

Final  
**SUMMARY RECORD**

**MEETING OF THE WADDEN SEA BOARD  
TRILATERAL WADDEN SEA COOPERATION**

**WSB 3**

**17 March 2011, Bourtange, Netherlands**

**AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING**

The chairman, Mr Ilsøe, opened the meeting at 13:00 h. and welcomed the participants and supportive staff to the third meeting of the WSB. He in particular welcomed the new members of the Danish delegation Ms Bolette Lehn Petersen (Heritage Agency) and Mr Bent Rasmussen (Nature Agency). Mr Scherer replaced Ms Nickel, who could not be present. Mr Verhulst informed that Mr Heijnsman could not participate because of illness and that a representative of the municipalities would be present as of the next meeting. A list of participants is in **Annex 1**.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Document: WSB 3/2 Draft Agenda

The meeting **adopted** the draft agenda of the meeting. The agenda is in **Annex 2**.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: SUMMARY RECORD WSB 2**

Documents: Final Draft Summary Record WSB 2; WSB 3/3-1 Record WSB delegates meeting

The chairman referred to the record of the WSB delegates meeting (Bremen, 18 January) that had been held to solve outstanding issues from WSB-2 and stated that such meetings should remain an exception.

Mr Verhulst proposed to make more use of modern communication means, such as video conferences. This was supported by the meeting and it was **decided** to establish such a system in the coming period. The CWSS will take the necessary organisational preparations.

The meeting discussed the Danish amendment on page 15 of the WSB-2 Summary Record and **agreed** that a fourth bullet would be added to the original text, containing the text as in the first bullet from the Danish proposal, i.e. "Elucidate the needs of transverse development of monitoring across the directives and harmonisation of assessments in relation to and across".

With regard to the proposed amendment on p.25, "and shall also be a member of TG-WH", it was **agreed** not to include this text because of time constraints of the chairperson of the TG-STs. It was emphasized that there should be close contacts between the two TGs.

The amendment on page 12, "Quality Status Reports are regularly produced", was **adopted**.

The Summary Record WSB 2, including the above agreed amendments, was **adopted**. The record of the WSB delegates meeting (Bremen, 18 January) was **noted** by the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Document: WSB 3/4-1 Announcement

Mr Verhulst informed that the new Dutch government had decided to meet its international obligations but with less money. He would inform the WSB as soon as possible about the consequences for the trilateral work. He furthermore congratulated the National Park Authority Lower Saxony for realising its extensions and finally announced that in the future one of the members of the Dutch delegation might be chosen from the municipal level.

Ms Hedtkamp informed that, after a restructuring of the directorate Nature Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources within the BMU, the trilateral Wadden Sea cooperation is now part of the division N I 2 "Habitat protection, N2000 and marine nature conservation". This division is also responsible for the biodiversity aspects of the MSFD. She also informed that the printed version of the Ministerial Declaration is nearly finished and that copies will be sent out within the next days. The Wadden Sea Plan 2010 will be printed soon. All documents are available on the CWSS website.

Mr Hebbelmann informed that the extended area of the National Park Lower Saxony (see doc WSB 3/4-1) would be integrated into the Wadden Sea Area and that a proposal to this extent would be submitted to the next WSB meeting. The extension will also be proposed for WH designation. He furthermore informed that the National Park Lower Saxony would celebrate its 25 years anniversary on 7 May in Cuxhaven and that invitations would be sent out soon.

Mr Lange informed that after the February elections, the SPD now had an absolute majority in Hamburg. The new mayor is Mr Olaf Scholz. The head of the senat for city planning and environment will be Ms Jutta Blankau.

Mr Frederiksen informed that the next Wadden Sea Conference and Minister Council meeting had been set for 17-19 March 2013, in Tønder. An outline for the program, as well as a preliminary draft agenda would be submitted to WSB-4. He furthermore announced that the workshop on the trilateral cultural and landscape heritage would be held 11-12 May, in Ribe.

Mr Rasmussen informed that the WFD hearing process had almost been finalized. He also informed that the environment minister had decided to postpone the nitrogen reduction targets until 2027.

