



# CPMR

## BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

### Executive Committee Meeting MINUTES 14 June 2007

**Time** 14 June 2007 at 10 am. – 1 pm  
**Venue** Hotel Radisson SAS, Conference Area, BODØ (N)

**Participants**                      **Members**    **Substitutes**

**Roll call**

|     |   |                    |   |
|-----|---|--------------------|---|
| (x) | Ms Christel LILJESTRÖM<br>Itä-Uusimaa/Östra Nyland (FI) |                    | President   |
| (x) | Mr Poul MÜLLER<br>Central Denmark (DK)                  | Vice-<br>President | (-) Mr Jørgen KVIST<br>Bornholm (DK)                      |
| (x) | Ms Elke ORDING<br>Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D)            |                    | (-) Mr Wolf BORN<br>Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D)            |
| (-) | Ms Reet KOKOVKIN (EST)                                  |                    | (-) Mr Tarmo PIKNER (EST)                                 |
| (-) | Ms Talvikki KOSKINEN<br>South-West Finland (FI)         |                    | (x) Ms Marjatta VEKAOJA<br>Pohjanmaa/Österbotten (FI)     |
| (x) | Mr Ilgonis STEINBERGS<br>Riga District (LV)             |                    | (-) Ms Grenada DEMAKINA<br>Riga District (LV)             |
| (-) | Raisa MINCINAUSKIENE<br>Klaipėda (LT)                   |                    | (-) Ms Dalia MAKUSKIENE<br>Klaipėda (LT)                  |
| (-) | Mr Geir-Ketil HANSEN<br>Nordland (N)                    |                    | (x) Ms Sonja A STEEN<br>Nordland (N)                      |
| (x) | Mr Michał PODBIELSKI<br>(PL)                            |                    | (-) Ms Grazyna SZAJSTEK<br>Podlaskie (PL)                 |
| (-) | Ms Annika ANNERBY JANSSON<br>Region Skåne (S)           |                    | (-) Mr Erik BERGKVIST<br>Västerbottens Läns Landsting (S) |

**Secretariat:**

|     |                     |  |
|-----|---------------------|--|
| (x) | Ms Anne STÅHL MOUSA | Executive Secretary, BSC Secretariat Visby |
| (/) | Ms Birgitta LARSARP | BSC Secretariat Visby                      |
| (/) | Ms Iimi TIKKANEN    | Secretariat EC meeting Porvoo/Borgå        |

CONFERENCE OF PERIPHERAL MARITIME REGIONS OF EUROPE – BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

Executive Secretary *Anne Ståhl Mousa*, Telephone +46 498 203444, Mobile +46 70 5408858, Fax +46 498 205120

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Gotland Region, Executive Office, CPMR Baltic sea Commission, Schweitzergränd 3, 621 81, Visby SWEDEN

**Other participants:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (-) Mr Xavier GIZARD, CPMR Secretary General                    | (x) Mr Enrico MAYRHOFER<br>CPMR Brussels Office |
| (x) Mr Peder BANG,<br>Central Denmark (DK)                      | (x) Mr JanErik MAJEWSKI, Region<br>Skåne (S)    |
| (x) Mr Ole M KOLSTAD, Nordland (N)                              | (-) Mr Henrik EYBYE NIELSEN<br>Bornholm (DK)    |
| (x) Mr Jaakko MIKKOLA, Regional Council of Itä-<br>Uusimaa (SF) | (x) Ms Linnéa LUNDSTRÖM,<br>Västerbotten (S)    |
| (x) Ms Magdalena, LYZNICKA-SANCENKO, (PL)                       |   |
| (x) Mr Tommy KARLSSON, Stockholm Region (S)                     | (x) Ms Inger LINGE, Stockholm<br>Region (S)     |

