



# INQAAHE

*International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education*

## **Minutes of the INQAAHE General Assembly**

**Tuesday 5 April 2011, 18.00 – 19.30 h**

***Hotel Meliá Castilla, Madrid, Spain***

### **1. Opening and welcome**

David Woodhouse, President of INQAAHE, welcomed the delegates to the General Assembly.

### **2. Minutes General Assembly, Windhoek, 5 May 2010**

The Minutes were accepted by the General Assembly.

### **3. President's Report**

The President presented his report to the General Assembly and thanked the conveners of the working groups for their contributions. The report was accepted by the members.

### **4. Secretary's Report**

The Secretary presented his report to the General Assembly. The Board had decided to reduce the number of non-paying new members by requiring membership payment prior to the evaluation of the membership application. It was highlighted that the GGP alignment of SINAES (Costa Rica) was approved last year and the GGP alignment of CAA (United Arab Emirates) yesterday. Members are encouraged to apply for GGP alignment. With regard to the fact that the INQAAHE website was visited almost 40,000 times it was remarked that the Secretariat would appreciate comments and website statistics from members to determine the comparative value of this number. The report was approved by the General Assembly.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer explained the financial statements to members. The reserves are at the appropriate level (50% of overall expenditure). In 2010 there was a surplus of USD 54,076. Because of increased project activity there is projected to be a small deficit of approximately USD 4,000 in 2011. The GIQAC funding is in its last year. Therefore, the Budget for 2012 is still tentative as the income from external sources is unknown. A member asked what the consequences are of the expiration of GIQAC funding. It was explained that the Board had set aside USD



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90,000 for project activities, based on a tentative estimate of USD 50,000 external project income and that decisions on the allocations to projects would have to be taken in the coming months. But it is clear that there will very likely be less external funding and that membership income will have to ensure that the projects can continue. Therefore, the Board proposes to maintain the membership fee policy which means a 5% increase in the membership fees for 2012. The Accounts 2010 and the financial statements for 2011 and 2012, including the membership fees for 2012 listed in Annex 7, were approved by the General Assembly.

## **6. Services to members: results of members survey**

The President presented the results of the members survey. Although the response rate was low the survey did show some interesting results which merit further examination. The INQAAHE activities that are valued the most are the conferences and fora, the Journal, the website and the on line bulletin. But also membership services as the GGP alignment, the Good Practices database, and the Clearinghouse are much used by members and considered relevant. Useful suggestions made by members included the desire to make INQAAHE activities more attractive for developed agencies; to focus more on relevant research topics; and to make the website more interactive. At this point Burton Bollag who was commissioned by UNESCO to investigate the impact of GIQAC was introduced. The survey results would be given as input for this investigation and members were encouraged to give feedback to Mr. Bollag concerning the GIQAC funded INQAAHE activities (e.g. QAP, Small States internships, Support for members, Clearinghouse, Consultants database).

## **7. Future Events: Forum 2012, Melbourne, Australia**

It was decided electronically by the General Assembly that the Forum 2012 would be organized by AUQA in Melbourne, Australia. AUQA would be succeeded by TEQSA but continuity and commitment by TEQSA had been ascertained. The Forum will be held on 16-20 April 2012. The chair of the local organizing committee is Michael Tomlinson. The program committee consists of Richard Lewis (chair), Marie-Odile Ottenwaelter and Nadia Badrawi.

## **8. Future Events: Bid for Conference 2013**

The Board had received one bid from the Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT). The bid had been reviewed and the Board had concluded that it fulfills the requirements. HEEACT presented its bid to



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the General Assembly. The Board will appoint a program committee and carries responsibility for the fee level. A member made a plea for low fees for developing countries. Another member proposed to create a platform for agencies which have organized INQAAHE events to share experiences. Both new host agencies and INQAAHE can learn from these experiences. The General Assembly approved the bid from HEEACT to host the Conference 2013 in Taipei from 22-25 April 2013.

## **9. Any Other Business**

None.

## **10. Elections: presentation of voting results, election of the new Board**

The Secretary presented the voting results. The voting results were accepted by the General Assembly and thereby the following Board members were elected:

Maria José Lemaitre, President

Badr Abou-Ela, Director

Carol Bobby, Director

Horacio Alcides O'Donnell, Director

Richard Lewis, Director

Rafael Llavori, Director

Antony Stella, Director

Iring Wasser, Director

The new Board would meet on April 6 and also decide on the four vacancies for co-opted Directors.

## **11. End of meeting**

David Woodhouse handed over the presidency to Maria José Lemaitre who thanked the outgoing Board members and hoped that they would remain fully active in INQAAHE. A special thanks was expressed to David Woodhouse who had served as President for the last four years and would remain ex officio in the Board as Immediate Past President. After pointing at some of the main future challenges (new modes and diversity of QA, internal QA in institutions, QA for tertiary education) and thanking the members for their contributions the President closed the meeting.