

Methodology for the Assessment of Institutions of Higher Education and Colleges

Issued pursuant to Sub-paragraph 5.5
of the Cabinet Regulations of 14 July 2015 No. 407
“Regulations on Accreditation of Institutions of
Higher Education, Colleges and Study Directions”

I. General Provisions

1. The Methodology for the Assessment of Institutions of Higher Education and Colleges (hereinafter – the Methodology) shall determine the procedure for the organisation of the assessment of institutions of higher education and colleges (hereinafter – the institution of higher education/college).
 2. The assessment of the institution of higher education/college shall be organised by the Accreditation Department of the Academic Information Centre (hereinafter – the Centre) (Quality Agency for Higher Education (AIKA), hereinafter – the Agency) pursuant to the Cabinet Regulations of 14 July 2015 No. 407 “Regulations on the Accreditation of Institutions of Higher Education, Colleges and Study Directions” (hereinafter Cabinet Regulations No. 407).
 3. **The Agency in its activities shall abide by the following principles:**
 - 1) being unbiased and fact-based,
 - 2) neutrality,
 - 3) respect towards persons involved in the assessing process,
 - 4) confidentiality,
 - 5) cooperation.
 4. **The main participants of the procedure of assessing the institution of higher education/college shall be:**
 - 1) institution of higher education/college;
 - 2) the Agency;
 - 3) the Council of Higher Education (hereinafter – CHE);
 - 4) the assessment committee (hereinafter – the group of experts).
- 4.1. The institution of higher education/college :**
- 4.1.1. shall submit to the Agency an application on the accreditation of the institution of higher education/college pursuant to Cabinet Regulations No. 407, taking into account the provisions of Cabinet Regulations No. 407 and the Law On Institutions of Higher Education with regard to the accreditation of the institution of higher institution/college;
 - 4.1.2. shall participate in coordinating and organising of on-site visits of the group of experts;
 - 4.1.3. shall ensure an access to all informative resources/infrastructure of the institution of higher education/college, *inter alia*, the library resources, the material technical base,

graduation papers (if any exist), test materials, and other documents upon the request by the Agency or the group of experts;

4.1.4. shall bear the responsibility for the provided information so that it fully describes the institution of higher education/college;

4.1.5. shall ensure appropriate premises and equipment for the assessment meeting.

4.2. The Agency:

4.2.1. shall develop and its activities shall abide by the methodology and procedures for assessing institutions of higher education and colleges, that comply with the standards and guidelines by the European Association for Quality Assurance in higher education for ensuring quality in the European Higher Education Area and the Law on Institutions of Higher Education of the Republic of Latvia as well as Cabinet Regulations of 14 July 2015 No. 407 “Regulations on Accreditation of Institutions of Higher Education, Colleges and Study Directions”, Cabinet Regulations No. 408 “Regulations on Licencing Study Programmes” and No. 409 “Price-list of Payable Services Provided by Foundation “Academic Information Centre”;

4.2.2. shall organise the work of the group of experts, *inter alia*, shall organise the on-site visits of the group of experts at institutions of higher education/colleges, branches thereof, and shall participate in these visits, as well as shall ensure that the necessary information is obtained and the revision of the submitted documents shall be conducted according to the provisions on the compliance of the operation of the institution of higher education/college with regulatory enactments, specified in Annex 2 to Cabinet Regulations No. 407 (hereinafter – compliance assessment);

4.2.3. shall select and nominate experts to be included into the group of experts, and nominate a candidate of the head of the group of experts;

4.2.4. shall organise training of experts both before the assessment visit and during the whole academic year, and shall inform the experts about the training in advance;

4.2.5. shall ensure recording and archiving of the accreditation procedure;

4.2.6. shall publish on the Agency’s webpage information about the accreditation of institutions of higher education/colleges, study directions and licensing of study programmes;

4.2.7. shall provide information and advice on issues regarding quality assurance of institutions of higher education/colleges, study directions and study programmes;

4.2.8. shall analyse the results of higher education quality assurance and provide recommendations for improving it;

4.2.9. shall participate in the institutions and activities of the European Higher Education Area in the field of higher education quality assurance.

