

8.2 Disposition of the administrative structure for regulation of professions in building area

The academic titles are not protected in Sweden. Concerning skilled workers there is no governmental regulation in Sweden. The different professions are defined by the collective agreements between the parties of the labour market (see also p.8.3).

However, there are a number of authorities stating different demands, through legislation, or other kinds of regulations:

- The Ministry of Sustainable Development,
- The National Board of Housing,
- Building and Planning,
- Swedish Road Administration,
- The Swedish Work Environment Authority,
- The Swedish National Electrical Safety Board.

The Planning and Building Act, administrated by *The National Board of Housing, Building and Planning* at the national level, prescribes that for works requiring a building notification the *commissioner of a building* shall appoint a “person responsible for quality matters” or “quality assurance supervisor”. (see also p.8.6).

8.3 Non-governmental institutions and associations related to the building sector and its role in administration of regulated engineering professions

The professions for skilled workers are defined (but not formally regulated) by collective agreements between the parties of the labour market. A profession is defined by the collective agreement but the different training boards define the objectives and the examination. The collective agreements regulate which level of salary the employee belongs to, but there is no formal demand towards a worker from another country that obstruct the latter to act in Sweden as a construction worker.

Most workers educates within the upper secondary school (“gymnasieskolan”), whose descriptions for the programmes/subjects/courses mainly follows the definitions made by the non-governmental training boards.

Below a list with the most frequent professions and the related training boards.

8.3.1 Skilled Workers

The Swedish Construction federation (“Sveriges Byggindustrier”), the Association of Swedish Earth Moving Contractors (ME), the Swedish Building Workers Union (“Byggnads”) and The Union of Service and Communication Employees (SEKO) form together:

The Swedish Construction Industry Training Board (“Byggnadsindustrins yrkesnämnd”, BYN, <http://www.byn.se>).

Professions defined by the parties:

- Carpentry and Woodworking
- Concrete work
- Bricklaying
- Machine Operating
- Construction and road building
- Floorlaying
- Tilelaying
- Surface-laying (Asphalt)
- Rock-blasting
- Concrete sawing and Drilling
- Stone-masonry
- Scaffolding
- Roofing
- Ceiling construction
- Construction Diving
- Maintenance and service

The trade and employers' association of *The Swedish Painting Contractors* and *The Swedish Painters Union* form together *The Painting Trade Training Board* ("Måleribranschens yrkesnämnd", <http://www.malare.nu>)

Profession:

- Housepainter

The Sheet-metal Trade employers' organization (PLR) and *the Swedish Building Workers Union* "Byggnads" form together *the Training board for Sheet-metal work and Ventilation* (PVF, "Plåt & Vent Yrkesnämnden", <http://www.pvf.se>)

Profession:

- Sheet-metal worker

The employers' organization for sanitation, heating and ventilation "VVS-Installatörerna" and *the Swedish Building Workers Union* "Byggnads" form together *The Training Board for the Sanitation-, Heating- and Ventilation Trade* ("VVS-Branschens Yrkesnämnd", <http://www.vvsyn.se>)

Profession:

- Plumber
- Insulation worker

The employers' organization for electrical installation (EIO) and *The Swedish Electricians Union* ("Elektrikerförbundet") form together *the Central Committee of the Electrical Trade for Vocational Training* (www.ecy.com)

Profession:

- Electrician

8.3.2. Technicians and engineers

Regarding technicians and engineers there are no corresponding organisation to the training boards in Sweden. However, a number of employers'- and trade union organizations and associations have interest for these professions.

8.4 Legal framework for regulation of professions in the building sector

The Swedish act on Technical requirements for construction works (1994:847) and The Planning and Building act with the regulations defined by *The National Board of Housing, Building and Planning*:

The Building Sector Regulations (BBR) and the Design Regulations (BKR). These acts are harmonised with the correspondent legislation of the EU.

8.5 Procedures for obtaining permission to practice as a building company in the country

There is no permission necessary to practice as a building company, but the actual projects need permissions, and the responsibility belongs to the buyer or “commissioner” of the building.

In general anyone who on his own account carries out or commissions any one else to carry out construction, demolition or site improvement work (the builder), shall ensure that the work is carried out in compliance with the provisions of the legislation:

- The landowner (building owner) must send a building notice to the local building committee (at least three weeks before the start of the works);
- The committee calls for a consultative meeting with the building owner, the quality assurance supervisor and other important persons in the construction project;
- Examination is made of the design and planning of the works and all the measures taken for inspection, supervision and other controls (detailed development plan) at the consultative meeting;
- The building owner makes the inspection schedule and the building committee takes a decision;
- The committee approves a quality assurance supervisor to handle the inspection plan;
- The committee issues a building permit and completion certificate after construction works have finished and accepted.

There are also some customer-related demands and trade approving systems that can be mentioned here:

Banverket, the authority for the railway network in Sweden, has opened its production operations to competition.

TransQ is a joint prequalification system for suppliers to Scandinavian transport organisations in which *Banverket* is one of the participating organisations. *Banverket* uses the system in order to acquire information

and to appoint suppliers for the procurement of goods, services and contract works.

By means of one single prequalification, the information is made available to a large number of purchasers within the different organisations. The information is always available. Among other things, the regulations require that tenderers be selected on the basis of objective and non-discriminatory criteria.

