

UNION OF MEDITERRANEAN ARCHITECTS

UIA REGION II ONLINE PRESIDENTS MEETING

12 MAY 2021

BRIEF REPORT

UMAR have conducted its 26TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY on the 09 April 2021 – ONLINE Format

The Main discussions focused about the future of UMAR in the line of current challenges and Global transformations.

Main Questions raised on:

1. What is the organization core role in the Mediterranean?
2. Is it only a Communication and Networking Hub?
3. Why it is useful to the Mediterranean Architects?

BACKGROUND - UMAR PHILOSOPHY - 1994

- Desire of Mediterranean Architects to create a structure.
- Regenerating and consolidating the ties to the Mediterranean Basin
- Constituent General Meeting of 1 January 1994 Crete, Greece, entitled:

THE UNION OF MEDITERRANEAN ARCHITECTS (UMAR)

- 9 Initiators: Albania, Algeria, Cyprus, Greece, Morocco, Palestine, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey.
- Declaration of Rabat of 15 July 1994
- This Union is Complementary to other existing Organizations.

AMONG UMAR 13 OBJECTIVES, THE FOLLOWING WAS HIGHLIGHTED:

7. Promote an **Alliance between all Architects** in a spirit of Confraternity and mutual respect, without discrimination based on Nationality, Race or Religion.
9. Ensure the **co-ordination of Mediterranean Architects'** Organizations with a view to supporting them in their joint actions.
10. Create ... a spirit of **co-operation and Solidarity between Mediterranean Architects** and their Organizations
13. Consolidate the ties between **UMAR and other international Architects' organizations.**

UMAR SHARED CONCERNS WITH REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- UN 2030 Agenda for sustainable development (SDG)
- Affordable Housing
- Climate Change
- Heritage, Uses, Maintenance, Restauration
- International Movements for Urban crisis, Migrations, Reconstruction.
- International competitions
- Exchange channels of experiences and knowledge.
- Development of collaborative experiences among Architects (Database)
- Partners and Projects worked in Partnership.

UMAR FACTS

- UMAR is a Soft and Young Organization
- Actual 13 Member Sections: Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Turkey, Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Greece, Malta, and Cyprus.
- Absence of permanent staff on a payroll.
- Absence of Institutional Infrastructure
- Limited Financial Resources (Members Annual Fees)
- 5 Bureau Members
- Communication center in Beirut
- Registration in Malta with an assigned delegate
- Bank Account in Malta managed by assigned delegate.
- Website and Facebook page

RETHINKING OUR PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

- Transformations Ahead of us
- Tools for adaptive communication
- Our organizations: WHY? HOW? WHO?
- Consideration to economic and financial crisis

Based on what is the next Normal?

Identification of Current Priorities

- **Solidarity** and Humanistic Approach
- Breaking Free from the **Traditional Stereotypes**
- **The Pandemic** will leave a Long-Term Legacy.
- Softening the Fortress Organization Model, enabling inclusions for a **younger generation of Architects**
- **Re-Thinking** our Organizations classic procedures and conventional strategies, rigid methodologies, and repetitive pattern. (Re-producing the void)
- Adapting long term **hybrid strategies**
- **CRISIS** situations are opportunities **ADVANCE** or stay where you are!
- **Identifying** the pathways
- **Assessing** actual situation
- **Pre-COVID, COVID, Post-COVID**
- **The Virtual** that we are currently employing as an **Emergency Mode** is bound to at least leave a trace, if not shift the **Foundations of our Organizations Performances.**

26TH G.A. MAIN RESOLUTION, UMAR INITIATIVE: UMAR THINK TANK

- Creating **UMAR Think Tank**
- Participation from Nominated Member Sections delegates (Past E.B. Members + young Architects)
- Conducting online Workshops chaired by E.B.
- Collecting ideas - Elaboration
- Creating an action plan for the Next Triennial (Commissions and Working Bodies to Assist the Bureau)
- Member sections have nominated 2 Delegates each.
- Workshops to start June 2021.
- Outcomes will be presented to all member sections at the 27th G.A. December 2021
- It will constitute a guideline for the next triennial mandate 2022-2024
- Looking forward a more useful organization

UMAR CALENDAR FOR 2021 PLANNED EVENTS

- 3 Planned Webinars in September, October, and November 2021