

Transitional arrangements for ENQA reviews in light of the revised ESG

Context

The revised ESG are expected to be adopted on 14/15 May 2015 at the Bologna Process Ministerial Conference in Yerevan, Armenia. Some ENQA member agencies or potential applicant agencies will need to make changes to their procedures and criteria as a result of the revised ESG. For some agencies such changes will be more substantial. Agencies will need time to adapt their procedures, as consultations at the national level on the revised ESG might need to be carried out. It is thus unlikely that agencies will be ready to operate with the revised ESG immediately after their adoption in May 2015. Therefore, to ensure a fast but appropriate transition, the ENQA Board has decided to adopt the following arrangements for the ENQA coordinated agency reviews in 2015-2016. The present transitional arrangements are compatible with the proposed EQAR transitional arrangements for the same period.

ENQA Secretariat will no longer coordinate reviews according to the current version of the ESG after the revised ESG have been formally adopted in May 2015. All agencies due to be reviewed in 2017 or later will be assessed against the revised ESG.

Specific arrangements for current members

Members due for a review in 2015

ENQA full members whose membership is due for renewal in the first 6-8 months of 2015 are encouraged to complete their review process by the end of February 2015, according to the current version of the ESG. Should this not be feasible, the agencies whose membership expires after May 2015 may contact the ENQA Secretariat to discuss an appropriate extension of their membership in order to prepare for a review according to the revised ESG. Such extension would be granted at most until the end of 2016 (time of completed procedure).

Members due for a review in 2016

ENQA full members whose membership is due for renewal in 2016 should be reviewed against the revised ESG. Should the agency consider it difficult to maintain the current review schedule they can contact the ENQA Secretariat for an extension of their membership until the end of 2016.

Arrangements for new applicants (or “full members under review”)

New applicants should **complete their procedures by May 2015 if they wish to be reviewed against the current ESG**. Should the new applicant wish to use the review also for registration to EQAR, they are advised to take into consideration the EQAR policy on transitional arrangements and therefore be prepared to complete their procedure by the end of February 2015 at the latest.

All other new applicants should wait until they are ready to be assessed against the revised ESG (any time after May 2015). Interested agencies are encouraged to apply for affiliate status in ENQA in the meantime.