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|-----------------------|--|--|
| <b>44 §</b>           | <b>Opening the Meeting</b>   |  |
| <b>Final decision</b> | The meeting was opened and the President wished all a fruitful conference in Bodø.   |  |
| <b>45 §</b>           | <b>Adopting of the Agenda</b>  |  |
| <b>Final decision</b> | The agenda was adopted with the decision to postpone 47§ to the Executive Committee meeting on the 15 <sup>th</sup> of June.   |  |
| <b>46 §</b>           | <b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b>   | <i>Appendix 1 - Minutes E.C. Porvoo</i>  |
|                       | The previous meeting was held in Porvoo on 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> of March 2007.  |  |
| <b>Final decision</b> | The minutes were unanimously adopted with the decision to move 47 §, Change of Executive Committee Members to the Executive Committee meeting on the 15 <sup>th</sup> of June.   |  |
| <b>47 §</b>           | <b>Change of Executive Committee Members</b>   |  |
|                       | Ms Irina Rozova has left her office and will be replaced by Deputy Governor's Ms. Raisa Mincinauskiene Klaipeda, Lithuania.<br>Missing members from Estonia and Latvia. Names? Action?   |  |
| <b>Proposal</b>       | All delegates make a presentation of themselves and new members are welcome to the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission family and work.   |  |
| <b>Final decision</b> | The discussion was postponed to the Executive Committee Members to the Executive Committee meeting on the 15 <sup>th</sup> of June except regarding a short individual presentation.   |  |
| <b>48 §</b>           | <b>CPMR Current Affairs</b>  | <i>Appendix 2 - CPMR Program of Work</i> |
|                       | Mr Enrico Mayrhofer, Director, CPMR, contact person on Baltic Sea Commission will have a presentation about the current CPMR activities post the Political Bureau meeting in Podlaskie 8 <sup>th</sup> of June.  |  |
| <b>Final decision</b> | Mr Enrico Mayrhofer, CPMR, contact person on Baltic Sea Commission presented a list of coming CPMR events:<br><br><i>June 9-10</i> Meeting on the Azores on Maritime Policies and Globalisation with representatives from five continents and Global Government and with Mr Joe Borg, European Commissioner responsible for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs present.<br><br><i>July 19-20</i> Mr Claudio Martini, CPMR will meet with representatives of the Portuguese EU Presidency on the next step of the Blue (white) Paper of the Maritime Policy.<br><br><i>August 24-25</i> Meeting in Cape Town with the Network of World Regions. Mr Claudio Martini, CPMR President and Mr Xavier Gizard, CPMR Secretary General will be representing CPMR.<br><i>August 27</i> The 16 <sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of the Baltic Sea Conference with Mr Joe Borg, European Commissioner responsible for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs present. |  |

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September 28-29 Mr Claudio Martini, CPMR President has been invited to the Cohesion Forum, as the only organisation, to be participating as speaker.

October 8-12 The Committee of Regions Open Days in Brussels. The CPMR will participate in two events during the week together with, first the Celtic Regions and secondly at the Italian/Slovakian and other conference on innovation.

October 10 EU will present a 'Blue Paper' on Maritime Policy. (Is the same as a white paper but made more sense, some one thought, to call it blue in this case).

October 22 The 2<sup>nd</sup> conference of the Portuguese EU Presidency will be held in Lisbon.

October 17-19 CPMR 35<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, Florence.

November 11<sup>th</sup> Transport seminar including discussions on financial support for Motorways of the Seas that will be held in Gijon, Asturias, Spain. Mr Commissioner Barosso will be present.

December 2-4 Scientific Council on Globalisation to be held in Lisbon, Portugal. Mr Commissioner Barosso will be one of the speakers.

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**49 §**                      **Activity Report June 2006 (Karlskrona) – June 2007 (Bodø)**      *Appendix 3 - Annual Report*

| Meeting in which the President, Presidium and/or Executive Secretary has participated since the Executive Committee meeting in Porvoo, March 1 <sup>st</sup> – 2 <sup>nd</sup> . |             | Existing documents link                                       |  |
|--|-------------|---|--|
| <b>2007</b>  | 7 March     | WG meeting Transport, Malmö (S)                               | Cancelled<br>See WG reports                    |
|  | 25-26 March | CPMR Seminar on Training & Employment, Asturias (ES)          | See WG reports                                 |
|  | 12 April    | BSC + NSC Presidium and WG meeting, Copenhagen (DK)           | 49 § A   |
|  | 13-14 April | CPMR Maritime Safety Seminar Santander (ES)                   | 49 § B, C, D                                   |
|  | 16 April    | Baltic Sea Organisations Meeting, Bornholm (DK)               | 49 § E   |
|  | 19-20 April | Secretariat meeting regarding CPMR IT-structure, Brussels (B) | 49 § F   |
|  | 25 May      | Energy WG BSC + NSC joint WG meeting, Arlanda (S)             | See WG reports                                 |
|  | 25 May      | TN-RIS WG meeting, Stockholm (S)                              | See WG reports                                 |
|  | 8 June      | CPMR Political Bureau, Podlaskie (PL)                         | <a href="http://www.cpmr.org">www.cpmr.org</a> |
|  | 13 June     | Inter Baltic Meeting, Bodø (N)                                | 49 § G, H                                      |

