



**BLACK SEA ASSOCIATION OF MARITIME INSTITUTIONS**  
**(BSAMI)**

**BASIC AGREEMENT 2020**

**ARTICLE I – PREAMBLE**

**1. Official Title:**

This organization is called the “Black Sea Association of Maritime Institutions” (BSAMI).

**2. Shared Recognitions:**

- a. Globalization will continue to be the main trend in 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- b. The globalized market requires best quality in all products and services to satisfy the needs of all people of the world, above all, safety, security, environment, amenity, and satisfaction, where the human elements play the most important role.
- c. Maritime industries are most globalized of all. They require therefore the highest quality maritime human efforts to accomplish their responsibilities.
- d. The key elements of the safe and efficient maritime business depend on:
  - Ideas and Creativity;
  - Knowledge and Skills;
  - Sustainability;
  - Leadership and Teamwork spirit.
- e. Technological developments led by information and communication technologies (ICT) in all areas of human activities will integrate all the existing systems into one whole bigger and complicated system.
- f. Knowledge and innovation will be the key elements of such system, in which the global maritime system is an essential sub-system.
- g. The roles of academic institutions in such environment are significant.
- h. The competence and proficiency requirements for maritime professionals will inevitably become far higher and far more complicated in future.
- i. The Black Sea Region countries provide about 20% of the total existing seafaring officers worldwide, sharing far bigger ratio in management level officers, and they will continue to be the main seafarer supplier to the world.
- j. Based on the respective virtues and values as a national tradition in each country in the past, the Black Sea Region Countries are globally recognized as one of the most important regions which will continue to supply such qualified maritime professionals in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- k. The Black Sea Region Countries share unique experience and capabilities through their common interests as well as varieties and diversities.



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3. The Maritime Education and Training (MET) institutions in the Black Sea Region Countries recognize the needs and value of a sound and firm foundation of an institution to meet the responsibility as a team to further enhance the members thereof as the major global center of the highest quality maritime professionals through knowledge, innovation and implementation towards the future.

### **ARTICLE II – VISION, MISSION, OBJECTIVES**

#### **1. The Vision**

BSAMI vision is to be a leading maritime association for supporting sustainable growth and development in the maritime domain through world class education, training, research and networking with industry.

#### **2. The Mission**

- a. To promote and enhance the education of maritime professionals with skills required in the competitive, global environment of the 21st century.
- b. To develop international collaboration in education, training, research and networking with industry directly contributing to the well-being of the Black Sea Nations.
- c. To develop joint modern educational programs supported by social, cultural and human sciences enhancing friendly relations among the Black Sea countries.
- d. To create and maintain a global network of members.
- e. To become a knowledge center disseminating the results of research and scholarly works jointly produced by BSAMI members to interested parties.
- f. To communicate with other maritime associations, organizations and the United Nations agencies.
- g. To develop a recognized indexed journal.

#### **3. The Objectives**

- a. To become a practical and proactive innovator in the Black Sea Region.
- b. To make tangible contributions through close and flexible teamwork of the Black Sea Association of Maritime Institutions to the global maritime community.

### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

#### **1. Founding Members** are the following six (6) original signatory members:

- a. Nikola Y. Vaptsarov Naval Academy (NVNA), Bulgaria
- b. Batumi State Maritime Academy (BSMA), Georgia
- c. Constanta Maritime University (CMU), Romania
- d. Admiral Ushakov Maritime State University (AUMSU), Russian Federation
- e. Istanbul Technical University Maritime Faculty (ITUMF), Turkey
- f. National University “Odessa Maritime Academy” (NU “OMA”), Ukraine



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2. **Members:** Maritime universities/academies/institutions/faculties (hereinafter “universities”) that offer Bachelor’s degree or equivalent undergraduate MET programs and postgraduate Master’s and/or PhD programs related to maritime affairs are qualified for application to become members. On an exceptional basis, the BSAMI can admit to membership a maritime university without post-graduate courses. All members have equal rights and benefits on all BSAMI corporate activities.
3. **Associate Members:** Other maritime institutions and organizations from the Black Sea and other countries. Associate members may participate in all activities and working groups without voting capacity.  
Subject to approval of the General Assembly as proposed by the Executive Committee, any other organization from any country dealing with the aims of the association can also become an Associate Member.
4. **Termination of Membership:**
  - a. Membership shall be terminated if and when the member is two (2) consecutive years in delinquent of the payment of its annual membership fees.
  - b. Membership may be terminated at any time for just cause.
  - c. Membership may be terminated upon voluntary resignation.
  - d. All termination decisions shall be made by the Executive Committee.