Contact:

Achilles Information (administers the system on behalf of *Banverket*)
Box 1087,164 25 Kista
+46-8-444 17 20
or go to: <http://www.achillevs.se/>

Trade Approving Systems

Insurance companies and customers demands various approving systems. These are often developed in cooperation with trade organizations. Some examples of trades; Sanitation (<http://www.sakervatten.se/>), Flooring (<http://www.gvk.se>)

Tilelaying (<http://www.bkr.se>). All websites unfortunately are in Swedish only.

8.6 Procedure for obtaining permission to practice as an engineer and technician in the country

Particular competence requirements are defined by the institutions enlisted below.

The Swedish National Electrical Safety Board regulates the authorisation for electricians who want to work as *professional electrical contractors* and also for consultant engineers within this area..

The National Board of Housing, Building and Planning (“Boverket”, www.boverket.se), is the central government authority for planning, the management of land and water resources, urban development, building and housing under *The Ministry of Sustainable Development*.

The Planning and Building Act, administrated by *The National Board of Housing, Building and Planning* at the national level, prescribes that for works requiring a building notification the *commissioner of a building* shall appoint a “person responsible for quality matters” or “quality assurance supervisor”. This person has to be approved either locally or nationwide and there are different demands depending on the difficulty of the building/structure. The task is to ensure that the essential demands from the society (legislation and regulations) are fulfilled. The person shall have necessary education and experience and have an aptitude for

the task. Normally it's preferable to appoint a person that is not involved in the works at site. The *Building Committees of local municipalities* supervises the approval of quality assurance supervisors at the local level. To obtain a nationwide coverage the demands are higher and the person is certified for a limited time-period. There are three different classes for the nationwide coverage; E, N, and K. Both educational knowledge and experience are demanded and there is also a demand for documented knowledge about the Swedish act on Technical requirements for construction works and the Planning and Building act (see following table).

For some competencies, such as fire issues, accessibility and other specialities, a special expert can be certified if he can prove his competence of the issue in question. To be able to inspect the ventilation according to the regulations on mandatory ventilation control, the inspector must be certified by an accredited body or authorized by the local building committee for the individual body.

The three different classes for the quality assurance supervisors with nationwide coverage:

E -simple, "smaller houses"

The applicant shall have technical knowledge corresponding to the construction programme (vocational training) at the upper secondary school or other equivalent education. Three years of relevant professional experience.

N -normal, "up to 4 storeys"

The applicant shall have technical knowledge corresponding to an engineering programme at university/university college (ECTS 120), an engineering education from the former 4-year technical programme at upper secondary school, advanced vocational education (ECTS 90) or other equivalent education. Five years of relevant professional experience from at least two different branches within the building sector.

K -complicated, "larger school-buildings"

The applicant shall have technical knowledge corresponding to a MSc in civil engineering, an architectural programme, an engineering programme at university/university college (ECTS 180), an engineering education from the former 4-year technical programme at upper secondary school or other equivalent education.

The length of relevant professional experience depends of the educational level and varies from 4 to 8 years. Experience is expected from at least two different branches within the building sector.

There are at present three accredited companies that have the right to decide about quality assurance supervisors with nationwide coverage. These companies cooperate with different providers of education.

SWEDCERT
Campus Gräsvik 1
S-371 75 KARLSKRONA,
SWEDEN
Phone: + 46 455 30 56 00
Fax: + 46 455 104 36
E-mail: office@swedcert.se
www.swedcert.se

DNV Certification AB
Box 30234
S-104 25 STOCKHOLM,
SWEDEN
Phone: + 46 8 587 940 00
Fax: + 46 8 651 70 43
E-mail: info.sweden@dnv.com
www.detnorskeveritas.se

SITAC AB
Box 553
S-371 23 KARLSKRONA,
SWEDEN
Phone: +46 455 33 63 00
Fax: + 46 455 206 88
E-mail: info@sitac.se
www.sitac.se

If the buyer (or “commissioner”) uses a contractor from another country the quality assurance supervisor can be engaged as a consultant, in the same way as a Swedish company would have done if they have no quality assurance supervisor of their own.

The Swedish Road Administration (Vägverket, www.vv.se) has, as a major buyer of road works, a number of smaller courses that *each employee at a site* has to get through. The courses focus mainly at security and environmental aspects.

The Swedish Work Environment Authority (Arbetsmiljöverket, www.av.se) is the administrative authority for questions relating to the working environment.

In the Statute Book (AFS), translated to English (<http://www.av.se/inenglish/lawandjustice/provisions/>), the authority defines a number of compulsory medical controls concerning:

- Lead AFS 1992:17
- Quartz AFS 1992:16
- Asbestos AFS 1996:13
- Thermosetting plastics AFS 2005:18
- Mast- and polework AFS 2000:6
- Diving AFS 1993:57
- Night-work AFS 2005:6
- Work in nuclear plants SSI FS 1996

There are also some regulations that requires medical control at need:

- Vibrations
- Noise
- Risk for infection
- Vision

8.7 Protected professional titles and recognition provisions

The professional titles within the building sector are not protected. Sweden has relatively few regulated professions, compared with other EU/EFTA countries.

8.8 Recognition procedures for professional qualifications

There are no specified conditions.

8.9 Outline of the educational system regarding civil engineering professions

Post-secondary education

The academic titles are not protected in Sweden. Therefore, it is not necessary to have a permit to use a title.

At higher level two different authorities have the responsibility: *The Swedish Agency for Advanced Vocational Education* (KY-myndigheten, www.ky.se, <http://www.ky.se/engelskainfo.html>). *The Swedish National Agency for Higher Education* www.hsv.se (<http://english.hsv.se/>)

KY is a form of post-secondary education designed and carried out in close co-operation with workplaces. One third of the education time is spent in the advanced application of theoretical knowledge at a workplace – “the LIA”. In contrast to the traditional traineeship period, the “LIA” is an active workplace learning and problem-solving in an overall educational context.

