

WADDEN SEA FORUM

Thematic Group Policy and Management

TG PM 4

Tönning, 29-30 January 2004

FINAL MINUTES

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING

Document: Proposed Annotated Draft agenda TG Policy and Management (TG PM 4-1)

The chairman welcomed the participants to the 4th meeting of the Thematic Group Policy and Management. He informed the meeting that also because of the snowy weather conditions the participation at this meeting was low. A list of the participants is in **Annex 1**.

The meeting **adopted** the proposed draft agenda without amendments. The agenda is in **Annex 2**.

AGENDA ITEM 2. ADOPTION MINUTES TG PM-3

Document: Final Draft Minutes TG PM 3, Vester Vedsted, 25-26 September 2003

The final draft minutes (14 November 2003) were **adopted** without amendments.

AGENDA ITEM 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Documents: Notes on the Habitat Directive and the Water Framework Directive implementation in Denmark, circulated at the meeting

Mr Frikke informed the meeting about the national park pilot project for the Danish Wadden Sea which were expected to be launched soon. The project would be a two year project and the objective of the pilot project is to investigate the feasibility of establishing a national park for the Danish Wadden Sea.

The chairman stated that results of the TG PM could be valuable for the Danish national park pilot project. He further informed the meeting of the amendment of the Dutch Nature Conservation Law transposing the Habitat Directive into national law. The shellfish fishery investigation - the so-called EVA II - has been concluded. The minister now has to come up with a proposal for a set of measures. A committee has recently been designated by the Dutch government under the chairmanship of the former state-secretary Meijer to look at the gas exploitation and shellfish fishery dossier in relation to the entire Wadden Sea protection and management. The report is expected to be presented to the Dutch government mid next month.¹

The secretary informed the meeting on the workshop on the Water Framework Directive (WF) in Hamburg 27-28 January 2004. The Dutch Wadden Sea Advisory Council will hold an international conference on the WFD in terms of coastal management mid May 2004 in Leeuwarden.

The meeting **took note** of the information.

AGENDA ITEM 4. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Documents:

- Reference Documents: WSF 3 Minutes (TG PM 4-4-1)
- Reference Documents: Generic Scenarios, Version 2 (TG PM 4-4-3)

¹ The report has now been announced for mid March 2004

The meeting **took note** of the minutes of the last meeting of the Wadden Sea Forum (WSF 3) including the decision of the meeting to commission a study into shipping safety which would be ready by March and be presented and discussed at the next WSF-meeting in April 2004.

The meeting furthermore **took note** of the Generic Scenarios, Version (18 December 2004).

The Danish socio-economic study (COWI-report) was finalized and an English translation would be available on the website shortly. Also the overall assessment of the socio-economic situation in the Wadden Sea Region and the perspective studies are expected to be available soon for the work in particular in the respective TGs.

The secretariat informed the meeting that Oxford Brookes had been commissioned with a study into the operation of the EIA Directive in the Wadden Sea Region as a follow up to the already finalized review of legal instruments and policies. A workshop would be held in May with participation of experts and other interested to discuss the draft report.

The meeting **noted** the information.

AGENDA ITEM 5. DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIES

a. Strategies

Document: Towards a Sustainable Wadden Sea Region by Mr Marquenie, power point presentation distributed at the meeting

The power point presentation of Mr Marquenie constituted the only presentation at the meeting. It was circulated to the participants of the meeting and in the absence of Mr Marquenie it was **agreed** that it should be included in the discussions of the recommendation of the Oxford Brookes report because of the many relationships with the recommendations and, as far as appropriate, be taken account of in the report of the TG PM.

b. Recommendations Oxford Brookes

Document: Executive Summary Oxford Brookes Review (TG PM 3-4.1-1)

The meeting extensively discussed the conclusions and recommendations of the report. It was **agreed** that the chair and the secretariat should prepare a draft common statement of TG PM on the conclusions and recommendations for discussion at the next and final meeting of the TG PM taking account of the comments and statements made at this meeting. This should be the central part of the final report of the TG PM.

Comments and conclusions:

Re. Conclusions (Chapter 5.1)

It was felt that the conclusion on the development and implementation of an ICZM-strategy was a central conclusion and should play a key role in the further considerations.

