



CPMR NORTH SEA  
COMMISSION



CPMR  
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# 27<sup>th</sup> NSC Annual Business Meeting

13th June 2018

Fredrikstad, Østfold, Norway

Draft minutes

## 27<sup>th</sup> NSC Annual Business Meeting, 13th June 2018, Fredrikstad

### 13.00-13.20 Opening session

Welcome to Østfold *Cllr **Andreas Lervik**, Østfold and NSC Vice President*

Opening remarks *Cllr **Kerstin Brunström**, NSC President*

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of the minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting June 2017 in Göttingen

### 13.20-14.00 Thematic Priorities

3. Managing maritime space *Cllr **Anders Fasth**, Chair of Marine Resources Group*
4. Cooperation agreement with KIMO *Mr **Magnus Engelbrektsson**, NSC Executive Secretary*
5. Increased accessibility and clean transport *Cllr **Preben Friis-Hauge**, Chair of Transport Group*
6. Tackling Climate Change *Cllr **Jimmy Gray**, Chair of Energy and Climate Change Group*
7. Attractive and sustainable communities *Cllr **Barney Crockett**, Chair of Smart Regions group*

### 14.00-15.30 Future of Europe, future of the North Sea

8. Brexit update *Mr **Magnus Engelbrektsson**, NSC Executive Secretary*
9. EU budget and programmes post 2020 *Mr **Gregg Jones**, Director, CPMR*
10. Interreg update *Mr **Christian Byrith**, Director Interreg North Sea secretariat*
11. North Sea Strategy post 2020 *Mr **Magnus Engelbrektsson**, NSC Executive Secretary*

### 16.00-16.45 Internal affairs

12. Annual report 2017-2018 *Mr **Magnus Engelbrektsson**, NSC Executive Secretary*
13. Action plan 2018-2019 *Ms **Melissa Frödin**, NSC Assistant Executive Secretary*
14. Communication plan 2018-2019 *Ms **Irma Ganibegovic**, NSC Assistant Executive Secretary*
15. Finances *Mr **Magnus Engelbrektsson**, NSC Executive Secretary*
  - a. Accounts 2017
  - b. Auditor's report on accounts 2017
  - c. Statement of accounts per May 2018
  - d. Budget 2019
16. CPMR strategic plan *Mr **Gregg Jones**, Director, CPMR*
17. Election of President and one Vice President 2018-2020 *Chaired by **John Lamb**, NSC Vice President*
18. Confirmation of members and substitute members of NSC Executive Committee
19. Meeting plan 2018-2019

### 16.45-17.00 Closing session

20. Resolutions
21. Final declaration
22. Annual Business Meeting 2019
23. Signing of agreement on the NSC Secretariat 2018-2021
24. AOB

Andreas Lervik, Vice-president of the North Sea Commission and Councillor of Østfold County Council, welcomed the North Sea Commission to Fredrikstad, Østfold, Norway.

Kerstin Brunnström, President of the North Sea Commission, welcomed the members of the North Sea Commission to the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting. A special welcome to the external guests and to those who are attending the ABM for the first time.

<b>Attending - North Sea Commission Annual Business Meeting 13th June 2018, Fredrikstad (NO)</b>		
<b>Region</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Official</b>
<b>Aberdeen City Council</b>	Barney Crockett (Chair SRG)	Laura Paterson
	John Reynolds (V. Chair TG)	Stuart Bews
<b>Aberdeenshire Council</b>		Martin Brebner
<b>Aust-Agder fylkeskommune</b>	Jon-Olav Strand (V. Chair ECCG)	Lars Holmer Hoven
	Jan Kløvstad	Berit Weiiby Gregersen
<b>Buskerud fylkeskommune</b>	Anders Wengen	Trond Myrland
<b>Freie Hansestadt Bremen</b>	Antje Grotheer	Torsten Raff
<b>Highland Council</b>	Jimmy Gray (Chair ECCG)	
<b>Hordaland fylkeskommune</b>		Kate Clarke
		Karen Nybø
		Marta Rongved Dixon
		Inge Døskeland
<b>Land Niedersachsen</b>	Barbara Woltmann	Monika von Haaren
<b>Møre og Romsdal fylkeskommune</b>	Jon Aasen	Birgit Aarønaes
	Erik Kursetgjerde	Kai Bedringås
		Lisbeth Nervik
<b>Province of Flevoland</b>		Sidony Venema
<b>Provincie Noord-Holland</b>		Wim Stooker
		Yolanda Schmal (Advisor MRG)
<b>Region Halland</b>	Dag Hultefors	
<b>Region Midtjylland</b>		Henrik Michael Jensen
<b>Region Nordjylland</b>	Otto Kjaer Larsen (V. Chair SRG)	Karen Greve Somerset
	Tina Juul Kjellberg	
	Jørgen Hansen	
	Mads Møller Thomsen	
<b>Region Syddanmark</b>	Preben Friis-Hauge (Chair TG)	Kia Sofie Abildtrup
	Preben Jensen	

