

**TASK GROUP**

**MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING**

**Twenty-third meeting (TG-MM 23)**

**Hamburg**

**04-05 December 2018**

FINAL DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD

1. **Opening and adaptation of the agenda**

*Document: TG-MM 23 draft agenda*

The meeting was opened at 13:30 hours by the chairperson, Mr. Jørgensen. The agenda was adopted as displayed in **Annex 1**, but it was agreed to adjust the order of the agenda items where necessary. Ms Schröder and Mr. van Bentum were absent due to other obligations, Ms Sanns joint on the 2nd day only. A list of participants is in **Annex 2**. A list of actions is in **Annex 3**.

1. **Final Draft Summary Record TG-MM 22**

*Document: TG-MM 22 final draft summary record*

The final draft summary record of TG-MM 21 was **adopted** as submitted.

1. **Announcements**

Denmark:

* The executive order on the protection of the Wadden Sea is under revision and awaits a decision about a public hearing phase. The continued discontinuation of fisheries, which has been the case since before the WH nomination, for blue mussels has been under debate. A corresponding policy change might have impact on the World Heritage, but consequences remain unclear. Blue mussel stocks have had increased though, and therefore local fishermen may expect licences to be issued. During the nomination process, experts did not expect an increase of stocks. The envisaged development of bird numbers (eider ducks) had not been reached at the same time. The Danish Minister of Fishery already announced fishing options, while fishing activities outside the cooperation areas have continued.
* The Danish Natura2000 areas had been adjusted with a neutral result regarding the total area. The public hearing was ongoing, while a European approval was expected. A negative balance had been created for the Wadden Sea hinterland with a potential effect on Canada geese.
* Following a joint letter of intent with the aim of scientific cooperation with the AWI (Sylt), a follow up meeting was held for further planning. The basis for the cooperation was the request from the AWI to extend its fish monitoring to Danish waters. The collaboration is to be extended together with Danish research institutions. The University of Copenhagen explores sediment dynamics under geological aspects, but also with a biological element. Core drilling activities were conducted in the Wadden Sea for exploring paleo-biological records.

Germany

BMU

* As part of the federal programme on biodiversity a [project on the reintroduction of the European Oyster](https://biologischevielfalt.bfn.de/bundesprogramm/projekte/projektbeschreibungen/nachzucht-der-europaeischen-auster-fuer-eine-wiederansiedlung-in-der-deutschen-nordsee-proceed.html) into the North Sea has been launched. The funding is 3 million € over six years. An oyster seed station has been founded on the island of Helgoland in the German Bight and the offshore parcs in the area are foreseen as potential hard substrate for the reintroduction of the oysters.

Lower Saxony

* The 10th ‘Zugvogeltage’ (Migratory Bird Days) had been held from 13 - 21 October 2018 in the Wadden Sea National Park of Lower Saxony with over 20.000 participants from all over Germany. Partner country was the Republic of Guinea- Bissau.
* Two new projects: a) on the ecological management of sand/sediment in the Ems estuary (dredging and dumping) b) and on mussel bed monitoring with a 4,5 year funding for exploring more sophisticated monitoring methods e.g. by remote sensing. Information on oysters are intended to be included in the study. Basic data will feed into the corresponding management plan. Funding is partly provided by the European Marine and Fisheries Fund.
* Environmental monitoring concepts for oil spill detection were adopted from the British Islands.

Hamburg

* New info point on Wadden Sea World Heritage has been established in the ‘Chilehaus’ at the ‘Speicherstadt’ area in Hamburg.
* The planned Elbe deepening is aiming for 1,5m deepening and maintaining with potential influence also for the surrounding Wadden Sea sediments and ecosystem.
* An increasing amount of paraffin had been recently found in the Wadden Sea. Mr. Borchers added that there is a discussion going on at IMO/MEPC about regulations regarding this kind of substances. He will inform TG-MM about any progress.

