Dear Professor Robson

GROUP OF EIGHT RESPONSE TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STANDARDS PANEL CALL FOR COMMENT (NUMBER 2, 28 MAY 2013)

I am writing on behalf of the Group of Eight to provide comments on the Draft Standards for Research, Research Training and Learning Outcomes (Research Training) released by the Higher Education Standards Panel as part of the Higher Education Standards Framework.

The Go8 broadly supports the proposed Research and Research Training Standards. Our comments in response the specific questions are attached.

Yours sincerely

Michael Gallagher
Executive Director
The Go8 thanks the HESP for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Standards for Research, Research Training and Learning Outcomes (Research Training). Our responses to the seven questions raised in the paper are set out below.

Q1. *Do you broadly support the proposed standards for Research? If not, why?*
Yes, the Go8 broadly supports the proposed standards for Research.

Q2. *Do you wish to make any suggestions in relation to the specific content of the standards?*
No.

Q3. *Do you broadly support the proposed standards for Research Training? If not, why?*
Yes, the Go8 broadly supports the proposed standards for Research Training.

Q4. *Do you wish to make any suggestions in relation to the specific content of the standards?*
No

Q5. *Do you broadly support the proposed standards for Learning Outcomes (Research Training)? If not, why?*
Yes, the Go8 broadly supports the proposed standards for Learning Outcomes (Research Training).

Q6. *Do you wish to make any suggestions in relation to the specific content of the standards?*
Proposed standard 3 lists a number of outcomes but omits reference to original research, which we believe is an important outcome of research degrees. An additional point should be included under 3 along the following lines:

3. On completion of research training, candidates will have demonstrated, at a level consistent with the qualification awarded:

   ... 

   x. the capacity to make original contributions to knowledge

Q7. *Do you wish to make any Overall or General Comments about the form, style, scope or any other aspects of the proposed set of research-related standards?*
No