



## **European Marine Board University Consortium Panel**

### **Terms of Reference**

***August 2021***

#### **Contents**

1. Context
2. Key Panel Objectives
3. Mode of Operation
4. Membership and Structure

## 1. Context

---

Across Europe, a number of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have formed distinct consortia to bring together institutions with interests in marine science. Under the auspices and with the support of the European Marine Board (EMB), there is a desire amongst some of these country or regionally based consortia to explore areas of mutual interest with regards to both research and education in the broadest sense. These Terms of Reference are designed to provide a framework within which those HEIs who currently exist or are in development can exchange information, ideas and best practice and lay the groundwork for more direct collaborations as and where appropriate.

## 2. Key Panel Objectives

---

The key objectives are to have a panel within the EMB to:

- Establish a forum for HEI consortia that exist or are in development to meet
- Help identify and share best practice with respect to the governance and operation of these consortia, including to support those with an interest in starting a new consortium
- Identify and share opportunities for HEI consortia to collaborate across the EU or internationally
- Promote each other's consortiums both nationally and internationally
- Identify where the respective resources and networks that exist within these consortia can add value to existing and future EMB activities
- Bring a common voice and message from consortium members to EMB Plenary meetings

## 3. Mode of Operation

---

The UCP will operate on a light touch basis with a view to minimising the time and resources required to address its stated objectives.

The UCP will report to the EMB through the Secretariat as required. The EMB Secretariat will provide administrative support to the Panel and Chair via a dedicated Science Officer.

The Panel will meet twice a year, before each of the EMB Plenary meetings, and meetings will be conducted online except in exceptional circumstances.

The EMB Secretariat Science Officer dedicated to the Panel will take brief notes during Panel meetings and will share those with the Panel members within one calendar month of the meeting taking place.

The Panel can (but is not required to) establish Task Groups to undertake specified time-bound activities. Task Groups report to the Panel.

The EMB UCP may seek to develop links with the EMB Young Ambassadors, for mutual support and cooperation between the two initiatives.

#### 4. Membership and Structure

---

All EMB Members with identifiable HEI consortia or a stated desire to establish such consortia are eligible to join the Panel.

The UCP will have a Chair and UCP Members will be invited to appoint a representative(s) to become a member(s) of the Panel.

Nominations for the Chair of the group will be requested from Panel members. Where there is more than one nominee, the Panel will be required to vote for their preferred candidate.

The Chair will have a period of tenure of 1 year, and during this time will chair panel meetings, report back to EMB plenary meetings, and represent the Panel at high-level events.

Alternates are acceptable under exceptional circumstances only, and Panel appointees should only commit to their role on the understanding that they may expect to be active participants in the activities of the Panel.