



Wadden Sea Forum

9th Meeting

Tønder, 30 November-1 December 2006

Agenda Item: 7
Subject: Progress WSF work
Document Nr. WSF-9-7-1
Date: 3 November 2006
Submitted by: Secretariat

PROPOSAL: The meeting is invited to discuss and decide upon the proposals contained in the document.
The meeting is furthermore invited to discuss possible additional activities to be carried out by WSF.

Introduction

At the WSF-8 meeting several WSF working groups (WGs), as well as other activities were decided upon. Below an overview of progress of WSF activities since WSF-8 is presented. Participants in the respective groups may provide supplementary information at the SC meeting. In addition an overview is given of planned activities. Information about WSF activities is furthermore given at the WSF website www.waddensea-forum.org. The composition of the WGs is in Annex 1.

1. Working Group ICZM

This group has held its first meeting on 6 September 2006. The final draft minutes of WG ICZM-1 are on the WSF homepage.

Five members were present. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Verheij.

The WG decided upon the focal points for the future work, which are:

1. To critically follow the further development of national ICZM strategies, based upon the criteria in section 3.2 of "Breaking the Ice" and to specify these criteria for the Wadden Sea Region. In this respect it would also be helpful that WSF members would present examples of best and worst practice of ICZM.

It was agreed that a document for submission to the plenary forum meeting (WSF-9) would be elaborated by the secretariat. It was also agreed to contact Rupprecht consultancy – which is currently evaluating the national strategies – with the request to give a presentation at WSF-9, in which, among other things, also a comparison will be made of national strategies with the WSF criteria from "Breaking the Ice" .

2. To develop Wadden Sea Region specific indicators for the specification of the sustainability objectives on page 23 and 24 of "Breaking the Ice." Use should be made of the work done by Prognos and there should be a clear connection with the sectoral strategies.

For activity 2, it was agreed that the secretariat would work out the terms of reference for a consultant. These would also be submitted to the WSF-9 for approval.

PROPOSAL

The meeting is invited to discuss and decide upon the focal points for future work, as proposed by WG ICZM, also on the basis of separate documents on the further development of ICZM and sustainability indicators.

2. Working Group Energy

The first meeting of WG Energy was held 25 September 2006. The final draft minutes of WG Energy are available on the WSF homepage.

Participation was poor. Only three members were present. The meeting was furthermore attended by two members of the secretariat and a trainee.

Despite the poor attendance, there was a good discussion.

It was stressed that the group had good potentials for continuation. A condition was, however, that attendance in future would be better.

The group discussed a broad spectrum of energy-relevant issues, related to the recommendations of the Thematic Group Energy. All participants supported the fact that the group should deal with energy in a broad sense and not specifically offshore wind energy. The most important aim of the WSF involvement in energy issues should be to put pressure on governments to provide the proper conditions for the further development of sustainable energy generation, supply and consumption.

It was also felt that there should be a better representation in the group of organisations and sectors which had a stake in energy issues. In this respect energy suppliers, grid owners and agricultural representatives (bio-energy) were mentioned.

The group agreed that as a first step a general overview was needed of the energy situation in the Wadden Sea Region. Such an overview should cover the current situation with regard energy generation, supply and consumption, as well as prospects for developments related to energy saving, decentral or central supply, regenerative energy generation etc.

It was agreed to recommend to the WSF that a workshop be organised on 6-7 February 2007 for which expert in different fields would be invited. At the workshop questions with regard to the future of energy generation, supply and consumption would have to be discussed. As a preparation to the workshop the members of the WG energy would make an inventory and prioritisation of the main questions.

PROPOSAL

To discuss and decide upon the proposals made by WG Energy.

3. Working Group Shipping

The first meeting of the WG Shipping was held 28 September 2006. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Loos.

According to the WSF Action Plan (WSF-7) the aim regarding shipping was defined as: "to closely monitor relevant shipping safety developments in particular the priority issues from the WSF final report".

WSF-8 formulated the task of WSF-WG-Shipping: "Checking of implementation trilateral shipping decisions".

WG Shipping discussed the above mentioned actions and defined the following tasks:

- 1) to support the implementation of the Schiermonnikoog Declaration on shipping, in particular § 17 a-f. As a first step, it was agreed by the meeting to formulate a letter by the WSF chairman to the TWG to request the status of the implementation of the decisions regarding shipping of the Schiermonnikoog Declaration in the three countries. In the same letter the three Wadden Sea states should be invited to send governmental observers to the WSF-WG-Shipping meetings.
- 2) to further propose additional issues (to be listed) as written in the WSF recommendations (see WSF final report); This task will be started after getting the answers of the three countries on the status of the implementation (see under 1). If necessary experts on special subjects will be invited agenda related to the meetings of the WSF-WG-Shipping.
- 3) to comment on the EC Maritime Green Paper with the view on shipping issues for the Wadden Sea. To be able to give a WSF-feedback to the EC Maritime Green Paper until the deadline June 2007, as a first step an EC representative should be invited to introduce and discuss the EC Marine Strategy.

PROPOSAL

To discuss and decide upon the general task of WG Shipping as formulated above, and to discuss matters related to the EU Green Paper under agenda item 8.

4. Tourism/Wadden Sea label

WG Tourism

The first meeting of this group will be held 15 November 2006.

