ALL-ATLANTIC OCEAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE

Creating an Atlantic Ocean Community by Implementing the Galway and Belém Statements

AA–TP Report:

All-Atlantic Floating University Network (@SeaNetwork)

BUILDING AN ALL ATLANTIC OCEAN COMMUNITY
Implementing the Belém Statement

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ALL-ATLANTIC JOINT PILOT ACTIONS

Following a year-long collaborative process among more than 70 stakeholders at the Atlantic level, the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Multi-Stakeholder Platform, divided into 5 sub-multi-stakeholders platforms, identified more than 1000 initiatives towards strengthening marine research and innovation collaboration at the Atlantic level, 56 gaps and 79 needs/recommendations to achieve the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance ambition, guided by a total of 20 Strategic Objectives, 20 Operational Objectives, and 10 Key Performance Indicators.

Based on these findings and on the idea of collaboration, alignment, and use of existing resources, they have developed six ambitious and long-term collaborative Joint Pilot Actions (JPA):

- **All-Atlantic Training Platform (AA-TP)**
- **All-Atlantic Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform (AA-ATiP)**
- **All-Atlantic Marine Biotechnology Initiative (AA-BIOTECMAR)**
- **All-Atlantic Data Enterprise 2030 (AA-DATA2030)**
- **All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network (AA-BSN)**
- **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network (AA-MARINET)**

This report is developed by the **All-Atlantic Training Platform (AA-TP)** Joint Pilot Action, that plans to establish the "All Atlantic Training Platform" AA-TP as a tool to identify training needs, gaps, initiatives and create workshops, summer schools, and floating universities for the benefit of early-career scientists and technicians in Ocean Science. Its aim is to streamline and bring together existing training measures, new challenges and find new and attractive formats to include all stakeholders, essential to provide the best possible education for the next generation of marine scientists and early career ocean professionals.

This report is a deliverable in scope of All-Atlantic Training Platform (AA-TP) Activity 2: All-Atlantic Floating University aiming to create an All-Atlantic Floating University Network that should endure well beyond the timeframe of AANChOR, building on and aligning existing national, EU, and international initiatives to foster multidisciplinary scientific and technical training-at-sea, addressing identified capacity development needs in Atlantic countries. The proposed activities will build on the best practice of highly successful training-at-sea programmes. The concept, membership, and operational details of coordination, functioning, and long-term sustainability of the network will be analysed, discussed, and jointly co-designed during the initial conference and follow-up web meetings. This report includes a detail on the 1st All-Atlantic Floating University Network meeting in Cape Town and the Terms of Reference for the network.

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BUILDING AN ALL ATLANTIC OCEAN COMMUNITY Implementing the Belém Statement

AANChOR is a Coordination & Support Action project aimed to support the implementation of the Belém Statement. It has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 818395.

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1. Summary

Training at sea is critical for preparing the new generations of Early Career Ocean Professionals. Multiple training at sea opportunities and programs are in operation globally that target different needs and requirements for different academic and maritime sectors.

To strengthen and develop further training at sea in the Atlantic region, greater exchange and collaboration between new and existing programs is essential, including sharing of best practices. This is the purpose of the creation of this All-Atlantic Floating University Network (@SeaNetwork), in the scope of the *All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance*.

This cooperation network is in line with the Galway (2013) and Belém (2017) Statements and also the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Innovation Alliance Declaration (2022) by engaging partners from the whole Atlantic region with a common objective and purpose. In addition, @SeaNetwork contributes to the objectives of the *UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development* and the European *Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030"*.

The main aims of the @SeaNetwork are:

- Build on, and bring together, highly successful training at sea programs from various countries bordering the Atlantic Ocean, and from countries and organizations that promote training at sea in the Atlantic pole-pole region;
- Jointly identify and address capacity development gaps and needs in training at sea across the Atlantic;
- Promote transatlantic innovative and targeted training at sea, building on best practices;
- Seek to develop and promote an internationally recognised accreditation system between Training at Sea Programs.
- Explore funding possibilities to support trainees and trainers mobility.

