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**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE BOLOGNA FOLLOW-UP GROUP
Astana, 12 February 2014, 10:00 – 17:00**

Draft minutes

List of participants

Country/ Organisation	Representative
Armenia	<i>Apologies</i>
BFUG Secretariat	Gayane Harutyunyan
BFUG Secretariat	Ani Hovhannisyan
Council of Europe (CoE)/ Structural Reforms WG	Sjur Bergan
EQAR	Colin Tück
ESU	Rok Primožič
EUA	<i>Apologies</i>
EURASHE	<i>Apologies</i>
European Commission (EC)	Adam Tyson
European Commission (EC)	Frank Petrikowski
Georgia	Elene Jibladze
Greece	Dimitrios Skiadas
Greece	Christos Skouras
Holy See	Julia Gonzales
Italy	Marzia Foroni
Kazakhstan	Fatima Zhakypova
Kazakhstan	Rimma Seidakhmetova
Kazakhstan	Aida Sagintayeva
Kazakhstan	Kymbat Beisekina
Lithuania	Jolanta Navickaitė
Reporting on the Bologna Process Implementation WG	Andrejs Rauhvargers
Social Dimension and Lifelong Learning WG	<i>Apologies</i>
Mobility and Internationalisation WG	<i>Apologies</i>

The Chair, Ms. Fatima Zhakypova, opened the BFUG Board meeting and welcomed the participants on behalf of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan. It was highlighted that Kazakhstan as the BFUG Co-Chair is responsible for the promotion of the objectives and actions set by the Ministers in the Bologna Declaration and the Bucharest Communiqué. Accession of Kazakhstan to the EHEA gave a new impulse for the modernisation of the higher education (HE) of the country and set a number of certain tasks.

The Chair congratulated the outgoing BFUG Co-Chairs, Lithuania and Georgia, for the productive six-month period of the BFUG Co-Chairmanship and also for the smooth handover of the BFUG Co-Chairing responsibilities to Greece and Kazakhstan, which took place on 11 February 2014 in Astana. Last but not least the Chair expressed her gratitude to the Secretariat for the good preparation of all the documents for the Astana Board meeting and wished the participants a fruitful meeting.

The Board was notified that there were 18 participants present at the meeting.

1. Information by the outgoing BFUG Chairs: Lithuania and Georgia

Ms. Jolanta Navickaitė (Lithuania) outlined the three education related events which had been successfully organised during the Lithuanian EU Presidency and resulted in a number of tasks on national and institutional level:

- “European Higher Education in the World” on 5-6 September 2013;
- Conference on General Education on 9-10 September 2013;
- BFUG meeting on 7-8 November 2013.

Ms. Elene Jibladze (Georgia) expressed her gratitude to Lithuania for the support during the Lithuanian-Georgian BFUG Co-Chairmanship and wished the incoming Co-Chairs, Greece and Kazakhstan, all the best. Moreover, she thanked the Kazakh colleagues for hospitality as well as the Secretariat for the efficient performance.

It was stressed that the BFUG Co-Chairmanship of Georgia was used to reengage the country in the Bologna Process. Another important achievement was that Georgia became affiliate with ENQA. Moreover, HE related issues were addressed at the conference organised in December 2013.

The BFUG Board members took note of the information provided by the outgoing BFUG Chairs.

2. Information by the incoming BFUG Chairs: Greece and Kazakhstan

Mr. Christos Skouras and Mr. Dimitrios Skiadas (Greece) expressed their pleasure for Co-Chairing the BFUG together with Kazakhstan and recalled the general priorities and the main events to be organised under the Greek EU Presidency as well as BFUG Co-Chairmanship. Once again the participants were reminded that the BFUG meeting in Athens would take place on 9-10 April 2014.

Ms. Fatima Zhakypova (Kazakhstan) presented the national HE priorities of Kazakhstan, which are as follows:

- National system of college graduates’ employability;
- Internationalisation of HE;
- Development of the system of social responsibility.

The main events to be organised during the BFUG Co-Chairmanship are:

- International conference on "Bologna Structural Reforms: History, Problems and Perspectives", 13-14 February 2014;
- Round table on "Institutional Engagement in Internationalisation", 13 February 2014;
- Seminar on "Academic Mobility: Implementation and Development of the Tools", March 2014.

The BFUG Board members took note of the information provided by the incoming BFUG Co-Chair.

