



Wadden Sea Forum
WG ICZM, 2016-1 Meeting
Oldenburg, 10 February 2016

FINAL DRAFT MINUTES

1. Opening

Document: WG ICZM 2016-1 Draft agenda

The chair Ingrid Klinge welcomed the participants, thanked Mr. Heine from the IHK Oldenburg for hosting the meeting and opened the meeting at 11:00 hours. The list of participants is in **Annex 1**. The agenda was adopted and is in **Annex 2**.

2. Adoption of the minutes ICZM 2015-2

Document: Final Draft Minutes ICZM 2015-2

The meeting **adopted** the final draft minutes of the 2015-2 meeting of WG ICZM, Oldenburg, 13 October 2015, as distributed by e-mail of 02 November 2015.

The final draft minutes are also available at the WSF website www.waddensea-forum.org

3. Announcements

Jacobus Hofstede informed the meeting that the SH government adopted a strengthening and development programme for the Halligen (small unprotected marsh islands in the Schleswig-Holstein sector of the Wadden Sea where about 300 people live on dwelling mounds). There is concern that, without proper adaptation measures, the world wide unique Halligen would – in the long-term – become depopulated due to increasing hazards of storm surges and demographic changes. The programme foresees in strengthening of dwelling mounds combined with non-structural measures on the mounds to open development perspectives for the population. First measures are planned in 2017.

Manfred Vollmer informed about the involvement of the WSF in an interregional cooperation project under topic 4 of the INTERREG Europe call - Environment and Resource Efficiency. The specific objective would deal with the protection, promotion and development of natural heritage, biodiversity and ecosystems as well as the integration of the cultural heritage. The main output would be a policy changes on local and regional level. The meeting welcomed the initiative to strive for an application under the forthcoming call and **proposed** to involve the Halligen and the Dutch provinces. More information about the project will be distributed to the ICZM group separately.

Secondly, he reported about the outcome of a WSF goose management meeting on 3 February in Bremen. A continuation of the WSF goose management group was seen as not useful. Two reports with detailed recommendations were forwarded to the governments of Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands but nothing has happened since. Actions to minimize conflicts with the agricultural sector with regard to accommodation of barnacle and graylag geese will be taken on European level by AEWA. This is also supported by

Denmark, the Netherlands and Niedersachsen. The WSF secretariat will stay in contact with the AEWa secretariat in Bonn.

The meeting noted the information and **proposed** that the WSF chair should officially inform the WSB that the WSF would not continue the work on goose management.

Ingrid Klinge announced a new Interreg Vb project "Response", in which Energy Valley would be involved and a full application would be submitted in March 2016.

4. Ems estuary

Presentation: David Kooistra

David Kooistra gave a presentation about a program of managing sediment transport in the Ems estuary. On the 9th of November 2015, both the Ministry of Infrastructure & Environment and the Provincie of Groningen agreed to set up a long term Adaptive Program for the Ems Dollard (2050). Until July 2016 a team will carry out a detailed program with the main aim to realize a healthy Ems estuary by 2050. The program has an adaptive character due to the complexity of the issues. Further goals are to identify potential actions to improve the hydro-morphological conditions, primary to reduce silt concentrations but also to gain more knowledge about the system, to develop a proposal for a vital coast improving connectivity between land and sea and to set up an economical feasible program that extracts 1 million tons of silt annually to be used as fertilizer, and/or clay production for dikes.

The adaptive program also aims for a long term commitment and cooperation between the central government and the region of Groningen, and also to a structured cooperation between Germany and the Netherlands.

The presentation is in **Annex 4**.

5. Results WSF-27 and role of ICZM group

Document: ICZM 2016-1.5.1 Final draft minutes WSF-27

On 5-6 November the WSF-27 meeting took place in Aurich. The emphasis was laid on a discussion about the future of the WSF. The meeting was informed about the results (recorded in the document) to be discussed in the ICZM group. A very positive outcome of the WSF meeting was the commitment of the members to play an active role in the future work. Several actions (speed boats) were defined for immediate implementation. These actions reflect ideas of topical issues to be dealt with within the WSF. The work on topical issues will replace the former working groups, who elaborated on a certain theme for a long time. The concept of working with topical issues will better consider the needs of the stakeholders and can be adapted to new developments. Also the Steering Committee agreed on this concept in its meeting on 22 January 2016 in Hamburg. Nevertheless, the ICZM group was seen as an important working group and should continue the work on coastal development and risk management as well as elaborating on the instruments planning portal, indicator tool and climate atlas.

