

HEQC aligned with INQAAHE good practice guidelines for external quality agencies

On 7 November 2011 the Council on Higher Education's (CHE) Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC) became the first quality agency in Africa to be accorded formal recognition for its comprehensive adherence to the good practice guidelines for external quality assurance agencies by the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE).

INQAAHE is a voluntary association of over 200 organisations, representing more than 130 countries and linked to 14 regional networks around the world that are active in the theory and practice of quality assurance in higher education. The great majority of its members are quality assurance agencies, many of which are national structures.

One part of INQAAHE's mission is to "develop and promote standards of professional practice in quality assurance". INQAAHE considers that professional practices should be embedded in all quality agencies as outlined in the Guidelines of Good Practice in Quality Assurance (commonly referred to as GGP). The GGP results from the contributions from quality assurance agencies from over 65 countries. "These agencies are dedicated to ensuring that higher education students throughout the whole world have access to high quality education. The Guidelines are designed to be used by all quality assurance agencies, whatever their stage of development may be."

The Board of INQAAHE recognises the HEQC as "comprehensively adhering to the INQAAHE Guidelines of Good Practice". The HEQC is now listed with six other quality assurance agencies. The recognition is for the period from 7 November 2011 to 7 November 2016.

For further information see <http://www.inqaahe.org/main/professional-development/guidelines-of-good-practice-51/ggp-aligned-agencies>.