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ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME, KEY ACTION 2
CAPACITY BUILDING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

**Furthering International Relations Capacities and Intercultural Engagement to Nurture Campus
Diversity and to Support Internationalisation at Home (FRIENDS)**

16th WEBINAR
31st August 2022

MINUTES

Venue: online session via Zoom

Attendees: Representatives of the FRIENDS project partners

1. Christina Armutlieva, FRIENDS project coordinator welcomed the participants and opened the meeting. With very little time left until the end of the FRIENDS project, less than 2,5 months, Christina asked partner institutions to promptly report project progress and send all collected evidence of the completed activities.

2. Moving forward, the Higher Education Globalisation Final International Conference was discussed. Since Bhutan still have restrictions for mass gatherings and incoming travel is restricted, University of Cebu have agreed to host the conference. The latter will have to wait for an approval from the EU commission. During the online partner webinar, planning of the conference was discussed (arriving, departure, and agenda).

From Bhutan, Leki Dem Tamang and Samir Patel from the Royal Thimphu College confirmed that they can host the conference in a hybrid mode. The conference, as planned, will not be a whole day event, but divided in 2 half-day events: on 20th and 21st of October. During the first day HEIs will have to share their presentations of the FRIENDS project and during the second day speed date sessions (networking) will be held.

3. Asia Pacific University of Technology & innovation (APU) have offered to help with the technical part of the conference by bringing a team of tech-savvy staff members to facilitate the backstage and the live-streaming of the conference via Facebook and YouTube. As to the backstage, keynote speakers are still to confirm their availability during the conference. Leki (RTC) will confirm the attendance of Dasho Nidup Dorji, Vice Chancellor of Bhutan, Executive Head of the Royal University of Bhutan, Ayse Ozkan will confirm the availability of Jos Beelen, Professor of Global Learning: The Hague University of Applied Sciences, and Ronald Binati (BUC) will confirm the attendance of Adrian Veale, Project Officer – Asia: European Commission, DG EAC, Unit C3 – International Cooperation.
4. Christina Armutlieva asked webinar participants to share the tentative topic of their presentations so the agenda can be affirmed.
5. Christina also touched upon the subject of the last partner meeting, in particular the dates and travel arrangements that have to be made. In this regards, she reminded once again that financial reports needs to be send to VUM as soon as possible and any evidence still pending to be as well send to VUM.
6. The session ended with Q&A session where the participants discussed the conference organization.