



## Wadden Sea Forum

### 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Varde, 17-18 November 2010

## FINAL DRAFT MINUTES

### **Agenda item 1. Opening and adoption of the Agenda**

*Document WSF-17-1 Annotated Draft Agenda*

The chair of the meeting, Mr. Klimant, welcomed the participants in Varde and opened the plenary session at 16:00 on 17 November 2010. A list of participants is in **Annex 1**.

From 13:00 to 16:00 an excursion took place in the surroundings of Varde to explore the landscape and educational facilities for nature awareness.

The meeting adopted the agenda without further amendments. The agenda is in **Annex 2**. A list of agreements and decisions as summary of WSF-17 is in **Annex 3**.

### **Agenda item 2. Election of WSF chair and vice-chair**

At the WSF-16 meeting in Heide it was **agreed** to officially nominate the candidate Preben Friis-Hauge as new chair of the WSF for the coming period till 2013.

After a short introduction of Mr Friis-Hauge by himself, the meeting elected him for the WSF chair person without any dissenting vote.

Further, the meeting elected Ms Tineke Schokker-Strampel from The Netherlands as new WSF vice chair for the coming period without any dissenting vote.

The outgoing chair Jörn Klimant thanked the Forum and the secretariat for the excellent and constructive cooperation as well as for the pleasant working atmosphere and passed the chairmanship to the new chairs. After a farewell speech, Preben Friis-Hauge took the lead of the WSF-17 meeting.

### **Agenda item 3. Adoption of the Minutes WSF 16**

*Document: WSF-16 Final Draft Minutes*

The meeting adopted the final draft minutes of the WSF-16 meeting, Heide, 19 – 20 May 2010. The secretary briefly recalled the agreements of the WSF-16 meeting. All decisions were implemented, respectively were ongoing due to the agreed tasks.

**Agenda item 4. Membership WSF**

*Document: WSF 17-4.1 Membership list*

The secretary referred to the distributed WSF member list and informed the meeting about changes since the last meeting in Heide as well as about the latest updates.

- New chair: Preben Friis-Hauge, nominated by WSF-17 meeting
- New vice-chair: Tineke Schokker-Strampel, nominated by WSF-17 meeting
- DK local authority: Bo Jessen, Tønder municipality
- DK industry and harbour: Harbour master of Rømø havn
- SH energy: Michael Zettlitzer from RWE Dea will replace Mr. Schuhbauer
- SH fisheries: Knud Bußmann cancelled deputy representative
- NL tourism: Eric Neef from ANWB will replace Mr. Engelsmann
- NL energy: Margriet Kuijper cancelled deputy representative

Two changes were announced with regard to the representing authorities. Albert de Hoop represents the Dutch Wadden Sea islands and Bernard Baerends represents the new ministry for Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation.

The updated member list will be sent as separate document.

**Agenda item 5. Announcements**

John Frederiksen informed the meeting about the main results of the Wadden Sea Board meeting (WSB-2) on 7 October 2010. He introduced the priorities under the Danish presidency, which were in brief:

- The Wadden Sea - a shared World Heritage (nomination of Danish part depends on local engagement, decision at TGC-12 in 2013);
- Sustainable management of the Wadden Sea (including goose management);
- Landscape and cultural heritage - an agreement between the relevant authorities (workshop cultural heritage in spring 2011 to take further decisions);
- The Wadden Sea - information and education (cooperation, appointment of communication officer at CWSS);
- The Wadden Sea - adapting to climate change.

He further informed about the installation of 5 trilateral tasks groups (climate, shipping, management, tourism, World Heritage) and four expert network groups (monitoring, birds, seals, education). A communication strategy would be developed, not only for the World Heritage Site but also for the entire trilateral business, which would be documented in a new business plan to be agreed on at WSB-3 on 18 March 2011. Finally, Mr. Frederiksen stated that Denmark would strongly support a continuation of the WSF and a new MoU to lay down the collaboration in terms of work fields and administrative structure. In this respect, he requested an intensively involvement of the WSF in the Trilateral Cooperation issues.

