



**Wadden Sea Forum
Steering Committee
6th Meeting
Hamburg, 24 April 2009**

FINAL DRAFT MINUTES

1. Opening

Document: SC-6 Draft Agenda

The meeting was opened by the chairman, Mr. Klimant, at 10:00 hours. The secretary informed that Mr. Holstein had apologised. Mr. Holst Christensen participated on behalf of Mr. Andresen. A list of participants is in **Annex 1**. The agenda was **adopted** without amendments and is in **Annex 2**.

2. Minutes SC-5

Document: SC-5 Final Draft Minutes

The final draft minutes of the SC-5 meeting, Hamburg, 29 October 2008 were **adopted**.

3. Announcements

Tineke Schokker reported about the new findings of the Delta Commission, a Sustainable Coastal Development Committee, and the advice for the government. Climate change requested a new delta plan to adapt coastal protection measures, fresh water management and spatial planning. As an example, she mentioned the measure to strengthen the Afsluidijk combined with the use of blue energy. An English summary of the Delta Commission report can be found on the WSF website:

www.waddensea-forum.org/Specialissues/coastal%20planning.html.

Thomas Christensen referred to the tourism presentation at WSF-13 and informed the meeting that a tourism destination plan would be elaborated for the Wadden Sea. Furthermore, he informed the participants that a the forthcoming conference of "Euregio the Wadden" would take place on 14-15 May on the island of Fanø.

Hans Werner Rothkopf referred to the new water management and federal nature conservation acts and pointed at its importance for spatial planning also in the EEZ. Also measures of CO₂ storage had been agreed in parliament. Besides two other locations, also in Wilhelmshaven a pilot project is planned to store CO₂, arising from the operation of a new coal power plant.

Herman Verheij referred to the agreement between the NGOs and the mussel fisheries sector and informed that a nature restoration program in the Dutch Wadden Sea ecosystem has been initiated.

Manfred Vollmer reported about the successful implementation of the 12th Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium on 30 March until 3 April. Some 250 participants joined the conference, which addressed important topics like monitoring, coastal management, human use and cultural landscapes. More than 40 technical recommendations had been elaborated and 5 strategic recommendations would be forwarded to the Governmental Conference in March 2010. More information about the conference under <http://www.waddensea-secretariat.org/news/symposia/ISWSS-2009.html>.

4. Progress WGs and WSF activities

The WSF working group chairs and the secretary reported about progress in the working groups.

WG ICZM: The last ICZM meeting took place on 5 February 2009 at which 3 main topics were discussed:

- a) ICZM cases, which have been analysed by a consultant. The final synthesis report was delivered at the beginning of April and is also available on the web site.
- b) The sustainability indicator tool, developed by the Danish consultant COWI is being updated by the WSF secretariat and following, continuously maintained.
- c) The ICZM workshop, scheduled for 11 June 2009 is in preparation. The first announcement has been distributed and a draft program will be available at the beginning of May.

WG EII: The inventory of energy and harbour related activities is maintained by the secretariat. For the time being, data delivery is lacking. The request for further information should be extended to the whole Wadden Sea Forum.

The study regarding the inventory and assessment of energy plants in the Wadden Sea Region has been initiated and an intermediate report is already available.

It is the intension of the working group, to put more efforts also on harbour developments and infrastructure in the Region. The next meeting will be held on 29 May by a phone conference and a further meeting is planned for late June.

WG Shipping: The shipping group met on 11 March in Bremen and the next meeting is scheduled for 31 August.

A work topic was the evaluation of PSSA. The working group is represented by the chairman and delivers advice and recommendations to the process.

The main task Shipping Safety, including control systems, towing capacity and others is continuously on the agenda. For the forthcoming WSF meeting in Harlingen, an expert from Groningen Seaports is invited to give a presentation about control systems in the Ems estuary. With regard to container shipment, further information will be compiled, also in cooperation with KIMO.

Also with regard to shipping safety, marine spatial planning, particularly the ongoing process in the German EEZ, would be an

important issue for the shipping group. The need for involvement in this planning process should be supported by the WSF.

WG Agriculture: The WG agriculture for the time being is focussing on the goose management within the Wadden Sea Region. On recommendation of the goose workshop on 19-20 November 2008 in Ribe, a goose management group under the umbrella of the WSF has been installed. A first meeting took place on 18 March 2009 in Hamburg. The final TOR were agreed and tasks and objectives of the group were discussed in detail and finally agreed. The GMG will deliver a draft recommendation and guidance document for the development of a goose management plan for the TGC 2010.

