



Minutes of the 44th Executive Committee Meeting on 13th. April 2006, Quality Hotel Aalborg, Denmark

NSC Executive Committee Participants:

President	Cllr. Gunn Marit Helgesen (Telemark)
Vice President	Cllr. Peter Byman (SNN)
Danish Representative	Cllr. Harry Jensen (Region Midtjylland)
English Representative	Cllr. Kevan Lim (EERA)
French Representative	not represented
German Representative	Vacant
Norwegian Representative	Cllr. Gisle Handeland (Hordaland)
Scottish Representative	Cllr. Kathleen Matheson (Highland)
Swedish Representative	not represented
Executive Secretary	Lars Haukvik
Assistant Executive Secretary	Vibeke Jakobsen

NSC Chairs/Vice-chairs of Thematic Groups present

Culture & Tourism	Cllr. Annelie Stark (Region Västra Götaland)
Innovation and Education	Cllr. Alan Livingstone (ESEC)
	Cllr. Stella Duneufjardin, (Nord-Pas de Calais)
Marine Resources	Cllr. Anders Fasth (Region Västra Götaland)
Sustainable Development	Cllr. Henrik Ringbæk Madsen (Region Nordjylland)
Transport	not represented

NSC Thematic Group Advisers present:

Culture and Tourism	Geir Sør-Reime (Rogaland)
Innovation and education	Erik Lindboe (Rogaland)
Sustainable Development	Jeffrey Kenyon (Aberdeenshire)
Transport	Jon Halvard Eide (Vest-Agder)

CPMR:

Jean-Didier Hache, CPMR Secretariat

Observers:

Thomas Spriet (Nord-Pas de Calais)
Toine Janssen (SNN)
Cecilia Karlberg (Region Västra Götaland)
Martin Brebner (Aberdeenshire)
Michelle Armstrong (EERA)
Lorraine George, (nterreg)
Hilde Donker, (Noord Holland)
Henrik Jensen, (Region Midtjylland)
Kenn Bloch Mortensen, (Region Nordjylland)



Apologies:

Vice-President Cllr. Audrey Findlay (Aberdeenshire)
Swedish Representative Cllr. Roland Andersson (Region Västra Götaland)
Chair Transport Group Cllr. Leif Blomquist (Region Västra Götaland)
Dutch Representative Cllr. Rinske Kruisinga (Noord Holland)
Chair Sustainable Development Group Cllr. Alison McInnes (Aberdeenshire)
Marine Resources Adviser Ann Bell (Aberdeenshire)

The President started by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

The Agenda for the meeting was approved.

1. Minutes of the 43rd Executive Committee Meeting October 20th 2006, Hotel Sofitel, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

There were no comments to the minutes.

Decision:

The minutes were adopted.

2. Reports from the thematic Groups

The different Thematic Groups presented their reports.

Culture and Tourism, Annelie Stark

The group would like to thank Kathleen Matheson for her work in the group. Culture and tourism group are working with innovation and education group with a foodprojekt. Next meeting will be in June in Norway

Innovation and education, Alan Livingstone

The new group started up with a seminar in Perth with 30 participants. They will try to have a follow-up conference on the food conference. Contact with BSC started yesterday and we will work with this. The group will like to co-operate with the other thematic groups.

Sustainable Resources, Henrik Ringbæk Madsen

The group had their annual meeting and conference "Delivering Change in Costal Regions" in Banff 26-27 March. A resolution was adopted giving areas for work in the future. More information on the conference is available on the website.

Transport, Jon Halvard Eide

The group is involved in "Motorways of the sea"
CPMR have a work plan on air transport, NSC are represented in that work.
Comment: We should work harder to influence politics



Marine Resources, Anders Fasth

The group has had two meetings, in Stavanger and Gothenburg.

The Marine resources group will have a one-day seminar in Glasgow on 23 May on North Sea Inshore Fisheries Network.

They will like the name of the group to be changed to **Marine Resources**. The Executive Committee approved the name change.

The President thanked the groups for the information and their excellent work.

Report from CPMR, Jean-Didier Hache

CPMR focuses on the following areas of work;

- ❖ Environmental issues; follow up of the discussions of the NSC ExCom meeting in Ipswich March 06. The legislation must not be a hinder for regional development. The CPMR Political Bureau has adopted a statement on the issue and a letter has been sent to Commissionaire Dimas on the issue.
- ❖ Energy; CPMR has contacts with the Commissionaire and has scheduled a meeting with him on 10 May, main issues for discussions are Renewable energy, CO2 emissions from shipping and air transport. There is a wish for NSC representation in the CPMR Energy working group; Kevan Lim and Andreas Lervik were elected as the NSC representatives.
- ❖ Air Transport; a working group has been established. NSC is represented with Atle Reinsberg from Norway.
- ❖ Cooperation with UNDP, seminar in Marseilles with 700 participants. A network of world regions are under establishment, the goal is to highlight the regional dimension of globalisation.