Schleswig-Holstein

* “[Deutscher Naturschutztag](https://www.deutscher-naturschutztag.de/rueckblick-dnt-2018/)” was held in Kiel, Germany from 25 - 29 September 2018 under the major theme of marine protection. More than 1300 participants and 32 exhibitors took part.
* [Annual report on biodiversity](https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Landesregierung/V/Presse/PI/PDF/2018/181205_PI_Biologische_Vielfalt.pdf;jsessionid=EE9BD9DDFCC0E03B2B46FD729514739C?__blob=publicationFile&v=2) was issued at a press conference on 5 December 2018 at the Ministry for Energy, Agriculture, the Environment, Nature and Digitalisation in Kiel. At this event, the publication of a new concept for the management of predators was announced. It takes into account the findings of the Trilateral Breeding Bird Action Plan and is available at (in German only): <https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Fachinhalte/A/artenschutz/wiesenKuestenvogelschutz.html>

Netherlands:

* The ministerial budget on Wadden Sea issues was discussed in the Dutch parliament resulting in an increased contribution for the Swimway project and for the implementation of the Breeding Bird Action Plan.
* The Wadden Academy presented a [special issue](https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/netherlands-journal-of-geosciences/issue/CE6C65B1C738605EDA0D58EDE5B83436) on physical effects of sea level rise and soil subsidence in the Dutch Journal of Geosciences.
* The ‘[Advice of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Seal Rehabilitation in the Netherlands](https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/binaries/rijksoverheid/documenten/rapporten/2018/03/13/advice-of-the-scientific-advisory-committee-on-seal-rehabilitation-in-the-netherlands/advice-of-the-scientific-advisory-committee-on-seal-rehabilitation-in-the-netherlands.pdf)’ was submitted to the Dutch parliament and a new committee will process the recommendations with all involved parties and sectors. Ms Schokker-Strampel has been appointed as chair of this committee. A national seal agreement is in preparation by involving all parties from people on beaches to the rehabilitation centres. An updated agreement will be expected for March.
* ‘Wad! Overleven op de grens van water en land - A movie by Ruben Smit’ had been very successful in the Netherlands.
* A [press release](https://www.vanoord.com/news/2018-oysters-and-artificial-reefs-new-nature-development-within-north-sea-wind-farm) on an artificial reef deployed for the introduction of the European oyster (Ostrea edulis) 23 kilometres west of the Dutch port city of Ijmuiden (outside the cooperation area) as part of the “Rich North Sea” project. The artificial structures were developed with 3-D printing and approx. 6000kg of oysters had been released in cooperation with Wageningen Marine research.

CWSS

* Mr. Sergio Rejado Albaina has started his 10 months appointment as Coordinator of the African-Eurasian Flyway under the Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative ([CAFF](https://www.caff.is/) - Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna) in August 2018.
* In October 2018, Ms Soledad Luna has started in her position as [Project Officer ‘Wadden Sea World Heritage Management Plan](http://www.waddensea-secretariat.org/sites/default/files/CWSS_Internal/About_us/cwss_va_01-18_project_officer_wh_mp.pdf)’ for the duration of the German presidency.

1. **TWSC review process and implications for TG-MM**

*Document: TG-MM 23-4-1 TWSC Review-TG-MM*

Mr. Jørgensen informed on the WSB request for a proposal for the split of TG-MM into separate TGs on Management and on Monitoring & Assessment to the group. It was **agreed** that the outcome of the discussion would feed directly into the draft ToR to be produced during the parallel review process. Participants **agreed** that the data issue would need to be solved as a priority for the future process of installing the monitoring and assessment group. Mr. Scheiffarth noted that the data issue needed to be processed mainly in the planned expert group on data under the supervision of the new task group. The ToR of the former TMAG could be used as a template. ToR for the new group will be drafted by Germany with support from CWSS including a proposal for the future chairperson. These issues will be discussed during the TWSC Review Core Group meeting on 14 December 2018.

TG-MM discussed the set-up and the responsibilities of the new group. Mr. Baerends questioned how the WSP would fit into the proposed (group) system, while Mr. van Dokkum stated that it could be an option to look at the reporting obligations of the regions first and to develop TMAP further on that basis. Mr. Janke disagreed as he considered that the major questions were formulated in the WSP targets and the OUV and therefore still valid, although the tools to answer these questions might change over time. Mr. van Dokkum added that any future assessment should be aligned with the WFD activities. Mr. Scheiffarth noted that it was difficult to measure the success of political objectives. He underlined to consider the TMAP strategy and to define the role of TMAP in the work of the TWSC. Ms Bauer added that it was necessary that the group members should have the expertise and also the mandate to make decisions in order to ensure the successful tackling of the relevant issues.