### **ARTICLE IV – ACTIVITIES**

1. All activities should be set and done in line with visions, missions, strategy and policies to be reviewed on annual basis during the general assembly. Areas, themes and action plans should be made annually.
2. Information and Communication Technology should be used extensively, including TV Conference.
3. Working Groups will be organized under the respective corresponding Standing Committee.
  - a. Research Working Group;
  - b. STCW, Maritime Education and Training, and Legal Working Group;
  - c. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Networking Working Group;
  - d. Onboard Training Working Group.
4. Main objective is to take part in all maritime related activities. Enhancement of MET in all countries across the Black Sea region will be the primary target.
5. Focal Areas:
  - a. High Technology:
    - (1) Information & Communication Technology
    - (2) Digital Networking of Association Members
    - (3) Distance Learning
    - (4) PC-based Assessment System



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- (5) Digital Library and other data sharing system
- (6) Digital Education and Training Course Contents
- (7) Digital Lectures
- (8) Digital Assessment including English Question Banks
- (9) Digital Research Activities

The Research, the Legal and ICT/Networking Working Groups are in charge.

b. On-Board-Training: (1) Training ships and simulators

(2) Model Courses (Textbooks) and Reality

(3) Values and Virtues of Sail Training Ship

Onboard Training Working Group (Coordinator), the Research Working Group, ICT/Networking Working Group and STCW/MET-Legal Working Group are in charge.

c. Leadership, Communication, and Maritime English

STCW/MET-Legal Working Group is in charge.

d. Joint Uniform Platform for mutual recognition under STCW Regulation I/10

STCW/MET-Legal Working Group are in charge.

e. Other activities as agreed as appropriate.

## **ARTICLE V – ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT**

### **1. General Assembly:**

Highest decision body formed by the legal representatives of the member institutions for the development of vision, mission, strategy and policies, organizational changes, annual workplan, financial and membership decisions. Convenes annually and ad hoc as required. May also take decisions through confirmation with written notification.

- Take any kind of decisions;
- Approve strategic plan;
- Approves BSAMI budget;
- Takes decision on approval of new members of BSAMI;
- Takes decision to suspend or terminate status of the member of BSAMI;
- Takes decision on creation and abolition of working groups;
- Takes decisions on reorganisation or structural changes in BSAMI;
- Takes other decisions related to BSAMI activities.

### **2. Executive Committee – The Highest governing body:**

a. This Committee consists of **former (past)**, **present** and **designated** (future) Chairpersons that are elected among the Presidents, Rectors or Deans of the Member institutions. The persons designated by Presidents/ Rectors/ Deans can represent the institutions, provided a written notice to the Chair. Executive Committee may assign executive staff from any member as required to carry out daily works of the committee.



