

## WSF-6 meeting

Leeuwarden, NL, 10 February 2005

### Final Minutes

#### 1. Opening and adoption Agenda

*Document WSF-6-1. Draft Annotated Agenda*

The chairman, Mr. Nijpels welcomed the participants and opened the meeting on Thursday 13:00 hours. The agenda was **adopted**. The agenda is in **Annex 1**. A list of participants is in **Annex 2**.

#### 2. Adoption final draft minutes WSF- 5

The final draft minutes of the WSF-5 meeting, Stade, 16-17 September 2004, were **adopted**.

#### 3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

#### 4. Regional Conferences and written statements

*Document WSF-6-4-1. Summary comments*

The chairman invited to a round of comments on the proceedings of the regional conferences.

Mr. Klimant stated that the conferences had been important for the acceptance of the WSF process, because of the open discussion and the involvement of the public.

Mr. Keurentjes had made the observation that for many participants in the Dutch regional conference the novelty of the process was unclear. He therefore proposed that the WSF should explain better to the outside world how the forum members had discussed matters and how they had come to agreements.

The chairman referred to the brochure as a communication means but also remarked that the whole process is hard to explain.

#### 5. WSF Report

##### a. Report 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting Steering Committee

*Documents:*

*WSF-6-5a-1. Report SC-3*

*WSF-6-5a-2. Report SC-3, Annex 3*

*WSF-6-5a-3. Report SC-3, Annex 4*

The chairman of the SC-3 meeting, Mr. Klimant, informed about the main results of this meeting, which had been held in Wilhelmshaven on 13 January 2005. The SC-3 meeting had handled the comments from the Regional Conferences and the written statements, the footnotes and the proposals for new texts.

Mr. Ahrens asked if sea level rise had been properly addressed in the WSF final report, especially the probability of the middle scenario. Mr. Hofstede, chairman of the CPSL, explained that in the middle scenario (50 cm in 100 years) also bottom subsidence (5-10 cm/100 years) has been taken into account. It was **agreed** that the CPSL would consider the scenarios and its assumptions in its final report.

Mr. Poelmann proposed a number of actions to be taken up in the planned Activity Report. It concerned a centre for safety and environment at sea in Den Helder, the project Energy Valley and an initiative to change the PSSA status so as to exclude the shipping lanes of Den Helder and Harlingen. It was **agreed** to include these issues in the discussion about the Action Plan.

Mr. Schuhbauer stated that in the beginning of the WSF process there had been clear rules. He regretted that some of the statements that were now in the final report were not the real outcome of the work of the TG Energy.

According to Mr. Verheij five TG reports were not the same as a forum report. After the TGs had finalised their work a new process of integration had started. He considered the result quite good, since only one point of disagreement had remained.

Mr. Haerkens said that he was impressed by the work of the forum, especially at the end of the process. He considered the final report the end of the beginning and looked forward towards the near future.

The meeting took note of the SC-3 report and **adopted** annex 4, the handling of the external comments by the Steering Committee.

#### **b. Final draft WSF Report**

*Document: WSF-6-5b-1. Final Report (clean copy)*

The chairman informed that there would still be the option to amend the quotes by the forum members in the printed version of the final WSF report. Members would have to inform the secretariat as soon as possible. Dutch, German and Danish versions of the Final Report would be printed as soon as possible, as well as German and Danish summaries.

The meeting **adopted** the WSF final report.

### **6. Preparation 10<sup>th</sup> Governmental Wadden Sea Conference**

*Document WSF-6-6-1. WSF Action Plan*

*Document WSF-6-6-2. Terms of Reference*

The meeting discussed documents WSF-6-6-1 and WSF-6-6-2 (handed out during the meeting) about the terms of reference for elaborating an Action Plan before the 10<sup>th</sup> governmental Wadden Sea Conference (TGC-10). In document WSF-6-6-1 it was proposed to adopt an Action Plan at a WSF meeting by the end of September, beginning of October.

Mr. Baerends remarked that this would be too late for the preparation of TGC-10. The latest opportunity for submitting proposals would be the Senior Officials meeting in May.

Mr. Andresen feared that in that case there would not be much possibility for a dialogue.

Mr. Verheij was of the opinion that the Action Plan is actually a bonus to the Final Report and that the forum should not let itself be restricted by the time schedule of TGC-10.

The chairman stated that such would depend on whether the forum would like to have a reaction from the ministers.

Mr. Verheij proposed to merge documents WSF-6-6-1 and WSF-6-6-2. He regarded document WSF-6-6-2 as too detailed and suggested that it would be best if the secretariat would first develop a proposal for an Action Plan.

Mr. Wesemüller stressed that the setting of priorities should also depend upon the relevance for the Vision.

Mr. Schuhbauer wondered how the financing of the Action Plan could be guaranteed.

Mr. Poelmann stressed the need for regional representation in the Steering Committee.

Mr. Klimant underlined the need for a high quality action plan.

The chairman **concluded** that the documents would be merged, that before any document was going to be submitted to the ministries responsible for the preparation of TGC-10, it would be discussed by the Steering Committee and that the Executive Board and the Steering Committee would discuss the necessity of an additional WSF meeting.

### **7. Any other business**

Mr. Rösner and Mr. Wesemüller informed the meeting that they had serious problems with the title and the contents of the press release. Amongst other issues they considered the use of the term "Wadden area" inappropriate because of the similarity with Wadden Sea Area. They would have preferred the term Wadden Sea Region.

### **8. Closing**

The chairman closed the meeting on Thursday 10 February, 16:15 hours.

**Annex 1. AGENDA**

- 1. Opening and adoption Agenda**
- 2. Adoption final draft minutes WSF- 5**
- 3. Announcements**
- 4. Regional Conferences and written statements**
- 5. WSF Report**
  - a. Report 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting Steering Committee**
  - b. Final draft WSF Report**
- 6. Preparation 10<sup>th</sup> Governmental Wadden Sea Conference**
- 7. Any other business**
- 8. Closing**