

NORTH SEA COMMISSION
AD-HOC GROUP - TRANSNATIONAL PROGRAMMES
Interim report October 2005

The decision to install this group was made during the meeting of the Strategic Committee and Thematic Group Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Co-ordinators on July, 4th 2005 in Brussels. The activities of the group can be considered as a continuation and follow up of the resolution on EU-territorial co-operation, adopted at the Annual Business Meeting on June 17th 2005. Target for the activities of the group should be the guarding of the interests of the North Sea Regions in the preparatory actions with regard to the new programmes for the objective Territorial Cooperation in the period 2007-2013.

Unfortunately there was not found a solution for the financial perspectives of the EU during the Luxemburg-Chairmanship. So the existing uncertainty for the future continued and several planned meetings of DG Regio with respect to ideas and starting points for future programmes were cancelled. Therefore a meeting for the ad-hoc group on Transnational programmes was not scheduled up to now.

In the meantime a draft for a resolution on Territorial Cooperation to be discussed (and adopted) at the General Assembly CPMR was prepared in collaboration with the Baltic Sea Commission, demonstrating the intentions for strengthening relations and co-operation with the BSC in the next future. (Draft is attached)

At the end of September discussions on the programming for the new objective Territorial Cooperation were (re-) started by DG Regio. Starting point now is more or less the final (sixth) not adopted negotiation box (June 15). Total amount €7.3 bn for new objective 3.

There was just one spontaneous announcement for the group. Therefore the chair makes the following proposal for the composition of the group:

Peter Byman, Vice-President, chair
Kevan Lim, Vice-Chair of Economic Development Group
Annelie Stark, Chair of Tourism and Culture Group
Jan Hallberg, Chair Transport & Communication
Christian Bach Iversen, Vice-Chair Education & Research
Andreas Lervik, Vice-Chair Environment
Ann Bell, Co-ordinator Fisheries
Twan Janssen, secretary

P.S.

On Thursday, October 13, a joint meeting took place between some members of the European Parliament, some representatives of NSC and North Western European Regions with DG Graham Meadows (DG Regio). A short report on that meeting will be presented during the meeting of the Executive Committee. (October 27)

October, 17 2005