



CPMR

BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

The 10th General Assembly of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission
Naantali, Southwest Finland (FI), 27 May 2005

FINAL RESOLUTION

EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL CO-OPERATION IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION

The General Assembly of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission adopted the resolution on European territorial co-operation – a tool for effective development of regional co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region in Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D) on 4 June 2004. The CPMR Baltic Sea Commission appreciates the European Commission's efforts to further develop the instruments of territorial co-operation. The General Assembly of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission with this new resolution would like to pay attention to some specific points in the European Commission's proposals.

The European Commission has proposed four prioritised themes for the future Transnational Co-operation:

- Water management
- Natural risk prevention
- Improving accessibility
- Creation of scientific and technological networks

The Baltic Sea Commission wishes that these themes would be a "minimum offer" to be complemented by other themes in the programme areas, thus allowing the regional levels to answer the real needs of Transnational Co-operation. The Baltic Sea Commission also wishes that the Regions would be heard in the process of further negotiations of the prioritised areas.

The Baltic Sea Commission also wishes that the Interregional Co-operation actions would be available also in the programming period of 2007-2013. It is also important that the good experiences of the Interreg III C, and the gained European Added value, would be taken into the consideration when preparing the future Interregional Co-operation.

The Baltic Sea Commission also wants to stress its concern about the European tendency of creating bigger projects. It should be noted, that especially in the new member states of the European Union, there might be problems in participating in the European projects due to the small size of local actors.

The Baltic Sea Commission wants to express its opinion that the future ENPI Cross-Border Co-operation should have a good balance between the Cohesion and External Relations Policies. The balance should reflect the principles of the Cohesion Policy. It is also noted that the political support for the Cross-Border Co-operation should be soundly established between the European Union and Russia.

The Baltic Sea Commission wants to note that the principle of "one border, one programme" should have exceptions, when necessary due to operational, cultural or historical reasons.

The Baltic Sea Commission wants also to note that the Regions which are currently eligible for two separate Transnational Co-operation areas, should not suffer from the reformulation of the future Transnational Co-operation.

CONFERENCE OF PERIPHERAL MARITIME REGIONS OF EUROPE – BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

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