



**Wadden Sea Forum**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Meeting**  
**Den Helder, 17-18 May 2011**

FINAL DRAFT MINUTES

**Agenda item 1. Opening**

The chair of the meeting, Mr. Friis-Hauge, welcomed the participants in Den Helder and opened the plenary meeting at 13:00 on 17 May 2011. A list of participants is in **Annex 1**. He gave a special welcome to the mayor, Mr. Koen Schuiling, who hosted the meeting together with the province of Noord Holland.

Mr. Schuiling welcomed the WSF members to Den Helder and briefly introduced the city and its developments.

The meeting **adopted** the agenda without further amendments. The agenda is in **Annex 2**. A list of agreements and decisions as summary of WSF-18 is in **Annex 3**.

**Agenda item 2. Adoption of the Minutes WSF 17**

*Document: WSF-17 Final Draft Minutes*

The meeting **adopted** the final draft minutes of the WSF-17 meeting, Varde, 17-18 November 2010. The secretary briefly recalled the agreements of the WSF-17 meeting. All decisions were implemented, respectively were on-going due to the agreed tasks.

**Agenda item 3. Membership WSF/WSF society**

*Document: WSF 18-3.1 Membership list*

The secretary referred to the distributed WSF member list and informed the meeting about new members and changes since the last meeting in Varde as well as about the latest updates not considered in the document:

- DK industry and harbour: Kristen Dreijøe, Harbour master of Rømø havn
- SH industry and harbour: Stefan Sievers will replace Peter Becker
- SH local government authority: Carsten Massau will replace Annemarie Lübcke
- D research: Sandra Vöge, Senckenberg Institute
- D research: Holger Janßen, Leibnitz Institute for Baltic Sea research

**Agenda item 4. Announcements**

Theodor Schröder informed the meeting about the extension of the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park. Mid February 2010, the Government of Lower Saxony decided to integrate the two Nature Reserves named 'Küstenmeer vor den ostfriesischen

**Inseln' and 'Roter Sand' into the Wadden Sea National Park.** The two additional areas were 683 km<sup>2</sup> large and mainly located in the Offshore Area. Now they would be consistently protected by law and managed as Restricted Zones by the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park Administration. The Wadden Sea National Park of Lower Saxony would cover now a total area about 3,460 km<sup>2</sup>.

At present the Ministry of Environment and Climate is considering the integration of the extension or parts of it into the trilateral Conservation Area.

John Frederiksen announced 19 – 21 March 2013 as target date for the next trilateral governmental conference, which would take place in Tønder, DK. The work of the WSF would be reflected in the conference documents. Furthermore, he briefly reported about the outcome of the Ribe workshop on cultural landscapes and heritage of 11-12 May 2011. The participation and commitment was seen as very positive, the main topics were the discussion of the Essex County Council comparative analysis of cultural landscapes as well as of the follow up of the LancwadPlan strategy. The workshop had agreed on an action plan, which would be carried out in cooperation of TWSC and WSF.

Anke Kappers informed about the reelection of Tineke Schokker-Strampel in the regional parliament.

Thomas Holst Christensen informed the meeting about a new Lamb festival on 4 June 2011 and another Red Deer festival to follow in October this year.

Herman Verheij referred to the integrated management plan for the Ems estuary and informed the meeting that in April a first meeting of the planning group took place. All sectors were involved in the process. Walter Theuerkauf added that the elaboration of the Ems estuary management plan would be a topical issue in the county of Aurich.

Carsten Massau informed the meeting that within the Insel und Halligkonferenz (IHKo) the topic Carbon, Capture & Storage (CCS) would be an important item. In Schleswig-Holstein no further storage activities including research were undertaken, but the developments off-shore would be still unclear.

#### **Agenda item 5. Minutes Steering Committee**

*Documents: WSF 18-5.1 Minutes SC-11*

The meeting took note of the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting, SC-11, Bourtange, 18 March 2011.

#### **Agenda item 6. Progress WSF Activities**

*Document: WSF 18-6.1 Summary progress report*

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

**WG ICZM:** Mr Verheij underlined the value of the WebGIS for the development of a sustainable Wadden Sea Region and a proper management of the conservation areas. A presentation of a prototype of the WebGIS would be given under **agenda item 7**. He further referred to the sustainability indicator tool and announced a presentation about use and development at WSF-19 in November 2011. Thirdly, he informed the meeting about the work on an EU questionnaire with regard to MSP and ICZM (see information further below). Finally, Mr Verheij informed about ICZM activities of the city of Emden and knowledge exchange with the WSF in this respect.

