

Audrey I. Tapia R.

Project Coordinator for Internationalization and Training
Comisión Nacional de Evaluación y Acreditación de Universidades de Panamá
(CONEAUPA)
Panama City, Panama
3rd of December 2024

Dear Audrey I. Tapia R.,

Re: Statement by the INQAAHE Board on the review of the Comisión Nacional de Evaluación y Acreditación de Universidades de Panamá (CONEAUPA)

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the *International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE)*, I extend my congratulations to the *Comisión Nacional de Evaluación y Acreditación de Universidades de Panamá (CONEAUPA)* for completing a review against the *INQAAHE International Standards and Guidelines (ISGs), 2022 Edition* based on the recognition of prior review carried out by RIACES.

As a result of the recognition of prior review, the Recognition Committee has identified critical areas in need of further improvement before a full recognition could be granted. In particular:

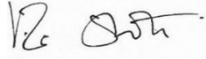
- Absence of a robust Internal Quality Assurance System for CONEAUPA.
- Lack of an Information System for data-driven decision-making.
- Lack of impact studies of CONEAUPA's external reviews on higher education performance, including its international activities.
- Limited stakeholder engagement in designing the organization's policies, standards and procedures.

Hence, the INQAAHE Board, on its meeting of 27th of November 2024, approved the recommendation of the INQAAHE Recognition Committee on granting CONEAUPA a 2.5-year recognition, commencing on the day the decision was communicated. Conditional upon the delivery of an interim report demonstrating CONEAUPA's ability to address the above recommendations within 2.5 years of this notice in due manner, a full recognition of 5 years (in total) will be granted.

As such, and as per the duration mentioned, CONEAUPA will be enlisted in the list of the INQAAHE ISG aligned agencies on the INQAAHE respective webpage. The agency is informed that this statement will also be published on INQAAHE's website. This achievement entitles CONEAUPA to be an ISG Recognized INQAAHE Member and avail respective benefits related to the category of membership.

Congratulations again on this major step towards enhancement.

Sincerely,



Vicki Stott
INQAAHE President