



**Wadden Sea Forum
Steering Committee
Meeting 2018-2
Hamburg, 21 September 2018**

Final Draft Minutes

1. Opening

The meeting was opened by the vice-chair, Mr. Preben Friis-Hauge, who welcomed the participants and opened the meeting on 21 September 2018 at 10:00 hours. He thanked Mr. Zettlitzer from DEA Deutsche Erdoel AG for hosting the meeting. A list of participants is in **Annex 1**. The agenda was **adopted** without amendments and is in **Annex 2**.

2. Adoption of the minutes SC-2018-1

Document: SC-2018-1 Final Draft Minutes

The meeting **adopted** the final draft minutes of SC-2018-1, Hamburg, 24 April 2018 (distributed by e-mail of 09 May 2018), which are also available at the WSF website.

3. Announcements

Beate Ratter informed about the "Borkumer Energietage", which took place on 14-15 September 2018. The WSF was invited to give a presentation on climate change activities on trilateral level and Ms Ratter represented the WSF at that event. The focus was more on the local level and measures on the island itself and not much on a broader scale. Borkum aims to become a CO₂ emission free island by 2030.

Michael Zettlitzer referred to their exploration licenses in the Wadden Sea and informed that no exploration drillings would take place in the Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea. Drillings would be undertaken either from onshore or from the platform Mittelplate. Only one exploration site in the Lower Saxonian Wadden Sea would be still in the recent plans.

Preben Friis-Hauge informed that the historic harbour of Sønderho on Fanø would get a new access from south. The new dredged channel would cause no big effects on the environment as the channel would be used only by small boats. Mr. Zettlitzer offered information and experiences about water injection methods, which were used to maintain the shipping channel to the Mittelplate.

4. Progress WSF activities

The meeting was informed about the progress of WSF activities, which are briefly outlined:

Working Group ICZM:

- Meeting on 21 August
- Contents: Indicator, demographic change, workshop sessions, partner-hub function of the group

Themes:

- Sustainability indicator: new data analysis
(also as project co-financed by Wattenmeerstiftung)
- Demographic change: cooperation University of Vechta, municipality Wangerland
- Climate: Cooperation TG-C, participation workshops, conferences...
- Partner-hub: partner approach, OP-Team, concept discussion
(also as project co-financed by Wattenmeerstiftung)
- Goose management: AEWA meeting and contribution

Projects:

- Municipalities innovative: participation in meetings, municipality Wangerland

Communication and Cooperation

- NLPV and Beirat, Wadden Academy, Universities, approach of counties

Administration:

- Finances
- Society

The meeting welcomed the information as well as the work done. It was recommended to better communicate the work of the WSF. Particularly the analyses of the indicator tool should be actively announced to stakeholders and regional politicians (counties, provinces, municipalities). The secretariat will elaborate a memo for the target groups.

5. WSF and Partner-hub

Presentation: Report on integration of the WSF in the partner-hub by Beate Ratter

The structure of the partner-hub as part of the World Heritage Partnership Centre is currently under discussion. Concepts are elaborated by the Operational Team Partner-hub. The meeting was informed about the latest developments.

Beate Ratter from the University of Hamburg has elaborated, on behalf of the Environmental Ministry of Lower Saxony, a report about the integration of the WSF in the Wadden Sea World Heritage Partner-hub. She introduced the report with a very much welcomed presentation as basis for a discussion within the WSF Steering Committee. An emphasis of the discussion was laid on how to overcome deficits in the work of the Forum. The meeting agreed to meet the challenges of playing an important role in the partner-hub and to facilitate, improve and maintain the network for taking ownership and responsibility for the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site. To be better qualified, the WSF must overcome some deficits like improve in structure, penetration power and implementation of themes.

6. Thematic workshops at WSF plenary meetings

Document: SC-2018-2.6.1 Brief assessment of workshop themes

At the last WSF plenary it was agreed to implement thematic workshops at plenary meetings, starting with WSF-34 on 1-2 November. A feedback on the assessment of possible workshop themes of about 10 members and the ICZM group resulted in a decision to elaborate first on climate change adaptation.

