



**Present:**

Mr Knud Andersen (DK), Ms Magdalena Anisko (Secretariat), Mr Wieslaw Byczkowski (PL), Ms Zane Duze (LV), Mr Jon Halvard Eide (NO), Mr Tommy Eliason (B7), Ms Marlis Erichsen (DK), Ms Ülke Erman (EE), Mr Sebastian Gojdz (PL), Mr Louis Hansen (DK), Mr Stefan Herms (DE), Mr David Hunt (B7), Ms Ingrid Klemp (NO), Ms Birgit Küstner (DE), Mr Lasse Lehre (NO), Ms Malgorzata Ludwiczek (Secretariat), Mr Pawel Maciejewski (Secretariat), Mr Jaakko Mikkola (FI), Mr Stefan Musiolik (DE), Ms Mudite Priede (LV), Mr Kristian Primdal (DK), Mr Toivo Riimaa (EE), Ms Marlene Rothe (DE), Mr Roger Ryberg (NO), Ms Ann Irene Saeternes (NO), Mr Ossi Savolainen (FI), Mr Sten Svane (DK), Mr Vladimir Svet (EE), Mr Arne Tilk (EE), Ms Elisabeth Traelstad (NO), Mr Thore Westermoen (NO), Ms Krystyna Wroblewska (PL), Mr Janne Tamminen (FI), Mr Kevin Kiraga (PL)

**Special guests:** Mr Eduardas Borisovas (CBSS), Krista Kampus (CBSS), Bjarne Rasmussen (DK)

## **1. Opening of the Board Meeting**

### **1.1 Welcome by the host region**

On behalf of the Eastern Norway County Network (ENCN) Mr Roger Ryberg welcomed the BSSSC Board members to Lilleström. Mr Ryberg stressed that the Baltic cooperation has been crucial for the ENCN over the past 16 years. He mentioned the recent decision of the ENCN, about participating in the BSR TransGovernance project, which aims to develop the models for multi-level governance (MLG), which will enhance better integration of transport and infrastructure policies on different levels. What is more, Mr Ryberg emphasised that the ENCN expects the new Baltic Sea Region Programme to be in line with the EUSBSR objectives and that it will serve as an instrument to fulfil the aims of the macro-regional strategy. Mr Ryberg referred also to the Youth Event of the BSSSC Youth Network called the 'GREEN' conference, aiming for a discussion on the solutions for regional energy efficiency. He stressed his support for young people, who should be active in creating solutions for the challenging future.

### **1.2 Welcome by Mr Olgierd Geblewicz**

On behalf of the BSSSC Chairman Ms Ludwiczek welcomed the BSSSC Board members to the meeting and thanked the ENCN for inviting the Board to Lilleström. She welcomed the invited guests: Mr Eduardas Borisovas, Deputy Director General of the CBSS Secretariat and Ms Krista Kampus, Head of Baltic 21 Unit. Ms Ludwiczek introduced Mr Kevin Kiraga, a new Youth representative on the BSSSC Board.

### **1.3 Adoption of the meeting agenda**

The Board adopted the meeting agenda.

## **1.4 Adoption of the BSSSC Board meeting minutes from Berlin, 24 April 2012**

The Board adopted the minutes of the BSSSC Board meeting in Berlin on April 24, 2012.

## **1.5 Adoption of the BSSSC Conference Resolution 2012**

Ms Ludwiczek informed about the drafting procedure of the BSSSC Conference Resolution 2012. The drafting process was conducted via on-line communication and it was concluded at the beginning of September. The final proposal of the resolution was a joint effort of the work of most BSSSC member regions and experts invited to the BSSSC Annual Conference 2012. After closing of the drafting procedure the Secretariat received proposal from the Latvian Association of Regional and Local Governments to supplement point 9 of the document. Due to other amendments recommended during the discussion the Board decided that in order to find a compromise and finalize the paper there should be a short meeting of representatives from Danish Regions, Hamburg, Latvia and Chairmanship.

After the meeting Ms Ludwiczek introduced the latest changes in the 2012 BSSSC Resolution. The final content of point 9 was shaped as follows: “the BSSSC supports focusing on the future cohesion policy of the Europe 2020 Strategy. A cohesion policy in which all regions and territories are covered with special attention given to less-developed regions can deliver an important contribution towards achieving the objectives of the Strategy”.

