



CPMR

BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

Executive Committee Porvoo / Borgå, FIN Minutes

Time: 20 March 2002, 12.00 – 15.30

Venue: Fortum Kilpilahti/Sköldvik, Porvoo/Borgå (FIN)

Participants: Members: Substitutes:

Roll call

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | President Mr Anders Guståv, S | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Vice President | | |
| | Ms Bente Nielsen, DK | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Jörgen Kvist, DK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Inge Andersson, S | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Hans Klintbom, S |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Rainer Kosmider, D | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Dirk Frassmann, D |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Mikko Rönholm, FIN | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Johan Söderberg, FIN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Jaanus Sahk, EST | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Urmas Majajäas, EST |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Ilgonis Steinbergs, LV | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mrs Anita Jegere, LV |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ms Virginija Lukosiene, LT | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ms Roma Stubriene, LT |

Secretariat:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Jaakko Mikkola | Executive Secretary |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ms Pia Hurtta | Assistant of the Executive Secretariat |

Other participants:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Esa Halme, Itä-Uusimaa, FIN | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Tommy Karlsson, Stockholm, S |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ms Sandra Mezzadri, CPMR, Rennes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ms Annemarie Elverum, Århus, DK |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Tapio Välinoro, Kymenlakso, FIN | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Jan Lundgren, Gotland, S |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mr Kaj Forsius, HELCOM, Helsinki | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mr Kirill V. Avdeyev, St Petersburg, RUS |

91 § Opening the meeting

CONFERENCE OF PERIPHERAL MARITIME REGIONS OF EUROPE – BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

Executive Secretary *Jaakko Mikkola*, Telephone +358-5-230 8936, E-mail: jaakko.mikkola@kymenlaakso.fi
Assistant *Pia Hurtta*, Telephone +358-5-230 8912, E-mail: pia.hurtta@kymenlaakso.fi
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Visiting address: Karhulantie 36 B, Karhula KOTKA

Mr Mikko Rönholm, a director in Fortum, welcomed the participants to Sköldvik and gave a presentation of Fortum.

Proposal: The President will open the meeting.

Final decision: The President thanked Mr Rönholm and opened the meeting.

92 § Adopting of the agenda

Proposal: The Executive Committee will adopt the agenda.

Final decision: The agenda was adopted.

93 § Minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting – appendix 1

The previous Executive Committee meeting was held on 30 November 2001 in Riga, Latvia.

Proposal: Minutes of the previous meeting will be adopted.

Final decision: The minutes were adopted.

94 § Presentation of Helsinki Commission (HELCOM)

The representative of the HELCOM Secretariat Mr Kaj Forsius gave a presentation on HELCOM current activities. The Secretariat is situated in Helsinki.

Proposal: The presentation will be recorded in the minutes and a discussion of the possibilities for the future co-operation between HELCOM and CPMR Baltic Sea Commission as a HELCOM's observer organisation will be held.

Final decision: The BSC will continue its co-operation with HELCOM as an observer.

95 § Presentation of Mr Kirill V. Avdeyev

Mr Avdeyev, Head of Division for external economic co-operation of Saint-Petersburg Administration Foreign Relations Committee could not come to Porvoo. Mr Tapio Välinoro had new information from Smolny, Saint Petersburg where Mr Tkatchev, who is ill, has a new man as his deputy called Mr Petruk. Mr Petruk is so far completely unaware of CPMR. President Gustâv told about the co-operation between Stockholm and Saint Petersburg where Stockholm has as an active channel the Swedish speaking Ms Lada Illarionova in the Stockholm office located in Nevsky Prospekt 1.

President's proposal: Instead of this presentation, Ms Sandra Mezzadri, a director from the CPMR Secretariat, Rennes, will give a presentation (see 104 § later).

Ms Sandra Mezzadri will from now on follow Mr Pascal Gruselle as the contact person of the Baltic Sea Commission in the CPMR Secretariat in Rennes. She is warmly welcomed to participate in the activities of the BSC.

Final decision: The presentation of Ms Mezzadri (see 104 § below, detailed) was recorded in the minutes and she was warmly welcomed.

96 § Developing the BSC Executive Committee, appendix 2

A suggestion paper has been written under the guidance of the BSC President about the future approaches and ways of work in the BSC Executive Committee. The paper is enclosed as **appendix 2**.