4.3. The Council of Higher Education (hereinafter - CHE) shall perform the following tasks:

4.3.1. shall review the accreditation application and other documents of the institution of higher education/college on the accreditation of the institution of higher education/college;

4.3.2. shall approve the composition of the group of experts and its head thereof;

4.3.3. shall approve the observers referred to in Paragraph 18 of Cabinet Regulations No. 407, along with the approval of the composition of the group of experts;

4.3.4. shall take a decision on the accreditation of the institution of higher education/college or on the refusal to accredit the institution of higher education/college;

- 4.3.5. shall approve the methodology developed by the Agency for the assessment of the institution of higher education/college and shall publish it on the webpage of the CHE;
 - 4.3.6. shall request (if necessary) additional information from the institution of higher education/college and state institutions that is necessary for its activities;
 - 4.3.7. shall visit (if necessary) the institution of higher education/college to inspect actual circumstances at the institution of higher education/college;
 - 4.3.8. shall submit (if necessary) a proposal to the Minister for Education and Science on an extraordinary accreditation of the institution of higher education/college.
- 4.4. **The group of experts** in its activities shall abide by the following principles:
- 4.4.1. being unbiased and fact-based – an expert shall be honest and unbiased in his or her efforts to reach the aim of the assessment. In expressing his or her opinion, wording the conclusions, or in taking decisions the expert shall rely upon facts, observations and personal competence;
 - 4.4.2. neutrality – in assessing the institution of higher education/college, the expert shall act independently. The experts shall not represent the interests of the institution of higher education/college or those of another party;
 - 4.4.3. respect towards the participants of the assessment procedure – during the assessment, the expert shall act with good intentions, as a professional. The expert shall not exceed the tasks set for him or her. The expert shall treat those involved in the assessment process as persons that are able to assume responsibility for their actions, therefore, in referring to the strong and weak points of the institution of higher education/college, the expert shall rely upon facts and observations;
 - 4.4.4. confidentiality – all information that is related to assessment (interviewees' opinions, a self-assessment report and additional information provided by the institution of higher education/college) shall be used only and solely for the assessment process;
 - 4.4.5. cooperation – each expert as a member of the group of experts shall be open to cooperation with other experts in the group. The cooperation between experts shall be coordinated by the head of the group of experts. The group of experts shall make effort to help the institution of higher education/college improve the culture of quality and shall develop mutual understanding with the representatives of the institution of higher education/college.

II. Accreditation of Institutions of Higher Education/Colleges

The summary of subsequent processes in the procedure for accrediting the institution of higher education/college

- 1) *The institution of higher education/college prepares an application, conducts self-assessment of the institution of higher education/college, and prepares the self-assessment report;*
- 2) *The institution of higher education/college submits to the Agency the application and a confirmation that the fee for the accreditation of a study direction has been transferred into the Agency's bank account;*
- 3) *The Agency reviews, whether the application by the institution of higher education/college and the documents attached to it complies with the provisions of the Cabinet Regulations No. 407, and if necessary, requests the missing information;*

- 4) *Within 10 business days after the review of the application, the Agency assesses the compliance of the application with the criteria referred to in Annex 2 to the Cabinet Regulations No. 407;*
- 5) *The group of expert conducts the quality assessment, by taking into account this Methodology, the criteria for assessing the institution of higher education/college referred to in Annex 3 to the Cabinet Regulations No. 407, and prepares an experts` joint report on the institution of higher education/college to be assessed;*
- 6) *The CHE reviews the experts` joint report, as well as other documents and information at their disposal, and takes a decision on the accreditation of the respective institution of higher education/college.*

Applying for the accreditation of institution of higher education/college

5. The institution of higher education/college shall submit to the Agency an application on the accreditation of the institution of higher education/college (hereinafter - the application). The application shall be submitted together with:
 - 1) a self-assessment report of the institution of higher education/college with information referred to in Annex 1 to the Cabinet Regulations No. 407;
 - 2) the outcomes of surveys of students and employers;
 - 3) a sample study agreement;
 - 4) documents that define the status of students` self-governance and the procedure of financing thereof;
 - 5) the confirmation that the fee for the accreditation of the institution of higher education/college has been transferred into the Agency`s bank account.

6. The institution of higher education/college shall include in its application the following information:
 - 1) the name of the institution of higher education/college;
 - 2) the registration number of the certificate by the Register of Institutions of Education;
 - 3) the legal address of the institution of higher education/college and a branch thereof (if such exists);
 - 4) the names of study directions of the institution of higher education/college;
 - 5) the name, surname, position and contact information of the person that has been authorised by the institution of higher education/college to settle issues related to the accreditation.

