

## Proposal for the dismissal of ASIC as an ENQA Affiliate

### Proposed action for the General Assembly:

**To consider the information provided on ASIC and its affiliation to ENQA and to decide whether to exclude ASIC from affiliation as recommended by the ENQA Board (ENQA Board's decision on 20th February 2020).**

The formal basis for the organisation's dismissal as ENQA Affiliate is their failure to re-apply in line with the conditions provided in the ENQA Rules of Procedures (extract included in the annex to this document).

### I. Context and history of ASIC in ENQA

ASIC, the Accreditation Service for International Colleges located in Stockton-on-tees, the UK, was granted affiliation in ENQA in June 2013.

In the recent years some members have raised concerns about ASIC and their accreditation procedures which may cause some damage to ENQA's reputation. Following these concerns, and making use of the renewed ENQA affiliate application procedure (which allows to collect more information on the prospective affiliates and includes a procedure for causes of concern by members), ASIC was invited to reapply as affiliates in September 2018.

However, despite several reminders, and repeated promises of fast delivery of the application form, ENQA ASIC had not reapply by the final deadline provided to them.

ASIC has never sent a representative to any of ENQA's events. It has paid its affiliation dues regularly.

### II. ENQA statutes on exclusion of affiliates

ENQA's statutes describe the condition for the exclusion of an affiliate as follows:

#### **Article 12 – Resignation and exclusion**

Affiliates may resign at any time by submitting a written notification of resignation to the President of the Association. The resignation becomes effective immediately. The President shall notify the General Assembly and the Board of the resignation.

**Affiliates may be excluded by decision of the General Assembly, upon recommendation of the Board, in case of breach of the present statutes, or in the event of any action which is likely to cause prejudice to the Association's reputation or effectiveness. The Board's recommendation shall be endorsed by the General Assembly and the decision shall be taken by the latter.**

## **Annex – Extract from the Rules of procedure on affiliates**

### **Article 12**

(1) Affiliation is granted by a decision of the Board, to be endorsed by the General Assembly, if the applicant:

- is a bona fide organisation
- has a genuine interest in the quality assurance of higher education in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
- fits the definition of an affiliate as given in the Statutes of ENQA

(2) The Board shall also consider whether it is in the interests of ENQA and its membership to enter a formal relationship with the applicant body.

### **Extract from Article 13:**

(7) Affiliation is granted at the discretion of the Board, and there is no right of appeal. The **affiliate status is valid for five years**.

(8) Affiliates shall reapply every five years using the same application procedure detailed above.

(9) Conditions for termination of affiliation are detailed in the ENQA Statutes.