

The Order № 17/N of 15 March, 2021 by The Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia

On making amendments to the Order №65 / N of 4 May 2011 by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on the Approval of the Accreditation Provision and Fee of Education Programmes of General Education Institutions and Higher Education Institutions

Based on Article 20(4) of the Organic Law of Georgia on Normative Acts and Article 2(1) and (8) of the law of Georgia N3024-RS of 5 July 2018 on making amendments to the Law of Georgia on the Structure, Authority and Rules of Operation of the Government of Georgia,

I hereby order:

Article 1. The Order №65 / N of 4 May 2011 by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on the Approval of the Accreditation Provision and Fee of Education Programmes of General Education Institutions and Higher Education Institutions shall be amended (www.matsne.gov.ge, 110504011, 04/05/2011; with a registration number 430030000.22.022.016102) and the following Articles of the Accreditation Provision of Education Programmes of General Education Institutions and Higher Education Institutions approved by the first paragraph of the Order (Annex N1) shall be edited as follows:

a) Article 1 shall be edited as follows:

“Article 1. Scope of regulations

“This provision establishes the conditions for meeting the accreditation standards (hereinafter -the standards) of the education programmes of General Education and Higher Education Institutions (hereinafter - the Institutions), the procedures for accreditation, for monitoring the implementation of accreditation conditions and recognition of the accreditation granted by the foreign organization and the authority and rules of operation of the Accreditation Council of Education Programmes, the Appeals Council and for review of an appeal.”;

b) The third paragraph of Article 2 shall be edited as follows:

Article 2. Purpose and content of accreditation

„3. Accreditation is an external evaluation mechanism for the compliance of education programmes with the accreditation standards, which facilitates the establishment of a systematic self-evaluation process in the education institutions and the development of quality assurance mechanisms in order to develop the quality of education by establishing compliance with the accreditation standards. An institution carries out the self-evaluation in accordance with the procedure for assessing its own activities and compiles an accreditation self-evaluation report, while external evaluation is carried out by the legal entity of public law - the National Center for Education Quality Enhancement (hereinafter - the Center).”;

c) Article 17² with the following content shall be added after Article 17¹:

“Article 17². Specific characteristic of accreditation of joint higher education programmes

The approaches on quality assurance of joint higher education programmes elaborated by the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) are taken into consideration while defining the compliance with the accreditation standards of the joint higher education programmes to be implemented together with the higher education institution/institutions recognized according to the foreign country legislation.”;

d) Paragraph 1¹ of Article 20 shall be edited as follows:

“1¹. One accreditation application envisages one education programme that corresponds to only one qualification according to the learning outcomes. In addition, one accreditation application may imply the following:

a) such MA education programme that corresponds to more than one but not more than three qualifications according to its learning outcomes, considering the fields of study existing within one and the same detailed field, except for the regulated education programme;

b) such Teacher Training Programme that according to its learning outcomes envisages the teaching of modules of teaching the methodology of subjects within the number determined by the sectoral characteristics of teacher training.”;

e) Paragraph 5¹ of Article 20 shall be edited as follows:

“5¹. In case, when accreditation application presents regulated academic higher education programme envisaged by sub-paragraph "b" of paragraph 2 of Article 75 of the Law of Georgia "On Higher Education", the accreditation expert panel includes an international expert with relevant qualifications, which is defined as the Chairperson of the accreditation expert panel. Also, when accreditation application presents a joint higher education programme which is planned to be implemented together with the higher education institution/institutions recognized according to the legislation of a foreign country, the accreditation expert panel shall include international expert/experts with the qualification that complies with the country/countries that implement the programme.”;

f) Paragraph 5 of Article 22 shall be edited as follows:

„5. If the accreditation applicant does not pay an accreditation fee within 15 calendar days after being acquainted with the individual administrative legal act on recognition as the accreditation applicant, the Center has the authority to issue an individual administrative legal act on termination of administrative proceedings.”;

g) Article 24:

g.a) Paragraph 2 shall be edited as follows:

„2. In case of accreditation of higher education programme, accreditation expert panel is composed of the members of Expert Pool, who are as following: administrative/academic/scientific/invited personnel and students of other higher education institutions; it may also be composed of international experts (participation of international experts is mandatory in cases provided by paragraph 5¹ of Article 20 of this provision), employers, representatives of corresponding regulatory body and/or professional associations in case of regulated education programme and other people with the relevant qualifications.”;

g.b) Paragraph 2¹ shall be added after paragraph 2 with the following content:

„2¹. In case of accreditation of General Education Programme, the accreditation expert panel is composed of the members of accreditation Experts Pool of General Education Institutions.”;

h) Paragraph 4 with the following content shall be added to Article 25:

„4. Within the scope of a preparatory meeting held before the accreditation site-visit, the accreditation expertpanel lists additional issues to be studied during the site-visit in order to compose a report.”;

i) Paragraph 6¹ with the following content shall be added after Paragraph 6 of Article 27¹:

„6¹. In case of submission of argumentative position envisaged by paragraph 5 of this Article, the report formulated by the expert panel shall include information on argumentation on whether the argumentative position is shared by the panel or not.”;

j) Article 27³:

j.a) Paragraph 1 shall be edited as follows:

„1. The term of authority of the permanent members of the Council shall be one year, and the term of authority of the invited members of the Council shall be two years. Permanent and invited members of the Council shall be paid for their work (are given honorarium) from the Center's own incomes. Rules and amount of remuneration (honorarium) for the permanent and invited members of the Council shall be determined by an individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center. The members of the council are appointed and dismissed by the Prime Minister of Georgia under the submission of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia.”;

j.b) Paragraph 1² shall be edited as follows:

“1². The requirements and criteria set by the World Federation for Medical Education regarding the composition of the Council shall be taken into account when selecting the candidates for the position of invited members of the council“;

j.c) Paragraph 1³ shall be added after paragraph 1² with the following content:

„1³. Rule for selecting the candidates for permanent and invited members of the Council shall be approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia.”;

j.d) Paragraph 2 shall be edited as follows:

„2. Based on the specificity of the field, no more than 2 persons with right to deliberative vote determined by the Chair of the Council may participate during the Council's decision making process.”;

j.e) Sub paragraph “f” of paragraph 3 shall be edited as follows:

“f) based on the submission of the Center or/and the Ministry.”;

k) Article 27⁴:

k.a) Paragraph 5 shall be edited as follows:

„5. A member of the Council is obliged to declare about conflict of interests with an institution and on self-recusal before the review of the case starts. Conflict of Interests could be any circumstance stipulated in Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.”;

k.b) Paragraphs 5¹ and 5² with the following content shall be added after paragraph 5:

„5¹. In case of a conflict of interest referred to in paragraph 5 of this Article, the member of the Council shall not participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting processes of the issue to be reviewed at the council meeting.

5². A member of the Council is not authorized to represent a position of the interested party-educationinstitution- at the council meeting.”;

l) Article 27⁵:

l.a) Paragraph 2¹ shall be added after paragraph 2 of this Article with the following content:

„2¹. The decision referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be taken by the Council on the basis of secret ballot. Furthermore, the minutes of the council meeting ensure publicity of the ballot results.”;

l.b) Paragraph 6 shall be edited as follows:

„6. Aftermaking a decision, it shall be published on the web-page of the Centerwithin the period of 10 business days. Accreditation self-evaluation report and the report ofexpert panelare also published the on the web-pagetogether with the publication of the decision.”;

m) Article 28 shall be edited as follows:

“Article 28. Recognition of the accreditation granted by the foreign organization

1. Accreditation of higher educationprogramme, including a joint higher education programme developed in accordance with requirements of Georgian legislation, may be carried out by a foreign organization with the relevant competence recognized by the Center.

