

COUNCIL  
120th session  
Agenda item 14

C 120/14  
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**WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY**  
**Report of the Board of Governors**  
**Note by the Secretary-General**

**SUMMARY**

*Executive summary:* This document reports on the University's operations in 2017 and on salient decisions of the WMU Board of Governors during its thirty-sixth regular session and its third extraordinary session

*Strategic direction,  
if applicable:* 1

*Output:* 1.6

*Action to be taken:* Paragraph 18

*Related documents:* C 120/14/1, C 120/14/2; TC 68/9(a), TC 68/9(a)/Add.1 and TC 68/9(a)/1

1 Article 15(f) of the Charter of the World Maritime University (the Charter) requires the World Maritime University (WMU) Board of Governors (referred to below as "the Board of Governors" or "the Board") to report annually to the Council, through the Secretary-General, on the work of the University. In this regard, an integrated annual report in the form of a brochure, covering the activities of the University during the preceding calendar year, is being published annually by WMU.

2 The University's annual report for 2017 was considered and noted by the WMU Board of Governors, at its thirty-sixth session (6 and 7 May 2018), and is available on the WMU website at the following address: [www.wmu.se/annual-report-2017](http://www.wmu.se/annual-report-2017)

3 The report covers developments in governance and management; the academic premises; highlights including the visit of HRH The Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden; the enrolment in the M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D. and Postgraduate Diploma programmes; University research and publications; the Endowment Fund; and the financial affairs of the University.

**Financial matters**

4 The 2017 consolidated actual revenue and expenditure amounted to SKr133,730,349 and SKr117,416,789 respectively, resulting in an operational surplus of SKr16,313,560. There was a loss on currency exchange difference of SKr462,674 reported for the WMU Endowment

Fund and Trust and Special Funds. The currency exchange difference loss under the General Fund of SKr12, 632,710 was charged to the Reserve Fund on the basis of the decision of the Executive Board made at its twenty-first session on 8 December 2017. The consolidated net surplus of SKr15,850,886 is the net result of the surplus of SKr6,460,686 under the General Fund, a surplus of SKr9,805,700 from the WMU Endowment Fund and a shortfall of SKr415,500 under the Trust and Special Funds.

### **Student body**

5 There were 23 Ph.D. students continuing their programme in 2017. Overall, the University had a total intake in 2017 of 318 students consisting of 124 to the Malmö-based M.Sc. including four students who joined the accelerated programme in January 2017; 60 students enrolled in the Shanghai and Dalian programmes; the first-ever student enrolled on the new M.Phil. programme offered jointly by WMU and IMO International Maritime Law Institute; and 133 students enrolled on the distance learning programmes (Postgraduate Diplomas and LLM).

### **Third extraordinary session of the WMU Board of Governors**

6 On 17 March 2018, the third extraordinary session of the Board of Governors was held in Istanbul, Turkey, at the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Turkey. The main item discussed was the University's Draft Maritime Research Agenda.

### **Decisions of the thirty-sixth session of the WMU Board of Governors**

7 The WMU Board of Governors held its thirty-sixth session in Malmö, Sweden, on 6 and 7 May 2018 and, taking into account the related recommendations of the WMU Executive Board (referred to below as "the Executive Board"), the Board of Governors, inter alia:

- .1 noted that the substantially revised and modernized Charter for the University had taken effect from 1 January 2018, following its approval by the 118th session of the IMO Council in July 2017, and adoption by the thirtieth regular session of the IMO Assembly (November-December 2017);
- .2 noted the developments relating to the establishment of the WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute within the University, and gratefully acknowledged the very generous support of the Nippon Foundation to WMU, and specifically for the Global Ocean Institute, the Nippon Foundation Chairs, and the support for the Sasakawa Fellows. The Board welcomed the arrangements for the inauguration of the Global Ocean Institute on 8 May 2018, followed by the WMU Global Ocean Conference-Transformative Partnerships for Ocean Sustainability;
- .3 noted a report on the progress made in implementing the 2018-2019 Business Plan, and achieving the ten outcomes required to achieve the University's Strategic Goals;
- .4 noted a report on the progress made in connection with the preparation of the proposed Strategic Plan for 2020-2023, and its seven strategic directions;
- .5 noted the progress made in the preparations of the "WMU Maritime Research Agenda (2019-2023)" and encouraged the University to move forward with the proposed Maritime Research Agenda;

- .6 noted the progress made on the affiliation of WMU Staff to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF), approved the administrative arrangement between WMU and IMO, relating to the functions IMO will exercise on behalf of WMU, authorized the President to sign the Agreement, subject to the approval of the Council, and authorized the consequent amendments to the Staff Regulations and Rules, to enter into force only after consideration by the Council;
- .7 noted and welcomed the External Auditor's unqualified opinion on the University's financial operations during the financial period which ended on 31 December 2017 and requested the Executive Board to monitor the actions taken by the University in implementing the External Auditor's recommendations particularly those related to risk management;
- .8 approved the Revised Budget for 2018, and adopted the Initial Budget for 2019; the Executive Board, in consultation with the President, was requested to consider and propose an improved mechanism for approval of more developed and accurate budgets by the Board of Governors, including examining the option of an annual additional session, in person or held by correspondence, towards the end of each year to adopt the final budget for the following year;
- .9 noted, with satisfaction, the reports on the University's Contingent Liabilities and Currency Exposure;
- .10 approved the fees for the Ph.D in Maritime Affairs, and the fees and related fellowship fees for the M.Sc. in Maritime Affairs and the English Study and Skills Programme (ESSP) for 2019 and noted the indicative fees for 2020;
- .11 pursuant to the provisions of article 17 of the Charter, appointed Mr. Dwain Hutchison and Professor Max Johns as Members of the Executive Board to serve for a two-year term of office until 30 June 2020;
- .12 pursuant to the provisions of article 19 of the Charter, reappointed Professor Glenn Blackwood and Mr. Svein Buvik as Members of the Executive Board, to serve for another two-year term of office until 31 August 2020; and Mr. Mitsuyuki Unno until 30 June 2020, pending confirmation of their willingness to continue to serve the Executive Board;
- .13 pursuant to the provisions of article 18(b) of the Charter, noted the re-appointment of the Executive Board Chair, Mr. Torben Skaanild, by the Chancellor, to serve until 30 June 2019;
- .14 noted a report on the progress in discussions on the accreditation of WMU degrees by Sweden, including particular areas for consideration, such as the issues of Swedish legislation, WMU's privileges and immunities and the requisite amendments to relevant WMU Regulations and Rules, and encouraged the University to move forward with further consultations, while highlighting the importance of preserving WMU's privileges and immunities; and
- .15 encouraged the University to move forward with the establishment of the Industry Liaison Group and its high-profile launch.

### **Former branches of WMU**

8 The Board noted that, at its sixty-seventh session, the Technical Cooperation Committee agreed on a moratorium on all existing WMU branches, and the immediate cessation of the use of the term "WMU branch" in any form; and requested the Secretariat to work with the WMU President and with the University's governing bodies in the development of a new partnership structure with other training institutions, for consideration by the Technical Cooperation Committee at its sixty-eighth session.

9 The Board encouraged the University to move forward with the process of inviting the 14 former WMU branches to commit to an evaluation designed to determine whether a partnership arrangement, under either a Memorandum of Agreement or a Memorandum of Understanding, could be entered into.

10 The Board noted that successful evaluations of two former branches, Dalian Maritime University and the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport had been carried out, and approved the preparation of Memoranda of Agreement with these two institutions.

11 The University will report further, to the sixty-ninth session of the Technical Cooperation Committee in 2019.

### **Endowment Fund**

12 The Board of Governors considered the work of the Endowment Fund Investment and Development Committees and welcomed the progress made. The Board endorsed the appointment of the Eliasson Group to prepare the WMU resource mobilization and communication strategies, and adopted a number of transitional policies, as approved by the Executive Board, namely:

- .1 Provisional Investment Policy Statement;
- .2 Roles and Responsibilities of the Office of the President and Investment Committee;
- .3 Conflict of Interest Policy and Agreement, and a Declaration of Financial Interest;
- .4 Capital Donation Acceptance Policy; and
- .5 Internal Control Procedures and Flow Chart.

### **Equipment and facilities**

13 A range of equipment and facilities is considered necessary to enable the University to function optimally and the Council has previously strongly urged Member States and shipping industry stakeholders to contact WMU and find out what they could offer. In this regard, the WMU President has circulated a list of the equipment and facilities which are currently needed by the University, as set out in the annex.

### **Comments and observations**

14 The Secretary-General wishes to express his appreciation to all Members of the Board of Governors and of the Executive Board, for their contribution to the work of the University during the period under review.

15 As the Council is aware, the University is, to a great extent, financed by contributions from a relatively small number of countries and organizations, and, in this regard, the Secretary-General, in addition to recognizing the contribution of all of them, wishes to reiterate the Organization's particular gratitude to the Government of Sweden and the City of Malmö for their generous support to the University and the hospitality its students enjoy throughout their stay in Malmö.

16 All donors contributing to the operational budget, student fellowships, the Endowment Fund, visiting professors and field study opportunities are greatly appreciated. Financial and in-kind contributions from the international community in support of WMU are always a welcome support to the University's mission and achievements.

17 The Secretary-General appreciates the efforts of the President and her management team to develop and expand new revenue-generating activities, which have contributed towards the University's increased reserves.

### **Action requested of the Council**

18 The Council is invited to:

- .1 note the annual report of the Board of Governors of the World Maritime University for the calendar year 2017 and to comment as it deems appropriate;
- .2 urge, once more, Member States to take action so as to enable recognition, under their national legislation, of the degrees conferred by the University and, to that end, keep the Organization informed of developments;
- .3 strongly urge Member States and shipping industry stakeholders to contact WMU to establish what they can offer, in terms of equipment and facilities, to support the new academic facilities; and
- .4 express its appreciation to those donors who have contributed to the WMU Endowment Fund and urge Governments and organizations to provide financial contributions to the Fund.

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## ANNEX

### WMU EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES REQUIREMENTS

A range of equipment and facilities is considered necessary to enable the University to function optimally and deliver revenue-generating programmes, thus contributing to the rebuilding of financial reserves and the University's long-term sustainability. The first requirement is to enhance the University's work in the field of the oceans in connection with the inauguration of the Global Ocean Institute. The others are in relation to the security of the building, and the safety of the students and their belongings, especially their IT equipment.

#### **Digital signage for the Global Ocean Institute**

1 Digital signage is planned to be procured and installed at the Global Ocean Institute. The estimated cost amounts to SKr80,000.

#### **Ocean (Web of) Science Database**

2 The Web of Science database and licence would provide WMU students and faculty, access to one of the premier global science databases (with a ten-year archive), much like current students have access to maritime commercial shipping databases. As WMU moves forward with an ocean focus (under the new Global Ocean Institute) such a database would be extremely beneficial to students for scientific research. The cost for a three-year lease through the WMU Library would be approximately SKr253,000.

#### **Decorations for the Global Ocean Institute**

3 Donations are welcome for the decorations for the Global Ocean Institute such as ship models and ocean-related maps/paintings.

#### **Security speed gates**

4 Security concerns arose in 2017 at the entrance to WMU's building with occasional unwanted intrusions. An initial assessment for equipping the entrance with security speed gates was made. The estimated investment is SKr380,000 and WMU is seeking to install these speed gates by mid-2018.

#### **Cable Holders for the WMU Offices**

5 To provide better cabling management for each work desk, WMU seeks support with installing cable holders for each desk. The estimated cost amounts to SKr80,000.

#### **Henrik Smith Students' Residence Safety boxes**

6 Students have frequently lamented the absence of safety boxes at the WMU residence. Installing 220 units is estimated at SKr680,000.

#### **Classroom Facilities**

7 WMU plans to turn one office into a classroom. This includes the installation of a projector and the provision of furniture. The cost is estimated at SKr100,000.