WG Fisheries: At the last WSF meeting in November 2008, Mr Holstein stated that the fishery sector had been too busy with solving severe problems and was therefore not able to actively participate in the working group. Furthermore, he pointed at the lacking participation from Denmark. The meeting agreed that the planned study about new perspectives for the fishery in the Wadden Sea could serve as a new basis for further actions.

WG Tourism: With regard to tourism, the WSF, respectively the secretariat has taken up the issues "Gastronomy Award/Regional products" and "Tourism marketing strategy" with a focus on the World heritage Site. On invitation of the CWSS, a workshop about promotion and marketing of the Wadden Sea was held in February in Bremen. Also tourism organisations were represented. The WSF and its stakeholders should be better involved in the marketing initiatives, although it focuses mainly on the WH-nomination for the time being. Benefits and perspectives for the regions should be used.

5. Goose Management Group (GMG)

Document: SC-6-5.1 GMG-1 meeting, Final Draft Minutes

The secretary referred to the document and briefly explained the TOR, the new developments and activities. The chairman emphasized the importance and relevance of this issue for the WSF and welcomed the implementation of the group under the umbrella of the Forum.

This led to a discussion about responsibilities, tasks of the chairman and the budget for the project. With regard to the TOR, Thomas Christensen pointed to some items to be clarified in the Steering Committee. These issues were the decision procedure in the group, the contribution of the chair and related budget, the collaboration between TWSC and WSF and the financial matters in general. The conclusions of the discussion is as follows:

- a) The decision procedure is not exactly determined as the GMG did not see an advantage in such a procedure. The group is working towards the tasks and will deliver guidance and recommendations for a goose management plan. Minority positions would be discussed if this will become necessary.
- b) The secretary explained the role of the chair, who was hired as a consultant with a sound knowledge and expertise, to guide the group towards the defined

aims and to deliver input to the final report for the governmental conference in 2010. The costs would be calculated on the invested time and an agreed hourly rate. Counting with four meetings, necessary preparation, travel costs and input to the final report, the secretariat estimated 10.000,- Euro in total for the chairs work.

It was questioned that this model with a consultant as an independent chair would be necessary; a member of the group could have taken the job as normally done within the working groups. On the other hand it was recognized that the chair must have special knowledge about the issue itself and in coordination as well as skills in harmonization of regulations and conflict resolution.

Finally, the meeting agreed to continue with the implemented model till the TGC 11 in 2010 and that new decisions would be necessary to continue afterwards.

c) With regard to the stated joint venture between TWSC and WSF it was made clear that the GMG acts in the responsibility of the Forum, who is financing the project to 100%. The Forum would be the only responsible body and would deliver advice to the Trilateral Cooperation for further decisions on the political level. In this respect, the chapters "tasks" and "timetable" of the TOR had to be changed accordingly (see **Annex 3**, TOR track mode).

d) The meeting agreed that the WSF takes also the financial responsibility for the work of the GMG. So far, this concerns only the expenses for the chairperson. Further expenses have to be agreed by the Steering Committee first. The financial support for the chair expires with the end of the first phase of the project, by March 2010. For a continuation, new decisions have to be taken. A specification of the contribution, including the estimated budget, of the consultant will be handed in within the next weeks.

The meeting focussed also on budget changes in general. Due to the living work program and possible changes in topical issues, the meeting agreed that also the budget could be rearranged accordingly. The SC would take decisions on the proposals of the secretariat and report to the plenary.

6. ICZM Workshop

Document: SC-6-6.1 Preliminary work program ICZM workshop

Herman Verheij briefly explained the workshop objectives and the preliminary program. The 1st announcement was distributed by mid March but the presentations had not been settled yet. This would be the tasks for the coming two weeks.

The meeting took note of the information.

7. Advice for the Wadden Sea Plan (WSP) of the TWSC

Document: SC-6-7.1 Intended amendments to the Wadden Sea Plan

The document, provided by the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat, was distributed at the meeting so that the participants were not prepared to comment on the document. It was stated that the Forum would appreciate to deliver comments on the revised WSP, but that more time is needed for common statements of the Forum.

