

Accreditation and Mutual Recognition of Engineering Qualifications in CARICOM

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Abstract

In order to practice engineering in most jurisdictions, particularly in areas that impact on public safety, statutory and professional authorities must be satisfied that practitioners' qualifications and experience are of acceptable quality. Developing countries do not have the same industrial maturity and reputation as the developed countries so it is even more incumbent on them to adopt systems of accreditation that are internationally recognised and at the same time relevant to local conditions. The professional engineering associations of the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)¹ have begun work to rationalise the accreditation process, at the regional level, through the Council of Caribbean Engineering Organisations (CCEO)², by the establishment of a Caribbean Engineering Accreditation Council (CEAC) and ensuring that CEAC gains international recognition. With regard to registration, model legislation to international standards has been endorsed by CCEO constituent members but engineering registration laws are yet to be widely enacted by governments of the region.