



**Wadden Sea Forum  
Steering Committee  
7<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
Hamburg, 27 October 2009**

**Final Draft Minutes**

**1. Opening**

*Document: SC-7 Draft Agenda*

The host of the meeting, Mr. Schuhbauer, welcomed the participants at RWE Dea AG and gave some safety instruction according to the rules of the company. The meeting was opened by the secretary, Mr. Vollmer, at 11:00 hours. He apologized the chairman and Ms. Schokker, who were not able to join the meeting. A list of participants is in **Annex 1**.

The agenda was adopted without amendments and is in **Annex 2**.

**2. Minutes SC-6**

*Document: SC-6 Final Draft Minutes*

The final draft minutes of the SC-6 meeting, Hamburg, 23 April 2009 were **adopted**.

**3. Announcements**

Hans-Werner Rothkopf reported about exploration activities to capture CO<sub>2</sub>. In the Wadden Sea Region, only in Wilhelmshaven an exploration is announced, while the administrative heads of the counties in the Region have rejected applications for these exploration activities.

Herman Verheij briefly reported about a nature recovery program in The Netherlands. The project is still ongoing and will probably finalized early next year.

Thomas Holst Christensen informed the meeting that a new tourism Destination Southwest Jutland has been agreed and is under development in a cooperation between local, regional and national tourism organisations. The coming Wadden Sea National Park will be a corner stone in the new tourism destination.

Manfred Vollmer informed the meeting about a workshop and several further meetings in Korea regarding the MoU between Korea and the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (TWSC). Mr. Klimant and Mr. Vollmer were invited to represent the WSF and to report about ICZM and stakeholder involvement.

#### 4. Progress WGs and WSF activities

The WSF working group chairs and the secretary reported about progress in the working groups according to the activities described in the MoU and not further discussed under other agenda items.

**WG ICZM:** Herman Verheij recalled the main outcome of the ICZM workshop in June at which it was recommended that the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation would be committed to integrate the ICZM approach and the EU principles in their work. This would also underline the importance of ICZM for the TWSC in the new Wadden Sea Plan (WSP). He further indicated that the working group would also take the issue of Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) on board as this gets an increased attention within the EU policies and would influence coastal zone management. Furthermore, Mr. Verheij addressed the sustainability indicator tool, which is still being elaborated and updated for a test drive with sustainability indexes for the Wadden Sea Region in spring 2010.

**WG EII:** Mr. Rothkopf referred to the inventory of energy and harbour related activities, which is maintained by the secretariat. He asked the SC members to actively contribute to the update and improvement of the inventory. Furthermore, he announced a better integration of the harbour business in the working group. This would also be guaranteed by the active cooperation with the new group member from Brunsbüttel ports. Finally, Mr. Rothkopf briefly introduced the recently elaborated German harbour concept (available on the WSF website), which will be discussed in the working group in the coming meetings.

**WG Shipping:** The secretary informed the meeting that the working group shipping was actively elaborating on shipping safety, including control systems and towing capacity, litter on sea as well as on container shipping. This would partly be done in cooperation with KIMO, who forwarded a resolution with regard to the loss of containers (see agenda item 6).

**WG Agriculture:** Mr. Hinrichs reported about the progress of the work of the Goose Management Group as the only task of the working group agriculture for the time being (see agenda item 5).

**WG Fisheries:** The meeting discussed the reasons of why the working group fisheries is not present any more in the Forum. The reasons were seen as multilayered, as the different sub-sectors have different interests and the benefit of the work in the Forum would be too little.

The meeting agreed to undertake some actions integrating the fisheries sectors in the WSF, and it would be appreciated if the fishery sector take the opportunity for a new dialogue with the WSF.

Mr. Christensen reported about a Danish pacific oyster project of local actions groups.

Mr. Verheij agreed to contact new fishery umbrella organisations to attract new interested people for the working group and Mr. Hinrichs will discuss a better involvement of the sector with Mr. Oberdörffer from the Landwirtschaftskammer Weser-Ems in Oldenburg.

