Global Council for Recognition of TE QA Bodies (GCR)

INQAAHE Independent Decision-Making for Recognition of QA Bodies in Tertiary Education

INQAAHE General Assembly 2

Bucharest | 12th of June 2024

INQAAHE
Since 1991

INQAAHE CONSTITUTION

...on on current and developing ...aintenance and improvement

...areas relevant to quality in

...mbers on matters relevant to ...acts with international bodies

5.4 provide advice and expertise to promote quality assurance and its enhancement;

5.5 facilitate links between quality assurance agencies and support networks of quality assurance agencies;

5.6 enable all members to be alert to improper quality assurance practices and organisations;

5.7 organise, on request, reviews of the operation of quality assurance bodies; and

5.8 serve as an enhancement platform for the members and quality assurance providers at large.

Need for international quality hallmarks acknowledged

- 1st Principles of Good Practice
- 1st evaluation of evaluator
- Guidelines of Good Practice (2006)
- GGP reviews

- Recognition of EQABs (evaluation of evaluators)
- *Open both for INQAAHE members and non-members*
- Cases managed by the Secretariat and the CEO
- Decisions made by an *independent stakeholder decision-making body – Global Council for Recognition of EQABs*

1999   2003 - 2016

ISG   2022   2023   2024

- Recognition of EQAB per GGPs (evaluation of evaluators)
- Only for the INQAAHE members
- Cases managed by Recognition Committee
- Decisions made by the INQAAHE Board

International Standards and Guidelines (ISGs)

Launch of ISG procedures

Establishment of the GCR

Rationale

- **Art. 44 of the Constitution**: "The Board of Directors can, as necessary, establish committees or working groups".
- **Decisions of the Board** 2020, 2022, and 2023

Strategic Plan 2023-2027: Pillar "Trust" / Operational Objectives for ISG Reviews:

- *Establish an independent decision-making body on the ISGs.*
- *Paving the way for setting a Global Quality Assurance Register.*

Key objectives

- Establish an independent decision-making on the INQAAHE reviews of EQAPs to ensure:
  - safeguarding tertiary education systems
  - a trustworthy mechanism to support UN Global and Regional Conventions
- Institute a Global QA Register of credible QA providers

- Elevate INQAAHE's global standing through reinforcing collaboration between INQAAHE and regional and international tertiary education organizations (e.g., UNESCO, IUA, Regional Networks, lead tertiary education experts)
- Advise the INQAAHE CEO & Board on the trends and challenges related to recognition.
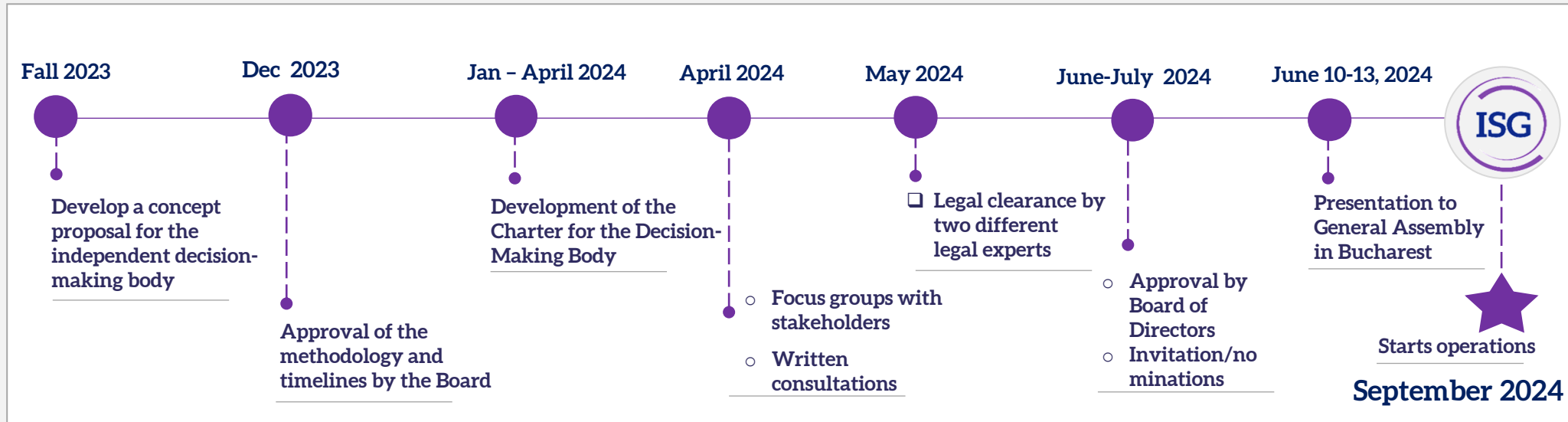
Guiding principles