Mr. Klöpper suggested to explore the reasons why the TMAG, as a kind of predecessor of the new group, did not deliver the expected results and the chairperson replied that there was no need to look back at this point. He summarized that the future participants should cover the sectors science, monitoring, management (incl. political relevance), quality and data.

The following tasks and deliverables were formulated for the TG on monitoring and assessment:

Tasks:

* Data system review
* Parameter review
* Review of assessment methods
* Propose trilateral monitoring products ( as part of the trilateral communication strategy)
* Explore target groups for any products (QSR etc.)
* Support QSR process

Deliverables:

* TMAP Inventory-Report (on basis of former work of TG-MM)
* Proposal for ToR of Working Group Data Handling
* Proposal on how the monitoring might fit to the WSP incl. OUV
* TMAP Handbook (update)
* Proposal on a possible tool for making information available for the public (LD § 19)

The composition of the group was discussed further but any final proposals will be submitted when the ToR will be agreed during the review process.

Mr. Borchers stated that first steps had been undertaken regarding a chairperson for the group with the future development of TMAP being one of the central topics of the German presidency. Mr. Adi Kellermann had been approached as a possible candidate who has a broad knowledge in this field. Ms Bauer added that Mr. Kellermann had been working at the National Park Authority in Schleswig-Holstein prior to his engagement at ICES and had played a crucial role in the development and implementation of TMAP. She confirmed that he was willing to share his experiences and knowledge on monitoring and assessment issues and would be available to function as chairperson for the new group. The group members **welcomed** this proposal.

1. **Implementation of Leeuwarden Declaration**

5.1 *Paragraph 5 & 12: Flyway & Breeding Birds*

*Document: TG-MM 23-5-1 JMMB WSFI*

Mr. Borchers reported from the preparatory meeting for the envisaged Arctic flyway workshop in St. Petersburg, Russia, which was put on hold due to political sensitivities at that time. It was agreed to use other panels/organizations (Artic Commission, CAFF, AMBI) to further approach the Northern countries for extending the flyway activities northbound. Furthermore, it was recognized to explore the future of the CAFF flyway coordinator, currently based at CWSS. The secretary of CAFF, Mr. Tom Berry, expressed his interest to continue the cooperation.

Mr. van Dokkum questioned if there had been an inventory of activities for the implementation of the Breeding Bird Action Plan available. Corresponding information would be requested from Mr. Lüerßen, Flyway coordinator at CWSS.

Mr. Baerends noted from the WSFI Steering Group meeting that the Dutch financing of the flyway monitoring would end after 2019.

Mr. Scheiffarth stated that the missing data sets from Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony had been pending due to problems in the data delivery chain. It was expected that the data delivery to SOVON would improve during the years to come, similar the successful process in the Netherlands. Mr. Baerends noted that the final flyway report on the total counting numbers (from 2017) will be ready in January or February 2019. The report would comprise a preface by the chairperson of the WSB, Prof. Karin Lochte. The initial publication had been planned before the trilateral conference last May.

* 1. *Paragraph 13: Swimway*

*Documents: TG-MM 23-5-2a) Swimway c) Swimway Action Programme; d) ToR Swimway group*

The chairperson informed on current developments around the Swimway project. The draft budget was discussed by a sub group at that time. He stated that a saving of 15.000-25.000 should be achieved as requested during WSB 27[[1]](#footnote-1)*.* Mr. Borchers questioned this request as the supplementary budget was adopted the afternoon before the WSB. Nevertheless, he considered that the in-kind contributions could be part of such calculation.

The meeting **agreed** that CWSS and the chairperson will create a limited tender to appoint a project leader/coordinator for the Swimway programme for 2019.

