

Note from the President

Bern, 17 July 2018

Dear colleagues,

This note contains a summary of the decisions taken during the June Board meeting. For a more detailed account of the meetings, please note that the minutes of each, once approved, are available on the ENQA website in the [Members' Area](#).

1. Membership decisions

In June, the ENQA Board reconfirmed the membership of the Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT, Norway) and the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA, United Kingdom). Membership was granted to the Academic Information Centre (AIC, Latvia) and the Netherlands Quality Agency (NQA, the Netherlands). With the two additions, ENQA's membership now numbers 53 agencies in 29 countries. The review reports, which formed the basis for the decisions, are available on the ENQA website, on the [Review Reports and Decisions](#) page.

2. Secretariat changes

During the summer months of 2018 the ENQA Secretariat will undergo a number of important changes. With hearts full of gratitude, ENQA bids farewell to two excellent staff members – Agnė Grajauskienė, ENQA's Reviews Manager, and Lindsey Kerber, Project and Administrative Officer, who both decided to return to their respective home countries.

As every loss is also a new opportunity, ENQA is delighted to welcome Goran Đaković as the new Reviews Manager from August 2018 onwards. ENQA has also appointed a new Administrative Officer, Anthony Jasper, as Milja Homan, who formerly held the position, has been appointed new duties as Project Officer. As of this month, Anaïs Gourdin, formerly ENQA's Project and Finance Officer, is now Project Manager.

3. Workplan 2018

Following the call for expressions of interest, the ENQA Board selected the following three agency representatives to join the Steering Committee for the external review of the ENQA Agency Reviews process: Alberto Amaral (A3ES, Portugal), Anne-Marie Jolly (CTI, France), and Erika Soboleva (AKKORK, Russia). The ENQA Board asked the General Assembly of Members to endorse the Steering Committee in a written procedure and no contrary views were presented by the deadline of 6 July 2018. The aforementioned individuals will join three others who were nominated to represent stakeholder organisations: Tia Loukkola (EUA), Juan Carlos Hernandez Buades (EURASHE), and Aleksandar Šušnjar (ESU). The Steering Committee's responsibilities include: drafting the terms of reference for the external review, evaluating the proposal for tenders, contracting the external review coordinator, approving the review method, approving the proposed panel of reviewers, and approving the final

report. The self-assessment group, whose task it is to analyse a range of activities, tools, and materials related to the ENQA Agency Reviews, is composed of one ENQA Review Committee member, two Board members, and two secretariat staff members, as by proposal approved by the General Assembly in April 2018. The self-assessment group will comprise: Fiona Crozier (QAA, United Kingdom), Anne Flierman (NVAO, the Netherlands), Christina Rozsnyai (HAC, Hungary), the ENQA Director, and the ENQA Reviews Manager.

The Board has also undertaken a programme to visit all of ENQA’s member agencies within the next three years. The visits are informal in nature, allowing the Board to get to know the association’s members, understanding better their challenges and needs in relation to ENQA and the services it provides and, conversely, for members to get to know the Board better and how ENQA can support agencies in their own contexts. In order to keep costs low, the visits will be organised in conjunction with other visits or events. Members may look forward to individual communication on this issue in the future.

4. ENQA meetings and events

ENQA members and affiliates are invited to join an [EADTU-ENQA webinar](#), taking place on 19 September from 13.30 – 15.00 CEST. Esther Huertas, the chair of ENQA’s working group on quality assurance and e-learning, will present the findings of the group, which are also laid out in their recent publication, [Considerations for quality assurance of e-learning provision](#).

Mainly geared towards ENQA affiliates but also open to others, the [ENQA seminar for agencies preparing for an initial external review](#) will take place 27-28 September 2018. The seminar will focus on the whole external review process, from preparation to follow-up. Participants will be given insight into the purpose and objectives of the review and will discuss best practices relating to the self-assessment process and how to maximise the benefits of the external review where future planning and agency development are concerned. Registration is open.

The [2018 General Assembly](#), for which registration is now open, will be hosted by the Independent Kazakh Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (IQAA) on 18-19 October 2018 in Astana, Kazakhstan. Agencies that wish to present a poster on one of the themes – which include (1) quality assurance of research and/or doctoral programmes, (2) quality assurance of work-based learning, (3) communication in quality assurance, and (4) working with experts – are invited to submit a proposal, as outlined in the [call for proposals](#) (deadline Friday, 24 August 2018). Members are also invited to [nominate members of the Board](#) by Friday, 7 September 2018. The election will take place during the General Assembly. A delightful social programme, generously offered by the event host IQAA, also awaits participants. Please see the [event webpage](#) for particulars.

Registration for the [2018 European Quality Assurance Forum](#) (EQAF), taking place on 15-17 November 2018 in Vienna, is also open. ENQA members and affiliates are encouraged to submit a proposal for a paper or workshop (the deadline for which is 24 July) and to register before the 1 October early-bird deadline.

The dates for other meetings and events may be found in the following table and on the [events webpage](#):

13 September 2018	Basel	ENQA Board meeting
27-28 September 2018	Riga	ENQA seminar for agencies preparing for an initial external review
19 September 2018		EADTU-ENQA webinar on QA in blended and online education

17 October 2018	Astana	ENQA Board meeting
18-19 October 2018	Astana	ENQA General Assembly
15-17 November 2018	Vienna	European Quality Assurance Forum

You may look forward to the next Note from the President following the General Assembly in October.

Yours sincerely,



Christoph Grolimund
President of ENQA