**WG Tourism:** The TWSC has established a "tourism strategy group" for the development of a strategy for sustainable use and marketing of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site. The secretary informed the meeting about the TOR and the tasks of the group. The meeting **agreed** not to establish a second tourism group but to make use of the existing group as well as of the NetForum report. The WSF is represented in the tourism strategy group with the secretariat and Hans-Ulrich Rösner to ensure a cooperation and information exchange. The Forum will be continuously informed about the ongoing activities and will collaborate due to relevant tasks.

**Gastronomy Award:** Thomas Holst Christensen briefly informed the meeting about the status of the implementation of the international Gastronomy Award September 2010 in Denmark. The host of the award, the Danish organisation Vadehavsprodukter (Wadden Sea Products), has employed a new coordinator and a first organisational meeting has taken place between the Danish and Dutch partners. The Dutch Waddengroep has agreed to support the implementation of the Award and in the very near future the organisation from Lower Saxony "Ostfriesland schmeckt nach Meer" and Dehoga from Schleswig-Holstein will be involved in the planning of the event.

**Public Relation/Communication:** This item was discussed in relation with the agenda item 10, WSF report.

## 5. Goose Management Group

*Document: SC-7-5.1 Draft summary goose report*

The Goose Management Group (GMG) is elaborating a draft recommendation and guidance document for a trilateral goose management plan. A draft summary with some most relevant recommendations has been prepared for the submission to the TWG meeting on 18-19 November. The secretary briefly introduced the summary with the request for further advice.

The meeting **welcomed** the document and **agreed** to forward it to TWG as worthwhile output of the WSF. The essence of the document should also be part of the final report to be submitted to the TGC-11.

## 6. Shipping, KIMO Resolution

*Document: SC-7-6.1 KIMO Resolution on Container shipping*

At the WSF-14 meeting, the WSF agreed to support KIMO International in its work, to strive for a good cooperation and to forward the concerns to the political level. Meanwhile, KIMO forwarded a resolution with regard to container shipping with the request, to adopt the resolution and to make the political level aware of this. The Steering Committee discussed the procedure of KIMO support and finally **agreed** to send an official letter to the responsible ministries in the three countries with the statement that the WSF agrees to the demand of KIMO and to recommend appropriate actions. Secondly, the WSF should request the TWSC to consider the key issues of the resolution in the revision of the WSP.

## 7. Energy Symposium

*Document: SC-7-7.1 Energy symposium draft program*

At the WSF-14 meeting in Harlingen, the Wadden Sea Forum tasked the working group EII to organize an international energy symposium, in order to discuss the most relevant energy issues in the Wadden Sea Region with experts and stakeholders in a wider context. The secretary introduced the draft program of

the symposium, which will be implemented on 26 November 2006 at the Climate House Bremerhaven.

The meeting **welcomed** the scope and contents of the program, which would provide detailed information about and a deep insight in most relevant energy issues. Rather than aiming at recommendations, the symposium would be a platform for discussing different views of a wide range of energy issues. The Forum would use the provided information and knowledge of the symposium to take further actions and decisions.

## **8. Advice for WSP of the TWSC**

*Documents: SC-7-8.1 Compilation of WSP comments*

*Consultation version WSP (sent on 6 October 2009)*

At the beginning of October, the CWSS has provided the WSF with the draft consultation version of the Wadden Sea Plan (WSP) with the request to deliver comments by the end of November 2009.

Besides the Danish Wadden Sea municipalities, no comments have been delivered so far. The SC discussed the frame of the comments to be made as well as the procedure for compilation and delivery to the TWSC. As a result, the meeting **stated** that there would be no need to comment detailed on the various targets. It was **agreed** to elaborate strategic recommendations, particularly regarding an ICZM approach and also with regard to the integration of cultural landscapes and heritage. A key conclusion was the SC recommendation that the role of the Wadden Sea Forum should be clearly visible in the revised WSP.

In order to proceed, the SC members will deliver comments and recommendations to the secretariat within the next days for compiling of a first draft "WSP statement document". This document will be forwarded to WSF-15 (after a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of comments by the SC members) for final adoption. The TWG will be informed that the WSF will deliver recommendations and comments on the WSP by the end of November.

