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## **Derogation to the General Rules and to the Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate (Applicable for the Year 2020 European Baccalaureate session) – Linked to COVID-19 circumstances**

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**AMENDMENT OF THE GENERAL RULES AND AIREB FURTHER TO THE DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS HELD ON 15 - 17 APRIL 2020**

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS BY WAY OF WRITTEN PROCEDURE 2020/34**

## I. BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 15-17 April 2020 the Board of Governors decided with respect to the European Baccalaureate session 2020 the following:

- **The written and oral examinations will not take place.** As a consequence, no written or oral mark will be taken into consideration for the calculation of the Final European Baccalaureate mark.
- The **Final European Baccalaureate mark will be awarded based on A and B marks** only. The Final Mark will be calculated using the part of the (Baccalaureate mark) formula which does not make use of the marks to the oral and written exams.
- **Moderation** will intervene **whenever the difference** in the distribution of final marks in comparison to previous years is statistically **relevant**.
- Candidates who request it will be allowed to sit the written and oral examinations **in total** in an extraordinary session. **Once starting these exams session, the previously obtained final European Baccalaureate marks will not be any longer valid.**  
**Alternatively, the candidate may request** to repeat the year 7.

The background of this decision can be found in the document “CONSEQUENCES OF COVID-19 – RISK ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED ACTIONS” (2020-03-D-44).

Furthermore, the Board of Governors mandated the Office of the Secretary-General to

- amend the General Rules of the European Schools (2014-03-D-14-en-8),
- amend the ‘Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate’ (2015-05-D-12-en-18) applicable for the European Baccalaureate 2020 (hereafter referred to as AIREB) accordingly and to
- submit the amendments to the Board of Governors for approval by written procedure.

This document provides in its annex the required amendments to the General Rules of the European Schools and the ‘Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate’.

## II. PROPOSAL TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is requested to scrutinize the amendments proposed to the General Rules (2014-03-D-14-en-8) and to the Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate (2015-05-D-12-en-18) **provided in the annex of this document** and to approve them for immediate entry into force of the two previously mentioned document, as derogations valid only for the 2020 European Baccalaureate end of session.

If approved, the present document shall be considered as an extraordinary derogation to the General Rules and the Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate for the session 2020 of the European Baccalaureate and shall be the reference for any legal dispute for the articles modified.

All amendments proposed are noted in red. All other Articles not mentioned shall be considered as unchanged and still valid for the 2020 European Baccalaureate session, including the extraordinary session.

### III. DECISION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors scrutinized the amendments proposed to the General Rules (2014-03-D-14-en-8) and to the Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate (2015-05-D-12-en-18) **provided in the annex of this document** and approved them for immediate entry into force of the two previously mentioned document, as derogations valid only for the 2020 European Baccalaureate end of session.

The present document shall be considered as an extraordinary derogation to the General Rules and the Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate for the session 2020 of the European Baccalaureate and shall be the reference for any legal dispute for the articles modified.

All amendments proposed are noted in red. All other Articles not mentioned shall be considered as unchanged and still valid for the 2020 European Baccalaureate session, including the extraordinary session.

## MODIFICATIONS / AMENDMENTS / DEROGATIONS PROPOSED TO THE GENERAL RULES (2014-03-D-14-en-8)

### TEXT CURRENTLY IN FORCE

#### Article 59

##### Assessment

(...)

6.- The marks in year 7 (European Baccalaureate) follow the specific rules established in the Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations of the European Baccalaureate.

#### Article 60

##### School reports

(...)

##### 1.2.- Year 7

Without prejudice to the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate, the reports will be:

**End of February:** first semester report. It contains numerical marks with precision to one decimal place. It can also contain an overall comment by the class council or the class teacher.

##### **Before the start of the European Baccalaureate written**

**examinations:** A report with the communication of the overall preliminary mark (numerical, whole numbers and one decimal).

### DEROGATION - AMENDMENT

(...)

6.- The marks in year 7 (European Baccalaureate) follow the specific rules established in the present document of derogation to the Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations of the European Baccalaureate, adopted by written procedure by the April 2020 Board of Governors.

(...)

##### 1.2.- Year 7

Without prejudice to the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate, the reports will be:

**End of February:** first semester report. It contains numerical marks with precision to one decimal place. It can also contain an overall comment by the class council or the class teacher.

##### **Before the start of the European Baccalaureate written**

**examinations:** no report with the communication of the overall preliminary mark (numerical, whole numbers and one decimal) will be issued.

**MODIFICATIONS / AMENDMENTS / DEROGATIONS PROPOSED TO THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE REGULATIONS FOR THE EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE (APPLICABLE FOR THE YEAR 2020 EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE End of SESSION) – 2015-05-D-12-en-18**

**TEXT CURRENTLY IN FORCE**

**DEROGATION - AMENDMENT**

**RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE STATUTE**

Entry into force of the Version 18 of the “Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate” (applicable for the year 2020 European Baccalaureate session): 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.