Independence:
- No overlap with the INQAAHE Board in terms of composition, scope and functions
- No duplication of functions
- No conflict of interests

Inclusiveness: global representation of relevant stakeholders

Transparency: operationalization of a Global Register

The INQAAHE CEO & Secretariat:
- Manage the review procedures
- Facilitate operations of the new decision-making body
- Report to the Board of Directors on the functioning of the independent decisions-making body.

Methodology & Timeline

INQAAHE
Since 1991

Fall 2023
Develop a concept proposal for the independent decision-making body

Dec 2023
Approval of the methodology and timelines by the Board

Jan – April 2024
Development of the Charter for the Decision-Making Body

April 2024
o Focus groups with stakeholders
o Written consultations

May 2024
☐ Legal clearance by two different legal experts

June-July 2024
o Approval by Board of Directors
o Invitation/no minations

June 10-13, 2024
Presentation to General Assembly in Bucharest

ISG
Starts operations

September 2024

Inclusiveness:
Stakeholders beyond INQAAHE membership
Starting small & expanding

Independent Decision-Making:
Balanced representation of TE key stakeholders
Regional QA networks, student & university associations, thought leaders in TE, UNESCO

Transparency:
Inclusion in the Register & Publication of Reports
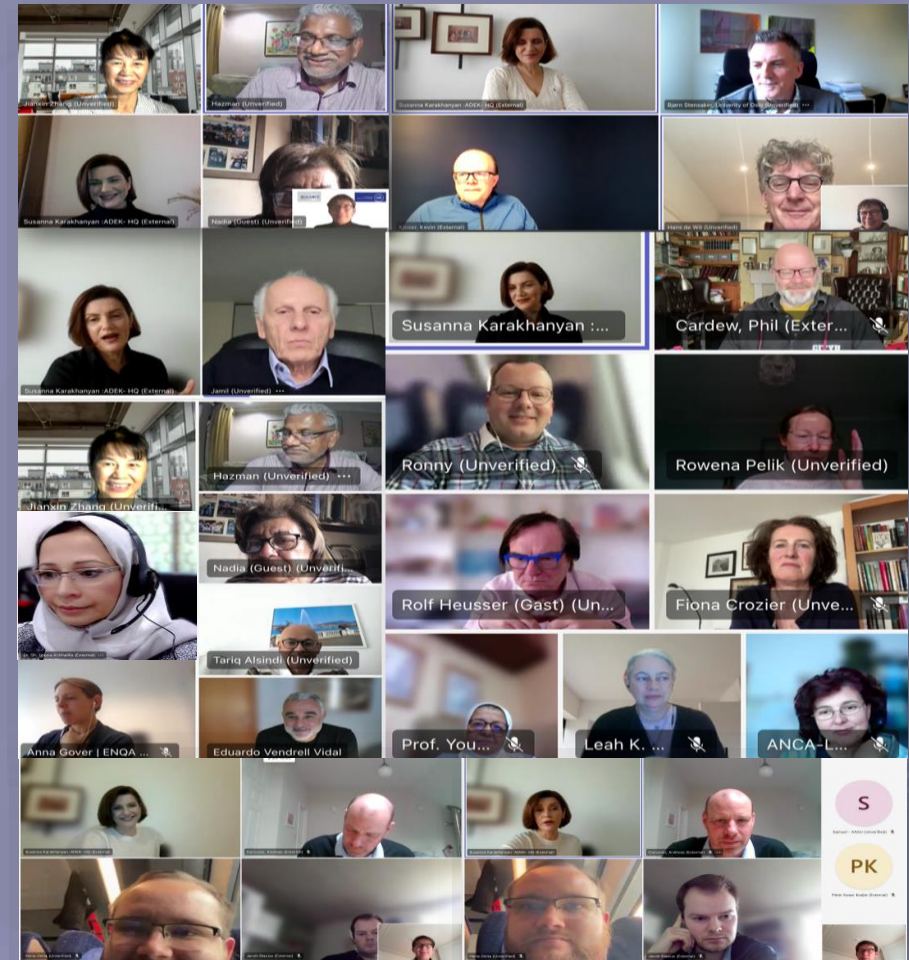
Target Stakeholders