**WG EII:** Mr Rothkopf deepened the issue of gas and oil storage and reported briefly about the excursion to the cavern project in Friedeburg/Etzel. Secondly, he referred to the statement in the Sylt Declaration to work towards developing the Wadden Sea Region into a CO<sub>2</sub> neutral area by 2030 or earlier. The WSF working group had picked this up and had a first discussion about the realization of this task. The topical issue of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction would also be presented in detail under **agenda item 10** the following day.

The WSF would cooperate with the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation to work on a CO<sub>2</sub> neutral review project, for which funding possibilities had to be investigated. In a first step, the WSF had contributed to the terms of reference for implementing a basic study, in order to provide an overview of the state of the art regarding specifically on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the sources and the trends as a basis for a review of the targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Wadden Sea Region.

**WG Agriculture:** Mr Hinrichs pointed at the information given in the document and added that the agricultural sector would be waiting for responsibilities to be taken by the governments. The sector would be prepared to cooperate in the further development of a management plan (see also **agenda item 12**).

**WG Shipping:** Mr de Hoop recalled the results of the last working group meeting in February and pointed at potential hazards with regard to shipping safety. Increasing ship traffic, defiance of mandated shipping routes, negligences in container storage and lashing and many other matters would increase potential hazards. The working group would discuss and work towards a sound implementation of VTS as well as VTM in risk areas.

**WG Fisheries:** The secretary briefly informed the meeting that the proposed fishery symposium had to be cancelled due to lacks in funding and too little commitment by the sector. Nevertheless, the WSF would continue to better integrate the fishery sector in the WSF business and to provide a platform to work towards sustainable future for the sector. Cora Seip explained about some problems of the sector, which had to be solved internally. Also the implementation of the MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) label for shrimp and mussel fisheries took a heavy work load, which led to a focus on the fisheries sector itself.

Mr Theuerkauf took up the latest developments regarding fisheries and stated that e.g. in Germany the shrimp fisheries would experience a deep crisis and that the Forum could provide support to work towards sustainable fisheries in the future.

### **Agenda item 6.2. EU consultation MSP & ICZM**

*Document: WSF 18-6.2 EU consultation MSP and ICZM*

The secretary informed the meeting about the work on completing the EU questionnaire regarding MSP and ICZM. The working group ICZM had had intensively discussed the contents and had finally jointly agreed on a version to be submitted to the European Commission. The meeting took note of the summary of the questionnaire, given in the document WSF 18-6.2 and tasked the secretary to submit the completed questionnaire.

### **Agenda item 7. Data ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning**

*Presentation EUCC-D: WebGIS progress*

Herman Verheij briefly introduced the WebGIS project carried out in cooperation with EUCC-D. A prototype would already run and show illustratively economic uses and nature protection in the Wadden Sea Region and the EEZs.

The secretary introduced the WebGIS in more detail, explained the uses of the different layers and applications of map images and outlined the tool boxes. With some examples, the conflicts of spatial use were demonstrated. Finally, the integration of socio-economic data from the sustainability indicator tool was demonstrated with two examples according to tourism and employment in the Wadden Sea Region. The presentation is available on the WSF website:

[http://www.waddensea-forum.org/forum/forum-WSF18\\_Documents.html](http://www.waddensea-forum.org/forum/forum-WSF18_Documents.html)

The meeting welcomed the elaboration of the WebGIS project, which would be a very valuable information and management tool. Data of spatial planning, economic uses and nature protection could be composed according to individual purposes on various scales.

The particular value would be the trilateral scale and the compilation and linkage of onshore and offshore data.

The secretary emphasised that till the end of 2011 a basic package would be implemented and placed on the WSF website for public use. Additional data about e.g. fisheries, tourism, cultural heritage and CO<sub>2</sub> storage could be added at a later stage. Also detailed information about economic uses such as handling of goods, energy production and consumption and ship traffic data could be provided by info boxes. Finally, the WebGIS could be combined with the data of the sustainability indicator tool. This would provide an excellent instrument for policy making and management.

For this, additional funding would be necessary and the WSF members agreed to search for additional funding. The prototype can be experienced under

[http://gis.eucc-d.de/waddengis\\_mapfish/index.htm](http://gis.eucc-d.de/waddengis_mapfish/index.htm).

The WSF members are invited to test the available prototype and to deliver comments for improvement. It is intended to introduce the final basic package of the tool at the WSB-4 meeting in November 2011.

### **Agenda item 8. Reports Wadden Sea Advisory Boards**

#### ***Document: WSF 18-8.1 Report Dutch Wadden Sea Council***

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

Jacoba Westinga made the meeting aware of the distributed document, which summarized the main topics dealt by the Dutch Wadden Sea Advisory Council.

