



CPMR BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

5th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

15-16 June 2000

Venue: Hotel Griffen, Rønne, Bornholm, Denmark

MINUTES

Thursday, 15 June:

The first day of the Bornholm meeting was given to lectures on various aspects of co-operation in the Baltic Sea Area. Owing to severe air traffic disturbance, the start of the programme was delayed. Some speeches were condensed or delivered in written form:

Introductory and welcoming speeches:

Hannu Tapiola, President of the Baltic Sea Commission

Knud Andersen, County Mayor of Bornholm

Xavier Gizard, CPMR Secretary General

Vladimir Manjukan, Director, Regional Centre for Re-training and Employment of ex-Military Persons in Kaliningrad:

Kaliningrad's Possibilities as a Region

Tadeusz Rewaj, Councillor, West Pomeranian Region:

The Development of Polish Regions in the Wake of EU Accession

Peter Stub Jørgensen, Director, European Commission Representation in Denmark:

The Role and Influence of the Regions in EU's Enlargements Process in the Baltic Sea Region

Knud Andersen, Mayor:

Experiences with Interregional Co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region

Philippe Cichowlaz, Director, CPMR:

Towards a New Regional Policy for 2007

Björn Kinberg, Executive secretary:

Action plan and Ways of Furthering Polycentrism in Europe

The day ended with a guided tour at the Bornholm Art Museum, where also dinner was taken, hosted by the Region of Bornholm.

Friday 16 June:

The 5th General Assembly Business Meeting

Opening

Opening the 5th General Assembly, President **Hannu Tapiola** gave a report on actions and activities of the Commission and its Executive Committee since the reunion 2-3 September 1999 in Öland.

Quorum

A roll call on present member regions was taken.

Activity report

The **executive secretary**, assisted by **Jaakko Mikkola**, **Rolf Gydemo** and **Philippe Cichowlaz**, went through the 1999-2000 Activity Report comprising the work of groups on:
Northern Dimension
Integrated Coastal Zone Management
Spatial Development
Fisheries
Scientific Council
Maritime economy
Research
America Latina
Medbalt Co-operation
AER Summer School
HELCOM
PLANET

The Activity report was approved. - The report on Fisheries, presented by Mr Gydemo, contained the findings of this CPMR Group on the question of revision of the EU Fisheries Policy, and a draft Resolution, stating the BSC/CPMR position, to be put before the CPMR General Assembly 11-13 October. The document was adopted.

Budget and membership fees

The secretary presented budget, accounts and membership fee status, pointing out that the Membership fee proper is decided by CPMR centrally, whereas the Administrative fee is a matter for the geographical commissions. The Assembly decided, as suggested by the Executive Committee, to leave the administrative fee for the next year at its present level, i.e. € 1.100 p.a. for EU members and € 275 p.a. for members from non-EU states.

Revision of Statutes

The CPMR general secretariat had suggested some amendments to the CPMR **Statutes**, as well as to those of the five geographical commissions. From the Baltic Sea Commission point of view the changes are of minor importance and, at the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the General Assembly adopted the amendments.

Elections

The mandate period of the entire Executive Committee and of the Executive Secretary coming to an end, nominations and elections took place as follows:

a) President: Nominated by Finland, and seconded by several members, Mr **Anders Gustâv**, of Stockholm County Council, was elected President for the next two years.

- b) Executive Committee: Elected according to nominations by each country. Ms **Bente Nielsen**, of Aarhus, Denmark, was elected Vice President.
- c) Executive Secretary: At the recommendation of the Executive Committee Mr **Jaakko Mikkola**, Kymenlaakso, Finland, was elected. Accordingly, the BSC secretariat will be transferred from Stockholm to Kymenlaakso Region.

All votes were unanimous.

Action plan 2000-2002

The Executive Committee at its meeting 18 February 2000 in Stockholm, decided that the CPMR document *Towards a New Regional Policy in 2007*, which was adopted by the CPMR Political Bureau 21 January 2000 at Kastoria, Greece, together with an analysis of specific conditions related to the Baltic Sea Area, should be reviewed by the BSC General Assembly, before its eventual adoption by the CPMR General Assembly 11-13 October 2000 in Florence. Professor *Björn Hårsman*, Member of CPMR Scientific Council, has carried out the requested analysis, here presented under the name of *Ways of Furthering Polycentrism in Europe*. These two documents, annexed to the *Action Plan 2000-2002*, were presented in detail on the first day of the 5th General Assembly. - The documents were now adopted.

6th General Assembly

The General Assembly approved an offer from Estonia to hold the 6th General Assembly there in 2001. Exact time and venue will be announced later.

Valediction

Approaching the very end of his tenure, Mr Tapiola directed a few words of thank to all those who had helped him carry out his task – members, Executive Committee and Secretary, some of which were also leaving their posts.

In return, Mr Gustâv, pointing to the achievements of the Baltic Sea Commission under the wise leadership of its President, handed to Mr Tapiola a piece of superb Swedish glass-ware, a token of gratitude from the Executive Committee.

Mr Gustâv also took the opportunity to thank the members for having chosen him as president and indicated a tentative line of direction for the coming years.

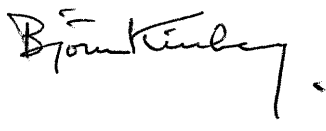
Closing

President Tapiola thanked the Bornholm organisers, conference staff and participants for two interesting and successful days and closed the 5th General Assembly.

*

The meeting was followed by a press conference, and a guided sightseeing tour of Bornholm.

Keeping the minutes


:

Additional documents available at the secretariat.