The responsibilities of the Agency for Advanced Vocational Education are to draw up guidelines and contribute to development, approve applications, to make grants and to supervise and follow up the courses.

Each education defines their educational objective.

The Swedish National Agency for Higher Education issues regulations to supplement and clarify the provisions of the Higher Education Act and the Higher Education Ordinance.

Each seat of learning defines their own educational objective starting from the general objectives in the Higher Education Ordinance.

Technicians

Within the KY-education the typical length of the education is from 1–2 years. The objectives are defined in close collaboration with the trade and vary.

There are three different kinds of examination for technicians at university college/university.

- “Yrkeshögskoleexamen” 80 p (120 ECTS)
- “Yrkesteknisk examen” 60 p (90 ECTS)
- “Högskoleexamen” 80 p (120 ECTS)

Engineers (BSc and Msc) and Architects

Occurring academic degrees for engineers at bachelor and master level and architects:

- “Högskoleingenjörsexamen” 120 p (180 ECTS)
- “Civilingenjörsexamen” 180 p (270 ECTS)
- “Arkitektexamen” 180 p (270 ECTS)

There are also possibilities to obtain a General degree:

- “Kandidatexamen” (Bachelor of...) 120 p (180 ECTS)
- “Magisterexamen” (Master of...) 160 p (240 ECTS)

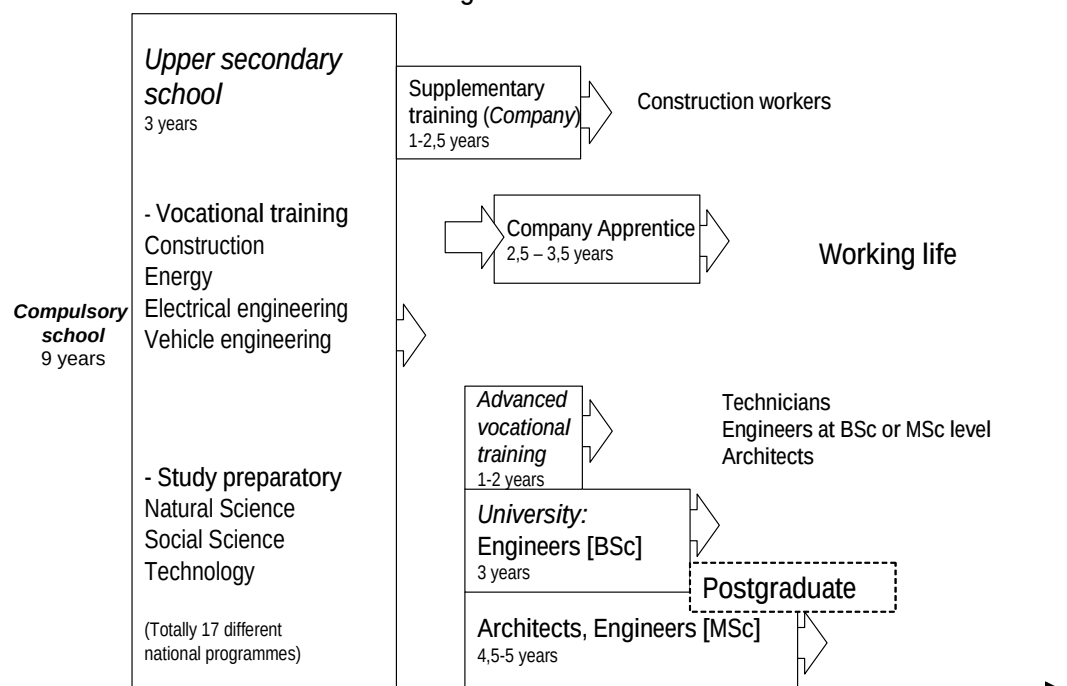
There are generally no demands claiming practice during the studies or after the exam.

Vocational training

The vocational training in Sweden starts for the majority of the skilled workers with three years within the upper secondary school. After this, there is a period of supplementary training as apprentice at a company. This period varies from 1 to 2,5 years depending on occupational group.

Another opportunity is to take all the training within a company as apprentice.

Educations in Sweden for the Building Sector



8.10 Contact points for acquiring information on issues connected with free movement of professionals

If a person has completed a higher education programme in another country, he/she can receive a document that states which Swedish qualification the qualification corresponds to. In addition to this task of providing evaluations of qualifications from other countries the Swedish National Agency for Higher Education acts as an information office for NARIC (National Academic Recognition Information Centre) and ENIC (European Network of Information Centres), two networks for international cooperation.

Swedish National Agency for Higher Education

Postal address:

Högskoleverket

Box 7851

S-103 99 Stockholm

Sweden

Phone: +46-8-563 085 00,

Fax: +46-8-563 085 50

E-mail: hsv@hsv.se

<http://www.hsv.se>

The Programme Office deals with the different programmes for enhanced mobility within the school system and also with the Leonardo da Vinci-programme.