Walter Theuerkauf informed the meeting about topical issues of the Wadden Sea Advisory Board of Lower Saxony. Emphasis was laid on the integrated management plan for the Ems estuary to reach better conditions e.g. in shipping safety. A further item was the installation of electric power cables to connect the off-shore wind farms with the mainland. The aim would be to focus on certain corridors to bundle the cables in order to minimize the damage on the ecosystem. Finally, he reported about the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Park Lower Saxony. The event took place in Cuxhaven with some 500 participants.

Thomas Holst Christensen reported about topics of the Danish Advisory Board. Since the last meeting in the Wadden Sea Forum in November 2010 the Danish Wadden Sea Advisory Board has met once. The meeting was a thematic meeting concerning the Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive (WFD) plans.

Representatives from the Ministry of Environment made a presentation of the work with the Natura 2000 and WFD Plans.

The WFD Plans addresses inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater. The Wadden Sea is considered to belong to the category of coastal waters. The seas and oceans are not included in the WFD but are addressed in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

Consultation of local authorities on the draft River Basin Management Plans started on 16 January 2010. Consultation of the public took place between 4.10.2010-6.4.2011. Consultation of the public concerning the Natura 2000 plans also took place between 4.10.2010-6.4.2011. After laying down the general Natura 2000 and the WFD plans, the municipalities have 1 year to elaborate and adopt specific management plans.

Other topics which were discussed among the members were:

The future of the Danish Advisory Board is still to be decided in light of the new National Park organisation. The National Park has an organisation consisting of a Board and an Advisory Council and the question for the municipalities is whether there will still be a need for both a Danish Wadden Sea Advisory Board and a National Park Advisory Council.

Andreas Doll recalled the work topics of the Wadden Sea Advisory Board of Schleswig-Holstein. Both advisory boards have held meetings in March (17<sup>th</sup> in Nordfriesland and 24<sup>th</sup> in Dithmarschen). Main item in Nordfriesland was comprehensive information on CCS and in Dithmarschen information on structure and function of the German Havarie-

kommando (Central command for maritime emergency in Germany, CCME) and danger prevention in Schleswig-Holstein.

In addition, both advisory boards had been informed upon the newest developments of marketing and other activities of the World Heritage Site, upon activities on environmental education and upon results of sea grass monitoring.

### **Side program:**

#### ***Presentation Arjan Bosch: Harbour development Den Helder***

Arjan Bosch informed the meeting about future developments of Den Helder harbour with the aim to integrate ecological requirements in economic needs. He presented different options with major and minor effects on the Wadden Sea, water currents, sedimentation and biodiversity. Finally, he presented a solution for a design, which would meet almost all requirements and result in a positive cost-benefit analysis.

The presentation is available as pdf document on the WSF website under:  
[http://www.waddensea-forum.org/forum/forum-WSF18\\_Documents.html](http://www.waddensea-forum.org/forum/forum-WSF18_Documents.html).

### **Agenda item 9. Litter on Sea**

#### ***Presentation Albert de Hoop: Litter on Sea***

Albert de Hoop gave a presentation about the increasing litter on sea and its resulting problems on the environment. Firstly, he introduced KIMO, which is a network of 152 municipalities from 15 European countries working on environmental problems.

Marine litter is a central issue in this work. Up to 65% of the marine litter is of plastic/polystyrene. The average number of litter items per 100m beachside is about 500-600. A growing problem is on micro plastic, items in a band of micrometre, which are incorporated even by oysters, mussels and shrimps. Barriers for improvement can be identified in lacks of awareness, enforcement of regulations, political will and funding. Solutions have to aim at the lifecycle and sound legislation on international level. The presentation is available as pdf document on the WSF website under:

[http://www.waddensea-forum.org/forum/forum-WSF18\\_Documents.html](http://www.waddensea-forum.org/forum/forum-WSF18_Documents.html).

The meeting welcomed the presentation and briefly discussed solutions like awareness rising in the different sectors, economic incentives to dispose of waste in harbours and payment of fines.

### **Agenda item 10. Climate Friendly Wadden Sea Region**

#### ***Presentation: CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction and CCS***

With regard to the statements of the three governments, the Wadden Sea Region (WSR) should develop to a CO<sub>2</sub> neutral Region till 2030. Particularly energy production and consumption will have consequences on sustainable development and a climate friendly WSR.

Hans-Werner Rothkopf gave a presentation about CO<sub>2</sub>, developments of emissions and possibilities for reduction, including the technique of CCS.

