



CPMR

BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

Executive Committee Riga, LV

Minutes

Time: 30 November 2001, 9.00 am – 12.15 pm

Venue: Hotel Konventa Seta, Kaleju street 9/11, Riga

**Participants:
Roll call**

Members:

Substitutes:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| (X) President Mr Anders Gustâv, S | |
| (X) Vice President Ms Bente Nielsen, DK | (X) Mr Jörgen Kvist, DK |
| (X) Mr Inge Andersson, S | () Mr Hans Klintbom, S |
| () Mr Rainer Kosmider, D | (X) Mr Dirk Frassmann, D |
| () Mr Mikko Rönholm, FIN | () Mr Johan Söderberg, FIN |
| () Mr Jaanus Sahk, EST | () Mr Urmas Majajäas, EST |
| (X) Mr Ilgonis Steinbergs, LV | () Mrs Anita Jegere, LV |
| () Ms Virginija Lukosiene, LT | () Ms Roma Stubriene, LT |

Secretariat:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| (X) Mr Jaakko Mikkola | Executive Secretary |
| (X) Ms Pia Hurtta | Assistant of the Executive Secretariat |

Other participants:

- | | |
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| (X) Ms Ginta Siksne, Riga, LV | (X) Mr Tommy Karlsson, Stockholm, S |
| (X) Mr Pascal Gruselle, CPMR, Brussels | (X) Ms Annemarie Elverum, Århus, DK |
| (X) Ms Ewa Back, Västernorrland, S | (X) Mr Vytautas Krisciunas, Klaipeda, LT |
| (X) Ms Ulrika Åberg, Västernorrland, S | (X) Mr Per Nilsson, Västerbotten, S |
| (X) Mr Esa Halme, Itä-Uusimaa, FIN | (X) Ms Valli Laas, Ida-Viru, EST |

73 § Opening the meeting

Proposal: The President will open the meeting.

Final decision: The President Mr Anders Gustâv welcomed the participants and opened the meeting at 9.00 am. Mr Ilgonis Steinbergs had a brief presentation of Riga District interpreted by Ms Ginta Siksne.

74 § Adopting of the agenda

Proposal: The Executive Committee will adopt the agenda.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

**75 § Representative member of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D)
– Appendix 1**

Mr Rainer Kosmider has sent a letter to the Baltic Sea Commission on 29 October 2001 (**appendix 1**). There he e.g. informs the BSC that Mr Klemens Büscher will be followed by Mr Dirk Frassmann as his substitute in the Executive Committee.

Proposal: The Executive Committee will welcome Mr Dirk Frassmann to be a new substitute member of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in the BSC Executive Committee.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

76 § Presentation of Västernorrland (S)

Västernorrland was admitted to CPMR (as its 145th member region) and warmly welcome in the CPMR Political Bureau meeting which was held in Oporto (P) on 20 September 2001.

Ms. Ewa Back will have a presentation of Västernorrland County, Sweden.

Proposal: The presentation of Västernorrland, Sweden, will be recorded in the minutes.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

77 § Minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting – Appendix 2

The previous Executive Committee meeting was held on 12 September 2001 in Uppsala, Sweden.

Proposal: Minutes of the previous meeting will be adopted.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

78 § CPMR Baltic Sea Commission Projects – a follow-up

After a discussion in the previous Executive Committee meeting in Uppsala on 12 September 2001 four (4) projects were chosen to be labelled as “CPMR Baltic Sea Commission Projects”. The projects fulfilled the following criteria:

- a) a good substance of the project, promoting important issues for CPMR if possible;
- b) the ability of networking as many CPMR member regions as possible;
- c) a good geographical coverage of different parts of the Baltic Sea Area.

The Executive Committee selected the following four (4) projects in Uppsala (persons with special responsibility in brackets):

- 1) Baltic Palette (Mr Anders Gustâv, Stockholm)
- 2) E18 (Mr Mikko Rönholm, South-west Finland)
- 3) “E12” Via Nordica – Via Baltica (Mr Inge Andersson, Västerbotten)
- 4) Eurovelo (the BSC Secretariat while representatives of Klaipeda are absent)

The label means that the BSC Executive Committee will not only actively follow up but also plays an active role and gives its political support to these selected projects and the BSC Secretariat will give its possible non-financial support to the leading partners in carrying out these projects. These selected projects will also regularly appear on the agendas of the Executive Committee.

The other (max 2) project ideas were postponed to following meetings because of the absence of German and Danish representatives.

Proposal:

- 1) Mr Anders Gustâv will give a report of the current events in the Baltic Palette Project,
- 2) Mr Mikko Rönholm will give a report of the current events in E18 project,
- 3) Mr Inge Andersson will give a report of “E12” Via Nordica – Via Baltica

project and

4) Ms Roma Stubriene will give a report of Eurovelo Project.

