



Present: Mr. Knud Andersen (DK), Mr. Asger Andreasen (DK), Mr. Rune Bakkevoll (NO), Ms. Josefina Bjurström (Secretariat), Mr. Eduardas Borisovas (CBSS), Mr. Rogaciano Cavadas Kaipainen (Brussels Antenna), Mr. Jon Halvard Eide (NO), Mr. Tommy Eliasson (B7), Ms. Ülle Erman (EE), Mr. Louis Hansen (DK), Mr. Stefan Herms (DE), Ms. Malgorzata Ludwiczek (PL), Ms. Ligita Mazina (LV), Mr. Jaakko Mikkola (Secretariat), Mr. Stefan Musiolik (DE), Ms. Tuula Palaste-Eerola (Secretariat), Ms. Marlene Roth (DE), Mr. Roger Ryberg (NO), Ms. Ann Irene Saeternes (NO), Mr. Lars Salvesen (NO), Mr. Ossi Savolainen (Chairman), Ms. Claudia Schatzmann (DE), Mr. Janne Tamminen (Secretariat), Ms. Elisabeth Traelstad (NO), Ms. Satu Vehreävesa (FI), Ms. Krystyna Wroblewska (PL).

1. Opening of the Board Meeting

1.1. Opening of the meeting by Mr Ossi Savolainen – BSSSC Chairman

Chairman Ossi Savolainen opened the meeting by wishing everyone welcome and thanking Mr. Knud Anderson for hosting the previous Board meeting in Bornholm.

1.2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

1.3. Adoption of Board meeting minutes Bornholm, 25 June 2013

The minutes of the Bornholm meeting were adopted.

2. Discussion on BSSSC Past and Future

Mr. Jaakko Mikkola briefly told about the joint Baltic Sea Actors' meeting held in the morning of the 16th of October. Four topics were chosen to be on the coherence agenda: youth affairs, culture, maritime and energy and climate issues. Next meeting is planned to take place during the Baltic Sea week in Turku in the beginning of June 2014. Ms. Ann Irene Saeternes pointed out that BSSSC should think of issues and questions that should be put forward and worked on relating to this co-operation. She also discussed a possible re-launch of the joint platform on energy and climate.

2.1. Summary of the input from the regions

Mr. Stefan Musiolik presented the core topics from the Schleswig-Holstein point of view: cohesion, maritime policy, culture and regional identity and youth policy. Co-operation and co-ordination with other Baltic Sea Region organizations should be in focus. Ms. Malgorzata Ludwiczek presented the summary of the discussion during the West Pomeranian chairmanship. Points included the role of BSSSC in the planning and implementation of the EUSBSR, the role of BSSSC in supporting projects and actions and intensifying co-operation with the European Institutions especially with the Commission and the CoR. Mr. Jon Halvard Eide presented Vest-Agder's paper on



the issue. BSSSC should have a broad and responsive agenda related to the EUSBSR and the upcoming Interreg-programs. BSSSC should focus more on being an umbrella organization and co-operation platform, and the recent joint Baltic Sea Actors' meeting was a good start. Ideally all organizations would be represented at the Board meetings. It would be important to mobilize resources from all member regions to strengthen the capacity of the network and passive countries should be encouraged to participate. Mr. Stefan Musiolik agreed with Mr. Eide and stressed the importance of involvement of all members. Mr. Knud Andresson pointed out that as he previously mentioned the greatest success story of the BSSSC has been participation in the EUSBSR. In the future BSSSC should work for keeping the regions involved in planning and implementing the strategy. Ms. Krystyna Wroblewska stressed the importance of having close co-operation with other organizations and being visible by reaching people in the BSR e.g. by publishing the newsletter. Mr. Stefan Herms agreed with what previously was said and pointed out two important actions for the BSSSC: 1) having influence in Brussels (e.g. influence on the EUSBSR) and 2) channeling European money to the regions e.g. by functioning as a platform for project development and organizer of match making events and project cafés. Chairman Savolainen summarized the discussion and suggested that the secretariat drafts a paper on the issue in the beginning of 2014.