3. Adoption of the agenda

Documents: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_3a [draft agenda]
 BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_3b [draft annotated agenda]

The agenda of the meeting was adopted with the inclusion of two issues, namely:

1. Ms. Marzia Foroni (Italy) informed the Board that since Italy and Holy See had jointly prepared their programme on the priorities and main events to be organised during the Italian-Holy See BFUG Co-Chairmanship (1 July 2014-31 December 2014), it is suggested to merge two separate points of the agenda.

2. Mr. Adam Tyson (EC) noted that the EC would like to draw the attention of the Board on the issue of the future of the Bologna Process upon the request of a number of EHEA countries as well as stakeholders.

Taking into account the importance of the issue, the Board agreed to start the deliberations on the future of the Bologna Process before proceeding to the next points of the agenda.

Mr. Adam Tyson (EC) stressed that several EHEA countries and stakeholders raised the concerns that the Bologna Process seemed to be losing momentum and its relevance to the Ministers and national HE systems. Thus, this is a real challenge for the future of the Process and maybe this is one of the reasons of the decrease of participation of the Ministers at the Ministerial Conferences. The main concerns expressed are as follows:

- Where the Bologna Process is going.
- How the Process can be made more relevant to the real concerns of the Ministers.
- Whether the right priorities are set.
- Whether right governance structure is established.

It was highlighted that despite the significant progress made in many areas of the Process, which is obvious from the Implementation Reports, there are still issues, including the fundamental and core ones, that still need implementation.

Thus, in trying to meet the concerns of 47 EHEA countries at very different stages of development, the Process may end up with quite generalised recommendations, failing to address the needs of countries. Hence, it is important to find out whether the priority goals

of the countries can be identified and the situation/country-specific procedures be offered. The governance of the Process should be reviewed to reflect those changes as well.

The performance and frequency of the organisation of the Ministerial Conferences should also be reconsidered. The conferences should be an opportunity for real discussions increasing the engagement of Ministers in the meetings.

The discussion of the Board highlighted the following points:

- It is the right moment to start discussing the issue before the next 2015 Ministerial Conference and address the concerns on the relevance of the Process and the way it should be reshaped.
- The decision on the prospective of the Process should be taken by the Ministers and be reflected in the 2015 Yerevan Communiqué.
- The Bologna Process was launched with the intention to make Europe competitive in the world. As a result, outside the EHEA the Process has become a strong and powerful symbol, however in terms of consistency it is difficult to testify it.
- The implementation of what has been created in the Process is crucial and the Implementation Reports are not enough to have the full and true picture of the situation. Other research is also needed.
- The implementation of structures raises the issue of governance. The structures have been set up at the European level, however still a lot should be done at the national level.
- Different ways of implementation undertaken by the countries should at the same time be compatible.
- Bologna Process should be combination of the political and technical procedures and the Ministers should not take it as an obligation but rather work which should be done on daily basis.
- The concern of the countries and stakeholders regarding the raised issues does not imply stopping the Process. Vice versa, it should be continued while becoming the priority area for the investment by the countries.
- The role of the BFUG and the possibility to scale-down the decision making process should also be part of the reflection.
- Besides the above mentioned concerns, low and non-active participation of the BFUG members also upsets the success of the Process.
- There is a need to rethink the organisation of the Bologna Policy Forums as well and make them more attractive and open for dialogues.
- The structure of the Bologna Secretariat should also be taken into account while considering the issue.

The Board agreed that the concerns of the countries regarding the future of the Bologna Process should also be expressed formally in order to start the formal discussion with inclusion of the BFUG members. The issue is very fundamental one and therefore, it should be discussed at all the upcoming BFUG meetings until the Yerevan Ministerial Conference.

Moreover, it is important to define the structure of the discussions on the issue during the upcoming BFUG meetings to ensure its efficiency.

Thus, it was suggested that while sending the Athens BFUG meeting invitation to the BFUG members, the Secretariat should clearly explain to the BFUG members that during this very meeting, a key discussion will be held on how the EHEA should evolve after 2015. Hence, the active participation as well as commitment of all the countries and consultative members is vital. The basis of the discussion will be a concept paper prepared by the concerned parties identifying the questions that need to be addressed. Besides, it will be useful if the paper is circulated first to the Board members for comments and then to the BFUG. It will also be useful to have a discussion on the issue during the Co-Chairs meeting which precedes the Athens BFUG meeting. It will be helpful if the Secretariat prepares a roadmap indicating the start of the debate in Athens and its finishing point during the Yerevan Ministerial Conference so that the Ministers can decide how to direct the Process after 2015. The roadmap should also contain the number of the key issues to be discussed at the upcoming BFUG meetings as well as the deadline for their finalisation before 2015 Ministerial events.