5-6) The Danish and German representatives will name two projects which also would be added to the list of "CPMR Baltic Sea Commission projects".

**Final
decision:**

- 1) Mr Anders Gustâv and Mr Tommy Karlsson gave a report of the current events in the Baltic Palette Project (measures: an invitation to the project to come to the next Executive Committee meeting in March; sending Baltic Palette brochures to the members of the Executive Committee);
- 2) Mr Jaakko Mikkola and Mr Esa Halme gave an account of the current events in E18 project (financing postponed to the next call for papers);
- 3) Mr Inge Andersson and Mr Per Nilsson gave a report of the current events in Via Nordica – Via Baltica project (expected to come from Rostock Joint Secretariat in December);
- 4) Mr Vytautas Krisciunas gave a report of Eurovelo project.
- 5) Mr Dirk Frassmann together with Ms Annemarie Elverum gave a report of Coastland Project (including seaside areas, integrated coastal zone management also in the socio-economic point of view; participating regions such as Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Århus, Polish and Russian (Kaliningrad) regions, Riga District; still left an open door to other participants as well);

It was decided that the possibility of organising a seminar covering all these CPMR Baltic Sea Commission projects will be elaborated during the year 2002.

**79 § Activity report of BSC Spatial Development Group (SDG) -
Appendix 3**

The new chairman of the Mr Esa Halme will give an account of the work and the future plans of the BSC Spatial Development Group. The previous meeting of the group was held in Jurmala (LV) on 16-17 October 2001. The memorandum is enclosed (**appendix 3**).

Proposal: The presentation of Mr Esa Halme will be recorded in the minutes.

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

A coffee break of ten minutes was held.

**80 § Implementation of the Northern Dimension Action Plan and final
resolution adopted in the CPMR General Assembly in Oporto on 21
September 2001 – Appendices 4 and 5**

The Baltic Sea Commission together with the North Sea Commission had a final resolution text which was first revised in the BSC pre-general assembly in Oporto on 20 September and then later adopted in 21 September by the CPMR General Assembly (**appendix 4**).

The printable report of Northern Dimension Intercom group (Action Plan) which contains a lot of proposals is enclosed as **appendix 5**.

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss on implementing the proposals presented in the Northern Dimension Action Plan. The Action Plan will be printed and distributed to BSC and NSC member regions.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted. Mr Inge Andersson gave an account of the Oporto pre-general assembly whose resolution was a support paper for implementing the enlisted project proposals. It was also decided that Ms Annemarie Eleverum together with Mr Jaakko Mikkola prepares a letter to all member regions containing a deadline and coordinating the implementation of these project proposals.

81 § Seaperspective Interreg III C Project proposal and Integrated Coastal Zones Management (ICZM) – information

The ICZM will be a part of a greater Interreg III C umbrella project of the CPMR called Seaperspective, hosted by Västra Götaland region, Gothenburg, Sweden (Ms. Cecilia Nilsson). The ICZM is a sub-theme in this new Interreg III C project proposal dealing with such sub-themes as:

- Sustainable valorisation of maritime transport and ports for economic growth of maritime regions and their hinterlands;
- Integrated management of coastal zones (ICZM);
- Maritime and oceanographic research;
- Contribution of the sea to culture and identity;
- Improvement of maritime security;
- Fisheries and contribution to the local economy.

The next meeting of this project proposal will be held at the call of Ms Nilsson in Gothenburg, Sweden, on 7-8 January 2002.

Proposal: Mr Tommy Karlsson from Stockholm County will give a brief account about integrating various ICZM and ICZD proposals together with Seaperspective.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

82 § The President's report and the activity report – autumn 2001 – appendix 6 (Laeken address)

After the previous Executive Committee meeting which was held in Uppsala (S) on 12 September 2001 there have been e.g. the following

events:

- 1) 29th CPMR General Assembly in Oporto, Region Norte (P), 20-21 September 2001
- 2) BSC Mission Saint-Petersburg (RUS) 1-2 October 2001
- 3) 6th UBC General Conference in Rostock (D) 11-13 October 2001
- 4) BSC Spatial Development Group meeting, Jurmala (LV) 16-17 October
- 5) Northern Dimension Forum organised by the Finnish Government in Lappeenranta (FIN) 22-23 October 2001
- 6) Interreg III B Info Day in Riga (LV) 25 October and BSSSC Conference in Riga 26-27 October 2001
- 7) CPMR Political Bureau in Florence (I) 6-7 November 2001-11-20

Proposal: Mr President and Mr Executive Secretary will give brief accounts of the events after the Uppsala meeting. The accounts will be recorded in the minutes.