3. Policy Sectors, Working Groups and Rapporteurs

3.1. Maritime Issues (Blekinge)

Mr. Janne Tamminen informed that Blekinge has withdrawn from the board and from chairing the maritime issues working group. Until further notice the chairmanship invites interested members in the BSSSC to take part in the meetings of the CPMR BSC maritime issues working group.

3.2. Youth Policy (West Pomerania)

Mr. Malgorzata Ludwiczek informed about the ongoing youth conference, which received funding from the Youth in Action programme. The conference had so far been very successful with 37 young people participating from around the BSR. She also gave an update on the preparations of the Baltic Sea Youth Forum which will be discussed in Vilna in November. A youth exchange between Estonia and West Pomerania based on the BSSSC youth co-operation was organized last summer. Chairman Savolainen thanked the working group for excellent work.

3.3. Energy and Climate Issues (Chairmanship)

Mr. Tamminen confirmed that Central Finland still is interested in chairing the working group. Energy efficiency and renewable fuels will be on the agenda of the upcoming Annual Conference. Future issues on the BSSSC agenda could include business opportunities provided by cleantech clusters and energy related EU regulations. Ms.



Saeternes informed that Norway is still interested in participating in the working group. She also mentioned the possible re-launch of the joint platform and discussions with BDF. She suggested sending out the 2009 AC resolution to the Warsaw Climate Change Conference, which will be organized in November 2013.

3.4. Northern and Arctic Dimension (ENCN)

Mr. Roger Ryberg gave an update on the issue. Good contacts have been established with the European External Action Service (EEAS) department for ND and BSR co-operation. ENCN will also meet with the Norwegian MFA department responsible for ND. A parallel session on the issue will be organized at the upcoming Annual Conference. Mr. Herms asked about the relevance of this field to the regional co-operation. The secretariat answered by pointing out that this is of importance for all of Northern Europe. Ms. Satu Vehreävesa pointed out that there are lots of possibilities in the north such as natural resources and the development of northwest Russia that could benefit all of Northern Europe. Mr. Ryberg informed that the ND policy is one of the biggest political questions in Norway at the moment and that Brussels is eager to participate in this as well.

3.5. Transport and Infrastructure (Vest-Agder)

Mr. Eide gave an update on what had been discussed in the CPMR North Sea Commission transport working group. The TEN-T days were organized in Estonia in mid October. The commission will organize stakeholder forums on the TEN-T transport corridors in which BSSSC should participate in. Mr. Eide stressed that it would be important to capitalize the BSRP cluster project in transport and in transgovernance. Mr. Tamminen informed that the CPMR BSC transport working group invites interested members of the BSSSC to participate. North Sweden will organize a TEN-T seminar in Brussels in the end of November.

3.6. Culture (Schleswig-Holstein)

Mr. Musiolik gave an update on the upcoming Annual Conference session, which will look at the status quo of PA Culture in the EUSBSR. It will be a start of a cultural dialogue between lots of actors from different organizations. PA Culture will also be present at the EUSBSR Annual Forum and plans on organizing a big conference in Turku in June 2014 including actors such as the CBSS, NDPC and ArsBaltica.

3.7. Cohesion Policy (Danish Regions)

Mr. Asger Andreasen gave a brief update on the current situation. Since the Bornholm meeting the budget has been set to 960 billion euros for the next programming period. The negotiation on how to divide the budget between different countries and regions is ongoing.



