

Other participants:

- | | |
|--|---|
| (x) Mr Peder BANGE,
Aarhus County (DK) | (x) Mr Tommy KARLSSON,
Stockholm region (S) |
| (x) Mr Ole KOLSTAD, Nordland (N) | (x) Mr Henrik
25 th Bornholm (DK) |
| (x) Mr Erik BERGKVIST,
25 th Västerbotten, (S) | (x) Mr Tomas GUSTAVSSON,
25 th Västerbotten (S) |
| (x) Mr Enrico MAYRHOFER
25 th CPMR Brussels Office | (x) Mr Henrik EYBYE NIELSEN
25 th |
| (x) Ms Grenada DEMAKINA
25 th Riga District (LV) | (-) Ms Silja KASMANN
CPMR Brussels Office |
| (x) Ms Bente NIELSSEN,
25 th Aarhus (DK) | (x) Mr Philippe CICHOWLAZ
25 th CPMR Renee Office |

12 § Opening the meeting

Proposal: The President will open the meeting.

Final decision: Ms Christel Liljeström, President, opened the meeting and wished everyone welcome to two days of fruitful discussions.

13 § Adopting of the agenda

Proposal: The Executive Committee will adopt the agenda.

Final decision: The Executive Committee adopted the agenda noting that 22 § and 21 § would be taken in this reverse order and treated on the 25th, with 16 § when more executive committee members would be present. 16 § will have to move until the 25th when the CPMR representatives are present. The language day one was set to be Scandinavian and on day, two English - reflecting the wishes of the people present.

14 § Minutes of the previous meeting

The previous meeting was held in Karlskrona on 2 June 2006.

Proposal: The minutes of the Karlskrona meeting will be adopted, [Appendix1](#).

Final decision: The minutes were adopted unanimously without amendments.

15 § Nomination of the new Executive Secretary of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission

By the BSC Statutes, Article 5, the Baltic Sea Commission has an Executive Secretary whose responsibility is to ensure the day-to-day organisation of its

work and implementation of its decisions. On the recommendation of the Executive Committee the General Assembly shall nominate the Executive Secretary. His mandate is renewed every 2 years. In the Organisational Charter of the CPMR (St. Malo 2003), Article 9, it is said that the appointment of the Executive Secretary shall be made in conjunction with the Secretary General of the Conference, who shall be kept regularly informed.

The 11th General Assembly of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission decided on 2 June 2006 in Karlskrona, Blekinge (S) due the change of the BSC Presidency to transfer the BSC Secretariat on the proposal of the BSC Executive Committee to the Region of Gotland for the period of 2006-2008.

The 11th BSC General Assembly was also informed that the new Executive Secretary will be nominated after the Swedish parliamentary election in September 2006. The nomination will be confirmed by the BSC Executive Committee in its meeting on 24-25 October 2006 in Murcia, Spain. The Regional Council of Päijät-Häme and the current Executive Secretary Mr Marko Mälly has taken care of the tasks of the BSC Secretariat during the transition period.

The Region of Gotland has made a proposal to the BSC Executive Committee and the Secretary-General of the CPMR to nominate Ms Anne Ståhl-Mousa as the new Executive Secretary of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission for the period 2006-2008.

Proposal: The Executive Committee will decide to make a recommendation to the BSC Pre-General Assembly of 34th CPMR General Assembly to nominate Ms Anne Ståhl Mousa as the new Executive Secretary of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission for the period 2006-2008.

Final decision: Ms Anne Ståhl Mousa made a short presentation of herself, professional and academically background. The Gotland administration have promised to support the BSC secretariat with additional personal resources to ensure that the executive secretary will have sufficient time to focus on core activities and act as secretary to the president. Mr Xavier Gizard at the CPMR endorses the candidacy of Ms Anne Ståhl Mousa.

The executive committee decided to recommend Ms Anne Ståhl Mousa to the member regions meeting at the pre-general assembly on October 25th as the new Executive Secretary of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission for the period 2006-2008.

16 § CPMR Current affairs

Mr Enrico Mayrhofer, Director, CPMR, new contact person on Baltic Sea

Commission will present himself and have a presentation about the current CPMR activities due to the 34th CPMR General Assembly.