In the suggestion part there are proposals how to

- 1) Promote the Baltic perspective within the CPMR,
- 2) promote the CPMR towards the national level,
- 3) inform about the CPMR and the BSC to other regions and
- 4) take responsibility for thematic groups and fields.

This paper should be discussed thoroughly in the 7th BSC General Assembly in Klaipeda on 28 May 2002. The suggestion paper would give guidelines to the work of the new BSC Presidency, Executive Committee, Executive Secretariat, new thematic working groups and the suggestions would raise the willingness to join the actions and promote activity in our member regions.

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss the matter thoroughly which is presented in enclosed suggestion paper "Developing of the Baltic Sea Commission Executive Committee" and makes the possible amendments in it and suggests the adoption of this new paper in the next BSC General Assembly in Klaipeda on 28 May 2002.

Final decision: An active discussion was held. Ms Mezzadri told about North Sea Commission as a model when established working groups. She also mentioned the benefits of small 2-3 people's brainstorming groups. Mr President mentioned organising seminars in the candidate countries as an important activity for BSC. Mr Rönholm, Mr Halme, Mr Frassmann and Mr Gustâv emphasised the role of the working groups as instruments of the Executive Committee, first knowing all the participants in the group, then e-mailing and achieving results also without holding meetings. Mr Frassmann can only support the establishment of new working groups if an actual need for such working groups arises but not just for their own sake. It was decided to add the words "issue oriented working groups" in the enclosed text "Developing of the BSC Executive Committee" and to present it to the 7th BSC General Assembly in Klaipeda on 28 May 2002.

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

The Executive Committee has selected the following five (5) projects in its meetings in Uppsala and in Riga (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 (Ms Roma Stubriene, Klaipeda)
- 5) Coastplan (Mr Dirk Frassmann, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and Ms Annemarie Elverum, Århus)

(As decided, 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.)

- 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,
 - 4) Ms Roma Stubriene will give a report of Eurovelo Project and
 - 5) Mr Dirk Frassmann will give a report of Coastplan Project.

The reports will be recorded in the minutes.

- Final decision:** The projects will be presented in the 7th BSC General Assembly in Klaipeda on 28 May 2002.

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

The new chairman 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 Umeå, Västerbotten (S) on 13-14 January 2002. 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. In connection with the next SDG meeting in Porvoo on 6 May 2002 a seminar on polycentrism under Mr Philippe Cichowlaz, CPMR Rennes, will be held. Also the NSC member regions will be welcome.

99 § **Seaperspective Interreg III C Project proposal Zones Management, appendix 4 (a map)**

Seaperspective, a CPMR Interreg III C project proposal hosted by Västra Götaland region, Gothenburg, Sweden (Ms. Cecilia Nilsson) is being developed. The first call for appers in Interreg III C will be scheduled in September 2002. The time has been postponed a few times already. Currenty Seaperspective contains five (5) sub-themes and seven (7) partner regions (see the map enclosed), **appendix 4**. The sub-themes will be

- Sustainable valorisation of maritime transport and ports for economic growth of maritime regions and their hinterlands;
- Short Sea Shipping (SSS);
- Integrated management of coastal zones (ICZM);
- Maritime and oceanographic research;
- Fisheries and contribution to the local economy.

Proposal: Mr Jaakko Mikkola will give an account of the current events in Seaperspective Interreg III C project.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted. The project Seaperspective has been changed to a Regional Framework Operation (RFO) and will require the mandate of larger geographical units, such as e.g. Western Sweden (Västsverige), i.e. Västra Götaland + Halland in Sweden, and the whole of Southern Finland (Etelä-Suomi / Södra Finland), i.e. seven regions, in Finland. These RFO's are so-called C type projects in the frameworks of the Interreg III C Programme.

100 § The President's report and the activity report –winter 2001 – 2002

After the previous Executive Committee meeting which was held in Riga (LV) on 30 November 2001 there have been e.g. the following events:

- 1) 13-14 January 2002 Umeå, Västerbotten (S), BSC Spatial Development Group
- 2) 7-8 March 2002 CPMR Rennes, meeting of the secretaries of the CPMR

Proposal: Mr President will give a brief account of the current political development in different EU policies.

Mr Executive Secretary will give a brief account of the BSC activities after the Riga meeting.

The accounts will be recorded in the minutes.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted. Mr President also mentioned the coming BSC Mission Poland in 2002 to the four eligible, potential member regions (Western Pomerania /Szczecin, Pomerania /Gdansk, Warmia-Mazuria /Olsztyn and Podlaskie /Bialystok).

