

Wadden Sea Board

**WSB 15
4 November 2015
Wilhelmshaven**



Agenda Item:	5.1 Wadden Sea World Heritage
Subject:	Progress Report Task Group World Heritage
Document No.	WSB 15/5.1/1
Date:	19 October 2015
Submitted by:	Chair TG-WH

Attached is a progress report of the Task Group World Heritage (TG-WH). The meeting is referred to the report.

Proposal: **The meeting is referred to the proposal in the progress report.**

PROGRESS REPORT TASK GROUP WORLD HERITAGE

The Task Group World Heritage (TG-WH) had met on 30 September since the last Wadden Sea Board meeting in June 2015 and discussed a number of issues related to the Tønder Declaration, the decision of the 38th Session of the World Heritage Committee, the World Heritage Strategy and World Heritage Programme.

1. World Heritage Committee Requests

The World Heritage Committee during its 38th session (June 2014) adopted a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value followed by a number of requests to the State Parties.

The WSB **endorsed** the approach proposed by TG-WH to implement the requests of the WH Committee and instructed TG-MM and TG-WH to report back at the next WSB, following the required clarification by IUCN. In the following, the TG-WH reports on the status in implementing the requests.

1.1 Danish National Park

5. Requests the State Party of Denmark, in cooperation with the State Parties of the Netherlands and Germany, to prepare an implementation plan to enhance the conservation and management of the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value within the Danish National Park. This could be supported by the development and adoption of a binding agreement between the Danish Nature Agency and the National Park Board;

The Chairperson introduced the document which explains the role and responsibilities of the Danish Wadden Sea National Park in management of the World Heritage property. T

The TG-WH welcomed the document submitted by Denmark regarding that request it as it explain the main role of the Danish National Park which is communication, education and development, and that all management issues remain with the Nature Agency as the competent authority for the World Heritage property. However, the document did not address the issues requested by the WH Committee, in particular how Denmark in cooperation with Germany and Netherlands will prepare “an implementation plan to enhance the conservation and management of the attribute of OUV within the Danish National Park.”

Denmark will therefore submit a response request by the next TG-WH meeting which covers all aspects of the request and can be included in the SoC report. In addition, all important documents (new national park strategy on World Heritage, relevant parts of the national park plan) should be translated into English to be annexed to the report.

Proposal: To note the status.

1.2 Single integrated management plan

6. Also requests the State Parties of Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands to develop a single integrated management plan for the entire transboundary property in

conformity with the requirements of Paragraph 111 of the Operational Guidelines, and to consider the options to strengthen the effectiveness of implementation of coordinated management within the property;

Taking into account the high workload in preparing the SoC report, the TG-WH suggested to focus on in the development of the Single Integrated Management Plan (SIMP) for the time being on priority issues for which there is an urgent need to for further harmonization, and which are already on the trilateral agenda (e.g. alien species, fishery, tourism, flyway, communication), and to report this to the WHC in 2016.

As a next step, the TG-WH will organize a workshop with management experts and the IUCN in April/May 2016 in order to develop on an overall framework of a SIMP for approval by the next WSB.

The work on the SIMP should then start in 2017 taking into account the results of the QSR 2016.

Proposal: To approve the proposed approach.

1.3 Monitoring impact fisheries

7. Recommends the States Parties to extend further the monitoring of impacts of fisheries activities within the existing and extended property, and consider the opportunities to ensure protection of the property from any detrimental impacts;

The TG-MM was requested to prepare a proposal to the WSB meeting. No further remarks by TG-WH.

1.4 State of Conservation Report

*8. Further requests the State Parties of Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands to submit, by **1 December 2016**, a joint report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property, including confirmation of progress on the development and adoption of the integrated management plan and the institutional and financial provisions that will be in place to ensure its effective implementation.*

A joint workshop with the QSR editorial board and members of TG-WH and TG-MM was organized on 4 June 2015 to discuss how to align the OUV attributes with the QSR in order to prepare the State of Conservation (SoC) report. The Netherlands provided external support to define the OUV attributes for the QSR.

The TG-WH, TG-MM and the QSR Editorial Board have prepared a proposal for the division of responsibilities for the SoC Report and the QSR Synthesis Report (see TG-MM report) to ensure a timely input of the QSR results and the OUV assessment into the SoC report.

The TG-WH underlined that results of the QSR must be available for the preparation of the SoC report by May 2016. Drafting of the SoC report must be concluded in July 2016 to allow internal consultations and approval of the final draft before mid-November 2016.

The TG-WH agreed on the Draft Outline of the SoC report (attached as Annex 1). A first editorial meeting for the SoC report is scheduled for Friday, 11 December 2015.

Proposal To endorse the approach and the outline of the SoC report

2. World Heritage Strategy and Road Map

The TG-WH discussed how to further elaborate the proposed projects in the road map and how to communicate the strategy to a broader audience. There was overall consent that highest priority should be given to the preparation of the QSR and the State of Conservation Report.

