

**Scheme for
Voluntary Certification of Yoga Professionals**

The Scheme Launched by Ministry of AYUSH

and

Managed by QCI

GOVERNING STRUCTURE

1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this document is to clearly define the roles of various organizations/committees involved in the design and operation of the **SCHEME FOR VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION OF YOGA PROFESSIONALS** (also referred to as 'the Scheme') launched by the **Quality Council of India (QCI)** at the behest of and with support from the **Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India**. The Objective has now been expanded to include the design and operation of the scheme for certification of Yoga Schools.

2. SCOPE

This document explains the governing structure of the Scheme and the roles and responsibilities of various organizations and committees involved in operating the Scheme.

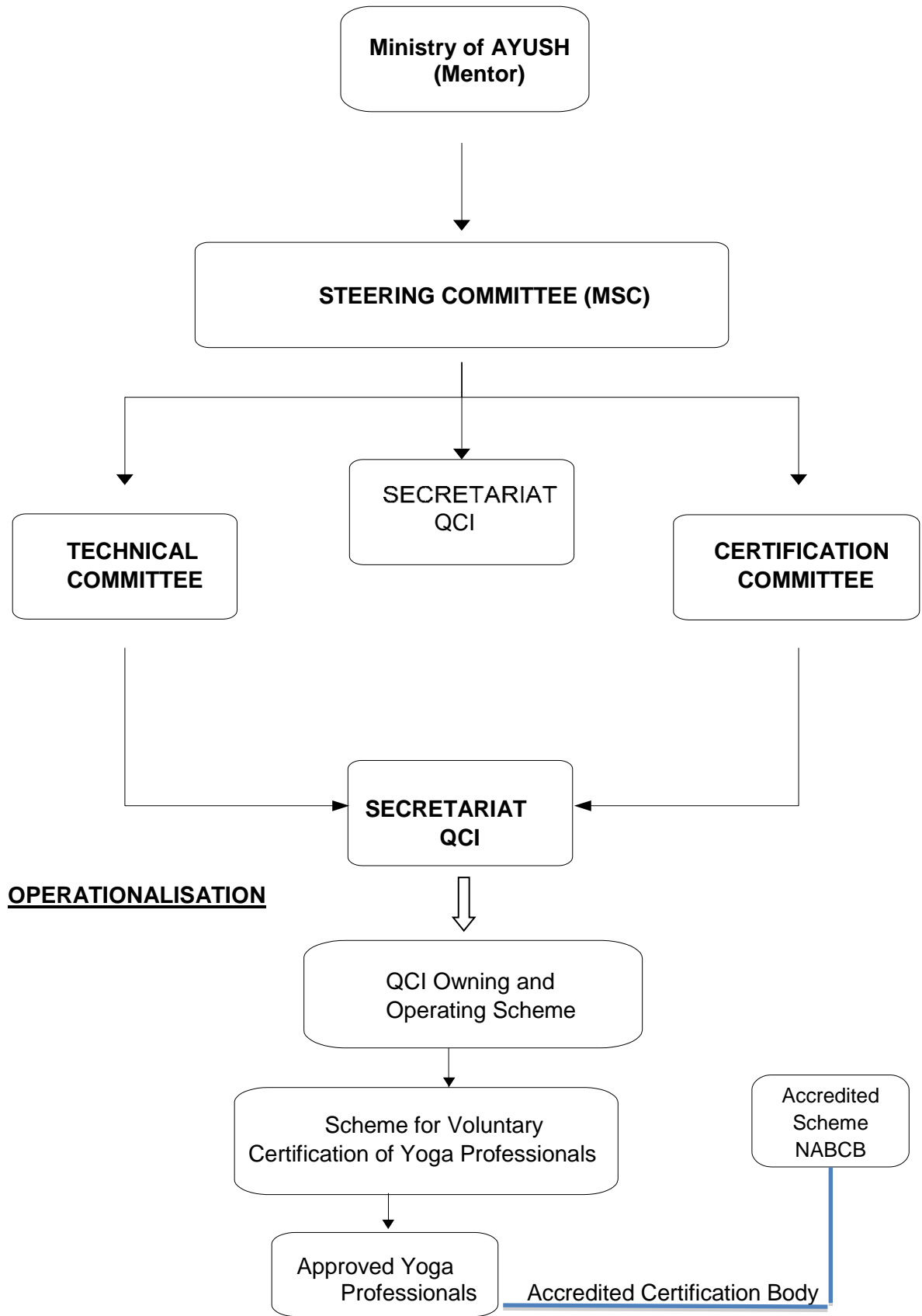
3. GOVERNING STRUCTURE

3.1 The governing structure of the Scheme shall have a multi-stakeholder **Steering Committee (SC)** at the apex level supported by a Technical and a Certification Committee each with their secretariats in the QCI, as a minimum. This governing structure is common for the Yoga Professionals and Yoga Schools.

4. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES – GENERAL RULES

In the appointment of various committees, the following general principles shall be kept in mind:

- a) Representation of a balance of interests such that no single interest predominates.
- b) Key interests to include: concerned Ministries, representatives of other governmental agencies, representatives of institutions imparting Yoga education/training, Academic/Research Bodies, Accreditation Bodies, Certification Bodies, Consumer Associations and representatives of non-governmental organizations.
- c) Offer of membership to individual experts shall be made with great caution and only when a suitable person is not forthcoming as a representative of an organization
- d) Except when a member is appointed in his personal capacity, a person vacates his membership on leaving his organization and a fresh nomination is sought from the nominating authority.
- e) The member organizations shall nominate a principal and an alternate representative on the committee (s) for ensuring continuity.
- f) The committees will normally be reconstituted every 3 years.



