



Wadden Sea Forum
WG ICZM, 15th Meeting
Hamburg, 31 January 2012

Final Draft Minutes

1. Opening

Document: WG ICZM 15-1 Draft agenda

The chair Herman Verheij welcomed the participants, thanked the host of the meeting Mr. Mattfeld from RWE Dea AG and opened the meeting at 11:00 hours.

A list of participants is in **Annex 1**.

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

2. Adoption of the minutes WG ICZM-14

Document: Final Draft Minutes ICZM 14

The final draft minutes of the 14th meeting of WG ICZM, Hamburg, 26 September 2011, were adopted.

3. Announcements

Andreas Kannen announced a Maritime Spatial Planning conference on 26 March in Brussels. The event would be about experiences in MSP and its development in the future. The program is available on:

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/events/2012/03/260312_programme_en.pdf

He further referred to the BaltSeaPlan as an example of MSP. BaltSeaPlan has formulated a vision 2030 towards a sustainable planning in the Baltic. Further information on the website: <http://www.baltseaplan.eu/>

Herman Verheij recalled the latest developments of the Ems-Dollard management plan, which would focus on Natura 2000 issues and would be finalized by the end of 2013. An international Bewirtschaftungsplan 2010 – 2015 (Beheerplan) according to the Water Framework Directive had been elaborated.

(http://www.ems-eems.de/uploads/media/22_12_2009_BWP_Ems_DE.pdf)

He further informed the meeting about the development of a sustainable tourism strategy with a focus of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site. A first draft of the strategy, elaborated by the TWSC, would be available by mid 2012.

Marcus Lange announced a change in his employment position. Beyond supporting the International Project Office of the Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ) project he would be responsible for the coordination of the North Sea Region Climate Change Assessment (NOSCCA, www.noscca.org), led by the Institute of Coastal Research of the HZG. The assessment provides a regional climate change assessment for the entire North Sea and will be mainly directed to scientist and decision makers.

Heiner Mattfeld reported that according to the planned exploration drillings in the Wadden Sea, the application documents were submitted to the authorities in November 2011. The authorities are now in the process of assessing the documents. The start of the field work is not expected before late 2014.

Manfred Vollmer announced two further WSF meetings on topical issues besides the working groups. An exploratory meeting to discuss the elaboration of a goose framework strategy would take place on 23 February in Bremen and a meeting on cultural issues in the Wadden Sea Region (Wadden art, organ culture, traditions and identity) would take place on 1 March in Hamburg.

4. Promotion WSR Planning Portal

The secretary informed the meeting about the status of implementation of the WSR Planning Portal and pointed at some missing data sets. A huge number of layers, entailing data on-shore and offshore had been implemented, providing extensive information of the uses, future plans and protection schemes. Some data sets were not complete in the entire area, which was due to difficulties of data provision. In the coming weeks and month, the information would be completed and maintenance till the end of 2013 is guaranteed. It was wished to integrate the information of marine traffic in the GIS tool to correlate ship positions with other layers like shipping routes and other space uses. This will be done in the coming months. To detail the shipping routes according to vessel density was also seen as valuable.

The meeting agreed to better promote the Planning Portal also in order to get assistance in data delivery. For this, the secretariat will inform the responsible authorities and the Wadden Sea Board will be made aware by a document to be forwarded to the next WSB meeting in March. The document should address the value of the provided information, the request for support due to data delivery and finance and the possibility to integrate the information of the sustainability indicators.

5. North Sea Maritime Forum (NSMF)

Document: WG ICZM 15-5.1 NSMF project application

The secretary informed about the status of an application for financial support under the Interreg IV program to establish a North Sea wide stakeholder forum. The application was rejected in the last call, but it was requested to re-submit the project application to the next call in February 2012, as it would have good potential to be approved.

A first meeting to discuss the weakness of the last application as well as requirements for approval under the next call was discussed on 10 January in Bremen. During February, the project application will be improved and new partners will be integrated in the project objectives and work packages.

The contribution of the WSF is still valid. Advice by the ICZM group how to improve the project application should be sent to the secretariat within the coming two weeks.

6. Sustainability indicator tool

Document: WG ICZM 15-6.1 Indicator tool progress

The meeting welcomed the implementation of a new social indicator in the tool and briefly discussed the changes in the overall sustainability graphs. The changes are related to the assessment of the indicator indexes and the resulting formula. The secretariat was requested to elaborate concrete proposals of indexes for the health indicator to the next meeting and to define corridors where numbers of admissions have an impact on the values. The chosen proposals should be underlined by exact numbers of level 3 to finally agree on an assessment, which fits correctly.

7. Cooperation NSC

The WSF 19 meeting tasked the working group ICZM to increase cooperation with other relevant organizations, namely the North Sea Commission, which has implemented a sustainable development group. Contact to this group failed until now. The meeting stated that cooperation would be achieved by the implementation of the NSMF, as both organisations, NSC and WSF, would be involved. Nevertheless, a new attempt to get in touch with the NSC sustainable development group could be made through the WSF chair, who is member and chair of the NSC transport group.

8. Future work topics and activities

Document: WG ICZM 15-8.1 EUCC Position paper ICZM

The meeting discussed the importance of ICZM and MSP within the EU and its relevance in the future. In line with the EUCC position paper on ICZM (it was said that the WSF has contributed to the statements outlined in the document), the meeting agreed that ICZM is still of importance, as e.g. integration, participation and cooperation would be important principles in future dealings. The policy developments within the EU would clearly signal that future tasks need the implementation of ICZM and MSP.

To strengthen the importance of the WSF and the working group ICZM, the WSF should gain a better profile to the outside. This could be done, e.g. with the implementation of events with regard to topical issues and the delivery of advice and recommendations to authorities on these topical developments. Also local and regional initiatives have to be better integrated in the work of the WSF. Furthermore, contacts to EU bodies should be expanded. It was agreed to invite the expert on ICZM in DG Environment, Mr. Jeroen Casaer, to the WSF meetings. It was also agreed to forward this discussion to the WSF Steering Committee to put the debate about the profile of the WSF and future work topics on the WSF level.

9. Any other business

No other business discussed.

10. Next meeting

The meeting **agreed** to hold the next meeting on 10 May 2012 in Bremen.

11. Closing

The chair thanked for the fruitful and interesting meeting and closed it at 14:00.

Annex 2

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A G E N D A

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