The next two amendments were developed by the youth representatives, point 34: “the BSSSC supports the youth in its willingness to participate actively in the decision making process and recognizes the importance of innovativeness, flexibility and sustainability within the political dialog of the BSR” and point 32: “the BSSSC underlines the importance of cooperation with the BSSSC Youth Network and stands behind their goal of making the regions of the Baltic Sea more energy efficient in the future”.

The last amendment concerned the exact date of the 21st BSSSC Annual Conference – it will be held in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region on 16-18 October 2013.

Ms Ludwiczek informed the Board that the resolution will be printed out and disseminated in the morning on the last day of the BSSSC Annual Conference.

## **2. Annual Conferences**

### **2.1 Annual Conference 2012: Report from the Norwegian host**

On behalf of the conference host, the Eastern Norway County Network, Ms Ann-Irene Saeternes welcomed the Board members to the 20<sup>th</sup> BSSSC Annual Conference. She briefly reported about the conference program, side events and explained all organizational details. She informed that the total number of registered participants to all the events in Lilleström was over 400. Ms Saeternes pointed out that conference session no. 4 had to be modified due to the absence of Russian partners.

## **2.2. Annual Conference 2013: Report from the Finnish host**

Mr Ossi Savolainen informed that the 21<sup>st</sup> BSSSC Annual Conference will take place on 16-18 October 2013 in Helsinki- Uusimaa Region.

## **3. Political Aims and Goals of the BSSSC – Westpomeranian Region**

Ms Małgorzata Ludwiczek summarized the current state of the discussion on the BSSSC political goals, which commenced last year in Gdańsk . She mentioned the Westpomeranian Chairmanship statement presented during the BSSSC Board meeting in Rovaniemi, where three main issues were raised: the scope of topics and activities in the BSSSC; the cooperation with partner organisations in the context of the role of the BSSSC in the decision making process on the European level; the organisation of the work of the BSSSC. Following the discussion at the BSSSC Board meeting in Berlin, where opinions were raised regarding the fact that a discussion on the BSSSC goals had already taken place and resulted with creating the BSSSC Terms of Reference in 2007, and further debate on this point should not be continued. Ms Ludwiczek suggested that the Board should decide what kind of steps should be undertaken to move the discussion forward. On behalf of the Westpomeranian Chairmanship Ms Ludwiczek proposed to organize a joint meeting with other Baltic organizations during the EUSBSR Annual Forum 2013. She advised to concentrate on the issue of future regional cooperation with regards to the current economic and political situation of the BSR. She informed that the EUSBSR Annual Forum 2013 will not be organized together with the Baltic Development Forum and will probably take place under the Lithuanian presidency of the European Union Council.

Mr Thore Westermoen expressed an opinion that he expected some recommendations from the Westpomeranian Chairmanship concerning this point of the agenda. He pointed out that clear visions and goals are always important for an organization and to ensure a fruitful debate on this point the Board needs to have a proposal from the Chairmanship. He recommended that such a proposal should be prepared for the next Board meeting.

Ms Ludwiczek asked the Board if the Chairmanship, on the basis of the previous statement and conclusions from the Board meetings in Rovaniemi and Berlin, should prepare new recommendations to be discussed by the BSSSC Board.

Mr Westermoen proposed that the new BSSSC Chairmanship could prepare recommendations and priorities of the BSSSC work, therefore the discussion about this issue could be postponed.

Mr Stefan Herms endorsed the opinion of Mr Westermoen. However, the next Finnish Chairmanship should not be overloaded with preparing papers, but rather with concentrating on their work plan for the next two years. He proposed, for the next meeting, to enter the debate on the future BSSSC work plan. Based on that the Board could continue the discussion from previous meetings and decide about organization priorities in the coming years.

Mr Ossi Savolainen informed that the Finnish Chairmanship, in order to prepare a work plan for 2013-2014, had met two weeks ago with other regions in Finland. The new work plan will be ready at the end of 2012 or at the beginning of 2013.

Mr Stefan Musiolik supported the idea to wait for the Finnish proposals, which should be further consulted by the next Chairmanship with other BSSSC member regions. He advised to proceed with this formula used by previous presidencies, which will result with creating a common work plan for the whole BSSSC.

Ms Ludwiczek asked the Board whether the point concerning the political aims and goals should be placed on the agenda of the BSSSC meeting in Brussels, or if it should be postponed until the discussion on priorities of the Finnish presidency.