Mr Christensen informed that KIMO had done an inventory of 57 container vessels in the Rotterdam harbor. It was found that 46% of the containers were not lashed appropriately and that 63% of the containers had not the right weight. KIMO has taken initiative to raise the matter with the responsible ministers in countries with KIMO membership.

Mr Friis-Hauge informed that the WSF is now a non-profit society. The bylaws and the executive committee had been agreed upon on 11 February 2011 and had today received formal approval. A work contract with the staff would be signed, valid as of 1 April 2011.

Mr Rösner informed, that in three cases of large scale impact planning in or close to the German Wadden Sea compromises with the Nature NGOs had been found regarding a wind farm cable corridor in the Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea and the wind farms at "Nordergründe" and "Riffgat offshore the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea.

The secretary announced that the QSR synthesis report had been published on the CWSS website. A hard copy would be printed soon. He also informed about a letter from the National Park Banc d'Arguin with an invitation for a visit. He suggested waiting for the outcome of the evaluation of the WAMER project and the information from the Flyway workshop before discussing next steps.

The meeting **noted** the information.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: RULES OF PROCEDURE**

Documents: WSB 3/5/1 Rules of Procedure

The proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations were **adopted**. The evaluation of the Rules of Procedure agreed at WSB 1 will be postponed until WSB 5.

## **AGENDA ITEM 6: BUSINESS PLAN 2010 – 13**

### **6.1 Business Plan**

Documents: WSB 3/6/1-1 Business Plan (track, clean, financial implications); WSB 3/6/1-2 Progress Report TGs

#### Re. Business Plan 2010 - 13

The Final Draft Business Plan 2010 – 13 was **adopted** taking account of the comment to the action relating to the investigation of the designation of the Wadden Sea as a sub-region of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), page 4 that the Dutch government is not intending such a designation, but has expressed its willingness to cooperate on the contents of the implementation of the MSFD to learn from the experiences of the others.

The CWSS will present the amended rolling Business Plan for the remaining period (2012/13) in conjunction with a performance report at WSB 4.

As regards the financial implications of the CO<sub>2</sub> neutrality project and the fishery project, as indicated by the secretariat, being the two projects with an uncertainty in financing, the following was **agreed**:

1. *Re. CO<sub>2</sub> Neutral Review Project.* The Federal Ministry for the Environment intends to investigate project financing possibilities for 2012; The Dutch delegation offered to deliver capacity and expertise but stated that it could not provide financial support. The Danish delegation stated that this project had low trilateral and financial priority. After possible approval of the funding, the CWSS will, in cooperation with the WSF secretariat, assign an independent consultant for such a project on the basis of an approved briefing by the parties.
2. *Re. Study Sustainable Fisheries Wadden Sea.* Both Germany and the Netherlands emphasized the need for such a study, which however needs more thoughts about the objective and outcomes. Germany indicated its willingness to finance its share of such a study, provided equal contributions by the other parties. The Dutch delegation stated that it would try to find financial support. Denmark made clear that it could currently not commit itself to such a project but that it was willing to investigate possibilities. As a first step the CWSS was **instructed** to elaborate a briefing for the possible assignment of an external consultant in consultation with designated contact points and clarify the outstanding financial aspects. The Wadden Sea Forum announced that it is preparing a workshop on fisheries to be held in autumn 2011.

As regards the elaboration of a Goose Management Plan it was **agreed** that the further work must build on the WSF guidance document. This document did not provide a detailed answer to the legal and management implementation of the recommendations including the tasks of the authorities. A precondition for the implementation of §14 SD is therefore to define the legal and management tasks of the competent authorities in the next steps:

1. Review the legal and management implementation of the recommendations of the WSF guidance document including the compensation measures.
2. On the basis hereof elaborate the Terms of Reference for the elaboration of a draft management plan, for discussion by WSB 4.

The review shall be elaborated by the WSF secretariat in cooperation with CWSS. The WSF Chairman Mr Preben Friis-Hauge made it clear that in order for the WSF Secretariat to be able to carry out this assignment they would have to rely on cooperation/inputs from relevant authorities.