<b>Region Västra Götaland/NSC pres./secr.</b>	Kerstin Brunnström (President)	Magnus Engelbrektsson (ExSec)
		Melissa Frödin (A. ExSec)
		Irma Ganibegovic (A. ExSec)
<b>Region Västra Götaland</b>	Anders Fasth (Chair MRG)	Charlotta Lundström
	Birgitta Adolfsson (V. Chair SRG)	
<b>Region Örebro län</b>	Erik Johansson	Dino Keljalic
<b>Rogaland fylkeskommune</b>		Geir-Sør-Reime (Advisor SRG)
		Live Hegelstad
<b>Samenwerkingsverband Noord-Nederland</b>		Paulien Kooistra (Advisor ECCG)
		Daniël Koelikamp
		Elmer Koole
		Jos Wierema
<b>Southend-on-Sea Borough Council</b>	John Lamb (V. President)	
<b>Telemark fylkeskommune</b>		Vibeke Jakobsen
<b>Trøndelag fylkeskommune</b>		Leif Harald Hanssen
		Terje Skrattalsrud
<b>Vest-Agder fylkeskommune</b>	Tore Askildsen	Jon Halvard Eide (Advisor TG)
	Sally Vennesland	Siv Hemsett
<b>Vestfold fylkeskommune</b>	Kåre Pettersen (V. Chair TG)	Per Jørgen Olafsen
		Karen Anne Kjendlie
<b>Østfold fylkeskommune</b>	Andreas Lervik (V. President)	Kjersti Helene Garberg
<b>Organisation</b>		
		<b>Name</b>
<b>CPMR</b>		Gregg Jones
<b>Eastern Norway County Network</b>		Ann Irene Saeternes
<b>Interreg North Sea Programme</b>		Christian Byrith
<b>KIMO</b>		Mike Mannaart
		Grioghair McCord
		Robert te Beest
<b>West-Vlaanderen</b>		Liesbet Lefevere
		Wim Stubbe

### **1. Approval of the agenda**

A new agenda point is introduced, Signing of agreement on the secretariat 2018-21.

#### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting approves the agenda of the meeting, including the added point Signing of agreement on the secretariat 2018-21.

### **2. Approval of the minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting**

#### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting approves the minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting 2017

### **3. Managing maritime space**

The Chair of the NSC Marine Resources Group, Cllr Anders Fasth, Västra Götaland (SE), gave a report on the developments in the area and on the work of the Marine Resources Group.

#### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting takes note of the information.

### **4. Cooperation agreement with KIMO**

Magnus Engelbrektsson, NSC Executive Secretary, presented the cooperation agreement with KIMO. KIMO is an environmental organisation for municipalities, which has long experience of working on the issue of marine litter. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the NSC and KIMO includes cooperation on several different aspects of marine litter and pollution. The MoU will be up for approval by KIMO's annual meeting in October 2018.

Robert te Beest, President of KIMO, presented the organisation in more detail and several members of the NSC expressed their enthusiasm about working together on the important issue of marine litter.

#### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting approves the cooperation agreement with KIMO.

### **5. Increased accessibility and clean transport**

The Chair of the NSC Transport Group, Cllr Preben Friis-Hauge, South Denmark (DK), gave a report on the developments in the area and on the work of the Transport Group.

#### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting takes note of the information.

## **6. Tackling climate change**

The Chair of the NSC Energy and Climate Change Group, Cllr Jimmy Gray, Highland (UK), gave a report on the developments in the area and on the work of the Energy and Climate Change Group.

Cllr Jon-Olav Strand, Aust-Agder (NO) and Vice-chair of the Energy and Climate Change group, stressed that there is an interface between energy and transport which needs to be addressed within the NSC regarding how and when the two groups should work together. He suggested that the issue of cooperation between the NSC working groups should be addressed in the ExCom. The ExCom should make recommendations on how the groups can work best together, to share the work between themselves and to make sure there are no overlaps or inefficiencies.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting takes note of the information.

