



CPMR

BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

Executive Committee Meeting MINUTES 20 November 2007

Time 20 November 2007 at 3 pm – 7 pm.

Venue KLAIPEDA County Governor's Administration "Klaipėdos apskrities virsininko administracija", Danes g. 17, Klaipėda, Lithuania, room 112

Participants **Members** **Substitutes**

Roll call

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

Secretariat:

(x) Ms Anne STÅHL MOUSA Executive Secretary, BSC Secretariat Visby

CONFERENCE OF PERIPHERAL MARITIME REGIONS OF EUROPE – BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

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<p>Other participants:</p> <p>(-) Mr Enrico MAYRHOFER CPMR Brussels Office</p> <p>(x) Mr Peder BANG, Central Denmark (DK)</p> <p>(x) Mr Ole M KOLSTAD, Nordland (N)</p> <p>(-) Mr Jaakko MIKKOLA, Regional Council of Itä-Uusimaa (SF)</p> <p>(x) Ms Magdalena, LYZNICKA-SANCENKO, Podlasie (PL)</p> <p>(-) Mr Per STRØMHAUG Nordland (N)</p> <p>(-) Ms Inger LINGE (S) Region Stockholm (S)</p> <p>(-) Mr Tomas GUSTAFSSON (S)</p> <p>(x) Mr JanErik MAJEWSKI, Region Skåne (S)</p> <p>(-) Mr Henrik EYBYE NIELSEN Bornholm (DK)</p> <p>(-) Ms Linnéa LUNDSTRÖM, Västerbotten (S)</p> <p>(-) Mr Tommy KARLSSON Region Stockholm (S)</p> <p>(-) Mr PO SÖDERSTRÖM Västerbotten (S)</p>	
31§	Opening the meeting
Final decision	President Liljeström opened meeting wishing everyone a warm welcome and hoped for a good debate despite the tedious journey with delayed flights that befallen several of the Executive Committee members.
32 §	Adopting of the agenda
Final decision	The agenda was adopted without amendments.
33 §	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meetings</p> <p><i>Appendix 1 - Minutes E.C. Riga 27th of Sep am 2007</i> <i>Appendix 2 - Minutes E.C. Riga 27th of Sep pm 2007</i> <i>Appendix 3 - Minutes E.C. Riga 28th of Sep 2007</i> <i>Appendix 4 - PPT BSR Transport Strategy</i> <i>Appendix 5 - PPT Human R</i> <i>Appendix 6 - PPT Innovation</i></p> <p>The previous meeting was held in Riga, September 27th-28th of June 2007.</p>
Final decision	All of the three minutes from the meetings in Riga were adopted without amendment.
34 §	CPMR Current Affairs
	As no representative of the CPMR will be able to attend our meeting the Executive Secretary of BSC will give a short account on CPMR current affairs.
Presentation	In the absence of BSCs CPMR contact Mr Enrico Mayrhofer that had to participate in the CPMR Port & Maritime Transport, Gijón, Asturias (ES)
Final decision	<p>CPMR Activity Report</p> <p>http://www.crpm.org/pub/agenda/396_bilan_2006-2007_gb-compressé.pdf</p> <p>A short account of the CPMR priorities for 2008-2009 was presented: This review of the guidelines accepted in 2004 and the subsequent changes has leads us to propose the following guidelines for the last two years of this medium-term development plan. There are many more contextual uncertainties than there were during the launch of the previous negotiations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the European institutional framework will not be stabilized until we know under which Treaty discussions will take place; - the contacts with whom we shall be working will not be known until 2009. <p>This is why the next two years must be considered as a stage during which we shall contribute to</p>

defining the Europe of the next decade and building up of a set of negotiations on topics that are especially significant for the future of our Member Regions. There is no doubt that these topics will be among the major issues for the future of the European Union as a whole.

This means that none of the initially scheduled areas is obsolete but that, apart from the fact that work must continue in each of them, the necessary adjustments must be made to ensure that our Conference retains its reputation as a think tank and source of proposals. This has been its finest achievement over the last ten years.

All the issues considered must target the overall project of a “post-2013 Europe”, which will be proposed at the General Assemblies in Bayonne and Gothenburg.

35 §

Activity Report September 2007 (Riga) – November 2007 (Klaipeda)

A brief oral account of the meetings attended by the BSC members.