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- b. The powers of Executive Committee:
- Prepare related documents and recommendations for the decision of the General Assembly
  - Represent BSAMI in all external activities (Chairperson or his designate)
  - Carry out annual work plan as approved in the General Assembly
  - Monitor the Working Groups activities
  - Develop proposals to the attention of the General Assembly on respective issues
  - Use of allocated budget (up to 20.000 Eur for 2020 and to be updated annually at General Assembly)
- c. The decisions at the General Assembly will be made as follows:
- (1) Strategy, policy and other important matters, including the decision on membership: 3/4<sup>th</sup> majority of members.
  - (2) Regular working matters: Simple majority.
- d. The decisions will be made during:
- (1) Regular annual meetings
  - (2) Ad-Hoc meetings
  - (3) Written Notifications
3. **Chairperson:** The President/Rector/Dean/Head of the any MEMBER Institution that will be elected by the MEMBERS during the General Assembly. The term is for **two (2)** years on rotation basis. Unless there is no any other candidate, same institution can run for presidency election in the following next two terms (4 years) after its presidency.
4. **Vice Chairperson:** The President/Rector/Dean/Heads of the Former and Designated Chairperson are the Vice Chairpersons to assist the Chairperson and represent BSAMI as tasked by the Chairperson.
5. **Working groups:** The following standing working groups will be organized:
- a. Research Working Group;
  - b. STCW, Maritime Education and Training (MET) and Legal Working Group;
  - c. Information and Communication Technology Working Group (which includes publicity);
  - d. Onboard Training Working Group;
  - e. Financial Working Group
6. **Secretariat:**
- The Secretariat will be established by each Chairperson for his/her tenure.

## **ARTICLE VI – FINANCING AND ACCOUNTING**

1. **Finance:**
- a. Finance will be based on the following sources:
    - (1) Membership fee;
    - (2) Voluntary contributions of the members and the other relevant parties;
    - (3) External resources;



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(4) Funds and revenues generated by the members.

b. Fundraising will be done through Executive Committee:

- (1) Research: Such resources as EU and other official funding;
- (2) STCW, MET & Legal: Own revenue generation through marketing of the tangible results;
- (3) Virtual Marketing of the courses, publications, consultancy and exhibitions;
- (4) Various Conferences and seminars;
- (5) New projects.

c. **Membership Fee:**

(1) **Registration fee:** To be paid only once at the time of obtaining membership.

- i. Founding Members: Free
- ii. Members: USD 500
- iii. Associate Members: USD 1000

(2) **Annual Membership Fee:**

- i. Founding Members: USD 500
- ii. Members: USD 500
- iii. Associate Members: USD 1000

d. Payment of Annual Membership Fee:

Payment of the fee should be done not later of 31 March each year.

2. **Accounting:**

a. Secretariat will be responsible under the supervision of Chairperson and Executive Committee. An Annual Report should be presented to the General Assembly upon approval of the Executive Committee.

b. Audit: An Audit Committee (3 persons) will be appointed at every election period for two years from three-member Institutions who are not part of the Executive Committee. The committee will monitor all financial issues and provide its report to the General Assembly annually.

c. Fiscal Year:

Fiscal year of BSAMI is from 1<sup>st</sup> of January to 31<sup>st</sup> of December.

d. Annual Spending Authority (max limits to be amended at every General Assembly):

Chairperson: 5000 USD

Executive Committee: 20.000 USD

Above 20.000 USD Executive Committee should ask General Assembly approval/confirmation through written notification.

## **ARTICLE VII - PUBLICITY**

ICT Committee and Secretariat will be responsible.



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### **ARTICLE VIII - LANGUAGE**

Working Language is English.

### **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENT**

An amendment to this agreement shall be approved by the General Assembly.

The proposals can be brought by any member through the Executive Committee and shall be approved by the affirmative votes of three-fourth majority of the members.

Any request for amendment must:

- be duly justified;
- be accompanied by appropriate supporting documents; and
- be sent to the Executive Committee in due time before it is due to take effect, and in any case one month before the Annual Meeting.

The Originals of this Basic Agreement 2020 have been duly signed by each member and the Chairman, and one (1) each set of the originals shall be kept by the respective member and by the Office of the Secretary General.

### **ARTICLE IX – LEGAL ISSUES**

#### **APPLICABLE LAW, SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES AND ENFORCEABLE DECISIONS**

1. The Agreement is governed by the applicable European Union law, complemented, where necessary, by the law of Country of the Chairperson.
2. Initial appeal shall be made to the International Arbitration Court to resolve the disputes among members and between BSAMI and third parties.
3. The Chairperson will represent the Institution against the claims from third parties and will finance the legal expenses from the BSAMI budget.



**ANNEX-1: BSAMI Organization Chart**

