

19. 3. List of legal documents

This is the translation of the of the original of the Deed of the Supporting Committee (the original in Italian language with the signatures is attached too), which regulates all the activities of the Committee related to the candidacy and will continue to exist until the new form of governance will be in place.

DEED OF ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE

“UNESCO MaB – Saline di Sicilia”

In response to requests and initiatives arising from the local area, and upon the initiative of the Chamber of Commerce of Trapani, the voluntary and informal Committee entitled**“UNESCO MaB – Saline di Sicilia”** is hereby established for the purpose of promoting the candidacy, within the framework of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MaB) Programme, of a portion of the territory located within the municipalities of Trapani, Paceco, Misiliscemi and Marsala, characterized by the centuries-old presence of salt pans.

This Deed of Establishment was signed on **15 January 2025 at 11:00 a.m.** at the headquarters of the Chamber of Commerce of Trapani.

Founding Members

- Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Crafts and Agriculture of Trapani
- Municipality of Marsala
- Municipality of Misiliscemi
- Municipality of Paceco
- Municipality of Trapani
- WWF, as Managing Authority of the “Trapani and Paceco Salt Pans Regional Nature Reserve”
- Free Municipal Consortium of Trapani, as Managing Authority of the “Stagnone Islands of Marsala Regional Nature Reserve”
- Regional Department of Territory and Environment of the Sicilian Region

The Committee shall have its registered office in Trapani, at the headquarters of the Chamber of Commerce, and shall remain in force until **31 December 2026**.

Upon expiry of this term, the Assembly of Founding Members may extend the duration of the Committee in order to enable the achievement of its objectives as set out below. The Assembly may also propose its transformation into a different institutional body, consistent with the governance needs of the “Saline di Sicilia” area under the auspices of UNESCO’s international Man and the Biosphere recognition.

Whereas

- the territory of the Saline di Sicilia possesses distinctive environmental values recognized at regional, European and international levels;
- these characteristics constitute an irreplaceable natural and cultural heritage that must be safeguarded and preserved for future generations;
- human activities within the salt pans should be directed, supported and managed in order to prevent irreversible damage to the existing natural and cultural heritage;
- tourism can represent an important economic resource for local communities and should therefore be guided so that economic development and environmental conservation are mutually reinforcing;
- conservation measures already implemented by the two Managing Authorities, namely the Trapani and Paceco Salt Pans Regional Nature Reserve and the Stagnone Islands of Marsala Regional Nature Reserve, have contributed positively to ensuring the protection of the above-mentioned territories;
- the four municipalities of Marsala, Misiliscemi, Paceco and Trapani have already undertaken initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable development within the salt pan areas.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Committee is to obtain international recognition by UNESCO, within the framework of its intergovernmental scientific programme **Man and the Biosphere (MaB)**, for the **Saline di Sicilia**.

The Committee shall be responsible for ensuring the implementation of all actions necessary to achieve the objective for which it has been established. In particular, it may undertake activities

related to territorial promotion, strategic guidance and scientific-technical monitoring, in accordance with the following principles:

- **Working in partnership:** involving all stakeholders engaged in the management, protection and sustainable development of the Saline di Sicilia area, while fostering collaboration between public and private sectors;
- **Protecting and enhancing natural and cultural heritage:** safeguarding landscape resources from unsustainable development and activities with significant environmental impacts;
- **Promoting dialogue and exchange among social actors:** including schools, universities, associations and the business community, with the aim of encouraging scientific research capable of supporting the sustainable development of the area;
- **Improving knowledge and awareness of the territory:** and of sustainable development issues among all stakeholders, so as to effectively communicate the unique characteristics of the area;
- **Ensuring high-quality tourism experiences:** for both residents and visitors, by promoting projects for sustainable tourism and encouraging the consumption of local products that contribute to discovering and understanding the territory;
- **Respecting legal and regulatory frameworks:** governing economic activities and promoting good practices that ensure fair competitiveness and sustainability among all operators involved.

2. FOUNDING MEMBERS

The Founding Members of the Committee are the eight signatories to this Deed.

The Founding Members assign the role of **General Secretariat** to the Chamber of Commerce of Trapani.

The Founding Members shall meet regularly, upon convocation by the General Secretariat, at least three times per year, in order to pursue the objectives of the Committee and guide its activities. Additional meetings may be convened upon request by at least three Founding Members.

Meetings shall be validly constituted when at least five Founding Members are present.

3. MEMBERS

The Founding Members may invite any other public or private stakeholder operating within the territory, and interested in supporting the candidacy process of the Saline di Sicilia under the UNESCO

Man and the Biosphere Programme, to join the Committee, provided that such stakeholder is deemed capable of making a positive contribution to this purpose.

Following such invitation, additional entities may join the Committee at any time through the signing of a supplementary protocol to this Deed of Establishment. Upon signing the protocol, the new entity shall acquire the status of Committee Member.

All Members, as well as the Founding Members, shall comply with the principles set out in Article 1 of these Rules of Procedure and with all duly adopted decisions.

Committee Members shall be invited at least once a year to participate in a plenary meeting aimed at sharing information and reporting on progress achieved towards the UNESCO MaB designation of the Saline di Sicilia. Invitations shall be sent by e-mail by the General Secretariat.

Members shall also be invited to participate in Working Groups established across the territories of the four municipalities, with broad public communication aimed at encouraging citizen participation.

4. FUNDING

The Committee may raise the funds necessary to pursue the objectives referred to in Article 1 through contributions from public and private bodies, as well as through public and private subscriptions and donations. Any residual funds remaining upon dissolution of the Committee shall be allocated to initiatives promoting the territory.

5. RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Committee may amend these Rules of Procedure in order to further specify its functioning and facilitate the achievement of its objectives. Amendments shall be adopted by a majority vote of the members present.

6. FINAL PROVISIONS

For matters not expressly governed by this Deed of Establishment, the provisions of the Italian Civil Code and all applicable legislation shall apply.

7. TRANSPARENCY AND COMMUNICATION

Meetings of both Founding Members and Committee Members shall be convened through written communication by e-mail from the General Secretariat, with at least seven days' notice. The General Secretariat shall also circulate the minutes of meetings within the following fifteen days.

Trapani, 15 January 2025

Signatories

- For the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Crafts and Agriculture of Trapani: Extraordinary Commissioner Giuseppe Pace
- For the Municipality of Marsala: Councillor Salvatore Agate
- For the Municipality of Misiliscemi: Mayor Salvatore Antonino Tallarita
- For the Municipality of Paceco: Mayor Aldo Grammatico
- For the Municipality of Trapani: Councillor Rosalia D'Alì
- For WWF, as Managing Authority of the Trapani and Paceco Salt Pans Regional Nature Reserve: President Silvana Piacentino
- For the Free Municipal Consortium of Trapani, as Managing Authority of the Stagnone Islands of Marsala Regional Nature Reserve: Director Maurizio Giuseppe Falzone
- For the Regional Department of Territory and Environment of the Sicilian Region: Head of Service III Francesco Picciotto