

Note from the President

Bern, 3 June 2019

Dear colleagues,

It was a great pleasure to welcome so many ENQA members and affiliates in Tallinn for the Members' Forum in April. For those of you unable to attend, herein you may find a summary of the decisions taken at the General Assembly meeting, as well as at recent Board meetings. 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 and affiliation decisions

During its February meeting, the ENQA Board granted membership to the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education (CYQAA) and reconfirmed membership of the Institutional Evaluation Programme (IEP, Switzerland) and the Agency for the Quality of the Basque University System (Unibasq, Spain). The ENQA Board also granted affiliate status to the Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC).

At its April meeting, the ENQA Board granted membership to the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement (NCEQE).

The review reports, which form the basis for the decisions, are available on the ENQA website on the [Review Reports and Decisions page](#).

2. General Assembly meeting

I would like to thank the participants of the Members' Forum for the lively discussions during the General Assembly meeting and breakout sessions regarding ENQA's Strategic Plan 2021-2025. The ENQA Board will consider this feedback in its next strategy meeting in June 2019. Consultation of members will continue at the next General Assembly on 17-18 October 2019 in Yerevan, Armenia, and the new Strategic Plan will be adopted in spring 2020 at the General Assembly meeting during the Members' Forum.

The General Assembly endorsed the Board's decisions to grant membership to the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education (CYQAA) and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), to reconfirm membership of the Institutional Evaluation Programme (IEP, Switzerland), the Polish Accreditation Committee (PKA), the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (SQAA) and the Agency for the Quality of the Basque University System (Unibasq, Spain) as well as to transfer the membership under review of the Commission of Accreditation and Quality Assurance (CAQA) to the National Entity for Accreditation and Quality Assurance (NEAQA).

The General Assembly also endorsed the Board's decisions to grant affiliate status to the Consejo de Acreditación en Ciencias Administrativas, Contables y Afines (CACECA), Comité d'accréditation pour les formations du brevet de technicien supérieur, and the Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC) as well as to renew affiliation of the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in Andorra (AQUA).

Members present at the General Assembly approved the proposal to change the name of the ENQA Complaints Policy to *ENQA General Complaints Policy for Third Parties*. It was done to make a clearer differentiation between the complaints policy for third parties and the one for agencies that have applied for membership in ENQA. The appeals and complaints procedure for agencies under review is outlined in the Rules of Procedure (Article 24). These appeals and complaints are handled by the Appeals and Complaints Committee. Individuals or organisations that have substantiated concerns about an ENQA Member agency's compliance with the ESG may consult the ENQA General Complaints Policy for Third Parties. These complaints are handled by the ENQA Board. This occasion for the name change was utilised to make also some minor clarifications in the text itself. The revised policy is available [here](#).

During the General Assembly meeting, the President of the High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCERES), Michel Cosnard, presented a new initiative called the "European Research Infrastructure Evaluation Consortium (ERIEC)". The consortium will perform joint evaluations of European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERICs) at the European level. The consortium is open for national research evaluation agencies. More information on the initiative is available [here](#).

3. ENQA Agency Reviews

I would also like to thank those participants of the ENQA Members' Forum in Tallinn who contributed to the SWOT analysis of the ENQA Agency Reviews during the breakout sessions. This feedback has been carefully studied, and it has been summarised for the self-assessment report which will be approved by the ENQA Board in their meeting on 20 June 2019. The site visit is foreseen for September 2019.

4. Projects

I am pleased to let you know that the [LIREQA project](#), for which ENQA is a partner, has produced practical recommendations for quality assurance agencies, higher education institutions and ENIC/NARIC centres on integrating academic recognition and quality assurance. The recommendations were presented and discussed at the [final conference](#) in Vilnius on 22 May 2019. The recommendations are also available on the [ENQA website](#).

5. ENQA meetings and events

The 2019 ENQA Leadership Programme is open for registration until 15 June 2019. The second enhanced edition will provide an intensive European peer-learning experience for high-potential professional staff in member and affiliate quality assurance agencies. Kindly see more details and instructions for registration [here](#).

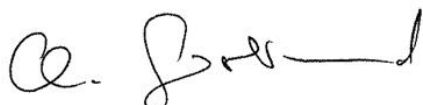
The ENQA webinar series will also continue with the second webinar focusing on subject-specific approaches to quality assurance. The webinar will take place on Friday, 14 June 2019 from 11.00-12.00 CET. More information and the registration link are available [here](#).

The 2019 General Assembly, for which registration will open soon, will be hosted by the National Centre for Professional Education Quality Assurance Foundation (ANQA) on 17-18 October 2019 in Yerevan, Armenia. The dates for other meetings and events may be seen in the following table and on the [events webpage](#):

14 June	Online	ENQA webinar on subject-specific approaches
19 June 2019	Brussels	ENQA Board strategy meeting
20 June 2019	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
19 September 2019	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
1-2 October 2019	Porto	ENQA Seminar for recently reviewed agencies
16 October 2019	Yerevan	ENQA Board meeting
17-18 October 2019	Yerevan	ENQA General Assembly
21-22 October 2019	Vienna	ENQA Leadership Programme – Seminar 1
21-23 November 2019	Berlin	European Quality Assurance Forum
28 November 2019	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
11-13 December 2019	Bucharest	ENQA Leadership Programme – Seminar 2
4-6 March 2020	The Hague	ENQA Leadership Programme – Seminar 3

You may look forward to the next Note from the President following the June Board meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Christoph Grolimund
President of ENQA