The Chair concluded that the issue of the future of the Bologna Process is a fundamental one for the EHEA countries and good preparation would be necessary to ensure the success of the start of the debate at the Athens BFUG meeting.

4. Draft minutes of the BFUG Board meeting, Tbilisi, 17 September 2013 and draft outcome of proceedings of the BFUG meeting, Vilnius, 7-8 November 2013

Documents: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_4a [BFUG Board Tbilisi draft minutes]
BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_4b [BFUG Vilnius draft outcome of proceedings]
BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_4b_Annex1 [Thematic session on ESG]

The Tbilisi BFUG Board meeting minutes were adopted without any amendments. The Board also took note of the draft outcome of proceedings of the Vilnius BFUG meeting.

5. 2012-2015 BFUG Work Plan: Co-Chairs coordination meeting

Documents: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_5a [Work plan 2012-2015]
BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_5b [Draft programme of the Co-Chairs coordination meeting]

Ms. Gayane Harutyunyan, the Head of the Bologna Secretariat, noted that in Vilnius the BFUG endorsed the ToRs of all the structures of the 2012-2015 Work Plan. Moreover, at the same meeting it was agreed to organise the Co-Chairs' coordination meeting a day before the Athens BFUG meeting. Hence, the Secretariat was asked to prepare the agenda for a

half day meeting. It was outlined that the main points for the discussion of the Board are as follows:

- Issues to be tackled at the meeting taking into consideration the discussion on the future of the Bologna Process;
- Clarify the participants of the meeting: whether the Co-Chairs of all the structures of the 2012-2015 Work Plan should attend the meeting or only the Co-Chairs of the 4 main WGs.

The Board noted that as the BFUG agreed on the streamlined structure of the 2012-2015 Work Plan with the corresponding streamlined reporting, it will be good to invite only the Co-Chairs of the 4 main WGs plus the Secretariat, the present BFUG Co-Chairs and the Commission since the Pathfinder Group is not reporting to any of the 4 main WGs. Moreover, it was highlighted that it would be useful that the issue of the future of the Bologna Process as well as its roadmap be discussed at this meeting before the BFUG meeting. Thus, in the coordination meeting's agenda, this point should come first. At the same time, this will enable the participants to discuss how the issue will be reflected in the 2015 Yerevan Communiqué and the preparation of the final reports. And as the Board agreed that the issue of the future of the Bologna Process is very important and it should be discussed at all the upcoming BFUG meetings until the Yerevan Ministerial Conference, it will be advisable to invite the upcoming BFUG Co-Chairs (Italy, Holy See, Latvia and Iceland) as well.

The Chair noted that all the comments made by the Board will be taken into consideration by the Secretariat.

6. Reports from the Chairs of the Working Groups

6a. WG on the Reporting on the Bologna Process Implementation

Documents: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_6a [Report of the Reporting on the Implementation of the Bologna Process WG]

Mr. Andrejs Rauhvargers (Latvia), the Co-Chair of the **Reporting on the Implementation of the Bologna Process WG**, briefly introduced the report while highlighting that the last meeting of the WG was on 15 November 2013 in Riga, where the finalisation of the BFUG/Eurydice questionnaire for the 2015 was done. At the moment the electronic version of the questionnaire has been sent to the BFUG members with a deadline for completion of 30 April 2014, which will hopefully be kept by the countries. Thus, the first draft of the report is expected in autumn 2014.

It was also highlighted that based on the outcome of the discussion of the scorecard indicators during the Vilnius BFUG meeting, the WG members in its meeting in Riga agreed that the final decision on the inclusion of new scorecard indicators should be made after the data collection, i.e. after April 2014, with the Reporting WG itself making a proposal to be presented to the BFUG. The data collected will also be subject to a feasibility analysis undertaken by the data collectors to decide whether particular data is sufficiently reliable to be included in a scorecard indicator, or in another form in the report.

The Board agreed with the above mentioned decision of the WG. Moreover, the decision of the inclusion of indicators should be on the basis of the reliability of the data which is provided. Therefore, the BFUG should not look at the results of the data trying to modify or influence them but rather be responsible for drawing out recommendations for future actions based on the results of data. Hence, during the Athens BFUG meeting, the discussion on the scorecard indicators should be avoided.