An address (**appendix 6**) to the Heads of States and Governments with a view to the Laeken Summit which was adopted in Florence on 7 November 2002 called "*A Europe for all the regions: towards a grassroots democracy*" will be recorded in the minutes.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

83 § The renewed BSC Action Plan – a new edition of copies

There will be a revised second edition of the renewed BSC Action Plan. The amount of this edition will be 500 copies. In the same time Västernorrland and Västra Götaland will be added to the map of member regions.

New copies will be sent to member regions during December 2001.

Proposal: Ms Pia Hurttä will tell about the current situation with the copies. The information will be recorded in the minutes.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

84 § Enlarging the Baltic Sea Commission – 8 new interested regions – Appendices 7-12

New member regions from both sides of the Baltic Sea are very welcome to strengthen the Baltic Sea Commission. The following list is indicative and contains very different regions which get attention of different reasons. A map showing the geographical locations of these eight regions is enclosed as **appendix 7**. Numbers below refer to this map.

- 1) **City of Saint-Petersburg (RUS)**
- 2) **Leningrad Oblast (RUS)**
- 3) **Harjumaa County (EST)**
- 4) **Talsi District (LV)**
- 5) **Podlaskie Voivodship (PL)**
- 6) **Norrbottn County (S)**
- 7) **Lapland Region (FIN)**
- 8) **Päijät-Häme Region (FIN)**

1) **City of Saint-Petersburg (RUS) and 2) Leningrad Oblast (RUS)**

The President Mr Anders Gustâv made a mission with his Swedish-Finnish delegation to Saint-Petersburg in order to discuss the membership issue with both 1) City of Saint-Petersburg and 2) Leningrad Oblast. Both leaders of foreign relations Mr Gennady Tkachev and Mr Sergey Naryshkin were very positive towards the CPMR and they both got afterwards information by mail about the benefits and financial responsibilities of their possible memberships from both CPMR General Secretariat and BSC President and Secretariat. Mr Sergey Naryshkin (Leningrad) sent an answering letter (**appendix 8**).

Both Russian regions are considered now as CPMR observer regions for the next one year. During this time they should be activated in applying for the membership.

3) **Harjumaa County (EST)**

The unclear membership question of Harjumaa County has not yet been clarified. A trip to visit the governor Mr Orm Valtson in Tallinn has been planned. Ms Annemarie Elverum from Århus County has promised to help with the membership question with the contacts of Århus and Harjumaa.

4) **Talsi District (LV)**

Ms Anita Jegere from Tukums District has promised to continue her talks with the governor of Talsi District. Talsi is located by the Gulf of Riga in Courland (Kurzeme) to the west of Riga and Tukums.

5) **Podlaskie Voivodship (PL)**

Mr Aleksander Usakiewicz, Vice-Marshal of Podlaskie Voivodship started a very positive and promising correspondence with the secretariat after the General Assembly in Oporto (**appendix 9**). Podlaskie Voivodship, capital Bialystok (the former Bialystok region) located in the North-eastern corner of Poland, is not a maritime region but peripheral and would fit very well among other BSC member regions.

As for Western Pomerania (PL), capital Szczecin (Stettin), there has not

been any further news after their sign of interest towards CPMR last September.

A BSC mission to Poland targeted to 3-4 Voivodships (regions) Western Pomerania (Szczecin), Pomerania (Gdansk), Warmia-Mazuria (Olsztyn) and Podlaskie (Bialystok) will be planned for 2002.

6) Norrbotten County (S), 7) Lapland Region (FIN) and 8) Päijät-Häme Region (FIN)

The CPMR General Secretary Mr Xavier Gizard has sent in collaboration with the BSC Executive Secretary Mr Jaakko Mikkola letters to Norrbotten County, Lapland Region and Päijät-Häme Region, **appendices 10 – 12**.

Norrbotten (S) and Lapland (FIN) cover together the entire northernmost part of European Union. They have also much cross-border co-operation with Norway and Russia. Mr Inge Andersson (Västerbotten) has promised to continue talks with Norrbotten and Mr Ilkka Yliniemi (Northern Ostrobothnia) has promised to continue talks with Lapland.

Päijät-Häme (FIN), capital Lahti, is an inland region located next to Kymenlaakso and Itä-Uusimaa and having a lot of co-operation with these CPMR member regions.

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss the membership issues mentioned above and decides upon a mission to Poland during the year 2002 and decides how to act regarding to Harjumaa (Tallinn) and other mentioned regions.

Final decision: A mission to Poland was decided to be organised during the year 2002, preferably before the next CPMR General Assembly in September, and also a visit to Harjumaa County governor (Tallinn, EST). The interests of the other regions mentioned above and the measures taken by the General Secretariat in Rennes, office in Brussels and BSC Secretariat in Kotka were recorded in the minutes.

