
Professor Boyan Bioltchev
President
National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (NEAA)
125, Tzarigradsko Chaussee Blvd., bl. 5
Sofia 1133, Bulgaria

Dublin, 13 May 2015

Subject: Full membership of NEAA in ENQA

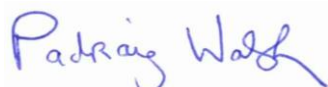
Dear Professor Bioltchev,

I am pleased to inform you that, at its meeting of 16 April 2015, the Board of ENQA agreed to renew NEAA Full membership of ENQA for five years from the Board's decision of 24 April 2014 granting NEAA the status of Full member under review. Full membership under review is included in the whole 5-year membership. Therefore, membership is deemed to have commenced on 24 April 2014 and, following the successful outcome of the partial review, is valid until 24 April 2019.

Though NEAA operates in substantial compliance with the European Standards and Guidelines, the Board would like to receive a follow-up report on the recommendations made by the panel in their report (as outlined in the attached annex). These new recommendations are in addition to those already made in the 2014 report, many of which have already been addressed at the time of this 2015 review. The follow-up report is expected within a year's time of the Board decision, i.e. by April 2016.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the ENQA Secretariat. Please accept my congratulations for the renewal of Full Membership of NEAA.

Yours sincerely,



Padraig Walsh
President of ENQA

Annex 1: Areas for development

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As to provide even more accessible information for stakeholders, it will be helpful in the medium term to consider whether an introductory statement might be included for each report published by the Agency, giving an executive summary of the judgements, recommendations, and the most significant evaluative information. In the interest of wider communication and transparency, it would be desirable in future, should resources permit, to publish such a summary in English.

NEAA should aim to extend the scope of its system-wide analysis and reporting so as to provide more information on wider trends and developments across the Bulgarian higher education sector

NEAA should ensure that when the reconstitution of its Standing Committees takes place, student representatives are made full members of all those committees, on a consistent basis.

In the interest of accessibility for the general public and its stakeholders, NEAA should consider producing a briefer and more straightforward statement on its internal quality assurance procedures, for publication on its website.

The Accreditation Council should continue to give its fullest support to the work of the Committee for Quality Assurance, as it develops and implements its revised feedback procedures.