

The way to lifelong learning

Shared interests of employers and lifelong learning –

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Challenges for the German education system

- Globalisation
 - Intercultural competencies, also in VET
 - International recruiting
- Demographic development
 - Fight for the best, also between VET and HE
- Changing qualification demands in industry
 - interdisciplinarity and flexibility
- Bologna-Process + Copenhagen-Process
 - Bachelor degree closer to VET degrees
 - Standards and guidelines, but separately for VET and HE

Obstacles

- No common definition of competencies and respective descriptors between VET and HE
- Qualification frameworks less orientated to labour market needs
- Transnational recognition of competencies within VET and HE and between
- Limited offer of non-consecutive and part-time Master programmes
- Access to HE programmes for employees with VET qualifications
- Separate systems of further education for employees with VET and HE background

Status quo

intergovernmental process

Bologna-Process
European Higher Education Area



ECTS

EHEA
Qualifications Framework
Bachelor, Master, PhD



national level

National
Qualifications Framework
for HE

EU-driven process

DG Education and Culture

Copenhagen-Process
European VET area



EQF
overarching

ECVET



National
Qualifications Framework
overarching

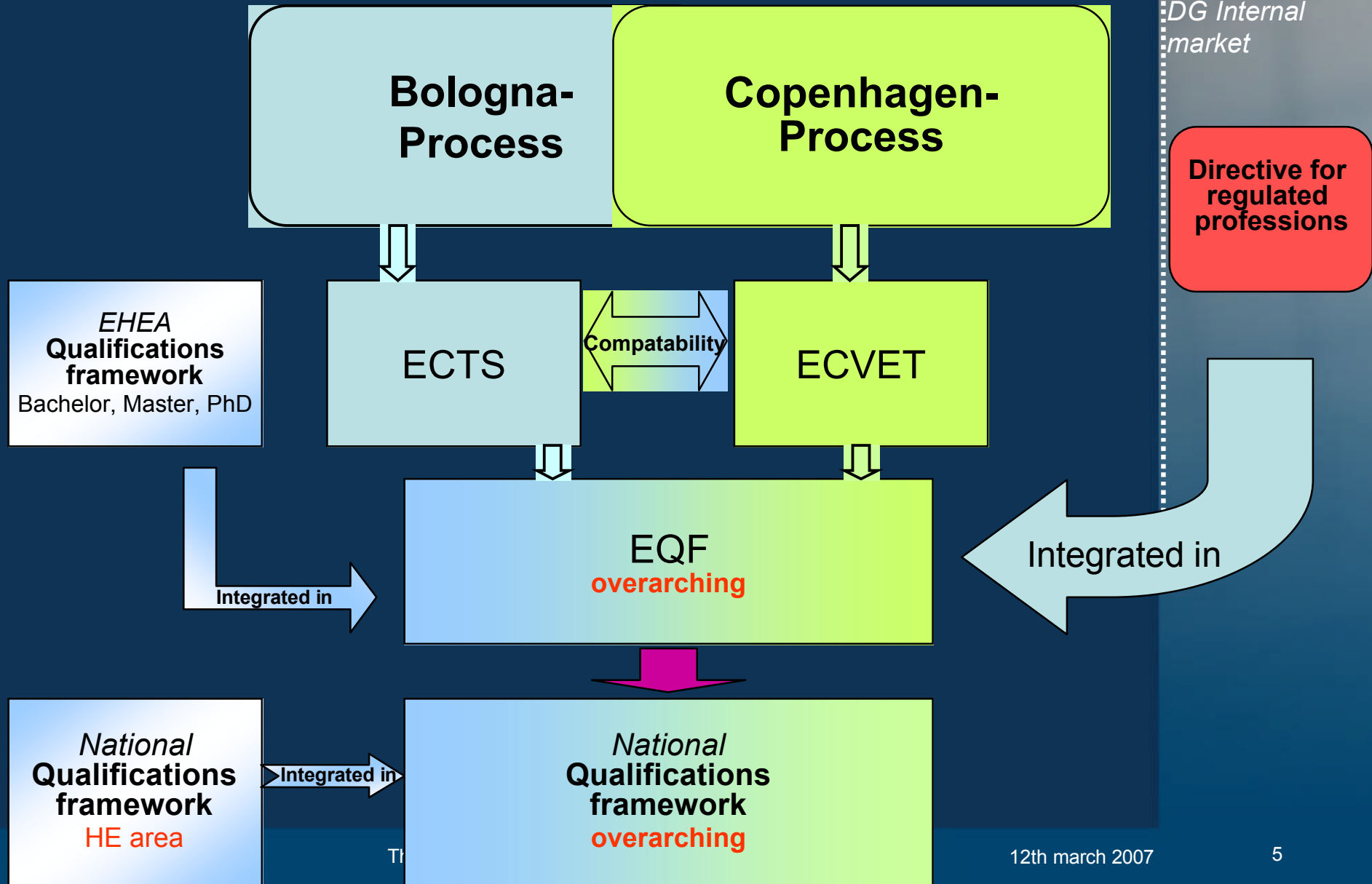


DG internal market

Directive for regulated professions

Should be (BDA point of view)

