



Fylkeshuset,
3706 Skien, Norway
Tel: +47 35 58 42 00
Fax: +47 35 52 90 44
nsc@northsea.org
www.northsea.org



CPMR
Baltic Sea Commission



Joint NSC-BSC Conference on Maritime Policy

Sustainable Development Workshop – Conclusions

Question 1: What mechanisms should be in place to ensure that new maritime development is sustainable?

- i) The Marine Thematic Strategy will play a key role in ensuring that sustainable maritime development is achieved.
- ii) There is a need to recognise the environmental costs of each sector's activities, which could be achieved through:
 - a. A holistic approach to policy making;
 - b. Regional Advisory Councils
- iii) There is a need to raise awareness among consumers of the environmental impacts of their choices:
 - a. Food miles is a good example of this, where goods such as prawns are caught in Europe, shelled in Asia, and finally processed, packaged and sold in Europe.
- iv) Sustainable maritime development will only be achieved through a global and holistic approach. However, responsibility for sustainable maritime development lies with all levels and actors, right down to the regions and individuals.
- v) An innovative approach to sustainable maritime development will be required in the future.

Question 2 – How can maritime policy contribute to maintaining our ocean resources and environment?

- i) The formulation of models for distinct ecosystems and regions could contribute to this aim, provided that models:
 - a. Are based on reliable, comprehensive and compatible data;
 - b. Take account of economic activities and social factors.
- ii) The Maritime Policy should take account of linkages between coastlines, inshore waterways and oceans.
- iii) Successful implementation of existing environmental legislation, such as the Water Framework Directive, is essential.
- iv) The Maritime Policy should recognise the added value and economic benefits of improved environmental quality, and should



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also recognise the economic costs of doing nothing to tackle environmental problems.

Question 3 – What further steps should the EU take to mitigate and adapt to climate change in the marine environment?

- i) Investment in renewable energies and fuels is key to mitigating the effects of climate change.
- ii) The potential of new renewable energies in Northern Europe, such as solar energy, should be capitalised in order to adapt to climate change.

Question 4 – How can innovative offshore renewable energy technologies be promoted and implemented?

- i) Finance must be made available for the development of new technologies. Hydrogen, for example, has much potential and can not only be produced from windfarms, but is also a by-product of landfill and industrial activity.
- ii) The pros and cons of each type of renewable energy must be evaluated.
- iii) Physical infrastructure links between peripheral regions as providers of electricity and core regions as users, need to be enhanced. However, the negative impacts of larger electricity grids, particularly in scenic rural areas, need to be taken into account.
- iv) There are many concrete examples of the effective promotion and implementation of renewable energy technologies in our own regions. These should be collated and input into responses to the Maritime Policy consultation.

Question 5 – How can energy efficiency improvements and fuel diversification in shipping be achieved?

- v) i) There are many concrete examples of how to achieve energy efficiency improvements and fuel diversification of shipping in our own regions. These should be collated and input into responses to the Maritime Policy consultation.

Output – A website should be set up to collate ideas from across the North and Baltic Sea regions, and from all thematic groups.