Mr Musiolik suggested that during the next meeting in Brussels this issue should be picked up from the agenda and the Board should be, rather, invited to discuss the Finnish presidency priorities.

Mr Knud Andersen underlined that in the discussion about its future, the BSSSC should always think about short and long term perspectives and that it should be absolutely crucial for the new chairmanship to open and continue a debate on this point.

Following the suggestion of Mr Westermoen to formulate a discussion paper for next BSSSC Board meeting Ms Ludwiczek asked member regions to indicate one contact person from each region, in order to support the preparation of such a document.

#### **4. Follow-up Work Plan 2011-2012**

##### **4.1 Cohesion policy – Danish Regions**

Mr Knud Andersen reported on the latest development in the area of cohesion policy. He informed that unfortunately it was not possible to set up a meeting with Mr Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for Regional Policy, to hand a BSSSC's letter reflecting on the 'Legislative proposals for the EU cohesion policy 2014-2020', which was sent to the European Commission in early July. Mr Andersen referred also to the information that the Commission had dedicated seed money to facilitate preparations for EU projects before the new programming period.

Ms Ludwiczek noted that the Commission in its response had referred in detail to the BSSSC's demands and recommendations raised in the letter. In relation to the culture priority, it is mentioned that culture is not an objective in its own right, but constitutes a new activity, which is reflected in the revised EUSBSR Action Plan.

Mr Jon Eide asked if any initiatives has been taken by the BSSSC towards the EU member states, the EU Council and the European Parliament, as the issue of regulation on cohesion policy and

territorial cooperation is now under debate in the institutions mentioned above. What is more, he asked if there was any contact with the Danish or Cyprus Presidency on this issue.

Mr Andersen informed that there was a contact with the Danish Presidency about this subject. Unfortunately, the Danish position on this issue was not in line with the BSSSC's view, as they requested a reduction of funds. In comparison to that, the Commission proposal is more optimistic than expected.

Mr Eide added that according to the information from the Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development in the European Parliament there is a compromised proposal concerning the possibility for third countries to become lead partners in the EU projects. However, there is still a need that the states behind different programs should agree to allow the Norwegians to be lead partners.

#### **4.2 EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region – Westpomeranian Region**

Ms Małgorzata Ludwiczek presented to the Board the latest developments concerning EUSBSR. She highlighted the main changes in the EUSBSR Action Plan as for example: new structure; reduction in the number of horizontal actions; the merger of former PA (Priority Area) 13 and 14; creation of new Priority Areas: 'Culture and Regional Identity', 'Health', 'Tourism'; evolution of 'Climate Change' from a PA to a horizontal action; the merger of former PA 12 'Education' with PA 'Innovation' (higher education) and PA "SME" (education and SMEs, vocational training); introduction of indicators and targets at PA/HA level; clearer relationship between actions and flagship projects.

She informed that all regions are invited to give project proposals which could be placed in the EUSBSR Action Plan.

Mr Musiolik pointed out the importance the BSSSC Resolution from 2011 where the organization called for a broader involvement of the regions in the implementation of the Action Plan by becoming new priority area coordinators and new project leaders, for instance in new areas such as: energy and culture.

As Mr Musiolik noticed that in the area of culture, the BSSSC had succeeded. However, there is still a need to lobby for culture to become a PA in the final version of the new Action Plan.

Ms Ludwiczek reported about the Commission Implementing Decision concerning the adoption of the 2012 work programme for the implementation of activities of 'Technical assistance and dissemination of information on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, and an improved knowledge of macro-regions strategy', which has been attached to the meeting materials. The document concerns 2,5 mln EUR for PA coordination and Horizontal Action Leaders, which can be spent for example on personal expenses, analysis etc. What is more, Ms Ludwiczek added information about the 'Seed Money Facility' supporting the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

Mr Herms informed about a new horizontal action called the 'Turku Process', which was added to the EUSBSR during its last development. The Turku Process is an initiative of cooperation between the Director General of Regional Development, the city of Turku, the city of St. Petersburg and the city of

Hamburg. Mr Hermes highlighted that the Turku Process partners have developed projects in the fields of environment, labour market and enterprise, where the Russian side is directly involved.