7. The institution of higher education/college shall conduct the self-assessment procedure in accordance with the developed internal procedures, and the institution of higher education/college shall be responsible for conducting proper self-assessment and preparing a self-assessment report in time. The content and the structure of the self-assessment report shall comply with the provisions set out in Annex 1 to the Cabinet Regulations No. 407.

8. The institution of higher education/college shall submit to the Agency the accreditation application in a paper format with an identical electronic version of the accreditation application on a data carrier, or in an electronic format. An application submitted in an electronic format shall be signed with a secure electronic signature in compliance with the provisions of the Electronic Documents Law. The application and the attached documents shall be submitted in the official language with translation into

English. In case of disputes, the documents submitted in the official language shall prevail.

9. The application with the attached documents shall be signed by the rector of the institution of higher education or the director of the college. The table of contents shall be attached to the set of documents to be submitted.
10. The Agency shall review the application and documents attached to it, and, if necessary, shall request in written the missing information. The institution of higher education/college shall submit the aforementioned information to the Agency within 30 days after this request.
11. The application shall be returned to the applicant in the following cases:
 - 1) the payment for the accreditation of the institution of higher education/college has not been made;
 - 2) all information, which has been requested in written pursuant to Paragraph 15 of the Cabinet Regulations No. 407, has not been submitted;
 - 3) the documents have not been drawn up in compliance with the requirements for drawing up documents defined in regulatory enactments.

Review of the submitted documents

12. The Agency shall begin the assessment procedure only after the fee for the accreditation has been paid, all information requested by the Agency has been submitted, and the submitted documents have been drawn up in compliance with the requirements for drawing up documents defined in regulatory enactments.
13. The Agency shall assess the compliance of the application with the compliance requirements referred to in Annex 2 to Cabinet Regulations No. 407 within 10 business days after the completion of the review specified in Paragraph 10 of this Methodology.
14. If an essential incompatibility with regulatory enactments has been detected in the compliance assessment, the CHE shall assess, whether these are sufficient grounds for taking a decision on the refusing to accredit the institution of higher education/college or whether the accreditation process shall be continued in compliance with the procedure determined in Chapter III of Cabinet Regulations No. 407.
15. The Agency shall request the State Education Quality Service to provide information within 5 business days about the detected violations committed by the institution of higher education/college within the framework of the study direction to be assessed and in the implementation of related study programmes, on the measures implemented by the institution of higher education/college to eliminate these violations, as well as on the complaints that have been received related to the implementation of the relevant study direction and related study programmes. The Agency shall also request the certification institution (if there is any for a profession) to provide information about the relevant study programmes implemented by the institution of higher education/college within five business days.

Establishing the group of experts

16. The group of experts, the head and the secretary thereof shall be approved by the CHE.
17. The group of experts shall be comprised of seven experts. The group of experts shall be comprised in such a way as to ensure that the experts in general shall have:
 - 1) experience in quality assessment in the accreditation of the institution of higher education/college, study directions or in licensing study programmes;
 - 2) experience in the management of an institution of higher education;
 - 3) knowledge in relevant study directions implemented in the institution of higher education/college;
 - 4) experience in assessing internal quality assurance systems in higher education;
 - 5) experience in assessing scientific work of an institution of higher education;
 - 6) experience in assessing cooperation between an institution of higher education/college and organizations of employers;
 - 7) the head of the group of experts shall have international experience in assessing institutions of higher education;
 - 8) one of the experts shall be a representative delegated by the Latvian Students' Association (hereinafter – LSA);
 - 9) at least two experts shall be from abroad.
18. The Agency shall request the LSA to delegate their expert for assessing an institution of higher education/college within 10 business days.
19. The Agency shall inform the LSA and the Latvian Trade Union of Education and Science Employees (LTUESE) about their right to delegate observers, who may participate in the work of the group of experts without the right to vote, within 10 business days.
20. The Agency shall nominate the experts to be included into the group of experts, as well as the candidate for the position of the head of the group, and shall inform the CHE about the experts delegated by the LSA and the Latvian Employers Confederation (LEC) and the observers delegated by the LSA and LTUESE (if such have been delegated).
21. To select the experts, the Agency shall mainly use its own database of experts. The experts shall be selected by an open call to apply; however, the Agency may also use experts recommended by the agencies for quality assessment from other countries, institutions of higher education/colleges, employers' organisations or students' organisations as well as the CHE. The selection of experts shall be defined in detail in the procedure for selecting experts, developed by the Agency.
22. In selecting experts for a particular assessment, the Agency shall take into consideration the following additional aspects:
 - 1) the type of institution of higher education (institution of higher education/college),

