

**European Accreditation Agency for the Life Sciences**  
**for agriculture, food, natural resources, rural development and the  
environment**

**Approved by the ICA General Assembly September 2 2008**

## **STATUTES**

### **SECTION I – DENOMINATION – REGISTERED OFFICE**

#### **Article One**

Within the framework of the law of October twenty-five, nineteen hundred and nineteen, amended by the law of December six, nineteen hundred and fifty-four, the association is named ***“European Accreditation Agency for the Life Sciences (EAALS) for agriculture, food, natural resources, rural development and the environment”***

#### **Article Two**

The statutory seat of EAALS is at Ghent University, Belgium (Dean's Office, Faculty of Bioscience Engineering, Ghent University, Coupure links 653, B-9000 Gent, Belgium). However, EAALS is not in any way a statutory part of Ghent University and is not governed by Ghent University, and acts independently of Ghent University.

The registered office may be transferred within Belgium on the decision of the EAALS Board, published in the “Annexes du moniteur Belge” (Appendix of the “Moniteur Belge”) within the same month.

#### **Article Three**

The working language is English. Other languages may be used according to internal rules.

### **SECTION II – OBJECT – LIFETIME**

#### **Article Four**

EAALS is a not for profit organisation with a mission to enhance the quality of degree programmes and higher educational institutions in life sciences through quality assurance and international accreditation. It **aims to** award the European Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in the Life Sciences (EAALS) quality label to degree programmes in higher education institutions that have achieved the appropriate quality and standards in their educational provision. In addition it will provide recommendations for the continuing enhancement of their educational provision.

#### **Article Five**

EAALS is created for an unlimited lifetime; it may be terminated at any time by decision of the General Assembly of the Association of European Life Science Universities (ICA) (article 17).

### **SECTION III – General Assembly of the Association of European Life Science Universities (ICA)**

#### **Article Six**

The General Assembly of the Association of European Life Science Universities (ICA) is the governing body of EAALS.

It has authority to:

- Elect the EAALS Board members
- Elect the EAALS Committee of Appeal
- Appoint the auditors for EAALS
- Approve the balance sheet, accounts and budgets
- Make amendments to the Statutes of the EAALS
- Take any decision exceeding the powers legally or statutorily granted to the EAALS Board
- Voluntarily terminate EAALS

#### **Article Seven**

The Statutes of the ICA General Assembly are set out in the Statutes of the Association of European Life Science Universities (ICA)

### **SECTION IV – THE INDEPENDENCE OF EAALS**

#### **Article Eight**

Neither the General Assembly of the Association of European Life Science Universities (ICA) nor the ICA Board nor any other associated body linked with ICA has the right to question, overturn or strike out any decision of the EAALS Board relating to the quality assurance and accreditation of any individual degree programme.

The only occasion when a decision of the EAALS Board will be changed is on the instruction of the EAALS Committee of Appeal (see Article 13).

### **SECTION V – THE BOARD**

#### **Article Nine**

EAAL's strategy and objectives are developed by the EAALS Board.

The EAALS Board is responsible for the award of the EAALS Quality Label to degree programmes in higher education institutions that have achieved the appropriate quality and standards in their educational provision general administration of EAALS. The EAALS Board is also responsible for the general administration of EAALS.

The EAALS Board is responsible for defining internal working rules (byelaws) within the framework of these Statutes.

The EAALS Board shall be composed of the President, the Vice-President and at least three ordinary members, one of which should be a student representative.

The members of the Board are elected by the General Assembly of the Association of European Life Science Universities (ICA) for a three-year term that is renewable once.

The Board can decide to co-opt one additional EAALS Board member for specific purposes until the next General Assembly.

The President and Vice-President are elected by the EAALS Board members. The President is the Chair of the EAALS Board.

The EAALS Board will meet at least once a year.

The EAALS Board will make an annual report to the General Assembly of the Association of European Life Science Universities (ICA)

### **Article Ten:**

The widest power to perform any acts of administration and arrangement which concern EAALS are vested in the EAALS Board.