October 8-12	EU Open Days in Brussels (B) “Open days”, 8-12 October, Brussels - “Greener energy options – through alternative sources and new technologies”
October 10	InterBaltic Brussels meeting
October 17	BSC Regional meeting
October 19-21	35 th CPMR General Assembly, Tuscany (IT)
October 23	BSSSC+BSC joint transport project preparation meeting in Malmö (S)
October 25-26	WG Innovation meeting in Inverness (UK)
October 29	Joint Baltic Sea WG “Sustainable Energy and Climate Change”, Copenhagen, (DK) Note 1
November 2	BSC sponsoring Mr Mälly Gotland Grand National, Visby (S)
November 8-9	CPMR meeting on sustainable energy Opatija, Croatia
November 15	HELCOM Ministerial Meeting, Krakow, Poland
November 15	BSSSC+BSC joint transport project preparation meeting in Malmö (S)
November 15-16	Joint meeting in preparation for the NSC+BSC General Assembly’s 2008, Viborg (DK)
November 15-16	BSSSC Board meeting, Gdansk (PL)
November 19	CPMR Port & Maritime Transport, Gijón, Asturias (ES)

Final decision

The activity report was adopted without discussion or longer presentations due to a tight time schedule.

36 §

Economic Report

[Appendix 7 - BSC Economy Jan-October 2007](#)

An up-dated financial report for the period Jan – October 2007 is presented.

After our complaints about the payment I received this nice message from Mr Muret of the CPMR on November 5th. – Our bank details have been forwarded.

“Dear Anne,

I will transfer to you the Baltic Sea Commission dues as soon as I receive from you the bank’s references with name of the account, address, name and address of your bank, IBAN code and BIC code.

Having this bank information, I will, from now, transfer the dues at regular time, at least one transfer every 3 months.

Best regards

Martine Muret

	Chief accountant”
Final decision	The financial report was adopted.
37 §	<p>Reflections on the CPMR General Assembly in Florence 17 – 19th October Including a discussion on how to react to FOGAR in the coming CPMR Political Bureau 19th of January 2008 in Andalucía (Seville, Spain).</p>
Final decision	<p>It was noted in positive terms that the northern regions and the Baltic sea Commission regions in particular had been actively participating in the debate.</p> <p>The discussion came to focus on the issue of FOGAR. The Executive Secretary presented some further arguments in favour of the FOGAR which she received after talks with Mr Gizard.</p> <p>The decision was to prepare a good written answer to the folder promised by President Martini at the Political Bureau meeting in Florence on the outcome of the meeting in New York and the future of the CPMR in corporation with FOGAR. The answer should try to focus on the possible added value of FOGAR, from the region’s point of view, what the new organisation could provide that the CEMR “United cities and Local Counties” can’t provide and financial aspects of the engagement to CPMR in € as well as in time spent by the Rennes’ personnel.</p> <p>The work should commence as soon as the folder arrived, before the end of November it was promised, primarily involving the presidium, and then sent around to the regions.</p> <p>The secretariat was also asked to seek contact with other geographical commissions and regions that might share our vision and ideas.</p> <p>The secretariat was also assigned to keep reminding Rennes of the promised document unless it arrived before the end of November.</p>
38 §	<p>Work On the EU Green Paper On Climate Change <i>No changes so far!</i> App 8 - BSC response GrP climate change - final</p> <p>To be mailed to the Commission by November 30th. Short report by the Executive Secretary on the status of incoming replies and co-operations.</p>
Final decision	<p>Region Middenmark liked the have a better formulation regarding “better roads is good for the climate” to go in to the General Comment 4.</p> <p>Region Skåne will mail the secretariat their and BSSSC’s comments to the document. The secretariat noted that the deadline is November 30th if anyone else liked to add some more comments it had to be by the secretariat no later than November 27th.</p>
39 §	<p>HELCOM BALTIC SEA ACTION PLAN <i>Appendix 9 - HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan</i></p> <p>To be adopted on 15 November 2007 in Krakow, Poland by the HELCOM Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting</p> <p>The BSAP will only just have been taken as BSC hold its meeting in Klaipeda. This leaves the BSC in a good position to make a statement on the report. The president wish to have a debate on the subject and a decision as to how we should follow up this important document from a regional point of view.</p>
Final decision	<p>The discussion on the very newly adopted HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) could be summarised into:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">It is excellent that all the nations around the Baltic Sea could come to a joint agreement on what actions to take to restore the Baltic Sea by 2021.</p>

It was, however, noted that not all environmental ministers did take part in the signing of the document in Krakow.

Unfortunately far too many of the ambitious suggestions' made by HELCOM has landed in more toothless target, bringing the document to, basically, the same level as apply through general EU regulation.

A mayor weakness is the lack of tools for funding.