- ❑ Regional/National QA networks
- ❑ University Associations
- ❑ UNESCO IESALC, Development Banks (e.g., Santander)
- ❑ Global Student Forum
- ❑ Thought leaders in TE: Bjørn Stensaker, Jamil Salmi, Francisco Marmolejo, Hans de Witt, Kevin Kinzer
- ❑ INQAAHE external reviewers (two focus groups: at the launch, end and written feedback)

Development of the Charter – 3 cycles of reviews

- ❑ 8 focus groups
- ❑ 60 participants in total
- ❑ Approximately 19 hours

- ❑ Draft V2.0 sent to around 121 stakeholders
- ❑ 43 written responses

- ❑ Review by 2 independent legal experts

Questions explored

- ❑ Governance model: clear definition for the role and functions of the Council
- ❑ Composition of the Council
- ❑ Formation of the Council members
- ❑ Qualifications and competencies of the Council members
- ❑ Role of the CEO and the Secretariat
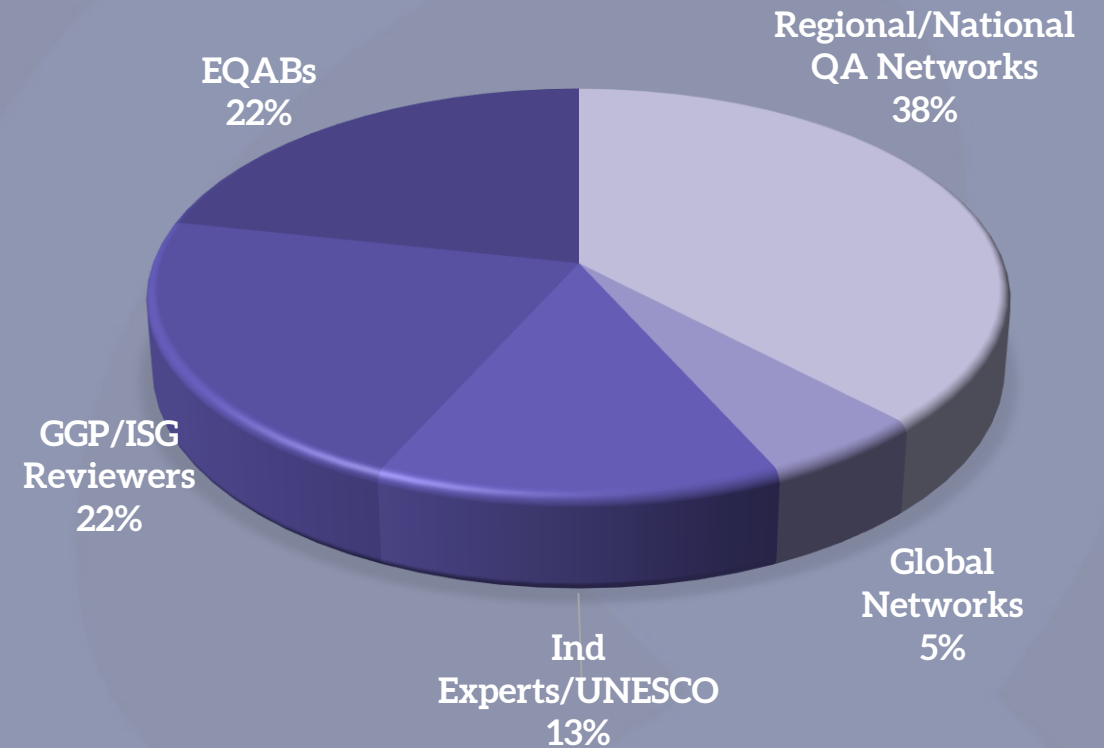- ❑ Role and operation mode of GCR

