



CPMR

BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

Executive Committee Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D) Minutes

Time: 4 June 2004 at 2 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.

Venue: The Land Parliament Mecklenburg-Vorpommern,
Schwerin Castle, Lennéstraße 1, Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D)

Participants: **Members:** **Substitutes:**

Roll call

(x)	Mr Inge ANDERSSON Västerbotten (S)	The President		
(x)	Ms Bente NIELSEN Århus (DK)	The Vice President	(x)	Mr Jørgen KVIST Bornholm (DK)
(x)	Mr Dirk FRASSMAN Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D)		()	Mr Wolf BORN Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (D)
(x)	Ms Valli LAAS Ida-Virumaa (EST)		()	Ms Reet KOKOVKIN Hiiumaa (EST)
(x)	Mr Mikko RÖNNHOLM South-West Finland (FI)		(x)	Ms Christel LILJESTRÖM Itä-Uusimaa (FI)
(x)	Mr Ilgonis STEINBERGS Riga District (LV)		()	Mr Andris KAZINOVSKIS Balvi (LV)
()	Ms Virginija LUKOSIENE Klaipėda (LT)		()	Ms Dalia MAKUSKIENE Klaipėda (LT)
(x)	Ms Kjersti MARKUSSON Nordland (N)		(x)	Mr Per STRØMHAUG Nordland (N)
(x)	Mr Wojciech KWIATKOWSKI Podlaskie (PL)		()	Ms Grazyna SZAJSTEK Podlaskie (PL)
(x)	Ms Inger LINGE Stockholm(S)		(x)	Mr Jan LUNDGREN Gotland (S)

Secretariat:

(x)	Mr Marko MÄLLY	Executive Secretary
(x)	Ms Anne-Maria KARJALAINEN	Trainee of the Executive Secretariat

Other participants:

CONFERENCE OF PERIPHERAL MARITIME REGIONS OF EUROPE – BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

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(x) Mr Tommy KARLSSON,
Stockholm County (S)

(x) Ms Annemarie ELVERUM,
Århus County (DK)

(x) Mr Tomas GUSTAFSSON,
Västerbotten (S)

(x) Ms Grenada DEMAKINA
Riga District (LV)

1 § Opening the meeting

Proposal: The President will open the meeting.

Final decision: The President opened the meeting at 2 p.m.

2 § Adopting of the agenda

Proposal: The Executive Committee will adopt the agenda.

Final decision: The Executive Committee did adopt the agenda with amendment to the 9§ where Mr Frassman will represent the initiative of State Mecklenburg-Vorpommern of organising conference/workshop on maritime issues in Brussels.

3 § Minutes of the previous meeting

The previous meeting was held in Solna, Stockholm region, Sweden, on 14 April 2004, **see the appendix6 of the 9th BSC General Assembly.**

Proposal: The minutes of the Solna meeting will be adopted.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

4 § Implementing the decisions of the 9th BSC General Assembly in Schwerin on 4th June 2004.

Proposal: The decisions made by the General Assembly will be repeated. The President will make a summary of the results of the 9th BSC General Assembly.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted. The President did stress the importance of implementing the new Action Plan of the Baltic Sea Commission "Visions and Objectives". The Executive Committee did decide that a plan for implementing the new BSC Action Plan will be prepared to the next Executive Committee meeting in Visby, Gotland (S) in autumn.

5§ BSC Working Groups

1) Cross Border Co-operation Working Group (Mr Andris Kazinovskis)

The BSC Cross Border Co-operation Working Group was established for exchanging ideas and solutions along the new (2004) external borders of the European Union. It has had meetings in Riga (LV) on 6-7 March, Porvoo (FI) on 9 May, Balvi (LV) on 22-23 August, Brussels (B) on 9 October 2003 as well as in Solna (S) on 6 February and Oulu (FI) on 10 May 2004.

In its last meeting of the period 2002-2004 the Cross Border Co-operation Working Group discussed about its future plans. The Executive Committee of the Baltic Sea Commission has supported the continuation of the activities of this working group in its meeting in Solna, Stockholm region (S) on 14 April 2004. Mr Andris Kazinovskis, Chairman of the working group, expressed his interest to continue as a chairman also in the future for the period of 2004-2006 in the working group's last meeting in Oulu on 10 May 2004. This was unanimously supported by the working group members. The next meeting was decided to be arranged in Turku, South-West Finland, on 3 September 2004. The working group discussed the future tasks and came to a conclusion to

- monitor the development of the new programmes (Neighbourhood Policy/Interreg)
- organise an event/seminar for the role of the democratic regions in the new EU Member States
- promote the co-operation on external borders
- plan to the BSC Member Regions a common project including project information/exchange, organising events/conference, training of specialists, taking into consideration the role of Euroregions, help to strengthen the role of regions in general and especially on the EU external borders as well as working out a strategy for cross border co-operation.

2) Transport Working Group (Mr Per Strømhaug)

The BSC Transport Working Group will increase the importance of transport issues around the Baltic Sea in the whole CPMR. The Transport Working Group has had its meetings in Lahti (FI) on 27 February, Sigulda (LV) on 2-3 July, Sundsvall (S) on 20-21 August 2003 and in Klaipėda on 9 March 2004.