The BSC wish to see regulations against waste water from ships and household sulphur reduction. BSC does also stress the need for funding as a key to speed up the implementation of new regulation. It is noted that those that bring the biggest burden to the Baltic Sea are not willing to pay for their emissions but rather invest in further production.

The decision was to ask the secretariat to formulate a press release in English, capturing the ideas of the Executive committee members, and to distribute this to all regions. Each region could then translate the press release into their own language and let the local regions politician be quoted and forward it to the local/national press.

40 ..§

BSC Thematic Work Group – Reports

Brief activity reports to be given by the WG leaders / BSC WG Representatives or the Executive Secretary

40 a§

a) Pan-Baltic Transport Strategy

Appendix 10 - 40a§ BSR_multi..transport

(Ms Annika Annerby-Jansson, Mr Mats Petersson)

A new joint BSC-BSSSC Transport WG

Final decision

Ms Annika Annerby-Jansson made a presentation. The PPT that will be added to the minutes and on the web.

Mr Uno Aldegren, Region Skåne, will chair the high-level group. Mr Wiktor Szydarowski, Region Skåne's consultant in the preparation of the project, sent three questions to the BSC:

1. How will BSC look at the project?
2. How do BSC like to follow the project?
3. What will be the roll of our own, BSC, transport WG visa-á-vie the joint project.

The answerers read:

1. The Pan-Baltic Transport Strategy should be considered as a joint BSC-BDF-BSSSC project.
2. Politically Ms Annika Annerby-Jansson is the Executive Committees link to the project. The secretariat wish to have regular reports, some ten lines, on activities' in time before the Executive Meetings and general assembly. Furthermore a short text, PPT and other public documents should be forwarded to the secretariat to be added to our website were the project will have a page of its own. The secretariat would also like to be on the mail list of the group.
3. The forming BSC transport WG should have a representative in the project in order to maintain a good contact, interchange information and to make sure double work is omitted.

40 b§

b) Transport Working Group (former: Mr Geir-Ketil Hansen, Mr Per Strømhaug)

Possible continuation of this WG with new chair – A report
WG Transport and Communications

After the withdrawal of the chairman of the WG for transport and communications, Mr. Geir-Ketil Hansen, and awaiting the maternity leave of the coordinator, Ms Maria Öberg, there has been no

activity in the group after the General assembly. It is however expected that the Executive committee will appoint a new leader at the meeting in Klaipėda, and with the return of coordinator the group should be fully operable from 1. January 2008.

As the InterBaltic project will close at the end of 2007, it is now due time to discuss new project initiatives for the Baltic Sea Region Transnational Programme (Interreg IV B) where deadline for the first application round is expected in April 2008. Participation in an "InterBaltic 2"-project on intermodal transport strategies initiated by Region Skåne should be of great interest for the BSC members, and several member regions have also expressed interest for a project on regional air transport, that also will be a priority issue for CPMR the coming year. The coordinator, Maria Öberg, will take initiative to organise a WG meeting to discuss these issues at the beginning of January 2008.

Per Strømhaug
acting coordinator

Final decision	The Executive Committee accepted the offer of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern to form a new BSC Transport workgroup.
	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern will start discussions with Region Blekinge (that expressed a great interested to take active part in a new transport workgroup at the BSC general assembly in Bodø) and region Nordland. Mecklenburg-Vorpommern will present the new topic and outline of the new group at the next EC meeting in February in Brussels.
	The initial discussions will commence in Klaipeda and during January. Region Mecklenburg-Vorpommern is also aware of that the former transport coordinator, Maria Öberg of Norrbotten, will resume work after her maternities leave in January 2008.
	The secretariat will support Ms Elke Ording with contact details of former transport members. It was also suggested that contact is being made with NSC representative Mr Jon Halvar Eide and that the issue of the Barents region, with Mr Ole M Kolstad as our BSC representative there, is not forgotten.
40 c§	c) Energy Work Group (Dr. Erik Bergkvist, Ms. Linnéa Lundström)
Final decision	After the BSC resolution on energy and climate change was successfully adopted at the General Assembly in Florence, the WG was represented at the Copenhagen coordination meeting initiated by the BSSSC 29 th of October. Unfortunately no one from the group could attend the CPMR energy conference in Croatia in early November.
	The work also continues to look at the green paper on adaptation to climate change and see if we can add more perspectives from the Baltic Sea area than those already submitted in the joint CPMR response.
	Finally, preparations for a conference on the theme "Regional actions for sustainable housing/building" together with the NSC Sustainable Development Group have been made. A call for presentations has been sent out to the regions, and a meeting between the chairmen and coordinators will take place on December 13 in Brussels. The conference will be held in Umeå at the end of March/beginning of April 2008.
40 d§	d) Fishery Working Group (Mr Kjell Nybacka, Mr Rolf Gidemo)
Final decision	No report available.
40 e§	e) CPMR Work groups – Human Resource Group (Ms Inger Linge, Mr Tommy Karlsson)
Final decision	A set of workshops will be held during first part of 2008 starting in Asturias in February and the next one in Stockholm in 7-8 of March.
40 f§	f) CPMR Intercom mission WG – TN-RIS Project (Ms Inger Linge, Mr Tommy Karlsson)