6b. WG on Structural Reforms (including the updates from the Ad-Hoc WG on the Third Cycle, Ad-Hoc WG on the Revision of the ECTS Users' Guide, RPL and NQF Networks)

Document: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_6b [Report of Structural Reforms WG]

Mr. Sjur Bergan (CoE), the Co-Chair of the **Structural Reforms WG**, briefly introduced the report and highlighted that the Co-Chairing system was very efficient for the WG. The report also included the updates of the four substructures of the WG, which are:

- Ad hoc group on third cycle qualifications
- Ad hoc group on the revision of the ECTS Users' Guide
- Network on Recognition of Prior learning (RPL)
- Network of national correspondents for qualifications frameworks.

It was noted that the "parent" structure has no worries about the ad-hoc groups, while in the Networks the low participation issue is vital. Moreover, the role of the NQF Network is essential when discussing the future of the Bologna Process as sharing the experience of the Network's members is crucial.

As for the outline of the final report, the Board was informed that it had been discussed during the WG's last meeting on 9-10 December 2013 in Ghent and it was decided to present it to the Board for comments. The first draft of the final report has been circulated to the WG's Co-Chairs and it will be discussed at the WG's upcoming meeting on 10-11 March 2014 in Rome. Afterwards, it will be discussed with the Co-Chairs of the substructures and they should provide their input for the report by 15 April 2014. The Chair highlighted that the WG agreed to reconcile the quite extensive ToR of the WG and in the current structure of the final report it was decided not to go item by item of the ToR but try to cover all the specific points. At the same time it was stressed that the balance between policy considerations and recommendations is also an important issue for the WG.

The Board emphasised that the outline of the final report of the WG is extremely useful especially in terms of considering the context of the future of the Bologna Process and its organisation. Meanwhile, the Board agreed with the WG Co-Chairs' recommendation that the Implementation Report should be the main source for information providing a basis on which the WGs could consider possible measures to improve implementation. However, as rightly pointed out in the outline in terms of timing this is not possible but this issue should be reviewed for the future.

Afterwards, the following important points, related to content and structure of the final reports of the four main WGs, were stressed:

- There is a need to clarify whether all points of the ToRs should be covered in the final reports.
- It is important to focus on the key priorities identified by the WGs.
- Final reports should contain a limited number of issues for policy recommendations.
- The recommendations should be as specific as possible and be adoptable to the situation in every country.
- There should be agreed guidance on the common format for the executive summary of the final reports.

As for the inclusion of the reports of the substructures in the final reports of the WGs as annexes, it was noted that this is an issue for the BFUG to decide since in any case those reports will be made public.

As a footnote to the discussion, Mr. Adam Tyson (EC) informed the Board that the Pathfinder Group would most likely recommend that the Diploma Supplement (DS) is reviewed. The issue of the revision of the DS will also be discussed during the Structural Reforms WG's next meeting.

6c. WG on Social Dimension and Lifelong Learning

Document: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_6c [Report of Social Dimension & Lifelong Learning WG]

Mr. Rok Primožič, the Chairperson of ESU, concisely introduced the report of the **Social Dimension and Lifelong Learning WG** (SD&LLL) on behalf of the WG's Co-Chairs. The Board was informed that the WG met for the third time in Ghent on 13–14 November 2013, hosted by the University of Ghent. The meeting had a thematic focus on teaching and learning. The meeting was preceded by the Expanding Opportunities-ExpandO Conference on Peer Learning in the Social Dimension of the Bologna Process.

In Ghent, the following issues were discussed:

- Teaching and Learning (T&L) in Europe;
- Strategy for the Development of the Social Dimension and Lifelong Learning in the EHEA to 2020;
- SD&LLL WG action plan.

An update on the PL4SD Project describing its objective as well as the work carried out so far was also introduced.

The next meeting of the SD&LLL WG will be hosted by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research and will take place in Vienna on 3-4 April 2014 in conjunction with the PL4SD Interim Conference to be held on 2-3 April 2014.

6d. WG on Mobility and Internationalisation (including the update from NESSIE)

Document: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_6d [Report of the Mobility and

Internationalisation WG]

The Chair gave the floor to Ms. Gayane Harutyunyan, the Head of the Bologna Secretariat, who presented the report of the Mobility and Internationalisation WG on behalf of the WG's Co-Chairs. The Board was informed that the last meeting of the WG was hosted by Austria in Vienna on 23-24 January 2014.