#### **4.3 Maritime policy – Schleswig-Holstein**

Mr Stefan Musiolik reported about the joint meeting of organizations with maritime competences, which took place on 22 May during European Maritime Day 2012 in Gothenburg/Sweden. For the first time the event was organized by 9 organizations: the Expert Group on Maritime Policy of the CBSS, BSPC, BSSSC, HELCOM, CPMR Baltic Sea Commission, the Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics, the BONUS Baltic Sea Research and Development Programme, the Baltic Sea Forum and VASAB.

In the event the priority area coordinator of Clean Shipping from the Danish Maritime Authority participated, which was an attempt to combine the activities of all present partners with the EUSBSR. During the meeting, the discussion concentrated on: cooperation goals, better coordination, joint lobbying, facilitating partner search, coherence with the EUSBSR. The event concluded with a consensus about the thematic focus of the future work, which will be: clean shipping, maritime spatial planning and joint lobbying for integrated maritime policy. In regards to instruments it was agreed that the 'Baltic Sea Clean Marine Award', could support the work of those 9 organizations. The next joint meeting will take place in November 2012 in Copenhagen, back to back with the HELCOM maritime group meeting.

Mr Musiolik informed that the meeting of the BSSSC WGMP will take place just after the BSSSC Board meeting and there will be a presentation about the new EU Communication on Blue Growth Strategy.

Mr Westermoen expressed his gratitude to the work of the BSSSC WGMP and stressed that it is very important to work on the clean shipping issue.

[BREAK]

#### **4.4. Science and education**

Ms Ludwiczek informed that the report has been attached to the meeting documentation.

Mr Stefan Herms mentioned the conference entitled "From Education to Employment: Optimising Transition Management" held in May/June in Hamburg. He has found the event very successful; the outcomes included several initiatives to create projects in this area under the European Social Fund and INTERREG (in the next programming period).

As regards to the issue of science, Mr Herms mentioned the cooperation between Hamburg, Turku, St. Petersburg and the European Commission. He also informed that Hamburg will take over the coordination role of the area of science in the next funding period.

#### **4.5. Climate policies and energy security**

The report has been attached to the meeting documentation.

#### **4.6. Public Health and Quality of Life**

Ms Ludwiczek informed the Board about the Best Agers project, a side event organized alongside the BSSSC conference in Lilleström. During the last BSSSC Board meeting, the Board approved to host a virtual platform of a Best Agers initiative on age management. Ms Ludwiczek said that the Westpomeranian Region will continue this venture during the forthcoming Finnish presidency. The authorities of the project applied to the South Baltic Programme for the transition period before 2014. Ms Ludwiczek expressed her hope, that the Board will support the Westpomeranian Region in this area in the future.

#### **4.7. Youth policy**

Mr Louis Hansen – Chairman of the BSSSC Working Group on Youth Policy informed the Board about his participation in the working meeting in Tallinn and thanked the hosts, particularly Mr Vladimir Svet for organization. He mentioned the ongoing GREEN Conference and underlined the importance of the participation of youth in the Baltic regional cooperation. In closing Mr Hansen thanked Ms Ingrid Klemp for her work as a Youth representative to the BSSSC Board over the last two years.

Ms Ludwiczek thanked Ms Klemp for her exceptional work and contribution to the Youth Team work.

Mr Vladimir Svet: informed the Board about the GREEN conference, which at that time was entering its final stage, discussing the practical ideas to reduce the consumption of standard energy resources and increase the use of renewables. Mr Svet also informed the Board that the declaration “BSSSC Youth Network of Youth Participation” has been adopted. Mr Svet handed over the final paper among the participants. The aim of the document is to formulate and bring together all the main principals of youth participation from the BSR (on the level of local and regional municipalities). There are 9 major areas-principals on how to act, create and develop a youth platform in every region of the BSR. Mr Svet expressed his hope, that the BSSSC members would popularize this document in their home institutions and regions. He also confirmed that the paper will be sent to the Board members via e-mail as well.

Ms Ingrid Klemp informed the Board that the priorities of the ongoing Russian presidency in the Council of the Baltic Sea States do not include the continuation of the CBSS Expert Group on Youth Affairs. That means that at the end of the year the Baltic Sea Secretariat for Youth Affairs in Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein will be closed. Therefore the youth group intends to send a letter to the Council on this particular matter. Ms Klemp thanked the Board for the possibility of working for the BSSSC over the past 2 years.