- 2) the study direction and relevant study programmes,
 - 3) specifics of assessment (the first/periodic/extraordinary accreditation),
 - 4) the absence of the conflict of interest.
23. Within three business days after the group of experts has been approved by the CHE, the Agency shall inform the respective institution of higher education/college about the composition of the group of experts and the representative of the Agency, who shall coordinate the assessment (hereinafter – the assessment coordinator).
The institution of higher education/college may request rejection of the members of the group of experts, by submitting within three business days a reasoned application in written to the CHE, explaining in it the causes of rejection with regard to each rejected expert. The CHE Chairperson shall review the application by the institution of higher education/college within two weeks. If the CHE Chairperson recognises this application as valid, the Agency shall nominate other candidates as experts for replacing the rejected ones, establishing a new group of experts.

The experts shall conclude an agreement with the Agency on conducting the assessment and sign a confirmation on not being in a situation of a conflict of interest as well as the confirmation that the information obtained in the process of the assessment will not be publicly disseminated.

Duties of the members of the expert group prior to the on-site visit and during the on-site visit

24. The duties of the head of the expert group shall be as follows:
- 1) he or she shall be responsible for the work of the group of experts on the whole;
 - 2) prior to the on-site visit, he or she shall organise communication of the group members, after they have reviewed the documents;
 - 3) prior to the on-site visit by the group of experts, shall discuss the schedule of work of the group of experts with the Agency;
 - 4) prior to the on-site visit by the group of experts, shall allocate the responsibilities among the members of the group of experts;
 - 5) shall chair the meetings of the group of experts;
 - 6) during the on-site visit, shall chair the meetings with the target groups or shall appoint another expert for chairing definite meetings.
25. The duties of the secretary of the group of experts:
- 1) shall be responsible for the joint report by the group of experts, which he/she shall prepare in cooperation with other members of the group of experts;
 - 2) prior to the visit, shall collect the opinions and observations by all members of the expert group after they have reviewed the documents;
 - 3) during the visit, shall collect the opinions and observations by all members of the group of experts;
 - 4) shall submit the joint report to the Agency.

26. All members of the group of experts shall perform the following tasks:

- 1) shall review the documents that regulate the accreditation of the institute of higher education/college, and shall participate in training organised by the Agency before the assessment visit,
 - 2) shall review the self-assessment report of the institution of higher education/college and other relevant information,
 - 3) shall prepare the opinion on various aspects, including also topics/issues that should be paid special attention to during the assessment visit, and shall forward it electronically to the head of the group of experts and the assessment coordinator not later than one week before the start of the visit,
 - 4) shall prepare and submit to the assessment coordinator the list of additional information that should be obtained from the institution of higher education/college,
 - 5) shall perform other tasks related to the assessment process, in accordance with the tasks allocated among the members of the group of experts,
 - 6) shall participate in preparing the joint report of the group of experts.
27. The assessment coordinator shall perform the following tasks:
- 1) shall organise the assessment procedure, *inter alia*:
 - a) communication with the group of experts and the institution of higher education/college,
 - b) settling legal issues with the group of experts;
 - c) organising travel and accommodation of the group of experts;
 - d) organising and conducting the training for the experts before the assessment visit,
 - 2) shall ensure to the group of experts an access to the self-assessment report no later than one month before visiting the institution of higher education/college. In the cases that the composition of the group of experts changes due to reasons that do not depend upon the Agency, the new members of the group of experts shall be ensured an access to the self-assessment report immediately after they have been included into the group of experts,
 - 3) shall prepare the work schedule for the visit and shall coordinate it with the group of experts and the institution of higher education/college,
 - 4) shall coordinate the issue regarding the necessity of an interpreter, if the institution of higher education/college wants to attract an interpreter during the assessment visit,
 - 5) shall request additional information from the institution of higher education/college,
 - 6) shall review the joint report by the group of experts,
 - 7) shall provide a support to the group of experts in assessment-related issues.
28. The Agency shall organise training for the group of experts before the assessment visit at the institution of higher education/college. During the training the Agency shall present to the experts the following information:
- 1) the aims and objectives of the assessment;
 - 2) the work schedule of the group of experts, and shall discuss it;
 - 3) the methodology and the requirements of drawing up the joint report;
 - 4) regulatory enactments that regulate the assessment of the institution of higher education/college;
 - 5) the context of the particular institution of higher education/college
 - 6) the Latvian higher education system.

