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TARGETED REVIEWS OF QA AGENCIES



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AQAS

AGENTUR FÜR
QUALITÄTSSICHERUNG DURCH
AKKREDITIERUNG VON
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enqa.

WHY?

- A need to continue providing something meaningful as part of a review process while avoiding a possible evaluation fatigue
- A need to provide for the accountability of quality assurance agencies
 - = Accountability and enhancement hand in hand, **tailored to the context of mature agencies**
- Applicability: agencies that have successfully undergone at least two full ESG reviews and have regularly reported on substantive changes
- To be used as an alternative every ten years (with a full review in between)
- Effective as of 1 July 2021, valid for EQAR registration and ENQA membership renewal

WHAT?

- The ESG continue to form the basic framework for quality assurance in the EHEA
- An alternative way of assessing the agency's compliance with the ESG
- How?



FOCUS AREAS

- Standards what were only partially compliant with the ESG during the last full review
- New external quality assurance activities of the agency, and
- Substantial changes that could impact the ESG compliance of the agency

Focus areas	Applicability
All the standards with a 'partial compliance' conclusion in the EQAR Register Committee's last renewal decision, and in ENQA's review report ⁷	Applicable to all
ESG 2.1	Applicable to all
One further enhancement area selected from among standards of Part 2 or 3 of the ESG that is not yet included in the targeted review	Applicable to all
Standards 2.1 to 2.7 for the external QA activities that were newly launched or changed since the agency's last full review against the ESG	If the case
Any standards affected by other substantive changes (organisational identity or structure, other fields of activity and separation of activities among themselves)	If the case
Any other matters regarding ESG compliance that come up during the targeted review ⁸	If the case

KEY ASPECTS

- Need to reflect on **the progress from the last full review**
- Importance of **meeting all stakeholders**: the panel should namely verify that there are no changes within the agency (i.e., that there is no evidence pointing to the contrary)
- Enhancement aspects: the review should be put into the **context of the agency's ongoing major developments** (e.g., in accordance with the agency's strategic plan and the submitted SWOT analysis)
- Relevance of the last full review (including the agency's SAR)

DIFFERENCES TO FULL REVIEWS

- Eligibility check with a careful examination of the agency's developments since the last full review (to be reflected in the ToR)
- Agency-ENQA dialogue on the choice of ESG standards for enhancement
- Analytical nature of the SAR (SWOT analysis, but not only)!
- Panel of three reviewers
- Additional purposes of the site visit: to allow for identification and discussion on any potential unexpected issue as raised by internal or external stakeholders; to engage in developmental conversations
- Three-scale grading on compliance only for standards of focus areas (without the enhancement areas); acknowledgement that no other changes were observed by the panel
- Obligatory attendance to an online follow-up seminar once every two years
- The revised Guidelines for ENQA Agency Reviews apply!

RESULT(S)

- The same type of overall evaluation of the agency's compliance with the ESG as a full review
 - Analysis of the agency's remaining challenges in reaching ESG compliance
 - Enhancement on selected area
- The same type of decision on agencies' renewal of membership in ENQA or registration in EQAR as a full review
- A shorter and more resource-mindful review process (9-11 months, lower fee)

FURTHER REMARKS

- Targeted review is **NOT** a **MUST**!
- More information: ENQA Secretariat, Guidelines for ENQA Targeted Reviews



GUIDELINES FOR
ENQA TARGETED
REVIEWS

THANK
YOU

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