Therefore, the TG-WH agreed to use the road map as a working document, taking stock of ongoing or planned projects and for communication to potential partners who are interested to join, instead of actively approaching potential partners and developing new project initiatives.

Therefore, a separate launch event for the strategy was not regarded as suitable. Instead, the PROWAD kick-off meeting may provide an opportunity to present the road map and to invite and activate potential new partners.

The road map should also be integrated as much as possible in the planned new PROWAD LINK project, in specific regarding the development of a WH business cooperation programme and implementation of other planned WH projects.

PROPSAL

- **To instruct the TG-WH to finalize the project tables in the road map with ongoing or planned activities (e.g. flyway, marine programmes, branding, education, communication, tourism, partnerships, science),**
- **To task the TG-WH to keep track of the road map as a living working document and to approach strategic partners as appropriate.**

3. World Heritage Programme 2015

3.1 World Heritage Logo Guidelines

The TG-WH has appointed the following focal points which will assist the CWSS in the application procedure for the WH logo:

- NL: Sjon de Haan (Dutch WH facilitator),
- DK: Anne Husum Marboe (Nature Agency),
- D: National park administrations.

The TG-WH has updated logo guidelines accordingly including the necessary changes resulting from the extension with the Danish part of the Wadden Sea (see Annex 2).

The TG-WH instructed the CWSS to organize a joint meeting of the focal points before the end of 2015 to ensure quality and consistency of logo use across the entire property.

Proposal: The Wadden Sea Board is proposed to endorse the amended the logo guidelines.

3.2 WH business cooperation programme

The TG-WH discussed the PROWAD feasibility study or a World Heritage cooperation programme for business and it as an important step towards an engagement of private partners in the protection of World Heritage. The report underlines the necessity of a transnational approach, the broad interest of private businesses in cooperating, and the need to adhere to highest standards in a partner programme.

<http://www.prowad.org/news/2015-07-09-world-heritage-cooperation-programme-business-partners>

The TG-WH supported the results of the feasibility study and the preparation of a pilot project as outlined in the report (except the proposal to carry out a pilot action in a specific region). The TG-WH suggests that the project should be given high priority in the preparation of the Supplementary Budget 2016 and be carried out in the framework of the planned PROWAD LINK project.

Proposal: To endorse the preparation of a trilateral pilot project on a cooperation programme with business partners.

3.3 World Heritage Campaign

The TG-WH discussed the draft concept of a WH Campaign 2016 - 2018 prepared by the agencies Merkmakers (Leeuwarden) and Die Brueder (Hamburg) in the framework of PROWAD. The concept has been presented at a meeting of the Dutch marketing organizations in Leeuwarden, the TG-STC meeting, and a regional working group meeting in Schleswig-Holstein, all with a positive response. As a next step, a set of concrete measures and activities will be prepared to enable local and regional partners to engage with the campaign.

The TG-WH was also positive and proposed the implementation of campaign in the framework of PROWAD LINK in cooperation with the local and regional stakeholders. The campaign development and implementation 2016 – 2018 should be steered by a campaign task force.

Proposal: To endorse the development of a campaign implementation plan 2016 – 2018 in cooperation with the local and regional stakeholders.

3.3 World Heritage communication

The re-launch of the new World Heritage website has been delayed for about 12 months, as well as the preparation / update of World Heritage information material, due to a lacking budget and lacking man-power at the secretariat. As a result, several activities were not carried out in 2015 as planned and will therefore be postponed to 2016.

The TG-WH appreciated the announcement by the Netherlands to provide additional resources to support the re-launch of the WH website by end of 2015.

Proposal: To note

ANNEX 1**Report on the State of Conservation of the Wadden Sea World Heritage**

Draft Outline 6.10.2015

1. Executive Summary (1 p)

1 page summary on the state of conservation and the progress in implementing the requests of the World Heritage Committee

2. Overall current conservation status (4-5 p) (author: Editorial Board/CWSS)

Including new issues or developments identified by the QSR 2016 and not addressed in the nomination process 2008/09 and 2013/14. Factors affecting the property / the OUV features

3. Major activities implementing the requests (4-5 p) (author: TG-WH/CWSS)

Response from the State Parties to the World Heritage Committee's Decision (2009 and 2014), paragraph by paragraph,

3.1 Extension with Denmark (#1, 2009) and Report Danish National Park (#5, 2014)

3.1 Single integrated management plan (#6, 2014)

- Describe activities and road map to TGC 2018
- Tourism strategy and action plan (# 2, 2009)
- Alien species strategy (# 3, 2009)
- Flyway initiative (#4, 2009)
- Monitoring impact fisheries (# 7, 2014)

4. New plans/projects (1-2 p) (author: TG-WH)

In conformity with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, please describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) within the protected area (core zone and buffer zone and/or corridors) that might be envisaged, as well as outside of the property.

Describe main issues to be reported to the WHC according to § 172.

ANNEX

All relevant reports / strategies to be annexed

ANNEX 2

Guidelines for the use of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Logo

(update October 2015)

(see separate file –mark up and clean version)