



### **CLUSTER statement on the implementation of the Bachelor/Master's model**

- 1) Most of the **CLUSTER** institutions are introducing the Bachelor/Master's structure in their curricula. Typically, a Bachelor degree (3 to 4 years) will correspond to engineers who are "employable, but are not professionals".  
The Master's degree is obtained after 1 to 2 years following a Bachelor degree; the Master's corresponds in most institutions to the Engineering Diploma.
- 2) A Master's degree may be followed by a Ph.D. program lasting 3 to 5 years.  
Mobility is strongly encouraged as an excellent way of getting an international exposure during the studies.
- 3) "Vertical mobility" (for instance Bachelor studies in one institution followed by Master's studies in another one) is considered by most institutions as a new form of mobility. The same holds for Ph.D. studies after the Master's studies.
- 4) **CLUSTER** will consider the possibility of having joint degrees (as well as double degrees) conferred by two partners. Such programs will be agreed upon directly between CLUSTER partners.
- 5) Students having obtained a Bachelor (or Master's) degree from a **CLUSTER** university will be treated for admission to a Master's (or a Ph.D.) program to another CLUSTER institution as if they were local students.
- 6) The **CLUSTER** members are already involved in evaluation processes for the engineering education they provide. They are convinced that exchanging information about the existing procedures and studying alternatives is useful; therefore a meeting of the persons responsible or well-informed on the evaluation procedures in each institution should be organised in the near future.
- 7) Another role of **CLUSTER** could be the creation of a list of potential experts for the peer reviews.
- 8) Accreditation will generally be based on recognized evaluation procedures.  
**CLUSTER** does not intend to be involved as such in the accreditation process.  
**CLUSTER** will collect (and disseminate) the best practices in evaluation, which could provide the basis of accreditation procedures.
- 9) In addition, **CLUSTER** recognises that the ECTS is an important and a proper instrument in the education of engineers and scientists in Europe. It will therefore be necessary to follow the ongoing developments of the ECTS.  
**CLUSTER** would underline the difficulties which may arise in a system where the requirements for a degree would be limited to a simple credit accumulation. The credits are a necessary but by no means sufficient condition to obtain a degree. Attention should be paid in all cases to the content, level, degree of integration and volume of the programs and courses taken.

*Approved by all full member institutions at the Turin General Assembly of May 23 & 24, 2003*