



**Wadden Sea Forum
Steering Committee
Meeting 2021-1
Online-Conference, 9 February 2021**

Draft Minutes

1. Opening

The chair, Mr Preben Friis-Hauge, opened the SC meeting and welcomed the participants. The SC meeting started on 9 February 2021 at 11:00 hours. Mr Friis-Hauge informed the meeting that Mr Christian Lorenzen could not attend the meeting due to other obligations. A list of participants is in [Annex 1](#).

The SC meeting adopted the agenda without further amendments, which is in [Annex 2](#).

2. Adoption of the minutes SC-2020-2

Document: SC-2022-2 2 Final Draft Minutes

The SC [meeting](#) adopted the final draft minutes of SC-2020-2, online conference, 18 October 2020, which are also available at the WSF website.

3. Announcements

[Preben Friis-Hauge](#) reported that the Region South Denmark published a plan where potential places could be in order to get permissions for gaining building material such as clay, stones and sand. This plan will be presented to Danish Wadden Sea Advisory Board, which is going to discuss upon pro's and con's. The Region South Denmark started a 1.5 years consultation process, beginning with first scoping or hearing date. The plan is envisaged to be valid for 17 years. Spots for gaining clay material has been identified outside NATURA2000 areas and it is only allowed to excavate this material at these specific places.

[Pieter van Kuppenveld](#) informed the SC members that in The Netherlands a change of building dikes is discussed. The current shape of the main dikes should be smoothed in order to have a gentler slope on the outside. The reason is to reduce the physical power of the waves. This approach requires the widening of the dike foot, which will lead to discussions either with NATURA2000 areas in front of the dike (i.e. salt marshes in the Wadden Sea area) or with the farmers on the inland side.

[Erich Hinrichs](#) explained that in Lower Saxony in former times the excavation of clay was allowed in the salt marshes (Pütten). Nowadays, the area is National Park Wadden Sea and

the excavation is prohibited. Only seldom, exception will be made. Otherwise, the clay has to be gained in the inland.

He further informed that northern Germany suffers a serious winter weather and the ferries, as connections to the Wadden Sea islands, suffer very low water levels. It can be, that the supply by ship for the islands will be interrupted for a longer time. This shows, that the access to small Wadden Sea harbours and the maintenance of the ship lanes is an issue that deserves common interest.

Derek Mösche informed the meeting that Wintershall Dea Deutschland had applied for an additional production permit for a small southern part of the oil field Mittelplate that is outside the valid production license. The existing permit will only be expanded to a small extent and the production would only be carried out by the Mittelplate Island. An additional amount of around 2 million tons of oil is expected (see factsheet, extra document).

In this context, the company is considering returning existing exploration licenses (see map, Annex 3).

Talks with the responsible ministry of the federal state of Schleswig-Holstein have started on both topics.

The WSF secretary informed the SC meeting that Dr Marta Jacuniak-Suda from the Agency for regional state development (Amt für regionale Landesentwicklung) will join the ICZM Working Group.

The SC members concluded,

- That gaining of building material such as stones, sand and clay in the Wadden Sea Region could serve as a first topic to be dealt with at the RRT

4. WSF Roadmap “Green Coastal Deal”

Document: SC-2021-1 4 Status WSF Roadmap Green Coastal Deal

The WSF secretary and respective SC members informed the SC meeting about the status on establishing the Regional Round Tables (RRT) in the respective regions of the trilateral Wadden Sea.

Stefan Mohrdieck informed the meeting that conversation on mounting the RRT to the existing National Advisory Boards in Schleswig-Holstein is in progress. The next (perhaps joint) meeting of the two Advisory Boards might take place in April/May 2021.

Preben Friis-Hauge informed the SC meeting that the next Wadden Sea Advisory Board meeting in Denmark would take place at 5 March 2021. At this meeting, first input could be provided for the trilateral approach of the WSF to establish RRT.

Pieter van Kuppenveld informed the SC meeting briefly upon the first meeting with the Omgevingsberaad in northern Netherlands. As the Omgevingsberaad is an administrative unit, the cooperation between the WSF and the Omgevingsberaad will be figured out in more detail by the WSF secretariat and their member of staff. Nevertheless, the meeting revealed that cooperation is desired and beneficial for both.

