

# MEETING DOCUMENT

## Wadden Sea Board (WSB 37)

26 August 2022  
Wilhelmshaven, Germany



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<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>4. Announcements</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Announcements by CWSS</b>
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<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>CWSS</b>

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The following paper gives a written overview of the announcements of CWSS to the WSB 37.

**Proposal:** The meeting is invited to note the announcements.

## Announcements by CWSS to WSB 37

### **TransParcNet Meeting/ EUROPARC Federation**

The TWSC was invited as a special guest to the TransParcNet meeting 2022 to present its governance structure and how the three countries work together for nature conservation management of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site. The meeting took place between 28 June - 1 July with 30 participants from the 12 registered transnational parks in Europe. The presentation of the TWSC was praised for sharing the milestones, lessons, experiences as well as the challenges of building and maintaining a cooperation funded on a strong base.

### **UNESCO World Heritage Centre project on eDNA**

CWSS is in the advisory board for the Environmental DNA Expeditions in UNESCO World Heritage Marine Sites project (<https://ednaexpeditions.org>) launched by the World Heritage Centre. This global, citizen science initiative will help measure marine biodiversity, and the impacts climate change might have on the distribution patterns of marine life, across UNESCO World Heritage marine sites. The Wadden Sea has been selected as pilot site.

### **UN Ocean Conference**

The 2nd UN Ocean Conference took place in Lisbon from 27th of June until the 1st of July. In the context of this Conference the Ministry of Environment and Climate Action of Portugal organised, together with the co-hosts from Argentina, Mozambique and Singapore, a High-Level Symposium on Water.

For this Symposium, three Ministerial Roundtables were organized with the aim of stimulating a new approach between the fresh and saltwater communities, to bridge between Sustainable Development Goals SDG 6 and 14.

Recognising the role of the CWSS in the multilateral cooperation for the management of a unique environment, amidst the river and sea, the CWSS was invited to deliver a keynote at the 1st Ministerial Roundtable, based on our experience with wetland resilience, the instruments which are in place and used, and our expertise on engaging with stakeholders and other groups.

The results of the Symposium delivered input to the UN Ocean Conference and will contribute with its outcomes to the UN 2023 Water Conference which will take place in spring 2023 in New York.

### **Oris annual event**

Within the framework of the cooperation agreement between the CWSS and Oris, the annual event according to the theme "Change for the better" will take place in Harlesiel, Lower Saxony. This year's novelty is a children's camp (15 to 20 August) preceding the incentive/VIP weekend event (19 to 22 August). The Change for the better – WattenMeerCamp 2022, is giving 25 financially

underprivileged children the opportunity to get to know the special features of “their” Wadden Sea region in a one-week summer camp. Here they can explore the Wadden Sea with all their senses, learn about it, have a lot of fun in it and experience it as a valuable part of their living environment. And they can already develop ideas about what they can do to protect it.

On the last day they will meet adults who are also meeting for a special Oris Wadden Sea experience and can tell them about their impressions and ideas. Both events are fully funded by Oris, CWSS supported the program development and helped to establish the first local contacts (Grün & Bunt, Wattwanderzentrum Ostfriesland – both NP Partner Lower Saxony).

## **Trilateral Youth Conference**

The Trilateral Wadden Sea Youth Conference – under the theme: Our heritage. Our future. – will be held from 01 to 04 September in St. Peter-Ording, Germany. The event raises awareness about the Wadden Sea World Heritage, shares insights on the existing youth involvement and elaborates on the future of youth engagement.

The TYC brings together young adults from Denmark, Germany, and the Netherlands to strengthen youth engagement in the region's sustainable development. The participants, independently selected by partners in each country, are between 18 and 30 years old, already involved with or enthusiastic about the site conservation. They are volunteers, university students, young professionals, employees, and entrepreneurs in related fields of activity. Since August, they have been exchanging and co-creating the event on an online community platform.

The programme is structured to encourage youth ownership and the activities organised under thematic days. On the first day – Our ONE Wadden Sea – the context of the Trilateral Cooperation and the World Heritage designation are presented. On the second day – Our Feet on the Mud – the participants experience a mudflat walk and share their existing involvement and personal relation with the site. On the third day – Our Eyes on the Horizon – they discuss the future of youth engagement through common issues of interest and visions for working together. On the fourth day – Our Compass for Actions – they begin elaborating on youth perspectives to be presented by representatives at the 14th Trilateral Governmental Conference.