## **7. Attractive and sustainable communities**

The Chair of the NSC Smart Regions Group, Cllr Barney Crockett, Aberdeen City (UK), gave a report on the developments in the area and on the work of the Smart Regions Group.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting takes note of the information.

## **8. Brexit Update**

Cllr Nienke Homan, Chair of Brexit Task Force, has sent her apologies for not being able to attend the ABM. Magnus Engelbrektsson gave an update on Brexit developments and the NSC task force.

Engelbrektsson explained that the task force is trying to assess what the impact will be in the North Sea Region, but it is still difficult to say exactly what will happen since it is still unclear if there will be a Brexit deal and how the agreement will be on future cooperation between UK and the EU.

Cllr Antje Grotheer, Freie Hansestadt Bremen, informed that the issues of Brexit have been discussed on federal level in Germany for many months now and resolutions have been agreed on topics such as fisheries policy, preservation of the fishing quotas and access to the UK seas for EU vessels, as well as the importance of UK's continued participation in Interreg programmes. There is also a discussion about a policy position from the Bremen government, which will go in line with the CPMR declaration.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting takes note of the information.

## **9. EU budget and programmes post 2020**

Gregg Jones, CPMR Director of Finance and EU programmes, presented the European Commission's proposal for the next multi-annual financial framework for the 2021-2027 period.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting takes note of the information.

## **10. Interreg Update**

Christian Byrith, Director of the Interreg North Sea Joint Secretariat, gave an update from the programme, the future of the Interreg North Sea programme and the impact of Brexit regarding UK participation.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting takes note of the information.

## **11. North Sea Strategy post 2020**

Magnus Engelbrektsson gave a report on the process of developing the North Sea Strategy post 2020 and presented the results of the evaluation of the current strategy. There was a short informal discussion on several aspects of the new strategy, including format and time frame.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

The Annual Business Meeting

1. Discusses format and framework for the post-2020 strategy
2. Sets up a task force for the strategy process, coordinated by the Secretariat
3. Appoints the Executive Committee as steering group for the strategy process

## **12. Annual report 2017-2018**

Magnus Engelbrektsson, NSC Executive Secretary, presented the Annual Report for 2017-2018.

Clr John Lamb, Vice President of the NSC, noted that the agreement on the new secretariat should be in the annual report.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting approves the annual report 2017-2018, with the addition of the agreement on the new secretariat.

## **13. Action Plan 2018-2019**

A draft action plan was presented by Melissa Frödin, NSC Assistant Executive Secretary.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting approves the Action plan 2018-2019.

## **14. Communication plan 2018-2019**

A draft communication activity plan for 2018-2019 was presented by Irma Ganibegovic, NSC Assistant Executive Secretary.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting approves the communication activity plan 2018-2019.

### **15. Finances**

Magnus Engelbrektsson, NSC Executive Secretary, gave a presentation on the North Sea Commission's finances, highlighting that there is a proposal in the budget to use € 50 000 from the reserve for the post 2020 strategy development.

Cllr Preben Friis-Hauge, Chair of the NSC Transport group, informed that the Transport 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. Joint group meetings are important for the work of and encouraged in the NSC. Since arranging a joint meeting usually will require more resources from the host region, Cllr Friis-Hauge underlines that it is of importance that the NSC budget can support such meetings.

Cllr Jon-Olav Strand, raised the issue of long-term funding of the secretariat. The current host region, Region Västra Götaland, pays for most of the costs of the secretariat, but this might not be possible in the future. Membership fees should be adapted to the ambition of the NSC. Cllr Strand expressed that the ExCom should address this issue on adjusting the membership fees in order to cover the full cost of the secretariat.

Engelbrektsson explained that the Executive Committee has started discussing alternative models for calculating membership fees from 2020, mainly to compensate for the losses caused by the upcoming merger of Norwegian regions.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

The Annual Business Meeting

1. Approves the accounts for 2017
2. Transfers the result for 2017, 42 196 EUR, to the reserves
3. Takes note of the statement of accounts per 23 May 2018
4. Approves the budget for 2019
5. Disposes 50 000 EUR of the reserves for extraordinary costs related to the NSR post-2020 strategy to be used in the period 2018-2020

### **16. CPMR strategic plan**

A presentation on the process of developing a new strategic plan for the CPMR was presented by Gregg Jones, CPMR Director. The strategic plan is scheduled to be adopted by the CPMR General Assembly in Madeira (PT), in October 2018.



### Decisions and conclusions

1. The Annual Business Meeting takes note of the information.

## 17. Election President and one Vice President 2018-2020

There was only one candidate for each position.