The European Commission opened for organisations and individuals possibility to give their comments on the priorities of the High Level Group of the TEN-T Revision. The Transport Working Group of the Baltic Sea Commission has produced a document which was included as a part in the CPMR position on TEN-T revision. The CPMR InterCom Transport Working Group did meet in Brussels on 4 December 2003 with the representatives of the EU Commission on TEN-T revision where the positions of the Geographical Commissions were represented.

Due to the discussion on Motorways of Seas the BSC Transport Working Group organised a joint seminar on Sea Motorways in close co-operation with the North Sea Commission and the Klaipėda County Council in Klaipėda (LT) on 8-9 March 2004.

The application for seed money for the Interreg-project "Intermodality and operability in the Baltic Sea area" has been approved, and the application and the letter of approval may be found on the "InterBaltic" project web site of the BSC Transport Working Group on www.cpmr.org or <http://pn.nfk.no/bsc>

A small task force of the BSC Transport Working Group members has been established for planning the project process ahead and the group did have its first meeting in Riga on 17 May 2004. A full partner meeting is expected to be held in the beginning of September 2004.

The Transport Working Group will also finalise its Final Report 2002-2004 until autumn 2004.

The Executive Committee of the Baltic Sea Commission has supported the continuation of the activities of this working group in its meeting in Solna, Stockholm region (S) on 14 April 2004.

3) Human Resources and Employment Intercom Group

On the initiative of Stockholm County Council the CPMR regions have taken action by setting up an ad hoc working group to take forward the considerations on Human Resources and Employment and produce an initial set of positions to be presented to the states and the European Commission.

It seems predictable that the new Objective 2, at least the suggestion from the EU-Commission, will be in accordance to the proposal of the CPMR InterCom Working Group on Human Resources and Employment. It was decided in the CPMR Political Bureau meeting on 15 April 2004 in Cagliari, Sardegna (I) that the CPMR will set up a new thematic group to concentrate upon Lisbon strategy and what the regions have done in order to fulfil the goal of Lisbon. The intention is to see how the regions have been able to impact on the Lisbon strategy and in what they have done to support the fulfilling of this.

The Executive Committee of the Baltic Sea Commission discussed in its meeting in Solna, Stockholm region (S) on 14 April 2004 of establishing a similar working group in the Baltic Sea Commission.

The Nordland County has informed to be interested and prepared to chair this new working group of the Baltic Sea Commission. Nordland County proposes for Chairman of this new working group Ms Kjersti Markusson.

Proposal:

The persons responsible will report about the working situation of the BSC working groups. The Executive Committee will discuss and nominate the

Chairmen to the BSC Working groups for the period 2004-2006.

**Final
decision:**

The Executive Committee did nominate for the period 2004-2006 Mr Andris Kazinovskis (Balvi) as Chairman to the BSC Cross Border Co-operation Working Group and Mr Per Strømhaug as Chairman to the BSC Transport Working Group.

Ms Kjersti Markusson did report that Nordland County Council is willing to take the responsibility to try to establish a working group dealing with Human Resources and Employment issues. In practice the task will be handled by the Employment office of Nordland County, who has expressed positive interest to take on the job and also has good experience with international employment issues and labour exchange. They have also been taking part in Interreg-projects in the Barents area and through this obtained experience in working internationally in this field, including co-operation with Russian employment organisations.

Nordland will take initiative to work out a draft description of the possible mandate for a such working group and thereafter (autumn 2004) organise a meeting to discuss the mandate, organisation and other matters with relevant partners within the Baltic Sea Commission. At this first meeting it is very important with broad representation from the regions both from political and administrative level, but also other regional partners like employment offices, educational institutions, employers and employees organisations (including associations of regional and local authorities) etc. If this meeting confirms the interest and need for a such group, it seems relevant to try to establish a project financed by Interreg- or EEA-money.

The work of this group should of course be seen in close relation to the CPMR "Human Resources and Employment Intercom Group" and also have links to the Baltic Sea Commission "Cross Border Co-operation Working Group".

Written contribution from the Nordland County Council as **additional appendix1.**

6 §

Fisheries co-operation in the Baltic Sea Area

Mr Rolf Gydemo (Gotland) and Mr Kjell Nybacka (Ostrobothnia) have sent a letter to the BSC Secretariat concerning fisheries co-operation and Regional Advisory Council (RAC) in the Baltic Sea Area.

Fisheries is still of great importance for the coastal areas in the Baltic Sea. At the same time the fisheries sector is facing problems, not only concerning the balance between fish resources and fishing capacity, dioxin contamination, driftnet ban, seals etc. but also severe structural problems. For the new EU member countries there will be a time with challenging adjustments to the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). At the same time, the future structural funds are subject for discussion and revision for the period 2007 – 2013. As a part of the future CFP a decision was already taken by EC to establish Regional Advisory Councils (RACs). One of the future 7 RACs will be established in the

Baltic Sea.

