### The CYQAA 2-year strategic goals and activity planning 2018-2020

| Aim  | Objectives  | Action being taken  | When  |
|--|---|---|---|
| 1.FULL COMPLIANCE WITH ESG according to review recommendations | RECOMMENDATIONS   |   |   |
|  | 1.1. Conducting Agency's activities in a way which has inspired trust in the newly established external quality assurance system and promoted the value of quality among higher education institutions (ESG 3.1)                          | 1.1.1 Collaboration with stakeholders through workshops and seminars aim at sharing views and values and constructing a common understanding of quality in Higher Education - Invited experts as facilitators   | 1.1.1 September 2019 and September 2020   |
|  | 1.2. Managing its scarce resources in the initial years in a way which enabled it to combine core external quality assurance activities with some capacity development activities for itself and higher education institutions (ESG 3.5); | 1.2.1 Emphasis on developmental activities through thematic analysis and detailed reporting that enable institutions and the Agency to reflect on their practices and reinforce their strengths towards quality assurance  1.2.2 Closer collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Committees of the institutions aiming at capacity building  1.2.3 Increase in staff size  1.2.4 Setting up an internal team | 1.2.1 Started on November 2018 with revision of the application and reporting forms and the analysis of the Institutions' 3-year Internal Quality Reports. It is a non-stop process.  1.2.2 Meetings will be scheduled in collaboration with the institutions and the persons involved by the end of April  1.2.3 By September 2019 |





### CYPRUS AGENCY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION



| Aim | Objectives  | Action being taken  | When   |
|-----|---|---|--|
|     |   | responsible for reporting on quality and processes and providing regular review forms  1.2.5 Publication of thematic analyses and Quality Assurance Reports | <ul><li>1.2.4 The team has been established</li><li>1.2.5 By December 2019</li></ul> |
|     | 1.3 Ensuring, within the limits set by law, genuine involvement of higher education institutions in the development of its methodologies for external evaluations (ESG 2.2);                          | 1.3.1 Negotiations of law amendments with institutions and the provision of their reflections on the proposed regulations                                   | 1.3.1 Negotiations are in the final stage  |
|     | 1.4 Establishing a truly multinational pool of experts and ensuring their extensive involvement in evaluations, which maximizes benefits for institutions and increases the independence of processes | 1.4. 1 The pool of experts will be enhanced with the involvement of international experts in external quality assurance                                     | 1.4.1 The relative amendment of the Law is already in process                        |





#### CYPRUS AGENCY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION



| Aim  | Objectives  | Action being taken   | When        |
|--|---|--|-------------|
| 2. FULL COMPLIANCE with the ENQA's Board recommendations | RECOMMENDATIONS   |  |             |
|  | 2.1 To be fully separated from the Ministry of Education and Culture in organisational terms, including the staff recruitment process and financial services (ESG 3.3);   | 2.1.1 Law amendments are discussed with the Ministry of Education in order to be included in the final version of the Law  | Within 2019 |
|  | 2.2 Complaints and appeals processes should be clearly defined as part of the design of external quality assurance processes and communicated to the institutions   | 2.2.1 Complaints and appeals processes are part of the design of external quality assurance processes and relative amendments in the Law have been agreed with the institutions  |             |
|  | 2.3 Gradually shift the focus in its processes after the first accreditation cycle from controlling institutions to supporting them in carrying their responsibility for quality and in quality improvement, with due consideration to be given to the effectiveness of internal quality assurance (ESG 2.1); | 2.3.1 As explained in 1.1.1 and 1.2.1, the actions focus on the enhancement of the institutions' responsibility for quality  2. 3.2. The Agency has published an internal quality assurance policy which is available on its website |             |





#### CYPRUS AGENCY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION



2.4 Expand the focus of the follow-up stage in its evaluations to embrace not only control-oriented measures but also support for quality improvement; give more consideration to the specificity of joint programmes in its briefings for experts to ensure full consistency in conducting evaluations; and take steps to include a site visit and a followup in the assessment of conditions for the provision of cross-border education by foreign HEIs (ESG 2.3)

2.4 .1 External quality assurance will not end with the report by the experts and a follow-up procedure will be clearly defined in the Agency's website.

The report will provide clear guidance for institutional action and the follow-up stages for all programs (national, joint, and cross-border).

Definition and publication of the follow up procedure by May 2019

RE-EVALUATION OF INSTITUTIONS

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3.1. According to the Law all higher education institutions must be reevaluated

3.1.1 External Evaluation Committees of experts will be invited and site visits by technical subcommittees will be conducted

3.1.2 The Institutions have been provided with guidance for the submission of their applications

2019







#### CYPRUS AGENCY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION



RE-EVALUATION OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMMES

4.1 All higher education departments and programmes that have not been accredited by the CYQAA must be reevaluated. The Law provides for reevaluation every 5 years.

4.1.1 The revised forms of applications and reporting will be published

4.1.2 External Evaluation Committees of experts will be invited. The Committees will include persons with expertise in quality assurance. 2019-2020



