

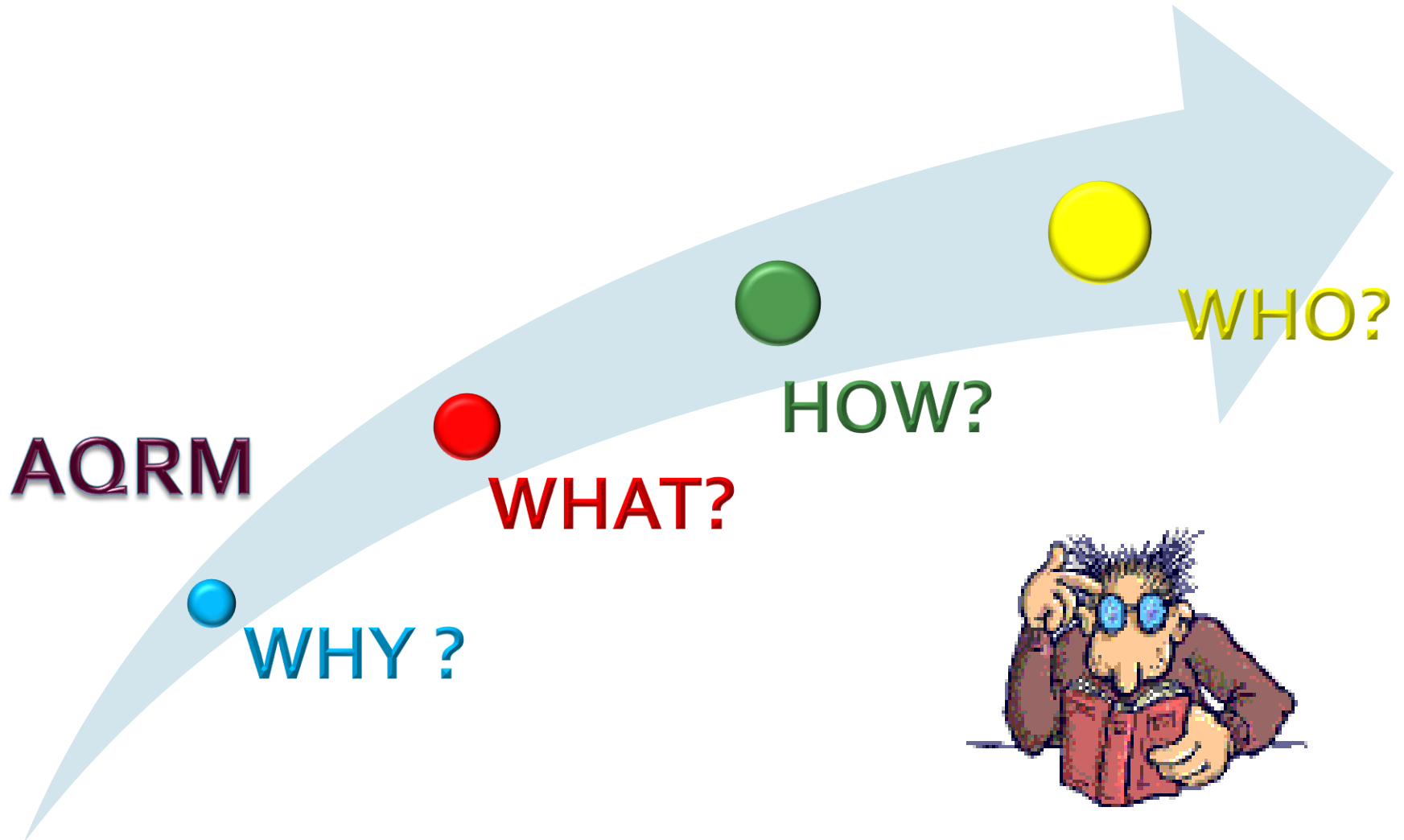


**HAQAA Training Course / Exchange Meeting**  
**'Developing a common understanding on QA in Africa'**  
Brussels, Belgium, 28-30 december 2016  
Cologne and Bonn, Germany, 01-02 december 2016