**Final decision**      The secretariat pointed out that the idea is to provide the member regions with information from the meetings in which the organisation take an active part. The headings and a link to the document are found on the BSC webpage at [www.balticseacommission.org](http://www.balticseacommission.org) or via [www.cpmr.org](http://www.cpmr.org). A short presentation of the activities were made and the subject closed.

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**50 §**                      **Visions and Objectives for the Baltic Sea Commission**

*Appendix 4 - Visions & Objectives – final draft*

The "Vision and Objectives" strategic document of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission was adopted by the 9<sup>th</sup> BSC General Assembly in Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D) on 4 June 2004. The Executive Committee agreed in Murcia changing the "Visions and Objectives" document.

The discussion landed in the decision that a NEW kind of "Visions and Objectives" should be drafted. Simply stating:

- This is the Baltic Sea Commission.
- This we have achieved.
- This is what we intend to do in the coming year.

**Short – Sharp – Simple**

### Time-plan

- The suggestions are discussed and returned to the secretariat for compilation.
- The compiled document is distributed to members for amendments.
- The new Visions & Objectives are adopted at the General Assembly in Bodø on June 15<sup>th</sup>2007.
- The new Visions & Objectives are presented on the new website with direct links to more in-depth material in summer 2007.

At the Executive Committee meeting in Porvoo a draft version of the document was presented. According to the time-plan the document has been out to all members for amendment, including reminders, deadline 31<sup>st</sup> of May. - No amendment has arrived and the document should now be ready to be adopted by the Baltic Sea Commission General Assembly.

### **Proposal**

The “catchy” slogan is still not that impressive. The secretariat suggests a small competition is launched at the General Assembly. Suggestions should be delivered to the secretariat before and the presidium will form the jury with no appellate.

### **Final decision**

After a debate it was decided that the first paragraph should read as...

#### **“This is who we are - the Baltic Sea Commission (BSC)**

The Baltic Sea Commission is established to work for a sustainable society with the aim of promoting democracy, exchanges, co-operation and solidarity between the coastal zones and islands of the Baltic Sea including the Regions of the non-European Union Countries.”

A few other changes were made. The document was adopted and will be presented to the BSC General Assembly in Bodø on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

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## **51 §**

### **Updating Statutes of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission**

[\*Appendix 5 - BSC Statutes – final draft\*](#)  
[\*Appendix 6 - CPMR Statues\*](#)

At the Executive Committee meeting in Murcia the conclusion was that the statutes need to be update as there is now the **need two Vice Presidents** in the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission. The statutes of the Geographical Commissions must be **written in accordance with the CPMR statutes**.

The decision was to ask the secretariat to draft a suggestion for new statues based on the CPMR statues. In 4 §, and were else applicable, the additions of **adding she** to existing he in the text should be made. It was also agreed, concerning 5 § that **the right to vote should be the same as for CPMR that is “elected member”** have the right to vote.

### Time-plan

- The suggestions are discussed and returned to the secretariat for compilation.
- The compiled document is distributed to members for amendments.
- The new Visions & Objectives are adopted at the General Assembly in Bodö on June 15<sup>th</sup>2007.
- The new Visions & Objectives are presented on the new website with direct links to more in-depth material in summer 2007.

At the Executive Committee meeting in Porvoo a draft version of the document was presented. According to the time-plan the document has been out to all members for amendment, including reminders, deadline 31<sup>st</sup> of May.

### **Final decision**

In particular Article 4 was debated and finalised with the reading:

**“Article 4: The election of the President and of the Executive Committee**

.....

In accordance with CPMR Charter, Article 6, each member of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a period of two years. The members shall be office-holding representatives of regional authorities. If a member loses his/her position within the regional authority, this implies ipso facto

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withdrawal from the Executive Committee, on which he/she shall be replaced at next coming BSC General Assembly. The member may be replaced before the end of his/her term of office by the regions of the country that elected him/her at the next coming BSC General Assembly. " ...