Preparatory meetings have been held in the Netherlands and an annual budget of 16.500 Euros has been made available by the Dutch provinces for the activities of the group.

Gastronomy Award

In 2003 and 2005 the international gastronomy award was held in the Netherlands and Lower-Saxony respectively. The WSF has taken the initiative to try and have the 2007 event organised in Schleswig-Holstein, under the umbrella of the WSF.

A preparatory meeting was held 6 October 2006 in Heide with the main aims to find an organisation that can prepare and execute the event, and to discuss sponsorship.

PROPOSAL

Participants will be informed in due time about further progress with regard to the above issues and, on the basis of this information, requested to decide upon next steps to be taken.

6. Fisheries

At the WSF-8, it was agreed to start the work on Rules and Regulations (simplification, level playing field) with a pilot project for fisheries. So far, some work has been done on the inventory of rules and regulations in The Netherlands.

During SC-1 it was indicated that Agriculture DK was willing to take over the lead of the project if it could not be carried out for fisheries. It was agreed that the Dutch fisheries representative would be contacted about this matter.

PROPOSAL

The meeting will be informed about further developments and invited to discuss how to continue this project

7. Agriculture

An inventory of agriculture nature management schemes in the Wadden Sea countries is being carried out by the Agriculture Chamber Niedersachsen. As soon as the inventory has been completed, a meeting of the WG Agriculture will be organised to discuss the work scheme of the group.

PROPOSAL

Await first meeting WG Agriculture

8. Infrastructure

At WSF-8 it was agreed to await the outcome of the infrastructure conference, organised by the districts Nordfriesland and Dithmarschen, before starting activities related to infrastructure.

The conference "The future of mobility and accessibility in the Wadden Sea Region", planned to be held 13-14 November, was cancelled because of insufficient participation.

PROPOSAL

The meeting is invited to discuss possible reasons for the low interest and to decide upon future WSF activities with regard to infrastructure.

ANNEX 1. COMPOSITION WSF WORKING GROUPS

WG ICZM

Mr Werner K. Schuhbauer
RWE Dea AG

Ms Julia Straßer
Wilhelmshavener Hafenwirtschaftsverein

Mr Uwe Johannsen
Consultant for WWF- Deutschland

Mr. Daniel Witzki
Regionalbüro Uthlande

Mr Hans van Geesbergen
Coöperatieve Producentenorganisatie van de Nederlandse Mosselcultuur

Mr Frans Keurentjes
NLTO

Mr Herman Verheij
Seas at Risk

Mr John Frederiksen
Ribe Amtskommune

WG Energy

Mr Rainer Schulz
Schutzstation Wattenmeer

Mr Reinhard Kaib
Inselgemeinde Borkum

Mr Knud Bußmann
Landesvereinigung der Erzeugerorganisationen für Nordseekrabben- und Küstenfischer an
schleswig-holsteinischen Westküste e.V.

Mr Wilfried Hube
EWE Aktiengesellschaft

Mr Jaap Holstein
EUROPECHE/COGEGA

Mr Hans Revier
Seas at Risk (SAR)

Mr Henk Krijnen
Nederlands Aardolie Maatschappij B.V. (NAM)

WG Shipping

Mr Martin Loos
NNWB/KNWV

Ms Ellen Kuipers / Mr Herman Verheij
Waddenvereniging

Mr Ludwig Salverius
Stadt Norderney

Mr H.W. Rothkopf
Wilhelmshavener Hafenwirtschafts Vereinigung e.V.

Mr Knud Bußmann
Landesvereinigung der Erzeugerorganisationen für Nordseekrabben-
und Küstenfischer an der schleswig-holsteinischen Westküste e.V.

Mr. Hans-Ulrich Rösner
WWF-Projektbüro Wattenmeer

Mr Hans von Wecheln
Schutzgemeinschaft Deutsche Nordseeküste

Mr. Hans Chr. Thoning
Oksbøl Kommune

WG Tourism

Mr Pieter Smit
Tourism Board Ameland

Mr Jorem Krozer

Mr Hans Janssen
Mayor Langeoog

Ms Constanze Höfinghoff
Nordsee-Tourismus-Service GmbH

Ms Annemarie Lübcke
Regionalbüro Uthlande

Ms Anja Szczesinski
International Wadden Sea School

Mr Wilhelm Loth
Staatsbad Norderney GmbH

Mr Alwin Theesen
Ostfriesland schmeckt nach Meer e.V.

Mr Steef Engelsman
ANWB/ALB/Regio Noord

Mr Herman Verheij
Seas at Risk

Mr Anton Verbree
Stichting van de Nederlandse Visserij

Mr Erik Nørreby
Fanø Kommune
Ms Annie Hornum
Turistgruppen Vestjylland

Mr John Frederiksen
Ribe Amt

WG Agriculture and nature development

Mr Erich Hinrichs
Landwirtschaftskammer Niedersachsen

Mr Kristen Fromsejer
De Danske Landbofereninger

WG Fisheries/rules and regulations

Mr Philipp Oberdörffer
Landwirtschaftskammer Weser Ems

Mr Andries de Leeuw
Landesverband Schleswig-Holsteinischer Angler und Fischer e.V.

Mr Jaap Holstein
EUROPECHE/COGEGA, c/o Stichting van de Nederlandse Visserij