# AQRM AS TOOL FOR A PAN AFRICAN QA AND ACCREDITATION FRAMEWORK

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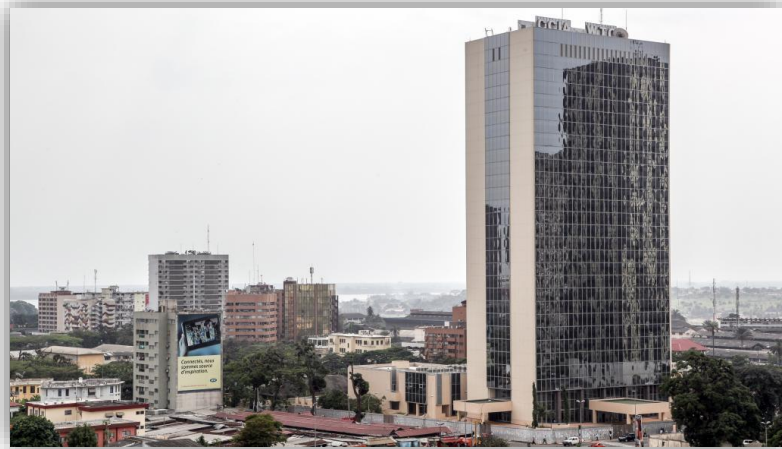
# PRESENTATION PLAN



# WHAT DO WE WANT, TODAY?

- 
- Which universities do we target?
  - Which students do we target?
  - Which graduated do we target?

# HOW ABOUT TOMMOROW?



**BECAUSE  
AFRICA  
CHANGES...**

**WE NEED  
STUDENTS AND  
GRADUATES THAT  
CHANGE AFRICA...**



# TO DO SO...

**Few years back, the African Union (AU) initiated actions in partnership with the European Union (EU) to the African universities' performance improvement, and one of those initiatives is AQRM.**

**Because...**

**« Today you need to run faster in order to stay in the same place. »**

**Paul Valery, 1935**

# Why the African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM) ?

- The need of African higher education harmonisation,
- The need to facilitate the comparability of qualifications and the mutual recognition of diplomas,
- Facilitating academic mobility,
- The guarantee, in a sustainable manner of quality, in terms of training scientific research and service to society,
- The desire to improve employability training at a local, regional, national, and continental levels,
- Reaching international recognition,
- The need to be prepared to adapt to an upcoming competitive environment.

# The African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM) : What is it about? [1/2]

- **AQRM is a quality reference system for African higher education.**
- **AQRM is a tool that facilitates the quality improvement of higher education.**
- **AQRM has as a mission to establish an African system that ensures that the performance of higher education's institutions can be measured against a set of agreed criterias.**

# The African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM) : What is it about? [2/2]

- **AQRM was adopted during the 3rd conference of Ministers of Education in the African Union (COMEDAF III) in 2007.**
- **The first version of the AQRM was validated by various stakeholders in African higher education gathered in Accra (Ghana) in March 2008, in co-tutorship with Association of African Universities (AAU) .**
- **A second revised version was published in January 2014.**
- **This referential helps academic institutions carry out self-assessment to support the development of an institutional culture of quality.**

# Structure of Rating Referential AQRM

## Institutional Level Part

Governance and management [9 ref.]

Infrastructures [8 ref.]

Finances [6 ref.]

Teaching and training [9 ref.]

Research, publication, and innovation [10 ref.]

Community and society engagements [7 ref.]

## Programme Level Part

Planning and programme management [8 ref.]

Elaboration of teaching programmes [7 ref.]

Teaching and training [6 ref.]

Evaluation [6 ref.]

Programme's results [8 ref.]