The main objectives of this meeting were: (1) to have the opportunity for as many as possible of the proposed network Founding Members to meet in person for the first time, present their training programmes and share their vision on and how their programs can contribute to the network; (2) to jointly discuss a common strategy for the network implementation, and collect contributions for the preparation of the implementation roadmap; (3) to elect the Steering Committee that will coordinate the network for the first 2 years; and (4) to jointly analyse in detail the proposed draft *Terms of Reference* (ToR), update them with members contributions and approve them.

The meeting venue was chosen to take full advantage of the Technical Training JPA which was scheduled to be held in Cape Town at the end of 2022, and therefore this would represent a unique opportunity to exploit synergies between the two JPAs and maximize opportunities for joint discussions and common visions.

2. Contribution of the joint action to the implementation of the Galway and Belém Statements, the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance Declaration and the European Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030" visions and goals

The need for a more experienced-based approach to learning Marine science is a highly competitive environment. The need to improve the cohort of postgraduates in the marine sciences, who would be recognised both nationally and internationally for their scientific excellence, is crucial. It is possible to attract students early on in their careers to this discipline via cutting edge science, technology and unique field experiences. This can be achieved through the engagement of students with real-life experiences such as a through a network of Floating Universities, and in supporting marine science postgraduate degree programmes which can attract a sustainable throughput of numerically proficient students. By achieving a more quantitative and experienced input into our postgraduate degree programmes, we will, as a scientific international network, greatly improve our long-term capabilities to accurately measure, model and predict the impacts of current climate change scenarios. The mid-term goal is to attract and establish a cohort of proficient marine and atmospheric science graduates who will contribute to filling the capacity needs of world-wide marine science as a whole. Furthermore, by involving researchers from across all the relevant disciplines and tertiary institutions, this Floating network can provide an opportunity to continue building a network of collaborative teaching within the marine field. The long-term objective of this network is to build critical mass within the marine sciences to ensure sustained growth of human capacity in marine science worldwide – aligning closely with the current initiatives.

As an All-Atlantic Floating University Network, this network clearly contributes to the objectives of the Galway, Belém Statements and the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance Declaration, namely as concerns: (1) recognizing the importance of the Atlantic Ocean and the need to address its challenges at a regional scale, by involving a large number of training at sea programs from a large number of Atlantic countries; (2) the aim to develop a new paradigm to promote inter-institutional cooperation in the context of an expanded EU, with an All-Atlantic vision and involving the countries that recently joined the AAORIA; (3) promoting and facilitating human capital development and scientific exchange; (4) providing a platform and opportunities for scientific, technological and training cooperation resulting in new joint activities; (5) identifying, bringing together and building on existing relevant activities from all members, benefitting from complementarities and synergies; (6) promoting ocean literacy and broadening engagement in ocean sciences and ocean sustainability; (7) enhancing access to, and sharing of, ocean science infrastructures, data and expertise; (8) promoting capacity building and exchange, particularly by promoting and facilitating and creating opportunities for Early career Ocean Professionals and promoting intergeneration learning; (9) supporting education and training. It also contributes to the objectives and challenges of the UN Ocean Decade for Sustainable Development, in particular Challenge 9: Skills, knowledge and technology for all - Ensure comprehensive capacity development and equitable access to data, information, knowledge and technology across all aspects of ocean science and for all stakeholders.

3. Implementation of the pilot action of organising the 1st Meeting of the Floating University Network (@SeaNetwork) Founding Members in Cape Town, South Africa in December 2022

This meeting is the culmination of a long process that started with discussions and sharing of common visions between the network promoters in February 2020, during the AANChOR Meeting in in Brussels, in which this JPA was first proposed, and also during the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Forum 2020. Since then, several virtual meetings took place in which the network concept was presented to a large audience, and coordinators of training programs at sea were invited to join this venture through extensive bilateral direct contacts. During this period, the Draft *Terms of Reference* (ToR) were prepared and shared with all potential partners.