In the meeting it was also mentioned by Mr Pascal Gruselle that there is a possible interest of the four northernmost Norwegian regions to join the CPMR as its BSC or NSC member regions. This was also recorded in the minutes but the northernmost Norwegians' possible motives to join the BSC should be carefully further investigated.

85 § Proposals of Saint-Petersburg for the work of CPMR Baltic Sea Commission – appendix 13

Enclosed there is a memorandum made by Mr Boris A. Isaev from the Baltic Research Center of Regional Studies in Saint-Petersburg (**appendix 13**). It was handed to Mr Jaakko Mikkola in Riga by Ms Elena Ivanova from the administration of Saint-Petersburg.

Proposal: The ideas in the paper written by Mr Isaev will be recorded as information in the minutes.

Final Decision: The proposal was adopted.

86 § CPMR activities

Mr Pascal Gruselle from CPMR Brussels office will give an account of current CPMR activities.

Proposal: The presentation of Mr Pascal Gruselle will be recorded in the minutes.

Final decision: Mr Pascal Gruselle gave a report of institutional issues (Pol. Bureau in Florence) and the meeting in Liège under Mr Gizard (regions with/without legislative power). The study on polycentric development in Europe is to be published in June/July 2002. – The CPMR will meet the Commissioner Ms Loyola de Palacio in Galicia (E) on 22nd March 2002. All seven geographical commissions will be present. A note concerning the White Book on Transport will be elaborated together before that. As for rural policy, there will be a one-day conference with Commissioner Fischler.

87 § Next Executive Committee meetings in spring 2002 and the timetable of the 7th BSC General Assembly in Klaipeda (LT) on 29 May 2002

The meeting calendar for spring 2002 will preliminarily be the following:

20 March 2002 Executive Committee
29 May 7th BSC General Assembly
30 May 2002 Executive Committee

Proposal: The next Executive Committee meeting will be held at the kind invitation of Mr Esa Halme in Porvoo (Borgå) (FIN) on 20 March 2002.

The following meeting after Porvoo (Borgå) will be in Klaipeda (LT) on Thursday forenoon 30th May 2002 in connection with the 7th General Assembly.

The schedule in Klaipeda will be the same as it was in the 6th General Assembly in Tallinn in May 2001, i.e. the meeting with seminar speeches will start on Wednesday 29th May afternoon and the working day will be closed with a dinner together in the evening. Next morning there will be the Executive Committee meeting and the travel day home.

Ms Pia Hurttä will tell about the flight connections to/from Lithuania.

Final decision: The meeting calendar was changed as far as the dates of the next BSC General Assembly in Lithuania were concerned. The renewed meeting calendar for spring 2002 will be the following :

20 March 2002 Executive Committee, Porvoo/Borgå (FIN)

27 May 2002 BSC Seminar in Lithuania, Klaipeda (LT) (afternoon)

28 May 2002 7th BSC General Assembly, Klaipeda (LT) (all day)

29 May 2002 Executive Committee, Klaipeda (LT) (forenoon)

Mr Vytautas Krisciunas kindly invited the BSC to a seminar entitled on Lithuanian regional policy. The seminar was decided to be held as a pre-general assembly seminar preceding the assembly day.

Ms Pia Hurta gave information about the flight connections to Vilnius. The participants will be gathered in Vilnius international airport and a bus transfer will be organised to Klaipeda and from Klaipeda to Vilnius. Also alternative routes may be used via the nearby Palanga airport or even Riga airport, but the main connection as the main flow of participants will be organised through Vilnius.

88 § Coming activities

Seaperspective, Interreg III C project meeting, Gothenburg (S) 7-8 January 2002

BSC Spatial Development Group, Umeå (S) 13-14 January 2002

HELCOM 7th HOD meeting, Helsinki (FIN) 17-18 January 2002

BSC Executive Committee, Porvoo/Borgå (FIN) 20 March 2002

BSC Spatial Development Group, Porvoo/Borgå (FIN) 6 May 2002

CPMR Political Bureau, Schwerin (D) 14 May 2002

7th BSC General Assembly, Klaipeda (LT) **28** May 2002

BSC Executive Committee, Klaipeda (LT) **29** May 2002

30th CPMR General Assembly, Ioannina (GR) 19-20 September 2002

Proposal: The Executive Committee will record the coming events as information.

Final Decision: The proposal was adopted.

89§ Any other business

Proposal: No other business was mentioned.

Final decision: There was no other business.

90 § Closing the meeting

The President thanked the participants and closed the meeting at 12.15 pm. Latvian time.