

President, Prof. Dr. Ana Bravo del Moral
The European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE)
Hietzinger Kai 87
A-1130 Wien, Austria

Dublin, 27 June 2014

Subject: Outcome of the appeal from EAEVE against the ENQA Board's decision on membership

Dear Ana Bravo del Moral,

I am writing to inform you of the outcome of the ENQA Board discussion of 18 June 2014 regarding the appeal EAEVE lodged on 23 January 2014 against the ENQA Board's decision of 23 October 2013 to reject EAEVE's application for Full membership of ENQA .

In order to lay out the process clearly, I am listing below the steps that were taken after EAEVE lodged the appeal to ENQA on 23 January 2014:

- The appeal was sent the ENQA Appeals and Complaints Committee. The Committee referred the issue back to the ENQA Board as they considered that the Board should firstly have considered the letter from EAEVE to ENQA (23 October 2013) and thereafter sought the view of the review panel. The consideration of the appeal was at this stage suspended.
- The Board asked the Panel for further information (14 March 2014). The panel's view (10 April 2014) was that, having considered the information presented in the appeal, they were satisfied that they had considered all the necessary evidence and wished to make no changes in their report.
- The Board reconsidered this information at their meeting on 24 April 2014 and took the decision that they would reject EAEVE's application for Full membership of ENQA. Following that decision, the aforementioned suspended appeal process was reactivated and the Appeals and Complaints Committee was now asked to consider the matter (30 April 2014) taking into account the review report, the letter from EAEVE to ENQA, and the response of the review panel.

The Appeals and Complaints Committee gave their statement to the ENQA Board on 12 June 2014 in which the Committee rejected the appeal and confirmed the ENQA Board's decision that EAEVE should not be granted Full membership in ENQA.

Following this, the ENQA Board took a decision at its meeting on 18 June 2014 that based on the panel report and the recommendation of the Appeals Committee, EAEVE should not be granted Full membership of ENQA. According to the Statutes of ENQA, the decision of the ENQA Board is final. EAEVE can reapply for ENQA membership after two years from the date of this decision, if it so wishes.

However, there are some issues that the ENQA Board would like to raise that can be considered in relation to the review of EAEVE although the final report will not be amended. These issues elaborate from the Appeals and Complaints Committee's viewpoints:

The Appeals and Complaints Committee follows the arguments of the panel in its original report and in the panel's response on the standards and criteria: 2.1, 2.2, 2.8, 3.4 and 3.6;

The Committee advises that it disagrees with the judgments of the panel on:

ESG 2.6 (EAEVE's appeal N 3): as there is a predetermined follow up procedure (summarised in the panel's evaluation, p. 23), the mere fact that it is voluntary (like the whole process) is not sufficient to support the panel's conclusion; The Appeals and Complaints committee considers that EAEVE is at least substantially compliant with this criterion;

ESG 2.7 (EAEVE's appeal N 4): the appellant rightly points out that the ESGs do not require any minimum cycle, but only that "the length of the cycle and the review procedure to be used should be clearly defined and published in advance", which is the case here; thus, the Appeals and Complaints committee considers EAEVE is fully compliant with this criterion;

ESG 3.2 (EAEVE's appeal N 6): EAEVE is officially recognised by more than one national authority in Europe, ESG 3.2 does not require recognition by all members of the EHEA; hence, the Appeals Committee considers that the agency is fully compliant with this criterion.

ESG 3.5 (EAEVE's appeal N 8): this standard requires only that the applicants have "clear and explicit goals and objectives for their work, contained in a publicly available statement"; this is clearly the case of EAEVE.

This letter will be published on the ENQA website together with the review report and the ENQA Board's initial decision.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or the ENQA Secretariat.

Yours sincerely,



Padraig Walsh
President of ENQA