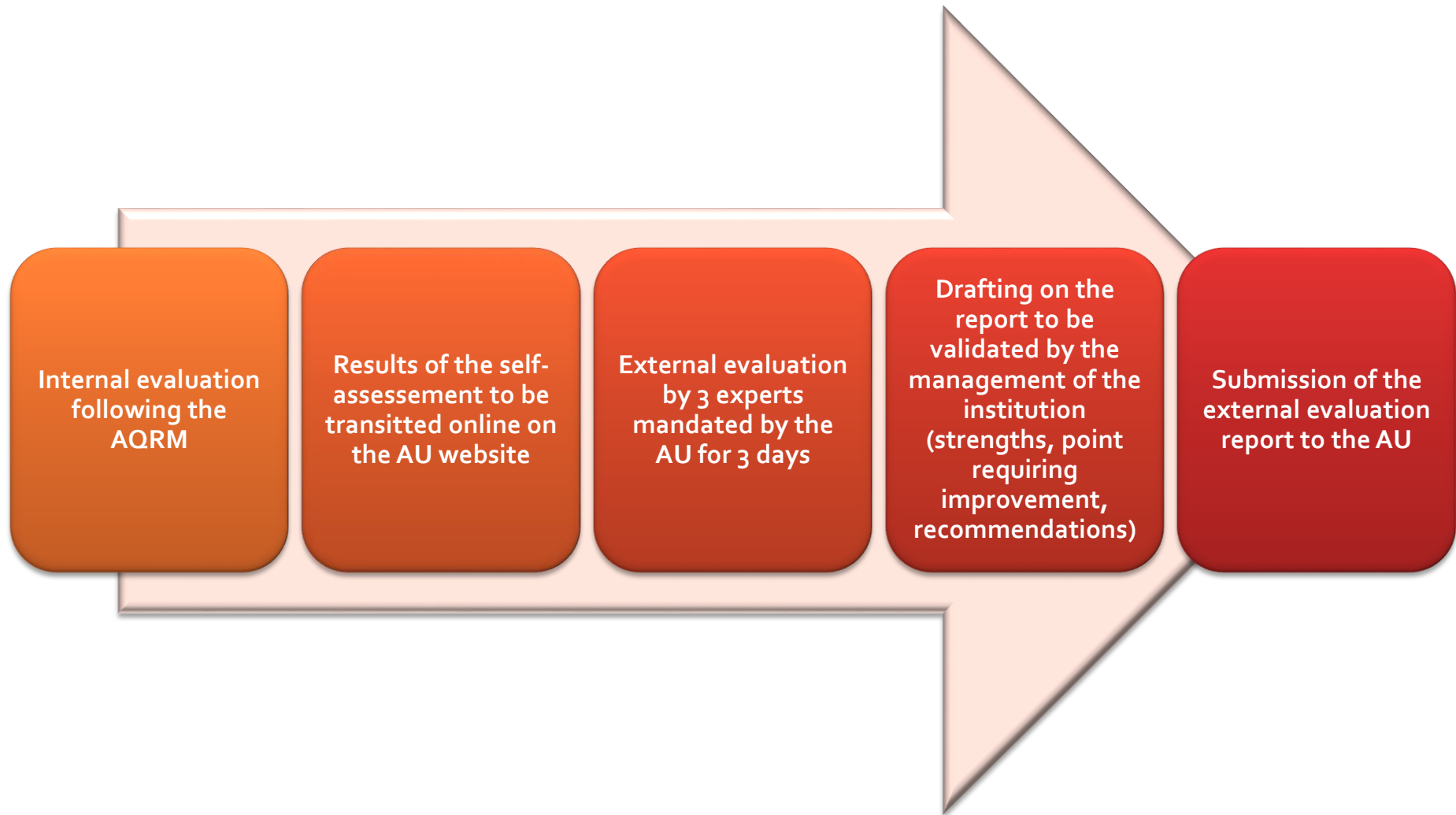
# How to Participate in the African Rating Quality Mechanism ?