For clarification, it was explained that the task and expert network groups of the Trilateral Cooperation would have different objectives than the trilateral task groups. The latter have a more strategic and political approach. A close cooperation on topical issues would be beneficial for both bodies. Members of the WSF demanded reliable and faster decisions by the political level on responsibilities and implementation of topical themes in order to ensure a sound cooperation. Particularly, the elaboration of a common goose management plan was delaying and the agricultural sector requested more responsibility by the governments.

Klaus Koßmagk-Stephan briefly informed the meeting about the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wadden Sea National Park in Schleswig-Holstein. The event had been celebrated on 2 October together with the presentation of the certificate of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site.

Thomas Holst Christensen reported about the inauguration of the Danish Wadden Sea National Park on 16 October. Chairman of the National Park would be Bent Poulsen.

**Agenda item 6. Minutes Steering Committee**

*Documents: WSF 17-6.1 Minutes SC-10*

The meeting took note of the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting, SC-10, Wilhelmshaven, 08 October 2010.

**Agenda item 7. Progress WSF Activities**

*Document: WSF 17-7.1 Summary progress report  
WSF 17-7-2 Statement World Heritage*

Additionally to the information given in the progress report, the meeting was informed about further progress of the WSF activities by the chairs and secretary of the working groups.

**WG ICZM:** Mr Verheij underlined the relevance of the Web-GIS project of WSF and EUCC-D for the future work of the Forum and its working groups. The project would deliver basic information about all uses as well as about protected areas in the Wadden Sea Region. EUCC-D had started with the compilation of data. He further mentioned the progress of the maintenance and updating of the sustainability indicator tool, which would be further introduced and explained under agenda item 8.

**WG EII:** The working group energy, industry and infrastructure has not met since WSF-16, the next meeting was scheduled for 22 November 2010 to discuss topical issues for the coming period, particularly the issue of a CO<sub>2</sub> neutral Wadden Sea Region.

**WG Agriculture:** Mr Hinrichs informed the meeting about the meeting results of the working group agriculture on 25 October in Leer. With regard to goose management, he emphasized the statements made in the progress report and requested the political bodies in the three countries to proceed with the implementation of a harmonized goose management plan. An installation of a new goose management group with the responsible decision makers to continue the work without losing too much time would be helpful.

**WG Shipping:** Mr de Hoop, the new chair of the WSF working group shipping, referred to the progress report and underlined the importance of safe container shipping. Recently, several accidents with lost containers were recorded. As the working group has been restructured in that respect that the harbor business would be taken up by the shipping group, a sound and concerted action program for shipping safety with a focus on container shipping would be developed.

**WG Fisheries:** The secretary briefly informed the meeting about the proposed fishery symposium as indicated in the progress report. This event would be a chance to attract the fishery sector being involved in the WSF and to contribute as important stakeholder to a beneficial development of the region.

The meeting briefly touched the issue of MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) certification of shrimp and mussel fisheries. Up to now, no concrete results are available and Andries de Leeuw stated that it would be too early to discuss this issue further as only a pre-assessment would be to hand. In conclusion, the meeting recommended to better integrate the fishery business in the WSF and to strengthen the efforts for close cooperation.

**WG Tourism:** The secretary informed the meeting about activities of the tourism group of the Trilateral Cooperation, focusing on promotion and marketing of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site. The presentation with detailed information of activities within the last one and a half year, compiled by CWSS, is in **Annex 4**.

With regard to Wadden Sea World Heritage Site, the meeting discussed a statement (document WSF 17-7-2) from the harbor organization Wilhelmshaven with regard to the

proposed enlargement of the Lower Saxonian part of the World Heritage Site, adapted to the new borders of the National Park.

Theo Schröder recalled that with the new Federal Nature Conservation Act, the National Park had been enlarged by some 60,000 ha, which had been bird sanctuaries and conservation area before. The protection scheme had not been changed. Therefore, no further restrictions would come into force. The designation of a World Heritage Site would not change the existing laws.

The participating stakeholders took note of the explanation but stated that the communication process of the initiative to enlarge the Site was quite unsatisfying. The stakeholders should have been informed and involved at an early stage. The meeting was of the opinion that an open dialogue would have minimized the conflict.