Final decision	<p>The TN RIS group met in Inverness October 25-26 mainly to go through the answers of the questionnaire which had been sent out to the participant regions about the structure of the innovation support from a regional point of view. At the meeting it was obvious that the regional impact on the innovative process varies a lot among the participants. By now the region of Tuscany has joined the project and we also have received a final decision from the Basque country.</p> <p>By the end of this year the final version of the questionnaire shall be finalised and the next meeting will take place in Rennes in January 2008.</p>
40 g§ Final decision	<p>g) CPMR Intercom Tourism WG (Ms Annika Annerby-Jansson, Region Skåne & Ms Lena Celion, Gotland represented by the Executive Secretary)</p> <p>At the 17th of October at the CPMR GA in Florence Mr Jean – Didier Hache was inviting participants to discuss a CPMR Intercom Tourism WG.</p> <p>It was decided that the group should have a shared chairman chair, the regions of Västra Götaland and Sicily. CPMR will be supporting with CPMR Director Mr Jean Didier Hache as representative for the time being.</p> <p>The Regional Tourism Centre from Bornholm will participate as experts and contribute with their know-how on the subject to the next group meeting. The RTC shall provide the group with a 10 page statistical background note to build from to the next meeting in January.</p> <p>The WG shall act as a think-tank to feed EU with political proposals from the regions via CPMR and establish a platform to promote sustainable tourism.</p>
40 h§ Final decision	<p>h) CPMR Intercommission WG - The Future of CAP (Ms Christel Liljeström and Mr Jean-Michel Arrivé)</p> <p>The group will be co-chaired by Ms Christel Liljeström Ita-Usimaa and Mr Jean-Michel Arrivé, Aquitaine with CPMR coordination by Director Patrick Anvroin.</p> <p>A first meeting in Brussels to organise the starting of the CAP working group is suggested to take place at the beginning of December possibly the 5th.</p> <p>The group will be co-chaired by Ms Christel Liljeström Ita-Usimaa and Mr Jean-Michel Arrivé, Aquitaine with CPMR coordination by Director Patrick Anvroin.</p> <p>The first meeting in Brussels/over phone to organise the starting of the CAP working group is suggested to take place at the beginning of December.</p> <p>The group will hold its first meeting on February 12 or 14 in Brussels and a second meeting is envisaged for May-June, this also in Brussels.</p> <p>CPMR will take the Finish regions cost for organising the seminar in Brussels, a prerequisite for the possibility for the region to be able to participate.</p> <p>The involvement of BSSSC in on this subject was briefly discussed and landed in the conclusion that it would depend how suggesting the president together with the secretariat to further think about this question.</p>
40 i§	<p>CPMR Intercommission WG – Integration --- proposition</p> <p>Region Skåne have tried to open a discussion with CPMR on creating an Intercommission group on the subject integration – to follow up on the Island Commissions work on illegal migration.</p> <p>In order to prepare for the CPMR Political Bureau 19th of January 2008 in Andalucía (Seville, Spain) were the question need to be presented Region Skåne wish to have a short discussion at</p>

the BSC Executive Committee meeting.

Final decision The decision was that the Region Skåne would write to the CPMR political bureau suggesting the establishment of an Intercommission WG on Integration.

41§ Executive Committee Working Guidelines – time for an up-date

New targets to be set for the coming years Executive Committee work.

- o WG efficiency and co-ordination
- o Information to-and-fro the regions
- o Cooperation with other organisations

Final decision The executive committee had to postpone this question until the EC meeting, at the CPMR Office in Brussels on February 13th as time was running up due to the late arrival of the incoming flight.

42§ A BSC Seminar 2008 (possibly in Tallinn)

Discussion.

Final decision The secretariat has been in contact with Mr Gizard who thinks it would be a good idea to have a CPMR/BSC seminar together in the autumn. His suggestion for topic was “transport” – “sustainable transport”.

