NAQA Advisory Board meeting minutes

Date: 12 October 2026

Present:

Advisory Board Members: Anca Prisacariu, Irine Darchia, Amanda McKenzie, Ian Welch, Zbigniew Marciniak, Tomáš Foltýnek

NAQA representatives: Nataliia Stukalo, Olena Yeremenko, Tetiana Tatarchuk, Oleksandra Osiiuk, Alina Lepokhina, Oxana Trebenko, Olena Knysh, Iryna Simshah, Anna Shylina, Tetiana Kovalska, Maryna Nakonecha, Iryna Zolotaryova, Liliya Janse, Andrii Trykisha, Maria Bykova, Oleksandr Zemka, Yurii Kaganov, Iryna Mordous, Valentyna Yemets, Ganna Denyskina, Polina Kyrienko, Tamara Sverdlyk.

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks – Nataliia Stukalo, NAQA Head;

2. NAQA Updates

- ENQA and EQAR: Update on the Review Process – Nataliia Stukalo, NAQA Head;
- Ukrainian Quality Assurance Forum 2026 (UQAF-2026) – Maryna Nakonechna, Assistant to the Head of NAQA Secretariat
- Accreditation Process: Key Statistics – Maryna Nakonechna, Assistant to the Head of NAQA Secretariat;
- Expert Training and Staff Exchange – Oxana Trebenko, Head of the Analytics and Training Support Department; Olena Knysh, Leading Specialist of the Analytics and Training Support Department;
- International Projects and Cooperation – Anna Shylina, Leading Specialist of the PR and International Cooperation Department;
- Cross-Border Quality Assurance: Key Figures and Challenges – Tetiana Kovalska, Leading Specialist of the PR and International Cooperation Department;
- European Integration: NAQA's Role and Current Priorities – Maryna Nakonechna, Assistant to the Head of NAQA Secretariat;

3. Presentation of the Institutional Accreditation Model – Maryna Nakonechna, Assistant to the Head of NAQA Secretariat;

4. Discussion and Q&A Session

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Nataliia Stukalo welcomed the participants and expressed her sincere appreciation to the Advisory Board Members for their continued support, valuable expertise and contribution to the development of the higher education quality assurance system in Ukraine.

2. NAQA Updates: ENQA and EQAR: Update on the Review Process

Nataliia Stukalo announced a significant achievement for NAQA, informing participants that the Register Committee of the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR) had decided to include the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance (NAQA) in the EQAR Register. She emphasised the importance of this decision as a major milestone in NAQA's international recognition and its continued integration into the European Higher Education Area.

3. Ukrainian Quality Assurance Forum 2026 (UQAF-2026)

Maryna Nakonechna provided updates on the Ukrainian Quality Assurance Forum 2026 (UQAF-2026), highlighting its key outcomes, main areas of discussion and contribution to strengthening cooperation among Ukrainian and international higher education stakeholders.

4. Accreditation Process: Key Statistics

Maryna Nakonechna presented key statistics relating to NAQA's accreditation activities, providing an overview of the accreditation process and its main quantitative indicators. The presentation highlighted recent developments and results in the implementation of accreditation procedures, reflecting NAQA's ongoing efforts to ensure and enhance the quality of higher education in Ukraine.

5. Expert Training and Staff Exchange

Oxana Trebenko presented the outcomes of NAQA's participation in NVAO Staff Mobility Week 2026, focusing on opportunities for professional exchange, peer learning and institutional cooperation.

Olena Knysh provided a detailed overview of NAQA's expert training activities, presenting key statistics, performance indicators and recent developments in the preparation and professional development of experts involved in accreditation procedures.

6. International Projects and Cooperation

Anna Shylina presented an overview of NAQA's ongoing international projects and cooperation activities, highlighting NAQA's involvement in international initiatives aimed at strengthening the Ukrainian higher education quality assurance system.

7. Cross-Border Quality Assurance: Key Figures and Challenges

Tetiana Kovalska presented statistical data on cross-border quality assurance activities, providing an overview of key figures and current developments in this area.

8. European Integration: NAQA's Role and Current Priorities

Maryna Nakonechna presented an overview of NAQA's role in Ukraine's European integration process, outlining NAQA's current priorities and ongoing activities aimed

at further aligning the national higher education quality assurance system with European standards and practices.

9. Presentation of the Institutional Accreditation Model

Maryna Nakonechna presented the proposed Institutional Accreditation Model, developed by NAQA on the basis of the Concept for the Modernisation of the External Quality Assurance System in Higher Education in Ukraine.

10. Discussion and Q&A Session

Anca Prisacariu congratulated NAQA on its inclusion in the EQAR Register, recognising this achievement as an important step in strengthening the Agency's position within the European higher education quality assurance community.

She also provided comments on the proposed Institutional Accreditation Model, sharing her professional observations, recommendations and suggestions for its further development. Her contribution focused on the importance of ensuring a coherent and effective approach to institutional accreditation, taking into account relevant European experience and quality assurance principles.

Ian Welch also congratulated NAQA on this significant achievement and provided recommendations concerning the further development of expert training. He emphasised the importance of professional preparation and continuous capacity building for accreditation experts and discussed opportunities for organising additional training activities with the involvement of international experts.

Zbigniew Marciniak joined the congratulations on NAQA's inclusion in the EQAR Register and commented on NAQA's expert activities, sharing his observations and perspectives on the role of experts in ensuring the effectiveness and credibility of quality assurance procedures.

Irine Darchia extended her congratulations to NAQA and shared insights and professional perspectives on institutional accreditation, drawing attention to relevant aspects of its development and implementation.

The next meeting: TBC.