Presentation: Mr Enrico Mayrhofer is the new appointed contact person for BSC affairs. Stationed in Brussels he is responsible for CPMRs director for communications and as such, he has a good horizontal perspective on CPMR affairs. Mr Mayrhofer directed the executive committees attention to the three main focus areas for CPMR at present, being:

1. The development of the EU Regional Policy - Mr Philippe CICHOWLAZ, is responsible for this topic at the CPMR.
2. The developing of the EU Maritime Policy - The green paper is the first attempt by EU to take a holistic view on maritime issues. CPMR consider the intentions are on the good but will add the need for global perspectives and regional specifics. The subject will be much discussed until the summer 2007 and the geographical committees are expected to contribute. The consultation period for the green paper will close in June 2007 and CPMR intend to answer to it.
3. The issue of Globalisation - CPMR has made an agreement with UNs UNDP on how better to co-ordinate regional aid-efforts to ensure receiving authorities could take an active part in the work with the aim of helping receiving authorities helping themselves aided by incoming support.

Mr Philippe Cichowlaz presented some of the ideas regarding the EUs coming Regional Policy. Focusing the program period of 2014-2020 it is likely that one topic could be "innovative rule of government". As a first step to start the discussion CPMR meeting in Florence in February 2007 will have a paper ready.

Mr Philippe Cichowlaz mentioned that the Scandinavian countries are, from an EU perspective, considered the most advance when it comes to innovative actions for creating new jobs at regional levels, with Stockholm seen as the number one.

Mr Philippe Cichowlaz asked the BSC executive committee to consider the possibility to propose to the CPMR at the general assembly meeting in Murcia to make an initiative according a new inter-commission group on regional development and innovation.

Final decision: After a short discussion, it was decided that BSC would take up the request by Mr Cichowlaz. The Baltic Sea Commission initiative to the CPMR ought to a new inter-commission group focusing on regional development and innovation.

The possibilities for regions to strengthen their competitiveness to secure future economic development should be the focus.

It was mutually agreed that the Baltic Sea Region have many good examples to bring to a inter-commissional group regarding regional actions to enhance local entrepreneurship, including partnership between regional governmental bodies, universities and entrepreneurs.

The executive committee agreed to be willing for the Baltic Sea Commission to

take the lead, if asked by the CPMR, in such an inter-commission project.

17 § Activity report June 2006 (Karlskrona) – October 2006 (Murcia)

19-21 July, Seminar on "Towards a Future Maritime Policy for the European Union - A European Vision on Oceans and Seas", Turku (FI)

3-5 September, 15th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, Reykjavik (IS)

6-7 September, Informal meeting of the BSC Chairmen and Secretariat, Visby, Gotland (S)

20-21 September, "European Maritime Policy - Conference of the Baltic Sea Area", by Land Schleswig-Holstein and BSSSC, Kiel (D)

22 September, BSSSC Annual Conference, Kiel (D)

18 § Working guidelines of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission for 2006-2008

The President and Vice-President have drafted a document of Working Guidelines for the Executive Committee for the working period 2006-2008. This document has a role as working tool for the Executive Committee beside the "Vision and Objectives" document.

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss and decide about the proposed working guidelines. **Appendix2.**

Final decision: The proposed working guidelines raised a positive discussion regarding the objectives for the Baltic Sea Commissions existence. The proposal, made by the presidium, is an attempt to focus the activities of the organisation in order to provide results to bring back to the member regions - "value-for-money" and "to put the Baltic Sea Commission on the map".

A carrying thought is that a scheme for "member care" will bring new regions onboard through the word-of-mouth. The coming year should focus on results rather than making an extensive campaign tour to non-member regions.

The document should be revised annually.

Co-operation with other organisations like HELCOM, North Sea commission, CPMR and others should provide a means of creating a sense of BSC being larger and present in other important Baltic Sea forums.

The president expects all board members to take an active part in the BSC work and the regions to support BSC secretariat and Workgroups.

The text was adopted with the amendment suggested by Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, via mail :

Amendments to the first block, last bullet of the draft guidelines ad "assign responsibilities topics to members of the executive committee".

In general, we should not refer to "board members" in the working guidelines, but to the members of the Executive Committee.

