



# INQAAHE

*International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education*

## **Explanation of proposed changes to the INQAAHE Constitution**

During the last year, the Directors have reviewed the Constitution. Some changes are proposed, and a current revised draft, showing the changes, is attached. To ensure all members can vote on the changes, it will be put to the vote electronically after the Forum. Members present at the Forum are invited to discuss the changes and any other relevant matters.

### **Paragraph 8**

The Network has always recognised itself as a network of organisations, but there are always some individual people who wish to be involved. Therefore, the category of 'affiliate' was introduced, but at some point we started referring to them incorrectly as 'affiliate members'. These changes rectify that.

Note that affiliates pay the same fee as other members (to deter individuals from joining on behalf of their organisation) and do not have a vote (paragraph 16).

### **Paragraph 14**

This stated that 'membership might be withdrawn if the member resigns' which is superfluous.

It is proposed to add 14.4 to prevent members claiming that membership of INQAAHE is an accreditation or recognition process (beyond the requirements for membership or recognised alignment with the GGP).

### **Paragraph 16**

To date, only Full Members have been allowed to vote in the General Assembly. The Board recommends that this be extended to the other organisational members (Associate and Institution) – but see the comments on paragraphs 20 & 39.

### **Paragraphs 20**

Paragraph 20 lists the powers of the General Assembly, and it included the power to change the Constitution. It is more common to have the amendment of a constitution as a separate section and this power has therefore been extracted and is included separately under Paragraph 39.

### **Paragraph 24**

The Constitution does not specify who may be on the Board, though the Constitution indicates that Full and Associate members may be directors. The Board recommends that Full, Associate and Institution members may be directors, but affiliates may not, and that Full members must be the large majority.

**Paragraph 39**

INQAAHE is essentially a network of QA agencies, who are the Full Members of the Network. It is therefore appropriate that it is the Full Members that are empowered to change the Constitution.