Stakeholder consultation on draft Charter 2.0

❑ 43 written responses in total (37 external and 6 internal)
  ❑ 6 from INQAAHE Board
  ❑ 14 from Regional/National Networks
  ❑ 2 from Global Networks
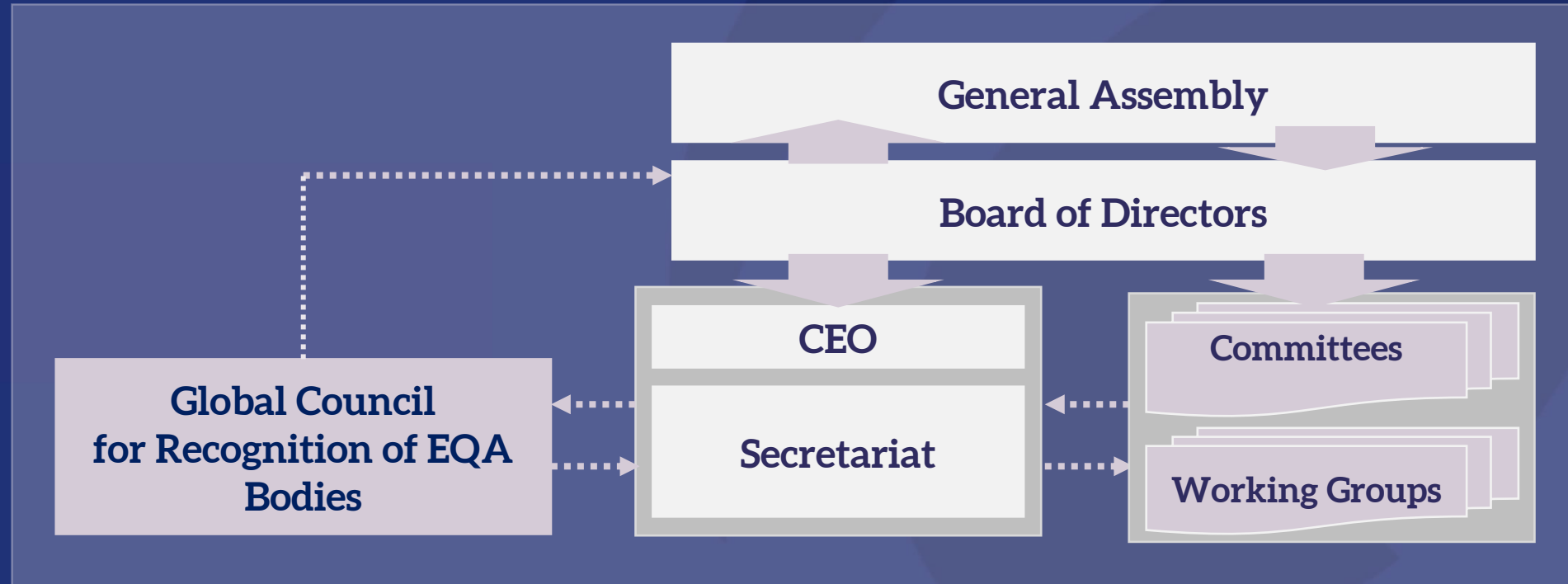 ❑ 5 Individual Experts/UNESCO
  ❑ 8 GGP/ISG reviewers
  ❑ 8 EQABs

Key consultation items

❑ Technical Aspects: consistency of language, appropriate use of abbreviations, etc.
❑ The GCR Functions: composition of the GCR, interaction with other INQAAAHE and external bodies, funding (including emergency funding), etc.
❑ Formation of GCR: elections, nominations
❑ Decision-making: procedures, appeals

RESPONSE DISTRIBUTION

- Regional/National QA Networks 38%
- EQABs 22%
- GGP/ISG Reviewers 22%
- Ind Experts/UNESCO 13%
- Global Networks 5%

The Council's fit in the INQAAHE OrgChart

General Assembly

Board of Directors

CEO

Secretariat

Committees

Working Groups

Global Council for Recognition of EQA Bodies

THANK YOU

Bucharest | INQAAHE General Assembly Meeting 2024