Following a short discussion, the executive committee decided that WG-groups should follow the procedures of the CPMR workgroups. A workgroup shall yearly address the general assembly with an account on the result of the work. The general assembly shall either decide on new directives for an additional years work or dissolve the workgroup.

19 § Visions and Objectives of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission

The "Vision and Objectives" strategic document of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission was adopted by the 9th BSC General Assembly in Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D) on 4 June 2004. The BSC Secretariat had prepared this document with the Executive Committee and BSC Member Regions.
Appendix 3.

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss proposals on changing or amending the "Visions and Objectives" document and ask the BSC Secretariat to prepare an updated document and send it for comments to the BSC member regions.

Final decision: The outgoing secretary Mr Mälly presented the work and revisions previously made. 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

Other remarks to be included in the final document:

The map should reflect the Baltic Sea Commission in the CPMR family of geographical regions.

Detailed information about the organisation should be available via the web. Information regarding the regions will only be in the format of links to the official regional page.

Time-plan:

Until Christmas Executive Committee, consider what arguments go into the text in order to provide the secretariat with raw material.

The suggestions will be gathered and returned to the regions for local comments during January-February 2007.

The executive committee meeting in March 2007 in Borgå will finalise the new

"Visions and Objectives".

The new "Visions and Objectives" will adopt at the General Assembly in Bodø in June 2007.

20 § Updating statutes of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission

The statutes of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission were updated last time in the 7th General Assembly of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission in Klaipėda (LT) in 2002. Updating has become current and actual after CPMR has updated its own statutes in the 31st General Assembly in St. Malo in 2003 and there have been recently discussion on establishing the post of the second Vice-President in the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission. The statutes of the Geographical Commissions must be written in accordance with the CPMR statutes. The proposal on updated BSC statutes should be handed in to the BSC Executive Committee latest in its spring meeting that the 12th BSC General Assembly may adopt the updated statutes in Bodø on 15 June 2006. Appendix 4 and 5.

Proposal: The BSC Secretariat will present the needs to update the statutes of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission. The Executive Committee will discuss the principles of updating the statutes and give the task to the BSC Secretariat to prepare the proposal on updated BSC statutes for adoption of the BSC Executive Committee in its spring meeting 2007.

Final decision: The needs to update the statues have arisen, as there is now the need to establishing the post of the second Vice-President 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 Executive Committee gives the task to the BSC Secretariat to prepare the proposal on updated BSC statutes for adoption of the BSC Executive Committee in its spring meeting 2007.

21 § Nominations of contact persons to the Organisations of Co-operation

The CPMR Baltic Sea Commission states in its Action Plan "Visions and Objectives of the Baltic Sea Commission" to strengthen exchange of information and recognition from other actors in the Baltic Sea Area. Various organisations in the Baltic Sea Area are working with regional and local co-operation. It is important to co-operate closely with them, especially as many regions are members of different organisations. It is important for the Baltic Sea Commission to be benchmarking and exchanging information with other Baltic Sea organisations.

Proposal: Due to the new nominations of the Executive Committee of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission it is time to update the list of contact persons to the various international organisations of co-operation. The list of co-operation organisations of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission as Appendix.

Final decision: Intergovernmental Organisations
Council of Baltic Sea States - **CBSS** - Will be represented at president or vice president level, Ms Christel LILJESTRÖM or Mr Poul MÜLLER.
Helsinki Commission - **HELCOM** - President Ms Christel LILJESTRÖM
Baltic 21 (An Agenda 21 for the Baltic Sea Region) - Ms Marjatta VEKKAJA
Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference - **BSPC** - vice president Mr Poul MÜLLER
Visions & Strategies around the Baltic 2010 - **VASAB 2010** - Mr Dirk FRASSMANN
Regional Organisations/ None Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
Union of Baltic Cities - **UBC** - Mr Ilgonis STEINBERGS
Baltic Sea Seven Islands - **B7** - Mr Jørgen KVIIST
Baltic Sea States Sub-regional Co-operation - **BSSSC** - Ms Annika ANNEBY JANSSON
CPMR North Sea Commission - **NSC** - President Ms Christel LILJESTRÖM
Transport - Mr Geir-Ketil HANSEN
Environment - Ms Talvikki KOSKINEN
Barents Co-Operation - Mr Ole KOLSTAD Executive Secretary will inform them.