Assessment visit

29. The aim of the on-site visit shall be to obtain as much information as possible about the institution of higher education/college, its study direction and the relevant study programmes in order to complete a comprehensive and unbiased assessment in accordance with the criteria referred to in Annex 3 to the Cabinet Regulations No. 407.
30. During the assessment visit, the group of experts shall meet the administration of the institution of higher education/college and/or of the respective structural unit, the working group that has developed the self-assessment, the teaching staff, students, graduates, and the representatives of employers and/or professional organisations.
31. The findings and the main conclusions obtained during the assessment visit, shall be discussed by the group of experts with the management of the respective institution of higher education/college, the representatives of the academic staff and students.
32. At the end of the workday, the group of experts shall mutually discuss and summarize the obtained information and the observations that have been made. On the final day of the assessment visit, the group of experts shall mutually discuss the results of the visit, shall draft a joint opinion on meeting the criteria; and the group of experts shall discuss the main findings and conclusions made during the assessment visit with the management of the institution of higher education/college, as well as the representatives of the academic staff and students.
33. The institution of higher education/college shall ensure during the assessment visit an access to all informative resources/infrastructure of the institution of higher education/college, including the library resources, the material technical base, graduation papers (if such exist), test materials and other documents upon the request by the Agency or the group of experts. The institution of higher education/college shall ensure appropriate premises and equipment for work and for meetings.
34. The representatives of the administration of the institution of higher education/college shall not be present at the meetings with the academic staff and students. Persons, who study and/or are employed at the institution of higher education/college that is being assessed, shall not participate in the meetings with graduates and representatives of employers' and/or professional organisations.
35. The working language during the assessment visit shall be English, unless the Agency has approved otherwise. If necessary, the institution of higher education/ college may use the services of an interpreter, with a prior approval of the Agency. The interpreter shall not be from the institution of higher education/college to be assessed. The expenses related to interpretation shall be covered by the institution of higher education/college from its own resources.
36. During the assessment visit, coffee breaks and lunches shall be held separately from the representatives of the institution of higher education/college, unless the head of the group of experts has made a different offer.

Preparing the joint report by the group of experts

37. After the assessment visit, the group of experts shall:
- 1) participate in the development of the joint report within the terms set by the Agency;
 - 2) come to an agreement on the evaluation of the assessment criteria (see Annex 3 to the Cabinet Regulations No. 407 “Criteria for the Assessment of Institution of Higher Education and College”), at the same time taking into consideration the European Standards and Guidelines on quality assurance in higher education (ESG), Part I “Standards and Guidelines on Internal Quality Assurance”,
 - 3) the group of experts shall try to agree upon wording that is acceptable to all experts (*consensus*). However, if the opinion of the members of the group of experts on one of the aspects differs, the dissenting opinion shall be indicated in the respective section of the joint report,
 - 4) shall take into consideration the following sources of information in the preparation of the joint report:
 - ° the self-assessment report by the institution of higher education/college;
 - ° information provided by the certification institution as well as the information provided by the Education Quality State Service, security services, and observers about the operation of the institution of higher education/college if such information exists;
 - ° the results obtained during the visit by the group of experts at the institution of higher education/college, including the meeting with the administrative and academic staff, students, the representatives of senate of the institution of higher education or the representatives of the council of the college;
 - ° findings and conclusions by the experts of the accreditation of study directions and licensing of study programmes;
 - 5) shall request additional information if there is no sufficient information available for the group of experts in order to provide comprehensive and unbiased joint report;
 - 6) shall review the comments by the institution of higher education/college on the joint report;
 - 7) perform other tasks related to the assessment procedure in accordance with duties allocated among the members of the group of experts.
38. The secretary of the group of experts shall:
- 1) prepare the joint report, taking into consideration the fact that the joint report reflects the opinion of the group of experts as a whole, and using sources of information referred to in Paragraph 54 of the Cabinet Regulations No. 407;
 - 2) shall ensure the compliance of the joint report with Annex 10 to the Cabinet Regulations No. 407;
 - 3) shall forward the joint report to the Agency within the month since the visit at the institution of higher education/college has been held.
39. The Agency shall review the experts’ joint opinion and may request experts to specify it.
41. The Agency shall submit the draft joint report to the institution of higher education/college and shall submit the joint report to the CHE.