**APPLICATION OPENING  
AT THE AFRICAN UNION**

**UNIVERSITIES WISHING  
TO PARTICIPATE MUST  
APPLY (VOLUNTARY  
ACT WITH  
MANAGEMENT  
COMMITEMENT)**

**CONFIRMATION FROM  
THE AFRICAN UNION  
ABOUT THE OUTCOME  
OF THE APPLICATION**

# And how is it implemented?



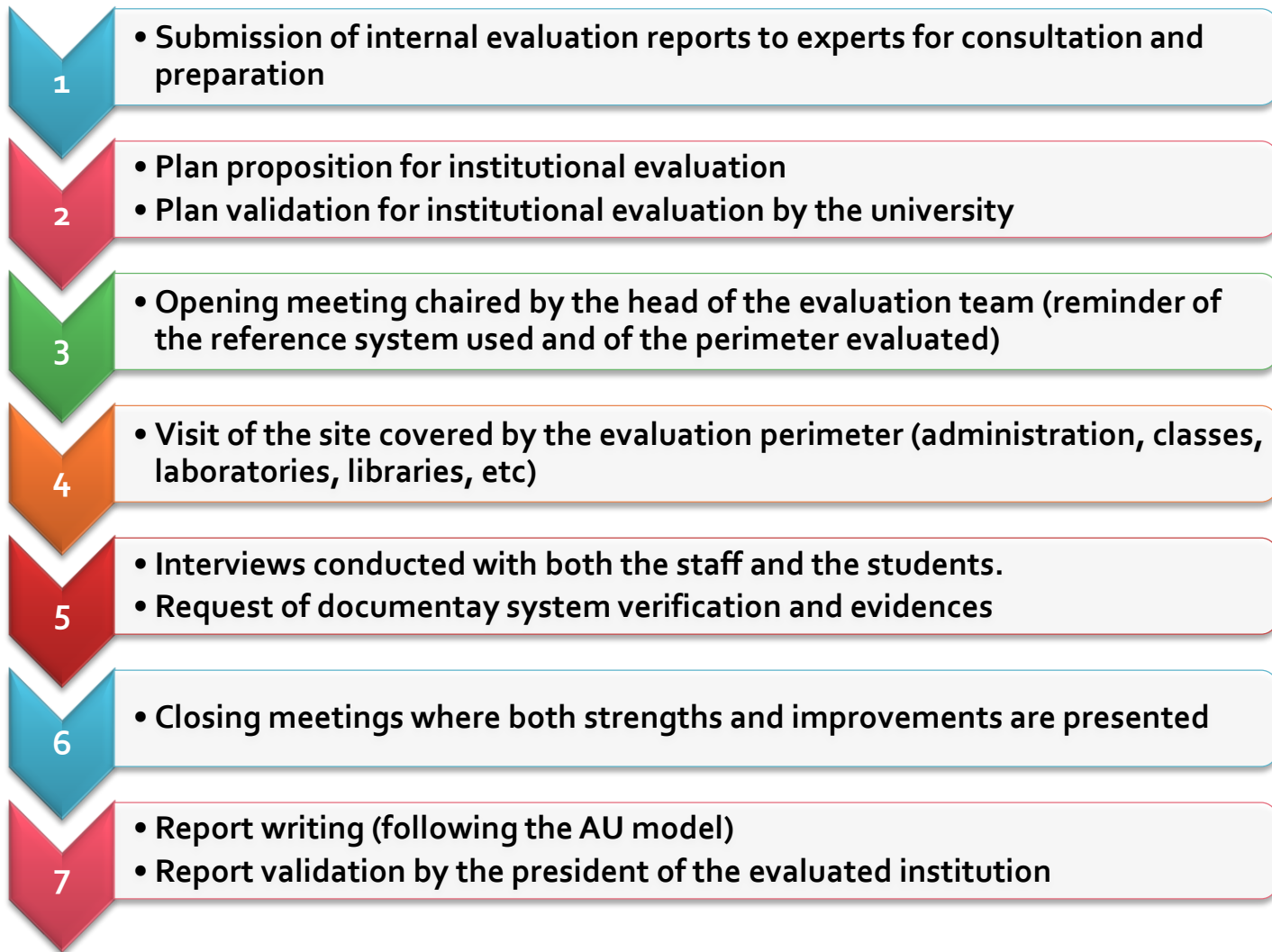
# HOW ARE SELECTED EXPERTS?

