



**IAMU**  
International Association of Maritime Universities

## **BASIC AGREEMENT**

The Fifth Amendment  
Effective on 1 April 2015

### **Article I-Preamble**

The International Association of Maritime Universities (IAMU: ai-ei-em-ju:) is the global network of leading maritime universities providing Maritime Education and Training (MET) of seafarers for the global shipping industry. All members of IAMU share the understanding:

- that globalization has been progressing rapidly in the international shipping arena;
- that Safety, Security and Environmental Protection are crucial issues for the maritime sector; and
- that passing on maritime skills and knowledge to the following generations needs to be achieved on a global scale.

All members of IAMU also recognize the significance of maritime education and training and note that:

- the shipping industry is a service industry, in which human resources are the critical element;
- it is only feasible to secure and to preserve highly qualified human resources in the maritime industries through effective education and training; and
- effective education and training in the maritime sector derives from scientific and academic rigor and development of a clear link between practical skills, management techniques and a focus on quality.

Based on this shared understanding, it has been mutually agreed:

- that members shall cooperate with each other in a range of scientific and academic studies, developments, and practical applications associated with Maritime Education and Training;
- that members shall endeavor to achieve measurable and worthwhile outcomes for Maritime Education and Training through IAMU activities;
- that members shall publicize the results of their activities as extensively as possible both within and outside IAMU, and shall endeavor to accumulate scientific results for the benefit of the international maritime community; and
- that the members shall thereby contribute to the enhancement of Maritime Safety, Security and Environmental Protection.

The Association was created in 1999 by a group of maritime universities from across the world as a non-profit organization.

This Basic Agreement establishes the guiding principles, agreed to by the membership, and acts as the constitution of IAMU.

### **Article II-Vision**

The IAMU aims to be the global leader in maritime capacity building through networking and excellence in MET.

### **Article III-Mission**

The Mission of IAMU is:

- A. To create and maintain a global network of members dedicated to building human capacity in the maritime sector;
- B. To provide opportunities for developments in Global MET system through scientific and practical approach;
- C. To develop and support effective MET systems for passing on maritime skills and knowledge to future generations of global seafarers that ensure safety at sea, maritime security and the protection of the environment;
- D. To disseminate the results of research and scholarly work produced by IAMU members to interested parties; and
- E. To communicate with other maritime associations and the United Nations agencies such as the International Maritime Organization and the maritime industry to ensure that Human Elements and MET play the key priority role to supply industry with high quality professionals to promote safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean oceans.

### **Article IV-Activities**

The principal activities of IAMU are:

- A. To promote the cooperation of maritime universities across the world;
- B. To maintain communication and exchange between members, interested maritime industry players and international organizations;
- C. To represent IAMU to the International Maritime Organization (IMO).
- D. To execute research activities in MET and relevant fields;
- E. To disseminate the best MET practices, research outcomes, and innovations among members through publications, newsletters, and conferences; and
- F. To hold an Annual General Assembly

### **Article V - Membership**

The IAMU consists of a network of member maritime universities satisfying the following criteria:

- A. Maritime universities/academies/institutions/faculties (hereinafter "universities") that offer Bachelor degree or equivalent undergraduate MET programs and post-graduate Masters and/or Ph.D. programs related to maritime affairs are qualified for application to become members.
- B. On an exceptional basis, the IAMU can admit to membership a maritime university without post-graduate courses.
- C. Special membership can be offered to a Party which is not a maritime university, but it is qualified for membership because its contribution is considered highly significant.
- D. The Nippon Foundation is a permanent special member of the IAMU.

- E. The World Maritime University is a special and significant member of the IAMU. WMU's status as a special member is subject to review every four year in effect as of 1 April 2012.
- F. Associate membership can be offered for a specified term to maritime organizations, associations and companies deemed to be highly significant to IAMU activities. Such associate members will be entitled to attend the Annual General Assembly.
- G. Membership may be terminated:
  - 1. When a member university's academic program changes and no longer meets membership criteria specified in this Article;
  - 2. When a member university is delinquent in the payment of the annual membership fee for two consecutive years.
  - 3. When a member university voluntarily resigns;
  - 4. When there is just cause
- H. Representation:
  - 1. Member universities of IAMU are represented by the President, Rector, Principal, Vice Chancellor or Dean of a maritime faculty (hereinafter "President").
  - 2. If the President is unable to attend a Board, Committee meeting or the Annual General Assembly, then he/she may designate a senior level staff from his/her university as the official representative. The proxy, including the full name and title of the designated representative, shall be duly signed by the President, and be deposited at Secretariat not less than forty-eight hours before the meeting.
  - 3. The proxy representative is to have full authority to vote on behalf of the member university.

### **Article VI – Organization and Governance**

IAMU is to have an Honorary Chair, a Chair, an International Executive Board, Standing Committees, an Executive Director, an Annual General Assembly, and may have Honorary Fellows.

- A. Honorary Chair:  
The Chairman of The Nippon Foundation shall be the Honorary Chair of IAMU.
- B. Chair:  
The Chair shall be the President of a member university and responsible for the overall management of IAMU and for carrying out the decisions made by the International Executive Board and/or general membership as determined at the Annual General Assembly.
- C. International Executive Board:  
The International Executive Board (IEB) is the primary decision-making body of the IAMU, except for matters under the purview of the Annual General Assembly.
- D. Standing Committees of the IEB:  
Standing committees may be established to perform regular and ongoing business and/or activities of the IAMU.
- E. Executive Director:

The Executive Director, heading a Secretariat, is the chief administrative officer of IAMU and seconded to IAMU by The Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) in Tokyo, Japan.

F. Annual General Assembly:

There shall be an Annual General Assembly to review activities of IAMU, approve IAMU policies, programs, and budget as recommended by the IEB, to biannually ratify the members of the IEB and the Chair, and to promote collaborative networking among members.

G. Honorary Fellows:

The distinction of Honorary Fellow may be awarded to distinguished persons from IAMU member universities or from the international maritime community. Nomination for an Honorary Fellow may be made by any IAMU member university for consideration and approval by the International Executive Board.

### **Article VII - Finance and Accounting**

The IAMU has two major financial sources:

- The Nippon Foundation for annual operation grant; and
- contribution from the membership fees.

The main purpose of financial support by the Nippon Foundation is to promote academic studies, development programs and practical activities worthy of IAMU which involve collaboration among the members and enhance exchanges among the members at all levels. All members make 'in-kind' contributions of resources to IAMU activities. The operation and the account shall be audited every fiscal year. The fiscal year of the Association is from 1 April to 31 March.

### **Article VIII Language**

The working language of the IAMU shall be English.

### **Article IX Amendment**

Amendment of the Basic Agreement shall be agreed upon by the International Executive Board (IEB) and may be proposed by a member university to the IEB for endorsement. Amendments require acknowledgment by IEB and subsequent ratification by two-thirds affirmative votes of all the IAMU voting members at the Annual General Assembly under presence of quorum.