22 §

BSC Working Groups

1) Transport Working Group (Mr Geir-Ketil Hansen, Ms Maria Öberg)

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 transport issues e.g. to national and international politicians (National transport 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.

At the same time there should be good connections between the transport working group and the project "InterBaltic" since the project really is initiated by the working group. It is therefore suggested that the co-ordinator is appointed as member of the project's "Strategy Group" where also other pan-

Baltic organisations like CBSS, BSSSC, VASAB, UBC, HELCOM and others will be invited. The project will also establish a High Level Group to which the Chairman could be appointed if also member of the Executive Committee.

The BSC Executive Committee did unanimously decide in its meeting on 2 June 2006 in Karlskrona, Blekinge (S) to renominate Mr Geir-Ketil Hansen, Member of the BSC Executive Committee, Nordland (N) as a new Chairman and Ms Maria Öberg, Norrbotten (S) as a new co-ordinator of the BSC Transport Working Group for the period 2006-2008.

The new organised BSC transport working group had its first meeting in Klaipeda (LV) in June 2006. 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.

Proposal:

The working situation of the BSC working groups will be reported. The Executive Committee will also discuss the establishment of other possible ad hoc or working groups of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission.

As new initiatives there would be need for an ad hoc working group on European Maritime Policy. It was decided that BSC Secretariat and Vice-President do study the possibilities for establishing this new (ad hoc) working group.

Human resources was the other sector where still would be need for a working group also regarding the questions e.g. of organised crime. Stockholm and Podlaskie regions have been active in these questions, and the possibilities for establishing a working group or ad hoc working group will be studied. Mr Tommy Karlsson from Stockholm region has chaired the CPMR working group on Human Resources.

Energy sector also seems to be an interesting area of co-operation. There is at the moment the CPMR working group on energy.

There was also made a proposal on activities in the fisheries sector in the Baltic Sea Area by the representatives of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission in the CPMR fisheries working group. Representing Baltic Sea regions, it is suggested that BSC should be participating as observer. An information letter with this request has been addressed to the secretariat. With the approval, BSC should seek membership. It is though apparent that more input than is available today is needed from the Baltic Sea member regions since although there are large similarities in the Baltic Sea fisheries, there are also regional differences that need to be highlighted. It is therefore proposed that member regions are encouraged to introduce candidates for participation or as contacts in fisheries related issues.

**Final
decision:**Report from the transport WG:

Mr Geir-Ketil HANSEN presented the gloomy situation of the transport WG, since the project co-ordinator Ms Maria Öberg left the WG. The intention is to make a strategic plan including joint seminars together with the North Sea Commission, for the continuing work as soon as a replacement for Ms Öberg is found. Several candidates have been approached but have turned down the offer on financial basis.

Mr Hansen will report to the executive committee and the Baltic Sea Secretariat on the development of the transport WGs situation.

It was decided that as soon as a co-ordinator is found he/she is appointed as member of the project's "Strategy Group" where also other pan-Baltic organisations like CBSS, BSSSC, VASAB, UBC, HELCOM and others will be

invited. The project will also establish a High Level Group to which the Chairman could be appointed if also member of the Executive Committee.

Following a general discussion on Workgroups it was agreed that:

Form for **co-operation** with other organisations: An executive committee member together with the co-ordinator of workgroups.

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**.

On a direct question, it was made clear that anyone may **join a workgroup** if the Chairman of the workgroup invites him/her.

Regarding the work on the green paper for **Maritime Policy** - the Baltic Sea Commission shall co-operate with others via secretariat.

Maritime safety according to the Karlskrona model, that is, in co-operation with others.

Mr Karlsson reported on the work on the CPMR working group on **Human resources** Stockholm region has chaired and in which Stockholm and Podlaskie region and Finland have been active. There are several problems shared between many European regions concerning issues like school-drop-out, an ageing population, immigration and the labour market. The WG will deliver a final report during 2007.

Mr Tommy Karlsson will be asked to deliver a more comprehensive report at the next executive committee meeting.