### **Agenda item 8. Sustainability Indicator Tool**

*Document: WSF 17-8.1 Progress and results indicator tool*

Herman Verheij referred to the indicator report and gave a presentation about the structure and functioning of the indicator tool and explained the results with some examples.

He made clear that small changes in the assumption of the values, which result in the scoring system, would have effects on the overall development assessment on the first level. Therefore, a careful value discussion and assessment would be a precondition to seriously depict the trends in the Wadden Sea Region developments. For this, experts had to be involved.

Mr Verheij further explained that the missing ecological indicators were under development on the basis of existing trilateral data. In the near future, these indicators would be added to the system. Furthermore, inconsistencies in national and regional statistics, which influenced the overall trends in developments over the years, would be continuously improved.

The meeting recognized that the development and maintenance of the indicator tool is an ambitious task as only harmonized indicators and data on the trilateral level have to serve the tool and as the interpretation of the data needs qualified expert support.

The WSF plenary welcomed the work invested in the indicator tool and stated that the WSF should enter a closer cooperation with the Trilateral Cooperation for profound support, as also the Trilateral Cooperation would benefit of the sustainability assessment.

The meeting agreed to further develop the indicator tool and to hire external expertise if necessary. The presentation is in **Annex 5**.

### **Agenda item 9. The web based Historical Atlas**

Ms Bodil Wöhnert from the library in Esbjerg presented the new developed historical atlas of Denmark. The atlas is based on Google maps as current background information. Historic maps are digitized and can be used as overlays, so that developments of changes in geography are made visible. Additionally, information of historic and archaeological sites, buildings and places of interests as well as information about secondary literature are added. The historic atlas can be explored on the website [www.historiskatlas.dk](http://www.historiskatlas.dk). The presentation given by Ms Wöhnert will be placed on the WSF website.

### **Agenda item 10. Gastronomy Festival**

*Document: WSF-17-10.1 Outline Gastronomy Festival*

The secretary briefly introduced the outline of implementing a gastronomy festival with a broad approach. A festival would attract the regional gastronomy and other social contributors without the need of common international standards, which were almost not implemented. Also cultural aspects such as art of the Wadden Sea Region would be integrated in the festival.

The meeting welcomed the approach and **tasked** the secretariat to continue with the organisation and implementation of the outlined gastronomy festival.

### **Agenda item 11. Reports Wadden Sea Advisory Boards**

*Document: WSF-17-11.1 Danish Advisory Board*

The representatives of the advisory boards informed the meeting about new developments and activities.

On behalf of the Dutch advisory board, Herman Verheij reported about the elaboration of a Dutch-German bilateral integrated management plan for the Ems estuary. This would encompass the socio-economic development and nature protection. The advisory board has recently (15 September 2010) published a report in Dutch and German, including guidelines and recommendations.

Jörn Klimant briefly reported on behalf of Walter Theuerkauf for the advisory board of Lower Saxony. The main topics discussed were shipping safety with its subtopics controlling and emergency prevention as well as traffic management in the Weser and Ems estuary. For the advisory board of Schleswig-Holstein, he stated just business as usual.

On behalf of the Danish advisory board, Thomas Holst Christensen referred to the written statement (see document) and summarized the main topics. These were

- regulations for the Danish National Park Wadden Sea and the information material for the public in connection with the public hearing period;
- changes on Demarcation (buoying) of the Wadden Sea shipping/sailing lines;
- goose management and compensations schemes for farmers on the island Mandoe.

### **Agenda item 12. Revision MOU**

*Document: WSF-17-12.1 Results evaluation questionnaire*

*WSF-17-12.2 Evaluation of the Mou between WSF and TWSC*

The secretary briefly introduced both documents, which summarized the results of the completed questionnaires with proposals how to continue with drafting a new MoU between the TWSC and the WSF.

The meeting commented on the presented results and discussed the role and work of the WSF in general. It was common sense that the Forum has delivered good results, but that the visibility of the Forum on national, regional and local level could be improved, which would also be a task of the TWSC, particularly with regard to the governmental level.

