

## ANNEX VIII

### APPEAL MECHANISM

If the Final Executive Summary passed by the ECOVE refers to any major deficiency (Stage-one evaluation) or lack of confidence (Stage-two evaluation) of the faculty evaluated, the Faculty has the right to notify the EAEVE-Co-ordinator and the Chairperson of the ECOVE of its intention to appeal the classification. That notification and the basis for the appeal should be made in writing within eight (8) weeks of the receipt of the Final Executive Summary.

The first stage of the appeal process involves reconsideration by the ECOVE. The group of visiting experts or individual members of the group of visiting experts may be asked to participate in the reconsideration process. The appeal may be accepted or dismissed.

If the ECOVE dismisses the appeal, it is then considered formally by an Appeal Panel. The Panel comprises three members, all of whom should preferably have chaired an evaluation visit. The appointment of the Panel is coordinated by the President of the EAEVE or his nominee in the event that s/he is ineligible through other considerations. One member each is appointed by the EAEVE and the FVE, with the appealing Faculty having the right to nominate the third member. At least one member, but not all three, should have expertise relating to the subject area(s) under dispute. The Panel selects its own chair.

None of the three members shall be nationals of, or working in the country of the Faculty in question.

The appeal, and the discussion of it shall first be carried out by correspondence. If a decision cannot be reached by this means, the chair of the Appeal Panel may consider that a meeting is necessary, at the Faculty or elsewhere, between the members of the Panel, representatives of the Faculty and the chairperson of the group of experts. In this case all expenses shall be paid by the Faculty.

Once the Appeal Panel has reached a decision, by majority if necessary, its chair will inform the ECOVE of its decision by submitting a respective statement. The EAEVE-Office is responsible for informing the Faculty of the Appeal Panel's decision in writing.