

1 § Opening the meeting

Proposal: The President will open the meeting.

Final decision: The President opened the meeting at 8.00.

2 § Adopting of the agenda

Proposal: The Executive Committee will adopt the agenda.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

3 § Minutes of the previous meeting – appendix 1

The previous BSC Executive Committee meeting was held in Porvoo, Itä-Uusimaa (FIN) on 20 March 2002.

Proposal: Minutes of the previous meeting in Porvoo will be adopted.

Final decision: The minutes were adopted.

4 § Implementing the decisions of the 7th BSC General Assembly in Klaipeda on 28 May 2002 (ref. to GA Agenda and GA appendix 2)

The decisions made by the General Assembly will be repeated. Developing the BSC Executive Committee (7 § on the GA Agenda) will be thoroughly discussed in the new Executive Committee. Establishing new thematic and issue orientated working groups will be discussed.

It was suggested (GA 7 §) to

- 1) promote the Baltic Sea 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

Which issue orientated thematic groups would be needed for the BSC now in 2002? – Suggestions of fields and names of active leaders for issue orientated new thematic working groups will be welcome.

- Transport (related to the respective Intercom group)?
- Northern Dimension (a new BSC group)?
- Tourism?
- Culture?
- Big projects (following Interreg projects)?
- Action Plan (see 5 §)
- others?

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss implementing the decisions made in the 7th General Assembly and especially concentrate on developing the BSC Executive Committee (GA 7 §). Also a decision will be made upon establishing and naming new issue orientated working groups now in this meeting or later in autumn 2002.

Final decision: After an active discussion a decision concerning establishing new working groups was made.

- a list with names of experts coming from member regions will be made;
- a list of different fields in which the regions are interested will be made;
- a network of experts will be organised in the future based on these lists mentioned above

5 § A Renewed Action Plan 2003 – 2004

Proposal: A renewed Action Plan for the BSC covering years 2003 – 2004 will be written. “Visions and Objectives” which was first adopted in the 3^d BSC General Assembly (Oulu 1998) and renewed in the 6th BSC General Assembly (Tallinn 2001) will be replaced by a completely new strategy. This new action plan will be adopted in the 8th BSC General Assembly (Umeå, May 2003).

The Executive Committee will give its guidelines and nominate a working group for renewing the action plan. The Executive Committee will give a proposal for a new action plan to the General Assembly.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted. The Action Plan was decided to be annual in the future. An e-mail working group was established on site. Members of this new ad hoc group will be

- Annemarie Elverum, Århus
- Dirk Frassmann, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
- Valli Laas, Ida-Viru
- Ginta Siksne, Riga District
- Per Strömhaug, Nordland
- Roma Stubriene, Klaipeda
- the Executive Secretary Jaakko Mikkola

6 § Other matters arising from the 7th BSC General Assembly in Klaipeda

Proposal: The Final Declaration on Transport will be used in the next CPMR General Assembly in Ioannina (GR) on 18-20 September 2002 and also elaborated if needed by changing e-mails.

Final decision: The proposal concerning presenting the Final Declaration (Transport) in the working documents of the 30th CPMR General Assembly in Ioannina, Epeiros (GR) was adopted.

7 § A feedback of the Round table debate entitled “Lithuania Joining the EU – Regional Policy” in Klaipeda on 28 May 2002

The Lithuanian host region Klaipeda County had arranged a roundtable meeting dealing with Lithuanian regional affairs and EU policy.

Proposal: The comments of the Executive Committee members will be recorded in the minutes.

Final decision: Mr Frassmann and Ms Bente Nielsen said that the interpretation (Lithuanian/English) did not work in the beginning of the seminar. Mr Rönholm pointed out the character of the Round Table discussion was lectures rather than a real free discussion. The representative of the EU Commission in Lithuania (a female speaker) described the benefits of joining the EU in an unreal, misleadingly positive light. Otherwise the County Council of Klaipeda got warm thanks from the Executive Committee for organising such a large and active seminar.

8 § Any other business

Proposal: Mr Tommy Karlsson told about Europe’s Best Coastal Cuisine Contest (Skärgårdssmak – Taste of the Archipelago). It is a contest for coastal kitchens. There is a special web site under www.skargardssmak.com telling about this all-European contest. There are three CPMR member regions behind this who have launched the contest: Stockholm County, Åland and South-West Finland.

Final decision: The information about Skärgårdssmak was recorded in the minutes.

9 § The pre-general assembly in Greece on 18 September 2002 and the next Executive Committee meetings 2002 – 2003

1) Pre-general assembly of the BSC in Ioannina (GR) on 18 September 2002

The CPMR 30th General Assembly will be held in Ioannina, Epeiros (GR) on 18 – 21 September 2002. The so-called pre-general assembly of the Baltic Sea Commission will be held in Ioannina **in the place of assembly in Room number 2 at 17.00 – 18.30** on Wednesday 18 September 2002.

The Chairman should be one of the members in the Executive Committee.

2) Next Executive Committee meetings – a meeting calendar for autumn 2002 and for spring 2003 (if possible).

Proposal: 1) The Chairman of the pre-general assembly (18 September 2002) will be chosen. The agenda of the pre-general assembly will follow the Agenda of the 30th CPMR General Assembly in Greece.

2) The Executive Committee meeting calendar will be made for autumn 2002 and for spring 2003 (if possible).

Final decision: 1) The President Mr Anders Gustâv will appoint someone from the participants' list as the chairman as soon as we know all the participants going to Greece from the BSC.

2) Preliminarily the next Executive Committee meeting will be held in Sundsvall, Västernorrland (S) either on 4 or 17 October 2002. The President will discuss the matter with Ms Ewa Back, Mayor of Sundsvall.

Ms Sandra Mezzadri told that the Agenda of the CPMR 30th General Assembly may be changed before July 2002.

Also it was noticed that there will be the General Election as well as regional and local elections in Sweden on 15 September 2002.

10 § Closing the meeting

The President will closed the meeting at 9.40 am Lithuanian time. The Executive Committee warmly thanked very much the Klaipeda County for hosting the seminar and the assembly on 27-29 May 2002 in Lithuania.