2. For the purposes of this Article, the Center recognizes the accreditation granted by the organizations operating on the territory of the European Union member states and by the organizations that are members of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and by such organizations that are registered in The European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR), which have such an authority granted according to the rules established by the legislation of the relevant country. The higher education institution provides the Center with prior information about the selected organization and the educationprogramme (including the name of the programme, the qualifications / qualifications to be awarded, the components of the programme, the number of credits, the distribution of credits).

3. In the case provided for by paragraph 2 of this Article, the recognition is conducted based on the submission of a respective application to the Center by the higher education institution, report of the accreditation experts’ panel formed by the foreign organization and the decision on the educationprogramme accreditation made by the foreign organization.

4. For the purposes envisaged by this Article, the Center is authorized to recognize the accreditation granted by the organization operating in the United States of America, which has such authority in the manner established by the relevant legislation.

5. In order to recognize the accreditation granted by the organization envisaged by paragraph 4 of this Article, the higher education institution addresses this organization with an accreditation application on the basis of preliminary consent from the Center. The prior approval of the Center is issued if the external evaluation mechanism of the organization, in terms of quality assurance, is compatible with the accreditation standards and procedures operating on the national level. Otherwise, the Center refuses to recognize the accreditation granted by the organization indicated by the educationinstitution.

6. The basis for commencement of proceedings envisaged by paragraph 5 of this Article is the submission of a written application and document confirming the payment of the fee for review of this application to the Center by the higher education institution. The written application envisaged by this paragraph shall be submitted to the Center at least 30 calendar days prior to addressing the organization referred to in paragraph 4 of this article. Submitted application shall include information about respective educationprogramme (including the title, the qualification(s) to be granted, the programme components,

the number of credits, the credit distribution), also the information about the status and authority of the organization that implements the accreditation, and the accreditation standards and procedures.

7. In the case provided for by paragraph 4 of this Article, the recognition is conducted based on submission of a respective application to the Center by the higher education institution, the report of the accreditation expert panel formed by the foreign organization and the decision on the accreditation of the education programme made by the foreign organization.

8. Except for cases envisaged by paragraphs 2 and 4 of this Article, the Center is authorized to recognize the accreditation granted by the foreign organization if the external evaluation mechanism used by this organization is compatible with the accreditation standards and procedures active at the national level in respect of quality assurance, and reservation about such recognition is provided by an international treaty. Based on the application of the structural unit responsible for the preparation of this agreement, the Center shall ensure the compatibility of the external evaluation mechanisms of the foreign organization with the accreditation standards and procedures active at the national level before signing an international treaty.

9. In the case provided for by paragraph 8 of this Article, the recognition is conducted based on submission of a respective application to the Center by the higher education institution, the report of the accreditation expert panel formed by the foreign organization and the decision on the education programme accreditation made by the foreign organization. Submitted application shall include information about respective education programme (including the title, the qualification(s) to be granted, the programme components, the programme duration, the number of credits, the credit distribution).

12. The decision on the recognition of accreditation by the Center shall be made no later than 30 calendar days after the submission of the documentation provided for in paragraphs 3, 7 and 9 of this Article. If a period of more than 30 calendar days is necessary to establish the circumstances relevant to the case, the Center is authorized to make a decision to increase this period up to 60 calendar days at the beginning of the administrative proceedings.

13. The higher education institution is obliged to notify the Center of any amendments in the decision on accreditation granted by the foreign organization envisaged by this article.

14. Via preliminary agreement with the foreign organization, the Center is authorized to check the conditions of the accreditation granted by the foreign organization provided for in paragraphs 2, 4 and 8 of this Article in accordance with the rules established by this provision through unscheduled monitoring. The report accreditation experts panel shall be sent to respective foreign organization and to the higher education institution.

15. The higher education institution is obliged to notify the Center about the information on the results of examination of the accreditation conditions by the foreign organization.

