

General Assembly Minutes

Friday, 04th October 2024 at 16h

Sesimbra Maritime Museum, Rua da Fortaleza, 2970-738 Sesimbra

1. President's welcome

The President, Davide Gnola (DG) welcome all participants and congratulate Sesimbra for the organisation of this year's forum, full of interesting presentations.

2. List of tasks developed during year 2023-2024

DG outlines the main activities of AMMM in 2024.

- a) AMMM Website: During 2024 the Secretary and the President worked with the IT Company, appointed by Barcelona, to the publication of an updated version of the website, which is now online. All members are requested to check that the website is working properly and to report any problems to the Secretary.

DG also invites members to contribute to update the website in terms of scientific documents, working materials, research, events, thematic publications... This request includes also contents to be posted on social media.

- b) Working group UNESCO: Croatian and Italian Ministries of Culture are playing a crucial role in the proposal procedure. In October 2024, an in-person meeting will be held in Malinska (Croatia), involving representatives from all the proposing nations, to complete the application form to be submitted within March 2025 to the UNESCO National Committee. The title of the initiative will read "Latin and al terzo sailing" to properly include both the types of sailing.
- c) Forum: Once again thanking Sesimbra for the splendid organisation and warm welcoming, Dg points out that the Forum has been an opportunity to highlight once again how AMMM can be a place of permanent training, thanks to the presence of people with great experience and professionalism. At a time when museums are facing great difficulties, not only economic ones, museums more and more must enhance their anchorage with their scientific content and strengthen the link with their communities. The crucial museum's role is to interpret the community's feelings and narrate them to the public. This connection between museum and community is at the heart of the museums' survival. In this sense, DG points out that some members of the EC, with a huge experience in this field, are in retirement age. The EC hopes to continue to be able to count on their cooperation, in ways and forms that will be better jointly identified in the future.
- d) ICMM: DG informs that two AMMM members recently joined the EC of ICMM, namely Andreia Conceicao and Enric Garcia. ICMM will meet in Genoa in March 2025, and this appears a good opportunity to strengthen relationship between ICMM and AMMM.

3. Reading and approval of the minutes taken at the General Assembly held on 4th October 2023, San Benedetto del Tronto, Italy

Presidents put forward the motion to approve the Minutes taken at the General Assembly held on 4th October 2023 in San Benedetto del Tronto (Italy). GA votes in favour, by unanimity.

4. New adhesions to AMMM for voting

DG informs of the following.

The “Maritime Museum of Crete” of Crete (Greece) applies as a full member. The museum is managed by the Maritime Museum of Crete, a Not Profit Organization with a Legal Entity under Private Law. The Navy Owns the main building of the Maritime Museum. A second building, Moro Neorio (Dockyard) is granted by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture. The collection belongs to the Maritime Museum of Crete. A statute is present. 6 professionals are in charge. The main exhibition is open during all the year; the Moro Neorio exhibition can only be visited in the summer period.

The Museo di storia pianosina (Pianosa, Livorno, Italy) applies as a full member. The museum is managed by the Association for the Defence of the Island of Pianosa, a non-profit entity with 700 members, that promotes awareness and conservation of the historical, cultural and environmental heritage of the island, which has been the site of an important Italian prison since the 19th century. The Pianosa History Museum is housed in the former post office building owned by the Italian State, with which the Association has a ten-year contract. The Museum receives around 6,000 visitors each year. A statute and regulations are present. The Museum It is opened by volunteer members from April until October; in the other months it is only open on request.

The Ílhavo Maritime Museum applies as a full member. It has five permanent exhibitions, all of them maritime themed, all of them unique and equipped with rich collections that are part of the Museum's heritage. The Ílhavo Maritime Museum (MMI) is a museum owned by the Ílhavo City Council. Its mission is to preserve the memory of work at sea and to promote the maritime culture and identity of the Portuguese. The Museum, Aquarium and Research, and the Maritime Religious Centre and Santo André Museum Ship sum up the current Museum, an institution dedicated to all coastal communities and open to the most diverse audiences.

DG calls all full members for a vote on these new memberships (all as full members). The GA votes in favour, by unanimity, to the three applications.

No resignation occurred in 2024.

5. Next Forum

As agreed in former GA's, next forum will take place in L'Escala and Sant Feliu de Guíxols (Spain). The dates proposed are from the 17th to 20th September 2024. The event will focus on museums and SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). The title will be communicated soon.

LB and SA refer that L'Escala and St Feliu de Guíxols are working together to host the Forum, the first 2 days in St. Feliu and the last two days in L'Escala. GA asks the proposers to prepare a draft programme as soon as possible. The proposers pledge to take on the travel costs from St. Feliu to La Escala and to find low-cost hotels to reduce the effort of staying at least one extra night.

Candidacy to host the 2026 Forum was presented by Tivat during the 2023 Forum in San Benedetto del Tronto. EC is waiting for a formal confirmation of this candidacy as Tivat representatives are not attending Seimbra's Forum. The colleague of Kotor, representative of Maritime Museum of Montenegro offers to check the situation and support contacts with Tivat.

GA approves the proposals, by unanimity, as following:

- 2025: L'Escala and Sant Feliu De Guíxols (Spain)
- 2026: Montenegro (TBD)

6. Treasury: Balance / Settlement year 2023-2024

The document “Treasury settlement of year 2023 and estimate of expenditure and income of 2024” is distributed to members.

VM, on behalf of LP, informs that 2023-year settlement is positive, being the total of income: 2.960,00€; the total of expenditure: 1.617,32€; and the final settlement: 9.191,86€.

What concerns the total estimate of expenditure and income of 2024, the estimate settlement would be of 2.668,00€. The bank balance of 16th September 2024 is 10.000,82€.

Vice-Presidents invites all full members to vote. GA, with two different votes, approves both balance 2023 and settlement 2024.

Regarding members in arrears with payments, as decided by the Assembly in 2023, a last request for payment was sent in March 2024. At present, 6 entities (5 affiliates members and 1 full member) do not meet the requirements, and therefore the GA agrees to unsubscribe these members from AMMM.

Regarding members in arrears with payments, VM points out that, every year, payment letters of past years have been sent and these members have been asked repeatedly to regularize. As agreed during the 2023 GA, at the beginning of 2024, Treasury sent these members an encouraging and motivating letter, subscribed by the President, giving a deadline of June 30, 2024 to settle former payments. At present, 6 affiliates members still do not meet the requirements.

Namely, they are:

- Comitato Museo del Mare di Ancona (Ancona)
- Associació Amics del Muse Marítim de Mallorca (Palma de Mallorca)
- Antonio Espinosa (Malta)
- Associació d'Amics de la Mar de Menorca (Menorca, Ciutadella)
- Fundación Hospital Naval de la isla del Rey (Menorca, Mahòn)
- Pier Giovanni d'Ayala (Paris)

GA votes unanimously to unsubscribe the above members from AMMM.

Other 2 affiliates in arrears with payment, Parc naturel marin du golfe du Lion and Associazione Vele d'epoca Verbano, recently expressed interest in still being part of AMMM and pledged to pay their 2024 fees shortly.

Since the Association's budget is positive, DG propose, as agreed within the EC, to allocate some funds to organise local informative sessions in areas where AMMM is less present, to promote new memberships to the association.

DG submits to GA other two subjects to be founded:

- the continuation of the census of traditional boats, on which much has been done and notable documentation is already available on other databases.
- extension of AMMM website, as a repository where to collect and make available material on the topic of Women and the Sea, on which the same name WG is working.

GA declares in favour of continuing along these lines of work.

7. Other

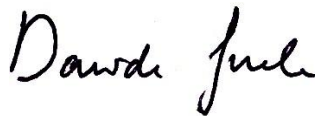
EM briefly illustrates the job done by working group:

- 1) Women and Sea: the group decided to launch research about women in AMMM's museums. A draft version of the investigation has been prepared.
- 2) Museum and Sustainable Development Goals, related to Agenda 2030. A first proposal for Forum scientific and technical structure has been drafted. The program will be closed in February 2025 so that the logistical aspects of it can be better planned.
- 3) Museums and health: the group is still working to better define topics.
- 4) Decalogue on the implication of maritime museums in explaining the history of slavery: an initial decalogue has been drafted and will be shared and discussed in the run-up to Forum 2025.

It is decided to make available and disseminate the materials of the working groups on the website, in the dedicated section.

Sesimbra, 4th October 2024

Davide Gnola
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Davide Gnola' in a cursive script.

Valeria Magliano
Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Valeria Magliano' in a cursive script.