



**Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2015**

**9.00–12.00**

*Board meeting at Hamburg Representation* in Berlin (address: Jägerstraße 1, 10117 Berlin)

**Participants** Heli Halla-aho (Secretariat), Jon Halvard Eide (NO), Thore Westermoen (NO), Kari Lie (NO), Ann Irene Saeternes (NO), Roger Ryberg (Chairman of the meeting), Marili Niits (EE), Toivo Riimaa (EE), Jari Sainio (Baltic Sea Commission), Marlene Rothe (DE), Stefan Musiolik (DE), Janne Tamminen (Brussels Antenna), Krystyna Wróblewska (PL), Malgorzata Ludwiczek (PL)

## **Meeting minutes**

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

1.1. Opening of the meeting – Roger Ryberg opened the meeting

Kari Lie, new youth representative in the board, told few words about herself. She comes from Norway and is President of Hedmark Youth Council.

1.2. Agenda was adopted without changes.

1.3. Board meeting minutes Visby 23 September were adopted without changes.

### **2. Results and conclusion of the Strategy Discussion on 3<sup>rd</sup> of December**

Board had very good discussion about strategy and future of BSSSC. Task force will work with the notes and make a proposal about next steps for the Board meeting in March.

### **3. BSSSC Annual Conference 2016**

Annual Conference 2016 will be organized in Hämeenlinna in 15-16 of September 2016. Task force will discuss the theme and the programme in its meeting in February. Secretary General will send Save the Date –invitation before Christmas.

### **4. BSSSC member regions and Board members**

Secretary General summarized the current situation. There has been no news from Lithuania since September. Board asked Mr. Riimaa to contact Lithuanian partners and ask their current position. Mr.



Riimaa will meet Latvians and Lithuanians in Paris in 7<sup>th</sup> of December. Secretariat has received an official letter from Region Sjælland in Denmark, that they have decided not to participate BSSSC Board. Finnish national delegation will nominate a new board member in the beginning of 2016 to replace Mr. Huttunen. Mr. Hans Bjurbäck from Swedish Institute sent an email for all Swedish regions explaining BSSSC, Baltic Sea Commission and BD, they also received the strategy papers. Email was mainly to inform regions about the organizations. We will wait, if there will be any follow up. Polish board members will also join the meetings again, although, there might be some changes in persons. Norway will also most probably nominate a new board member or at least send a representative to meetings.

## **5. Policy Sectors and Working Groups**

Rapporteurs gave their reports about their working groups and policy sectors. Received written reports attached to the meeting notes. All rapporteurs are requested to send their reports in written. It was also discussed in strategy discussion, if this process should be changed, that reports are sent before the meeting for the board members, that they can prepare also their response for that issue.

### **5.1. Youth Policy**

Ms Lie recommended, that also youth event during the annual conference should have more connection with the conference and also follow up, to make the work more visible. In Visby youth participants made great films and those should be published somewhere. It was agreed, that Ms. Lie will send the links to secretariat and those will published in BSSSC webpage, together with the report. Task force will work with Annual Conference programme and Mr. Musiolik recommended they work with integration of youth issues for Annual Conference as well.

### **5.2. Northern and Arctic Dimension**

### **5.3. Transport and Infrastructure**

### **5.4. Culture**

### **5.5. Baltic Sea Region Programme**

Other policy sectors were not discussed, as rapporteurs were not present.

## **6. Current issues at other co-operation organizations**

### **6.1. CBSS**

Secretary General mentioned, that CBSS has nominated a new contact person, Mr. Bernd



Hemingway, who unfortunately couldn't participate the meeting but promised to participate next board meeting in Helsinki in March 2016.

#### 6.2. CPMR Baltic Sea Commission

BSSSC and Baltic Sea Commission will have a joint meeting in Helsinki in March.

### 7. Report from the Brussels Antenna

Mr. Janne Tamminen said few words about the current issues in Brussels. Current big issues are for example European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) and Circular Economy Package.

### 8. BSSSC Board meetings 2016

16-17 March 2016 Helsinki, Finland

May-June 2016 Gdansk, Poland

September 2016 Hämeenlinna, Finland

### 9. Coming events

Board members were requested to send important event dates to secretariat.

### 10. Any other business

Secretary General thanked the board for the past 1,5 years. Ms. Halla-aho will work with other tasks in Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, starting in March 2016. Mr. Janne Tamminen will return to his position as Secretary General.

### 11. External Speaker: **Mr. Marcus Hagemann**, Head of Secretariat of the cultural BSR network ARS

BALTICA

Presentation attached to meeting minutes.

### 12. External Speaker: **Mr. Michael Däumer**, German MFA representative within CBSS Group of Senior Officials & German National Coordinator EUSBSR

No presentation available.

Meeting ended at 12.00.