



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

June 20, 2017

Honorable Alejandrina Germán
Minister of Higher Education
Av. Máximo Gómez No. 31
Esq. Pedro Henríquez Ureña
Santo Domingo
Dominican Republic

Dear Ms. Germán:

On April 20, 2017, the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) met to evaluate the documents submitted by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MESCyT) on behalf of the Government of the Dominican Republic regarding the country's medical education accreditation activities.

The purpose of the NCFMEA's review was to monitor the continuing comparability of accreditation standards and processes applied to medical schools in the Dominican Republic, to the system used to accredit medical schools in the United States (U.S.). Under U.S. law, accredited medical schools in a country that the NCFMEA deems comparable may apply to participate in the U.S. William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) program. Then, if a medical school participates in the Direct Loan program, U.S. students attending the school may apply for Direct Loans to help cover educational expenses. For more information about foreign schools' participation in the Direct Loan program, please access the Foreign School Information Web page at: <http://ifap.ed.gov/ForeignSchoolInfo/ForeignSchoolInfo.html>.

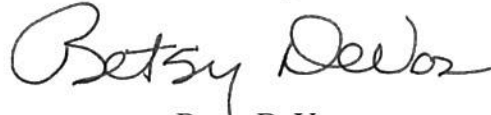
The NCFMEA wishes to thank Saturnino de los Santos Solis, Vice Minister of Evaluation and Accreditation of Higher Education, and Dr. Rosa Adelina Céspedes Garrido, Director of the Department of Medical Education at MESCyT, for attending the meeting to provide additional information regarding MESCyT's accreditation activities. Their testimony was very helpful and the Committee valued their participation in the meeting.

The NCFMEA accepted the report submitted by the Dominican Republic. The Dominican Republic is due for a redetermination of comparability at the NCFMEA's spring 2019 meeting.

The U.S. Department of Education will contact MESCyT before the spring 2019 NCFMEA meeting regarding the preparation and submission of the material. If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact Jennifer Hong, NCFMEA Executive Director, at jennifer.hong@ed.gov or Patricia Howes, Committee Coordinator, at patricia.howes@ed.gov.

Thank you for providing the information regarding your country's accreditation of medical schools. We appreciate your ongoing interest in maintaining high-quality standards for medical education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betsy DeVos". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "B" and "D".

Betsy DeVos

cc: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Dominican Republic Desk Office