Entry into force of the Version 18 **Bis** of the “Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate” (applicable for the year 2020 European Baccalaureate session): **at the latest, after approval by the Board of Governors through written procedure, and valid until the closure of the extraordinary session, phase of possible appeals included.**

**The present document will only apply to the 2020 European Baccalaureate session and will in no way interfere with the 2021 AIREB already approved by the Board of Governors at its meeting on 15-17 April 2020.**

**ARTICLE 1 — THE EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE;  
REGISTRATION AND CHOICES OF EXAMINATIONS**

**1.3 Registration Procedure**

- 1.3.1 Candidates must register before the 15<sup>th</sup> of October of their final school year using the form attached in annex I.

**Registration Procedure to the extraordinary session**

Candidates may request registration to an extraordinary session comprehensive of all 5 (or 6, for candidates having prior received an authorization to sit a written additional examination, according to Article 13 of the AIREB) written examinations and of all 3 oral examinations to which they have registered for the 2020 European Baccalaureate session.

The request for registration to the extraordinary session must be sent by email—with read receipt which must be kept as proof of registration—to the Director of the School, by any candidate who wishes to take the European Baccalaureate extraordinary session, or by his/her legal representative if s/he is a minor.

Request for registration must be sent at the latest 10 calendar days after communication of the results to the candidate, within the meaning of Article 7.3.

In absence of request sent within the 10 calendar days foreseen, to either take the extraordinary session or to repeat the school year, the candidate will be deemed to have accepted his/her results delivered at the ordinary session.

- 1.3.2 Candidates must supply either the original or a certified copy of an official document with their personal particulars (birth certificate, certified photocopy of a national ID or passport, etc.)

At this point, candidates will also provide the School they attend an email address which will be expected to remain valid, and at which they may be contacted until the end of their schooling, inclusive of the time periods required to handle any complaint or appeal. Any change of email address will be communicated to the school without delay.

The Director of the School will send a compilation of the requests for registration to the Secretary-General of the European Schools, in copy to the European Baccalaureate Unit, not later than 2 working days after the established deadline.

All administrative registration details still valid.

Before the first day of the extraordinary session, candidates must supply the original official Diploma and Certificate of marks or any other received at the proclamation. In absence of these documents on the first day of the session, the candidates will not be authorized to sit the examinations.

Once the candidates have started the extraordinary session, the previously obtained European Baccalaureate marks will not be any longer valid.

## ARTICLE 2 — THE EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE SESSION; ADMISSION

- 2.1 The ordinary European Baccalaureate session shall take place each year during the dates decided by the Board of Governors. It is comprised of approximately the last 5 weeks of the school year. It begins with the written examinations and ends with the oral examinations followed by the communication of results and the European Baccalaureate proclamation.

The written examinations can be organised during national or local holidays. In this case, the Schools affected will ensure that examinations take place normally.

In certain cases, resitting of examinations may be organized in an extraordinary European Baccalaureate session in September (see articles 8 and 12).

The written and oral examinations of the ordinary European Baccalaureate 2020 session have been cancelled by decision of the BoG of the 15-17 April 2020.

No examination will be held in June – July 2020.

Candidates who request it will be allowed to sit the written and oral examinations in total in extraordinary session 2020. No less than a complete session will have to be taken. Sitting only a single examination or just a few selected by the candidate will not be authorized.

Once the candidates have started this extraordinary session, the results of those examinations will automatically replace the previous final marks, without the possibility for the candidates of going back to the previous mark awarded.

No appeal to go back to the previous marks will be deemed founded, once started the extraordinary session.

- 2.3 **Retaking the European Baccalaureate when already Awarded**

A candidate who has already been awarded the European Baccalaureate diploma may not

A candidate will be allowed to request to repeat the s7.

The request to repeat the year 7 must be sent by email — with read receipt which must be kept

repeat year<sup>s</sup> nor re-sit the Baccalaureate examinations a second time.

as proof of repeat request — to the Director of the School, by the candidate, or by his/her legal representative if s/he is a minor.

Request to repeat must be sent at the latest 10 calendar days after communication of the results to the candidate, within the meaning of article 7.3.

When repeating, the candidate must follow the same subjects as in the previous school year. The only changes allowed are those in article 4.2.1.2. However, the candidate can change his written and oral examinations options from those he chose the previous year (see art. 6).

In absence of request sent within the 10 calendar days foreseen, to either take the extraordinary session or to repeat the school year, the candidate will be deemed to have accepted his/her results delivered at the ordinary session.