The International Programme Office for Education and Training,

Postal address:

Internationella programkontoret,

Box 22007

S-104 22 Stockholm

Sweden

Phone +46-8-453 72 00

E-mail: registrator@programkontoret.se

<http://www.programkontoret.se>

8.11 Opinions on use of social rules of the residing country

This is a very difficult question. When the differences are large between the welfare systems in the different countries it means that the richer countries might be seen as “making profits” at the expense of the health and welfare of the less rich countries. Another criticism is that it might be

seen as unfair competition from companies in the host country. On the other hand, open markets and free trade are prerequisites for economic growth and improving standards of living on both an individual and macroeconomic level. Different wage levels and different legal systems are natural part of the competitive package, as long as they are above some minimum levels regarding for example the existence of child work. To deny the less rich countries the possibility to compete will make their situation even worse. Furthermore, international competition is beneficial for consumers in the host countries. Thus, to conclude – even if tougher international competition might induce short term costs on host country companies, on a longer perspective it is beneficial for all. Thus, all in all – it is contrary to basic free trade principles to enforce the foreign firm to use for example Swedish rules.

8.12 Proposals and concepts on preferential treatment for increased exchange of professionals between countries and harmonisation of competency requirements

To the greatest possible extent the different professions ought to be recognized as equal to the own country. This assumes generally speaking that the objectives of the different educations/professions are consistent. Occurring regulations or approving systems has to be possible for foreigners to fulfil.

Suggested prioritisation:

1. Harmonization
2. Recognition
3. Validation

Respondent:

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Conclusions and recommendations

1. Initiation of the Project was very well timed. Proposal to start a project on subject of recognition of regulated professions was just in time, because the New Directive was adopted on 20 October 2005 and in less than in two month time proposal was accepted at the meeting of the Steering Group on 12 December 2005. Enviably operative feedback and treatment of the problem by the Steering Group!
2. Eight countries of the nine responded to the request to participate in the Project and all took active part in fulfilment of the Action plan. The ninth country (Poland) was withheld from active participation due to administrative restructuring of units involved in the Project. Information about Denmark was obtained from the “Building Sector Regulations” (TemaNord 2004:547). Comparative study of the situation in all participation countries is given in the Table 1.
3. Under recognition of professions in this survey should be understood recognition of competence and acceptance of accompanying evidence for applicants of foreign (EU) countries looking for practice or establishing business in the recipient country. In other words, it means identification of requirements to open a national market for applicants whose qualification is obtained in other country and who are looking for answers such as follows. Whom they have to address? What is a procedure to undergo? What documents to prepare? Where they can get detailed information? And so on.
4. With regard to engineering and technician professions, the situation varies between the participating states. Basically, there are three different regimes:
 - The engineering and technician profession are not regulated and no title is protected. This is the case for Sweden and Denmark.
 - There is no restriction on the right to practice as an engineer and technician. However, certain titles, whether academic or professional are protected, and recognition is needed in order to use these titles. This is the case for Norway and Iceland, and partly for Finland. In Finland, though, the recognition is needed only for positions in the public sector. Academic work in the private sector is regulated through project complexity and based on competency requirements.

- The profession is regulated, registration is obligatory and therefore recognition is necessary in order to practice. This is the case for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.
5. In cases where regulation of professions is taking place, different recognition requirements and procedures are applied, which would create problems if harmonisation of criteria for recognition will be initiated in the framework of long term objectives.
 6. Another problematic factor for harmonisation of recognition criteria is wide range of engineering and technicians titles. This aspect would bother comparison of qualifications and aligning titles and thus to confuse authorities granting permission to the market.
 7. Results of the survey may be considered as a contribution towards an increased exchange in the building sector between countries in the Baltic Sea region in order to stimulate competition and to reduce costs so that wider groups of society can afford new housing. In particular, information obtained would serve as a starting point for work out of the common platform at least for the region of the participating countries.
 8. The common platform might be defined as a set of criteria of professional qualifications suitable for compensating for substantial differences, which have been identified between the training requirements existing in the various participating countries for a given profession. These substantial differences shall be identified by comparison between the duration and contents of the training in participating countries, especially in these, which regulate this profession. The differences in the contents of the training may result from substantial differences in the scope of the professional activities. The common platform is an important element of the New Directive and it will be required for Member states in the framework of implementation of this document (till 20 October 2007). Therefore, sooner or later the job on common platform would be completed for every participating country.
 9. The Questionnaire as a main working mode for reaching objectives of the Project was selected as an instrument to obtain structured and compact knowledge in limited time scale and suitable for communication means of all participants. It turned out as sufficiently effective. However, some weak points of this approach were disclosed during the operation. The first, more detailed explanation should be given in the introduction part of the Questionnaire upon importance of the subject for every participation country. Secondly, preliminary information about personal attributes and qualifications of the WG members would be helpful to facilitate selection of right people. As a consequence, responses to the Questionnaire are rather different in length and degree of detailed elaboration. Therefore, a lesson

obtained on cooperation and communications between countries interested in solving complicated problems of common interests would be considered as an additional benefit of the Project. This experience would be taken into account for the next step, if the Project will find further development. In this case the network already established should be maintained.

10. Finally, results of this survey would present interest as a starting point for development of the next stage and some suggestions of possible future developments are presented in the Table 2. These activities may be defined as twofold: Development of recommendations for harmonisation of national regulations in order to simplify the legislation and further facilitate the free provision of service; Work out of draft common platform for engineering and technician professions of building profile. However, these proposals may be considered rather than alternatives (1 – for the recommendations, 2 – for the common platform) as too extensive for simultaneous implementation.