Today Norbotten is the only Baltic Sea Commission member to participate in **energy WG** together with CPMR. Mr Mayrhofer reminded of the Navarra experience was today 60% of the local energy consumption now comes from renewable sources. Mr Bergkvist pointed out the regional differences between Navarra and Västerbotten where biomass and renewable fuel are two central fields of study and experimentation.

The dictions were that Mr Bergkvist would lead a new WG on Energy for the Baltic Sea Commission. The Energy WG shall act as a sub-group to the CPMR energy WG. A report on the activities' will be made at the next executive committee meeting.

It stated that fishery is an important issue to the Baltic Sea Commission. A lot of work is already undertaken in a North Sea Commission WG led by the Shetlands. Baltic Sea Commission have long been represented in this work by Mr Kjell Nybacka of Finland and Rolf Gydemo of Gotland. The executive committee suggests that Mr Kjell Nybacka is asked to become the chair of the Baltic Sea commission **Fishery WG**.

listed)

25 October	BSC Pre-General Assembly, Murcia (SP)	
25-27 October	34 th CPMR General Assembly, Murcia (SP)	
30-31 October	Helsinki Summit of the Baltic Development Forum, Helsinki (FI)	Mr Marco Mälly
8 November	Special consultation with the Swedish CBSS Presidency, Kalmar (S)	Ms Anne Ståhl Mousa
20-21 November	First BSC and NSC joint conference on European Maritime Policy, Stavanger (N)	Ms Christel Liljeström & Ms Anne Ståhl Mousa And hopefully others as well
15 February 2007,	CPMR Political Bureau meeting, Florence (I)	Ms Christel Liljeström
1-2 March 2007,	BSC Executive Committee, Porvoo/Borgå, Itä- Uusimaa/Östra Nyland (FI)	Ms Christel Liljeström & Ms Anne Ståhl Mousa
<i>April ?</i>	<i>Second BSC and NSC joint conference on European Maritime Policy, Stavanger (N)</i>	<i>Ms Christel Liljeström & Ms Anne Ståhl Mousa</i>
14-16 June 2007, 12th BSC General Assembly, Bodø, Nordland (N)		
15 June 2007	CPMR Political Bureau, Bialystok, Podlaskie Voivodeship (PL)	
10 July 2007, BSC Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment of the new Baltic Sea Gas Pipeline, Almedalsveckan, Visby, Gotland (S)		

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss the thematic and practical arrangements of the seminar and the 12th BSC General Assembly in Bodø, Nordland (N) in June 2007 as well as the BSC seminar during the Almedalsveckan in July 2007 in Visby, Gotland (S). It was proposed as a theme for the BSC Seminar during the Almedalsveckan "Environmental Impact Assessment of the Baltic Sea Gas Pipeline".

The discussion should also be started for the host of the 13th BSC General Assembly in 2008.

The Executive Committee will record the coming events as information and nominate representatives of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission to various meetings and conferences.

Final decision: Thematic and practical arrangements of the 12th General Assembly in Bodö
Bodö presented the arrangements that will not only offer an interesting agenda but spectacular social arrangements under the midnight sun. For practical details co-operation will continue between Bodö and the president, vice president and secretariat.

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.

Candidate to host the 13th BSC General Assembly 2008

There is still no candidate for hosting the 13th BSC General Assembly in 2008. The matter is urgent, as the candidate should be announced at the General assembly in Bodö in June 2007. All members are asked to concenter the matter and the president, vice president and secretariat should act to secure a candidate.

24 § The next Executive Committee meetings 2007

Proposal: The Executive Committee will decide a meeting calendar for spring 2007. The next Executive Committee meeting was already decided to be organised in Porvoo, Itä-Uusimaa/Östra Nyland (FI) on 1-2 March 2007.

Final decision: The next Executive Committee meeting will be organised in Porvoo, Itä-Uusimaa/Östra Nyland (FI) on 1-2 March 2007.
An additional executive commission meeting in April in conjunction with the

second BSC and NSC joint conference on European Maritime Policy will be decided in Porvoo.

25 §

Any other business

Proposal:

Final decision: No other business was proposed.

26 §

Closing the meeting

Proposal:

The President will close the meeting

**Final
decision:**

The President ended the meeting stating that it had been a pleasure to take part in this atmosphere of very open discussion between all participants.

asm 2006-11-15