The executive committee had to postpone this question until the EC meeting, at the CPMR Office in Brussels on February 13th as time was running up due to the late arrival of the incoming flight.

43§ Coming Major Events – A Calendar for 2007 through January 2008

November 19-21	Inter Baltic Final Conference, Klaipeda (LIT)
November 19	Baltic 21 Seminar on Sustainable Rural Development, Uppsala, Sweden
November 19	CPMR Seminar: "Ports and maritime transport: the Regions in support of an ambitious and balanced EU policy", Asturias (Gijón, Spain)
November 20	General Assembly of the Atlantic Arc Commission, Asturias (Gijón, Spain)
November 20-21	Baltic 21 SOG 27, Uppsala, Sweden
November 21	1st meeting of the Ad hoc Working Group on Inter-regional Co-operation, Strasbourg
November 23	Baltic Masters Open Partner Search meeting, Stockholm, Sweden
November 27-29	Committee of Regions Blue Planet Forum, Brussels (B)
December 3-4	CPMR Scientific Council on "Regional Development and globalisation", Lisbon (PT)
December 5	Annual Consultation meeting with the CBSS Special Participants and Strategic Partners, Troika meeting BSR partners, Copenhagen (DK)
December 5	First meeting of the CPMR Intercommission WG - The Future of CAP
December 5-7	B7 Annual Conference
December 12	BSSSC+BSC joint transport project preparation meeting in Malmö (S)
December 13	Energy WGs of NSC+BSC chairmen and coordinators meeting, Brussels (B)
January 10-11	Secretarial meeting in Rennes (FR)
January 18	CPMR / Committee of the Regions Seminar "Which future for Regional policies after 2013?" , Andalucía (Seville, Spain)
January 19	CPMR Political Bureau, Andalucía (Seville, Spain)
January	CPMR Intercom Tourism WG meeting
January 30	Committee of the Regions - EU sustainable Energy Week - EUSEW - "EU Sustainable Energy policies in the Peripheral and Maritime Regions of Europe", Brussels (B)
End January	TN-RIS WG meeting, Rennes (F)
February 12 or 14	First CAP WG meeting in Brussels (B)
February 12	BSC and CPMR meeting with Priscilla Wohl, Northern Forum, Brussels (B)

February 13	BSC Executive Committee Meeting in Brussels (B)
February 14-15	BSSSC Board Meeting Riga (LV)
March 7-8	CPMR workshops – Human Resource Group, Stockholm (S)
March 13-14	A set of workshops will be held during first part of 2008 starting in Asturias in February and the next one in Stockholm in 7-8 of March.
March-April	Joint BSC+NSC Energy seminar "Regional actions for sustainable housing/building", Umeå (S) REMINDER Send in project presentations.
April 8-9	BSC Executive Committee meeting, Visby (S) lunch-to-lunch
April 10-11	General Assembly of the CPMR Islands Commission, Islas Baleares (ES)
May 22-23	BSSSC Board Meeting St. Petersburg (RU)
May-June	Second WG meeting of CAP, Brussels (B)
June 11-13	BSC & NSC General Assemblies, Herning (DK)
June 12-13	General Assembly of the Atlantic Arc Commission, Basse-Normandie (FR)
June 12-13	CPMR Working group on "Employment and Training", Toscana (IT)
June 27	Meeting of the CPMR Political Bureau, Rhodes (GR)
June 28	General Assembly of the Balkans/Black Sea Regional Commission of CPMR, Rhodes (GR)
September 17-19	BSSSC Annual Conference Kaunas (LAT)
October 1-3	CPMR General Assembly, Aquitaine (Fr) Bayonne
November 20-21	BSSSC Board Meeting Tallinn (E)

Are there any other major events that should be added?

Final decision

Date of Human resource meeting in Stockholm is 7-8 march 2008.

The calendar was adopted.

44§

Executive Committee Meetings 2008

The next Executive Committee meeting will be organised in Brussels, Belgium, on February 13th at the CPMR Brussels Office.

The spring meeting will take place in Visby, Gotland (S) during week 15.

Other dates to be decided.

Final decision

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held at the CPMR Brussels Office 10 a.m. to 4 pm February 13th.

The Executive Committee meeting to follow are:

8-9th of April lunch-to-lunch in Visby, Gotland

11th of June 1-16 pm, in Herning, Denmark.

45§

Any Other Business

Final decision

None.

46§

Closing the Meeting

Proposal The President will close the meeting.

Final decision The President closed the meeting and by thanking all participants for a very good debate. A special thanks was given to the organisers, Region Klaipeda, for all their kindness and good preparation.

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