

Harmonisation for African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation 2

HAQAA 2 Initiative

Training for Experts

12 April 2022

Reviewer's Experience from HAQAA 1 Pilot Reviews for Agencies

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HAQAA2 

Harmonisation of African
Higher Education Quality
Assurance and Accreditation

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

Site Visit Schedule

- Three days found to be sufficient.
- Visits to three HEIs, which enabled the Panel to collect additional information from faculty and staff who did not attend the scheduled interviews – added value to the Review Panel Report.

Self- Assessment Report (SAR)

- Agency felt that they were not familiar with the ASG-QA.
- An orientation/induction on the Standards and Guidelines would be helpful in writing the SAR.
- There were a number of repetitions in addressing certain standards in Parts B and C – perhaps due to lack of understanding of the difference between Parts B and C or it could have been due to the structure of the SAR template.

(SAR)...cont.

- SAR development may have been a challenge – one-man show or insufficient preparatory time.
- Seemed that not all staff members were familiar with the contents of the SAR.
- The SAR was still in draft form when the Panel received it (spelling mistakes, repetition of certain paragraphs and/or graphs, typos, etc.).

Evidence/ Supportive Documents

- A lot of evidence documents were provided, but they were not well organised – the Panel could have missed important documents in the process.
- Agency's website was a valuable source of information.

Role of the Secretary

- There is a need to clarify the role of the Secretary, e.g.:
 - only taking notes, compiling the draft report and circulating it for input?
 - participating as a full panel member, writing a portion of the report and consolidating the various parts?
 - consolidating the write-ups of panel members and circulating the draft report for comments/ input?

Specific Standards the Agency found Challenging to Address

Part B

- Standard 1. Objectives of External Quality Assurance and Consideration for Internal Quality Assurance
- This standard was not interpreted too well – was a bit confusing for the Agency.

Recommendations

1. SAR:

- Brief training on the ASG-QA (Parts B and C) through a webinar/Zoom meeting with the key teams at the Agencies that are going to compile the SAR.
- The importance of a team approach (critical, collegial, constructive dialogue and discussion) should be emphasised and encouraged.

2. Evidence/Supportive Documents:

- Agencies should be advised on a proper structure for organising the evidence and related documents.



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THANK YOU!



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