

Dear members,

As I have mentioned in the newsletter last month, my plan for the next year is to establish a new CEENQA initiative – regular web conferences and presentations. The CEENQA Executive Board has agreed with this initiative. These events will be an opportunity for the member agencies to present their activities, good practices, thematic analysis, common projects and other interesting topics to other members in three 15-minutes time slots, while the same time will be allocated to discussions as well.

The main reason for these regular web conferences is that cooperation and harmonization between member agencies are the core objectives of CEENQA and these goals are now more important than ever. Half of the members of CEENQA are also members of ENQA, while others are not and many of them would like to join ENQA. There are several challenges inherent to the process of becoming a member of ENQA, which are of great interest to these agencies and, I'm sure, of interest to other agencies as well.

ENQA reports show that standard 4.2 (thematic analysis) is the standard where agencies should invest most of their efforts. The opportunity to present their thematic analysis in regular meetings and the possibility for cooperation regarding thematic analysis could be an added value for members of CEENQA. The independence of agencies is another example of the ESG that requires a serious effort for a new agency to fulfil – the presentation of a study in progress on September 17 (first bi-monthly meeting) can provide some insight into this subject.

During the second bi-monthly meeting on November 17, HEAARS will discuss the results of their thematic analysis on the 'Quality of teaching at higher education institutions during the COVID-19 pandemic in Republic of Srpska'.

On January 19 (third bi-monthly meeting), ASIIN will present their internally developed database that allows an overview of all the agencies activities such as accreditation / certification activities, including finances and workload per project manager, and enables the generation of certificates and other official documents as well as publishing the accreditation decisions.

Our plan is that the web conferences will take place each two months on Tuesday at 10AM CET. During each web conference, there will be two short presentations of our member agencies followed by a presentation on a special topic chosen by one of the presenting agencies. The presentations will be followed by a discussion. The presentation slides of each meeting will be published on the CEENQA web page: [www.ceenqa.org](http://www.ceenqa.org).

The board members have agreed to take part in the first round of web conferences; however, we would like to invite all members to let us know if you would like **to give a presentation of your agency's work and / or an additional presentation on good practices, thematic analysis, common projects or other interesting topics**. Each presentation is limited to maximum 15 minutes. Please submit your proposals to the Secretary General via [secretariat@ceenqa.org](mailto:secretariat@ceenqa.org).

All agencies are invited to participate in the CEENQA web conferences with up to three participants. The first web conference is scheduled for 15 September 2020.

Please confirm your attendance by September 10 via this [link](#).

Dr. Franci Demšar

President of CEENQA

**Program for first three events:**

**Tuesday, September, 15<sup>th</sup>, chair: Franci Demšar**

10.00 – 10.15 CEST Presentation of SQAA (NAKVIS), Slovenia, Franci Demšar, director  
10.15 – 10.30 CEST Presentation of YÖDAK, North Cyprus, Olgun Cicek, board member  
10.30 – 10.45 CEST Discussion  
10.45 – 11.00 CEST Independence of Accreditation Agencies, Slovenia, Maja Milas, international department  
11.00 – 11.30 CEST Discussion

**Tuesday, November, 17<sup>th</sup>, chair: Martina Vidláková**

10.00 – 10.15 CET Presentation of NAB, Czech Republic, Martina Vidláková, head of the strategy unit  
10.15 – 10.30 CET Presentation of HEARS, BiH Republica Srpska, Duska Radmanovic, board member  
10.30 – 10.45 CET Discussion  
10.45 – 11.00 CET Quality of Teaching at Higher Education Institutions during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Republic of Srpska, BiH Republica Srpska, Duska Radmanovic  
11.00 – 11.30 CET Discussion

**Tuesday, January, 19<sup>th</sup>, chair: Jolanta Silka**

10.00 – 10.15 CET Presentation of AIKA, Latvia, Jolanta Silka, deputy head  
10.15 – 10.30 CET Presentation of ASIIN, Germany, Dr. Iring Wasser, managing director  
10.30 – 10.45 CET Discussion  
10.45 – 11.00 CET Database Management in Accreditation Agencies, ASIIN, Germany, Arne Thielenhaus, project manager  
11.00 – 11.30 CET Discussion