Planning of this first in-person meeting of all proposed Founding Members of the Floating University initiative started in early 2022, with the aim to bring together in a workshop the All-Atlantic Floating University Network (@SeaNetwork) community and hear from all members their interest in participating in the network, their vision on how they will contribute to its objectives, to approve the ToR and elect the Steering Committee, and launch the @SeaNetwork.

The choice of the venue for the meeting was driven by the fact that during the period of the 11th- 16th December 2022, the Technical Training Workshop would be held in Cape Town at the Waterfront – East Pier. Not all founding members representatives were able to participate in person, but those that could not attend the meeting were able to attend virtually, thanks to the excellent facilities provided by the University of Cape Town.

The main aims of the meeting were:

(1) to have a chance to meet as many proposed founding members of the network in person, but to provide online meeting facilities for participants that could only attend remotely;

(2) to allow for each proposed founding member to make a short presentation on their training program and provide their vision on how the network can be implemented and what their contribution will be;

(3) to discuss point by point the Terms of Reference of the Network and jointly agree on the final text for the ToR to be approved;

(4) to prepare the basis and receive contributions for the preparation of the @SeaNetwork Roadmap;

(5) to meet with the Technical Training Group and share the visions from each JPA activity during a working dinner involving all participants. This dinner would also allow a presentation from the JPA leadership and from the Work Package 3 manager (Werner Ekau) on the broader vision of the AA-TP.

4. Programme of the meeting

The meeting had a total of 31 participants, with representatives of founding members of the network, from 21 training at sea programs from 16 countries, plus representatives from 3 large European/international programmes: the Atlantic International Research Centre (AIR CENTRE), EUROFLEETS+ and the Partnership for the Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO), 4 ECOPS, and key figures from the EU (Sigi Gruber) and SA's DFFE and DSI (Ashley Johnson and Gilbert Siko).

A significant number of in-person participants arrived in Cape Town on the 11th December and some of them on the 10th. Since we were all staying in the same hotel, this provided the opportunity for several informal in-person meetings between those present on both these days (and also on the 12th and 13th evenings and dinner), to discuss several details of the @SeaNetwork Terms of Reference (ToR) and formulate the common vision for its implementation. We had a total of 13 in-person representatives of training at sea programs from Argentina (1), Brazil (1), Cape Verde (2); Germany (1), Ivory Coast (1); Morocco (1); Namibia (1); Portugal (3); Uruguay (1); and South Africa (1). The travel and accommodation expenses for these participants, with the exception of local participants, were covered by the JPA. Online participation of representatives from proposed Founding members included: the Azores-Portugal (1), the Air Centre (1), Belgium (1), Egypt (training at sea program for Africa) (1), Eurofleets+ (1), Germany (1), Ireland (1), UK (2), Tara Foundation (1); POGO (1), Spain (1), SOI Foundation – Canada (1).

The venue, coffee breaks and lunches were offered by the University of Cape Town, through the SEAmester programme.

After a lunch at the Cape Town University Club offered by the organization, the official meeting started on the 12th December, at 14h00, at the Oceanography Department, RW James Building of the Faculty of Science, in the Upper Campus of the University of Cape Town. The meeting started with an Opening Session, with welcoming remarks and short interventions on the meeting objectives from the meeting organizers (Isabelle Ansorge and Luis Menezes Pinheiro). This was followed by interventions by Sigi Gruber (European Commission), Werner Ekau (AA-TP framework), and Sofia Cordeiro (coordinator of the AANChOR Project), to provide a broad view of the All-Atlantic cooperation context and vision, namely as concerns implementation of the Galway and Belém Statements, the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance Declaration, and the European Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030".

The Training Program presentations were organized into 6 main sessions. In these sessions, the proposed @SeaNetwork Founding Members briefly described their training at sea programs and shared their vision how they will be able to contribute to the objectives of the network. These sessions were tentatively divided by geographical areas, although some compromise had to be made to accommodate any time constraints for members that were presenting remotely, and for the different number of programs per country. These presentations were always followed by a discussion period between the audience and presenters. This was followed by a presentation by 4 ECOPS: Thando Mazomba (South Africa), Liisa Shangetta (Namibia) Sheveenah Taukoor (Mauritius) and Isabelle Giddy (South Africa).