**Call for application  
from the African  
Union**

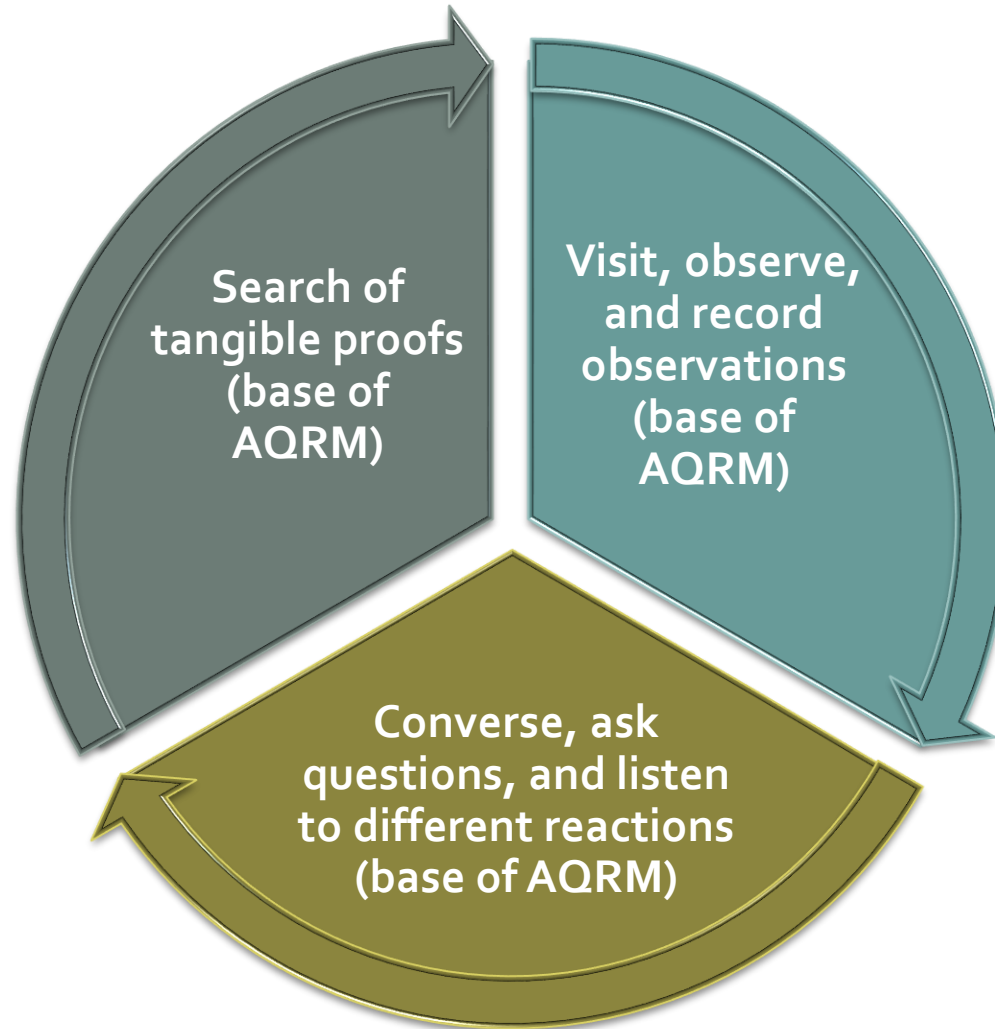
**Teachers who want  
to participate must  
apply and meet the  
admissibility  
conditions**