The Summary Record and decision of WSB 2 remain valid and this is only a pragmatic first step to save time and furthermore this compromise is no precedent for future tackling of the goose management issue.

#### Re. Report Task Groups

The meeting **noted** the progress reports of the Task Groups (TGs).

In order to meet the concerns of the WSB with regard to the progress of the work it was **agreed** to

1. Instruct the TGs to deliver, by 15 June 2011 at the latest, a work plan until the 2013 Wadden Sea Conference which will include the objective(s) and the type of product to be realised, delivery to whom, timeframe including delivery to the WSBs and the budget aspects; work plans should be kept very short, and simple in order to avoid any unnecessary work. The work plans should be consulted in the WSB e.g. via a video conference before summer 2011. The consultation will be organized by the CWSS under the responsibility of the chair.
2. Request the Danish chairmanship together with the CWSS to deliver a first preliminary agenda for the 2013 Wadden Sea Conference including an outline for a program until WSB 4.

The participation of Mr Rösner in the TG-C was **approved** pending Danish consultation and support.

The recommendation of TG-M to include the CWSS as an observer in the MFSD Coordination Group, as recommended in the High Level Review (recommendation 21), was **approved**, pending Danish consultation and support.

#### **6.2 Annual Work Plan CWSS 2011**

Document: WSB 3/6/2 Annual Work Plan

The Annual Work Plan of the CWSS was **noted**, as it was concluded that it is one of the tasks of the secretary to manage this. Denmark noted that the future work plan ought to be more specific on activities compared to the business plan.

#### **6.3 CWSS Budget**

Document: WSB 3/6/3-1 Budget CWSS; WSB 3/6/3-2 Project Finances

##### Budget CWSS

Germany **approved** of the annual budget 2012 for the CWSS of € 223,200 per contracting party. The Netherlands indicated that this would depend on the budget for international work but that it could not adopt the budget for 2012.

It was **agreed** to note the draft budget 2012 and the indicative budget 2013-14 and to finalize the discussions at WSB 4.

##### Project Finances CWSS

It was **agreed** to endorse the overview of ongoing and planned projects and to **instruct** the secretary to present in future the core budget and project budget simultaneously.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 7: COMMUNICATION STRATEGY**

The outcome in terms of main messages of the interactive session on identifying the main key target groups and respective key messages to be communicated is in **Annex 3**.

The outcome will be a basis for drafting the briefing for calling for tenders for a communication agency to develop a draft Communication Strategy and input to the drafting process. The draft briefing will be circulated prior to calling for tenders. It is the aim to adopt the Communication Strategy at WSB 4.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 8: WADDEN SEA FORUM**

The members of the Wadden Sea Board **welcomed** the establishment of the Wadden Sea Forum (WSF) as a non-profit society under German law.

In accordance with § 45 of the Sylt Declaration, the parties of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (TWSC) will each continue to contribute to the secretariat of the WSF of annually € 10,000 for the period 2011 – 13. The WSF secretariat will continue to be located at the CWSS and the housing costs and other overhead costs be paid by the CWSS.

Due to budget regulations in Germany it is not possible for Germany to make a binding commitment. Rather, the possibility of granting support for projects of the WSF must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for each project.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 9: WADDEN SEA WORLD HERITAGE**

Documents: WSB 2/9/1 Progress Report World Heritage

In commenting on the note and in particular on the foundation proposal, there was common understanding that the responsibility for the Wadden Sea World Heritage should rest with the state parties. Furthermore, the feasibility study should also draw on international experiences including the relation with and possible consequences for the TWSC.

The meeting **agreed** to

1. Note the information
2. Approve of the establishment of the committee to investigate the establishment of a Wadden Sea World Heritage Foundation; the Netherlands together with the secretary will initiate the initiative.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 10: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION**

Mr Pavel Kabat, chairman of the Dutch Wadden Academy, presented the activities of the Academy with regard to the development of a trilateral integrated knowledge agenda and the scientific symposium 2012. He offered the general support of the Academy to the trilateral cooperation in terms of scientific advice. He emphasized the intention of the Wadden Academy to embed its trilateral activities in the structure and agenda of the trilateral cooperation, and in this respect thanked the CWSS for its generous support and good cooperation.