The Executive Secretary told about the Secretariats' meeting in Rennes on 7-8 March 2002 and about the information given there. (The most important papers were distributed in Porvoo).

101 § European Transport policy for 2010, appendix 5 (“Time to decide”)

The Executive Secretary has edited in collaboration with the members coming from the Baltic Sea Commission regions (Ms Inger Linge’s substitute Mr Jan Linzie from Stockholm and Mr Aimo Ahti from Kymenlaakso) a response paper called “Time to decide” referring to the corresponding EU Commission White Paper (COM (2001) 370 final). The BSC response paper is enclosed as **appendix 5**.

Also Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Mr Frassmann), the North Sea Commission and Mr Pascal Gruselle (CPMR Brussels) have been active and helpful in collecting the different ideas in this response paper.

The CPMR Transport thematic group had a meeting in Rennes on 8 February where Mr Linzie and Mr Ahti presented the draft of this enclosed response paper. The next CPMR Transport thematic group meeting will be held in Santiago de Compostela (E) on 22 March 2002 and the result of this Porvoo meeting will be presented there.

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss the enclosed response paper called “Time to decide” thoroughly and make the possible amendments in it. Mr Pascal Gruselle will have a brief account as well. The BSC response paper will then be presented in the CPMR Transport thematic group (old name: Intercom group) in Santiago de Compostela, Galicia (E) on 22 March 2002. From the BSC at least Mr Linzie, Mr Karlsson, Mr Ahti and Mr Mikkola will be present there.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted. Also Ms Inger Linge (Stockholm) and Mr Kai Holmberg (Kymenlaakso) will attend the seminar in Santiago (E). Special thanks were given to Mr Jan Linzie (Stockholm), Mr Aimo Ahti (Kymenlaakso) and Mr Dirk Frassmann (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern) about elaborating the BSC response paper.

The BSC response paper will be presented in the 7th BSC General Assembly in Klaipeda on 28 May 2002.

102 § Membership issues in Estonia (Harjumaa and Läänemaa), appendices 6-7

The Governor of Läänemaa, Mr Jaanus Sakh, has written a letter to the CPMR on 21 December 2001. In that letter Mr Sakh tells about the decision to discontinue the membership of Läänemaa County in the CPMR. Mr Xavier Gizard has answered to the letter and also sent a letter to the new Estonian Prime minister Mr Siim Kallas and to the minister of Internal Affairs Mr Ain Seppik on 30 January 2002. In these letters he suggests the Estonian government to financially help the Estonian regions in participating international organisations. Also the Estonian CPMR Vice President Mr Tarmo Pikner has been active in the Läänemaa membership issue, recognising the financial problems of Estonian counties.

Lately Mr Orm Valtson, the governor of Harjumaa, has informed Ms

Annemarie Elverum in Tallinn about the possible new decision to be taken in Harjumaa concerning their membership in the CPMR.

Proposal: The letters of Mr Sahk and Mr Gizard will be recorded in the minutes. Ms Annemarie Elverum will tell about her information from Tallinn.

Final decision: Ms Elverum was not present. It was decided to continue negotiations with Estonian regions (Vice-President Mr Pikner, Saaremaa) and efforts to encourage the two Estonian hesitating regions to join again the CPMR (Mr Steinbergs, Riga District; Mr Halme, Itä-Uusimaa and the Executive Secretary Mr Mikkola).

103 § Participation of CPMR in the Convention – appendix 8

The Convention chaired by the former French President of the Republic Mr Valéry Giscard d'Estaing has started its work in the end of February 2002. The CPMR General Secretariat has prepared a working paper (**appendix 8**) in January 2002 where the results of the Laeken Declaration in the regional point of view are explained. There are also the CPMR work programme for position papers and the general timetable of the Convention.

The Convention will be organised around a Praesidium, composed of the Convention Chairman and Vice-Chairmen and nine members drawn from the Convention. We know that e.g. Sweden and Finland (with Austria, the Netherlands and Luxemburg) are lacking a seat in this Praesidium.

Proposal: The President Mr Anders Gustâv as a member of the Committee of the Regions will give an account of the Convention in the point of view of European regions, the Baltic Sea Area as a whole, small countries vs. big countries etc. Also Mr Pascal Gruselle will tell about the current events concerning the Convention.

The CPMR Working Paper concerning the ongoing Convention written in January 2002 will be discussed. Opinions will be recorded in the minutes.