A few other changes were made. The document was adopted and will be presented to the BSC General Assembly in Bodø on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

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|-----------------------|--|--|
| <b>52 §</b>           | <b>Economic Report</b>   | <b><i>Appendix 7 - BSC Economy 2006</i></b><br><b><i>Appendix 8 - BSC Economy 2007 with budget</i></b> |
|                       | The financial report and money arrived to Visby from Lahti's in week 7, 2007.  |  |
|                       | A sum of € 11.293:72 were transferred to the new Secretariat in Visby on Feb 5 <sup>th</sup> .<br>For the period November – December the cost was carried by the executive secretaries former unit as it took time before the financial report arrived from Finland. Thus the Financial report from Lahti is also the complete report of BSC 2006. |  |
|                       | A financial report for the period Jan – May 2007 is presented along with a draft budget for 2007.  |  |
| <b>Final decision</b> | The Executive Secretary presented the economic report. The report was unanimously adopted.   |  |

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| <b>53 §</b> | <b>Work On the EU Green Paper On Maritime Policy</b> | <b><i>Appendix 9 - CPMR – PROPOSALS AND POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION</i></b><br><b><i>Appendix 10 - CPMR - REGIONAL INITIATIVES...</i></b><br><b><i>Appendix 11 - Final BSC declaration Karlskrona GA 2006</i></b><br><b><i>Appendix 12 - BSC contribution</i></b> |
|-------------|--|--|

The EU green paper on Maritime policy is of major importance to the Baltic Sea region. The consultation period is running till the last of June 2007.

The CPMR has taken it up on them to deliver a joint Policy Position Paper on the content of the future EU maritime policy to be taken at the Political Bureau meeting in Poland 8<sup>th</sup> of June. See attached files Appendix 9 and 10. The document is made up of four sections. The geographical commission has contributed to section 3. The contribution had to be in the hands of the CPMR before the end of April.

At the Executive Committee meeting, in Murcia, it was decided that the BSC should work on the green paper for **Maritime Policy** in cooperation with others through the secretariat. This has been done through a joint seminar with the NSC and contact with the B7. The secretariat has also requested that the BSC WG make comments on the green paper from their own perspectives. From the co-operation with the NSC there is now a draft response to the green paper on maritime policy.

#### **Time-plan**

##### ***February***

- The secretariat circulates to BSC WG and BSC member regions the draft response to the EU green paper on Maritime Policy, which came out of the joint NSC+BSC seminar in Stavanger and adopted by the NSC Executive Committee. – It is important that we have BALTIC SEA perspectives to the answers. Answers to be returned by the end of the month.

##### ***March***

- The secretariat share input on the maritime policy from B7.
- The secretariat share input on the maritime policy with HELCOM.

##### ***April***

- The NSC+BSC have a second technical preparation seminar on Gotland to finalise our joint opinions and circulated to member regions and Executive Committee members for adoption.
- A joint NSC+BSC text on the maritime policy is sent to the CPMR.

#### **Actions:**

The joint BSC+NSC draft has been circulated to all member regions and the Baltic Sea Organisations; B7 Baltic Islands Network, BSSSC Baltic Sea States Sub regional Co-operation, UBC Union of the Baltic Cities and Baltic Assembly.

Only the transport workgroup and the work group for fisheries have added direct contribution. No direct amendments have been made by the member regions to the draft document, however BSC regions have been sending in comments they have been drafting together with other organisations.

In the exchange with the North Sea Commission the secretariats has agreed that the joint structure and voice of the two organisations would only strengthen our course.

At the joint Baltic Sea Organisation meeting on Bornholm BSC was requested to hand in the amendments from B7 and BSSSC along with our own, though the CPMR in order to reach a higher degree of impact on the Maritime Taskforce.

The aggregated contribution of Baltic Sea Commission, North Sea Commission, BSSSC, B7 and other contributions cut and provided from sources like UBC, HELCOM and member regions was handed in to the CPMR in time for the CPMR to prepare their "proposals and points for consideration".

**Proposal** The secretariat proposes that the Baltic Sea Commission aggregated document, with the declaration taken at the General Assembly in Kalmar 2006, is sent to the EU taskforce for Maritime Affairs, before June 30<sup>th</sup>, as an extra push for Baltic Sea issues and the Northern Dimension.

**Final decision** The Executive Committee decided that, in addition to the BSC contribution to the CPMR answer, to ask the Executive Secretary to send the complete BSC answer, including the Kalmar declaration of 2006, to EUs Maritime Taskforce.