The above issues were brought up at the most recent CPMR Fisheries Intercom Group meeting in Bundoran, Ireland, in connection with the EC conference: "Steering towards 2007-2013, What financial support for the Common Fisheries Policy and coastal zone development?"

With reference to the ongoing development processes all parties within the fisheries sector are challenged to look into the need for improving the regional development action. Activities within the regions are to be communicated to the actors revising the different financial instruments.

The goal is to gather/create a discussion forum for all interested and concerned parties from the Baltic Sea region and to seek co-operation with similar regions which have already been successful in establishing network co-operation. In order to improve and speed up the activities in the Baltic Sea region it was decided to seek support for initiating a discussion and meetings to clarify which, if any, common basis there is for these issues in the Baltic Sea Region. **See the additional appendix1 of the 9th BSC General Assembly.**

We therefore propose that (the BSC General Assembly support)

- the organisation of a meeting in the Baltic Sea Area (for example Gotland or Åland) incoming autumn
- that it is organised in co-operation with the CPMR FiG
- that co-operation on the development of RACs is sought with CPMR NSC

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss the proposal presented by Mr Rolf Gydemo and Mr Kjell Nybacka.

Final decision: A new proposal on the fisheries co-operation in the Baltic Sea Area will be presented to Executive Committee in its autumn meeting in Visby, Gotland (S).

7 § Coming events 2004

- 16-18 June, General Assembly of the CPMR North Sea Commission, Gothenburg, Västra Götaland (S)
- 9 July, Meeting of the CPMR Political Bureau, Umeå, Västerbotten (S)
- 29-31 August, 13th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, Bergen (N)
- 22-24 September, 32nd CPMR General Assembly, Stavanger, Rogaland (N)
- 21-22 October, Seminar on Inter-regional Co-operation, Sicily (I)
- Dtbc, Meeting of the CPMR Political Bureau, Galicia (SP)

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

Final decision: The proposal was adopted.

8 § The Pre-General Assembly of the Baltic Sea Commission in Stavanger, Rogaland (N) on 22 September 2004 and the next Executive Committee

meetings 2004 – 2005

The 32nd CPMR General Assembly will be held in Stavanger, Rogaland (N) on 22-24 September 2004. The so-called Pre-General Assembly of the Baltic Sea Commission will be held in Stavanger **Room B on site** on 22 September 2004 at 16.00-17.00. Draft programme of the CPMR General Assembly as **Appendix1**.

17.30/19.30, meetings of the national delegations to appoint their representatives to the Political Bureau (Please contact the CPMR Secretariat if your national delegation wishes to meet in private room).

N.B. There will be a renewal of both the Presidency of the CPMR and the Political Bureau of the CPMR in Stavanger, Rogaland, Norway. The reminder explaining the procedure by the Organisational Charter of the CPMR is enclosed. **See the appendix14 of the 9th BSC General Assembly**.

Next Executive Committee meetings – a meeting calendar for autumn 2004 and for spring 2005.

Proposal: The Executive Committee will discuss the preparations for the 32nd CPMR General Assembly and decide a meeting calendar for autumn 2004 and spring 2005.

Final decision: The proposal was adopted. The next Executive Committee meetings will be organised on 14 October 2004 in Visby, Gotland (S) and on 25 February 2005 in Riga (LV).

9 § **Any other business**

Proposal: 1) Mr Frassman will represent the initiative of State Mecklenburg-Vorpommern of organising conference/workshop on maritime issues in Brussels.

2) Substitute to the President of the Baltic Sea Commission in the CPMR Political Bureau meetings

3) Ms Bente Nielsen, Vice-President of the Baltic Sea Commission, did request more information about the new representative of the Baltic Sea Commission in the CPMR InterCom Working Group on Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr Paavo Myllymäki.

Final decision: 1) The main objectives of the conference are to raise awareness for the need to apply and to enforce effectively EU legislation on maritime safety (Erika Packages); take stock of successes and deficits in this field; analysis of existing structures and activities (international, EU, regional). Set priorities in further actions to be taken and identify the best method/instruments and the appropriate forum and level (EU-IMO-regional...) to do so. EU funding will be applied from the EU Commission for organising this conference/workshop.

The Executive Committee did support the initiative of State Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. State Mecklenburg-Vorpommern will deliver more information about this initiative to the next Executive Committee meeting in Visby, Gotland (S) and will ask for a political declaration from the Baltic Sea Commission to support this initiative.

Draft on the initiative of organising conference/workshop on maritime safety as **additional appendix2**.

2) Mr President proposed for his substitute in the CPMR Political Bureau meetings Mr Kwiatkowski from the Podlaskie Voivodeship in Poland. Mr Kwiatkowski will confirm later his possibility to attend the CPMR Political Bureau meetings as the substitute of the President of the Baltic Sea Commission.

3) The BSC Secretariat will ask for Curriculum Vitae of Mr Paavo Myllymäki to be delivered to the BSC Executive Committee members.

10 § Closing the meeting

Proposal: The President will close the meeting

Final decision: The President closed the meeting at 3.15.