The ICZM group also agreed to the new concept and discussed a possible new structure, which reflects the new developments. The self-conceptions and the WSF mission as outlined on the WSF website are still valid. The WSF plenary is the decision making body and is responsible to install working or actions groups. For elaborating on topical issues, ad hoc action groups with clearly defined terms of reference (TOR) in line with the mission should be installed at plenary meetings. The secretariat and a permanent working group, which could be the ICZM group, facilitate the work on topical issues, the action groups and are responsible to maintain the WSF instruments. This structure will be forwarded as proposal by the ICZM group to the WSF-28 meeting for final decision. Jacobus Hofstede has delivered a draft structure as a basis for the elaboration of document for the WSF-28 meeting. The ICZM group is invited to deliver comments on the draft on short notice to prepare the official document. The draft is in **Annex 3**.

6. North Sea Conference on energy systems

Presentation: Ingrid Klinge

The chair informed the meeting about a conference "Energy system integration North Sea", which will take place end of May 2016. This is in line with the "ENSEA" project, which aims to increase the competitiveness of research-driven energy clusters through better coordination and exploitation of research to support innovation in Energy Systems Integration. ENSEA is a collaborative project between energy clusters around the North Sea.

The conference aims at strengthening innovation capacity of energy systems. This also includes alternative uses of oil and gas platforms in the North Sea like power to gas and carbon storage installations. The outcome of the conference might deliver interesting information for the WSF.

7. Sustainability indicator tool

Manfred Vollmer briefly informed about new developments to improve the WSF indicator tool. The Dutch Wadden Academy has provided a budget of 20,000 Euro to further improve the instrument using the Waddenbarometer approach, which will provide a deep analysis of socio-economic indicators. Master students of the universities Groningen, Kiel and Jutland will be approached to compile the necessary data and to do first analyses of the indicators.

8. Risk management

Document: Enhance Deliverable 7.4: Evaluation of the MSPs

This agenda item was postponed to the next meeting in April.

9. Any other business

No other business discussed

10. Next meeting

The meeting **agreed** to hold the ICZM-2016-2 meeting on **13 April 2016** in Bremen.

11. Closing

The chair thanked all participants for their participation and contributions made and closed the meeting at 15:30 hours.

ANNEX 2

**Wadden Sea Forum
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AGENDA

- Agenda item 1. Opening**
- Agenda item 2. Adoption of the minutes ICZM 2015-2**
- Agenda item 3. Announcements**
- Agenda item 4. Ems estuary**
- Agenda item 5. Results WSF-27 and role of ICZM group**
- Agenda item 6. North Sea Conference on energy systems**
- Agenda item 7. Sustainability indicator tool**
- Agenda item 8. Risk management**
- Agenda item 9. Any other business**
- Agenda item 10. Next meeting**
- Agenda item 11. Closing**

ANNEX 3**Proposal Jacobus Hofstede
Structure of the Wadden Sea Forum**

The Wadden Sea Forum (WSF) is an **independent platform of stakeholders** from Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands to contribute to an advanced and sustainable development of the trilateral Wadden Sea Region (Fig. 1). In particular, this means integrating specific cross-sectoral and transboundary strategies, actions and techniques which are environmentally sound, economically viable and socially acceptable! The WSF consists of representatives of the sectors Agriculture, Energy, Fisheries, Industry and Harbour, Nature Protection, Tourism, as well as local and regional governments. National governments are represented as observers.