He also proposed ways forward like the improvement of renewable energies, improvement of energy efficiency, CCU (carbon, capture & use) and improvement of trading of emission certificates. With regard to the statements of the German states of Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein to refuse CO<sub>2</sub> storage in any case, Mr. Rothkopf informed that this option would only be valid if verifiable reasons could be raised.

An emphasis was laid on CCS with details about techniques and consequences of implementation. His conclusion was "CCS is economically not feasible and no sustainable solution. Nature provides more intelligent solutions". The presentation is available as pdf document on the WSF website under:

[http://www.waddensea-forum.org/forum/forum-WSF18\\_Documents.html](http://www.waddensea-forum.org/forum/forum-WSF18_Documents.html).

**Agenda item 11. WSF work plan 2011 - 2013**

*Document: WSF-18-11.1 Draft WSF work plan*

The secretary explained the contents of the draft work plan in a bit more detail. Besides the tasks of the working groups, which were listed in headlines, special issues were explained in-depth.

He underlined the issues to be carried out in cooperation with the TWSC like CO<sub>2</sub> reduction in the Wadden Sea Region, elaboration of a joint goose management plan, sustainable tourism strategy and the implementation of cultural landscape and heritage strategies. For the latter one, a new working group had to be established.

Also cooperation with the Dutch Wadden Academy should be considered, even though the Academy would focus on research matters. An important goal for the near future would be to get the fishery sector on board again. Bilateral talks would be the first steps and the secretariat and Steering Committee would take the responsibility for this.

**Agenda item 12. Goose Management**

The chair informed the meeting about negotiations between the Wadden Sea Board (WSB) and the WSF chair how to proceed regarding the elaboration of a goose management plan. As agreed at WSF-17 in November 2010, a request was sent to the WSB to proceed with the installation of a new goose management group. This issue was taken up at the WSB-3 meeting in March 2011 and according bilateral talks between the chairs of WSB and WSF, a procedure was agreed to proceed on this matter. Within the coming weeks, the WSF will contact the responsible regional authorities and stakeholders to define and specify the tasks and responsibility of legal and management implementation. The legal framework of compensation measures should be updated and on the basis hereof, Terms of Reference would be elaborated by the two secretariats to be forwarded to the WSB-4 meeting in November 2011.

The representatives of the agricultural sector stated that they had delivered the necessary input for a goose management plan and that a further delay would not be acceptable. Finally, the meeting agreed on the proposed procedure, which would provide further necessary information to define responsibilities for implementation.

The information will be compiled by the WSF secretariat.

**Agenda item 13. Next meeting**

The meeting **agreed** on 15-16 November 2011 for the WSF-19 meeting, which will take place in the city of Norden, county of Aurich, Germany.

**Agenda item 14. Any other business**

Copies of the Sylt Declaration 2010 were handed out to the participants. Also a gift from the city of Den Helder, a book about tall ship races (Den Helder Sail 2008) was distributed.

Finally, the secretary particularly thanked Mr Theuerkauf, who will retire in autumn this year, for his constant support of the WSF since 2002 and his enthusiasm in strengthening the role of the Forum.

**Agenda item 15. Closing**

The chairman **summarized** the main topics discussed at the meeting (see also decisions and agreements in Annex 3), thanked all participants for coming and their fruitful contributions and closed the meeting at 12:30 on 18 May 2011.

**ANNEX 2**

**Wadden Sea Forum  
18<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
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A G E N D A

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**ANNEX 3****Wadden Sea Forum****18<sup>th</sup> Meeting****Den Helder, 17-18 May 2011****Decisions and Agreements**

1. The WSF working group ICZM will elaborate on the the state of sustainability of the Wadden Sea Region and will present the results at WSF-19.
2. The WSF mandated the secretary to submit the completed questionnaire on MSP and ICZM to the EU Commission.
3. The meeting agreed on the relevance of the WebGIS project for policy and management purposes and tasked the working group ICZM to fully implement the basic package and to work towards a presentation of the tool at the WSB-4 meeting in November 2011. The WSF members agreed to search for additional funding.
4. The WSF agreed to go ahead with the establishment of a new working group for cultural landscape and heritage, respectively to cooperate with the TWSC on this issue.
5. The WSF asked the secretariat to continue with the efforts to integrate the fisheries sector in the WSF business.
6. It was agreed to start cooperation with the Dutch Wadden Academy. A first step would be information and knowledge exchange.
7. The WSF tasked the secretariat and the chair to proceed in the elaboration of a goose management plan. Contacts will be made with the responsible regional authorities and stakeholders to define and specify the tasks and responsibility of legal and management implementation. The information will be compiled by the WSF secretariat.
8. The WSF agreed on 15-16 November 2011 for the WSF-19 meeting, which will take place in the city of Norden, county of Aurich, Germany.