

**HAQAA QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY REVIEWS AND
CONSULTANCY VISITS
TRAINING AND PREPARATION SESSIONS FOR
AGENCIES AND MINISTRIES**

Tuesday 6 July 2021

Part 2: Preparing the self-assessment report

Venue: [online \(Zoom\)](#), meeting ID: 821 0476 5879, passcode: 119196

All times are GMT

- 9.00-9.15 Welcome and introductions**
- 9.15-9.45 Self-assessment phase – requirements, purpose and benefits**
- Anna Gover (ENQA)
 - Questions and discussion
- 9.45-10.30 What makes a good self-assessment report?**
- Ronny Heintze (AQAS, Germany)
 - Questions and discussion
- 10.30-11.15 BREAK
- 11.15-12.15 Discussion groups**
- 12.15-13.00 BREAK
- 13.00-14.15 Experiences from HAQAAI**
- Jeffy Mukora (CNAQ, Mozambique)
 - Yohansen Eid (NAQAAE, Egypt)
 - Questions and discussion
- 14.15-14.30 Wrap-up and next steps**

Briefing notes for Ronny Heintze

Background to the HAQAA agency reviews and consultancy visits:

Quality assurance in higher education is recognised as a key strategic area in the 2063 Agenda of the African Union, which prioritises a number of tools and measures for harmonising the African higher education sector and rendering it both local responsive and globally competitive. Higher education quality assurance collaboration, and harmonisation more generally, is also a successful area of collaboration under the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. The aim is to establish compatible structures and systems which would facilitate academic mobility and foster comparability of qualifications.

Support to achieve these aims was provided in 2015-2018 by the Harmonisation of African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation (HAQAA) Initiative, funded by the European Union under the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership. This Initiative facilitated the development of the African Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance (ASG-QA) and a methodology for the peer review of external quality assurance agencies against the standards of Parts B and C of the ASG-QA. In 2018, teams of experts conducted four pilot reviews of national external quality assurance agencies and four consultancy visits to higher education ministries in five different African Union regions.

In order to continue the development and strengthening of external quality assurance in Africa, the second phase of the HAQAA Initiative (HAQAA2: 2020-2022) plans to coordinate further **reviews of established external quality assurance agencies and consultancy visits** to countries in which there is a newly established quality assurance agency or preparations are underway to set one up.

Agency reviews

A full review of the agency against the standards of Parts B and C of the ASG-QA (which correspond to Parts 2 and 3 of the ESG). The methodology is similar to that used in ENQA's agency reviews, i.e. self-assessment phase, site visit by a panel of experts (in this case two African experts and one European expert), and a report with findings and recommendations for improvement. As these agency reviews are still considered to be in a pilot phase, no compliance judgements are issued, it is not obligatory to publish the final review report (although many agencies in the first round of reviews did so voluntarily) and there are no formal consequences to the review process.

Consultancy visits

The consultancy visits are aimed at agencies that are only recently established or ministries that are in the process of setting up an independent agency and transferring responsibility for external quality assurance. The basic methodology is the same as for the agency reviews except that the agency is only required to address certain standards in the SAR, and the final review report will only address the standards for which there is evidence available. The site visit and review report also take on a more 'developmental' tone in recognition of the fact that the external quality assurance activities are not fully established.

HAQAA2 agency reviews and consultancy visits

The following agencies/ministries have registered to participate in the HAQAA2 reviews and consultancy visits:

Training

The participating agencies are being supported by a training programme split into three sessions. The first session, which took place in June focused on the PAQAF, the ASG-QA and the general review methodology. This second session focusses on the self-assessment phase. A final session in September will focus on preparing for the site visit.

This initiative is implemented on behalf of the European and African Union Commissions by:

Your presentation

The aim of your presentation is to give some insights into what makes a good self-assessment report. The formal requirements of the HAQAA self-assessment reports will be covered in an earlier presentation.

You will have c. XX minutes, with time available afterwards for questions from the audience.

You don't need to tailor the presentation specifically to the African context (though I believe your broad international experience in any case allows you to step out of the specifics of the European context). The important thing would be to highlight the key success factors to a good quality self-assessment report that is of use to the experts, but also a productive self-assessment phase that bring maximum benefit to the agency.

Practical information

The training takes place using Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82104765879?pwd=a3k2K2JjZ3grZlZOYWWhoMlR0M3VLZz09>

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Simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Portuguese will be offered throughout. Anna Gover will also monitor the chat to pick up any questions to be addressed after the presentation.

The session will be recorded and the recording will be made available to registered participants after the training.

We are expecting c. 20 participants, including representatives from the agencies and ministries that will have a review/consultancy visit this year, as well as a few representatives of other African agencies that are attending as a capacity-building exercise.