The Director of the School will send a compilation of the requests for registration to the Secretary-General of the European Schools, in copy to the European Baccalaureate Unit, not later than 2 working days, after the established deadline.

## ARTICLE 5 — THE EXAMINING BOARD AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES

As to the organisation modalities, Article 5 is suspended for the June-July 2020 European Baccalaureate cancelled session, but is in force for the extraordinary session, should the latter be organised.

In particular:

### 5.1 Members of the Examining Board

The members of the Examining Board are:

- The internal examiners, i.e., the teachers who have taught the subjects which the pupil has chosen to take in the European Baccalaureate examinations
- The external examiners from the Member States appointed by the Board of Governors on proposal by the Inspectors
- The Director of the European School. In case of an Accredited School, either the Director or the competent authority in the Member State concerned
- A Chairman and Vice-Chairmen

The members of the European Baccalaureate 2020 examining board remain the same, with the exception that for the ordinary session there will be no external examiners appointed.

According to the needs, some external examiners might be invited as members of the Examining Board in the extraordinary session, should the latter be organised.

5.4.2.2 At the end of the examination session, the external examiners must write a report containing comments on the written and oral questions in the subjects they have examined.

These reports will be forwarded to the Office of the Secretary-General of the European Schools by the 1<sup>st</sup> of August.

(...)

At the end of the extraordinary examination session of the European Baccalaureate 2020, the external examiners must write a report containing comments on the written and oral questions in the subjects they have examined.

These reports will be forwarded to the Office of the Secretary-General of the European Schools by the 1st of November.

## ARTICLE 6 — DETAILED RULES FOR CALCULATION OF THE EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE MARK AND THE ORGANISATION OF EXAMINATIONS

6.1.1 The final overall European Baccalaureate mark is expressed out of one hundred (100) and is accurate to two decimal places. The following 3 factors are taken into consideration for the calculation of the European Baccalaureate final mark:

- The average preliminary mark C expressed out of 100
- The average written examinations mark W expressed out of 100
- The average oral examinations mark O expressed out of 100

C, W and O are expressed as numbers with one decimal place.

6.1.2 The proportion of the final total mark for the examination allotted to the various parts will be as follows:

- 50 percent for the average preliminary mark C
- 35 percent for the average W for the written examinations
- 15 percent for the average O for the oral examinations

Final result =  $0.50 C + 0.35 W + 0.15 O$

All marks are expressed as a mark accurate to one decimal place.

6.1.3 The mark for each subject in the school report will thus be calculated as follows:

- $C \times 0.5 + W \times 0.35 + O \times 0.15$
  - $(C \times 0.5 + W \times 0.35) / 0.85$
  - $(C \times 0.5 + O \times 0.15) / 0.65$
  - C
- as the case may be

Mid-semester reports issued in s7 should indicate marks with only half-marks.

The final overall European Baccalaureate mark is expressed out of one hundred (100) and is accurate to two decimal places. The following 2 factors are taken into consideration for the calculation of the European Baccalaureate final mark:

- The average of the class A-marks expressed out of 100 ( $A1 + A2$ )
- The average of the B-marks expressed out of 100 ( $B1$  or  $B1+B2$ )

The proportion of the final total mark for the examination allotted to the various parts will be as follows:

- 20 percent for the average A-mark ( $A1 + A2$ ) multiplied by 2
- 30 percent for the average B-mark ( $B1 + B1$  replicated as  $B2$ ) multiplied by 2

Final result =  $0.40 A + 0.60 B$

The mark for the subjects chosen as written and/or oral European Baccalaureate examinations will thus be calculated as follows:

Written and Written and oral:

$A \times 0.40 + B1 \times 0.60$

Other subjects not chosen as European Baccalaureate examinations:

$A \times 0.40 + B \times 0.60 (B1+B2)$



## ARTICLE 7 — COMMUNICATION OF RESULTS

### 7.1 Communication of Results; Internal meeting

Depending on the decisions by the local authorities in the country where the school is hosted, Article 7 will be suspended as to the modalities of the meeting, which may be held online.

Attendance at the communication of the results meeting shall not be compulsory, for the reasons stated above.

### 7.3 Communication of Results to the Candidates

Following the communication of results meeting, the candidates will be informed on an individual basis of the results of all the examinations taken during the European Baccalaureate session on the same day at a time and a place arranged in advance by the School, so that they may consult the results before the proclamation.

To that end, a draft copy of the Certificate of the European Baccalaureate Marks will be given to the candidates. They will sign an acknowledgement of receipt. If a candidate is absent, then he will be informed by email.

Alternatively, Schools may decide to inform all candidates by electronic means following one of these two procedures:

1. A draft copy of the Certificate of the European Baccalaureate Marks will be sent to the candidates by email, with request of delivery receipt.
2. An email, with request of delivery receipt, containing a link to a secure electronic platform where the individual results can be consulted, will be sent to the candidates.