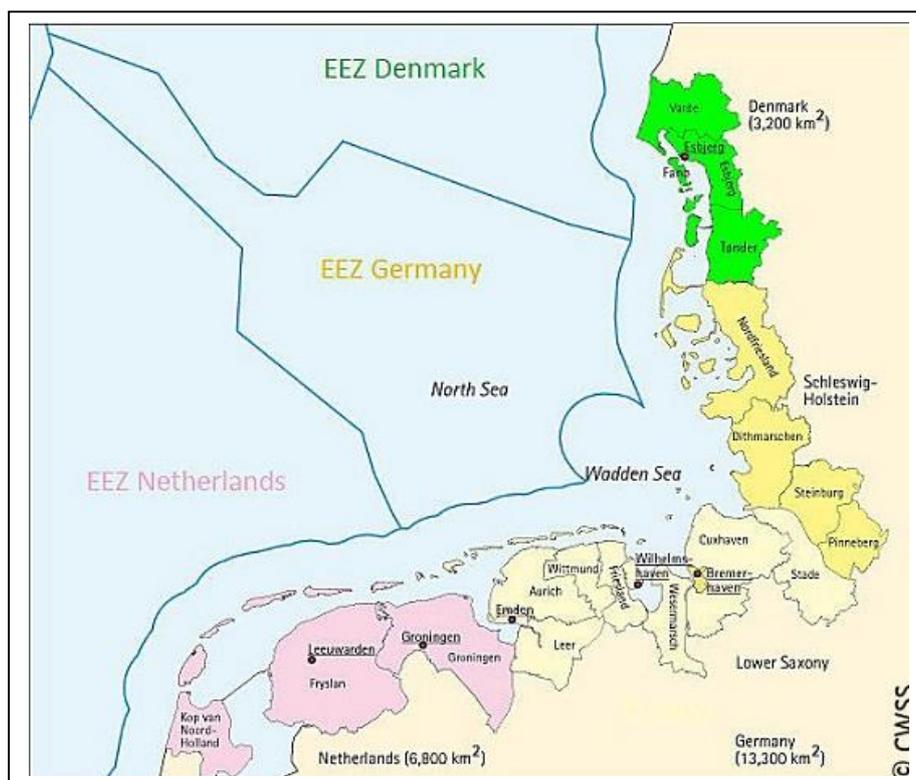


Fig. 1: WSF trilateral Wadden Sea Region

The WSF's mission is to:

- foster sustainable development in the Wadden Sea Region through exchange of information on experiences and best practice;
- try to bring together the sectoral interests of its members;
- exchange views on general themes and topical issues;
- initiate and implement projects and actions on topical issues;
- prepare advice and formulate statements on issues related to sustainable development and integrated coastal zone management;
- serve as a consultation body for governments.

The WSF is an approved non-profit society under German Law, which ensures a legal administrative basis and a clear structure (Fig. 2). During WSF plenary meetings, which are regularly conducted twice a year, general decisions are taken. A WSF Steering Committee is responsible for the preparation of plenary meetings and the coordination of actions and measures. Ad hoc Action Groups **with clearly defined terms of reference (tor)** in line with the mission are installed at plenary meetings. External experts may be invited to participate in the Action Groups. A WSF Secretariat supports the Steering Committee and the Action Groups. The Secretariat is, further, responsible for drafting of the **tor** and for daily management, including the acquisition of external funding and preparation/coordination of projects in line with the mission. A permanent WSF Working Group supports the Secretariat. A permanent WSF Working Group supports the Secretariat.

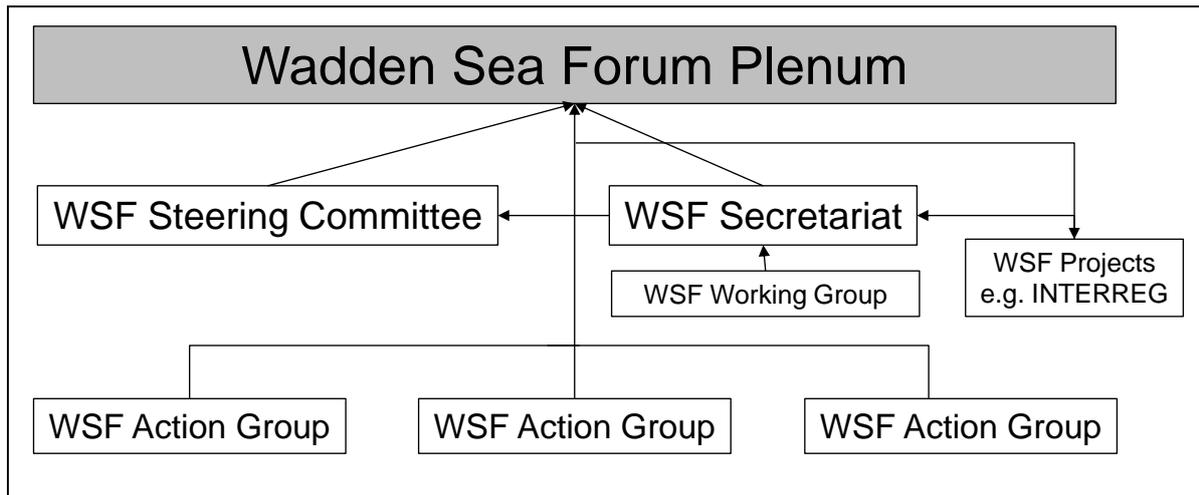


Fig. 2: WSF structure and responsibilities (arrows)