### Decisions and conclusions

1. The Annual Business Meeting elects Cllr Kerstin Brunnström for President and Cllr Andreas Lervik for Vice President of the North Sea Commission for 2018-2020.

## 18. Confirmation of members and substitute members of NSC Executive Committee

	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Substitute representative</b>
Denmark	Otto Kjær Larsen, North Denmark	Preben Friis-Hauge, South Denmark
England	John Lamb	Vacant
France	Vacant	Vacant
Germany	Antje Grotheer, Bremen	Sabine Sütterlin-Waack, Schleswig-Holstein
Norway	Marianne Chesak, Rogaland	Åshild Kjelsnes, Sogn og Fjordane Kåre Petterssen, Vestfold
Scotland	Peter Argyle, Aberdeenshire	John Reynolds, Aberdeen City
Sweden	Dag Hultefors, Halland	Erik Johansson, Örebro
The Netherlands	Nienke Homan, North Netherlands	Michiel Rijsberman, Flevoland

### Decisions and conclusions

1. The Annual Business Meeting confirms the members and substitute members of the NSC Executive Committee for 2018-2019.

## 19. Meeting plan 2018-2019

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
NSR Strategy Task Force	September (tbc)	tbc
Brexit Task Force	September-October (tbc)	tbc
Energy & Climate Change Group/ Marine Resources Group	2-4 October	Peterhead, Aberdeenshire
78 <sup>th</sup> ExCom	11 October	Brussels
CPMR General Assembly	17-19 October	Madeira (PT)
Transport Group	22-23 October	Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein
Smart Regions Group	1-2 November	Sandnes, Rogaland
NSR Strategy Task Force	November	tbc

79 <sup>th</sup> ExCom (on NSR Strategy)	11 January 2019 (tbc)	Groningen
80 <sup>th</sup> ExCom	March-April 2019 (tbc)	tbc
27 <sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting	June 2019 (date tbc)	tbc

## Decisions and conclusions

1. The Annual Business Meeting takes note of the meeting plan 2018-2019.

## 20. Resolutions and policy positions

- The resolution on **marine litter** by the Marine Resources Group, was adopted without any amendments.
- The resolution on **the extension of the Scan-Med corridor to the ports of Fredrikshavn and Hirtshals** by Region North Denmark, Aust-Agder and Vest-Agder County Councils was adopted with the following amendments by the above-mentioned members:
  1. To add the following paragraph: *“We were therefore very pleased to see that the European Commission in its proposal for a regulation for the CEF post 2020 from 6 June has indeed proposed that the Scan-Med Core Network Corridor should be extended up through Jutland to the ports of Fredrikshavn and Hirtshals. This is exactly what we are arguing for in this resolution.”*
  2. Calls on the [European Parliament and the European Council to support the proposal of the Commission in the CEF regulation](#) ~~Danish Government to submit a request to the European Commission~~ to extend the Scan-Med corridor from the current "end point" in Taulov up to the ports of Frederikshavn and Hirtshals in [conjunction with the final adoption of the regulation and the framework of the upcoming revision of the TEN-T/CEF regulations post 2020](#)
- The resolution on the **strengthening the comprehensive transport network** by Northern Netherlands, was adopted without any amendments.

## Decisions and conclusions

The Annual Business Meeting

1. Adopts the resolution on marine litter.
2. Adopts the resolution on the extension of the ScanMed Corridor to the ports of Fredrikshavn and Hirtshals, with the two amendments.
3. Adopts the policy position on strengthening the comprehensive network.

## 21. Final declaration

The final declaration, The Göttingen Declaration, was adopted with an amendment to point 10, to reflect the adopted amendments of the resolution on the extension of the ScanMed Corridor to the ports of Fredrikshavn and Hirtshals.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting adopts the Final declaration with the amendments to point 10.

### **22. Annual Business Meeting 2019**

Kerstin Brunnström explained that there is more than one candidate for hosting the ABM 2019. The Presidency will discuss the options in its next meeting and the ExCom will decide on a date and venue.

### **Decisions and conclusions**

1. The Annual Business Meeting asks the Executive Committee to decide on a hosting region and set a date for the Annual Business Meeting 2019 in coordination with the host region and the CPMR.

### **23. Signing of the agreement on the NSC Secretariat 2018-2021**

The President and the two vice-presidents signed the agreement on the NSC Secretariat 2018-2021 with Region Västra Götaland.

### **24. Any Other Business**

There were no other issues.

Kerstin Brunnström concluded the meeting, thanked the members for productive discussions, and thanked Cllr Lervik and the Østfold staff for their hospitality.