

Note from the President

Bern, 7 May 2018

Dear colleagues,

This note contains a summary of the decisions taken during the February and April Board meetings, as well as the General Assembly meeting in April. 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 reconfirmed the membership of the Estonian Quality Agency for Higher and Vocational Education (EKKA) and the National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (NEAA, Bulgaria). The Commission for Accreditation and Quality Assurance (CAQA, Serbia), was granted Member under review status. These decisions, along with the Board's earlier decision to reconfirm the membership of the National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation of Spain (ANECA), were endorsed during the General Assembly meeting in April.

At its April meeting, the ENQA Board granted membership to the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) and took the decision to not reconfirm the membership of the European Council on Chiropractic Education (ECCE), which had been a Member under review since April 2016.

During the General Assembly meeting, the Board's proposal to designate the Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA) as "Member under review" was approved. This designation is in response to concerns that were raised regarding the agency's independence, and thus its compliance with the ESG, following the September 2017 dismissal of the Board and Director of KAA by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of Kosovo.

During recent meetings, the ENQA Board approved affiliate requests for the following organisations: the Accreditation Agency Curaçao (AAC); the Evaluation and Accreditation of Quality Language Services (Eaquals, UK); the Higher Education Accreditation Agency of Republika Srpska (RS HEAA, Bosnia and Herzegovina); and the Quality Board for Icelandic Higher Education. Requests for the transfer of affiliation were approved for the following: from the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Professional Education (ANACIP) to the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Education and Research (ANACEC, Moldova) and from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) to the Office for Students (OfS, UK). The decisions to grant the Accreditation Agency Curaçao (AAC) and the Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities (ACEEU, the Netherlands) were endorsed by the General Assembly in April, while the remainder will be put before the General Assembly in Astana for endorsement.

2. Administrative issues

In February, the ENQA Board approved the [ENQA Message to the Ministerial Conference of 2018](#). The message, which is the product of a consultation with ENQA members and deliberation among the Board and Secretariat, briefly summarises developments in the EHEA since the 2015 Ministerial Conference in Yerevan and recommendations for policymakers.

During its April meeting, the ENQA General Assembly endorsed the Board's proposal to revise the affiliate application procedure, which is intended to:

- evaluate and screen applicants with a lean and standardised process;
- avoid any dubious organisations affiliating themselves with ENQA;
- gain more information about the activities of ENQA's affiliates, and;
- have a process in place to re-evaluate Affiliates later in their affiliation (through reapplication).

The new procedure, in effect as of the General Assembly meeting, consists of several new steps, including an online application form, an opportunity for members to express causes for concern, and a cyclical re-application. The full details of the procedure will be available on the ENQA website.

The revision of the application procedure for affiliates led to a revision of the ENQA Rules of Procedure, which contains the details of the affiliate application procedure. The General Assembly thus approved the new Rules of Procedure, additional parts of which were also changed, including those relating to the appeals fee and closed ballot voting, for instance.

The General Assembly also approved the plan for an external review of ENQA's review activities, in order to demonstrate that the association itself is in line with the requirements of the ESG.

As a follow-up to a question raised during the General Assembly's discussion on ENQA's finances, the Treasurer and Secretariat have confirmed that the amounts stated on the balance sheet are indeed correct.

3. ENQA meetings and events

At its February meeting, the Board decided on the hosts for the Members' Forum and General Assembly in 2019. The Estonian Quality Agency for Higher and Vocational Education (EKKA, Estonia) will host the 2019 Members' Forum and the National Centre for Professional Education Quality Assurance Foundation (ANQA, Armenia) will host the 2019 General Assembly. On behalf of the ENQA Board, I would like to thank all the organisations that submitted expressions of interest.

The 2018 General Assembly, for which registration will open soon, 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](#):

16-18 May 2018	Brussels	ENQA Leadership Programme: Seminar 1
31 May - 1 June 2018	Madrid	ENQA Agency Reviews: Training of reviewers
5 June 2018	Brussels	Conference on supporting higher education to integrate learning analytics
14-15 June 2018	Brussels	Seminar on quality assurance in the European context

20 June 2018	Brussels	ENQA Networking event
21 June 2018	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
13 September 2018	Basel	ENQA Board meeting
17 October 2018	Astana	ENQA Board meeting
18-19 October 2018	Astana	ENQA General Assembly
15-17 November 2018	Vienna	European Quality Assurance Forum

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

Yours sincerely,



Christoph Grolimund
President of ENQA