Without prejudice to authorizations provided for by law and by the present statutes, the Board may execute and receive any payment, request, or give receipt of the payment, give or receive any deposit, acquire or alienate personal or real estates, rent or let with a lease, even for more than nine years, accept and receive private or state subsidies, accept and receive legacies, donations and transfers, grant and accept loans and advances, with or without cover, grant and accept subrogations and securities, mortgage social real estates, waive contractual or actual rights, decide to release mortgages, plead whether as plaintiff or defendant before any jurisdiction, carry out court decisions, deal or compromise.

### **Article Eleven**

By their functions, members of the EAALS Board do not assume any personal liability. Their responsibilities are limited to their terms of office.

Members of the EAALS Board may receive an honorarium for the performance of their duties.

## **SECTION VI – THE EAALS COMMITTEE OF APPEAL**

### **Article Twelve**

The purpose of the EAALS Committee of Appeal

The General Assembly of the Association of European Life Science Universities (ICA) shall appoint the EAALS Committee of Appeal.

The Committee of Appeal will comprise three persons. Two persons as senior management level (Rector/Dean) and one who is responsible for the management of quality assurance and accreditation.

The Committee of Appeal will appoint its own Chairman

The EAALS Appeals Committee will act independently of the EAALS Board and EAALS secretariat

## **SECTION VII – THE BASIS ON WHICH AN APPEAL CAN BE MADE AND APPEAL PROCEDURES**

### **Article 13**

EAALS will make publicly available its processes and procedures for Appeal.

The EAALS secretariat will inform an applicant for accreditation of the right of appeal at the time of the acceptance of the application for accreditation by the EAALS Board.

An appellant will lodge an appeal with the ICA Board who will refer the appeal to the EAALS Committee of Appeal.

The grounds for appeal will only be allowed to proceed by the EAALS Committee of Appeal where the appellant can justify that incorrect or inappropriate processes and procedures had been followed. On the acceptance that the correct processes and procedures have been followed there will be no grounds for appeal of the accreditation decision of the EAALS Board

The applicant, the EAALS Board and the ICA Board will be informed of the decision of the EAALS Committee of Appeal. The decision of the EAALS Appeals Committee will be final and will not be made public without the permission of the applicant.

The EAALS Board will accept the decision of the EAALS Committee of Appeal and take appropriate action

## **SECTION VIII – ANNUAL ACCOUNTS – BUDGETS**

### **Article Fourteen**

The fiscal year runs from January first to December thirty-first.

By February 28th of each year, the Treasurer shall make up the accounts of the previous year. The Treasurer shall submit the accounts and a proposed budget for the following year for approval of the EAALS Board who then submits those documents to the General Assembly of the Association for Life Science Universities (ICA).

### **Article Fifteen**

Auditors appointed according to article 6 shall carry out the annual audit of the Association and report to the General Assembly of the Association for Life Science Universities (ICA).

## **SECTION IX – AMENDMENTS – WINDING UP - LIQUIDATION**

### **Article Sixteen**

The General Assembly of the Association for Life Science Universities (ICA) may deliberate amendments to these Statutes if their objects are expressly stated in the convening notice. Amendments shall be adopted by a majority of two thirds of the votes cast. The members should be informed in writing 40 days before the General Assembly

### **Article Seventeen**

The General Assembly of the Association for Life Science Universities (ICA) may decide the termination of the Association under the same conditions as mentioned in article 16.

### **Article Eighteen**

In the event of a voluntary termination, the General Assembly of the Association for Life Science Universities (ICA) shall appoint one or two liquidators and specify their powers.

### **Article Nineteen**

In the event of any termination, whether voluntary or judicial, at any time and for any reason, the General Assembly of the Association for Life Science Universities (ICA) shall decide by a simple majority to allot EAALS' assets, after liabilities have been discharged, to an institution or organisation whose object and purpose are similar to EAALS.