Herman Verheij stated that the evaluation questionnaire was beyond the task of evaluation of the MoU. Also tasks, structure and role of the Forum had been in the focus, which had led to interesting views on the work. He recommended separating the debate about the role and function of the WSF from the drafting of a new MoU, which should concentrate on agreements with regard to administration and financing, in order to secure and support the WSF-secretariat.

John Frederiksen stated with regards to gaps in collaboration that an intensive cooperation takes time to establish, which would also go for developing the new MoU. Therefore, the Wadden Sea Board (WSB) had agreed to prolong the recent arrangements by one year. There was no doubt, that the three governments would financially support the WSF in the coming period.

Preben Friis-Hauge mentioned that for the WSF the Steering Committee will oversee the elaboration of a new MoU. He also pointed to the fact that the German government could not continue the maintenance of the administrative burden of the WSF-secretariat due to German fiscal policies. This fact has started a discussion about solving problems with regard to work contracts and administration of the WSF-secretariat.

The secretary further explained the changes in the administrative structure and that a contractual relation of the WSF-secretariat with the CWSS or German ministry would probably not be prolonged. A solution would be the establishment of a not-profit society

under German jurisdiction, which would also mean that the WSF would get a legal status. In general, the WSF work would not be affected and changed by the foundation of the society, except the administrative structure. Chair and vice chair would be president and vice-president of the society and the Steering Committee would build the board.

The secretary **asked** the meeting to mandate him and the SC to continue negotiations in this respect with the aim to establish the WSF-society, if necessary, to provide an administrative working basis for the WSF-secretariat.

The WSF plenary **agreed** on this procedure and solution. Further, the local and regional governments made clear that the financial support would not be affected and a continuation was guaranteed.

### **Agenda item 13. WSF work plan 2011 - 2013**

*Document: WSF-17-13.1 Draft WSF work plan*

The secretary introduced the draft work plan, which entailed the tasks of the existing working groups and the projects initiated by the groups. The working group on cultural landscapes and heritage would be a new one. The chair requested more support from the WSB to elaborate a common goose management plan and supported the establishment of the cultural working group, which should cooperate with the Trilateral Cooperation, as also the three governments announced the elaboration of the cultural subjects on the governmental conference in March 2010 on Sylt. This was also underlined by Thomas Christensen, who proposed to support the cultural workshop of the TWSC in spring 2011 and to use the cultural atlas of Denmark to broaden the scope across the partner countries.

Herman Verheij made some general comments on the introduction of the proposed work plan. The Forum should focus on sustainable development not only in the framework of the MoU, but also within a wider perspective. The MoU should just regulate the administrative and financial issues. Further, he asked for a description of the WSF role and function and the audience of the WSF.

Kresten Fromsejer highlighted the relevance of goose management and the elaboration on cultural landscapes. Furthermore, he requested to take up the issue of harmonization of rules and regulations again and to elaborate on a level playing field.

John Frederiksen appreciated that the draft work plan encompasses also many objectives of the Sylt declaration. The TWSC business plan and the WSF work plan had many similarities and clarity about the different responsibilities and sound cooperation should be emphasized into the MoU. With regard to cultural heritage issues he proposed to await the mentioned workshop in spring next year to clarify the topics and responsibilities. Finally, he recommended that the WSF should seriously consider a sound contribution to the future of fisheries.

The meeting **agreed** that the work plan should be taken as a living document, which could be adapted to relevant developments throughout the coming period. The meeting **tasked** the secretariat to update the draft work plan by integrating the comments made at the meeting. A second draft should be made available for the next meeting. Furthermore, the meeting **agreed** to send a letter to the WSB with the request to install in cooperation with the WSF a goose management group very soon for the elaboration of a common goose management plan.

### **Agenda item 14. Wadden Sea Board, members WSF**

The meeting took up the discussion of WSF-16 and discussed again the nomination of a representative of the economic sector as second advisor for the WSB. As for the time being, no candidate of the business sectors is available, the meeting **agreed** that Jörn Klimant should continue the representation of the WSF in the WSB. As the vice-chair Tineke Schokker has already a seat in the WSB, representing the Dutch Wadden Sea provinces, the former agreement to delegate chair and vice-chair was obsolete.

Mr Klimant thanked the meeting for its confidence and accepted the nomination.