On the 12th we had 2 Training at Sea Program Presentation sessions (1) Africa – 6 presentations; and (2) South America (and Spain) – 5 presentations. This was followed by 4 interventions from Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPS), referring their experience of training at sea in the SEAmester Program (SA) and how important this was for them, but also providing their vision on how useful the @SeaNetwork can be to promote more opportunities for training at sea to a wider community all over the Atlantic. This was followed by a wrap-up session by the organizers and the transport to the Working Dinner between the @SeaNetwork Meeting participants and the participants of the Technical Training Course that was taking place at the same time.

The working dinner took place at the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens and this provided a great opportunity for participants in both JPA activities (i.e. @SeaNetwork and Technical Training) to meet together in person, share ideas, visions and experiences. There were also short interventions from the coordinators of the two JPA activities and from the manager of Work Package 3 (Werner Ekau), so that all participants would be aware of each JPA activity and also of the overall framework in the context of the vision of an All-Atlantic Cooperation.

On the 13th December, the meeting started at 9h00. In the morning there were presentations from representatives from training at sea programs from *Portugal* – 3 presentations, *Large Programs (and Belgium)* – 4 presentations, and from *UK and Ireland* – 4 presentations. In the afternoon, there were presentations from *Northern Europe* – 2 presentations, and from *Foundations (and the Azores)* – 3 presentations. Each presentation session was followed by a discussion period.

The presentation sessions were followed by the election of the Steering Committee that will coordinate the network, and it was decided that for the first 2 years, it would be composed of Luis Menezes Pinheiro (Portugal), Isabelle Ansorge (South Africa), Karen Wiltshire (Germany) and Danilo Calazans (Brazil).

Finally, the draft Terms of Reference were analysed in detail and suggestions from all participants were noted to be included in the final version. It was decided that the Steering Committee would prepare the final revised ToR version, send it to all founding members, and that its approval would be done by email.

The detailed Meeting program is included below.

@SeaNetwork Meeting Program

Venue: Oceanography Department, RW James Building, Faculty of Science, Upper Campus, University of Cape Town (South Africa Time)

12th December

12h30 Lunch at the University Club

14h00-14h30 – Opening Session, Welcoming Remarks and House Keeping

Isabelle Ansorge, Sigi Gruber, Sofia Cordeiro, Werner Ekau, Luis Menezes Pinheiro

14h30-15h25 - Training Program presentations – Africa

14h30-14h35 - Isabelle Ansorge - Seamester Program, South Africa

14h35-14h40 - Corrine Almeida - Training at Sea in Cape Verde

14h40-14h45 - Kouadio Affian - Cote D'Ivoire

14h45-14h50 - Sam Mafwila - Namibia

14h50-14h55 - Hassan Er-Raioui - Morrocco

14h55-15h00 - Amr Hamouda/Suzan El-Garabawi – NIOF, Egypt

15h00-15h25 - Discussion

15h25-15h50 – Coffee Break

15h50-16h40 - Training Program presentations - South America (and Spain)

15h50-15h55 - Ariel Troisi - Argentina

15h55-16h00 - Jose Muelbert – FURG - Brasil *(online)*

16h00-16h05 - Raphael Mathias Pinotti – Laboratórios Flutuantes, Brasil

16h05-16h10 - Frederico Riet, Uruguay

16h10-16h15 - Maria Carmen Fernández-Puga, Spain *(online)*

16h15-16h40 - Discussion

16h40-17h00 ECOPS, Youth Ambassadors – Experience at Sea. *Thando Mazomba, Liisa Shangheta and others*

17h00-17h30 – Wrap-up, announcements and information on election of the @SeaNetwork Steering Committee (proposed lists of 3 Founding Members) – Isabelle Ansorge and Luis Menezes Pinheiro

