Executive Summary

Initial Licensure
Arab Academy for Science, Technology, & Maritime Transport

April 25-27, 2019

An Initial Licensure Review Team (hereafter ILRT) visited the Arab Academy for Science, Technology, & Maritime Transport (AASTMT) from 25 to 27 April 2019, to evaluate the *Self-Study* (hereafter the *Self-Study*) for Initial Licensure. The exit interview was held on 29 January 2020.

AASTMT applied for Initial Licensure in early April 2019. The proposed HEI is a branch campus of the Academy which was established in 1972 by the Arab League to build skills and research capacity in the Arab world in specialized sectors such as marine engineering, maritime technology, and aquaculture, among other areas. The main campus of AASTMT is based in Alexandria, Egypt, and there is a network of branch campuses in other locations in Egypt, and in Latakia (Syria). There are 30,000 students enrolled in AASTMT's programs across different locations, taught by almost 2,200 faculty members and supported by the same number of administrative staff members. The programs proposed for the Sharjah campus of AASTMT are replicate with those offered by the parent institution in Egypt.

AASTMT has submitted an Application for Initial Licensure for its branch campus in Sharjah. The Application is strongest in presenting an overview of the Academy and its history (both in Alexandria and at existing branch campuses); the Application covers most of the requirements of the *Standards* in appropriate manner. However, it does not go far enough in adjusting some parts of its documents, policies and procedures to the specific requirements of the institution as a Branch campus in the UAE. The ILRT has no doubt that the parent institution has the capacity to develop another branch campus and to do so in a manner consistent with the *Standards,* particularly as it has now strong financial and logistical support from the Government of Sharjah. There is, however, work to be done to demonstrate that capacity as outlined through the requirements contained in this report. Most of the Requirements deal with issues of inconsistencies among documents and the contextualization of some policies and procedures to the local conditions of the UAE. In its resubmission, the institution should benefit from this initial Assessment Report and the comments, Requirements, and Suggestions included in it.

The ILRT makes its Requirements and offers its Suggestions in a spirit of constructive engagement, with the aim of ensuring that the Standards are met, and to aid AASTMT in making necessary improvements to receive Initial Licensure.