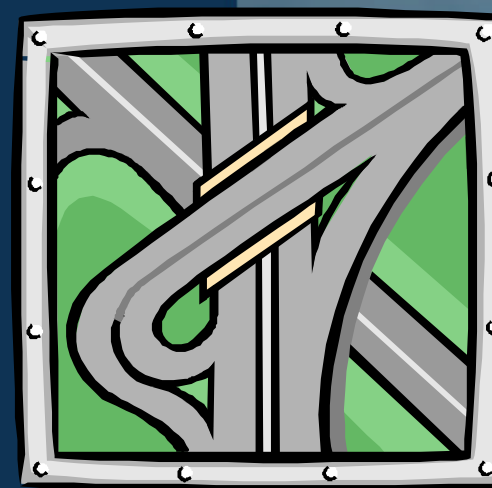
Bologna follow-up Group + EU-COM



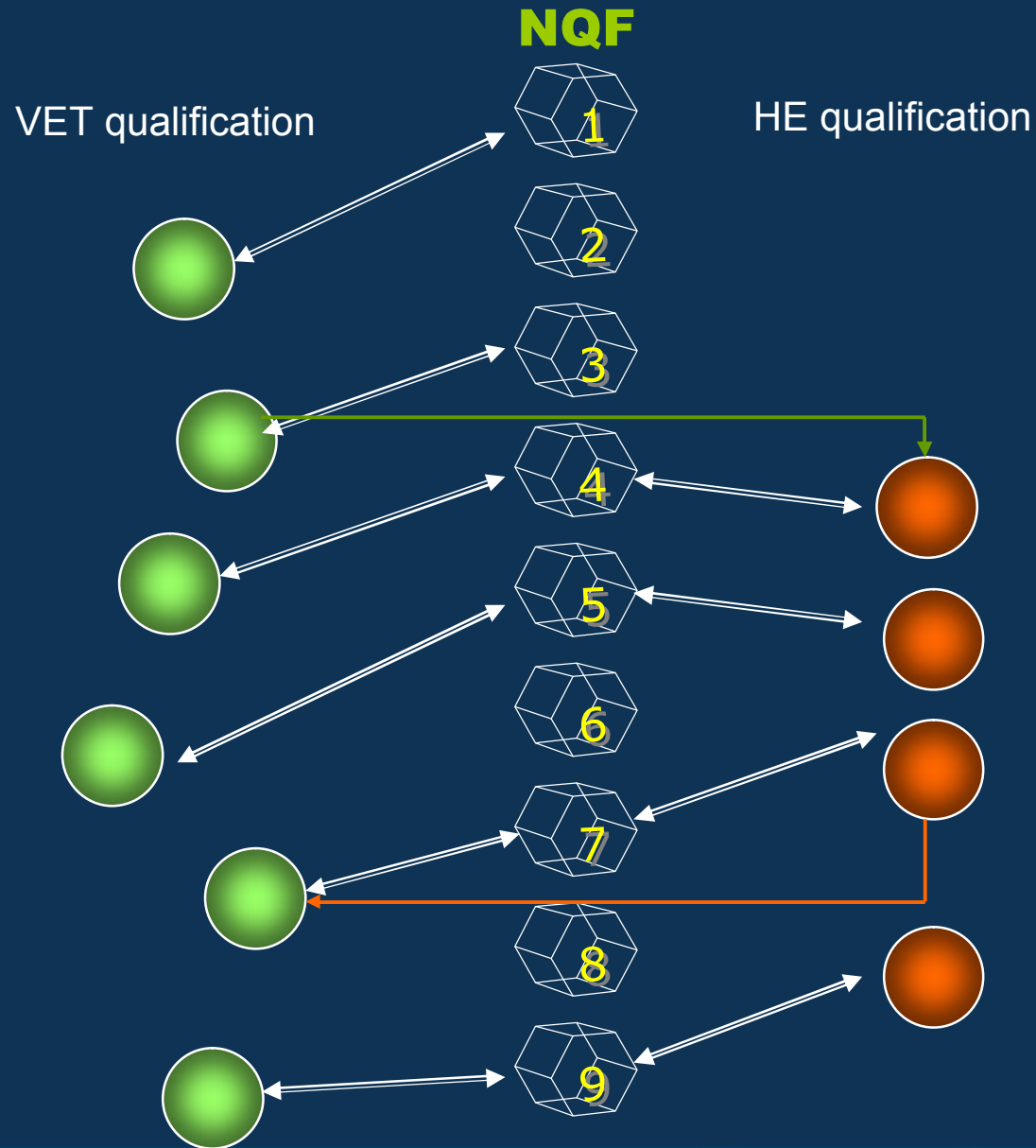
The importance of EQF

Umbrella organisations of German Business welcomes EQF, because of

- Overarching approach
 - first time to have common descriptors for VET and HE
- Learning outcome approach
 - only way to enhance permeability
- Structure of 8 reference levels
 - access to each level on different pathways
- Focus on employability/vocational experience
 - Links with labour market needs



Aim: Overarching NQF



Conclusion: The way to LLL

Permeability as prerequisite for LLL; if not dead ends

Steps to take

1. Start dialogue between VET and HE!
 - Primarily about descriptors
 2. Promotion strategy for EQF
 3. Develop non-consecutive and part-time Master programmes together with business (GER)
 4. Apply learning outcome approach, also regarding selection process for HE programmes (GER)
- ➔ Linking Bologna and Copenhagen-Process

Thank you for your attention!

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