The following aspects were discussed at the meeting:

- Description of study programmes
- Portability of grants and loans
- Mobility of teacher – training students
- Quality in mobility
- Staff mobility
- Mobility of underrepresented groups and balance of mobility flows:
- European Approach on the Accreditation of Joint Degrees
- Revision of the 2007 “The EHEA in a global setting”
- Attractiveness of the EHEA
- Preparatory work for the Bologna Policy Forum.

The next meeting of the WG will probably be organised on 19-20 May 2014 in Dublin. NESSIE activity report was attached to the report of the Mobility and Internationalisation WG.

The Board noted that:

- While working on the final report, the WG should take into consideration the above mentioned comments made by the Board on the content and structure of the final reports as well as make the prioritisation of the issues.
- It was surprising that the WG came to the conclusion that no common target for incoming student mobility from outside the EHEA should be introduced as attractiveness of the EHEA is one the main concerns of the Ministers.
- The portability of grants and loans is a sensitive issue; however, it seems that the WG has made no progress on guiding principles yet.
- The format and organisation issues of the Bologna Policy Forum (BPF) are very important since the high and active participation should be ensured.
- It should be clarified when the timetable of the preparations of the BPF would be brought to the attention of the BFUG.

Afterwards, the Board stressed the issue of the relevance of NESSIE. It seemed that the Network has no plans and focus; it does not provide any analytical outcomes and recommendations. Besides, its input in the final report of the Mobility and Internationalisation WG is unclear. Moreover, it was even questioned, whether the Network should continue its existence under the BFUG.

Based on this, the Secretariat was asked to deliver the above mentioned message to the Co-Chairs of the Mobility and Internationalisation WG as the “parent” structure.

The Chair concluded that all the comments made by the Board would be taken into account by the Co-Chairs of the WGs.

7. Update on the Pathfinder group on automatic recognition

Document: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_7 [Report of the Pathfinder group on automatic recognition]

Mr. Adam Tyson (EC) updated the Board on the progress of the **Pathfinder group on automatic recognition**. The last meeting of the group was on 6 February 2014 in Brussels, the main focus of which was the results of the surveys of higher education institutions in the pathfinder group countries on recognition and admission. It had a very good response rate as 87 HEIs completed the survey. Based on the outcomes, it was found out that only the 2/3 of the HEIs recognise the Bachelor Degree of all the EHEA countries. The issue of the DS is also an important one since the majority of the HEIs find that the DS does not provide sufficient level of information for decision making.

The survey provided the HEIs with a list of different criteria for the assessment of various degrees. Based on the results the Pathfinder group stressed that the three year Bachelor Degree is, for the purposes of recognition for access to Masters studies, the same as the four year Bachelor Degree and there should be no extension approach based on the length of the studies and ECTS credits (180/240) involved.

The internal procedures of the recognition processes within the HEIs were also studied. The rate of domestic and foreign applicants was also revealed by the group. Those outcomes will probably be annexed to the final report of the group.

Moreover, during the last meeting the update on the recent survey carried out by the Erasmus Student network was presented. The aim of the survey was to investigate the experience of mobile and non-mobile students with regards to barriers to mobility, including those related to the recognition of qualifications, among other things.

The Board agreed that the Pathfinder group on automatic recognition performs an important task as it can provide a number of good practices which can be transferable to the countries and thus make a valuable contribution. As for the DS, there is a necessity to look at it since it is an instrument which should meet the concerns of both the HEIs and the employers.

To the inquiry of the Board concerning the definition for the automatic recognition, it was noted that the group has not agreed on the precise definition yet but it has agreed that there is a need to separate the questions of access and admission. The group hopes to define the conditions under which a Bachelor Degree from any EHEA country should be automatically recognised for the purpose of consideration for admission to a Masters course.

8. Update on the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance

Document: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_8 [Update of the ESG Revision]

Mr. Rok Primožič, the Chairperson of ESU, informed the Board that the last meeting of the ESG Revision Steering Group took place on 8 January 2014. Since the Vilnius BFUG meeting the Steering Group had received a significant number of comments and inputs from the EHEA countries which were analysed and thoroughly discussed by the Steering Group. As a result many of the suggestions were integrated into the initial proposal, which will be

circulated to the BFUG before the Athens BFUG meeting together with the response to comments.

Afterwards, the ESG Revision Steering Group will organise an information event on 18 March 2014 in Brussels in order to present the revised proposal to a wide range of stakeholders including Brussels based organisations in the field of HE, national representatives, the European Commission, and staff and Members of the European Parliament.

Moreover, the revised paper will also be introduced at the next BFUG meeting in Athens.

