

**Provisional Registration**  
**of the Quality Assurance Unit of the Flemish Council of**  
**Universities and University Colleges (VLUHR QAU)**  
(following the merger of VLIR / VLHORA)

**Register Committee**  
2/3 May 2013

**Ref.** RC10/06.1

**Ver.** 1.0

**Date** 2013-05-06

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1. The Register Committee considered the request by the Quality Assurance Unit of the Flemish Council of Universities and University Colleges (VLUHR QAU) of 3 April 2013 for provisional registration.
2. The Register Committee noted that the VLUHR QAU has been operational since 1 January 2013, resulting of a merger of the quality assurance units of the Council of Flemish University Colleges (VLHORA, currently registered until 31/10/2013) and the Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR, currently registered until 31/05/2014).
3. Given that both agencies involved in the merger are currently registered, the Register Committee concluded that the VLUHR QAU is eligible for provisional registration according to the EQAR Merger Policy<sup>1</sup>.

Analysis:

4. The Register Committee considered the information provided on the organisational structure of VLUHR and on the evaluation system that is being implemented as from 2013 and replaces the existing evaluation systems deployed by the VLIR and VLHORA quality assurance units.
5. Given that the organisational structure and activities of the VLUHR QAU bear substantial similarity to those of VLIR and VLHORA, respectively, the Register Committee concluded that the analyses and conclusions set out in the external review reports on the compliance of VLIR (2009) and VLHORA (2008) with the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG) remain, by and large, valid for the VLUHR QAU.

Conclusion:

6. The Register Committee concluded that VLUHR QAU meets the requirements for provisional registration, as specified in the EQAR Merger Policy, and, therefore, granted provisional registration to VLUHR until 31/12/2014.
7. The VLUHR QAU is invited to apply for definite registration in accordance with the rules for renewal of registration set out in §§4.1–4.4 of the

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<sup>1</sup> May 2012, see <http://eqar.eu/publications/official.html>

EQAR Procedures for Applications<sup>2</sup>, based on an external review of the VLUHR QAU according to the ESG.

8. The following issues were flagged for particular attention for both VLHORA and VLIR when they were initially admitted to the Register. They should be specifically addressed in the self-evaluation report and in the external review report on VLUHR QAU's compliance with the ESG:

#### **ESG 2.6 – Follow-Up Procedures**

It should receive attention whether VLUHR QAU has addressed the recommendation (of the VLIR and VLHORA reviews) to develop stronger own follow-up procedures, in addition to those carried out by NVAO.

#### **ESG 3.6 – Independence**

It should receive attention whether the organisational structure of the VLUHR QAU underlines and safeguards its independence, in particular from VLIR, VLHORA and the VLUHR's other functions.

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