Mr Stefan Musiolik gave thanks and also suggested that the Board should upgrade the letter with the signature of the BSSSC Chairman.

Mr Stefan Herms expressed his will to support this idea as well. In his opinion, adding that the secretariat in Kiel has done a good job especially as it is well-known how difficult it is organize the youngsters all together. Mr Herms shared the idea of including the Chairman’s signature on the letter. Mr Herms emphasized that once the relevant infrastructure is established, it can be irreversible.

H.E. Eduardas Borisovas clarified: the CBSS Expert Group on Youth Affairs is autonomous. The issue of the mandate for the secretariat in Kiel has been discussed for a long time. He suggested inviting the BSSSC Working Group on Youth Policy to cooperate closer with the Baltic Artec – Russian priority in the area of youth cooperation in the BSR.

Ms Ludwiczek confirmed that the letter will be developed. As regards to the Declaration on Youth Participation – the Board approved the work of the youth team.

Ms Ludwiczek presented the brochure on Youth Policy in the BSSSC which gives the highlights of the work of the youth group since 2005.

#### **4.8. Co-operation with Russia**

The report has been attached to the documentation. Mr Herms informed that the aspect of cooperation with St. Petersburg was already mentioned.

#### **5. BSR Programme**

Ms Ann Irene Saeternes suggested postponing this point until the next BSSSC Board meeting.

Mr Toivo Riimaa added that Ms Krista Kampus from the CBSS Baltic 21 Expert Group was an author of the idea on how to use the SEED money for the benefit of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region while she worked at the Estonian Ministry of the Interior.

The Board congratulated Ms Kampus on this.

#### **6. Partner organizations**

Ambassador Eduardas Borisovas – Deputy Secretary General of the Council of the Baltic Sea States thanked the Board and the Secretariat for the invitation. He informed that the Committee of Senior Officials meeting has overlapped with the BSSSC Board meeting. The outcomes of the German presidency in the CBSS were briefly presented (the annual report was disseminated among the participants of the meeting). These were the bullet-points:

1. The SEBA project was suggested as a horizontal project in the renewed Action Plan for the BSR. The idea is to bring more attention to the eastern part of the BSR – the project coordinator is established in Kaliningrad. This is also a priority for the Russian presidency in the Council.
2. Establishment of a Project Support Facility budget line within the CBSS Secretariat's budget (1 mln euro).
3. New initiative: pilot financial initiative between two banks from Germany and Russia. A memorandum of understanding between these 2 banks and the CBSS was signed in Stralsund. It gives big credit lines open for projects including SME, renewable green energy and environmental infrastructure. It is open to all CBSS member states.
4. Germany was strongly engaged in the area of tourism, and supported the initiative to make Mecklenburg-Vorpommern a priority area leader in the renewed EUSBSR Action Plan.



5. Creation of a coherent framework for cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region and to integrate the CBSS more in the BSR Strategy, as well as in the Northern Dimension. A joint informal meeting during the Baltic Sea Days was held with the presence of different BSR actors.
6. Germany suggested to include a statement that the CBSS and the ND are platforms for 3<sup>rd</sup> countries in the Baltic cooperation in both conclusions (from November 2011 and June 2012) of the Council of the EU.
7. Strengthening the regional identity which was visible during the Baltic Sea Days in Berlin where 1,800 BSR stakeholders were present.

Next, Mr Borisovas listed some of the priorities of the Russian CBSS presidency, which puts emphasis on continuity and modernization, and also upgrading the visibility of the Council. The priorities are not final, they are being elaborated and should be ready shortly.

1. Modernization and innovation with focus on clusters of growth.
2. Establishment of a network of Private-Public Partnerships.
3. To promote the traditions of tolerance as a means of counteracting radical and extremist trends.
4. Promotion of people to people contacts and facilitating a visa regime for the bordering regions.

The CBSS Ministerial Session will be held in June 2013. Russia will continue the work of the previous chairmanships and will follow the long-term CBSS priorities included in the Riga Declaration from 2008. In the area of energy, Mr Borisovas recalled the BASREC project and the conference to be most likely held in Moscow in the first half of 2013. Apart from that the Russian presidency in the Council will focus also on preservation of the development of the power supply network in the region and market mechanisms to encourage activities aiming at the reduction of green-house emissions. The last presented priorities concerned civil security and the human dimension, the monitoring of the regulation's situation and hazard macro-regional risk-assessments. These will be continued under the Russian presidency, as well as in the work of the Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings.

