



Commission
des Titres d'Ingénieur

December 2009

EXTERNAL REVIEW for ENQA
Approved by the CTI Board, October 7th, 2008

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 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 compliance 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 and research system. For a long time (1934), 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 to define 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-2009 will concentrate on the compliance of CTI standards and procedures with the ESG and the ENQA standards.

Part I – CTI Reference Document. A self-evaluation report usually includes a presentation of the institution, a description of the national higher education system and of the institution activities. For this purpose, we shall use the new CTI Reference Document (“*Références et orientations*” - R&O 2009). Every two years, CTI updates its Reference Document to take into account evolutions of the higher education environment and to incorporate results of its working groups. The 2008-2009 version is completely renewed and rewritten. It comprises four main parts, respectively i) the professional and academic aspects of the “titre d’ingénieur” in the national and international context, ii) the missions, organization and activities of CTI, iii) the standards of the engineering programs accreditation, and iiiii) the procedures of the engineering programs accreditation.

PART II – Implementing the ESG by CTI. This section will include all the actions taken by CTI to take into account the recommendations of the “External review report – 2007”, but CTI has worked to implement an internal quality assurance, which covers all the ESG’s.

Then in this section, we consider all standards, even those with which CTI was already considered as fully compliant.

From a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis, the CTI compliance to each ESG will be discussed in 5 sub-sections :

- « Facts » : presentation of the orientations and activities of CTI in the light of the ESG’s
- An analysis of « weaknesses and opportunities »
- « Recent actions taken » : presentation of the actions that CTI has undergone, in particular from the recommendations of the “External review report – 2007”
- « Near future actions » : since CTI has a plan of continuous improvement, and since the delay was short between the last external review and the present one, we present the actions planned within the 2 next years.
- « list of proofs of evidence » : lists of the all documents which will allow the review team to assess the contents of the preceding sub-sections.

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 Vautrey, ingénieur, Head of a consulting company
- François Laurin, Student, member of the Bologna Follow Up Group

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.
- 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.
- 1) December 2008- Letter to inform ENQA on the global procedure of CTI membership renewal;
- 15 January 2009 – Signature of the contract with NVAO
- 4 February 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- beginning of March 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.

Bernard Remaud, president

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light yellow rectangular background. The signature is stylized, starting with a large 'B' and 'R' followed by a cursive flourish.