



# CPMR

## BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

### Visby Meeting Gotland (S) Minutes

**Time:** 7 September 2006

Lunch at 12 a.m.; meeting at 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.;  
dinner at 8 p.m. (Donners Brunn)

**8 September 2006**

Meeting at 9 a.m. – 12 a.m.; lunch at 12 a.m.

**Venue:** Municipality of Gotland, Klosterplan 2, Visby, Gotland (S)

**Participants:** Ms Christel Liljeström, President  
Mr Poul Müller, Vice-President  
Mr Jan Lundgren, Chairman of Council, Gotland  
Ms Ulla Pettersson, Director for International Affairs, Gotland  
Ms Anne Ståhl Mousa, Incoming Executive Secretary  
Mr Niels Erik Andersen, Head of International Department, Århus County  
Mr Ole-Magne Kolstad, Head of International Affairs, Nordland  
Mr Marko Mälly, Executive Secretary

#### 1 § Opening the meeting

**Proposal:** The President of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission will open the meeting

**Final decision:** The President opened the meeting at 1 p.m. and welcomed the participants to Visby.

#### 2 § Adopting of the agenda

**Proposal:** The agenda will be adopted.

**Final decision:** The proposal was adopted.

## 3 §

**Discussion on current affairs in following themes:****Thursday, 7 September 2006:**

Division of labour and responsibilities in the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission (President, Vice-President, Executive Committee, BSC Secretariat)

- state of affairs with the new BSC Secretariat?
- division of various tasks and responsibilities, who does what?
- post of 2. Vice-President and updating the BSC statutes

Visions and Objectives of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission

- need for updating?

**Friday, 8 September 2006:**

Planning the future activities of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission

- BSC working groups  
(Human resources/human capital/health; Fisheries; EU maritime policy?)
- activation of regions in the new EU member states  
(a new information tour in Baltic States and Poland?)
- thematic co-operation with other Baltic Sea organisations  
(results of the Co-ordination meeting of the Baltic Sea organisations)
- thematic co-operation with CPMR North Sea Commission  
(thematic co-operation in various fields: transport, environment, maritime safety, energy and climate change, territorial co-operation)
- various conferences and seminars  
(NSC+BSC Conference in Stavanger (N) on maritime policy on 20-21 November 2006; Almedalsveckan, Visby, Gotland (S) July 2007)
- 12<sup>th</sup> BSC General Assembly in Bodø, Norway in May/June 2007

**Proposal:** The participants will have a discussion on above mentioned issues.

**Final decision:** *Division of labour and responsibilities in the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission (President, Vice-President, Executive Committee, BSC Secretariat)*

- *state of affairs with the new BSC Secretariat?*
- *division of various tasks and responsibilities, who does what?*
- *post of 2. Vice-President and updating the BSC statutes*

The new BSC Secretariat will start officially its work in Visby, Gotland (S) in the beginning of November. Ms Anne Ståhl-Mousa will take the function as the new Executive Secretary of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission. She will be introduced to the BSC Executive Committee in its next meeting on 24-25

October 2006 and to the Member Regions of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission in the BSC Pre-General Assembly on 25 October 2006, both meetings organised in Murcia, Spain. Though the incoming Executive Secretary will actively take part in the activities and various meetings from now on.

The current Executive Secretary, Mr Marko Mälly, presented the current way of working of the BSC Secretariat, and the participants had for the beginning general discussion on the tasks of the BSC Secretariat.

Generally it was discussed that the meeting agendas and contents could be developed, and the contents of various thematics could be represented in the new ways. It was mentioned that it is also the role of the President to activate the members of the Executive Committee. The co-operation between the President and Vice-President should be developed. It was also stressed that e.g. in the EC meetings there should be more time for free discussion.

In the Murcia Executive Committee meeting the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Committee in various co-operation organisations and networks will be discussed and decided.

The current and new Executive Secretaries will start preparations for updating the BSC statutes. Among other things the issue on establishing the 2<sup>nd</sup> BSC Vice-Presidency will be a part of updating the statutes. The updated statutes have to be adopted latest in the Executive Committee meeting in spring time so that the issue can be taken on the agenda in the 12<sup>th</sup> BSC General Assembly in Bodø, Norway in June 2007.

#### *Visions and Objectives of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission*

- *need for updating?*

The current document of Visions and Objectives will be sent out to the Executive Committee members and it will be decided in the coming Murcia meeting how and in which way the document should be updated.

The President will draft together with Vice-President for the Murcia Executive Committee meeting Working Guidelines which will also be discussed in the meeting. This will be a separate document to the Visions and Objectives document.