17h30-18h00 Transport to the **Working/Networking Dinner between the @Sea Network and technical training**, at the MOYO Restaurant, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens

18h30-19h00 –Werner Ekau, Isabelle Ansorge, Luis Pinheiro – AATP, Seamester, @SeaNetwork

19h00-19h15 – Johan Augustyn, ECOP representative– Technical Training, ECOP Experience (tbc)

19h15-19h30 – ECOP/students participants testimonials, followed by Dinner

19h30 - Dinner

13th December

09h00-09h15 - House Keeping and procedure for the Steering Committee election

    Isabelle Ansorge, Luis Menezes Pinheiro

09h15-10h00 - Training Program presentations - Portugal

    09h15-09h20   Carlos Santos Fernandes - Hydrographic Institute, Portugal

    09h20-09h25   Mafalda Carapuço - Institute for the Sea and the Atmosphere (IPMA)

    09h25-09h30   Luis Menezes Pinheiro - Univ. Aveiro

    09h30-10h00   Discussion

10h00-10h35 - Training Program presentations – Large Programs (and Belgium)

    10h00-10h05   Andrea Carbulotto - Eurofleets +

    10h05-10h10   Lica Krug – POGO *(online)*

    10h10-10h15   Jose Moutinho - AIR CENTRE *(online)*

    10h50-10h20   David Van Rooij - Ghent Uni, Belgium *(online)*

    10h20-10h35   Discussion

10h35-11h05 – Coffee Break

11h05-11h10 - Training Program presentations – UK and Ireland

    11h05-11h10   Andy Rees - Plymouth Marine Laboratory, UK   *(online)*

    11h10-11h15   Angela Hatton - National Oceanographic Centre, UK *(online)*

    11h15-11h20   John Boyd – Smart – Ireland *(online)*

    11h20-11h25   Peter Croot, NUI, Ireland *(online)*

    11h25-11h50   Discussion

11h50-12h00   Group Photo

12h00 – 13h30 LUNCH

ELECTIONS -   Steering Committee - List submission- closed

13h35-14h05 - Training Program presentations – Northern Europe

13h30-13h35   Bjorn Fiedler - Geomar, Germany

13h35-13h40   Barbel Wichmann - NOSOAT, Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany

13h45-14h05   Discussion

14h05-14h35 - Foundations (and Okeanos, Azores)

14h05-14h10   Andre Abreu - TARA Foundation

14h10-14h15   Graeme Stewart-Robertson - SOI, Canada

14h15-14h20   Gui Menezes/Filipe Porteiro - Okeanos, Azores   *(online)*

14h20-14h35   Discussion

14h35-14h50 - ToR approval - All founding members

14h50-15h00 - @SeaNetwork Roadmap – Introduction - Luis Menezes Pinheiro, Isabelle Ansorge

15h00-15h10 - Steering Committee election results - Luis Menezes Pinheiro, Isabelle Ansorge

15h00-15h40 – Coffee Break

15h40-16h10 - @SeaNetwork Roadmap - discussion - All founding members

16h10-16h30 - Closing Remarks - Isabelle Ansorge, Luis Menezes Pinheiro

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5. Main Conclusions and Outcomes from the 1st Meeting of the Floating University Network (@SeaNetwork) Founding Members in Cape Town, South Africa in December 2022

As a summary, it is believed that all the meeting objectives were achieved. All proposed Founding Members participated in the meeting, either in person or via a Zoom Link. They all presented their training at sea program specificities and shared their vision on how they will contribute to the network. The large spectrum of programs allowed participants to formulate a broad view of the different training at sea programs that already exist in the Atlantic, so as to exploit their complementarities and synergies between them. It became clear that an All-Atlantic common vision and cooperation are essential and that all together we can go much farther. Some members already manifested their willingness to provide berths during their next expeditions to accommodate students and ECOPS from the @SeaNetwork.

The Steering Committee was elected for the first 2 years of the network and the Draft terms of Reference were revised and amended. The revised version of the ToR is included below, in which two new Founding Members are added, which joined the network just after the Cape Town Meeting: *GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel,* and the Norwegian of Marine Universities Consortium.

The organizers deeply thank for this great opportunity that made all this possible and represented a major step in the joint initiative which will strengthen Atlantic cooperation in training at sea of the next generations of Early Career Ocean Professionals and in doing so, contribute to the objectives of the Galway and Belém Statements, the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance declaration, the EU Mission "Restore our Oceans and Waters by 2030", and the Ocean Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

6. Terms of Reference of the All-Atlantic Floating University Network (@SeaNetwork), including the updated list of the Founding Members, following the Cape Town Meeting

All-Atlantic Floating University Network (@SeaNetwork)

Terms of Reference

The following are the All-Atlantic Floating University (@SeaNetwork) Terms of Reference as from the December 2022 meeting in Cape Town:

1. Rationale

Training at sea is critical for preparing the new generations of Early Career Ocean Professionals. Multiple training at sea opportunities and programs are in operation globally that target different needs and requirements for different academic and maritime sectors.

To strengthen and develop further training at sea in the Atlantic region, greater exchange and collaboration between new and existing programs is essential, including sharing of best practices. This is the purpose of the creation of this All-Atlantic Floating University Network (@SeaNetwork), in the scope of the *All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance*.

This cooperation network is in line with the Galway (2013) and Belém (2017) Statements and also the Washington AAORIA Declaration (2022) by engaging partners from the whole Atlantic region with a common objective and purpose. In addition, @SeaNetwork contributes to the objectives of the *UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development* and the European *Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030"*.

2. Objectives

The All-Atlantic Floating University Network (@SeaNetwork) will:

- Build on, and bring together, highly successful training at sea programs from various countries bordering the Atlantic Ocean, and from countries and organizations that promote training at sea in the Atlantic pole-pole region;

- Jointly identify and address capacity development gaps and needs in training at sea across the Atlantic;
- Promote transatlantic innovative and targeted training at sea, building on best practices;
- Seek to develop and promote an internationally recognised accreditation system between Training at Sea Programs.
- Explore funding possibilities to support trainees and trainers mobility.

@SeaNetwork will seek to:

- Facilitate, optimize and maximize training at sea opportunities within the Atlantic region, taking into account regional and gender balance, and with a focus on opportunities for developing countries;
- Promote a higher level of cooperation across existing initiatives and exploit synergies between them;
- Promote coordinated training at sea at various levels (final year undergraduates, postgraduates, young researchers and technicians), with an All-Atlantic perspective, in a gender balanced, multidisciplinary, transdisciplinary, multicultural and intergenerational environment;
- Promote pole to pole Atlantic mobility of trainers and trainees within the network;
- Create innovative and targeted approaches in Capacity Development to overcome ocean issues, including promoting opportunities for Science-Policy dialogue at sea;
- Encourage and provide knowledge/support to new and emerging Training at Sea programs;
- Benefit from thematic and calendar complementarities of the various training at sea programs in the Atlantic and beyond;
- Annually compile and publicize training opportunities;
- Contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the *UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development* and the European *Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030"* objectives as well as the goals of *Galway and Belém Statements* and the *Washington AAORIA Declaration* (2022).

3. Membership

@SeaNetwork is an open-ended network. Membership is open to all institutions and organisations that run existing training at sea programs in the Atlantic, as well as those that support or seek to implement future training at sea programs, and organisations that support ocean-related capacity development programs. Representatives from similar programs worldwide are also welcome to join this network.

Membership is free and does not include any annual meeting costs.

 BUILDING AN ALL ATLANTIC OCEAN COMMUNITY Implementing the Belém Statement

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4. @SeaNetwork organization

As a cooperation network @SeaNetwork is an opportunity for information and best practices exchanges among its members. As such, it is a member-driven group.

The @Seanetwork organization is composed of the Steering Committee and an Advisory Group that will include ECOP representatives.

The Steering Committee consists of the Chair and up to four Vice Chairs, from at least 3 different regions, elected every two years by simple majority of members attending the annual meeting and are committed to serving for two years in this role. The outgoing chair will support the incoming chair for a period of 6 months.

The Steering Committee will elect its Chair, that will act as the formal @SeaNetwork representative to other groups and programs. The Steering Committee may invite experts to assist on specific matters, as required. The members of the Steering Committee cannot serve for more than 2 consecutive terms.

The Steering Committee is responsible for:

- setting the agenda and chairing the annual meeting;
- proposing and overseeing working groups and/or workshops as necessary;
- ensuring that an annual compilation of training opportunities is carried out and publicized;
- the recording and production of meeting minutes;
- ensuring that minutes are circulated amongst members;
- maintaining the membership and contact list;
- accepting new membership applications;
- the Chair of the Steering Committee will act as the formal @SeaNetwork representative
- Preparing the election procedures for the next Steering Committee.
- Inviting experts and ECOP representatives to form the Advisory Group.

5. Annual Meeting

@SeaNetwork will hold an annual plenary meeting. The meeting minutes shall be circulated among members no later than two calendar months after the meeting.

6. Relations to other groups and programs

@SeaNetwork seeks to develop strong links with similar programs worldwide.

Annex: List of Founding Members

ANNEX: LIST OF FOUNDING MEMBERS

ARGENTINA

Servicio de Hidrografía Naval

BELGIUM

Department of Geology, Ghent University

BRASIL

Laboratórios de Ensino Flutuantes - LEF

*Federal University of Rio Grand*e

CANADA

SOI Foundation

CAPE VERDE

Master Program on Climate Change and Marine Science, Universidade Técnica do Atlântico

COTE D'IVOIRE

Université Félix Houphouet-Boigny

EGYPT

National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries –Training @Sea Program for Africa

GERMANY

NOSOAT Programme – Polarstern Atlantic Transit Training

GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel

IRELAND

University of Galway

SMART (Strategic Marine Alliance for Research and Training) Program

MOROCCO

Université Abdlemalek-Essaâdi, Tangier

NAMIBIA

Regional Graduate Network in Oceanography (RGNO), University of Namibia

NORWAY

The Norwegian Marine University Consortium

PORTUGAL

UA@Mar, CESAM, University of Aveiro

Hydrographic Institute from the Portuguese Navy (IH)

Portuguese Institute for the Sea and Atmosphere (IPMA)

Institute of Marine Sciences - OKEANOS, University of the Açores

SPAIN

University of Cadiz

SOUTH AFRICA

SEAmester Program, University of Cape Town

UNITED KINGDOM

Plymouth Marine Laboratory

National Oceanographic Centre, Southampton

URUGUAY

Centro Universitario Regional del Este-CURE, Universidad de la República

POGO *– Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean*

Eurofleets+ *- An Alliance of European Marine Research Infrastructure.*

Atlantic International Research Centre *- AIR CENTRE*

Acknowledgements

The organizers deeply thank the support from the AANChOR Project to this initiative, and from the University of Cape Town for hosting this meeting, without which this would not have been possible. Many thanks also to all participants, both in-person and those that attended online, for their active contributions and enthusiasm, as well as to all those who were involved in developing and executing this JPA initiative, in particular the staff of the Oceanography Department of the University of Cape Town, Cashifa Karriem and colleagues. Many thanks to Ana Rei, Timo Schumann and Zuzia Stroynowski for their help in the organization, logistics and travel and accommodation arrangements. Very special thanks to Werner Ekau and Nicolas Dittert for their support through all the phases of the implementation of this JPA and for their coordination of Work Package 3. Finally, we would like to thank Sigi Gruber, Sofia Cordeiro and Jan-Stephan Fritz for their continuous support since the onset of this joint venture.

ALL-ATLANTIC OCEAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE

Creating an Atlantic Ocean Community by Implementing the Galway and Belém Statements

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Web: https://allatlanticocean.org/jointaction/all-atlantic-ocean-capacity-development-and-training-platform-

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