

Dr. Anke Rigbers  
Chief Executive  
Evaluation Agency of Baden-Württemberg (evalag)  
M7 9a-10  
D-68161 Mannheim  
Germany

Bern, 28 June 2019

**Subject: Reconfirmation of membership of evalag in ENQA**

Dear Anke,

I am pleased to inform you that, at its meeting of 20 June 2019, the Board of ENQA agreed to reconfirm the evalag membership of ENQA for five years from that date. The Board concluded that the agency is in compliance with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015) and thus fulfils the membership criteria according to article 6, paragraph 1 of ENQA's rules of procedure.

The Board would like to use this opportunity to highlight the suggestion of the panel on standard 3.4 Thematic analysis, where the agency is suggested to expand the scope of thematic analyses by focusing on best practices and recommendations, such as the ones that evolve from the follow-up of the agency's QA procedures.

The Board would like to receive a follow-up report containing evalag's reactions to all recommendations within two years of its decision, i.e. by June 2021.

The Board also encourages evalag to take advantage of the voluntary progress visit – an enhancement-led feature in the review process. The visit would take place in about two years' time from this decision. The ENQA Secretariat will be in touch with you in about a year's time to discuss this possibility. The costs of this visit have already been included as part of the review fee and are non-refundable except for the travel costs of the experts. More information about the progress visit can be found in the Guidelines for ENQA Agency Reviews. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the ENQA Secretariat.

Please accept my congratulations to evalag for the positive review outcome and I look forward to continued fruitful cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Christoph Grolimund  
President

Annex: Areas for development

## **Annex: Areas for development**

As outlined by the review panel, evalag is recommended to take appropriate action, so far as it is empowered to do so, on the following issues:

### **3.1 Activities, policy and processes for quality assurance**

evalag is recommended to appoint a student to the Foundation Board.

### **2.2 Designing methodologies fit for purpose**

evalag is recommended to broaden the active involvement of stakeholders (including the representatives of higher education institutions, employers, and students) in the design and development of the review methodologies. This includes the representation of all relevant stakeholders, including students, on the Foundation board, but should also go beyond just the representation that is provided through the Foundation Board, the Accreditation Commission and the Appeals Commission and include active and regular discussions on procedures and methodology in the agency's bodies.

### **2.4 Peer-review experts**

evalag is recommended to further strengthen the experts' skills by providing training seminars for each type of the review. The agency should seriously consider making such training compulsory for every expert panel member involved in evalag activities.

### **2.7 Complaints and appeals**

evalag is recommended to reconsider the complaints and appeals policy with a view to making the document shorter and clearer. The document should clarify what is meant by the terms 'complaints' and 'appeals.' The panel also recommends evalag to ensure that the policy is clearly accessible on the website in German and English.