Table.1. Comparative study (in alphabetical order)

Access to the market	Regulated professions	Assessment authorities	Recognition of titles	Contact points
Denmark (no complete information received)				
Estonia				
Applicant company has to be logged in the Register of Economic Activities as a building company, and it must have executive officers with appropriate certificates in the corresponding building areas	The applicant must own corresponding education and apply for a certificate in accordance with appropriate qualification standard	Professional councils and boards of engineers, builders, mechanics, chemists and technologists of materials, heating systems, geology and geomatics are authorised for issue of. qualification certificates	There is no regulation for recognition of nationals. Recognition titles obtained in foreign countries are assessed and aligned with the local system in accordance with the Foreign Professional Qualifications Act	The Ministry of Social Affairs is responsible for acquiring information: E-mail: info@sm.ee , Gonsiori 29, 15027 Tallinn
Finland				
Company must be registered in the trade register in Finland or in the country of origin; in tenders: trade register code, information on the economic resources, extract from the preliminary taxation register, certificate of tax debt and certificate of employment pension contributions	Competence requirements on certain types of professions and construction complexity; Regulations imposed requirements on building professions that require higher education	Building supervision authority ascertains the degree of difficulty of the design task and characteristics of the building project; Professional associations administer certification of competencies for construction on voluntary basis	The recognition of foreign qualifications is not automatic; Recognition necessary for positions in the public sector, the assessment process is administered by the National Board of Education; in other areas competence of job applicants is evaluated by employers	Contact points and internet addresses are on issues of free movement of labour, mobility of youth/students, and approval of foreign professional titles, qualifications
Iceland				
The company must have qualified personnel with registered rights for work in Iceland. Civil engineering professions are regulated and a list of professions under regulations is available. Specific competency requirements are set for the most civil engineering profiles and architecture	The actors of the construction market must apply to Ministry of Environment for obtaining rights to practice and have to be registered according to the Construction Law. Applications are assessed by Education Committees at professional associations	Ministry of Environment, Education committees at the Association for Building Education and other professional associations	Engineering titles, are protected; application (including from foreign countries) shall be submitted to the Ministry of Industry and Trade for obtaining rights of engineering title (civil-, electrical-, chemical-, industrial-, etc.); for specific professions (e.g., architectural and structural drawings of buildings) prescribed three year training period must be finished and examinations passed	Trade Council of Iceland, specific professional associations.

Access to the market	Regulated professions	Assessment authorities	Recognition of titles	Contact points
Latvia				
Market is protected; Legal persons applying for permanent building practice shall have personnel with architects and/or builder's practice certificates of one or several specific qualifications.	Natural persons applying for permission to practice as an engineer or technician have to go through procedure of certification according to the Latvian Law on Conformity Assessment and National standard (adapted from the identical European and International standard) LVS EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003. Certification procedures comprise general requirements covered by the standard and specific criteria elaborated by each certification body in accordance with the profile applied for accreditation.	Certification bodies authorised by Ministry of Economics issue certificates for these qualifications, as well as grant extension of validity and withdrawal of certificates. List of certification bodies, which are authorised for the certification market, is published in the central governmental periodical; Total number of certification bodies is eight	Use of professional titles (engineers, technicians or other professionals on the basis of a post-secondary course) is not protected and no register of titles is maintained in Latvia.	Academic Information Centre, Valnu iela 2, LV-1050 Riga, Latvia tel.+371- 7225155, fax. +371- 7221006, E-mail: diplomi@aic.lv
Lithuania				
Market is protected, companies shall be managed only by professionals, who have undergone attestation, including such professions as designers for construction, engineers of design documentation, implementation supervisors of design documentation, general managers of construction and of special works, technical supervisors of construction in general and of special works, experts for examination of design documentation and examination of constructions.	In order to obtain permission to practice as an engineer or technician the applicant has to go through procedure of attestation (certification)	Certification Centre of Construction Products (SPSC), a substructure of the Construction and Building Department is responsible for issue, extension of validity and withdrawal of qualification certificates for all professionals of building profiles	Professional titles are not protected in the country and no register of professional titles maintained	Ministry of Environment. is responsible for acquiring information on all subjects related to the building sector

Access to the market	Regulated professions	Assessment authorities	Recognition of titles	Contact points
Norway				
There is no procedure necessary to be able to practice as a building company. The building permit is granted by the local authority. All companies, which apply for liability, must have a technical staff with relevant education and relevant practice, as well as limited system for quality assurance	There are no procedures in the Norwegian Planning and Building Act restricting rights to practice as an engineer and technician.	The local authority is acting as the building authority – an administrative unit within the local authority with powers delegated by the council. The building permit is granted by the local authority. The local authority approves the liable contractors, and may decide on the type, method and level of inspection (self inspection/independent inspection)	No titles are protected by the Norwegian Planning and Building Act, except Civil Engineers and Architects. The title for "Master Craftsman" is also protected for certain fields like masonry and carpentry	Information on Norwegian planning- and building regulations is available at be@be.no Address of the National office of building technology and administration is www.be.no
Poland (No information received)				
Sweden				
No permission necessary to practice as a building company. The actual projects need permissions and responsibility belongs to the buyer or "commissioner" of the building, who shall ensure (procedure) that the work is carried out in compliance with the provisions of the legislation. Procedure: building notice to the local building committee, its consultative meeting, examination of the design and planning, the inspection schedule and committee's decision.	Only a person responsible for quality matters or quality assurance supervisor shall be appointed by the commissioner of the building or engaged as a consultant. Three classes (E, N, and K) for the nationwide coverage of quality assurance supervisors. At the local level Building Committees of local municipalities supervises approval of quality assurance supervisors. For some competencies (fire issues, electricity, mandatory ventilation control, and other) a certified expert is required.	National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, Swedish National Electrical Safety Board, Building Committees of local municipalities, accredited certification bodies, individual assessment bodies authorised by the local building committees	The professional titles within the building sector are not protected	<i>Swedish National Agency for Higher Education</i> Postal address: Högschoolverket, Box 7851, S-103 99 Stockholm, Sweden Phone: +46-8-563 085 00, Fax: +46-8-563 085 50 E-mail: hsv@hsv.se http://www.hsv.se <i>The International Programme Office for Education and Training,</i> Postal address: Internationella programkontoret, Box 22007, S-104 22 Stockholm, Sweden Phone +46 - 8 - 453 72 00 E-mail: registrator@programkontoret.se (http://www.programkontoret.se).

