NAQA Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 25 June 2025

Present:

Advisory Board Members: Amanda McKenzie, Anca Prisacariu, Aqim Emurli, Fadila Bentayeb, João Manuel Livramento Dias da Silva, Mariam Kilanava, Martin G. Erikson, Olgun Cicek, Ulf Hedbjörk, Zbigniew Marciniak.

NAQA representatives: Andrii Butenko, Nataliia Stukalo, Olena Yeremenko, Ivan Nazarov, Artem Artiukhov, Viktor Alkema, Iryna Zolotaryova, Oksana Stetsyuk, Tetiana Prikhna, Nataliya Avshenyuk, Ihor Oleksiv, Liliya Janse, Tetiana Tatarchuk, Oleksandr Khymenko, Oleksandra Osiiuk, Maksym Folomieiev, Oxana Trebenko, Ivan Boltenkov, Olena Knysh, Anna Shylina, Tetiana Kovalska, Tamara Sverdlyk, Maryna Nakonecha.

Exused: Alison Johns, Ian Welch, Irine Darchia, Tomáš Foltýnek, Tricia Bertram Gallant.

Agenda:

- 1. Welcome words NAQA Head Andrii Butenko;
- 2. Brief introductions by NAQA Advisory Board Members;
- 3. Presentation of NAQA activities by NAQA Vice Head Nataliia Stukalo:
 - NAQA activities through NAQA Annual Reports and Reviews;
 - NAQA Self-Assessment Report (SAR);
 - SWOT Analyses;
 - NAQA academic integrity activities;
 - Training Programme for NAQA International Experts;
 - Election of the Head and Vice-Heads of the Advisory Board.
- 4. Q&A and open discussion.

Moderator: Nataliia Stukalo, NAQA Vice-Head

Discussed:

1. Welcome words – NAQA Head Andrii Butenko.

Andrii Butenko expressed his gratitude to all members of newly appointed Advisory Board for their willingness to join the important mission of continuously improving education quality assurance. He emphasized the significance of collaboration in strengthening the higher education quality assurance system and enhancing its internationalisation.

2. Brief introductions by NAQA Advisory Board Members

Natalia Stukalo informed that NAQA meeting approved the quantitative composition of NAQA Advisory Board – 15 members. She introduced all

Advisory Board members. Each member briefly presented him/herself and welcomed each other.

3. Presentation of NAQA activities.

Nataliia Stukalo presented an overview of the key areas of NAQA's activity through its annual reports and reviews on the quality of higher education in Ukraine. A detailed discussion was held on the Self-Assessment Report (SAR) and the SWOT analysis. Nataliia emphasised the crucial stage in NAQA's work – the final amendments and revisions to the self-assessment report, marking an essential step towards the effective implementation of international activities. Members of the Advisory Board were invited to provide their feedback on the self-assessment report, should they wish to do so. She also introduced the training programme for international experts, which was developed and is currently being implemented in collaboration with Advisory Board member Ian Welch.

Oxana Trebenko, Head of the Analytical and Training Support Department, gave a detailed presentation on the programme and outlined opportunities for involvement.

Nataliia Stukalo announced an important upcoming milestone for the Advisory Board – the election of the Head and Vice-Heads. These elections will be conducted online. Advisory Board members were informed about the conditions for submitting their candidacies and the relevant deadlines.

4. Q&A and open discussion.

Ulf Hedbjörk commented on the strong work of NAQA, as reflected in the Self-Assessment Report (SAR). Having already provided his feedback on the report and with considerable experience of cooperation with NAQA, he acknowledged the progress made and NAQA's consistent commitment to quality assurance. He also inquired about the expected format and the number of mandatory Advisory Board meetings to be held annually.

Nataliia Stukalo clarified that the Advisory Board usually meets 2 to 4 times a year, and all meetings are held in an online format.

Zbigniew Marciniak commended the active work of NAQA and recommended involving the Council of Rectors of each countries in the process of engagement and familiarisation with NAQA's activities. He noted that this would significantly contribute to the wider promotion and visibility of NAQA's mission and work at the national and international levels.

The meeting concluded with words of appreciation from all participants for the productive discussion. Members expressed their strong interest in continuing active cooperation and supporting the further development of NAQA's initiatives.

The next meeting: TBC.