

77th NSC Executive Committee,
13th June 2017, Fredrikstad, Østfold

Draft minutes

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Welcome and introduction by Cllr Kerstin Brunnström, NSC President.

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of the minutes from the 76th ExCom
3. Follow-up on decisions from the Annual Business Meeting
4. Election of Vice Chairs of thematic groups 2018-2020
5. Membership
6. Next Executive Committee meeting(s)
7. AOB



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Attending

President	Kerstin Brunnström
Vice President	Andreas Lervik
Vice President	John Lamb
Danish Representative	Preben Friis-Hauge
Dutch Representative	not present
English Representative	John Lamb
French Representative	not present
German Representative	Antje Grotheer
Norwegian Representative	Kåre Pettersen (substitute)
Scottish Representative	John Reynolds (substitute)
Swedish Representative	Dag Hultefors

NSC Thematic groups Chairs/Vice Chairs

Energy and Climate Change	not present
Marine Resources	Anders Fasth (Chair)
Transport	Preben Friis-Hauge (Chair)
Smart Regions	Barney Crockett (Chair)
	Otto Kjaer-Larsen (Vice Chair)

NSC Secretariat

Executive Secretary	Magnus Engelbrektsson
Assistant Executive Secretary	Melissa Frödin
Assistant Executive Secretary	Irma Ganibegovic

NSC Thematic group Advisors

Energy and Climate Change	Paulien Kooistra
Marine Resources	not present
Transport	Jon Halvard Eide
Smart Regions	Geir Sør-Reime

Other Ministers/Councillors

Erik Johansson, Region Örebro län
Karen Anne Kjendlie, Vestfold

Other Supporting Officers

Gregg Jones, CPMR
Martin Brebner, Aberdeenshire
Laura Paterson, Aberdeen City Council
Torsten Raff, Bremen
Elmer Koole, Noord-Nederland
Dino Keljalic, Region Örebro län
Charlotta Lundström, Västra Götaland
Karen Greve Somerset, North Denmark
Kia Sofie Abildtrup, South Denmark
Sidony Venema, Flevoland
Kjersti Helene Garberg, Østfold

1. Approval of the agenda

Decisions and conclusions

1. The Executive Committee approves the agenda.

2. Approval of the minutes

Decisions and conclusions

1. The Executive Committee approves the minutes of the 76th Executive Committee meeting, 15th March 2018, Kiel, Germany.

3. Follow-up on decisions from the Annual Business Meeting

Decisions and conclusions

The Executive Committee takes note of

1. its appointment to act as the steering group for the process of drafting the post 2020 strategy for the North Sea Region.
2. the information that the Secretariat will communicate the resolutions, policy positions and the final declaration to relevant stakeholders and decision makers.

4. Election of Vice Chairs of thematic groups 2018-2020

Decisions and conclusions

The Executive Committee elects

1. Cllr Tjisse Stelpstra, Noord-Nederland (NL) as Vice Chair for the Energy and Climate Change Group
2. Cllr Jon-Olav Strand, Aust-Agder (NO) as Vice Chair for the Energy and Climate Change Group
3. Cllr Åshild Kjelsnes, Sogn og Fjordane (NO) as Vice Chair for the Marine Resources Group
4. Cllr Henk Staghouwer, Noord-Nederland (NL) as Vice Chair for the Marine Resources Group
5. Cllr Birgitta Adolfsson, Västra Götaland (SE) as Vice Chair for the Smart Regions Group
6. Cllr Otto Kjær Larsen, Nordjylland (DK) as Vice Chair for the Smart Regions Group
7. Cllr Kåre Pettersen, Vestfold (NO) as Vice Chair for the Transport Group

5. Membership

CPMR has received a membership application from **Highlands and Islands of Scotland European Partnership (HIEP)** to be decided by the CPMR Political Bureau in Pärnu on the 21st of June. According to the statutes of the CPMR, a decision on membership should be made “following advice from the relevant Geographical Commission”, which means that the North Sea Commission should present its view to CPMR Political Bureau.

Decisions and conclusions

The Executive Committee

1. notes that HIEP is not an elected council, but an association. The CPMR should not become an association of associations, that could devalue our status.
2. notes that HIEP includes not only councils, but also a university and another public body. It would open for a new category of members, which would change the membership base of CPMR.
3. notes that it is unfair that seven councils would get the services of CPMR/NSC to the price of one. This could lead to several members being inclined to leave and save money by letting existing or new umbrella organisations represent them. Which could lead to a loss of members and income from membership fees.
4. mandates President Brunnström to decline the HIEP membership at the CPMR Political Bureau in Pärnu, and recommend the Political Bureau to explore alternative ways to cooperate with these kinds of associations and organisations.

6. Next Executive Committee meeting

Decisions and conclusions

The Executive Committee

1. confirms the 11th of October 2018 as the time for the next ExCom meeting which will take place in Brussels, Belgium.
2. Confirms the 11th of January 2019 as the time for the 79th ExCom meeting which will take place in Groningen, Netherlands. This ExCom will be devoted to discussing the process of the post 2020 strategy for the North Sea Region.

7. AOB

Cllr Preben Friis-Hauge, Chair of the NSC Transport working group, informed that the transport working group is planning a joint meeting with the Energy and Climate Change group in February 2019 to collect input to the new North Sea Commission strategy. Arranging a joint group meeting usually requires more resources from the host region. And as joint meetings are encouraged in the NSC, Cllr Friis-Hauge suggests that the ExCom discusses the possibility to reserve funding in the budget for joint meetings. That way the working groups can apply for funding when needed.



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Decisions and conclusions

The Executive Committee

1. confirms that there is room in the budget to fund joint working groups meetings, and encourages the working groups to apply for funding when needed.

Kerstin Brunström thanks the participants for engaging discussions and closes the meeting.