HED Webinar under the Aegis of APQN Held in Russia

The Accreditation in Education company (Russia) conducted the webinar under the aegis of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) on July 02, 2019. The theme of the webinar was "**Internationalization of higher education. Cooperation with quality assurance networks and agencies. Acquaintance with HEIs of Russia and other CIS countries. Development of inter-university partnership.**"
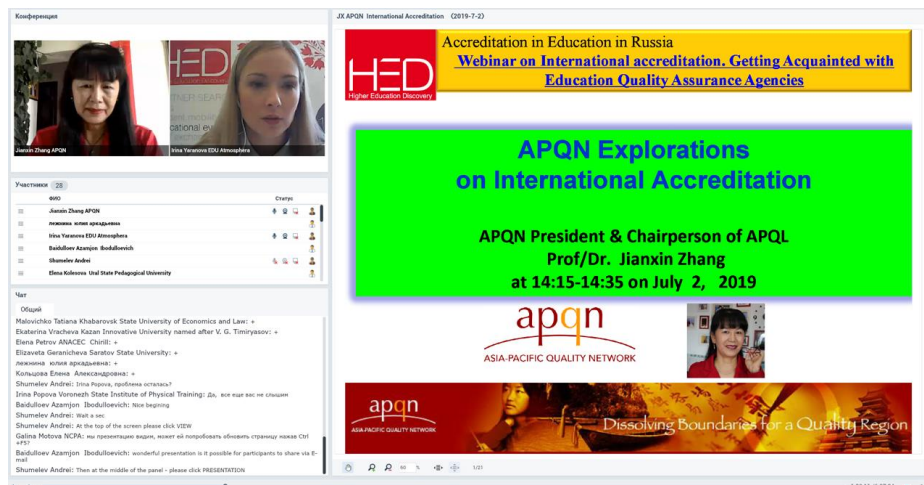

Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) is one of international organizations that comprises over 40 countries with extremely diverse cultures, economies and political systems. APQN is aimed at overcoming these differences and uniting countries to achieve the common goal - to develop the potential of the region. APQN today is one of the most active and ambitious international organizations in the sphere of quality assurance.

The Accreditation in Education company implements the **EDU Atmoshpere** project on Higher Education Discovery (HED) media platform for the development of international education partnership **HEDCLUB.com**. EDU Atmosphere project is intended to promote Russian higher school in the global education area.

The webinar brought together the representatives from Russia, China, Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan: over 30 representatives of the professional community and 13 experts as speakers.

The Key speakers of the webinar: **Jianxin Zhang**, President of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN), Chief Expert of Yunnan Higher Education Evaluation Center (YHEEC), Professor of Yunnan University, China; **Galina Motova**, APQN Vice President, Deputy Director of the National Centre for Public Accreditation, Editor-in-Chief of the Accreditation in Education journal, Russia; **Ekaterina Shigapova**, director of the Accreditation in Education company, Russia; **Nurgul Kydyrmyna**, Chief Specialist of the Information and Analytical Project of the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), Kazakhstan; **Elena Petrov**, Vice President at the National Agency of Quality Assurance in Education and Research (ANACEC), Moldova; and **Lioudmila Batourina**, International Partnership Consultant at the Brazilian Association of Private Universities (ABMES), Brazil.

After the welcoming speech of the organizers, President Jianxin Zhang talked about international accreditation, based on APQN-IQAAHE joint survey last year on the status of both internal and external HE quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region by means of questionnaires and interviews, which aimed at exploring status and trends of HE quality assurance in Asia-Pacific region. Later on, she focused on APQN's Exploration to Global Accreditation for the HEIs. The Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL) on Internationalization and the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs).

Galina Motova highlighted International accreditation as a tool for enhancing HEIs` competitiveness, internationalization and export potential. Nurgul Kydyrmina presented the Quality assurance in the Republic of Kazakhstan and the experience of the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR). Elena Petrov demonstrated characteristics and features of the external Quality Assurance system in Moldova. Lioudmila Batourina showcased the system of higher education in Brazil with the emphasis on Accreditation and Evaluation processes. Ekaterina Shigapova introduced the recruitment and consulting center EDU Atmosphere aimed at providing practical assistance to educational institutions in developing their export potential. The representatives of the Russian and CIS universities presented HEI's international activities and the potential for cooperation.

The webinar organizer Accreditation in Education company welcomes APQN members to join EDU Atmosphere aimed to assist educational organizations from various countries in finding partners and associates for the implementation of educational, academic projects and initiatives. The date for the next webinar is October 1, 2019. You are welcomed!

(Written by Andrei Shumelev from HED)