

Note from the President

Dublin, 14 July 2017

Dear colleagues,

It was a pleasure to see many of you in attendance at the Members' Forum in Oslo in May. For those of you unable to attend, herein you may find a summary of the decisions taken at the event, as well as at recent Board meetings. Please be informed that minutes from the Members' Forum and Board meetings, once approved, are available on the ENQA website in the [Members' Area](#).

1. Membership and administrative issues

Members present at the General Assembly meeting during the Members' Forum endorsed the Board's decisions to grant membership to the National Centre for Professional Education Quality Assurance Foundation (ANQA, Armenia), the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR, Kazakhstan), and the Independent Kazakh Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (IQAA, Kazakhstan). The General Assembly also endorsed decisions to renew membership for the following six agencies: the Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (AEQES, Belgium), the Agency for Science and Higher Education (ASHE, Croatia), the Accreditation Agency Specialised in Accrediting Degree Programmes in Engineering, Informatics, the Natural Sciences and Mathematics (ASIIN e.V, Germany), the Finnish Education Evaluation Centre (FINEEC, Finland), the High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCERES, France), Quality Assurance Netherlands Universities (QANU, The Netherlands), and the Central Agency for Evaluation and Accreditation (ZeVA, Germany). The Board's decision to grant "member under review" status to the Accreditation, Certification and Quality Assurance Institute (ACQUIN, Germany) was endorsed as well.

The General Assembly endorsed the Board's decisions to grant affiliate status to the following six organisations: the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE, Ireland), the Accreditation and Nostrification Office of the Ministry of Education of Azerbaijan (ANO, Azerbaijan), the International Association for Management Development in Dynamic Societies (CEEMAN, Slovenia), the Eurasian Universities Union (EURAS, Turkey), the National Accreditation Bureau for Higher Education (NAB, Czech Republic), and the Russian Register Certification Association (Russia).

During its May meeting, the Board confirmed the membership of the Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study Programmes (AQAS, Germany) and the Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA, Germany), who underwent GAC-coordinated reviews and the National Accreditation Agency of the Russian Federation (NAA, Russia), who underwent an ENQA-coordinated partial review. Following an appeal, the Board overturned their earlier decision to grant the Accreditation Agency for Study Programmes of Engineering, Information Science, Natural Sciences and Mathematics (ASIIN, Germany) "member under review" status, thereby reconfirming ASIIN's membership in ENQA for five years from the date of the initial decision.

At its June meeting, the Board reconfirmed membership for the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (SKVC, Lithuania) and the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU Catalunya, Spain) following their recently completed ENQA-coordinated reviews.

2. Events and activities

Registration is now open for the [8th ENQA General Assembly](#) that will take place on 26-27 October 2017 in Sèvres (near Paris), France, and hosted by the Centre International d'Etudes Pédagogiques (CIEP). Participants arriving early to Sèvres are welcome to attend a pre-event entitled "Quality Assurance in France: Key players and national and European challenges" offered by CIEP, in cooperation with ENQA members HCERES and CTI, and the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation. The pre-event will take place during the afternoon preceding the ENQA General Assembly, on 25 October, from 17:00 - 19:30 at CIEP. During the first day of the General Assembly, participants are invited to [submit a proposal](#) – the deadline for which is 11 August – to present their challenges and good practices during a poster session. ENQA members are also invited to [nominate members for the ENQA Board](#); the deadline for nominations is 15 September.

Registration is also open for the first [Seminar for recently reviewed agencies](#), that will take place on 12-13 October 2017 in The Hague, the Netherlands, hosted by the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO). The seminar will mainly focus on ENQA Agency Reviews, however, members that have recently undergone an external review coordinated by other entities may also benefit from attending. For logistical reasons, participation is limited to two representatives per agency that has recently undergone or is currently undergoing an external review coordinated by ENQA and to one representative per member agency reviewed by another entity (in both cases, participation is limited to agencies whose reviews concluded/are expected to conclude between October 2015 and September 2017). Registration is open on the [event webpage](#) until 12 September 2017.

Lastly, registration is now open for the [12th European Quality Assurance Forum](#) (EQAF), which will take place on 23-25 November 2017 in Riga, hosted by the University of Latvia. Under the theme of "Responsible QA – committing to impact", the Forum will focus on the need for quality assurance, whether aiming at accountability or enhancement, to be carried out in a transparent and responsible manner. Forum organisers are seeking proposals for paper sessions and workshops from QA practitioners in higher education institutions and QA agencies, students, and researchers in the field. Selected contributions will also receive one reduced fee for attending the Forum. The deadline to submit contributions is 24 July 2017.

3. ENQA meetings and events

13 September	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
12-13 October	The Hague	ENQA Agency Reviews: Seminar for recently reviewed agencies
25 October	Sèvres	ENQA Board meeting
26-27 October	Sèvres	ENQA General Assembly
TBD November	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
20-21 November	Brussels	ENQA Agency Reviews: Reviewers' Seminar
23-25 November	Riga	European Quality Assurance Forum

This summer I kindly invite you to consider how you or your organisation can get involved in the above-mentioned opportunities and activities – whether it be by preparing a proposal for an EQAF workshop or ENQA’s poster session, nominating a colleague for election as an ENQA Board member, or providing insight and feedback at the Seminar for recently reviewed agencies. In the meantime, I wish you all good holidays and look forward to bringing you another update following the September Board meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Padraig Walsh
President of ENQA