

**ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE UNIVERSITIES
OF THE CASPIAN SEA LITTORAL COUNTRIES
(ASUCSLC)**

CHARTER

Adopted
by the General Assembly
Astrakhan
1st September 1996
The President of the Association



Professor Yuri N. Kagakov



1996

CHARTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE UNIVERSITIES OF THE CASPIAN SEA LITTORAL COUNTRIES

ARTICLE I. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1.1. The Association of the State Universities of the Caspian Sea Littoral Countries (further - the Association) is a voluntary union of the state universities and research centres of the following countries:

Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, The Republic of Kazakhstan, The Russian Federation

1.2. The Association has been formed on the initiative of the following universities:

Astrakhan State Technical University (The Russian Federation, the city of Astrakhan); Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (Islamic Republic of Iran, the city of Gorgan); Mazandaran University (Islamic Republic of Iran, the city of Babolsar); Guilan University (Islamic Republic of Iran, the city of Rasht).

1.3. The members of the Association are:

Astrakhan State Technical University (The Russian Federation, the city of Astrakhan); Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (Islamic Republic of Iran, the city of Gorgan); Mazandaran University (Islamic Republic of Iran, the city of Babolsar); Guilan University (Islamic Republic of Iran, the city of Rasht); Atyrau State University (The Republic of Kazakhstan, the city of Atyrau); The Azerbaijan Technical University (The Republic of Azerbaijan, the city of Baku); The Dagestan State University (The Russian Federation, the city of Makhach-Kala); The Kalmyk State University (The Russian Federation, the city of Elista).

1.4. The Association is open to other universities and research centres of Caspian Sea Littoral Countries upon the decision of the General Assembly. Research centres are considered as associated members.

ARTICLE II. GOALS AND TASKS.

2.1. The Association was formed for the purpose of accumulating efforts of the staff of the universities and research centres in order to develop and implement regional collaboration for educational, scientific and cultural programmes involving the issues of the Caspian Sea, with due regard for economic, ecological and cultural features of the Caspian Sea Littoral Countries.

2.2. The main tasks of the Association are considered to be the following:

a) to create a united educational environment for the Caspian Sea Littoral Countries in order to facilitate the solution of the Caspian Sea problems;

b) to establish joint educational, scientific and cultural centres in member institutions to carry out projects designed to further develop higher education systems in the littoral region of the Caspian Sea Countries;

c) to work out common criteria and standards of selecting and training students for their study in member universities and research centres and to arrange for student and staff exchanges between these institutions;

d) to draw up long-term collaboration programmes of participating in regional due activities, scientific projects, and to support science and research centres; and eminent scientists in the Caspian Sea Littoral Countries;

e) to investigate demand for educational services and to perform educational efforts in the world market; and to design most urgent projects for promoting collaboration with universities of the Caspian Sea Littoral Countries as well as all over the world;

f) to prepare preliminary agreements on mutual recognition of taught courses, degrees, certificates and diplomas of higher education;

g) to assist in mutual recognition on the national level of higher education certificates and diplomas, degrees and academic ranks;

h) to participate in formulating a concept of up-to-date economic development of the Caspian Region, ecological, ethnic and cultural features of littoral states being taken into account.

ARTICLE III. RIGHTS AND REGULATIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

3.1. The university-members of the Association have the following rights:

- a) to take part in Association governing through participating in the General Assembly and executive bodies;
- b) to participate in drawing-up and implementing educational, scientific and cultural programmes of the Association;
- c) to make use of the services provided by the member universities and research centres on favourable terms set by the General Assembly;
- d) to receive information on Association activities from the General Assembly and executive bodies;
- e) to cease to be a member of the Association.

3.2. University-members take on the following regulations:

- a) to observe the given Charter and agreements;
- b) to contribute to the intensification of Association activities.

3.3. Each university-member has the right not to participate in any activity or event if it has a different opinion about the matter, even in case the majority voted for it.

3.4. The Association allows its members to conclude bilateral treaties with each other for separate areas of activity according to their wish.

3.5. University-members retain their complete administrative, economic and financial independence and carry out their activity within the Association according to the joint work programmes, the given Charter and agreements.

3.6. Associated members have the same rights as university-members except:

- a) they can not be elected as President of the Association;
- b) the number of associated members of each country should not exceed the number of university-members of that countries.

ARTICLE IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

4.1. The supreme body of the Association is General Assembly of universities and research centres from the Caspian Sea Littoral Countries led by the President of the Association. The General Assembly is formed out of the Heads of the universities and research centres.

4.2. The President of the Association is elected out of the Heads of member-universities for the term of two years in revolving order.

4.3. The Head of the university that plays host to a forthcoming General Assembly is elected President for the next term as a rule.

4.4. The permanent centre for official documents of the Association is located in the city of Astrakhan, i.e. in Astrakhan State Technical University.

4.5. General Assembly is entitled:

- to adopt the Charter and make amendments and additions to it;
- to elect the President of the Association every two years;
- to consider and approve educational, scientific and cultural programmes of Association activities for a short period up to two years and for a long period up to four/five years;
- to listen to and approve the reports of President on implementation of the programme of Association activities;
- to grant and deny membership of the Association;
- to solve various problems related to Association activities.

4.6. Resolutions of the General Assembly are passed by simple majority of votes.

4.7. The responsibilities of the President are:

- a) to organise the General Assembly and conduct it;
- b) to inform the members about Association decisions and activities;
- c) to supervise the progress and quality of all Association projects;
- d) to follow up the implementation of all matters approved by the General Assembly;
- e) to convene regional scientific seminars and conferences;
- f) to represent the Association in other organizations and institutions.

ARTICLE V. OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE ASSOCIATION

5.1. Official languages of the Association, documents, records and contracts will be Farsy, Russian and English. In the case of any disputes the English version will be referenced to.

ARTICLE VI. FORMAT OF THE CHARTER

6.1. The charter with 6 articles and 22 subarticles hereby approved by the Association members at the first General Assembly in Astrakhan University on 1st September 1996. It is presented in three copies in languages of Farsi, Russian and English each having equal force.

Astrakhan State Technical University



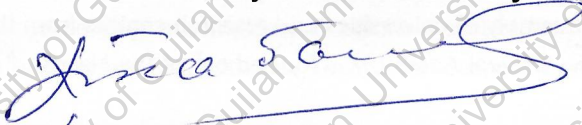
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