



General Assembly Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2024, 17:00-18:00 EEST/UTC+3 (Bucharest)

Agenda

Item

- 1 Opening of the meeting
- 2 President's remarks
- 3 Newly elected Board Directors
- 4 Presentation of the President candidate
- 5 Presentation of the new INQAAHE website
- 6 Update on INQAAHE Conference 2025
- 7 Bids to host INQAAHE Forum 2026
- 8 List of Recipients of GGP Certificates of Alignment
- 9 Presentation of the Global Council for Recognition of Quality Assurance Bodies in Tertiary Education (GCR)
- 10 Adjournment
- 11 Hand out of GGP Certificates of Alignment

A recording of the session is available on [INQAAHE's YouTube Channel](#).

Development

1. Opening of the General Assembly Meeting

The session was opened by Fabrice Hénard, INQAAHE's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who welcomed the membership and presented the agenda. Anticipation was expressed regarding an online voting process to be conducted following the meeting.

2. President's remarks

The floor was taken by Deb Adair, INQAAHE's President, who delivered her remarks, marking her final address in her presidential term. Gratitude was expressed for the engagement of the membership in INQAAHE activities. Appreciation was conveyed to the Secretariat, the CEO, the Immediate Past President, and the Board of Directors for their support. A desire to continue engagement with INQAAHE was articulated.

3. Newly elected Board Directors

The newly elected Board members, namely Anna Prades, Simona Lache, Fabrizio Trifiro, Fawad Sadiq, Leah Matthews, Maryam Hasan Mustafa, and Vicki Stott, were introduced by Deb Adair. Subsequently, the election process for the next President of INQAAHE was addressed. Vicki Stott, the sole candidate, was invited to the podium to address the membership.

4. Presentation of the President candidate

The floor was yielded to Vicki Stott, who delivered a candidacy speech, presenting herself as a candidate for the Presidency and outlining her future expectations. Her background and experience in quality assurance were detailed, with emphasis placed on the importance of Board inclusivity. The General Assembly was requested to ratify her selection as President for the ensuing three-year term.

Subsequently, the floor was once more yielded to the CEO, who reiterated the election calendar: the voting period for the General Assembly was scheduled to take place from June 17th to 30th, with the results to be published on July 1st.

5. Presentation of the new INQAAHE website

The floor was yielded to Ariana de Vincenzi, Chair of the Communications and Outreach Committee. A presentation of the newly restructured and renewed website was delivered, with the primary objective of enhancing user experience through the showcasing of INQAAHE's extensive content using innovative resources. The website was described as interactive, featuring storytelling elements, calls to action, customized innovative resources, and a restructured content architecture. A video demonstration of the new website was presented.

6. Update on INQAAHE Conference 2025

The floor was given to Kazuyo Hara, Director of the Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA), the host of the upcoming INQAAHE Conference 2025 in Tokyo. She presented a video on the next Conference in Tokyo, highlighting the main topic: the Big Bang Theory.

7. Bids to host INQAAHE Forum 2026

The CEO presented the two candidate organisations to host the INQAAHE Forum 2026: the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC, India) and the Council on Higher Education (CHE, South Africa).

A video introduction of their hosting proposal was presented by the Council on Higher Education. Following this, a brief speech was delivered online by Whitfield Green, CHE's Chief Executive Officer, further elucidating the proposal. A tentative theme, *The potential of microcredentials for fostering lifelong and lifewide learning*, was proposed. Subsequently, the floor was yielded to Ganesan Kannabiran, NAAC's Director, for the presentation of their proposal and video. Both presentations highlighted the strengths of the proposed host countries, providing data on the higher education sector, economy, culture, and potential partnerships.

The membership was reminded by the CEO that an online vote, regarding both the INQAAHE Forum 2026 host selection and the ratification of Vicki Stott's presidential candidacy, would be conducted following the meeting.

A clarification was sought by Susanna Karakhanyan, Board Director and Immediate Past President, regarding the city proposed by NAAC: New Delhi or Bangalore. It was emphasized that a specific city, rather than two options, was required for the final proposal to be shared with the General Assembly, and a clear venue was necessary. NAAC was requested to submit a revised proposal with a definitive venue prior to the commencement of the voting period.

8. List of Recipients of GGP Certificates of Alignment

The two agencies receiving GGP Certificates of Alignment were listed by the CEO, with the information that certificates would be presented following the meeting: the National Commission for Accreditation (CNA, Chile) and the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ, Hong Kong). The transition to the International Standards and Guidelines was also reiterated.

9. Presentation of the Global Council for Recognition of Quality Assurance Bodies in Tertiary Education (GCR)

The floor was given to Susanna Karakhanyan for the presentation of the Global Council for Recognition of Quality Assurance Bodies in Tertiary Education (GCR). It was noted that the Charter had been previously shared with the membership. The necessity for the establishment of an independent decision-making body, specifically for the evaluation of evaluators, was emphasized. Broad stakeholder consultation within the higher education sector had been conducted. The newly implemented International Standards and Guidelines (ISGs) were highlighted, with particular attention to their role in extending review procedures to quality assurance bodies beyond INQAAHE membership. A concise overview of INQAAHE's key milestones was provided. The rationale, based on the Constitution, and the Board's approval of the GCR's establishment were explained. The nature of the GCR, including its independence from the INQAAHE Board, the avoidance of conflicts of interest and task duplication, its inclusiveness, transparency, and its management by the Secretariat and CEO, was elaborated upon. Stakeholder consultation had been conducted in two rounds, with legal expertise utilized to compile feedback. The consultation involved 60 participants in the first round and 121 stakeholders in the second round, with written feedback also received. A brief introduction of the Charter, which had been previously distributed to the General Assembly, was provided, focusing on the elections process, its composition, and operational procedures. The commencement of the GCR's operations was targeted for September 2024.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was closed and adjourned, with a reminder to the membership to cast their votes on all items.

11. Hand out of GGP certificates

The GGP certificate was handed to Renato Barnet, who attended on behalf of the National Commission for Accreditation (CNA, Chile).

Meeting ends at 18:16 EEST/UTC+3.

The documents the General Assembly needed to vote for this meeting for annual reporting were the following:

- Candidate for INQAAHE President
- Proposals to host INQAAHE Forum 2026:
 - Council on Higher Education, CHE (South Africa)
 - National Assessment and Accreditation Council, NAAC (India)

The voting period was open from June 17 until June 30, 2024, at 23:59 CEST (UTC+2), with 41.46% participation rate.

The General Assembly approved Vicki Stott as the new INQAAHE President and chose Council on Higher Education (CHE South Africa)'s proposal to host the INQAAHE Forum 2026.

The results of the voting are available on [INQAAHE's website](#).