



Commission
des Titres d'Ingénieur

September 2009

EXTERNAL REVIEW for ENQA

Terms of reference for the review

1 - Preliminaries

CTI is full member of ENQA since 2005. The membership regulations of ENQA require that CTI must undergo an external review at least once every 5 years.

Among, the possibilities offered by ENQA, CTI has chosen the organisation of a national review, coordinated by an international body, NVAO (Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders).

A first review has been organized during the year 2007. The objectives are twofold:

- To assess the fulfilments of its missions in the national context
- To verify its compliances with the European Standards and Guidelines.

The review report was sent to ENQA on December 6, 2007. Initially scheduled in March 2008, the decision of the ENQA Board was postponed to June 2008 in order to gather supplementary information from the review committee president, Ludo Gelders. This information concerned the ESG items (part 3) with which the CTI was considered as not totally compliant.

The CTI decided to work to take fully into consideration the recommendations done by the audit committee and *to postpone its application*. In June 2008, Peter Williams, president of ENQA, informed CTI that it could present a new application before June 2009.

The present terms of reference concern this new application.

2 - Motivations for the review

The CTI is engaged in a process of continuing improvement of its procedures and activities. An external review by an international body is one of the tools that CTI uses for its quality management.

CTI expects to improve the satisfaction level of its stakeholders: namely, the Engineering education institutions that it accredits, the students who get engineering degrees in these institutions, the companies that recruit them, and the society as a whole.

In France, the recently created agency AERES has in charge the global evaluation of the higher education system. CTI has been given by law, the mission to regulate the professional engineer degree ("titre d'ingénieur", master degree which can only be delivered by institutions accredited by CTI).

Then the two bodies (AERES and CTI) have different missions and are complementary; they have defined their ways of collaboration to increase their mutual awareness and lower the burden on the institutions.

In this context, keeping its full membership of ENQA has a strategic importance for CTI. It is a strong incentive to improve its global quality and is an outstanding level of recognition for the higher education community and authorities. It is also very important for its increasing activities at large : joint evaluation of joint diploma, participation to the ECA program (European Consortium for Accreditation), accreditation of off shore implementations of French engineering schools and of other foreign institutions.

At least, CTI has taken full notice that the renewed ENQA membership is the doorway to the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR).

3 – Review objectives and procedures

The present external evaluation procedure will take stock of the former one and of its outputs:

- The CTI self-evaluation report dated June 2007 (“Self evaluation report – 2007” in the following)
- The external review report dated October 2007 (“External review report – 2007” in the following)

Both reports will be annexed to the new application for ENQA.

The conclusions of the “External review report – 2007” were:

- The CTI completely fulfils its missions in the national context
- The CTI is not fully compliant with the ESG (depending on the standards, its compliance ranges from “fully compliant” for 4 ESG’s, to “substantially compliant “ and “partially compliant” for the others).

The second external review will then concentrate on the compliance of CTI practices and activities with the ESG in view of its ENQA membership renewal.

The self-evaluation report

The self-evaluation report-2008 will comprise 2 parts :

PART I – *Description of the national higher education system*. It is a revised version of Part 1 in the report – 2007. It takes into account the new CTI Reference guide (“*Références et orientations*” - R&O 2008). This part describes respectively: the engineer degree in the French higher education system, the standards of CTI for higher education institutions and the CTI procedures and quality management system.

PART II – *Implementing the ESG by CTI*. This section is a completely re-written section 2 of the former Self evaluation report, accounting for the new actions (procedures and activities) taken by CTI to follow up the recommendations of the “External review report – 2007”.

The review team

The scope of this review is more restricted than the former; its objective is mainly to assess the follow up by CTI of the preceding recommendations. The review team will then comprise a core of 3 members of the preceding one, with 2 new members :

- Prof Ludo Gelders, Professor at Leuven University, chairman of the review team
- Marie-Odile Ottenwaelter, Centre international d’études pédagogiques, secretary of the review team
- Rolf Heusser, President of OAQ
- Jean-Paul Vautrety, ingénieur, Head of a consulting company
- YYYYY, Student union representative

The review will still be coordinated by NVAO.

Time table

- July 2008 – Meeting between G.Aelterman (NVAO) and RP Martin (CTI) in Brussels to fix the organization of the review.
- 20 September 2008- Letter to inform ENQA on the global procedure of CTI membership renewal;
- 15 October 2008 - Formal approval by CTI of the terms of reference for its external review. The document is forwarded to the ENQA Board for approval.
- 15 November 2008 – Signature of the contract with NVAO
- 15 January 2009 – Approval by CTI of the self-evaluation report-2008. The report is forwarded to the members of the review team, and for information to ENQA.
- End of February 2009 – Visit of the review team in France
- 20 April 2009 – Approval by the review team of its report. The external review report is forwarded to ENQA for decision.