Re. Recommendations (chapter 5.2)

Re. 1 Enforceable legitimate authority

It was concluded that a variety of options should be discussed at the next meeting in conjunction with recommendations 2 and 3. Also Mr Marquenie's considerations on a Wadden Sea Council should be included in the discussions.

Re. 2 Geographically coherent area

This recommendation should be discussed specifically in conjunction with recommendation 3.

Re. 3 ICZM-strategy

This issue should be a central issue in report of TG PM and it should be extensively discussed at the next meeting, whether a pragmatic solution which is adapted to the Wadden Sea situation can be suggested.

Re. 4 World Heritage Site nomination

It was concluded that this was an ongoing process that should not be interfered with, except if there would be an unanimous wish for a recommendation on the World Heritage issue by the entire WSF plenum.

Re. 5. CWSS Statutory consultee

This issue should be further elaborated in the draft report for the next meeting in order to discuss the conflicting roles and interests.

Re. 6 Natura 2000 designation

The meeting felt that the coherency of the Natura 2000 Wadden Sea areas needed to be investigated. The draft report should consider an appropriate way forward.

Re. 7 Natura 2000 management plan

This recommendation was considered very relevant and should be further elaborated, including the option, that such a management plan could be not an entirely new plan but be identical with an amended Wadden Sea Plan.

Re. 8 Appropriate assessment

This issue should be considered in conjunction with recommendation 7.

Re. 9 EIA Directive

The current research project on the operation of the EIA Directive in the Wadden Sea Region would deliver further recommendations.

Re. 10 Integrated research programme

The meeting was reluctant and the secretariat was instructed to look into available studies and current programmes with a view to determine the relevance of the recommendation. This recommendation would possibly also be a recommendation for the overall WSF recommendations.

Re. 11 Training programme

The meeting felt that this recommendation in terms of training and staff exchange should be supported. This recommendation was in conformity with Mr Marquenie's recommendation

c. Sustainability

Document:

- Sustainable Development Strategy for the Wadden Sea Region. Final Draft January 2004 (TG PM 4-5c-1)
- Sustainability Aims (TG PM 4-5c-2)

Sustainable Development Strategy

The secretary briefly introduced the final draft of the sustainability report. The report had been presented by the consultant at WSF 3. At the WSF 3 it was agreed that TG PM should discuss the structural aspects of sustainability strategy because of the close relationship with the Oxford Brookes review. The meeting was therefore requested to discuss chapter 7 including the recommendations of the report.

The discussions focused on the three operational systems (Table 7.2) and the implementation aspects in conjunction with the aspects presented in Mr Marquenie's presentation on sustainability. It was **agreed** to relate this discussion with the discussion of the recommendations of the Oxford Brookes review and the aspects presented by Mr Marquenie and discuss this in more detail at the next meeting.

A Wadden Sea sustainability strategy should take as a starting point the already existing shared vision, principles and targets which are valid for the Wadden Sea Area and complement those with social and economic objectives and indicators within the Wadden Sea Area and for the Wadden Sea Region as a whole. This concept should be elaborated in the draft report for discussion at the next meeting.

Sustainability Aims

It was felt that the discussion on the objectives and indicators was primarily a matter for the sectoral TGs as a first step. The meeting agreed to discuss the objectives at the next meeting taking account of the outcome of the discussions in the other TGs.

Agreed Action

The meeting **agreed** to instruct the chair to prepare to the next meeting a draft final report of the TG PM on the basis of the conclusions and statements of this meeting. The draft final report should include recommendations of the TG PM to be presented to the WSF 4.

AGENDA ITEM 9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for 18-19 March 2004. The meeting venue will be settled by the chair-secretariat.

AGENDA ITEM 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business

AGENDA ITEM 11. CLOSING

The chairman thanked the participants for interesting and constructive discussions and the National Park Office for the meeting arrangement. He closed the meeting at about 11:30 h. on January 30, 2004.

Annex 2

Wadden Sea Forum
Thematic Group Policy & Management
TG PM 4
29 – 30 January 2004

PROPOSED DRAFT AGENDA

1. Opening
2. Adoption Minutes TG PM-32
3. Announcements
4. Reference Documents
5. Development of Strategies
 - a. Strategies
 - b. Recommendations Oxford
 - c. Sustainability
6. Next Meeting
7. Any other business
8. Closing