16. The application form for recognition of accreditation granted by a foreign organization provided for in this Article shall be approved by an individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center.”;

n) Article 28¹:

n.a) Paragraph 2 shall be edited as follows:

„2. The members of the Appeals Council shall be appointed and dismissed by the Prime-Minister of Georgia upon the presentation of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia. The term of authority of the Appeals Council shall be two years. A member of the Appeals Council cannot be a public servant, member of the Authorization or Accreditation Councils.”;

n.b) Paragraph 2¹ shall be added after the paragraph 2 with the following content:

„2¹. Rule for selecting the candidates for the position of members of the Appeals Council shall be approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia.”;

n.c) Sub-paragraph “g” of paragraph 5 shall be edited as follows:

„g) based on the submission of the Center or/and the Ministry.”;

o) Paragraphs 5¹ and 5² with the following content shall be added after paragraph 5 of Article 28²:

„5¹. In case of a conflict of interest referred to in paragraph 5 of this Article, the member of the Appeals Council shall not participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting processes of the issue to be reviewed at the appeals council meeting.

5². The member of the appeals council is not authorized to represent a position of the interested party-educationinstitution- at the appeals council meeting.”;

p) Article 28⁴ shall be edited as follows:

“Article 28⁴. Term for review of an appeal

The Appeals Council shall review an appeal claim and make a relevant decision within 60 calendar days from receiving the claim.”;

q) Paragraph 2¹ shall be added after paragraph 2 of Article 28⁷ with the following content:

„2¹. The decision referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be taken by the Appeals Council based on a secret ballot. Furthermore, the minutes of the appeals council meeting ensure publicity of the ballot results.”;

r) Article 29 shall be edited as follows:

“Article 29. Submission of Accreditation Self-Evaluation Report

1. In order to check the accreditation conditions, educationinstitution that implements an accredited programme, is obliged to submit a self-evaluation report to the Centeronce in at least three years. The terms for the submission of the self-evaluation report are determined by the individual administrativelegal act of the Director of the Center.

2. The self-evaluation report can be submitted through the electronic document management system or in material form, during which the accreditation self-evaluation report and the accompanying documentation are submitted to the Center via the electronic data carrier.

3. Submission of a self-evaluation report is not obligatory for the following educationprogrammes:

a) an educationprogramme which was granted a conditional accreditation;

b) an educationprogramme which was granted an accreditation for the term of 4 years;

c) an educationprogramme which was granted an accreditation for the term of 7 years and on which the examination of accreditation conditions was conducted by the petition of theCouncil based on Article 31 of this provision;

d) an educationprogramme, which has been granted an accreditation by the foreign organization recognized by the Center;

e) an educationprogramme which was granted the accreditation based on the Accreditation Standards ofEducationProgrammes of Higher Education Institutions that were active before“Accreditation Standards of EducationProgrammes of Higher Education Institutions” envisaged by the order N09/n of 31 January 2018 by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on the amendments to the order N65/N of the

Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of May 4, 2011 "on the Approval of Accreditation Provision and Fee of Education Programmes of Education Institutions" entered into force.

f) an education programme, which is subject of an administrative proceedings about an accreditation application during the period of submission of the self-evaluation report envisaged by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center referred to in the first paragraph of this Article.

4. Form of the self-evaluation report is approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center.

5. Within 3 business days, the Center shall examine compliance of the self-evaluation report submitted by the institution with the requirements envisaged by paragraphs 2 and 4 of this Article.

6. In order to evaluate a self-evaluation report, the Center shall issue an individual administrative legal act on formation of an accreditation expert panel and on evaluation of the self-evaluation report.

7. Composition of accreditation expert panel formed for the purposes of examination of the self-evaluation report includes members of Experts Pool who areas following: administrative/academic/scientific/invited personnel of other higher education institutions, the panel may include a student, employers, and in case of a regulated education programme representatives of relevant regulatory body or/and professional association and other persons with relevant qualification.