The workshop will be implemented at WSF-34 on the first day and be prepared by some members of the ICZM group. The implementation of workshops at plenary meetings also means a change in the structure of meetings in order to foster active involvement and to discuss positions of stakeholders.

7. Draft agenda WSF-34

Document: SC-2018-2.7.1 WSF-34 proposed draft agenda

The Steering Committee briefly discussed the proposed draft agenda for the WSF-34 meeting, 1–2 November 2018, and **agreed** to the listed items. The workshop theme was defined (see agenda item 6) and the presentation about water management will be given prior to the workshop as it can be used as introduction to the theme.

The results of agenda item 8 (chairmanship) will be considered in the updated and agreed WSF-34 agenda (see **Annex 3**).

Finally, it was agreed to include an excursion in the WSF-34 program, if the time would allow this. DEA AG could provide a guided tour in a museum.

8. WSF chairmanship

At the plenary meeting WSF-33 the stakeholders expressed their opinion that with regard to chairmanship traditional procedures (changing chairmanship in line with the TWSC procedures) should be reconsidered so that the best available candidate should be elected as new chair at the next plenary meeting in November 2018.

The Steering Committee proposed to elect Preben Friis-Hauge as new interim chair of the WSF because he would be the best available candidate. He knows the business of the WSF very well, makes his participation in all relevant meetings (plenary, SC and WSB) happen and is engaged in conferences and meetings in between. A new vice-chair from Germany should be elected as soon as possible, probably in May 2019. A switch between chair and vice-chair could take place at a later stage.

9. WSF society

To strengthen the legal position of the WSF, a sound representation of members in the WSF society is necessary. At present, a strong decrease in membership could be recorded. The Steering Committee supported efforts to increase membership and to install a new executive committee (EC) due to retirement of two of three members. The election of the new EC as official approval has to be reported to the district court.

10. WSF finances 2018

The secretary briefly informed the meeting about the balanced budget 2018, which would result in a slight surplus of a few thousand Euro. For 2019 a bigger financial gap would be expected due to a decrease of financial support.

11. Any other business

No other business discussed.

12. Next meeting

The Steering Committee **agreed** to hold the SC 2019-1 meeting on **20 March 2019** in Bremen and proposed to have the plenary meeting (WSF-35) on **8-9 May 2019** in the province of Groningen. (Please note: the date for the SC meeting has to be new defined due to changes of WSB meetings).

13. Closing

The vice-chair thanked all participants for their contributions and closed the meeting at 14:45 on 21 September 2018.

Annex 2

**Wadden Sea Forum
Steering Committee
Meeting 2018-2
Hamburg, 21 September 2018**

Draft Agenda

- Agenda item 1. Opening**
- Agenda item 2. Adoption of the minutes SC-2018-1**
- Agenda item 3. Announcements**
- Agenda item 4. Progress WSF activities**
- Agenda item 5. WSF and Partner-hub**
- Agenda item 6. Thematic workshops at WSF plenary meetings**
- Agenda item 7. Draft agenda WSF-34**
- Agenda item 8. WSF chairmanship**
- Agenda item 9. WSF society**
- Agenda item 10. WSF finances 2018**
- Agenda item 11. Any other business**
- Agenda item 12. Next meeting**
- Agenda item 13. Closing**

Annex 3

Wadden Sea Forum
34th meeting
Büsum, 01-02 November 2018

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Opening

The meeting will be opened by the vice-chair Mr Preben Friis-Hauge at 13:00 hours. Members will be invited to adopt the draft agenda.

2. Adoption of the Minutes WSF-33

Documents: WSF-33 Final Draft Minutes

The meeting will be invited to adopt the final draft minutes of the WSF-33 meeting, Varde, 6-7 June 2018, distributed by e-mail of 25 June 2018. The final draft minutes are also available on the WSF website www.waddensea-forum.org.

3. Membership WSF

Document: WSF 34-3.1 Membership 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-34-3.1. Participants will be invited to submit any further information.