42. The institution of higher education/college may within 10 business days following the receipt of the joint report by the group of experts, provide comments. If the institution of higher education/college submits its comments with regard to the joint opinion to the Agency, the Agency shall review the submitted comments and summarise them in a note pursuant to Annex 4 to the Cabinet Regulations No. 407.
43. The Agency shall submit the joint report by the group of experts and the note referred to in Paragraph 42 of this document to the CHE.

Taking a decision and appealing

44. The decision on accrediting the institution of higher education/college shall be taken by the CHE. The CHE shall have the quorum, if more than half of the CHE members participate in the meeting. The decision is taken with the majority of votes.
45. The CHE shall inform the institution of higher education/college about the inclusion of the accreditation application on the agenda along with the date and time, and the place of reviewing the application on accreditation. 1-2 representatives from the respective institution of higher education/college may be delegated to the respective meeting of the CHE. Upon the request by the CHE, a representative (representatives) of the group of experts may be invited by the Agency to the CHE's meeting.
46. The CHE shall decide on the accreditation of the institution of higher education/college on the basis of the documents submitted by the respective institution of higher education/college, the compliance assessment of the institution of higher education/college prepared by the Agency, the joint report by the group of experts, the information by the State Education Quality Service and the certification institution (if such information exists), as well as other information available for the CHE. The CHE shall inspect the actual circumstances at the institution of higher education/college and other information available for the CHE, if necessary.
47. The CHE shall prepare a decision to be signed by the CHE Chairperson.
48. The CHE shall submit the decision to the institution of higher education/college, the Ministry of Education and Science, and the Agency within 10 business days after the decision by the CHE has been taken.
49. If the CHE has taken a decision to accredit the institution of higher education/college, the Agency shall within 5 business days after the decision has been taken, prepare and submit to the Ministry of Education and Science the accreditation form of the institution of higher education/college (Annex 5 to Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 407).
50. The Ministry of Education and Science shall within 10 business days following the receipt of the accreditation form of the institution of higher education/college, issue to the Agency the accreditation form of the institution of higher education/college signed by the Minister for Education and Science. The Agency shall issue the accreditation form of the institution of higher education/college, signed by the Minister for

Education and Science to the institution of higher education/college as well as shall register it.

51. The CHE may take a decision on the refusal to accredit the institution of higher education/college in cases if:
- 51.3. the joint report by the group of experts is negative;
 - 51.4. the qualification of the academic staff of the institution of higher education/college does not comply with the provisions determined in the Law on Institutions of Higher Education;
 - 51.5. the study and informative basis (including library), the material technical and financial base do not comply with requirements for the implementation of study programmes;
 - 51.6. the regulations related to the autonomy, financing and rights of students' self-governance are being violated;
 - 51.7. in the compliance assessment of the institution of higher education or the college, essential incompliance with the provisions of regulatory enactments regulating higher education have been detected in the operation of the institution of higher education/college;
 - 51.8. violations of regulatory enactments have been detected in the operation of the institution of higher education/college or a negative assessment has been provided by the certification institution.
52. If the CHE has taken the decision on the refusal to accredit the institution of higher education/college, the respective institution of higher education/college may re-submit the relevant application not sooner than six months after the aforementioned decision was taken.
53. The decision by the CHE on the accreditation of the institution of higher education/college or the refusal to accredit the institution of higher education/college may be contested in the Ministry of Education and Science. The decision taken by the Ministry of Education and Science can be appealed in the court according to the procedure determined in the Administrative Procedure Law. According to the Administrative Procedure Law, the relevant decision shall be contested/appealed within a month since it entered into force. The decision shall enter into force as of the day the related addressee was informed about it.

Follow-up activities

54. After the assessment is completed and the decision on accrediting the institution of higher education/college has been taken, the institution of higher education/college shall implement activities aimed at improving the quality of the institution of higher education/college, by eliminating deficiencies that have been detected in the assessment procedure, and indicated in the joint report by the group of experts. The institution of higher education/college within the period of six months since the decision has been taken, may develop and submit to the Agency for reviewing a plan, signed by the rector of the institution of higher education or the director of the college,

for implementing recommendations in order to eliminate the deficiencies that have been detected and to improve the study direction.