**Confirmation of  
the African Union  
of the success of  
the application.**

# External Evaluation Procedure



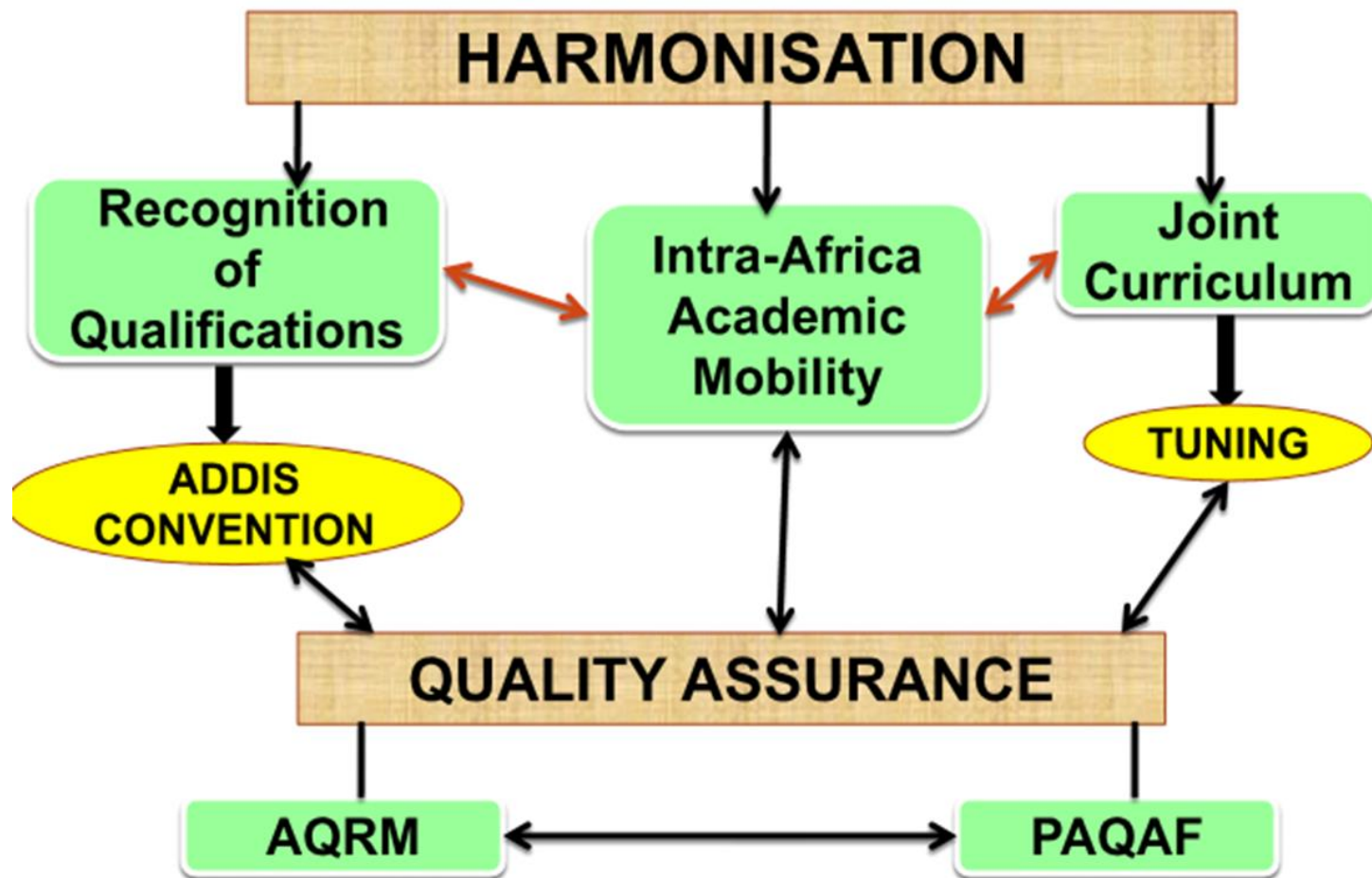
# How Do Experts Act?



# Who can apply and integrate the AQRM mechanism ?

- Any African higher education institution that wishes to, the act needs to be voluntary.
- **AQRM 1 in 2010 : participation of 32 African higher education institutions (summary report published in 2012).**
- **AQRM 2 in 2014 : participation of 12 (?) African higher education institutions.**
- **AQRM 3 in 2017 : (?)**

# FROM EVALUATION TO ACCREDITATION (African Union Strategy)



(Woldetensae Y., 2015)

# « PAQAF » : Pan-African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework

Two meetings were held in Accra (Ghana) in May (21-22) and July (29-30) 2015, in which the PAQAF gestation document was drafted and validated with the following structure:

- **Mission**
- **Roles / Functions**
- **Relations of the continental agency with national and regional agencies.**
- **Involvement in the development of the continental reference system as regards quality assurance.**
- **Operational instruments for the PAQAF.**

# Summary

- **WHY?** FOR THE HARMONISATION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITY SYSTEMS, CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND EXCELLENCY AS AN OBJECTIVE ...
- **WHAT?** THE INSTITUTION SETS THE OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED AND MUST PROMOTE A CULTURE OF EVALUATION AND QUALITY ...
- **WHO?** FROM THE COMMITMENT OF MANAGEMENT TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF STAFF, QUALITY CONCERNS ALL ...
- **HOW?** IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AQRM REFERENTIAL, INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL EVALUATIONS FOR A FUTURE PAQAF ACCREDITATION

# CONCLUSION

**Only a willingness to change through quality, in which teachers' training will be continuous, evaluation will become a culture integrated into an overall strategy in which the needs and expectations of the stakeholders will be taken into account, inculcating future graduates freedom of thought and critical thinking, with specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound goals. That will put the African university on track to achieving excellence in teaching and research, which will be the bed of total quality in an environment conducive to the development of all actors, students, teachers, researchers, administrative and technical staff.**

# What if we change...

**« THE WORLD HATES  
CHANGES, DESPITE BEING THE  
ONLY THING THAT ALLOWED IT  
TO PROGRESS »**

**Charles F. KETTERING  
1876-1958**



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION

