

SeaDataNet AISBL Become a member!



Serge Scory, Chair, presented by M. Fichaut Co-chair



SeaDataNet AISBL is established

- "AISBL": Non-profit international organization under Belgian law
- Several steps:
 - 12 February 2019: Adoption of the statutes by the 2 founding members (IFREMER and RBINS) and first General Assembly
 - 13 April 2019: Signature of the Royal Decree
 - 09 May 2019: Publication in the Belgian official Gazette







Objectives of the Organization

According to its <u>statutes</u>, the Organization, which does not seek financial gain, aims to work in the collective interest of its members to improve the quality and effectiveness in the management, the processing and the dissemination of oceanographic data at national, regional and global levels.

SeaDataNet is a light organization aiming mainly at promoting our common endeavours. It isn't its purpose to take over, as it is now, the operational role of the various SeaDataNet partners



Objectives of the Organization

More specifically the purpose of the Organization is:

- Promote the SeaDataNet infrastructure, tools and services and the development of underpinning science and technology;
- Foster cooperation and coordination within its Members in the field of data management, processing and dissemination;
- Promote and coordinate the development of commonly available products and services; and
- Coordinate the contribution of the pan-European oceanographic data management community to the European Union initiatives for a better environmental status of the seas and oceans and for an improved marine knowledge in general.



First actions

Decisions of the first General Assembly:

- Designation of the Members of the Board
- Decision not to set up a general secretariat
- Decision to set the annual membership fee to 250€.
- Adoption of the Rules of Procedures



First actions

On the practical side:

- A bank account has been opened.
- An accounting firm has been chosen.
- The situation of the AISBL with respect to the VAT has been clarified.
- There is a page on the SeaDataNet website, with access to the Statutes. Rules of Procedures will follow.

NB: The registered office of SeaDataNet AISBL is located at RBINS (where EuroGOOS AISBL will soon move.)



Current composition of the Board

- Mr Serge Scory (Chair)
- Mrs Michèle Fichaut (Vice-Chair)
- Mrs Alessandra Giorgetti
- Mrs Athanasia Iona
- Mrs Lesley Rickards
- Mr Dick Schaap

They act as individuals (but we made sure that they have strong links with institutions responsible for key-elements of the SeaDataNet infrastructure).

Mandates run up to the General Assembly of 2022, re-eligible.



Why SeaDataNet AISBL?

- The EU Commission wanted for a long time to be able to talk to "SeaDataNet" through a unique entity, not via Beneficiaries of projects
- This is also the case for other "high level" bodies (ENVRI-BEERI, ESFRI, ...)
- We need to show that we are not only a project-based initiative and that there is a strong will to support the sustainability of the infrastructure, its services and the delivery of high quality marine data through this channel.

The stronger the Organization, the stronger the message

→ become a member!



How will the membership fee be used?

- No other income foreseen for the moment
- The membership fees will mainly be used to cover
 - the establishment costs (~1500€)
 - the administrative support for the official accounting
 - some operational costs (stamps...)
 - promotional expenses (after SeaDataCloud)
 - insurance for the member of the Board

– ...

A budget and a tentative financial plan will be presented at the 2020 GA.



How to become a member?

- Organizations that signed the "SeaDataNet Exploitation Agreement" at the end of the SeaDataNet 2 project will be automatically admitted as a Member upon notification of their written request for affiliation addressed to the Organization (sdn-aisbl-board@seadatanet.org).
- Organizations that didn't sign the "SeaDataNet Exploitation Agreement" must be admitted by the General Meeting.

Only organizations can become member, no individuals.

Full membership is granted once the annual membership fee is paid to the organization.

There will be at least one GA a year, normally in May in Brussels.



Status of the membership

- One full member
- Five organizations applied
- 36 other potential "direct" members, i.e. signatories of the Exploitation Agreement that didn't yet apply (Status June 2016)

We'll send an email soon to the signatories of the exploitation agreement with a template of an application letter.

To: SeaDataNet aisbl c/o Serge Scory (Chair) Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences rue Vautier 29 1000 Brussels (Belgium)

To the Board of SeaDataNet aisbl,

In agreement with Art. 7 of the statutes of SeaDataNet aisbl, stating that the signatories of the "SeaDatanet Exploitation Agreement" will become a full member by explicitly notifying to the association their willingness to become a member; considering further that [your Institution name] signed this agreement in due time, [your Institution name] herewith notifies SeaDataNet aisbl of its willingness to become a full member SeaDataNet aisbl.

[your Institution name] acknowledges that its membership will only become effective once its financial contribution to the functioning of the association ("annual fee", currently equal to 250,-€) will be available on the bank account of SeaDataNet aisbl.

Furthermore [your Institution name] mandates Dr/Mrs/M. XXX (+full address) as its representative to the General Assembly of SeaDataNet aisbl and the follow-up of the activities of the association.

Signatory name, title; date; stamp



Potential "direct" members

Country	Organization	Country	Organization
Belgium	ULG	Georgia	TSU-DNA
	VLIZ	Germany	BSH
Bulgaria	IO_BAS		AWI
Croatia	IOF	Iceland	MRI
Cyprus	OC-UCY		MI
Denmark	Aarhus_University	Israel	IOLR
	ICES	Italy	CNR
Estonia	MSI		ENEA
Finland	FMI		INGV
France	SHOM	Latvia	LHEI



Potential "direct" members

Country	Organization	Country	Organization
Malta	UoM	Slovenia	NIB_MBSS
Montenegro	IMBK	Spain	IEO
Netherlands	NIOZ		UTM-CSIC
Norway	IMR	Sweden	SMHI
Poland	IOPAN	Tunisia	INSTM
	IMGW	Turkey	METU
Portugal	IHPT		
Romania	NIMRD		
Russia	RIHMI-WDC		
	SIO-BAS		



Contact: sdn-aisbl-board@seadatanet.org