8. Based on the request from the accreditation expert panel, the Center is authorized to request respective documentation from an institution.

9. As a result of the examination of the self-evaluation report, as well as, if necessary, of the documentation referred to in paragraph 8 of this Article, the accreditation expert panel shall formulate a draft report.

10. The Center defines formal compliance of the accreditation expert panel's draft report with the requirements established by the individual administrative legal acts issued by the Director of the Center envisaged by paragraphs 3 and 18 of Article 23 of this provision. If the compliance is established, the draft report is sent to the institution.

11. If case of necessity, in order to ensure formal compliance of the draft report, it shall be returned back to the accreditation expert panel.

12. Within 5 business days after being acquainted with the draft report, the higher education institution shall submit an argumentative position in written form to the Center regarding the factual circumstances provided in the draft report, which then shall be sent to the expert panel.

13. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided for in paragraph 12 of this Article, after getting acquainted with it or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, upon expiry of term envisioned by paragraph 12 of this Article, experts panel elaborates final form of the report and submits it to the Center.

14. In case of submission of an argumentative position provided for in paragraph 12 of this Article, the report formulated by the expert panel shall include information on argumentation on whether the argumentative position is shared by the panel or not.

15. The Center shall send the report of the accreditation expert panel to the higher education institution within 90 calendar days after the issuance of the individual administrative legal act of the Center provided for in the paragraph 6 of this Article.

16. The results of the evaluation of the self-evaluation report provided for in this Article shall be used by the Center to facilitate the establishment of systematic self-evaluation process within the higher education institutions and the education programmes, the development of internal quality assurance mechanisms and planning of improving and supportive activities based on the needs of higher education institutions.

17. Failure to submit the self-evaluation report within the prescribed time-frame provided for in this Article may serve as a basis for inspection of the accreditation conditions of the education programme in accordance with Article 31 of this provision.

18. The form of report of the accreditation experts panel and the requirements set for it are approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center.”;

s) Article 30:

s.a) Paragraph 1 and 2 shall be edited as follows:

“1. During the period of accreditation/conditional accreditation of an education programme, in case of any amendments to the title of the programme, learning outcome(s) or/and place of implementation of the education programme (except for the cases envisaged by paragraph 2 of this Article) or/and to the structure of the education programme (making amendments to the components of the basic study field and changing-adding or/and subtracting the number of credits granted to them by at least 30%, that does not change the learning outcomes of the education programme or/and adding or/and removing a concentration), the education institution is obliged to notify the Center about the amendments in written form within 30 calendar days after implementing the amendments and submit revised education programme, also the reason for implementing the amendments and the respective legal act issued by it.

2. It is inadmissible to change the language of instruction or/and the title of the qualification to be granted during the accreditation/conditional accreditation period of the education programme, also to join or divide the education programmes during the period of the accreditation/conditional accreditation (except for the cases envisaged by the paragraph 3 of this Article), also to change the place/places - municipality/municipalities of implementation of the education programme during accreditation/conditional accreditation period of regulated education programmes envisaged by Article 75 of Law of Georgia on Higher Education. In case of implementation of the amendments provided for in this paragraph, the education programme/programmes shall be reviewed as new programme/programmes, the right for the implementation of which shall be obtained by the institution as provided for by the legislation.”;

s.b) Paragraph 2¹ shall be added after the paragraph 2 with the following content:

„2¹. During the period of accreditation/conditional accreditation of the joint education programme, in case of an amendment to the agreement signed in the framework of the implementation of joint higher education programme, which envisages termination/suspension of the agreement by any of the institution that implements the joint higher education programme, the higher education programme shall be reviewed as a new programme, the right to implementation of which shall be obtained by the institution as provided for by the legislation.”;

s.c) Paragraph 5 shall be edited as follows;

„5. During implementation of the amendments envisaged by paragraphs 1 and 3 of this article, also in case of failure to fulfill the obligation envisaged by the same paragraphs, the Center is authorized to inspect the conditions of the accreditation via monitoring.”;

t) Article 31 shall be edited as follows:

“Article 31. Inspection of accreditation conditions through monitoring

1. Conditions of accreditation shall be examined via scheduled or/and unscheduled monitoring.

2. Scheduled monitoring shall be implemented based on the petition of the Council and/or by the initiative of the Center.
3. The methodology for drafting the plan for scheduled monitoring, the criteria for selection of education programmes, are approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center.
4. Annual plan for scheduled monitoring of the education programmes are approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center, which shall be sent to the respective education institution within 10 business days after its publication.
5. Unscheduled monitoring is implemented based on the petition of the council, based on the complaint submitted to the Center on the fulfillment of the accreditation standards of the education programmes and/or by the initiative of the Center.
6. The complaint referred to in the paragraph 5 of this article may be submitted to the Center by the interested person (a pupil, legal representative, teacher, student, academic, invited, scientific or administrative staff and others) who believes that the standards defined by this provision are breached. In addition, the form of the complaint, the methodology for formulating and reviewing the complaint are approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center.
7. For the purpose of examination of fulfillment of accreditation conditions, during implementation of the scheduled or/and unscheduled monitoring, the Center is authorized to request relevant documentation from the institution and/or issue relevant individual administrative legal act on the formation of accreditation expert panel and/or on scheduled or/and unscheduled monitoring visit to the institution.
8. If as a result of examination of the documentation/information requested by the Center from the institution an additional need for examination of fulfillment of accreditation conditions is identified, the Center shall issue an individual administrative legal act on the formation of accreditation expert panel and on scheduled/unscheduled monitoring at the institution through visiting or/and examining the documentation, while otherwise, the Council terminates the administrative proceedings started about the monitoring based on the petition of the Center.
9. In the case of examination of the fulfillment of accreditation conditions via scheduled or/and unscheduled monitoring, the accreditation expert panel shall include the members of the Experts Pool who are as following: the administrative/academic/scientific/invited personnel of other higher education institutions. Also, considering the scope and content of the monitoring, the composition of the expert panel may include a student, an employer, representative of respective regulating body or/and of professional association in the case of regulated education programme and other persons with other relevant qualifications.
10. The accreditation expert panel is chaired by the Chairman of the expert panel.
11. An individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center on formation of the accreditation expert panel and implementation of scheduled monitoring at the institution through a visit or/and examination of the documentation, shall be submitted to the institution at least 10 business days prior to the commencement of the process of a visit/evaluation.
12. An individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center on formation of the accreditation expert panel and implementation of unscheduled monitoring at the institution through a visit or/and examination of the documentation, shall be submitted to the institution at the time of commencement of the visit/evaluation process or at least 5 calendar days prior to commencement of the process of a visit/evaluation.
13. The issues of self-recusal or/and recusal of the expert/experts shall be regulated according to paragraphs 4-9 of Article 24 of this provision. Using the right to recusal by the education institution does not hinder the implementation of the visit.