The overall options for consultant involvement was discussed. Although regional representatives in the trilateral groups will be sent by the parties, and not financed over additional trilateral budget lines, it was considered to use the 2019 Swimway budget to appoint external experts for getting the project and the corresponding group operational. There was general agreement that financial contributions for group participation would need to be arranged by the groups.

One missing comment from Schleswig-Holstein in the Swimway Action Programme had yet to be included; but the issue had already been discussed in the working group Swimway and was not considered as a substantive obstacle.

5.3 *Paragraph 14: Wardening & management*

It was agreed that the Netherlands, together with CWSS, would go for another attempt on the wardening workshop. Mr Klöpper and Mr. van Hoogerduijn (Teamleader Waddenunit and local organizer of the workshop) would get in touch to propose new dates on basis of the former arrangements.

The management workshop had been pending after unsuccessful attempts in 2018. Mr. Baerends informed that the corresponding budget was still available as seed money for another attempt. Representatives from Lower Saxony had promising discussions with Dutch NGO representatives on that matter.

5.4 *Paragraph 15: Seal Management Plan*

Mr. Klöpper reported on the Harbour seals numbers issued 01 November 2018 and the huge press reception. He also noted that first steps on changing the SMP format in the future had been initiated.

5.5 *Paragraph 16: Harbour porpoises*

*Document: TG-MM 23-5-5 Harbour porpoises*

The group valued the submitted programme for the Harbour porpoise symposium on 11-12 April 2019 in Wilhelmshaven as comprehensive and coherent and instructed CWSS to go ahead with the organization (while getting in contact with the responsible harbour porpoise experts in the responsible authorities).

5.6 *Paragraph 17: Alien Species*

*Document: TG-MM 23-5-6 Alien Species*

The chairperson pointed out that no budget was foreseen for alien species activities in the supplementary budget 2019 but that an overall concept for any progression on the topic should be developed. In this context, Mr. Baerends mentioned the need for exploring options for developing the planned information platform on alien species. The role of the CWSS will need to be discussed as well. Mr. Borchers stated that no immediate projects had been scheduled and that the existing regulation will need to be checked for relevance for the Wadden Sea. Ms Sanns proposed that a logic order will be to approve the MAPAS during WSB 28 in March, to elaborate on the communication plan, to create a platform and finally to install an alert system.

The aim of the communication plan was discussed thoroughly. Mr. Scheiffarth noted that the plan is a lot more than a brochure as it provides specific recommendations. He considered the document as a good product for approaching different players on the issue of alien species and that the document could be adopted with few adjustments. Ms Bauer added that some of the issues tackled in the plan were not in line with existing regulations whereas some of the instruments suggested, like the Beach Explorer, might be helpful to attract public interest. The group should therefore proceed to identify helpful strategies and projects for different target groups. Mr. Baerends added for consideration that before doing next steps, like issuing the communication plan, it was necessary to install the platform first. Mr. van Dokkum added that a brochure and a communication plan will both make sense for distributing information. The meeting **agreed** that the plan is not directed to the public in the current format but could be very helpful for internal use. Few adjustments will be needed before finalization. The working group was requested to further develop the plan, to discover suitable target groups and what kind of further information material/tools will be needed. Comments from Schleswig-Holstein will be submitted to the group, the Netherlands will contact their representative directly and Denmark stated that its reservation had been of a more general character and could be lifted once the group agrees on the final format and purpose.

The working group was further instructed to produce a clean version of the MAPAS. Mr. Borchers pointed out that the final draft of the plan would have to be agreed upon with the respective Federal Ministry for Transport with the aim to adopt the plan at WSB 28 in March.

5.7 [*Paragraph 18 -20: TMAP, QSR & Data Handling*

(=>TG Monitoring & Expert Group Data (EG-Data)]

Mr. Klöpper informed that the QSR Synthesis Report had been delayed due to the workload at CWSS, mainly due to the TWSC review process. He assumed that a new draft could be submitted end of 2018. Comments would be expected by end of January in preparation for presentation at WSB 28 in March.