## **9. Cultural Landscape and Heritage**

Cultural landscapes and heritage are worthwhile assets in the Wadden Sea Region and play an important role in an integrated management approach for the Region. The meeting briefly discussed how this subject could be better integrated in the work of the Forum. In Denmark the cultural landscapes gets wide attention and are already included in the management plan for the National Parks. Similar attention can be noticed in The Netherlands.

The SC stated that the issues of cultural landscapes would touch the future work of the WSF, who could provide a platform for the different actors. The SC meeting agreed to elaborate further on this subject till the next meeting.

## **10. WSF Report and Strategic Recommendations for TGC-11**

As stated in the MoU between the WSF and the TWSC, the WSF is requested to deliver a report about its progress and outcome of the Forum's work. The SC **agreed** to pay serious attention to the report and to underline the substantial role of the WSF in preserving the Wadden Sea Conservation Area and in sustainably developing the trilateral EEZs and the Wadden Sea Region.

The report should entail

- a description of what has been achieved;
- administrative and financial statements;
- rules of procedure, amended according to developments;
- the importance of the WSF and its role in the future;
  - sector dialogues,
  - cross boarder collaboration,
  - addressing issues to political level,
  - information and knowledge exchange,
- advice for TWSC on specific issues;
- recommendations to the TWSC with regard to an integrated management approach and sustainable development;
- WSF support to address and implement the Wadden Sea Plan;
- outlook workplan, including budget proposal;

An outline of the report will be elaborated by the secretariat with the support of the Steering Committee. This outline will be forwarded to the TWG meeting on 18-19 November to address the work of the Forum already at an early stage. Following, the report will be further elaborated to deliver a final draft in January. At TGC-11, a final printed version will be ready for distribution.

## **11. Draft agenda WSF-15**

*Document: SC-7-11.1 WSF-15 Draft Agenda*

The Steering Committee agreed on the proposal for the draft agenda WSF-15, Aurich, 24-25 November 2009, by changing the order of agenda item 11 and 12. The new agenda item 11, WSF report and strategic recommendations for TGC-11, should be amended by raising the topic about the future of the Forum, including the election of the chairman.

## **12. Any other business**

With regard to the Trilateral Governmental Conference (TGC) in March 2010 and the assumption of chairmanship by Denmark, the meeting referred to the WSF rules of procedure (December 2006) and raised the question, if a change in WSF chairmanship according to the TWSC would be necessary.

According to § 3.v., which reads "The terms of office of the chair and the vice-chairs will coincide with the period between the trilateral governmental Wadden Sea conferences", a new chairman has to be elected by the WSF plenary or the present chairman has to be confirmed by the plenary for the coming period.

## **13. Next meeting**

The meeting agreed to hold the next Steering Committee meeting on 16 December 2009 in Hamburg as an intermediate meeting to elaborate on the WSF report for the TGC. The WSF-16 meeting was proposed for 19-20 May 2010 in Schleswig-Holstein.

## **14. Closing**

The secretary thanked all participants for their contributions and closed the meeting at 16:30 on 27 October 2009.

**Annex 2**

**Wadden Sea Forum  
Steering Committee  
7<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
Hamburg, 27 October 2009**

**A g e n d a**

- Agenda item 1. Opening**
- Agenda item 2. Adoption of the minutes SC-6**
- Agenda item 3. Announcements**
- Agenda item 4. Progress WGs and WSF activities**
- Agenda item 5. Goose Management Group**
- Agenda item 6. Shipping, KIMO Resolution**
- Agenda item 7. Energy Symposium**
- Agenda item 8. Advice for WSP of the TWSC**
- Agenda item 9. Cultural Landscape and Heritage**
- Agenda item 10. WSF Report and  
Strategic Recommendations for TGC-11**
- Agenda item 11. Draft agenda WSF-15**
- Agenda item 12. Any other business**
- Agenda item 13. Next meeting**
- Agenda item 14. Closing**