

Note from the President

Bern, 12 January 2018

Dear colleagues,

Happy New Year! ENQA's new Board held their meeting in December, the decisions from which you may find herein and, once approved, on the ENQA website in the [Members' Area](#).

1. ENQA Agency Reviews

ENQA is committed to the continual improvement of the procedures for external reviews of agencies as detailed in the Guidelines for ENQA Agency Reviews, and as such, the Board is grateful to AQU Catalunya for initiating discussion on the topic following its recent review. As an outcome of this discussion, and considering feedback from experts at the recent reviewers' seminar, the ENQA Board took a decision to amend one aspect of the Guidelines for ENQA Agency Reviews: once the review panels have finalised the external review report, they will send it to the agency under review for comments relating to factual errors *with the judgments on compliance in place* (they were previously omitted).

Furthermore, the ENQA Board will work to improve the means by which it communicates the results of external reviews in the decision letters sent to agencies.

2. Board work plan for 2018

During its December meeting, the Board discussed the forthcoming year's work plan and decided areas of responsibility. The composition of the [Review Committees](#) has thus been modified as follows:

Committee A

Eva Ferreira García
Christina Rozsnyai
Padraig Walsh

Committee B

Fiona Crozier
Caty Duykaerts
Sofija Pekić Quarrie

Committee C

Núria Comet Señal
Anne Flierman
Tove Blytt Holmen

Committee D

Achim Hopbach
François Pernot
Nora Skaburskienė

Alternate members:

Anne Flierman

Christina Rozsnyai

Caty Duykaerts

Tove Blytt Holmen

Board members will continue their work drafting ENQA's 2018 Report to Ministers responsible for Higher Education in the EHEA, taking into consideration feedback collected from participants of the General Assembly in Sèvres. Members may anticipate a further opportunity in the coming weeks to comment on the message before its finalisation.

Considering comments received following the General Assembly and an earlier survey, Board members have also committed to taking steps that will encourage closer contact with members. Along those lines, we are pleased that the recent Board election (which has introduced Sofija Pekić Quarrie from

CAQA, Serbia, and François Pernot from HCERES, France, to the Board) has resulted in a continued and fair geographical representation.

3. ENQA affiliates

The Board is pleased to welcome its newest affiliates, the Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities (ACEEU, the Netherlands) and Cambridge International Qualifications (CIQ, United Kingdom). The Board also approved the transfer of affiliation from the Albanian Public Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (PAAHE) to the Albanian Quality Assurance Agency (ASCAL).

4. Invitation to host ENQA Members' Forum or General Assembly

ENQA members and affiliates are invited to nominate themselves as hosts for the Members' Forums and General Assemblies taking place in 2019 and 2020. Agencies are kindly requested to indicate in their nomination which event they would prefer to host and eventually if they would be available to accept another opportunity. The call for hosts remains open until 12 February 2018, with the decision determining the locations for the 2019 and 2020 events to be taken by the Board in February 2018. Further information may be found [here](#).

5. ENQA meetings and events

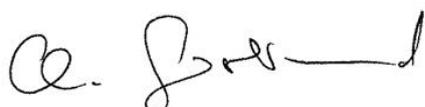
I would like to thank those who contributed to the survey following the General Assembly. The Board has considered the feedback and has agreed that henceforth survey feedback shall be provided to the events host(s) and to the host of the following statutory event in order to help continually improve these events. With that said, kindly mark your calendars for the next Members' Forum, taking place in Zaragoza, Spain, on 19-20 April 2018. The event will be hosted by the Aragon Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation (ACPUA). Further information about the programme and registration are expected to be announced later this month.

The 2018 General Assembly will be hosted by the Independent Kazakh Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (IQAA) on 18-19 October 2018 in Astana, Kazakhstan. The dates for other meetings and events may be seen in the following table and on the [events webpage](#):

14-15 February 2018	Vienna	IQM project final conference
15-16 February 2018	Geneva	UNESCO regional conference on QA of higher education
22 February 2018	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
1-2 March 2018	Brussels	Seminar on the European Approach for Joint Programmes
19 April 2018	Zaragoza	ENQA Board meeting
19-20 April 2018	Zaragoza	ENQA Members' Forum
21 June 2018	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
13 September 2018	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
17 October 2018	Astana	ENQA Board meeting
18-19 October 2018	Astana	ENQA General Assembly

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

Yours sincerely,



Christoph Grolimund
President of ENQA