5.8 *Paragraph 21: Fisheries*

The chairman pointed out that a state of play for the fisheries topic would be necessary during 2019. Mr. Baerends added that an inventory was expected by WSB. Mr. Klöpper pointed out that here was no clear decision during WSB 27. Mr. Borchers suggested to postpone the issue further, but also underlined the relevance of the topic for the NGOs which were in favour of installing a TG Fisheries. It was agreed that the secretary will explore former trilateral reports on the issue and proposed to deal with fisheries within the SIMP. In that regard, the group offered support for the CWSS SIMP Officer.

5.9 *Paragraph 22 - 23: Marine litter*

*Document: TG-MM 23-5-9 Marine Litter workshop*

The workshop on marine litter on the island of Norderney in November 2018 was acknowledged by TG-MM.

Mr. Scheiffarth noted that there were several activities on marine litter which had been badly connected. Mr. Jørgensen suggested that such connection could be established through the Partnership Hub. Mr. Baerends narrowed that meanwhile the item should still be kept on the TG Management agenda in brackets.

5.10[*Paragraph 24: Light Emissions*

(=> dialogue with initiatives via CWSS/WSF/Hub)]

Mr. Baerends informed that the PRW will fund a two-year-programme on trilateral activities in the framework of the Dark Sky Initiative.

5.12 [*Paragraph 29: Energy*

(*=>*Cable laying - ad hoc group)]

Mr. Borchers informed that a planned workshop on cable laying activities in the three countries was not a priority at that time.

5.13 [*Paragraph 30-34: Ports and shipping*

(*=>* Dialogue with DenGerNet MARAD, WSF, Hub)]

The chairperson pointed out that the DenGerNeth/MARAD group had not been sufficiently informed on the outcome of the trilateral governmental conference and that Denmark was keen to continue the cooperation. Mr. Borchers added that the dialogue should be fostered and that the cancellation of the corresponding workshop was due to logistic issues rather than a lack of interest. The call for action from the trilateral NGOs explicitly dealt with shipping and next steps were needed to be done by the parties. Mr. Jørgensen added that the former arrangements with the MARAD group should be adjusted with respect to the contents of the LD and Mr. Baerends added that the whole issues could be shifted to the Hub in the future.

Mr. Janke noted that the actual PSSA status could be an issue of evaluation and any change of measures, issues or boarders might need adjustment (paraffin issue to be further explored).

It was **agreed** that CWSS will draft a note to WSB: on the review of Annex V, including paras on a potential PSSA adjustment and the paraffin issue, but also an appreciation of the efforts of the MARAD group. CWSS requested support on such note from the Netherlands.

5.14 [*Paragraph 36: Trilateral Research Agenda*

(=> programming committee, accompanied/supervised by TG-MM)]

*Documents: TG-MM 23-5-14a) TRA Programme Committee; b) TRA Programme Committee ToR*

*TG-MM 23-5-14 2a) TRA joint doc b)TRA joint doc NL c) TRA joint doc GER*

Germany considered the installation of a programming committee as too early at that time as the programme itself was not running. Germany was not in a position to make any decision at that point. The Federal Ministry of Education and Research was interested in the

transboundary aspects of the programme but needed a joint document before any further steps could be taken. Mr. Borchers added that the whole process of implementation needed further clarification. The meeting **agreed** that the position of a chairperson would be essential for the lineup of the group. The WSB chairperson was proposed as a potential trilateral observer in the programming committee. The role of CWSS remained unclear. The meeting **agreed** to put the ToR on hold and to inform the authors on the status and to add the German comments. Regarding the procedure to submit a final version of the TRA joint document to the TG-WH, Mr. Baerends offered to come forward with, and assist the CWSS in preparing, a final draft, taking into account all the Dutch and German comments. The document should be finished in time before the TG-WH scheduled end of January 2019.

5.15 Items with finalization pending from **Tønder Declaration**:

*Paragraph 23: N2000 roof report*

Mr. Klöpper informed on preliminary negotiations with a Danish consultant on the production of the N2000 roof report. An agreement was expected by the end of 2018.

General: A discussion evolved on how to proceed with those items from the Leeuwarden Declaration not finally allocated to any groups. It was agreed to approach the OPteam with a list of topics when appropriate.

1. **Any other business**

The meeting agreed to skip future full lunch arrangements (until indicated differently) with the aim to simplify the meeting logistics during the day.

