

BFUG meeting in Manchester, Oct 12-13 2005

Stocktaking 2005-2007

introduction to discussion

Andrejs Rauhvargers, Latvia

Stocktaking mandate Berlin

- *“...would provide reliable information on how the Process is actually advancing and would offer the possibility to take corrective measures, if appropriate.”*
- *“Participating countries will, furthermore, be prepared to allow access to the necessary information for research on higher education relating to the objectives of the Bologna Process”*

Bergen – general mandate

- *...continuing and widening the stocktaking process and reporting in time for the next Ministerial Conference.*
- *... continue in the fields of the degree system, quality assurance and recognition of degrees and study periods...*

Requests in degree system priority

(a) Explicit mandate for inclusion in stocktaking (Page 5, IV Taking stock...):

- implementation of the national frameworks for qualifications:
(2007 - launch work, 2010 – complete)
- awarding and recognition of joint degrees

(b) Issue where measurement of results would be needed:

- employability of graduates with bachelor qualifications:

“... to increase the employability of graduates with bachelor qualifications, including in appropriate posts within the public service.”

Requests in quality assurance priority

(a) Explicit mandate for stocktaking (Page 5, IV Taking stock...):

- “...*implementation of the standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area as proposed by the ENQA report.*”

(b) An issue where measurement of results would be needed, (Page 3, Quality Assurance):

- “*We commit ourselves to introducing the proposed model for peer review of quality assurance agencies on a national basis*”

Recognition

General mandate:

- *“We expect stocktaking ... to continue in the fields of ... recognition of degrees and study periods.”*

Concrete issues that ministers committed themselves to:

- *“... ensuring the full implementation of [Lisbon Convention] principles, and incorporating them in national legislation as appropriate.”*
- *“drawing up national action plans to improve the quality of the process associated with the recognition of foreign qualifications. These plans will form part of national reports for the next Ministerial Conference.”*
- *“...awarding and recognition of joint degrees”.*

Areas outside the first three priorities: Lifelong learning

(a) Explicit mandate for stocktaking

(Page 5: IV Taking stock...):

- *“...creating opportunities for flexible learning paths in higher education,*
- *including procedures for the recognition of prior learning.”*

Social dimension

... presenting comparable data on the mobility of staff and students as well as on the social and economic situation of students in participating countries as a basis for future stocktaking and reporting in time for the next Ministerial Conference.

The future stocktaking will have to take into account the social dimension as defined above.

The preliminary vision of the 2001-2007 stocktaking

Scorecard isn't all stocktaking report

It should be useful to draw on the experience of the previous stocktaking exercise, namely,

- including clearly measurable information into the Scorecard and
- reflecting several other issues in the text of the Stocktaking report.

In such a way it would be possible to struck balance between the reliability of the information and data and the breadth of coverage.

Degree system

- Previous stocktaking benchmarks (all or part)
- Success in launching work on the national frameworks for qualifications (taking into account that they have to be completed by 2010)
- Awarding and recognition of joint degrees
- Employability of graduates with bachelor qualifications (through national reports)

Partnerships and information sources:

Cooperation with EURYDICE

Cooperation with QF working group,

National reports

Quality assurance

- Previous benchmarks (all or part)
- Success in implementation of the standards and guidelines for QA
- Success in introducing peer review of quality assurance agencies on a national basis

Partnerships and information sources:

Cooperation with E4,

Cooperation with EURYDICE (if available)

National reports

Recognition

- Previous benchmarks (all or part)
- Incorporation Lisbon Convention principles in national legislation
- Existence and content of national action plans
- Provisions for awarding and recognition of joint degrees

Partnerships and information sources:

- Cooperation with ENIC/NARIC network
- using national reports (and reports on improving recognition system as part of those)

Lifelong learning

- Success in creating flexible learning paths in higher education,
- Success in creating procedures for the recognition of prior learning.

Partnerships and information sources:

- Cooperation with ENIC/NARIC network
- using national reports (and reports on improving recognition system as part of those)
- EURYDICE (?)

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

In order to realise the objectives set by the Ministers, the Working Group shall:

1. Identify the key issues to be addressed through the stocktaking exercise as well as the methodology to be used in this exercise
2. Collaborate with partner and other organisations in order to maximise the use of data sources;
3. Define, where appropriate, the structure of a separate questionnaire to be used in the stocktaking should this be required;
4. Prepare a structure for the national contributions to the stocktaking to be submitted by member States;
5. Prepare a report for approval by the BFUG in advance of the London Conference in 2007.

Composition of the working group as proposed in the draft BFUG work programme

- Latvia (chair)

Members:

- Belgium - Flemish community
- Estonia
- Greece
- Norway
- Romania
- Slovenia
- Turkey

- European Commission
- Bologna secretariat representative

- Proposal for the first Stocktaking group meeting:

- Friday, December 9 in Riga,

Alternative:

- e-mail consultations between