

**Note for discussion by the BFUG Board
on the governmental involvement in the REHEQA**

1. The E4 partners convened on 16 January 2007 to further discuss the practicalities of a Register for European Higher Education Quality Assurance Agencies (REHEQA).

2. In order to finalise their final report to the BFUG in March, the E4 requires feedback from the BFUG Board in particular regarding its proposals for the involvement of the 45 Bologna governments in the structure and governance of the REHEQA.

3. The E4 proposes to set up the REHEQA as a non-profit international association according to Belgium law ("AISBL"), encompassing the following bodies:

- **A REHEQA Committee,**
- **an Annual Meeting** and
- a Secretariat.

4. **The REHEQA Committee** would be composed as follows:

- 2 members nominated by each E4 organisation
- 4 members nominated by the social partners (2 by trade unions, 2 by employers organisations)
- 5 members nominated by governments

The members nominated by the E4 organisations and by the social partners would be voting members. They would not be representatives of their respective organisations and representing their interests, but rather be nominated in their personal capacity as members of the Register Committee.

For the governmental members, there are two options:

1. They would be voting members. This would imply that they are nominated by governments but would be acting solely in a personal capacity.
2. They would be observers. This would imply that they would be regarded as governmental representatives representing the collective interests of the European governments rather than acting in a personal capacity.

The E4 proposes the latter option believing that this would provide the monitoring and oversight function in relation to the Register, which has been frequently mentioned by BFUG members.

5. **An Annual Meeting**, in the form of a general assembly, is a necessary element for any association established in accordance with Belgium law. Belgian law requires that the General Assembly approves the budget and receives the annual report of the association. Governments could also be represented in the General Assembly (as observers).

6. The E4 partners would be the founding members of the Association and thus of the REHEQA. The E4 would be grateful to receive an opinion from the BFUG Board as to which role and which type of formal membership, if any, (for example, as associate or consultative member, or the status of observer) would be regarded as appropriate for European governments.

7. The E4 would also like to receive an opinion whether the BFUG Board has any further suggestions regarding the communication between the REHEQA and European Governments, e.g. in terms of reporting.