#### *Planning the future activities of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission*

- *BSC working groups  
(Human resources/human capital/health; Fisheries; EU maritime policy?)*
- *activation of regions in the new EU member states  
(a new information tour in Baltic States and Poland?)*
- *thematic co-operation with other Baltic Sea organisations*

- *(results of the Co-ordination meeting of the Baltic Sea organisations)*
- *thematic co-operation with CPMR North Sea Commission*  
*(thematic co-operation in various fields: transport, environment, maritime safety, energy and climate change, territorial co-operation)*
- *various conferences and seminars*  
*(NSC+BSC Conference in Stavanger (N) on maritime policy on 20-21 November 2006; Almedalsveckan, Visby, Gotland (S) July 2007)*
- *12<sup>th</sup> BSC General Assembly in Bodø, Norway in May/June 2007*

Following comments were made in the general discussion:

- letters from the President and Vice-President will be written to the member regions to activate them in the work in the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission. Similar letters would be sent also to co-operation organisations. This would strengthen the impetus starting the work of the new Executive Committee and the new BSC Secretariat. It was also mentioned to make pictures of the Executive Committee for PR purposes.
- lobbying on diverse thematics should be strengthened with own initiatives of the Executive Committee putting strength on carefully selected subjects.

Working groups:

- The new organised BSC transport working group had its first meeting in Klaipeda (LV) in June 2006. There have been changes in the structure of the working group as Mr Per Strømhaug has started his work as the Project Manager of the Interreg IIIB InterBaltic project in 2006. He led the working group from 2003. Since 2006 the new Chairman of the working group is Mr Geir-Ketil Hansen, Nordland (N) and the Co-ordinator is Ms Maria Öberg, Norrbotten (S). As Ms Öberg is now going to maternal leave, a new co-ordinator is searched at the moment. The next meeting of the working group has been planned to the end of November 2006. In the discussion was stressed that the transport working group should develop co-operation with similar working groups in the CPMR North Sea Commission and in the other Baltic Sea organisations and networks. This issue will be on the agenda of the next BSC Executive Committee meeting.
- CPMR Baltic Sea Commission has tried to establish a working group on Human Resources but without larger success as interest for establishing this working group among the member regions has been rather low. As human resources and employment related questions are very current and important in the Baltic Sea Area, the issue was taken again on the agenda in the co-ordination meeting of the Baltic Sea organisations in Karlskrona, Blekinge (S) on 31 May 2006. There was decided that BSC will clarify the interest on this thematic in the Baltic Sea Area until the next co-operation meeting in spring 2007.
- CPMR has a large working group on energy, where Region of

Norrbottnen is active. It was proposed that the contact person of Norrbotten on the CPMR energy group would report to the BSC Executive Committee on current affairs in the EC Porvoo meeting in March.

- One active BSC working group on Cross Border Co-operation finished its work to the 11<sup>th</sup> BSC General Assembly in Karlskrona, Blekinge (S). This working group was specialized on Cross Border, Democracy and Cohesion Policy issues. There have been also interest regarding possible working group e.g. on fisheries. This will be discussed in the next EC meeting.

Further general comments:

- it was stressed the fruitful co-operation with HELCOM, not just on the political level but also between the Secretariats.
- sustainable development was seen of major importance to be discussed in the future regarding transport, environment, energy and human resources. CPMR Baltic Sea Commission is a member in the Baltic 21 organisational network having possibility to co-operate on issues of sustainable development in the Baltic Sea Area.
- it was also discussed the ways of improving knowledge of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission in the Baltic Sea Area, especially in Baltic States and Poland. It was stressed that the existing contacts of the Member Regions and the BSC Secretariat should be better used. There was not seen need for organising new info tours but revising the infomaterial of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission under this heading.

Coming events

- the BSC+NSC maritime policy conference in Stavanger (N) is in preparation in the BSC and NSC Secretariats. The President will take part in this conference on behalf of the BSC as a speaker. Also the representative of the BSC transport working group will be as a speaker in the work shop session.
- the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Baltic Sea Commission will organised on 14-16 June 2007 in Bodø, Nordland (N), in the way that the 14 June is a seminar day with work shops, the 15 June is a General Assembly day with the EC meeting in the afternoon and 16 June is an excursion day. This way the new model which was introduced in the 11<sup>th</sup> BSC General Assembly in Karlskrona, Blekinge (S) would be followed.
- There was also general discussion on the coming Almedalsveckan in Visby, Gotland (S) during the week 28 in 2007. The Baltic Sea Commission will organise its thematic seminar on 10 July 2007 and preliminary bookings of 30 hotel rooms have been made for 9-11 July 2007. The lecture room has been booked in the University College. The BSC seminar would last two hours. The possible theme of the seminar would be the Baltic Sea Gas Pipeline and its environmental impact assesment, and related to this high-level speakers would be invited like

Mr Gerhard Schröder, former German Chancellor and current Chairman of the Gas pipeline enterprise; the Swedish Minister on environmental affairs and a Polish representative. Invitations to the speakers should be sent on good time.

#### Next Executive Committee meeting

- In the next BSC Executive Committee meeting there will e.g. following issues on the agenda: Visions and Objectives, working guidelines, statutes and co-operation with other Baltic Sea organisations and networks as well as with the CPMR North Sea Commission.

#### **4 § Closing the meeting**

**Proposal:** The President of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission will close the meeting

**Final decision:** The President closed the meeting at 12.00 a.m.

*mamä/270906*