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54 §

**BSC Thematic Work Group Directives**

**Appendix 13 - BSC Thematic WG Directives**

Following a general discussion on Workgroups it was agreed in Murcia that:

- The Baltic Sea Commission is a small organisation and thus have to overcome the limited resources by actively seek so-operation with other organisations and to make **joint papers**.
- The form for **co-operation** with other organisations: An executive committee member together with the co-ordinator of workgroups.
- On a direct question, it was made clear that anyone may **join a workgroup** if the Chairman of the workgroup invites him/her.
- Within the Executive Committee it has been decided that the working groups in general should have a **politician as Chairman** (and also a Vice-Chairman) - preferably elected by and from the Executive Committee - for the groups according to the same model as in the North Sea Commission. This to secure contact with the Executive Committee and also secure better political dialogue when presenting issues e.g. to national and international politicians (National ministries, EU, CPMR etc.).
- The day to day work like organising meetings, producing agendas and minutes from meetings, preparation of papers for political decisions etc. should in this case be lead by a "**Working Group Co-ordinator**" who also will take part in external meetings when needed.
- **Meetings of more technical character** within the working group could however be lead by the co-ordinator, and the co-ordinator should also represent the working group in external meetings of more technical character.

A discussion at the Executive Committee meeting and the joint Baltic Sea – North Sea Commission meeting in Copenhagen on thematic work group co-operation has added to the need for Work Group Directives.

A draft directive has been prepared by the secretariat and circulated to all member regions for amendment, including reminders, deadline 31<sup>st</sup> of May. - No amendment has arrived and the document should now be ready to be adopted by the Baltic Sea Commission General Assembly.

**Final decision** A minor editorial change was made and the document was adopted. The document presented to the BSC General Assembly in Bodø on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

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|----------------|--|----------------------|
| 55 §           | <b>BSC Thematic Work Group - Reports</b>   |                      |
| Report A)      | <b>Transport Working Group (Mr Geir-Ketil Hansen, Mr Per Strømhaug)</b>  | <b>WG Report - A</b> |
|                | <p>After a long search and many rejections the group has finally found a new co-ordinator, Mr Per Strømhaug.</p>   |                      |
|                | <p>There will be good connections between the transport working group and the project "InterBaltic" since the project really is initiated by the working group. Contact is also taken with the NSC WG on Transport. VASAB has also asked to have a co-operation as soon as the WG is established.</p>  |                      |
|                | <p>The WG is to a large part responsible for the work shops and transport oriented agenda at the Bodø meeting.</p>   |                      |
|                | <p>The WG has contributed to the BSC response to the Maritime Policy through participation in the joint meetings with the NSC and with their own amendment to the green book on Maritime Policy.</p>   |                      |
|                | <p>The meeting that was to be held in Malmö on March 7<sup>th</sup> was cancelled as the number of delegates was very low. The WG is in need of new directions a rekindling. As Mr Geir-Ketil Hansen will not run for another period at his present office the chair is also to be vacant.</p>   |                      |
| Final decision | <p>Mr Geir-Ketil Hansen will not be candidate for another term. Nordland has thus decided to step down from the position as lead partner for the Transport Working group. The InterBaltic, led by Mr Per Strømhaug, Nordland, is now closing. A new project may follow, possibly with Blekinge region as lead partner. The BSC is urged to take a more active part in a follow up project. Further discussions will be postponed till the Riga meeting in September that will hold focus on Thematic Workgroups.</p> |                      |
| Report B)      | <b>Energy Working Group (Dr. Erik Bergkvist, Ms. Linnéa Lundström)</b>   |                      |
|                |  | <b>WG Report - B</b> |
|                | <p>At the BSC meeting in connection to the CPMR General Assembly in Murcia 2006, the County Council of Västerbotten expressed a will to chair a working group on energy. The focus of the WG will be on renewable energy sources, in particular on those coming from agriculture and forestry sector. However, <b>the WG is open to all BSC members</b> and the issues they would like to raise, which means that other questions can come into focus as well if the members so desire.</p>                          |                      |
|                | <p><b>Main objective:</b> To compile a position paper to the CPMR General Assembly in October 2007. Seminar in Umeå, September 11.</p>   |                      |
| Proposal       | <p>The working progress of the BSC working groups will be reported at the next Executive Committee meeting in Riga and the activities could be followed at the Baltic Sea Commission homepages at <a href="http://www.balticseacommission.com">www.balticseacommission.com</a> .</p>   |                      |
| Final decision | <p>Ms Linnéa Lundström, the project leader, gave a presentation of the project and its current co-operation with CPMR and the North Sea Commission. The group is planning a joint seminar with North Sea Commissions energy workgroup in 2008.</p>   |                      |
|                | <p>The goal is to have a draft resolution on energy and climate change to be presented at the CPMR General Assembly in Florence. The draft resolution will come up at the Executive Committee´s agenda in Riga in September.</p>   |                      |
| Report C)      | <b>Fishery Working Group (Mr Kjell Nybacka, Mr Rolf Gidemo)</b>  |                      |
|                | <b>WG Report - C</b>   |                      |
|                | <p>At the Executive Committee meeting it was concluded that fishery is an important issue to the BSC. A lot of work is already undertaken in a North Sea Commission WG led by the Shetlands and also in the joint expert group held between the CPMR, Mr Francois Desrentes and DG Fishery in which the Baltic Sea Commission have long been represented by Mr Kjell Nybacka of Finland and Rolf Gydemo of Gotland.</p>  |                      |

