*Doc. Code: BFUGMeeting\_LU\_LI\_48\_6.2d*

*Last modified: 24.08.2015*

# Terms of Reference

# of the Board Committee on Bologna Policy Forum

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| **Name of the Working Group**  Board Committee on Bologna Policy Forum |
| **Contact persons (proposed Co-Chairs)**  BFUG Vice chair + TBD |
| **Composition**  TBD  At least 6-8 countries and organisations |
| **Purpose and/or outcome**  To define a strategic approach and an action plan concerning:   * the BPF in general – lining out a sustainable approach for its continuation, regarding purpose, participants, preparation, organization and follow-up; * the Yerevan Policy Statement recommendations with the MENA countries; * The next Bologna Policy Forum 2018 in connection with the Ministerial conference. |
| **Working methods**  The board committee, with the support of the Secretariat, will organize regular meetings with its members (at least 2/ year).  Workshops, research seminars, seminars and regional conferences can be planned according to the specific working methods that will be proposed early 2016 to the BFUG.  Contacts for policy dialogues will be set up with the different regions of the world and other stakeholders willing to collaborate in regional integrations and cooperation between regions and member states on agreed goals. |
| **Reference to the Yerevan Communiqué and Bologna Policy statement**  **Yerevan Communiqué**:   * The EHEA has a key role to play in addressing these challenges and maximizing these opportunities through European collaboration and exchange, by pursuing common goals and in dialogue with partners around the globe. We must renew our original vision and consolidate the EHEA structure.   **Bologna Policy Statement** :   * We underline our interest in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and in using its principles as a successful example of cooperation in higher education, to be considered in other regional contexts. We also recognize the contribution by other regions, through their own experience of policy and practice, to the further development of the EHEA. * Thus the policy dialogue and cooperation between the EHEA and the countries of the Middle East (ME), North Africa (NA), Asia (AS) (MENAAS) need to be continued and strengthened, taking due account of the diverse higher education systems as well as political, economic and cultural landscapes of our regions and countries. * We, the Ministers responsible for Higher Education and Heads of Delegation to the Fourth Bologna Policy Forum, recognize that successful policy dialogue requires sustained use of a variety of working methods, including conferences, seminars, working groups, studies, pilot projects and peer learning activities, between the Bologna Policy Fora. We commit to piloting such cooperation for our countries and regions and ask the Bologna Secretariat, in close cooperation with the BFUG, the Bologna Board and representatives of the MEENAS countries to oversee this cooperation to define subject areas for collaboration and develop a timetable and plan of activities by the next BFUG meeting. |
| **Specific tasks**   * Identify the weaknesses and the strength of the four previous BPF and draw a sustainable approach for the BPF in general * Identify the main activities to be organised with the MENA countries * Organise brainstorming and relevant proactive actions to define a vision and action plan for the next BPF 2018 * Contact the relevant stakeholders (at ministerial and institutional levels, national, regional and transnational levels, including such organisations as UNESCO, AIU, World Bank, etc * Organise events or participate at events proposed by other stakeholders in and outside the EHEA * Prepare the programmes of the BPF 2018 |
| **Reporting**  Minutes of the meetings will be made available to the board and the BFUG. |
| **Meeting schedule:**  End of October at the latest: Decision on the composition of the board committee  First meeting in December 2015 / January 2016 (Paris)  Two meetings of the board committee committee per year  **2016**   * Collect information on the four previous BPF * Identify the main global agendas and meetings planned in 2016- 2018 * Define actions to build cooperation with the MENA countries and other regional and institutional stakeholders in Latin America , Asia, Africa * Present a first proposal to the BFUG in autumn   **2017**   * January: decision on the main issue and topics for the 2018 BPF * September 2017: first draft of the programme, invitation of the identified speakers   **2018**   * March 2018 : Publications from the (research) seminars and confernces (EHEA website, journal, etc) |
| **Liaison with other WGs’ and networks’ activities**  The task of organising the Bologna Policy Forum is delegated by the BFUG to the board committee.  Liaison with other WG on activities related to internationalisation (including the QA issues through EQAR and academic recognition):   * WG on “Implementation of structural reforms”   *(one co-chair or WG member of the board committee on “BPF” should also be member of the WG on “Implementation of structural reforms” or vice-versa)*   * WG on “New EHEA goals” *(one co-chair or WG member of the board committee on “BPF” should also be member of the WG on “New EHEA goals” or vice-versa)* |
| **Additional remarks**  - The board committed will be supported by a specific staff within the Secretariat dedicated part time to the BPF |