5. STEERING COMMITTEE (SC)

5.1 Membership - The Yoga Certification Steering Committee (YCSC) shall comprise of the following;

- a) Eminent Yoga Personality - Chairperson
- b) Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH
- c) Central Government Ministries; One Representative each from the concerned Ministries/Departments – Commerce, DIPP, External Affairs
- d) University or Institutions imparting Yoga training
- e) Industry bodies – 3; CII, FICCI and ASSOCHAM
- f) Services Export Promotion Council
- g) Accreditation Bodies – 1; One Representative from NABCB
- h) QCI
- i) Any other Technical expert(s) as invitees for specific meetings, as identified by the Secretariat.
- j) Member Secretary – QCI

5.1.1 SC may coopt any other members.

5.2 Quorum - The presence in person, at a meeting of the Steering Committee (SC) of the member representatives of at least 30% members of the SC shall constitute a quorum for a meeting.

5.3 Terms of reference - The SC is responsible for;

- a) Overall development, modification and supervision of the Scheme
- b) Receiving recommendations of the Technical/Certification Committees and deciding on them
- c) Constituting any committees, as needed
- d) Promotion of the Scheme
- e) Any measures needed for enhancing acceptability of the Scheme

5.4 Meetings - The YCSC shall meet at least once every year.

6. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TC)

6.1 Membership – The Technical Committee shall comprise of the following;

- a) Eminent Yoga Personality - Chairperson
- b) Representative, Ministry of AYUSH
- c) University or Institutions imparting Yoga training/education
- d) Services Export Promotion Council
- e) Accreditation Bodies – 1; One Representative from NABCB
- f) Certification Bodies – 1
- g) Any other Technical expert(s) as invitees for specific meetings, as identified by the Secretariat.
- l) Member Secretary – QC

6.1.1 TC may coopt more members.

6.2 Quorum -- The presence in person, at a meeting of the Technical Committee of the member representatives of 30% of the nominated representatives of the Technical Committee shall constitute a quorum for a meeting.

6.3 Terms of reference - The Technical Committee is responsible for

- a) Developing and maintaining any standards needed for the Scheme
- b) Defining the competence standard and certification criteria, and
- c) Resolving any related issues;

6.4 Meetings - The TC shall meet at least once every year.

7 CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE (CC)

7.1 Membership - The Certification Committee shall comprise of the following:

- a) Chairperson – having Knowledge of Conformity Assessment and/or Yoga
- b) University or Institutions imparting Yoga training/education
- c) Accreditation Bodies – 1; One Representative from NABCB
- d) Personnel Certification Bodies
- e) Any other Technical expert(s) as invitees for specific meetings, as identified by the Secretariat.
- f) Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH
- g) Member Secretary – QCI

7.1.1 CC may coopt more members.

7.2 Quorum - The presence in person, at a meeting of the Certification Committee of the member representatives of 30% of the nominated representatives of the Certification committee shall constitute a quorum for a meeting.

7.3 Terms of reference - The Certification Committee is responsible for

- a) Developing, maintaining and revising as appropriate the certification process for the Scheme
- b) Developing, maintaining and revising as appropriate the requirements for certification bodies for the operation of the Scheme
- c) Developing a guidance document to assist interested individuals (Yoga Professionals) to apply for Certification
- d) Designing the Certification Marks, if any
- e) Resolving any issue relating to certification

7.4 Meetings - The Certification Committee shall meet at least once every year.

8. ROLES OF ORGNIZATIONS

Ministry of AYUSH shall play the role of a **Mentor** and be a permanent member of the Steering Committee

Quality Council of India (QCI) shall be the owner of the Scheme and provide the secretariat to the Steering, Technical and Certification Committees mentioned above.

National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) shall be responsible for accrediting certification bodies desirous of participating in the Scheme to appropriate international standards.

9. COMPLAINTS

9.1 The entire system has provisions for entertaining complaints from any stakeholder against any component of the Scheme – the Certification Bodies approved under the Scheme, and the accreditation bodies (like NABCB), are all required to have a complaints system in place as per international standards applicable to them. Anyone having a complaint is encouraged to utilize the available mechanisms.

9.2 Any complaint received directly by the Ministry of AYUSH shall be referred to QCI who in turn will make a reference to the appropriate body against which the complaint is made and monitor it till it is decided upon.

9.3 Any complaint received by QCI shall be similarly handled.

9.4 A statement on complaints as received above with their status shall be reported to the SC in each meeting.

10. APPEALS

10.1 There are provisions for accepting appeals from the Yoga Professionals' certified/desirous of certification under the Scheme; the Personnel Certification Bodies approved under the Scheme, and the accreditation bodies (like NABCB).

10.2 In case anyone aggrieved by the decision of the TC/CC appeals, it shall be handled by the SC.

10.3 In case anyone aggrieved by the decision of SC appeals, the Chairperson, SC shall appoint an independent appeals panel to look into the appeal and recommend action to him/her

10.4 In handling appeals, the broad principle that the appeal is handled independently of the personnel involved in the decision appealed against shall be maintained.

10.5 A statement of appeals received by the QCI shall be placed before the SC in each meeting.