Mr Kjell Nybacka is now informed of his appointment at the last meeting as chair of the BSC fishery group and a dialogue is established between the secretariat and Mr Nybacka and Mr Gidemo.

The group is indirectly representing the Baltic Sea Commission RAC via Kjell Nybacka who is appointed rapporteur in the salmon working group. It would however be of benefit if the BSC is an official member of the BSRAC.

**Proposal** The working progress of the BSC working groups will be reported at the next Executive Committee meeting in Riga and the activities could be followed at the Baltic Sea Commission homepages at [www.balticseacommission.com](http://www.balticseacommission.com) .

**Final decision** The presentation was read by the Executive Secretary.  
The workgroup will hopefully be able to come to the Executive Committee meeting in Riga when thematic workgroups shall be debated.

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**Report D) CPMR Work groups – Human Resource Group**

***WG Report - D1***  
***WG Report - D2 - Minutes Oviedo March 26-27***

Stockholm region is active in the Human Resource Group.

The group held its last meeting in the Asturias on March 26-27<sup>th</sup> with political representatives present.

A report from the conference in Oviedo is expected this summer.

**Proposal** The working progress of the BSC thematic work group will be reported at the next Executive Committee meeting in Riga and the activities could be followed at the Baltic Sea Commission homepages at [www.balticseacommission.com](http://www.balticseacommission.com) .

**Final decision** The project is coming to its end with two remaining seminars, one during the autumn and the final during the spring of 2008. The project has been successful and generated a lot of interest. A presentation will be made at the CPMR General Assembly in Florence.

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**Report E) CPMR Intercommission WG – TN-RIS Project**

***WG Report – E1***  
***WG Report – E2 - TN-RIS Project***  
***WG Report – E3 - TN-RIS Methodology***

The Baltic Sea Commission proposal for an intercommission work group on innovation, made at the CPMR General Assembly in Murcia, has been well received. The CPMR together with, in particular the Stockholm Region together drawn up the intercommission WG named the TN-RIS project 'Toward a New Regional Innovation System' .

Stockholm Region with Ms Inger Linge is the lead partner together with the CPMR General Secretariat, in the person of Philippe Cichowlaz, Director, who shall be in charge of the technical coordination

**Proposal** The working progress of the BSC work group will be reported at the next Executive Committee meeting in Riga and the activities could be followed at the Baltic Sea Commission homepages at [www.balticseacommission.com](http://www.balticseacommission.com) .

**Final decision** The project has recently started and has held a few meetings.  
Information has been sent to all CPMR geographical commission secretariats.  
The working progress of the BSC work group will be reported at the next Executive Committee meeting in Riga