Mr Borisovas listed some of the events which will be organized under the Russian presidency: The Baltic Sea NGO Forum will be held in St. Petersburg in April 2013, a joint Russian-Finnish seminar of forest fire prevention and supervisory activities will be held in the Leningrad region.

Mr Musiolik expressed his concern about the engagement of Russian regions in the BSSSC. The BSSSC Board has many times underlined the necessity to include Russia in the BSSSC activities. He noticed that no representative was present at the Board meeting. From over 400 conference participants less than 10 came from Russia, the youth conference – none as well. Mr Musiolik said that he sees the opportunity to make them more involved through the ongoing CBSS presidency. Ms Ludwiczek said that the Westpomeranian Chairmanship will try to get the Russian representatives on board and the upcoming Finnish presidency could continue this effort. Mr Musiolik recalled the Baltic Sea Days held in Berlin, which was a good chance to bring together all Baltic actors (especially in terms of Baltic identity). He suggested that Russia could organize a similar event during its presidency in the CBSS. Then the BSSSC could organize the Board meeting alongside this event.

Mr Borisovas said that this problem is well known and it is necessary to keep on reminding the Russian side. He pointed to two main reasons: visa issues and a problem of the regionalization of Russian politics.

He mentioned the SEBA final conference which is to be held in Kaliningrad and stressed that this would be an opportunity to discuss this issue. In March/April next year the Baltic Sea Days will most likely be held in St. Petersburg.

Ms Ludwiczek said that the Secretariat will try to organize the Board meeting in March/April, together with the Baltic Sea Days.

Next point of the agenda was presented by Ms Krista Kampus (Senior Adviser, Head of the Baltic 21 Unit). She was accompanied by Mr Bjarne Rasmussen. Ms Kampus introduced briefly herself and the activities of the Baltic 21 Expert Group. She informed that the group has decided to cluster the recommendations and submit (those which are the most relevant for the regions) to the BSSSC for the consideration of the Board. They are focusing on development of the sustainable renewable energy system based on the lessons-learned and the results from 3 lighthouse projects: SPIN, Eco-region and Bio Energy Promotion. Then she gave the floor to the member of the Baltic 21 Expert Group, who prepared these recommendations for the subregional level. Mr Rasmussen said that the paper has been delivered to the Board. He gave a short presentation on these recommendations.

Ms Ludwiczek asked if the Board agrees on the recommendations.

Mr Thore Westermoen pointed out that even though he did not disagree with the content of the paper he was concerned about the late delivery of the paper and lack of time to read and discuss it. In his opinion such documents should be recommended and discussed in advance.

## **7. BSSSC Board meetings 2012**

Ms Malgorzata Ludwiczek has informed that the date of the upcoming BSSSC Board meeting has changed to 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Mr Sebastian Gojdz informed the Board that he has discussed this matter with the BSSSC Chairman and it has been agreed that 3<sup>rd</sup> December seems to be a good date, as on this day the Committee on Transport and Tourism will be held. Mr Gojdz informed the Board about the talks with the Finnish representation in Brussels concerning the invitation of the Finnish Members of the European Parliament to the meeting. On this day there also will be a seminar on the Central European Transport Corridor which links the Baltic Sea with Adriatic. He proposed to organize a dinner on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, the BSSSC Board meeting on the morning of 3<sup>rd</sup> December, so the seminar could be joined in the afternoon.

After a discussion concerning the time, the length of the Board meeting and of the relevance of the seminar with the BSSSC area of interests, it was decided that the seminar and Board will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> December.

Ms Ann Irene Saeternes said that the Board Member from the Eastern Norway County Network will not be able to take part in the events on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

Mr Ossi Savolainen informed that the exact dates of the BSSSC Board meetings in 2013 will be proposed in December during the meeting in Brussels.

Ms Mudite Priede declared that one meeting in 2013 could be held in Latvia.

Mr Knud Andersen said that one could be organized in Denmark.

Mr Toivio Riimaa mentioned the initiative to organize one meeting in St. Petersburg

### **9. Reports from meetings and events**

Ms Ludwiczek asked the Board if there were any reports. Due to limited time of the meeting any additional reports were presented, so Ms Ludwiczek thanked for all contributions and closed the board meeting.

BSSSC Secretariat