



## HAQAA: Fourth Advisory Board Meeting

17 November, 2017

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

### SUMMARY

#### Participants:

##### AB members

Ana Maria Nhampule, CNAQ Mozambique

Narend Baijnath, Council for Higher Education, South Africa

Chiedu Felix Mafiana, National Universities Commission, Nigeria/AfriQAN – *Cancelled*

Piyushi Kotecha, SARUA, South Africa

Zakari Lire, CAMES

Papa Gueye, Anaq-Sup

Cosam Chawanga, IUCEA

Hassmik Tortian, UNESCO

*Maha Rashwan, National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Education, Egypt (invited)*

*Caty Dukearts, AEQES, Belgium (invited)*

##### HAQAA Team

Nicole Font (UB)

Elizabeth Colucci (UB)

Jonathan Mba (AAU)

Violet Makuku (AAU)

Paula Ranne (ENQA)

Marc Wilde (DAAD)

##### AUC

Yohannes Woldetensae

#### 1) Debrief: ASG-QA Consultation workshop – impressions and way forward for the ASG-QA

- There was a general feeling in the Advisory Board that the consultation workshop had very positive results. It validated once again the need for the ASG-QA and the appreciation for the fact that they are being consulted in various rounds, at various levels. It was agreed that consultation is a long, complex and imperfect process; there is a need to at some stage finalise the document, however work should continue after it is politically endorsed. The document can at some stage be revised and updated (as was done in Europe).
- Break-out sessions were an effective means to generate **ownership** of the ASG-QA.
- M. Wilde was impressed by the process being undertaken in Africa around the generation of the ASG-QA. This has worked quite differently in ASEAN, where DAAD has also supported the

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



DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



UNIVERSITAT DE  
BARCELONA



EUA  
European University Association



ENQA  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE  
IN HIGHER EDUCATION



implementation of 'AQAF'. Stakeholders did not have as much say in the drafting as they have had now in Africa.

- UNESCO, which has been supporting QA in Africa as well, will **disseminate** the results of the ASG-QA workshop. H. Tortian sees many synergies and finds the work being done under HAQAA very complementary to the UNESCO strategy.
- It is clear that new **synergies** and ways to cooperate through different projects, with the ASG-QA as reference point, need to be found. The AB is one way to ensure constant dialogue between the African regions around current and future projects.
- It was noted that having a bi-lingual workshop with interpretation was very important, though challenging at times. The Francophones have managed to get some consensus around the ASG-QA, which is important given the need, in particular, for QA capacity building at the institutional level, but also the interest in building QA agencies.
- It will be important to have a glossary in all four AU languages for the ASG-QA terminology. UNESCO has developed something that can be shared to this effect (FR-ENG).
- It was stressed that the AUC should work with other African authorities to make sure that the ASG-QA will be accepted at both the national and regional economic community level. The HAQAA consortium made various attempts to invite the regional authorities to the workshop but few came.
- It should also be noted that different regions have different dynamics and commitments in terms of the buy-in for higher education. The East African Community has launched a higher education area. IUCEA has financial support and official recognition from the ministries. This is not the case in SADC at present, though SARUA has tabled a proposal. The AUC also has a role to play in lobbying for the regions to develop, recognise and finance institutions and associations that are key to HE, and more specifically to the QA agenda in Africa.
- The ASG-QA workshop showed that this is very much a 'live' process. Even if the ASG-QA are formally adopted at political level, the work won't stop there. There needs to be a systemic engagement at both the policy level and the higher education institutional leadership level: Top-down and bottom-up.
- It was commented that it would be helpful to do a 'donor' mapping of QA capacity development in Africa. This could be a topic for a future HAQAA event.
- HAQAA has a big vision behind it; It needs to be distinguished as to what can be achieved in the HAQAA lifetime versus how African stakeholders can and should go beyond.
- AB members find it important to sit around the table together, with the AUC, and discuss PAQAF more broadly and what it takes to achieve it in the short, medium and long run. In many ways, the HAQAA AB can serve as an AB for PAQAF, and should continue beyond HAQAA. It is an important sounding board for the AUC.

## 2) Tour de table: Developments in QA in different African regions

*AB members presented latest developments in quality assurance in their regions and countries*

- Mozambique (CNAQ) has launched a leadership dialogue on QA which has been very productive in discussing the implications of quality reviews in the country. CNAQ has also presented the ASG-QA recently at this event (the AUC was invited), which was extremely important in promoting what PAQAF entails and how the ASG-QA fit.

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



DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



UNIVERSITAT DE  
BARCELONA



EUA  
European University Association



ENQA  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE  
IN HIGHER EDUCATION



- UNESCO will be holding a Global Conference on Quality Assurance in 2018. It is very important for the African continental developments to be represented here. All AB members are invited and the AUC will be keen to attend.
- AAU has launched a training programme for QA staff in universities. Two events have been held. It was commented that it would be important for different organisations to share information on who attends their QA training events and the respective feedback received. Different training events can be complimentary.
- IUCEA continues its work in benchmarking certain subject areas. It has also worked to publish online IQA and EQA training modules with UNESCO that can be used throughout Africa.
- An important DAAD sponsored workshop on QA in SADC was held in October in cooperation with SARUA and SAQAN. This was complemented with a mapping study of QA systems in SADC, which served as an important tool. The HAQAA consortium has also just published an online map that shows the QA standards and guidelines that exist in different Africa countries. It will be translated into French. It is open for further comments and improvements.
- SAQAN is undergoing some management and leadership changes, but hopes to soon re-launch its activities.
- The AUC will be tabling the ASG-QA to ministries of education and science next year and eventually to the heads of state summit. It hopes to do so with the ACTS (African Credit Transfer System) proposal. Once the document arrives to the Heads of State, it is unlikely that it will not be adopted.

### 3) Presentation: HAQAA activities 2017 and work plan for 2018

- The HAQAA consortium disseminated again the outcome report and policy brief that were results of the HAQAA Training Course, which concluded in June 2017
- Marc Wilde presented on the results of the Training Course and the lessons learned. In general, it was felt that this was a unique, truly continental level activity that served to generate interest in and understanding of PAQAF
- The idea to have PAQAF 'ambassadors' should be taken forward in what could be a future HAQAA contract phase.
- The AUC stressed that it is important that such training courses (like that of HAQAA, but also at regional level and via initiatives like that of DAAD and UNESCO) promote the ASG-QA.
- DAAD has plans to continue to support IQA and EQA Training in SADC and West Africa and would wholly adhere to incorporating the PAQAF agenda into its training courses and events.
- The HAQAA consortium also presented the forthcoming activities for 2018
  - A follow-up to the HAQAA Training Course will be held in Cairo, Egypt in late April
  - The TWG will be developing an **agency review methodology** which will be piloted in 5 countries with established QA agencies. Five other countries will receive consultancy visits. It was commented that not only should the AB be closely consulted in the methodology and selection of countries but that national

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



DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



UNIVERSITAT DE  
BARCELONA



EUA  
European University Association



ENQA  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE  
IN HIGHER EDUCATION



QA agencies should also be given a chance to comment on the methodology. This will be a very important tool for the future of PAQAF.

- A follow-up AB meeting will be held in the first half of 2018. AB members are welcome to express their interest to host.

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



**DAAD** Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



UNIVERSITAT DE  
BARCELONA



**EUA**  
European University Association



**ENQA**  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE  
IN HIGHER EDUCATION