The chairman clearly stated that the procedure of the consultation had been unsatisfying. He requested a full draft of the WSP besides the document with the intended changes. The Steering Committee would be prepared to act as task force for the contribution to the WSP revision and would deliver their contribution after consultation of the WSF in November 2009. This position should be made clear towards the TWSC. The meeting requested the chair to write a letter about this position of the SC to the TWSC.

8. Draft agenda WSF-14

Document: SC-6-8.1 WSF-14 draft agenda

The meeting discussed the draft agenda for the WSF-14 meeting, Harlingen, 16-17 June 2009. There were no further comments regarding agenda items 1 – 6. On the subject of item 7, the responsible persons, Mr. Christensen and Mr. Klimant **agreed** to deliver the reports of the Wadden Sea Advisory Boards prior to the meeting in the English language. The reports from the Netherlands were already available.

Following, the secretary gave some additional information about the next agenda items. Results of the energy study would be presented by the consultant "Bremer Energie Instituut", information about activities and events in respect of the World Heritage Nomination (WHN) of the Dutch-German Wadden Sea will be given by Jens Enemark and John Mouat from KIMO would introduce the work of KIMO with special emphasis on container shipment and its problems.

No further comments were made on agenda items 11 and 12 and 14 to 16.

Regarding item 13, communication, it was **agreed** to discuss the available document of the CWSS at WSF-14. Furthermore, it was stated that a communication strategy within the WSF in general would be necessary. Within this strategy, additional/topical issues like WHN or regional products would be taken up.

Finally, the SC meeting **agreed** to include goose management as an additional agenda item. The agreed draft WSF-14 agenda is in **Annex 4**.

9. WSF tourism group

Document: SC-6-9.1 Tourism project

The meeting took note of the project offer from the University of Applied Science Wilhelmshaven and generally welcomed tourism marketing studies as they deliver necessary information for the further development of sustainable tourism in the Wadden Sea Region. It was stated that already many studies were available, also in Denmark and the Netherlands. If any new study would be initiated, this should be done in cooperation with all regions to aim at an trilateral approach and the entire Wadden Sea Region.

Thomas Christensen emphasized that first of all, actions would be necessary and to take on board issues like World Heritage and International Gastronomy Award.

It was **agreed** to firstly bring a tourism board together, who would be responsible to compile the information available (e.g. NetForum results) and to initiate new studies to fill the gaps if necessary.

10. Any other business

Hans Werner Rothkopf, the chair of the WG EII reminded the representatives from Denmark and Schleswig-Holstein to designate members for the working group.

11. Next meeting

The meeting **agreed** to hold the next Steering Committee meeting on 27 October in Hamburg. Host would be RWE Dea AG.

The WSF-15 meeting was proposed for 24-25 November 2009 in Lower Saxony.

12. Closing

The chair thanked all participants for their contributions and closed the meeting at 14:15.

Annex 2

**Wadden Sea Forum
Steering Committee
6th Meeting
Hamburg, 24 April 2009**

AGENDA

- Agenda item 1. Opening**
- Agenda item 2. Minutes SC-5**
- Agenda item 3. Announcements**
- Agenda item 4. Progress WGs and WSF activities**
- Agenda item 5. Goose Management Group**
- Agenda item 6. ICZM workshop**
- Agenda item 7. Advice for WSP of the TWSC**
- Agenda item 8. Draft agenda WSF-14**
- Agenda item 9. WSF tourism group**
- Agenda item 10. Any other business**
- Agenda item 11. Next meeting**
- Agenda item 12. Closing**

Annex 3**Goose Management Group
Terms of Reference**

(as revised and agreed by the SC on 24 April 2009)

BACKGROUND

The proper management of geese is an issue of increasing relevance in the Wadden Sea Region due to increasing numbers of geese and improved cropping systems favored by geese. On the one hand geese are a natural part of the Wadden Sea and adjoining mainland coastal areas and are a typical element of the Wadden Sea Region biodiversity for which the Wadden Sea states have an international responsibility. They also constitute an important touristic attraction.

On the other hand, some goose species cause increasing damage to farmlands, while current management schemes for geese are highly variable between countries and liable to further improvement and harmonization.

On 19-20 November 2008 a trilateral workshop on goose management was held in Ribe. The workshop, organized jointly by the Environment Centre Ribe, the Wadden Sea Forum and the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat was attended by some 30 representatives from science, agriculture, nature conservation societies, hunters and responsible authorities. It was agreed to establish a working group to prepare recommendations and guidance for the development of a trilateral management plan for the accommodation of geese in the Wadden Sea Region, to be submitted to TGC 11.

