

European Quality Assurance  
Register for Higher Education



# Follow-Up of the External Evaluation and Strategic Priorities for EQAR

Bologna Follow-Up Group (BFUG)  
17 January 2012, Copenhagen

# Overview



- How We Got Here
- EQAR's Strategic Role and Priorities
- Response to Specific Recommendations
- Conclusions and Recommendations to Ministers

# How We Got Here



- Evaluation carried out in 2010/2011 by an external expert panel
- Overview of findings presented at the Krakow BFUG meeting, October 2011
- EQAR Members' Dialogue, November 2011
  - Exclusive event for EQAR governmental and stakeholder members
  - Discussion of follow-up of recommendations and strategic priorities for EQAR
- EQAR General Assembly, 17 January 2012

# EQAR's Strategic Role and Priorities



- Members agreed with the recommendation to strengthen the strategic role of EQAR
  - Linked to the mission and objectives defined for EQAR
  - *Strategic role* and *regulatory role* are two sides of the same coin
- Development of a strategic plan until 2013
- Strategic priorities for the immediate future:
  1. Promote trust and recognition of agencies
  2. Enhance Transparency and Information

# Response to Panel's Recommendations (1)



- Development of a strategic plan with active involvement of Governmental and Stakeholder Members [i.]
- Encourage continuity of representatives/members on various EQAR bodies [ii., iii., iv.]
- Clarify 3-step application procedure: organisational eligibility, external review process, substantial compliance with the ESG [v.]
- Publish decisions on applications by agencies for inclusion on the Register [vi.]
- Maintain governmental observers on the Register Committee, but nominated by General Assembly [vii.]

## Response to Panel's Recommendations (2)



- Introduce a regular self-evaluation process involving all EQAR bodies [viii.]
- Demonstrate EQAR's indirect link to and relevance for quality on the ground to HEIs and students [ix.]
- Intensify dialogue with ENQA on ESG [x.]
- Establish a communication strategy, including a role for government and stakeholder members [xi.]
- Elaborate proposals for a position of president within next self-evaluation [xii.]

# Conclusions



- Strategic priorities to guide EQAR's work
- EQAR needs the commitment of EHEA governments, especially regarding acceptance and recognition of registered agencies
- Additional activities require more resources from EQAR members and other sources
- The ESG are crucial to EQAR's future and what registration means, thus EQAR perspective should feed into the revision

# Recommendations to Ministers



- welcome the external evaluation report;
- take note of the strategic priorities and follow-up of recommendations;
- commit to further recognising EQAR-registered quality assurance agencies that, within the framework of national requirements, should be able to undertake activities throughout the EHEA;
- commit to recognise quality assurance results and decisions of EQAR-registered agencies on joint and double degree programmes;
- invite EQAR to report back to the next ministerial conference.