WORLD **TECHNOLOGY** UNIVERSITIES NETWORK

THE WORLD TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY NETWORK

Context

Technology, broadly, is the application of knowledge and understanding to create value in society.

The world in the 21st century is facing major challenges unlike any it has seen before. Problems such as demographic growth, poverty, climate change, energy and water supply, food security and terrorism are global, systemic and complex, requiring, for their solution, a deep understanding of science, engineering, and social, political and cultural behaviour.

Universities, and in particular technology universities, are essential to undertaking the research which will provide this understanding, and to educating the next generations of world leaders, who will grapple with these problems and determine the solutions.

Vision

A global network of technology universities committed to undertaking cutting-edge, challenge-led research with direct benefits to people and society, and providing education for the next generation of global citizens who will have to respond to the world's 21st century challenges.

Characteristics of the Technology University

We believe that the technology university has the following characteristics. It:

- delivers teaching, research and innovation which has direct benefits to people and society;

- develops graduates who are global citizens, and capable of being the leaders of the future;

- calls on a broad range of disciplines and multi-disciplinary/inter-disciplinary/trans-disciplinary approaches; works with government, industry and other organisations, to the benefit of people and society;

- engenders technical and social innovation and entrepreneurship.

Members of the network

Members of the network are geographically diverse, non-elitist, non-exclusive, world technology universities. Members share the ethos that harnessing the combined strength, resource, expertise, experience and knowledge of the network members will make knowledge work for the benefit of society.

Members commit to work together to:

- promote better understanding of the role and the characteristics of the technology university;

- promote mobility and global citizenship opportunities;

- collaborate on research and knowledge transfer to address global challenges;

- develop position and policy statements;

- facilitate links between world technology universities and industry, governments, public authorities, international organisations and NGOs;

- share best practice and provide opportunities for capacity-building among members;

- transfer innovations to industry and support the formation of start-up companies.

Membership will enable collaboration among world technology universities as a network, and between member universities in bilateral and multilateral arrangements. Network activities are funded by annual membership fees.

Activities

The main activities of the network are:

- exchanges between member universities;

- collaborative research between member universities;

- capacity-building, including collaborative teaching initiatives among member universities;

- providing a forum for networking and sharing ideas at the annual congress;

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- developing position and policy statements;
- facilitating links between world technology universities and industry, governments, public authorities, international organisations and NGOs;
- encouraging and enhancing understanding of technology universities across the world.

Opportunities for external funding will be investigated for research projects, by member institutions and for the development of the network, by the network host.

The activities of the network shall contribute to the achievement of UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), since determination and activities of technology universities are related directly or indirectly to all of the 17 SDG and many of their 169 targets.

The network is open to institutions across the world which can describe themselves as technology universities, or aspire to be technology universities, with characteristics as defined above.

Members are required to be a degree-granting institution and to have a PhD Programme.