

HAQAA QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY REVIEWS AND CONSULTANCY VISITS TRAINING/PREPARATORY SESSION FOR EXPERTS

Parallel working groups on the analysis of a SAR

Extracts from the SAR for the evaluation of ANAQ-Sup

- Standard B2. Élaboration de mécanismes d'AQE adaptés au contexte national et international
- Standard C4. Independence of the QAA

Consider...

- Further information: should additional documents or questions be asked for?
- Formulate questions to be asked to interviewees
- Who do you need to meet during the site visit?

Be prepared to...

- Feedback one key point
- One additional document to request
- Two key questions & who you would meet

Part B

Standard 2. Designing External Quality Assurance Mechanisms Fit for Purpose

Standard: Standards, guidelines and processes for external quality assurance shall be designed to be fit for purpose, defined to achieve the intended aims and objectives of EQA, and to strengthen IQA systems at institutions.

The tools for the evaluation of institutions and training programmes (see Chapter 5) were developed and validated with all the stakeholders in higher education: the Ministry, HEIs, etc. This participatory and inclusive approach can be summarised in three (3) essential steps:

- Appointment of a drafting committee in charge of proposing the draft reference framework.
- This committee is composed of experts in the field concerned, representatives of public and private HEIs, and technical staff of ANAQ-Sup;
- sharing the reference framework with the HEIs in order to collect and integrate their observations;
- validation of the reference framework by the Scientific Council.

At each stage, ANAQ-Sup ensures that the standards contained in the standards take into account the national context, the regulatory requirements in force in the higher education sub-sector, and the integration of national and international good practices in QA. This approach promotes the applicability of the standards and their acceptance by the various stakeholders in higher education.

Evidence :

- Examples of decisions creating the Standards Writing Committees;
- Examples of reports/ minutes of workshop for sharing the standards with HEIs.

Strength:

- Assessment tools developed with stakeholders, adapted to the national context and taking into account international good practice in QA.

Part C

Standard 4. Independence of ANAQ-Sup

Standard: The QAA shall be independent in its operations, outcomes, judgements and decisions.

ANAQ-Sup has full responsibility for its operation and the results of its activities without the influence of third parties.

- **Statutory independence:**

ANAQ-Sup is, in accordance with the provisions of Decree n°2012-837 of 07 August 2012, an autonomous legal body under public law, belonging to the State and with decision-making powers.

- **Organisational and operational independence:**

In terms of organisation, the independence of ANAQ-Sup is reflected in the existence of three bodies, namely the Board of Directors (BoD), Scientific Council (SC) and Executive Secretariat (ES).

The BoD supervises the activities of the Authority, in application of the guidelines and policy of the State in the field of quality assurance in higher education.

The SC is the approval body for the academic, scientific and technical programme of ANAQ-Sup.

The ES is vested with the decision-making power necessary for the proper functioning of ANAQ-Sup.

The composition, functions and appointment procedures of the members of the BoD and the SC ensure that the main stakeholders are represented.

Articles 5 and 11 of the decree establishing ANAQ-Sup reinforce the ethical precautions applicable to the Board and the SC.

The internal organisation of ANAQ-Sup is the responsibility of the ES, which is responsible, among other things, for

- proposing the organisation chart of ANAQ-Sup for adoption by the BoD and administering the staff according to the provisions of the procedures manual and exercising hierarchical authority over them;
- proposing the approval of external expert assessors to the SC.

At the operational level, the evaluation procedures of ANAQ-Sup are shared and known by all stakeholders. The entire evaluation procedure remains under the full responsibility of ANAQ-Sup. Indeed, it :

- selects and recruits its expert assessors and composes its assessment teams
- determines the evaluation methodology and tools
- sets the working framework, objectives and priorities with regard to its missions
- plans its own activities;
- publishes the results of its activities.

- **Independence of results, judgements and decisions:**

In its evaluation procedures, ANAQ-Sup takes its decisions and issues its opinions in complete independence.

In order to free itself from any external influence on the results of the evaluation, ANAQ-Sup has adopted a number of tools and principles which frame its interventions:

- the principle of independent, transparent and impartial evaluation. This principle is stated in the charter of ethics;
- acceptance of the charter is a prerequisite for any evaluation mission, by means of a declaration on honour signed by the expert;

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

- experts commit their integrity by declaring any conflicts or proximity of interest before each mission;
- the list of experts is submitted to the HEI for a no objection opinion;
- Evaluation reports are signed by the Chair on behalf of the team, to certify that the content reflects the opinion of the members.

Evidence :

- Decree establishing ANAQ-Sup ;
- Order appointing the members of the Board of Directors;
- Order appointing the members of the SC;
- Code of ethics of ANAQ-Sup;
- Example of Declaration on honour;
- Example of Notice of no objection.

Strengths:

- Existence of a statute and an organisation giving ANAQ-Sup the independence required to carry out its missions;
- Existence of a deliberative body (SC) on technical, scientific and academic programmes;
- Presence of personalities recognised for their scientific leadership in the SC;
- An Executive Secretary who is an expert in Quality Assurance and the first President of the Evaluation Commission of the African and Malagasy Council for Higher Education (CAMES);
- A qualified staff, selected autonomously and by competition according to job descriptions;
- A pool of experts trained in external evaluation procedures and ethics.