The SC members concluded,

- That the work is ongoing in order to mount the RRT to regional existing units
- That the ARL in Lower Saxony should be approached in order to fathom a possible cooperation

- That the WSF secretariat should further work on the way of cooperation with the Omgevingsberaad

5. WSF finances 2021/2024

Document: SC-2021-1 5 Finances 2021 to 2024

The WSF secretary informed the SC members on the current situation of the WSF e.V. budget. The secretary explains the current budget for 2021 and the budget appropriation for the years 2022 to 2024. Due to the enormous efforts in the past month the budget of the WSF e.V. could be safeguarded for the coming years (until 2024).

6. Progress WSF activities

Document: SC-2021-1 6 WSF Activities

Status of project proposals:

- "MediaWatt": The project proposal has been sent to the Wattenmeer Stiftung. Three public access channels (Bürgersender) are partners: Oldenburg Eins, Radio Jade and radio.weser.TV. Many institutions working in different fields at the Wadden Sea will delegate their volunteers, e.g. World Heritage Visitor Centre, National Park Information Centre Dangast, Lower Saxon National Park Wadden Sea Authority, Mellumrat e.V. and Naturschutzstiftung FWW.
- Arts and Sustainability: First ideas and project structures have been invented by the curator company ARTPORT_making waves and the WSF. Currently, a partnership agreement is negotiated. It is planned to run several events in all regions of the trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation. The final event should take place in Wilhelmshaven at the next TGC in 2022.
- Dark Sky Initiative: The initiative decided to become a formal Working Group at the WSF. The main aim is to connect darkness to the OUV and the World Heritage Wadden Sea. Currently, the Working Group is planning a webinar will be take place at 23 April 2021, 12 to 16 hours.
- Round Table "Shipping", project proposal together with Wadden Sea Team and Shipping representatives at Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU): The WSF is closely cooperating with the WST in order to prepare a project proposal on shipping and harbours. Furthermore, the WSF secretariats is conducting bilateral interviews with potential participants of the Round Table "Shipping".

Media and PR work

The WSF secretariat is using its own website, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn to promote content and results of the work.

The SC members are invited to support the work on social media as appropriate.

7. Draft agenda WSF-39

Document: SC-2021-1 7 WSF-39 proposed draft agenda, SC-2021-1 7 WSF-39 structure time schedule

In general, the SC members agreed on the proposed agenda for the WSF-39 online meeting (Annex 3). Ingrid Klinge offered to ask for and probably provide a Zoom link in order to invite all participants.

The SC meeting concluded

- That the plenary will be held as an two half-day online meeting
- That the plenary will take place at 17 and 18 March 2021 as decided at the WSf-38 in October 2020
- That the WSF secretariat should work on the content and structure of the two half-day session in more detail. Especially, the WSF secretariat should work on examples on how the working process of the RRT and the trilateral level could be organised.

8. Any other business

The SC members had no other subjects to discuss.

9. Next meeting

Date for the SC-2021-2 meeting will be at 1 or 14 September 2021. The venue of the SC-2021-2 meeting could be the Kreishaus in Heide, Dithmarschen (SH).

Furthermore, the SC meeting conclude

- That the WSF secretariat prepares a meeting calendar for the second half of 2021
- That the WSF secretariat takes into account the WSB meeting as already scheduled

10. Closing

The chair thanked all participants for their contributions and closed the meeting at 13:30 on 9 February 2021.

Annex 2

Wadden Sea Forum
Steering Committee
Meeting 2020-2
Online Conference, 9 February 2021

D r a f t A g e n d a

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| Agenda item 1. | Opening |
| Agenda item 2. | Adoption of the minutes SC 2020-2 |
| Agenda item 3. | Announcements |
| Agenda item 4. | Status of WSF Roadmap "Green Coastal Deal" |
| Agenda item 5. | WSF finances 2021/2024 |
| Agenda item 6. | Progress WSF activities |
| Agenda item 7. | Draft agenda WSF-39 |
| Agenda item 8. | Any other business |
| Agenda item 9. | Next meeting |
| Agenda item 10. | Closing |