9. Revised version of the European Approach for Accreditation of Joint Degrees

Document: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_9 [European Approach QA of Joint Degrees, version 7, 29 Nov 2013]

Mr. Colin Tück, director of the EQAR Secretariat, presented the draft proposal of the European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes. At the same time it was stressed that the current proposal had been discussed during the last meetings of the Structural Reforms as well as Mobility and Internationalisation WGs. All the comments made during both meetings, will be analysed by the Expert Group and be reflected in the version 8, which will be presented at the Athens BFUG meeting.

Thus, the draft paper proposes that the BFUG recommends that Ministers:

- adopt the European Quality Assurance Approach for Joint Programmes;
- commit to fully recognise the outcomes of quality assurance processes that were made by an EQAR-registered agency as a result of a procedure in line with the European Approach and, in those cases where programme accreditation is required, the accreditation decisions.

The Board noted the Expert Group is moving in the right direction and in particular the idea of trying to cover both approaches based on institutional evaluation and audit as well as programme accreditation is the right one. As for the structure of the approach, it should be kept as simple as possible.

The Chair concluded that the timetable of the approval of the paper by the BFUG should be clarified and it will be preferable that the BFUG discussed it at its Athens meeting in order not to make it the major point in the agendas of the two BFUG meetings in the second semester. In addition, the level of the approval of the document is still unclear, whether it should be annexed to the ESG or not and be approved by the Ministers or the BFUG.

10. Thematic session on Financing

Document: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_10 [Draft programme of the thematic session on Financing]

Ms. Gayane Harutyunyan, the Head of the Bologna Secretariat, introduced the draft programme of the thematic session and pointed out that the main comment made during

the Vilnius BFUG meeting was that the session should be concentrated on one topic, i.e. financing to make it more efficient.

The Board noted that the issue of financing is one of the main issues for the Ministers and the thematic session with active deliberations is very important.

Moreover, it will be useful if the presentation of the EC comes before the Irish and Croatian case presentations. The latter ones should be a kick off for the discussions of the BFUG.

11. Draft work programme of the activities of peer learning and peer review initiative

Documents: BFUG_GR_KZ_38_11 [Draft work programme of the activities of peer learning and peer review initiative (PL & PR)]
BFUG_GR_KZ_38_11_Annex1
BFUG_GR_KZ_38_11_Annex2

The Head of the Bologna Secretariat presented the revised draft work programme of the activities of PL & PR, which has been modified in consultation with the EC. The Board was also informed that the BFUG decided in its last meeting in Vilnius to agree in a written procedure on a prioritised work-plan for PLAs and that two to three activities per year would be feasible to organise. Thus, the paper includes four tables which provide a prioritised list of suggested events with the information on the organisers, topics, objectives, possible schedule, as well as the venues if available.

12. Draft agenda of the BFUG meeting, Athens, 9-10 April 2014

Document: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_13 [Draft agenda of the Athens BFUG meeting]

As the host country, Greece briefly introduced the main topics on the draft agenda for the Athens BFUG meeting (9-10 April 2014).

The Board noted the importance of the issue on the future of the Bologna Process and agreed that it should be included in the agenda of the Athens BFUG meeting as a separate point and be one of the first points. It was also stressed that it would be preferable if the Chair of the Athens BFUG meeting summarised the outcomes of the Co-Chairs meeting, which would be a day before the BFUG meeting.

13-14. Next BFUG Board meeting, Holy See and Point of information to the priorities of the Italian EU Presidency and planning of the BFUG activities in the second semester of 2014, under the Italian and Holy See Chairmanship

Document: BFUGBoard_GR_KZ_38_14 [General themes and events planned under the Italian and Holy See Chairmanship]

Ms. Marzia Foroni (Italy) presented the overall priorities and main events of Italy during its EU Presidency. As already agreed, Ms. Foroni also introduced the priorities of Italy and Holy See during the Italian-Holy See BFUG Co-Chairmanship as well as the planned activities and meetings.

For more details, see the PowerPoint presentation below:



Co-chairmanship of
the ehea_28022014.i

The Board agreed on the change of the BFUG meetings for organising them in September and November instead of October and December. It was also noted that the location of all events should preferably be Rome for easy travel purposes.

Italy and the Holy See informed the Board that after the internal consultation, they would inform whether the request would be feasible.

15. Any other business

The Chair noted that there were no items to be included in 'AOB' and closed the meeting, while thanking the hosts, the outgoing and incoming BFUG Co-Chairs as well as the Secretariat.