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HUNGARIAN
ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Hungarian Accreditation Committee

Statement by the President

on procedures carried out during the COVID-19 pandemic

Budapest, 31 March 2020

I would like to inform Hungarian higher education institutions, partner organizations and other stakeholders that due to the COVID-19 pandemic the HAC secretariat, Board and committees have ceased to carry out any activities requiring physical contact. All meetings by the Board and committees at the HAC offices have been cancelled. For the duration of the government-ordered national lockdown the HAC is not physically conducting evaluation site visits at this time.

The HAC is adapting its tasks by organizing meetings online, whereby committees and the Board continue to prepare and pass decisions in a format that does not require physical contact but continues to ensure exchanges of opinions in virtual format. Voting takes place on a secure site via the HAC Information System TIR and in accordance with the HAC by-laws.

Similarly, the HAC Board of Appeals continues to conduct its meetings and decision-making online.

The staff of the HAC secretariat works from home. For this reason I would like to ask you to consult with them at titkarsag@mab.hu or the e-mail address of the staff member assigned to an issue at his or her mail address (last name.first name@mab.hu) to ask for assistance regarding.

Since the office is not in operation, please send all documents electronically, rather than by surface mail.

Applications for new programmes and new doctoral schools or new branches of learning for doctoral schools should be submitted as previously to the Educational Authority, who will arrange for it to be uploaded into the TIR.

All documents set down in the relevant guidelines for applications for new education and learning outcome framework requirements as well as university professor positions should be sent to titkarsag@mab.hu. Please be sure to assign clear file names to all appendices.

Concerning the possible extension of deadlines set down in the contracts for institutional accreditation and doctoral school accreditation, please turn to the relevant programme officer (bogdan.aniko@mab.hu) or the doctoral working group (gulyas.lelle@mab.hu or danyi.beatrix@mab.hu).

It has become clear that the site visits planned for this spring and summer will not be carried out physically. The staff will contact the affected institutions and doctoral schools to discuss whether virtual site visits would be possible through online interviews with the relevant stakeholder groups.

Institutions and doctoral schools that are scheduled to be visited in the autumn will be contacted later to discuss the relevant arrangement in view of how the pandemic progresses.

I would like again to stress that in light of the pandemic, the HAC can carry out all procedures only electronically. Please ensure that the electronically submitted documents are exactly the same as your originals on paper!

If you have any questions, please feel free to turn to the staff by e-mail. They will respond during office hours and are ready and happy to be of assistance! We are doing everything we can to ensure that our operations continue smoothly, but will appreciate your understanding for the hurdles we may encounter.

Valéria Csépe

HAC President