4. Announcements

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

5. Climate Adaptation: Water management in the marsh area

Presentation: Matthias Reimers, managing director Deichverband Dithmarschen

Climate change adaptation is an ongoing very important topic for the Wadden Sea Region, its society and stakeholders. On the trilateral level, an adaptation strategy has been elaborated for the Wadden Sea, but not yet for the hinterland. The WSF expressed the necessity to broaden the view on climate change effects in the entire Wadden Sea Region. Matthias Reimers from the "Deich- und Sielverband Dithmarschen" will give a presentation about water management and drainage in the marsh area of Dithmarschen as an example of how to react on climate change effects.

6. Workshop Session in WSF Plenary Meetings

According to the brief assessment of possible workshop themes and the response of a number of WSF members, a workshop on climate change adaptation will be implemented. The participants are invited to elaborate on three sub-themes, covering the interests of the stakeholders. The workshop will be guided and moderated by a small group, who is going to prepare contents and course of the workshop.

7. Minutes Steering Committee

Documents: WSF 34-7.1 Minutes SC-2018-2

The meeting will be invited to take note of the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting SC-2018-2 on 21 September 2018 in Hamburg and to raise questions as appropriate.

8. Progress WSF Activities

Document: WSF 34-8.1 Summary progress report

The meeting will be informed about the progress of WSF activities. The meeting is invited to discuss the contents of the WSF activities and to engage in further actions. Further

initiatives and responsibilities should be defined contributing to the role of the WSF as stakeholder forum of and for the Wadden Sea Region.

9. Sustainability Indicators

Document: WSF 34-9.1 Sustainability Indicator Project

Presentation: Indicator assessment with the examples of German Wadden Sea counties

Taking the previous experiences of the work on indicators into account, the secretariat started in 2018 a new phase of data analyses. Data on NUTS-3 for 53 indicators were compiled and analysed as well as illustrated in different diagrams. Parallel, the Wadden Academy and Telos from the university Tilburg gathered data of a wider region in the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark. Telos will cooperate with the WSF to compile and analyse data regularly to get a time series to analyse the developments over time.

It is anticipated to further use indicators in the elaboration of a mission statement of a municipality as best practise example of integrated management in the WSR.

The meeting will be invited to discuss the continuation of the work with indicators also with reference to the attached document.

10. WSF Chairmanship

At the plenary meeting WSF-33 the stakeholders discussed a change in chairmanship according to the terms of office procedures. Finally, it was agreed to vote for the best available candidate, chairing the plenary and Steering Committee meetings as well as representing the Forum in the Wadden Sea Board.

The Steering Committee discussed in its meeting on 21 September the new period of chairmanship and proposed to elect Preben Friis-Hauge as new interim chair of the WSF because he would be the best available candidate. A new vice-chair from Germany should be elected as soon as possible, probably in May 2019. A switch between chair and vice-chair could take place at a later stage.

11. Reports Wadden Sea Advisory Boards and WSB

Representatives of the advisory boards as well as of the Wadden Sea Board (WSB) will be invited to present relevant information about proceedings within their boards and organizations.

12. Partnership Centre and the role of the WSF

Document: WSF 34-12.1 Evaluation Partner-hub

The WSF is involved in the implementation of the partner-hub of the World Heritage Partnership Centre. The secretariat is part the Operational Team Partner-hub, responsible for the implementation, and has forwarded perceptions and proposals of the WSF regarding the role in the partner-hub.

Recently, a report about the integration of the WSF in the partner-hub has been elaborated (see document). The meeting is invited to discuss and comment on the document and to agree on a common position on the involvement of the WSF in the partner-hub as part of the partnership centre.

13. WSF Budget 2018

The meeting will be informed about the budget for 2018, which is in balance. The stakeholders will be invited to comment as appropriate and to contribute finding solutions for a balanced budget in the long run.

14. Next Meeting

The meeting will be invited to agree on the proposed meeting date for the WSF-35 meeting on 8-9 May 2019, which will take place probably in the province of Groningen.

15. Any other Business

Participants will be invited to raise other issues, not addressed in the agenda.

16. Closing

The meeting will be closed around 12:30 hours on 02 November 2018.