3.8. EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (Pomerania)

Ms. Wroblewska brought to the attention some important meetings on the fall 2013 agenda such as the BDF Blue Growth Conference (3 Oct, Copenhagen), Baltic Sea Research Forum (Oct 24, Finland), Baltic Sea Labour Forum (Nov 1) and a seminar on Regions through smart specialization (Nov 8, Brussels). Ms. Wroblewska will browse through the Commission report on macro regional strategies and give a summary on the report. She also informed about that Sweden has prepared an approach on showing how to integrate the EUSBSR into national and regional needs and programs. The report could be of use in other countries as well. The Commission will launch a project to support organizing local EUSBSR information days which BSSSC could consider participating in.

3.8.1. Report from Hamburg

Claudia Schatzmann presented projects under PA Education (please see attachment).

3.9. Baltic Sea Region Programme (ENCN)

Ms. Saeternes gave an update on the current preparations for the next programme. Discussions on implementation, project sizes, information and communication are ongoing. The programme will focus on transport, environment and innovation. A draft paper will be presented in the beginning of December in Tallinn after which the paper will open for a public consultation, which BSSSC also could participate in. A kick off meeting will be organized in fall and there might be a possibility to organize it back to back with the BSSSC Annual Conference. Mr. Herms pointed out that it is important to give input to the program. He'd especially like to see simplification of the auditing system and the administration. He also asked about infrastructure funding for the PACs and HALs. Ms Saeternes answered that this has been discussed and that decision on this will be made in December.

4. Report from Brussels – Mr Rogaciano Cavadas Kaipainen

Mr. Rogaciano Cavadas Kaipainen gave an update on the Lithuanian presidency. A political compromise on the next MFF, the budget for 2014 and the programs (Horizon 2020, Connecting Europe Facility etc.) will be finalized in Strasbourg in a few weeks. There's been good co-operation between the previous president Ireland, Lithuania and the coming presidency of Greece. The Greek presidency will focus on growth, jobs, cohesion, further integration, migration, borders, mobility and maritime policies. Mr. Kaipainen reminded that the future programming period will have good possibilities for co-funding through programmes such as the Horizon 2020, Cosme and Creative Europe.

5. Annual Conferences 2013 and 2014

5.1. Adoption of the resolution for AC 2013



The resolution was discussed and revised by a working group consisting of Mr. Janne Tamminen, Mr. Jaakko Mikkola, Ms. Ann Irene Saeternes, Ms. Krystyna Wroblewska, Ms. Malgorzata Ludwiczek and Ms. Marlene Roth.

5.2. Host for AC 2014

Mr. Tamminen informed that discussions with the possible host country, Latvia, are ongoing.

6. BSSSC Chair for 2015-2016

Mr. Tamminen gave an update on the situation. As Sweden is withdrawing, it might be realistic for the current chairmanship to continue in 2015.

7. BSSSC Board meetings 2013 and 2014

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| 28 November | Brussels | Mr. Musiolik suggested inviting members from the CoR and the EP. |
| 6-7 February | Kuopio, Finland | |
| 4/5 June | Turku, Finland | |

8. Reports from meetings and events

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| 25-27 August, Pärnu | 22 nd Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference |
| 2-3 September, Trelleborg/Malmö | CLEANSHIP Final Conference |
| 3-4 September, Riga | Baltadapt Conference: Adaptation to Climate Change in the BSR |
| 4-5 September, Kalmar | ERB Stakeholder's Meeting |
| 25–27 September, Saint-Malo | 41 st CPMR General Assembly: Mr. Tamminen informed that Ms. Annika Annerby-Jansson from Sweden was elected president of the CPMR. |
| 2-3 October, Copenhagen | HELCOM Ministerial Meeting |
| 3 October, Copenhagen | BDF Baltic Sea Conference 2013 – Blue Growth, Sustainability and Water Industries |
| 3-4 October, Mariehamn | UBC General Conference |
| 7–10 October, Brussels | Open Days |

9. Coming events

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| 11-12 November, Vilnius | 4 th Annual Forum on the EUSBSR |
| 28–29 November, Brussels | CoR 104 th Plenary |



10. Any other business

End of proceedings 16.30