**Agenda item 15. Next meeting**

The meeting **agreed** on 17-18 May 2011 for the WSF-18 meeting, which will take place in the province of Noord Holland.

**Agenda item 16. Any other business**

No other business discussed.

**Agenda item 17. Closing**

The chairman thanked all participants for coming and their fruitful contributions and closed the meeting at 11:15 on 18 November 2010.

**ANNEX 2**

**Wadden Sea Forum**

**17<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

**Varde, 17-18 November 2010**

**A G E N D A**

- Agenda item 1. Opening and adoption of the Agenda**
- Agenda item 2. Election of WSF chair and vice-chair**
- Agenda item 3. Adoption of the minutes WSF 16**
- Agenda item 4. Membership WSF**
- Agenda item 5. Announcements**
- Agenda item 6. Minutes Steering Committee**
- Agenda item 7. Progress WSF activities**
- Agenda item 8. Sustainability indicator tool**
- Agenda item 9. The web based historical atlas**
- Agenda item 10. Gastronomy festival**
- Agenda item 11. Reports Wadden Sea Advisory Boards**
- Agenda item 12. Revision MOU**
- Agenda item 13. WSF work plan 2011 - 2013**
- Agenda item 14. Wadden Sea Board, members WSF**
- Agenda item 15. Next meeting**
- Agenda item 16. Any other business**
- Agenda item 17. Closing**

**ANNEX 3****Wadden Sea Forum****17<sup>th</sup> Meeting****Varde, 17-18 November 2010****Decisions and Agreements**

1. The WSF **elected** Preben Friis-Hauge from Demark as new WSF chair and Ms Tineke Schokker-Strampel from The Netherlands as new WSF vice chair for the coming period till 2013.
2. The meeting **agreed** to further develop the sustainability indicator tool and to hire external expertise if necessary.
3. The meeting **tasked** the secretariat to continue with the organisation and implementation of the outlined gastronomy festival.
4. The meeting **mandated** the SC and the secretariat to continue negotiations with the German government to implement a reliable administrative basis for the secretariat and if necessary, to establish a non-profit society under German jurisdiction as an alternative solution.
5. The meeting in general **agreed** on the draft work plan, which will be updated by the comments made at the meeting. The work plan should be taken as a living document, which will be adapted to relevant developments throughout the coming period. The meeting **tasked** the secretariat to make a second draft available for the next meeting.
6. The meeting **recommended** to better integrate the fishery business in the WSF and to strengthen the efforts for close cooperation.
7. The meeting **agreed** to send a letter to the WSB with the request to install in cooperation with the WSF a goose management group very soon for the elaboration of a common goose management plan (responsibility: chair and secretariat).
8. The plenary **agreed** to support the implementation of the trilateral workshop on cultural landscapes and heritage, also in order to clarify topics and responsibilities of the future work on these issues.
9. The WSF **nominated** Mr Jörn Klimant as second advisor of the WSF in the Wadden Sea Board.



### Decision World Heritage Committee 2009

- Inscribes the Dutch-German Wadden Sea on the World Heritage List under natural criteria (viii) geomorphology, (ix) ecological processes and (x) biodiversity
- **Statement of Outstanding Universal Value** which is basis for future protection and management
- Encourage the extension of the Danish part
- Prepare and implement an overall Tourism Development Strategy
- Implement monitoring program to control invasive species
- Strengthen cooperation with state parties at the African Eurasian Flyways

### World Heritage Action Plan August 2009 – March 2010

- Action Plan prepared at stakeholder workshop in Wilhelmshaven (28.8.09)
- Stakeholder Workshop in Bremen (November 2009) and Nieuweschans (Feb 2010): intermediate results and guidance
- Work fields:
  1. Website Portal,
  2. Corporate design/logo,
  3. Marketing concept
  4. Information / awareness (Flyer, Leaflet, Trailer, Flags, Banner)
  5. Organization and financing

### Wadden Sea World Heritage 2009

[www.waddenmeer-weltnaturerbe.de](http://www.waddenmeer-weltnaturerbe.de)  
[www.waddenzeewerelderfgoed.nl](http://www.waddenzeewerelderfgoed.nl)  
[www.waddensea-worldheritage.org](http://www.waddensea-worldheritage.org)

**Official internet platform**      **Flyer**      **Poster**

### Wadden Sea World Heritage 2010

#### Development of a common WH Wadden Sea Logo

UNESCO Logo	WH Emblem	Wadden Sea WH Logo
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*Guidelines for the use of the logos Adopted by WSB 2 (October 2010)*

**Aim**

1. Joint communication of the WH as a brand (Dutch-German Wadden Sea),
2. Use of a common logo by all stakeholders within their CD to communicate the WH.

