Higher education reform: legal basis of management, analysis and reflection

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**Annotation.** The article describes the normative documents approved to date in the education system of Uzbekistan and the process of managing it, the content and results of the ongoing reforms, an analysis of changes in recent years and author's comments.

**Key words.** Higher education system, analysis of legal documents, the Law "On Education", development strategy, innovative economy, education reform, digitalization of education, credit-module system, student employment.

## INTRODUCTION.

Today's higher education system cannot be compared with higher education five years ago. Seeing the changes and reforms in higher education in the past short period of time, human's eyes makes happy and proud. At the core of the economic and social reforms being carried out in the republic is the issue of "pleasing the people". Making people happy with life is the main criterion of reforms, the reforms are being carried out in the higher education system at a time when all of these reforms are for people.

The training of highly qualified and competitive personnel in the higher education system of our country is one of the most important tasks of this system. How effectively this task is solved will have a great impact on achieving the goals of socio-economic reforms and the fundamental reconstruction of the life of our society. Because it is known from practice that the effectiveness of any socioeconomic changes directly depends on the professional maturity of the specialists mobilized to perform the tasks set in this regard. In the independent, democratic Republic of Uzbekistan, the improvement of education, declared as a priority area in the socio-economic, spiritual and cultural development of society, is primarily aimed at achieving its qualitatively new state. This is an extremely complex, complex problem that is being solved in many directions. One of them includes the improvement and reconstruction of the mechanism of management of the educational system, which is a specific form of management of social life. In this regard, as a result of the last five-year reforms, the necessary political-legal, socioeconomic and scientific-educational foundations for the establishment of New Uzbekistan were created in our country.

## Analysis and review.

The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Education" [1] was considered the basis of the management methodology in the higher education system, which is characterized by the fact that it covers the entire education system. The Law "On Education" was adopted by the Legislative Chamber on May 19, 2020, and approved by the Senate on August 7, 2020. It consists of 11 chapters and 75 articles. Adoption of the law is a social necessity.

In the following years, based on the principle of "For the dignity of man", after analyzing the complex processes of the world scale and the results of the development of our country, reforms aimed at further increasing the well-being of our people, transforming economic sectors and rapidly developing entrepreneurship, unconditionally ensuring human rights and interests, and forming

an active civil society. "Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan" for the years 2022-2026 consisting of seven priority directions, developed on the basis of the principle of "From Action Strategy to Development Strategy" as a result of a broad public discussion in order to determine its priorities, and to implement it in the "Year of Honoring Human Value and Active Neighborhood" On January 28, 2022, by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PD-60, was adopted "New Development Strategy of Uzbekistan for 2022-2026"

Section IV of the strategy is focused on "Conducting a fair social policy, development of human capital", and goals 37-49 are dedicated to reforms that need to be carried out in the education system over the next five years. Of these, goals 46-49 are directly aimed at reforms in the higher education system. In particular, in the 46th goal, the issue of "Raising the level of coverage with higher education to 50% and improving the quality of education" is of particular importance. In this regard, yesterday in 2022, in order to increase the level of coverage of youth with higher education to 38% [2], in order to strengthen healthy competition between higher education organizations, as well as the order of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated June 15, 2022 "On organization of admission processes to state higher education institutions" It would not be an exaggeration to say that Decision No. PD-279 and Decree No. F-60 are one of the steps in the implementation of the above goal.

In accordance with the decision, the parameters of the state order for admission to state higher education institutions based on the proposals of personnel orderers for the 2022/2023 academic year are approved as 77,477 full-time undergraduate students, 26,095 part-time students, and 3,725 evening students. - confirmed as 10,688 people [14]. It is worth mentioning that in the academic year 2022-2023, for the first time, the admission parameters for the distance education form of the bachelor's degree - 3,410 people were determined.

Also, the 46th goal of the development strategy "To reach 50% of the level of higher education coverage and increase the quality of education" is provided for "Giving academic and financial independence to state higher education institutions, including their payment of wages, the number of employees, the amount of payment-contracts" and to establish the practice of independent determination of the form of education" and to ensure the consistent implementation of the tasks defined in the "Concept for the development of the higher education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030" [4] approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated October 8, 2019 No. PD-5847, as well as higher In order to expand the independence of educational institutions, sharply reduce state administrative management in their activities, and thereby to form state higher education institutions that prepare highly qualified personnel who can meet the requirements of the changing labor market, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on December 24, 2021 "State Higher on the basis of decisions PD-60 [2] on additional measures to ensure academic and organizational-management independence of educational institutions and PD-61 [6] on measures to provide financial independence to state higher education institutions As a result of granting financial independence to 32 higher education institutions, it can be said that reforms in the higher education system in the Republic have reached another level.

PD-5847 dated October 8, 2019 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On approval of the concept of the development of the higher education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030" and "Strategy of Actions on the five priority directions of the development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021" "Science, enlightenment and digital "On the State Program to be Implemented in the Year of Economic Development" in order to ensure the implementation of the tasks defined in the Decree No. PD-5953 of March 2, 2020, on December 31, 2021, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of

Uzbekistan "Measure to improve the system related to the organization of the educational process in higher education institutions" "On Activities" No. 824, the credit-module system was introduced starting from the 2021-2022 academic year [8].