Table. 2. Suggestions on future developments

Main steps	Expected results	Instruments
Formation of the WG for the next stage	Management and execution of the Project	At least one experts from each participating country
Development of the Action Plan	Accepted time table with responsibilities and resources	Project planning
Alternative 1		
Work out of the working mode	Comparison study (common and distinctive features) of situation in participating countries	Questionnaire on legislation structure
Data processing and summing up	Report and recommendations for each participating country	Written report
	Information on existing legislation	Data base (preferable electronic)
Alternative 2		
Work out of the working mode for alternative 2	Information from participants	Structured framework (table) for the main elements of the common platform
Data processing and summing up	Report and recommendations for the common platform	Written report

Sammanfattning

Ökat utbyte av yrkesutövande personer över gränserna har många fördelar, särskilt inom byggsektorn. Det underlättar spridningen av best practice till andra länder och utvecklar personalkompetensen inom byggandet genom att jämka samman uppfattningar, vilket kan skapa synergieffekter. Utbytet uppmuntrar också gemensam förståelse för faktorer som påverkar säkerhet och kvalitet i byggandet och bidrar på det sättet till ökat förtroende i byggbranschen. Å andra sidan finns det fortfarande många olösta problem när det gäller att i ett land godkänna kvalifikationer som har uppnåtts i andra länder. Det gäller till exempel frånvaron av tydliga kriterier för olika kvalifikationer eller gemensamma riktlinjer för hur yrkesmässig erfarenhet skall bedömas. Det gäller också nationella barriärer som befintlig lagstiftning, vidimeringsprocedurer, registrering av yrkestitlar, olika innehåll i och krav på utbildningsprogram etc.

För att underlätta tjänsteföretagens rörlighet och förbättra den offentliga servicen har EU inrättat en lagstiftning som lägger fast grundläggande principer om ömsesidigt godkännande av yrkeskvalifikationer. Dessa principer ger emellertid inte svar på alla frågor som kan uppstå i praktiken. Det är nödvändigt att förtydliga de procedurer som skall gälla och utveckla specifika krav för varje yrkeskategori, vilket också framgår av de senaste dokumenten från EU.

Föreliggande projekt är avgränsat till yrkeskategorier inom byggandet. Med den utgångspunkten är arkitektyrket det enda där de huvudsakliga kriterierna för ömsesidigt godkännande läggs fast redan i EU-direktiven. Andra byggnadsyrken som ingenjörer och tekniker kan godkännas på grundval av ett generellt system, som ger stor frihet när det gäller utformningen av regler men som en konsekvens också ger stor variation i hur olika länder kan tänkas lösa sina nationella system. Av det skälet kommer införandet av principen om ömsesidigt godkännande att möta svårigheter på grund av de skilda sätten att närma sig praktiska aspekter, eftersom vissa yrken och yrkestitlar är mer eller mindre skyddade av nationella regler i alla länder. Ömsesidigt godkännande är därför inte självklart och en myndighet kan vägra att godkänna en arbetssökande, om han eller hon inte anses motsvara uppställda kriterier.

Samma slutsatser framkom av en utredning om situationen inom byggsektorn i åtta länder i Östersjöområdet initierad av *Nordiska Ministerrådet* och som leddes av Bengt Nyman (*Building Sector Regulations, TemaNord 2004:547*).

Det övergripande målet för detta projekt är att underlätta arbetsmöjligheter och den fria rörligheten för tjänster genom att stärka rutinerna för ömsesidigt godkännande av reglerade yrken.

Projektet kommer att genomföras i två etapper. Denna rapport avser resultaten från den första etappen (1 januari – 1 juli, 2006).

En väsentlig del av denna etapp är en jämförande studie av situationen i de olika deltagande länderna, som är beskriven i separata avsnitt och sammanställd i tabell. Länderna presenteras i alfabetisk ordning. Strukturen i varje avsnitt är densamma och innehåller tolv ämnen som motsvarar frågorna i en enkät som distribuerades till alla deltagare i projektet på ett tidigt stadium av studien. Enkäten valdes som det huvudsakliga arbetssättet för att nå projektmålen, eftersom den ger strukturerad och koncentrerad information på kort tid och är lämplig som ett sätt att kommunicera med alla deltagare.

När det gäller ingenjörs- och teknikeryrken varierar situationen mellan de deltagande länderna. I huvudsak finns det tre olika synsätt eller system:

- Ingenjörs- och teknikeryrken är inte reglerade och ingen yrkestitel är skyddad. Det gäller Sverige och Danmark.
- Det finns inga restriktioner när det gäller rätten att utöva ingenjörs- och teknikeryrken. Vissa akademiska och yrkesmässiga titlar är emellertid skyddade och det krävs ett godkännande för att använda dem. Det gäller för Norge och Island och delvis för Finland. I Finland behövs ett godkännande dock enbart i den offentliga sektorn. Akademiskt arbete i den privata sektorn regleras av byggprojektets komplexitet och baseras på kompetenskrav.
- Yrken är reglerade, registrering är obligatorisk och godkännande är därför nödvändigt för att kunna utöva ett yrke. Det gäller för Estland, Lettland och Litauen.