|         |  |  |                                    |
|---------|--|--|------------------------------------|
| 2007    | 20-22 June   | NSC General Assembly, Vestfold, (N)  | Executive Secretary                |
|         | 24-29 June   | Baltic Sea Convention days, Visby, (S)   | Executive Secretary                |
|         | 2-6 July   | BSC – NSC Secretariat joint planning group   | Executive Secretary                |
|         | 10 July  | BSC Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment of the new Baltic Sea Gas Pipeline, Almedalsveckan, Visby, Gotland (S)              | Executive Secretary                |
|         | 6-7 Sept   | Meeting of the CPMR Management Committee Extended To Include the Executive Secretaries of the Geographical Commissions, Rennes (F) | Executive Secretary                |
|         | 13-14 Sept   | BSSSC Sustainable Energy and contributions to meet the threats of the climate change, Turku (FI)                                   | President &<br>Executive Secretary |
|         |  | ACCR - 2nd international partner meeting, Turku (FI)   |                                    |
|         | 27-28 Sept   | BSC Executive Committee Meeting, Riga (LV)   | All                                |
|         | 17-19 Oct  | 35 <sup>th</sup> CPMR General Assembly, Florence, Tuscany (IT)   | President                          |
| 3-4 Dec | CPMR Scientific Council on "Regional Development and globalisation", Lisbon (PT) | Executive Secretary  |                                    |

Are there any other major events that should be added?

**Proposal**

Decisions on who should participate where are decided at the Executive Committee meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup> 2007.

**Final decision**

In order to strengthen the BSC organisation it is important to show presence at major events. Regarding the listed major events, above, the representative of the BSC is at least as shown.

**57 §****General Reports****Reports**

- A) BSC seminar during the Almedalsveckan in July 2007 in Visby, Gotland (S)**  
This is to be the major event in 2007 for the Baltic Sea Commission aiming at making us known. It was decided that the theme for the BSC Seminar during the Almedalsveckan would be the "Environmental Impact Assessment of the Baltic Sea Gas Pipeline". In order to attract attention it is important that a few but high-ranking representatives of the various aspects of the subject will present the 2-3 hour session.

*General Report – A - Invitation*

- B) Nomination of Lamor Group Ab to 2007 Swedish Baltic Water Award**  
CPMRs Baltic Sea Commission has nominated Lamor Ab to the prestigious environmental award. The winner will be announced in June.

*General Report - B1 - Nomination  
General Report - B2 – Lamor Ab*

**Final decision**

A further report on the Almedals week and the result of the Swedish Baltic Water Award, will be given at the Executive Committee Riga meeting in September.

**58 §****Candidate To Host the 13<sup>th</sup> BSC General Assembly 2008**

A candidate is to be announced at the Bodø General Assembly for the 13<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 2008. If possible the candidate should be accommodating the General assembly of the Baltic Sea and North Sea Commission at the same location and in the same time offering joint activities.

**Final decision**

BSC Vice President Mr Poul Müller revealed that Aarhus County (DK) will invite the BSC General Assembly to Herning 2008. The meeting will be co-localised with the North Sea commission General Assembly. The idea is to have joint "off-meeting" activities to further the good co-operation.

**59 §****Executive Committee Meetings 2007**

The next Executive Committee meeting will be organised in Bodø, Nordland on 2 – 3 pm on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

The first autumn meeting of the Executive Committee meeting is held as a lunch-to-lunch meeting in Riga (LV) September 27-28, 2007.

**Proposal** Further meetings ought to be decided but could be postponed to the Executive Committee meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2 – 3 pm in Bodø.

**Final decision** The decision to hold the BSCs first autumn meeting in Riga stand. No further dates were decided.

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**60 § New Member Region**

The capital region of Finland, Uusimaa, is officially a member of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission as from the General Assembly in Bodø June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

**Final decision** The new membership was noticed and welcomed by the President. Unfortunately no representative is going to be present at the General Assembly in Bodø.

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**61 § Any Other Business**

**Final decision** Mr Podbielski, Augustów, Podlaskie Region, Poland, made a presentation of the Via Baltica. The VIA BALTICA expressway, which runs through the Podlaskie region, is a part of Paneuropean Transport Corridor –the only way to reach the Baltic States and Finland by road from any point in the EU without having to leave the EU territory. The road is in a very bad condition and accidents are far too frequent. The authorities is looking for BSC support in their request for the European Commission to reconsider its decision on the Augustów road bypass and readdress this issue in accordance with the principles of sustainable development and fairness among European citizens, to ensure optimal competitiveness for the region of Podlaskie and fair access of its population to services of general interest.

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**62 § Closing the Meeting**

**Proposal** The President will close the meeting.

**Final decision** President Ms Liljeström, closed the meeting, thanked all participants for an efficient morning and all the good work done during the year.

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