



**Wadden Sea Forum
Steering Committee
Meeting 2021-2
Online-Conference on 8 July 2021**

Final Draft Minutes

1. Opening

The chair, Mr Preben Friis-Hauge, opened the SC meeting and welcomed the participants. The SC meeting started on 8 July 2021 at 8:30 hours. 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-2021-1

Document: SC-2021-1 Final Draft Minutes

The SC meeting adopted the final draft minutes of SC-2021-1, online meeting, 9 February 2021, which are also available at the WSF website www.waddensea-forum.org.

3. Announcements

[Preben Friis-Hauge](#) reported that The Danish Waddensea Advisory Board had a fruitful meeting with representatives from the Danish ministry of the environment. The issue was about information and a discussion about the Danish input to the SIMP.

[Pieter van Kuppenveld](#) informed the SC members that on Tuesday (6 July) a Dutch-German Symposium about Hydrogen took place where they signed a declaration on working together on the topic Hydrogen in the Waddensea Region (e.g. supply ferries with Hydrogen in the future). The programme with speakers of the Symposium is in [Annex 3](#).

Furthermore, he mentioned a meeting with the secretary of the Dutch Omgevingsberaad about the WSF topic "regional round table on shipping" and he was pleased that they offered the possibility for facilitation.

4. WSF “Green Coastal Deal” – RRT Shipping and Wadden Sea

The main goal of approaching the Regional Round Tables (RRT) is the comprehensive and broad discussion of a long time and sustainable strategy for a dialogue on the issue of shipping and Wadden Sea. The WSF is responsible for the organisation of a Round Table Shipping on the trilateral level. The CWSS and the Task Group Management of the TWSC are supporting the WSF. Different attempts to realise a kick-off meeting failed due to either Corona or the cancellation of relevant participants on short notice. Now, the WSF secretariat has to develop a new strategy. The WSF secretariat drafted a discussion paper including four questions to be discussed in each RRT. At the end of this regional discussion process, the results will be thoroughly discussed and merged at the WSF plenary. The SC members discussed this approach comprehensively and emphasised that not only a strategy should be discussed but also the content, i.e. the dialogue points, of the Round Table should be part of it.

The SC meeting concluded that the WSF secretariat should

- Work on examples/suggestions on questions for the working process of the RRT and how the trilateral level could be organised.
- Prepare a letter with the questions to be discussed at the identified Regional Round Tables

5. Progress WSF activities

The WSF secretary informed about status and progress of recent WSF activities:

- “MediaWatt”: The German project is for voluntary service worker, called Freiwilliges Soziales Jahr (FSJ) or Freiwilliges Ökologisches Jahr (FÖJ), and has now started with its first workshop. In the meantime three more organisations heard about this project and want to participate (National Park Information Centre’s in Fedderwardersiel and at Wurster Küste, Umweltstation Iffens, the new FÖJ of the CWSS starting in autumn)
- Arts, Science and Sustainability: The WSF has send the project application of the German part of the project to the Wattenmeer Stiftung, but is not yet informed about the status of the application. The Dutch part of this project has been rejected. New funding possibilities have to be found. All project activities are planned for 2022, thus there will still be enough time to apply for funding.
- Dark Sky Initiative: After the decision of the initiative to become a formal working group at the WSF, some of the members disagreed with this decision and recommended staying as an informal group without a framework or tight binding to an organisation. The WSF secretariat offered to hand over the vital group to another trilateral organisation. Finally, the Partnership Hub took over together with PRW (Programma Rijke Waddenzee). However, the WSF is still a

contributing member of the initiative and still maintains information of the initiative on the WSF homepage.

- 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 and representatives from harbours and the Wadden Sea Ports initiative in order to prepare a project proposal on shipping and harbours.

6. Draft agenda WSF-40

Document: SC-2021-2 7 WSF-40 draft agenda

The WSF secretary explained the draft agenda in detail and the SC members agreed on the proposed agenda for the WSF-40 plenary meeting as a physical meeting in Skaerbaek, DK. The draft agenda is in Annex 4.

The SC meeting concluded

- That the plenary will be held as an two half-day physical meeting
- That the plenary will take place at 29-30 September 2021 in Skaerbaek, DK.
- That the WSF secretariat will ask the WSF members as well as the ICZM working group about their ideas/proposals for the 20th anniversary of the WSF in 2022 in advance.

7. Any other business

The chair mentioned that the SC members should be aware of the next Waddensea Day on 26th of August and of the next Wadden Sea Board meeting on 27th of August, live in Wilhelmshaven.

Then he informed the meeting that the next local elections in Denmark will take place on 16 November 2021.

Furthermore, he stated that the Danish Waddensea community was saddened by the news that a local volunteer at the Island of Fanø, working for a clean ocean and clean beaches, died 5th of July in the age of 48.

8. Next meeting

The WSF secretary will propose a Doodle request for the next SC-2022-1 meeting in 21-25 March 2022, prior to the WSF-41 meeting in spring 2022, which will probably take place in Nordfriesland.

9. Closing

The chair thanked all participants for their contributions and closed the meeting at 9:50 on 08 July 2021.