Resultaten av denna undersökning kan ses som ett bidrag till ett ökat utbyte inom byggsektorn mellan länder i Östersjöregionen i syfte att öka konkurrensen och reducera byggkostnaderna så att en större grupp i samhället kan ha råd med nya bostäder. Den information som samlats in kan speciellt användas för att påbörja ett arbete med att utveckla en gemensam plattform för ömsesidigt godkännande av kvalifikationer i vart fall i de medverkande länderna. Den gemensamma plattformen är en viktig del i det nya direktivet (2005/36/EEC) och kommer att krävas för EU:s medlemsstater när direktivet skall införas (senast den 20 oktober 2007).

På grund av tillämpningen av det generella systemet blir problemen i samband med godkännande av kvalifikationer inom byggsektorn i stor utsträckning allmängiltiga och den senaste utvecklingen på EU-nivå kan ha stort intresse. Den första delen av rapporten ägnas därför åt dokument som lyfter fram detta.

Projektet har genomförts av en arbetsgrupp som består av representanter för alla deltagande länder (Danmark, Estland, Finland, Island, Lettland, Litauen, Norge, Polen och Sverige). Projektet har letts av professor

Imants Matiss och ett tekniskt sekretariat vid Certification Centre of the Latvian Academy of Sciences. Beslut om projektledare och medlemskap i arbetsgruppen har tagits vid Styrgruppens sammanträde i Riga den 12 december 2005.

Appendix 1: Action plan of the Project “Validation of competency requirements”

No	Activity	Responsibilities	Period of time
1	Establishing the communication network	PM & PC	W1–W2
2	Coordination of the Draft Letter to members of the Steering Group and the Action plan with the Project Coordinator	PM & PC	W1–W2
3	Establishment of the Latvian experts' group (2 – 3 people, including the Project leader)	PM	W1–W2
4	Send out of letters and enclosures to the WG members	PM	W3–W4
5	Compilation of the draft Questionnaire on obtaining information and inputs from WG	PM	W4–W6
6	Send out the draft Questionnaire to PC and WG for comments	PM, PC & WG	W6–W8
7	Final version of the Questionnaire	PM & WG	W8–W10
8	Send out of the Questionnaire and receipt of answers	PM & WG	W10–W14
9	Establishing contacts with NCM/Industry and Nordic Innovation Centre, obtaining information dealing with EU-related work	PM&WG	W8–W12
10	Compilation of the mid-term status report and send out to the Nordic Council of Ministers	PM	W11–W12
11	Summarizing results of the inquiry and general conclusions	PM & WG	W14–W16
12	Draft Report	PM & WG	W16–W18
13	Send out of the Draft Report to PC&WG	PM	W18–W20
14	Organising a meeting for discussion of the Report in the WG and clarifying the role of WG members	PM, PC & WG	W21–W22
15	Work out of the final version of the Report	PM & WG	W23–W24
16	Publishing results*	PM	W25

*Publishing results means submission of the report to the Nordic Council of Ministers.

Abbreviations:

PM – Project management

PC – Project Coordinator

WG –Working Group

Appendix 2: Questionnaire

Introduction

Mobility of professionals within Baltic Sea countries will provide substantial benefit if professional qualifications will be recognised on a mutual basis between all participant countries. The basic principle of mutual recognition is that, if an applicant entitled to practice a regulated profession in his own country, he or she should be able to practice the same regulated profession in any other country and use the appropriate title.

However, implementation of the principle of mutual recognition faces divergences due to the different approaches to practical aspects of acceptance, as certain professions and titles more or less are protected in all countries by national regulations. As a result, recognition is not automatic, and an authority may refuse to approve an applicant if it deems that he or she does not fulfil the criteria. The recipient state where the applicant wants to be recognised may also require proof of professional experience or to undergo an adaptation period, or an aptitude test.

This particular Questionnaire is a first step to obtain information on legislation and rules already existing in Baltic Sea countries and therefore to create information basis for reaching the main objective of the project's first stage. Please respond to this Questionnaire not later than the 15 March 2006 and do not hesitate to contact the Project Management if you have questions.

Questionnaire form

1. Please express your opinion, comments, additions or corrections to the information included in the "Building Sector Regulations" (see enclosure), particularly, on the following subjects: process and regulations for access to the building market, recognition of engineering and technician professions.
2. Please give short disposition of the administrative structure for regulation of professions in building area in your country (e.g., authorities, ministries, departments) including responsibilities of each of them. Which types of civil engineering professions are included in the regulated area?
3. Please specify non-governmental institutions and associations related to the building sector and its role in administration of regulated engineering professions. Which types of civil engineers do they represent?
4. Please describe in brief the legal framework for regulation of professions in the building sector with references to the full list of legislation

and normative acts. Are these acts harmonised with correspondent legislation of EU, e.g., so called General Systems directives?