(...)

### Communication of Results to the Candidates

Schools may inform all candidates only by electronic means following one of these two procedures:

1. A draft copy of the Certificate of the European Baccalaureate Marks will be sent to the candidates by email, with request of delivery receipt.
2. An email, with request of delivery receipt, containing a link to a secure electronic platform where the individual results can be consulted, will be sent to the candidates.

## ARTICLE 10 — EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA AND CERTIFICATES

### 10.2 Certificate of the European Baccalaureate Marks

- 10.2.1 The Secretary-General of the European Schools will attach to the European Baccalaureate Diploma a further certificate, indicating the marks obtained in the subjects studied in s7. These documents will be given to the

(...)

These documents should be given to the successful candidates on the day of the proclamation of the European Baccalaureate.

successful candidates on the day of the proclamation of the European Baccalaureate.

Depending on the national dispositions where the school is located, the proclamation ceremony might not take place.

In that case, the Director will decide on the best way to proceed to hand in the official documents, whether by postal mail or upon appointment with the pupil and/or legal representative if s/he is a minor, or through any other potential means of communication.

- 10.2.2 The Certificate of the European Baccalaureate Marks will be issued for all candidates in the European Union language of his choice.

Candidates who have not been awarded the European Baccalaureate Diploma may also ask for this certificate indicating the marks they obtained.

In view of the weighting of the 3 elements (preliminary mark 50 %, written examinations 35 % and oral examinations 15 %) taken into consideration in calculating the overall result, this will not necessarily correspond to the arithmetical average of the different final marks.

(...)

In view of the weighting of the 2 elements (A mark 40 %, B-mark 60 %) taken into consideration in calculating the overall result, this will not necessarily correspond to the arithmetical average of the different final marks, as specified in Annex IV of the AIREB.

## ARTICLE 14 — DISTANCE LEARNING

Distance learning can be organised when a School cannot offer a compulsory course or option to be followed in presence.

The Board of Inspectors (Secondary) must approve this special measure at the School's request.

Contents, method of evaluation and assessment will be the same as in courses followed in presence.

Distance learning can be organised when a School cannot offer a compulsory course or option to be followed in presence.

The Board of Inspectors (Secondary) must approve this special measure at the School's request.

Contents, method of evaluation and assessment will be the same as in courses followed in presence.

In the case of oral examinations, the teachers having taught a pupil through distance learning shall follow the same technical arrangements, should the extraordinary session be organized.

## ANNEX I MARKING IN SECONDARY YEAR 7 AND CALCULATION OF THE EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE MARK

Please see table below.

## ANNEX IX MINUTES OF THE EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE SESSION

List of items to mention in the minutes, stated in annex IX.

Schools will provide restricted minutes of the European Baccalaureate regular June-July 2020 session: the detailed results of candidates will be sufficient.

Schools will provide full minutes of the European Baccalaureate extraordinary 2020 session by 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020.

# ANNEX IV — MARKING IN SECONDARY YEAR 7 AND CALCULATION OF BACCALAUREATE MARK: **Calculation before moderation**

	Class marks (A)			Part examination marks (B)			Preliminary mark (C)	Examination	
	Sem1 a'	Sem2 a''	Average	Sem1 b'	Sem2 b''	Average			
Max	/10 1 decimal	/10 1 decimal	2 decimals	/10 1 decimal	/10 1 decimal	2 decimals			
	a'1	a''1	$(a'_i + a''_i) = A^i$  2	b'1	b''1	$(b'_i + b''_i) = B^i$  2  If long then b'' = b'			
	a'2	a''2		b'2	b''2				
	a'3	a''3		b'3	b''3				
	a'n	a''n		b'n	b''n				
			2 decimals			2 decimals	1 decimal		
	$\sum a' = A'$	$\sum a'' = A''$	/100	$\left[ \sum b' = B' \right]$	$\sum b'' = B''$	/100	/100		
			$A' + A''$ $2n \quad \times 10 = A$			$B' + B''$ $2n \quad \times 10 = B$	$(A \times 20) + (B \times 30)$ $(20+30) = C$		

## Comments:

- The preliminary (C) mark is expressed out of 100, accurate to one decimal place. It is rounded off automatically in accordance with the table.
- The a', a'', b' and b'' marks are expressed out of 10, accurate to one decimal place, unrestrictedly.
- The A and B marks are expressed out of 100, accurate to two decimal places.
- The different parts of the final mark are in the following proportions:  
 20 per cent for the average A-mark multiplied by 2  
 30 per cent for the average B-mark multiplied by 2.

Final result (mark) = 0.40 A + 0.60 B. The final result is expressed out of one hundred (100) and is accurate to two decimal places.