On the basis of Annex 1 of this decision, the Regulation "On the procedure for introducing the credit-module system into the educational process in higher education institutions" was approved. This Regulation defines the procedure for introducing the credit-module system of education based on the European Credit Transfer and Assumption System (ESTS) into the educational process in higher education institutions.

The credit-module system [9] is a process of educational organization and is an assessment model based on a set of module technologies and a credit measure. Carrying it out as a whole is a complex and systematic process. In the credit-module principle, two main issues are given importance: ensuring independent work of students; assessment of student knowledge based on rating. In particular, in order to ensure the quality and efficiency of education at the Andijan Agricultural Institute, based on the decision No. 824 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 31, 2020 "On measures to improve the system related to the organization of the educational process in higher education institutions", starting from the 2021-2022 academic year processes were organized in the credit-module system. In the current academic year, students of 1-2 levels are studying in the credit-module system.

In recent years, there have been clear trends in the development of education in the world and in Uzbekistan, and its radical transformation. The first of them is radical democratization of education; second, the idea of continuous education, then replacing the idea of "education for life" with the idea of "education for life"; thirdly, it is not only a means of training specialists, but also the delivery of

conscious, dedicated people to society; fourth, to achieve the globalization of education; the fifth is to inform education.

In this regard, the Decision PD-4699 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 28, 2020 "On measures for the widespread introduction of digital economy and electronic government" was adopted. One of the main tasks of the further development of the digital economy and electronic government is the widespread introduction of digital technologies at all stages of the education system and the improvement of the level of digital knowledge necessary for the modern economy, the improvement of the educational infrastructure, as well as the implementation of the "Five Initiatives" project of the republic until 2022. is to open digital knowledge training centers in all regions [7]. In this regard, it is not a secret to anyone that the reforms implemented in the education system in the republic, like in all spheres, are of a gratifying level.

In our republic, the normative frameworks for the creation of educational platforms that enable the creation of uniform information and methodical support of sciences based on foreign educational experiences, individualization of educational processes based on digital technologies, development of distance education services, and the widespread introduction of webinar, online, "blended learning" technologies into practice have been created..

From the new academic year, for the first time, 7-year interest-free loans will be introduced to girls to pay for education contracts. For this, 1 trillion 800 billion soums will be allocated to banks this year, and 8 trillion soums in the next five years.

Another innovation: starting from the next academic year, the contract money of girls studying at the master's degree will be fully covered from the budget. Also, the education contracts of needy family members, bereaved students will be paid from the local budget. In order to significantly increase the share of female scientists in our society, a target quota of at least 300 is allocated annually

for women in the field of doctoral studies. Instructions were given on the establishment of qualification assessment centers at monocenters and universities, training of women in high-demand occupations.

It was decided to accept the "Business Women" program for 2022-2024. A total of 8 trillion soums will be allocated for its implementation. Entrepreneurship courses are organized for women, preferential loans are given.

The head of our state emphasized the need to support entrepreneurs who provide employment to women in need. Many tax and trade incentives have been set for them.

In the video selector held by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev on March 4, 2022, the main issue was focused on "ensuring the employment of students". As noted, "currently 510,000 students are studying fulltime in our universities (820,000 in total). In accordance with the instructions of the head of state, interviews and questionnaires were conducted with students. About 100,000 students expressed the need to work and earn additional income. In particular, among them there are 7,500 orphans or students with disabilities and 4,500 students included in different "books". The university is a big family. The head of this family is the rector. Parents have given you their greatest wealth, their child. Therefore, rectors must meet each student personally. Knowing the real situation in this regard, he will report every month on the students' family situation, conditions, how they are studying, problems and suggestions, in short, everything, and he will be personally responsible for this issue" [13], said the head of our state Sh.Mirziyoev. Also, there are 105,000 vacancies for students in the video selector, 22,000 in education and service, 17,000 in industry, 9,000 in health care, 6,000 in construction and agriculture, 3,000 in finance. 2.5 thousand jobs are available in the field of communications and IT.

In particular, in order to improve the mechanism of the integration of science, education and production, the 17 specialized departments of the institute,

to organize high-quality production practices of students, to carry out the internships of professors and teachers simultaneously with production, 5 specialized in cotton farming located in the Fergana Valley, 8 in grain farming specialized, 5 specialized in cotton-textile, 3 specialized in vegetable and polishing, 5 specialized in processing of agricultural products, 4 specialized in animal husbandry Laboratory of specialized subjects for 3-4 stage students based on the 3+3 project in 23 branches of specialized departments with clusters, practical training and qualified training and production practices have been established. Also, educational and scientific centers providing services in the field of agriculture for large production enterprises and organizations of the region and clusters were established under 17 specialized departments, employment of more than 150 students was provided.

## Conclusion.

The training of highly qualified and competitive personnel in the higher education system of our country is one of the most important tasks of this system. How effectively this task is solved will have a great impact on achieving the goals of socio-economic reforms and the fundamental reconstruction of the life of our society. Because it is known from practice that the effectiveness of any socio-economic changes directly depends on the professional maturity of the specialists mobilized to perform the tasks set in this regard. In the independent, democratic Republic of Uzbekistan, the improvement of education, declared as a priority area in the socio-economic, spiritual and cultural development of society, is primarily aimed at achieving its qualitatively new state. This is an extremely complex, complex problem that is being solved in many directions. One of them includes the improvement and reconstruction of the mechanism of management of the educational system, which is a specific form of management of social life.

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