14. In the case of formation of accreditation expert panel, a draft report of the accreditation expert panel shall be composed and submitted to the Center.
15. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report elaborated by the accreditation expert panel with the requirements set by the individual administrative legal acts of the Director of the Center, which are defined by Article 23(3) and Article 27¹ (9) of this provision. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report shall be sent to the institution.
16. If case of necessity, in order to ensure formal compliance of draft report it shall be returned back to the accreditation expert panel.
17. Within 5 business days after being acquainted with the draft report, the higher education institution shall submit an argumentative position in written form to the Center regarding the factual circumstances provided in the draft report, which then shall be sent to the expert panel.
18. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided for in paragraph 17 of this Article, after getting acquainted with it or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, upon expiry of term envisioned by paragraph 17 of this Article, the experts panel elaborates final version of the report and submits it to the Center.
19. In case of submission of an argumentative position provided for in paragraph 17 of this Article, the report formulated by the expert panel shall include information on argumentation on whether the argumentative position is shared by the panel or not.”
20. The Center shall send the report of accreditation expert panel to the institution.
21. As a result of examination of the fulfillment of accreditation conditions, the Council is authorized to make a decision on the cancellation of accreditation/conditional accreditation of the education programme, if during evaluation of the compliance of the education programme with the accreditation standards, the Council has assessed at least one standard as "Does not comply with standard requirements".
22. In case of violation, the Council is authorized to define no more than 60 days for the relevant education institution to overcome the shortcoming taking into consideration remaining terms for administrative proceedings unless it is apparent that no actual results will be presented.
23. If after expiration of the term determined in paragraph 22 of this Article, as a result of examination of the accreditation conditions it is determined that the institution has not fulfilled any of the recommendations, the Council is authorized to make a decision on cancellation of the accreditation/conditional accreditation.
24. If after expiration of the term determined in paragraph 22 of this Article, as a result of examination of the accreditation conditions it is determined that part of the recommendations have been fulfilled by the institutions and none of the standards are evaluated as “does not in comply with standard requirements”, the Council defines a term for the institution in order to submit the report on fulfillment of the remaining recommendations or addresses the Center with a petition on implementation of a monitoring. Procedures for submission and review of the report envisaged by this paragraph shall be determined according to paragraphs 2-2¹² of Article 27⁶ of this provision.
25. If the examination of the accreditation conditions determine that the institution has fulfilled all the recommendations, the Council shall make a decision to terminate the administrative proceedings related to the monitoring.
26. In the case of addressing the Center with the petition on examination of the fulfillment of the accreditation conditions, the Council shall define the period for implementation of the monitoring, the form of the implementation of such monitoring and the scope of the monitoring.
27. Respective decision of the Council shall be made within 90 calendar days after the Director of the Center issues an order on examination of the fulfillment of accreditation conditions by the

education institution. The latter term is deemed suspended during the term determined by the accreditation Council for resolution of the shortcoming.”;

t) Article 31¹ shall be added after Article 31 with the following content:

“Article 31¹. The rules of procedure for review of appeal related to the accreditation process

1. An education institution or/and other stakeholder that participates in the accreditation process shall be authorized to submit an appeal to the Center about the accreditation process within 10 calendar days after occurrence of a specific circumstance during the accreditation process or after its completion, if the employee/employees of the Center or/and the member/members of the accreditation expert panel violate the requirements established by this provision, by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center envisaged by Article 23(3) of this provision, by the Code of Ethics of Experts of Authorization and Accreditation approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center or/and by the internal regulations of the Center.
2. An appeal which is submitted against the member/members of the accreditation expert panel, shall be reviewed according to the rules of procedure established by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center envisaged by Article 23(3) of this provision.
3. An appeal which is submitted against the employee/employees of the Center, shall be reviewed according to the rules of procedure established by the Center’s internal regulations.
4. The form of the appeal envisaged by this Article, the methodology for formulating and reviewing the appeal shall be approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of Center.”;

u) Paragraph 1¹ shall be added after paragraph 1 of Article 33 with the following content:

„1¹. During the transitional period, within the administrative proceedings related to the accreditation of regulated academic higher education programme envisaged by Article 75(2)(b) of Law of Georgia "On Higher Education", the functions and duties of the accreditation experts of the higher education programmes provided for by this provision may be implemented in a partially remote manner, which implies evaluation of the HEI's material resources, clinical bases and laboratories by the accreditation experts (except for the international expert) through a site visit. In addition, this implies that an international expert will evaluate the HEI's material resources, clinical bases and laboratories remotely via modern electronic communication means, which shall be technically ensured by the accreditation applicant.”;

Article 2.

The term of office of the invited members of the Council of Accreditation and the Council of Appeals defined by this Order shall be extended from 2022.

Article 3.

This order shall enter into force upon promulgation.

Mikheil Chkhenkeli