RESPONSIBILITY

The Goose Management Group acts under the responsibility of the Wadden Sea Forum (WSF).

COMPOSITION

The Goose Management Group will consist of representatives of the responsible administrations, of the agricultural sector, nature and environment NGO's and goose experts. The secretarial work will be carried out by the Wadden Sea Forum Secretariat.

TASKS

1. To develop recommendations and guidance for the development of a trilateral goose management plan to accommodate geese in the Wadden Sea Region, based upon the following premises
 - a. the positive use of the existing national and international regulations, in particular the framework regulations of the EU;
 - b. the recognition of geese as a valued and natural asset of the Wadden Sea Region and the international obligation to accommodate the populations;
 - c. the development of recommendations for improvement and harmonization of management schemes for geese;
 - d. the relevance of a plan to be considered and applied in a wider integrated coastal management framework.
2. To provide advice on the incorporation of the recommendations in the policies of higher levels like EU, TWSC and AEWA.
3. To provide a platform for knowledge and information exchange.
4. To report to the WSF plenary.

TIMETABLE

The work of the Goose Management Group will start as soon as possible after the adoption of the Terms of Reference. The draft final report, or an interim report, shall be submitted to the WSF in the 2nd half of 2009.

A recommendations and guidance document for the development of a trilateral goose management plan will be discussed and agreed by the WSF, respectively the Steering Committee and finally submitted to the 11th trilateral Governmental Wadden Sea Conference.

Goose Management Group Members

Chair

- Niels Kanstrup, biologist/wildlife consultant (DK)

Denmark

- Jesper Madsen, scientist
- Kresten Fromsejer, Danish agriculture
- Jan Steinbring Jensen, administration, (John Frikke, Ministry of Env.)
- Knud Flensted/local, Danish Ornithological Society, (to be decided)

Schleswig-Holstein

- Melf Melfsen/Susanne Werner, agriculture
- David Fleet, on behalf of the MLUR
- Hans-Ulrich Rösner/Frank Hofeditz, WWF

Lower Saxony

- Erich Hinrichs, agriculture
- Martin Wendeburg, NLWKN Oldenburg, administration
- Helmut Kruckenberg, NABU

The Netherlands

- Hilbrand Sinnema, agriculture
- To be nominated, administration
- Bart Ebbinge, scientist
- To be nominated, Dutch NGO

Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation

- Folkert de Jong, CWSS

Secretariat

- Manfred Vollmer, WSF

Annex 4

**Wadden Sea Forum
14th Meeting
Harlingen, 16 – 17 June 2009**

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Opening and adoption of the Agenda

Document WSF-14-1. Draft Annotated Agenda

The meeting will be opened on 16 June at 13:00 hours

The meeting will be invited to adopt the agenda.

2. Adoption final draft minutes WSF-13

The meeting will be invited to adopt the final draft minutes of the WSF-13 meeting, Fanø, 18 – 19 November 2008. The final draft minutes of WSF-13 have been distributed by e-mail of 12 December 2008. The final draft minutes are also available at the WSF website www.waddensea-forum.org.

3. Membership WSF

Document: WSF-14-3.1. Member list

An overview will be presented of all relevant changes in WSF membership. The latest version of the WSF member list is attached as document WSF-14-3.1. Participants will be invited to submit any further relevant information.

4. Announcements

Participants will be invited to inform the meeting about relevant developments.

5. Minutes 6th meeting Steering Committee

Document: WSF-14-5.1. Minutes SC-6

The meeting is invited to take note of the minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee, SC-6, Hamburg, 24 April 2009.

6. Progress WSF activities

Document WSF-14-6.1. Progress Report

The meeting will be informed about progress of several WSF activities.

The meeting will be invited to discuss the outcome of the work and decide upon proposals for continuation.

7. Goose management

On 19-20 November 2008 a trilateral workshop on geese management was held in Ribe. The workshop, organized jointly by the Environment Centre Ribe, the Wadden Sea Forum and the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat was attended by some 30 representatives from science, agriculture, nature conservation societies, hunters and responsible authorities. It was agreed to establish a working group to prepare a strategic trilateral management plan for the accommodation of geese in the Wadden Sea Region to be submitted to TC 11. A constitutional meeting took place on 18 March 2009 in Hamburg and a second meeting on 3 June in Heide. The meeting will be informed about the progress and will be invited to comment as appropriate.

