Wadden Sea Board

WSB 27

12-13 November 2018
Copenhagen, Denmark

Agenda Item:	**5.1 World Heritage**
Subject:	TG-WH Progress Report
Document No.:	WSB 27/5.1/2
Date:	23 October 2018
Submitted by:	**TG-WH Chair**

Attached is the progress report from the TG-WH 25 meeting.

Proposal: The meeting is invited to note the information

Progress Report TG-WH

The TG-WH met in Bremen on 5 September 2018 and discussed the following items:

1. TWSC Review Process

As requested by WSB, TG-WH 25 prepared the draft summary of the questionnaire including proposed draft ToR and the updated WH Strategy Roadmap which were submitted to the WSB workshop on 17 October 2018 for further consideration.

2. State of Conservation requests

The World Heritage Centre (WHC) submitted two requests on the State of conservation of the Wadden Sea to the State Party of Denmark regarding 1) Esbjerg harbour development plans and 2) population status of the houting.

Regarding the planning for the extension of Esbjerg harbour, Denmark informed the TG-WH that the scoping was concluded, an EIA is in preparation and that IUCN will be involved accordingly. The draft answer by Denmark on the WHC request will forwarded to TG-WH for information.

Regarding the decline of the houting population, the TG-WH agreed to provide Denmark with relevant information about the houting from The Netherlands and Germany for inclusion in answer on the request. The draft answer by Denmark on the WHC request will forwarded to TG-WH for information.

TG-WH also took note of the amendment of the Danish Executive Order for the Wadden Sea concerning possible impacts on the protection status of the World Heritage property. It was agreed that Denmark should provide additional information about the amendment and its relation to World Heritage.

TG-WH also decided to inform WSB accordingly about the requests (OG § 174) and, in case any planned developments that might impact OUV or any change of the protection status, to discuss the potential need to signal it to the WHC (according to OG § 172).

3. World Heritage Strategy and Road Map

TG-WH 25 endorsed the draft agenda of the workshop on "Marine Litter in World Heritage Sites" (Norderney 14 – 16 November 2018) and suggested to also invite WH marine sites to the workshop which are potential cooperation partners for the Wadden Sea.

With regard to PROWAD LINK project, TG-WH underlined that the project needs to be closely connected the TWSC aims and objectives, and that project deliverables which will be forwarded to WSB for decision, need to be discussed by the relevant TG. The meeting did not see the necessity to establish a trilateral advisory group specifically for PROWAD Link by WSB but suggested that CWSS as the project leader should involve TG-WH accordingly in case of WH relevant topics.

The TG-WH also took note of comments by Germany on the logo application by the Dutch producer of the movie "Silence of the Tide". It was decided to inform the company that the German national park authorities are open for a meeting, to talk about their concerns and how this could be addressed in the further preparation of the film project.

4. Development Wadden Sea WH Management Plan (SIMP)

The TG-WH discussed expectations and first ideas towards the development and the process regarding a single integrated management plan (SIMP) for the Wadden Sea World Heritage property. The role of working groups in the SIMP process should be clearly defined, as well as the specific tasks of the new SIMP officer. The criteria for selecting priority management themes for the SIMP, as well as participation of stakeholders need to be further developed.

5. International Cooperation

As requested by WSB 22, TG-WH prepared a document on future potential and added value of cooperation with other World Heritage sites with a recommendation of WH sites which could be approached as potential cooperation partner (see agenda item 5.9 International Cooperation).