5. Is there any legislation in your country that obliges to go through certain procedure (set of rules) in order to obtain permission to practice as a building company? If yes, please state by items what activities the applicant has to undergo and give reference to the correspondent legislation act (see point 4). The related extracts of these acts should be translated in English.
6. Is there any legislation in your country that obliges to go through certain procedure (set of rules) in order to obtain permission to practice as an engineer and technician? What categories of professionals it covers? If yes, please state by items what activities the applicant has to undergo for each category of engineers and technicians and give reference to the corresponding legislation act (see point 4). The related extracts of these acts should be translated in English.
7. Are professional titles (engineers, technicians or other professionals on the basis of a post-secondary course) protected, what categories of engineers and technicians it covers and what is a procedure for registration of titles acquired in other EU country? Who administers this process and is the register as well as rules for registration available via home page? If yes, please give the Internet address and languages applicable.
8. If the title is protected in your country, what procedure (e.g., adaptation period, aptitude test, or language examination) the applicant has to undertake and evidence to present in order to get rights to use the title in your country? Who administer this process?
9. Please provide an outline of the educational system regarding civil engineering professions, particularly, list of titles, duration of professional education, training after graduation, etc.
10. Do you have contact points in your country for acquiring information on all issues connected with free movement of professionals including the building sector? If yes, please present addresses and communication means.
11. What is your opinion regarding granting rights to applicant building companies for practice in your country, but to use social rules of the residing country?
12. Please describe in short your point of view and concept on preferential treatment for increased exchange of professionals between countries and harmonisation of competency requirements.

Appendix 3: List of Directives cited in the section I

List of main directives related with recognition of professions (in sequence indicated in the New Directive, emphasis in **Bold** is made by the author of compilation as main documents concerning building area)

Identification	Title (contents)
77/452/EEC	Paramedical issues
77/453/EEC	Paramedical issues
78/686/EEC	Paramedical issues
78/687/EEC	Paramedical issues
78/1026/EEC	Paramedical issues
78/1027/EEC	Paramedical issues
80/154/EEC	Paramedical issues
80/155/EEC	Paramedical issues
85/384/EEC	Mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications in architecture , including measures to facilitate the effective exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services
85/432/EEC	Pharmacy issues
85/433/EEC	Pharmacy issues
89/48/EEC	The First General Systems directive - covers the mutual recognition of qualifications in recognised professions that require a University degree or equivalent.
92/51/EEC	The Second General Systems directive – covers the mutual recognition of qualifications in professions regulated below degree level
93/16/EEC	Facilitate the free movement of doctors and the mutual recognition of their diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications (referred also as the “doctors” Directive)
1999/42/EC	The Third General Systems directive – transitional measures directive, covering crafts and trades people (including construction workers)
2001/19/EC	Amending Directives 89/48/EEC and 92/51/EEC on the general system for the recognition of professional qualifications and Sectoral Directives.
2005/36/EC	New Directive – On the recognition of professional qualifications

Appendix 4: WG membership

State	Steering group	Working group
Denmark	Lone Møller Sørensen Director Danish Building Research Institute Tel +45 4586 5533 Email: lms@sbi.dk	Marie-Louise Deth Petersen Ud- dannelseschef DanskByggeri Kejsergade 2, Postboks 2125, 1015 København K Tel: 72 16 01 81 Mobil: 21 60 26 86 E-mail: mdp@danskbyggeri.dk
Iceland	Björn Marteinsson Senior Research Officer Icelandic Building Research Institute Tel +354 570 7312 Fax +354 570 7311 Email: bjorn.m@rabygg.is	Björn Marteinsson, Senior Research Officer Icelandic Building Research Institute Tel +354 570 7312 Fax +354 570 7311 Email: bjorn.m@rabygg.is
Estonia	Kati Kõrbe, Head of Building and Housing Department Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication Tel +372 625 6394 Fax +372 631 3660 Email: kati.korbe@mkm.ee	Jüri Sulin Executive Officer Building Division Building and Housing Department Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications Tel + 372 6256377 Fax +372 631 3660 E-mail: Juri.Sulin@mkm.ee
Latvia	Ms Anna Krutja, Senior Desk Officer Ministry of Economics Tel +371 701 3041 Fax +371 701 3027 Mob +371 649 4132 Email: Anna.Krutja@em.gov.lv	Dzintars Grasmanis Head of Building Strategy Division, Ministry of Economics Tel.: +371 701 33031 Fax: +371 701 33027 E-mail: Dzintars.Grasmanis@em.gov.lv
Lithuania	Edita Meskauskiene Head of Construction and Process Standardisation Division of the Ministry of Envi- ronment, Tel +370 5 266 3583, Fax +370 5 266 3663, Email: e.meskauskiene@am.lt	Nina Cesoniene Chief desk officer Construction Products and Process Standardisation Division, Ministry of Environment Tel.: +370 5 266 35 84 Fax: +370526636 63 E-mail: n.cesoniene@am.lt
Finland	Sven-Eric Roman Ministerial Counsellor Ministry of the Environment Tel +358 9 1603 9659 Fax +358 9 1603 9631 Email: sven-eric.roman@ymparisto.fi	Tiina Koppinen Research Scientist VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Address: P.O.Box 1300, FI-33101 Tampere, Finland Tel: +358 40 752 6497 E-mail: tiina.koppinen@vtt.fi
Norge	Ms Solveig Aaen, Senior Adviser Ministry of Local Government and Regional De- velopment Tel +47 2224 7140 Fax +47 2224 2736 Email: solveig.aaen@krd.dep.no	Thore Selstad Halvorsen Koordinatorer fagfeltet godkjenning av foretak Statens bygningstekniske etat Tel.: 22 47 56 00 Fax: 22 47 56 22 E-mail: halvorsen@be.no

State	Steering group	Working group
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