8. Reports Wadden Sea Advisory Boards

Document WSF-14-8.1. Report Dutch Wadden Sea Council

Document WSF-14-8.2. Report Danish Wadden Sea Secretariat

Document WSF-14-8.3. Report German Advisory Boards

Representatives of the advisory boards will be invited to present relevant information about the proceedings within their boards.

9. Study Energy

Document WSF-14-9.1. Results Study Impact Energy

The Wadden Sea Forum has initiated a study regarding an inventory of power plants in the Wadden Sea Region and its ecological and economical effects. The results will be presented to the Forum by the "Bremer Energie Institut". The meeting is invited to discuss and comment the results of the study.

Furthermore, the meeting will be invited to discuss further activities regarding the topic energy saving.

10. World Heritage Nomination

The meeting will be informed about the progress of World Heritage Nomination of the Wadden Sea and planned events in this context.

11. Shipping

John Mouat from the KIMO Secretariat will give a presentation about the organisation, work and projects with a special focus on container shipment.

As a second emphasis, Harm Post from Groningen Seaports will give a presentation about shipping safety and control systems in the Ems estuary.

The meeting will be invited to further discuss the presented information and recommend resulting actions taken by the WSF and the working group shipping.

12. Spatial Planning EEZ

At WSF-13 the meeting discussed spatial planning in the German EEZ and national planning activities in the coastal zone. It was agreed to provide the secretariat with the national and regional plans to discuss the further involvement and actions of the Forum. The meeting will be informed about the progress.

13. Progress Trilateral Cooperation and Advice for WSP of the TWSC

Document WSF-14-13.1.

The meeting will be informed about relevant developments within the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation and the progress in the development of the Wadden Sea Plan (WSP). The meeting will be invited to discuss the procedure and organization of the advice of the WSF to the Trilateral Cooperation.

14. Communication

Document WSF-14-14.1. Communication draft action plan

The Common Wadden Sea Secretariat (CWSS) is currently in the process of developing a communication strategy for the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation. Additionally, there is major issue of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site nomination, for which a common Wadden Sea communication strategy is required in the near future. The Wadden Sea World Heritage Group (WSWHG) agreed to initiate the development of a World Heritage marketing strategy in collaboration with the Wadden Sea Forum (WSF) and with central stakeholders (governments, green organizations, tourism associations, information centers). The trilateral marketing strategy should be the overarching strategy for the regional activities with the CWSS acting as the central portal for the World Heritage site in close cooperation with the regionally responsible marketing coordinators.

The meeting will be invited to discuss the involvement of the WSF within the communication and marketing strategy for the Wadden Sea Region as well as to consider the development of a WSF communication strategy in general.

Secondly, the Forum members requested a better publicity of existing highlights and best practise examples in the WSF. At was agreed at WSF-13 that the Forum members would consider examples to be presented at this meeting.

15. Next meeting

The meeting will be invited to agree on the proposed meeting date and location for the WSF-15 meeting as well as to come up with proposals for the agenda.

16. Any other business

The meeting is invited to raise issues not covered by the agenda.

17. Closing

The meeting will be closed on 17 June 2009 around noon.

Preliminary Program:

Tuesday June 16th

11.45h	Bus transfer to conference accommodation 'Liauckama State'
12.00 – 13.00h	Lunch at Liauckama State, Liauckamalaan 2, NL-8855 XJ Sexbierum
13.00 – 16.00h	WSF-14 meeting
16.15h (appr.)	Bus transfer to Harlingen
17.45h	Boarding ship for evening programme
18.00h	Circular cruise Harlingen Seaport, fishing and industrial harbours
18.30h	Anchoring at Frisia Salt; Guided tour Wetsalt, Salt Water Technologies (at Frisia Salt), demo-site four new technologies for desalination and Blue Energy
19.00 – 20.00h	Dinner on the boat
20.00h	Boat trip + presentation of future innovative plans for the Afsluitdijk-utilization
21.30h (appr.)	Arrival at Harlingen Seaports

Wednesday June 17th

08.45 – 09.30h	Guided walking tour historical town Harlingen
09.30h	Bus transfer to conference accommodation 'Liauckama State'
10.00 – 12.30h	WSF-14 meeting at Liauckama State
12.30h	End of meeting
12.30 – 13.15h	Lunch at Liauckama State
13.15h	Bus transfer to Harlingen