Report from Interreg. Lorraine George

The Operating program is approved today. The programme is now under interservice consultation. Timetable is first meeting of the new Monitoring Committee in September 2007, and the first call for project autumn 07, and a Steering Committee meeting November/December 07.

We had the pre-launch of the new programme in Oostende, over 200 participants. This is a new programme; projects must reflect the Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas.

The important issues for the new programme is true transnational projects, implementation of the Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies, sustainability and Renewable energy. The programme must show value for the money.

Report from NSC – BSC meeting 12th. April 2007

We were a strong group from NSC; from the BSC they were few.

The meeting had a positive atmosphere. We have to look at where we can see the effects in cooperation between the two committees.

It was discussed on whether we should have a joint conference in 2008 since both commissions are having their GA in Region Midtjylland at the same time. The Executive Committee expressed a wish to keep the tradition to continue joint conference with Interreg North Sea, but is open for finding suitable joint dates and maybe a joint meeting during the GA.



3 Elections

Decisions:

- ❖ Councillor John Lamb, EERA, was elected as Vice-Chair for the Sustainable Development Group.
- ❖ Councillor Wendy Mawer, EERA, was elected as Vice-Chair for the Culture & Tourism group
- ❖ Mr. Yasa Ratnayake, Aberdeen City, was elected as Co -ordinator for the Sustainable Development group

4 Terms of reference for the Thematic groups

Decisions:

The Executive Committee adopts the Terms of Reference for the NSC thematic groups presented for this meeting.

5 NSC Work Plans 2006-2007

The work plans has been discussed for the two last meetings the final adoption of the work plans is to be done at this meeting. The last meetings Executive Committee has asked for a more focused work plans and the Thematic groups have been asked to concentrate on a few themes.

Marine Resources group is working with the conference 23 May, establish an Inshore fisheries forum

Culture & Tourism are concentrating on food and film

For Innovation & Education group Identity is important.

Transport group have reduced the numbers of actions to make more focus

Sustainable Development is focusing on follow up of the Ringkøbing conference and Energy.

Decisions:

- ❖ The priorities outlined in the paper "The important policy areas for NSC in the future" was taken as information. A revised version is to be presented at the next meeting.
- ❖ The presented Work Plans for the thematic groups are adopted.

6. Finances

Decisions:

- ❖ The submissions were adopted.
- ❖ The revised budget for 2007 was adopted.
- ❖ The new setup of the NSC budget with a graduated fee is adopted and is sent to the Annual Business meeting for adoption.



7. NSC Organisational Issues

Following decisions was made:

- ❖ Maritime Resources and Fisheries Group changed name to Marine Resources Group
- ❖ NSC supports the proposals in the paper Greening of NSC events and encourage its members to act according to the proposals. NSC will encourage CPMR to adopt this paper Greening of NSC events.
- ❖ Regarding representation for NSC events: Representatives from one (or more) municipality can attend NSC thematic groups meetings on behalf of a region
- ❖ The title Co-ordinator is changed to Adviser, to reflect the connection of NSC as a political organisation.
- ❖ The Executive Committee adopted the change of Chair of the Sustainable Development Group with Cllr. Andreas Lervik (Østfold) as the new Chair of the Group.

8. NSC response to the EU Maritime Policy

It came up 10 organisations and the thematic groups had given their comment/amendments to the first draft response. These comments have been implemented in the final proposal for the meeting.

The Maritime Resources and Fisheries Group came up with additional amendments after their meeting just before the Executive Committee meeting..

The President thanked Martin Brebner from Aberdeenshire Council, for his commitment to produce this important and excellent paper.

Decision:

The draft proposal presented for the meeting was adopted. The amendments from the Maritime Resources and Fisheries Group are to be implemented in the paper. The paper will be presented at the Annual Business Meeting for final approval.

9 The 16th General Assembly

The General Assembly 2007 will be held in Norway by the three Counties, Buskerud, Telemark and Vestfold (BTV Region). The dates are 20 – 22 of June.

10 Next meeting

Will find place at Brunstad after the General Assembly on 22 June.



11 AOB

Mercury: The removal or covering up a ship on the west coast of Norway?

The Executive Committee decided to write a letter/statement

You find the statement on the NSC website;

http://www.northsea.org/nsc/news/Call_for_a_permanent_removal_of_the_65_metric_tons_of_Mercury_in_U864.pdf

Dutch lead on Clean Ship approach: The Draft letter from Per Hörberg was adopted and the President was asked to send the letter to the Dutch Minister of transport. The main issue of the letter is; *With this letter the NSC would therefore like to offer our assistance in getting the Clean Ship approach "afloat"*.

The President thanked Region Nordjylland for hosting the meeting.

The papers for the meeting is available on the NSC website;

http://www.northsea.org/nsc/executive_committee/0407_aalborg/0407_aalborg.html