The meeting **welcomed** the information presented.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 11: REPORT CWSS**

Document: WSB 2/11/1 Report CWSS

The meeting **noted** the progress report on developments since the last meeting of the WSB.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 12: NEXT MEETING**

**WSB 4** will be held at the secretariat on **3 November 2011** and commence at 9:00 h.

**AGENDA ITEM 13: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The meeting **agreed** to send a letter of thanks to the chairpersons of the “old” trilateral groups.

**AGENDA ITEM 14: CLOSING**

The chairman thanked the participants for a very pleasant meeting and constructive discussions, and closed the meeting at app. 19:30 h.

## ANNEX 1

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**ANNEX 2**

**AGENDA  
MEETING OF THE WADDEN SEA BOARD  
TRILATERAL WADDEN SEA COOPERATION  
WSB 3  
17 March 2011  
BOURTANGE**

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Summary Record WSB 2
4. Announcements
5. Rules of Procedure
6. Business Plan 2010 – 13
  - 6.1 Business Plan
  - 6.2 Annual Work Plan CWSS 2011
  - 6.3 CWSS Budget
7. Communication Strategy
8. Wadden Sea Forum
9. Wadden Sea World Heritage
10. Scientific Cooperation
11. Report CWSS
12. Next Meeting
13. Any Other Business
14. Closing

**ANNEX 3****Developing a Trilateral Communication Strategy**

The CWSS communication officer, Ms. Drozdovych, presented the project outline for the preparation of a Communication Strategy as approved at the WSB 2 (document WSB-2/6/1). The project proposal had been prepared by the secretariat based on the 2010 Joint Declaration (3.e) and the Trilateral Strategy 2010 – 2016 (Objective 5: Public Support for the Protection of the Wadden Sea).

The essential elements for the communication strategy are:

- Elaborated review of communication activities
- Objectives
- Target Audiences: primary and secondary
- Key Messages
- Communication channels and tools
- Resources: finances, people
- Planning: defining possible communication highlights, timing of activities
- Assessment of communication activities

During an interactive session, the WSB 3 provided input to the following strategy with regard to the definition of the most relevant target groups and the main messages which should be communicated to them. The table below presents the input of the participants (first columns) and its further interpretation. The main target audiences were defined during the interactive session. The key messages were elaborated into three groups after the session.

**Target Groups**

The interactive session has demonstrated that the participants consider national and regional authorities to be of the highest priority. Moreover, the authorities were considered to be an internal audience:

- National governments and administrations,
- National Wadden Sea administrations,
- Local authorities and municipalities.

Among others and with generally lower prioritization that were mentioned were inhabitants and the EU/international level, as well as partners and stakeholders of the cooperation. The least important group was general public and research society. Media and multipliers should also be addressed but were regarded mainly as a communication channel rather than a separate target group.

**Main Messages**

The table presents an overview of all the key messages that were written by the participants. As the result of the session three main communication directions (dimensions) were identified that could be condensed (but not limited to) to the following statements:

- TWSC is a role model of successful international cooperation,
- TWSC stands for nature protection,
- TWSC has high political and economic relevance.

<b>Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (is, aims, does)</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>
Commitment for cooperation	International cooperation
Can provide the basis for decision making	
Transboundary protection, management since over 30 years, role model	
TMAP, WSP, QSR	

Common responsibility	
Coherence	
Supports a foundation for transnational/holistic solutions for management/policy	
Nature	Nature protection
A healthy Wadden Sea, ecosystem for nature and man	
Sustainability	
Is preserving the unique WH	
International importance of the Wadden Sea	
Outstanding value conveyed	
Is worth highest investment of effort and finances	Political and economic
Awareness of political decisions	
Exclusivity of the brand, Wadden Sea as an icon	
Knowledge, basis, relevance, usability	
Profit for sustainable local development	