1. **Next meeting**

The 2019 meetings were scheduled:

23-24 April 2019 (Bremen)

08-09 October 2019 (preferably in Denmark).

1. **Closing**

The chairperson closed the meeting at 13:00 hours. He thanked participants for a fruitful meeting and especially Mr. Janke for providing the venue.

**ANNEX 1**

1. **Opening and adoption of the Agenda**
2. **Summary Record TG-MM 21**
3. **Announcements**
4. **Trilateral Governmental Conference 2018 and German presidency**
5. **Implementation of Leeuwarden Declaration**
6. **Any other business**
7. **Next meeting**
8. **Closing**

**ANNEX 2**

**List of participants**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mr. Henrik G. Pind Jørgensen (Chairperson)**  Environment Protection Agency  Skovridervej 3, Arnum  DK-6510 Gram  phone: +45 72 54 34 44  e-mail: [hepgj@mstsvana.dk](mailto:hepgj@mstsvana.dk) | **Mr. Thomas Borchers**  Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und nukleare Sicherheit (BMU)  Robert-Schuman-Platz 3  D-53175 Bonn  phone: +49 228 99 305 2629  fax: +49 228 99 305 2397  e-mail: [Thomas.Borchers@bmu.bund.de](mailto:Thomas.Borchers@bmu.bund.de) |
| **Ms Maren Bauer**  Ministry of Energy Transition, Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas  Mercatorstrasse 3  D - 24106 Kiel  phone: +49 (0) 431-988 7196  fax: +49 (0) 431-988-615 7196  e-mail: [maren.bauer@melund.landsh.de](mailto:maren.bauer@melund.landsh.de) | **Mr. Klaus Janke**  Behörde für Umwelt & Energie (BUE)  Amt für Naturschutz, Grünplanung & Energie  - Nationalpark Hamburgisches Wattenmeer -  - Nationalpark-Leitung / NR340 -  Neuenfelder Straße 19  D-21109 Hamburg  phone: + 49 40 428.40.3392  e-mail: [Klaus.Janke@BUE.Hamburg.de](mailto:Klaus.Janke@BUE.Hamburg.de) |
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| **Mr. Sascha Klöpper (Secretary)**  Common Wadden Sea Secretariat  Virchowstr. 1  D - 26382 Wilhelmshaven  phone: +49 (0)4421 9108-14  fax: +49 (0)4421 9108-30  [kloepper@waddensea-secretariat.org](mailto:kloepper@waddensea-secretariat.org) |  |

**ANNEX 3**

**Action List**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Action #** | **Agenda item** | **What** | **Who** | **Deadline** |
| 1 | 4 | Submit amended draft ToR TG-Management and TG Monitoring and Assessment and additional information to TWSC Core Group for its December meeting, including a proposal for a chair for TG-M&A. | GER and CWSS | asap\* |
| 2 | 5 | Provide information on the status of the inventory on implementation activities of the Breeding Bird Action Plan. | CWSS | before next meeting |
| 3 | Create a limited tender to appoint a project leader/coordinator for the Swimway programme for 2019. | CWSS and chairperson | asap\* |
| 5 | Revive activities to conduct a wardening workshop. | Netherlands and CWSS | before next meeting |
| 6 | Submit comments on latest version of Aliens Species Communication Plan to WG-AS with request for further elaboration. | All | asap\* |
| 7 | Explore target groups for alien species communication plan. | WG-AS | before next meeting |
| 8 | Submit new draft of QSR-Synthesis Report. | CWSS | end of 2018 |
| 9 | Explore/compile former trilateral reports on sustainable fisheries. | CWSS/All | next meeting |
| 9 | Submit note to WSB on status of cooperation with DenGerNeth/MARAD group to WSB 28. | CWSS | mid-February |
| 10 | Approach OPTeam on items from LD to be potentially shifted (e.g. from TG-MM) to the Partnership Hub. | CWSS/TG-MM members | spring 2019 |

\* done in the meantime

1. *Editorial note from the chairperson about the Swimway budget: F.y.i. the budget has now been aligned with the Supplementary Budget approved by WSB, resulting in a net. reduction of the proposed budget of 11.000€* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)