Final decision: The President Mr Gustâv told about the Laeken declaration which is the basis of the development. Mrs Eeva-Riitta Siitonen from Helsinki is currently the only representative of cities. Ms Mezzadri told about the hearings of interregional organisations by Mr Valéry Giscard d'Estaing which will take place in May. Mr Esa Halme suggested that the Executive Secretary would collect ideas of the BSC area.

It was decided to continue participating actively in the Convention – in the form of questionnaires etc.

104 § CPMR activities

Ms Sandra Mezzadri from CPMR, Rennes, gave an account of current CPMR activities. She told about the

- Agricultural thematic group, a meeting being held in Brussels on 23 April 2002;

- Environment thematic group contributing e.g. in maritime safety; an opinion of the BSC would be needed also in this group;
- Transport thematic group, a meeting being held in Santiago de Compostela on 22 March 2002; the BSC response to be discussed also in the BSC General Assembly;
- Objective 2 issues with special regard to competitiveness of the regions;
- Questionnaire about the Environmental governance.

Ms Mezzadri said that the thematic groups need also experts from the BSC and the experts would then report the issues to the respective politicians.

Proposal: Ms Mezzadri's presentation will be discussed and recorded in the minutes.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

105 § **Nominations and elections in Klaipeda on 28 May 2002 - appendix 9 (statutes)**

The 7th BSC General Assembly will be held in Klaipeda (LT) on 28 May 2002. The amended CPMR BSC statutes (Bornholm 2002) are enclosed (**appendix 9**). The election of the President and of the Executive Committee will take place every second year following the procedure outlined in Article 4. The General Assembly shall elect a President, a Vice-President and an Executive Committee.

The Executive Secretary asks the Assembly if there are any nominations to the post of President. Each nomination must be seconded by a region other than the region represented by the nominee. The President of the BSC will be the president/political leader of their respective authority.

Each member country shall appoint one representative and one substitute representative. A Vice-President shall be nominated, who must be of a different nationality than the President. On the recommendation of the Executive Committee the General Assembly shall nominate the Executive Secretary. His mandate is renewed every 2nd years.

In the Organisational Charter of the CPMR (Florence 2000), 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".

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss

- the Presidency for 2002 – 2004
- the Vice-Presidency for 2002 – 2004
- the nominations in each CPMR member country. Currently there are seven (7) CPMR BSC member countries and one (1) observer (Russia).

Also the recommendation of the Executive Committee (statutes: Stockholm 1996, amendments Bornholm 2000, Article 5) concerning the nomination of the Executive Secretary for 2002 – 2004 will be discussed. There will not be any other Executive Committee meeting before the 7th BSC General Assembly in Klaipeda on 28 May 2002.

All 29 member regions will be informed in good time about this above mentioned procedure by the Executive Secretariat.

Final decision:

It was decided to

- 1) propose a continuation of the Secretariat another 2 years in the Regional Council of Kymenlaakso and recommend the nomination of Mr Jaakko Mikkola as the Executive Secretary to the General Assembly (Statutes: Article 5);
- 2) send the information about the elections in a letter to the regions (Article 4);
- 3) increase the CPMR contribution to the BSC in the General Assembly (Article 6);
- 4) raise the CPMR contribution from respectively EU members and non-EU members. The President who has informed the Executive Committee made the following proposal: 1100 € to 1600 € and 275 € to 400 € (Article 6);
- 5) have a discussion each year upon the amount of this contribution bearing in mind that it has been the same from the very beginning (Article 6).

Mr Dirk Frassmann (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, D) said that he had no authority to decide on financial matters and therefore wanted to refrain from any such decisions (ref. to items 3 and 4).

106 § 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:

28 May 7th BSC General Assembly
29 May 2002 Executive Committee (the newly elected committee)

Proposal:

The General Assembly day (May 28) will be preceded by a Seminar afternoon (May 27 9 focusing on Lithuanian EU membership issues. 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 Hurtta will tell about the flight connections to/from Lithuania.

Final decision:

The proposal was adopted.

107 § Coming activities (only major activities listed)

- BSC Spatial Development Group, Porvoo/Borgå (FIN) 6 May 2002
- CPMR Political Bureau, Schwerin (D) 14 May 2002
- BSC Seminar "Lithuanian membership in the EU", Klaipeda (LT) 27 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.

108 § Any other business

Proposal:

Final decision: There was no other business.

109 § Closing the meeting

The President thanked the guests and participants and closed the meeting at 15.20 Finnish time.