**Status:**

1. Logo proposals discussed in December 09 / January 2010 by Logo Advisory Group,
2. Creative logo competition April
3. Final decision June 2010

### Wadden Sea World Heritage 2010

#### Exhibition (English, German)

**Size and Contents**  
 16 panels, total of 6 m, 2.25 m high  
 World Heritage Flyer 2009  
 Prepared by the NPV Tönning

**Status**  
 First presentation at Ministerial Conference in Sylt (March 2010)  
 Highly accepted at various events



**Organization**

- 1) Task Group – World Heritage
- 2) Task Group – Sustainable Tourism Strategy



## Sustainable Tourism Strategy

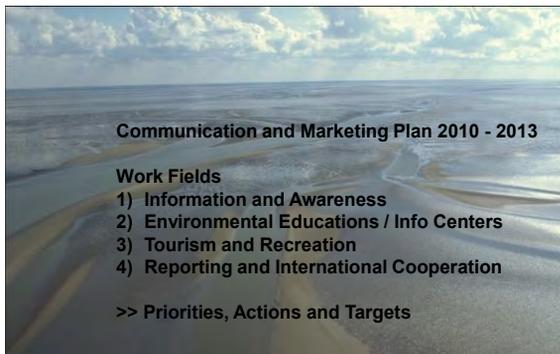
**Objective**  
To provide a strategic framework for sustainable tourism (\$5 Syt MD)  
To link conservation and tourism to maintain OUV

**Tasks:**

- 1) Inventory baseline and market developments
- 2) Define visions, aims and principles
- 3) Implementation: develop common policies and management
- 4) Organize partner involvement (marketing, campaigns, qualification, infrastructure, market research, education)
- 5) Action Plan

**Time**  
Dec 2010 – Dec 2012

**Budget:** 200,000

**Communication and Marketing Plan 2010 - 2013**

**Work Fields**

- 1) Information and Awareness
- 2) Environmental Educations / Info Centers
- 3) Tourism and Recreation
- 4) Reporting and International Cooperation

>> Priorities, Actions and Targets



## “Stories worth telling”

Wadden Sea WHS Marketing Communication  
Operational Planning - Winter 2010 & 2011  
Hamburg/Amsterdam, Oct 15th 2010

PUBLICIS



**WADDEN SEA – STORIES BETWEEN HEAVEN AND EARTH.**  
TELL US YOUR STORY. BE PART OF THE WORLD HERITAGE.



**OUR WADDEN SEA WORLD HERITAGE**  
Experience and help preserve a natural wonder  
[www.waddensea.nl/en/our-wadden-sea](http://www.waddensea.nl/en/our-wadden-sea)





Sustainable Development  
Indicator Tool  
  
WSF 17  
Varde, 17 – 18 november 2010



Level 1 (page 2 of doc. WSF-17-8.1)

Basics:

1. Overview, general trends, no rocket science!
2. Up = Good, Down = Bad

Leads to questions: Why up or down?  
For instance, Social Development



Level 2 (page 3 of doc. WSF-17-8.1)

Identify positive or negative trends  
Negative on social: demography, employment  
and welfare  
Leads to more detailed questions



Graphs on pages 5 and 6 for demography, 9,10  
and 11 for employment and 13,14 for welfare

Variations per subregion



Leads to the basic statistical data, level 3.  
For instance, older people in DK (page 6)

Then it's time for policy making!



General impression so far:

Economic trends seem to be the same as  
elsewhere, but a few areas for concern, such as  
innovation  
Social trends slightly negative  
Ecological trends inconclusive (lack of data)