



**NORTH SEA COMMISSION
EUROPEAN MARITIME POLICY GROUP**

**Innovatum, Trollhättan, Västra Götaland
27 October 2005**

NOTE OF MEETING No. 1

PRESENT

Cllr Audrey Findlay (Aberdeenshire) NSC Vice-President & Chair of NSC Maritime Policy Ad Hoc Group

Cllr Annelie Stark (Västra Götaland) Chair of Tourism and Culture Group

Cllr Harry Jensen (Ringkøbing) Vice-Chair of Fisheries Group

Cllr Anders Fasth (Västra Götaland) Vice-Chair of Fisheries Group

Cllr Jan Hallberg (Västra Götaland) Chair of Transport Group

Cllr Rinske Kruisinga (Noord-Holland) Chair of Economic Development Group

Cllr Henrik Ringbæk Madsen (Nordjyllands Amt) Vice-Chair of Environment Group

Cllr Kathleen Matheson (The Highland Council) Scottish Representative

Jon Halvard Eide (Vest-Agder) Transport Group Co-ordinator

Per Hörberg (Västra Götaland) Environment Group Co-ordinator

Eric Lindboe (Rogaland) Economic Development Group Co-ordinator

Ann Bell (Aberdeenshire) Fisheries Group Co-ordinator

Lorraine George, North Sea Region Secretariat

Lillemor Björnell Hedendahl, Västra Götaland

Peter Dryburgh, North Atlantic Fisheries College

Sally Spence, Shetland Islands Council

Emma Sharp, East of England Regional Assembly

Gordon Summers, The Highland Council

Chris Kutesko, Norfolk Council

Dr Hans Meves, Network Bureau Europe

Robert Cornfield, Noord Holland

Paul Kane, Aberdeenshire Council

APOLOGIES

Cllr Sandy Cluness (Shetland) Chair of Fisheries Group

Cllr Andreas Lervik (Ostfold) Vice-Chair of Environment Group



1.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

ACTION

Vice President Audrey Findlay welcomed those who attended the first meeting of the group and briefly outlined the aim of the group and its timetable for meetings. A second meeting of the group will be held to coincide with the next NSC Executive Committee in Ipswich in early March 2006 and the final meeting of the group will be held in Aviemore to coincide with the NSC General Assembly in Aviemore in June 2006. Other work will be completed electronically.

2.0 POTENTIAL LINKS TO NORTH SEA REGION PROJECTS

Lorraine George gave an update on the work of the Maritime Safety Umbrella Organisation (MSUO) (www.maritime-safety.org). The organisation brings together the work of a number of Interreg projects (from a number of InterregIIIb areas) related to Maritime issues. Their Maritime Safety Co-ordinator is Richard Hill and the group agreed that he should be kept informed of the work of the North Sea Commission Ad Hoc Group. Paul Kane agreed to contact him to inform him of the work of the group.

Paul Kane

3.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE GROUP

Audrey Findlay described the objectives of the group as included in the terms of reference and these met with the group's approval.

She emphasised to the group that their aim was collate the existing views of the NSC Thematic Groups and develop an NSC position that can be used to then influence the development and final shape of the forthcoming Green Paper.

The group acknowledged that their own organisations and Councils may have their own views but the key role of this group is to identify the NSC view.

Group members then flagged up a number of events or issues that may overlap or assist the group meeting its aims.

In relation to the meeting on 17 November in Brussels which is entitled 'The New EU Maritime Policy – Challenges and Opportunities' the Fisheries Group will be attending and will feed back information to the group, particularly on the 'EU

Ann Bell



Roadmap to the Green Paper' which will be published there.

Per Hörberg pointed to the CPMR 'Europe of the Sea' project meeting in Bergen on 16/17 January 2006 as a stakeholder event where the group would have the opportunity to communicate the NSC position. The group suggested that Vice President Findlay should consider attending this event as Chair of the group.

4.0 DELEGATION OF WORK

The group agreed that the Thematic Group Co-ordinators should communicate their Groups' views and positions to the current secretary of the group, Paul Kane, by 30 November 2005. In particular the Environment, Fisheries, Transport and Economic Development Groups have, according to their workplans, worked on some aspect of Maritime Policy and it was agreed that this completed work should form the foundation of the NSC position. The group agreed that this was a key piece of work and should be completed as soon as possible.

**NSC
Thematic
Group Co-
ordinators**

Vice President Findlay requested that all members of the Ad Hoc group should, however, communicate their views as well and to encourage interested colleagues to do the same.

These views and positions will be collated to develop the NSC position before the end of 2005. The next step in 2006 will be to identify and agree the mechanisms for influencing the Green Paper beginning with the CPMR Bergen meeting.

5.0 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the group will be held to coincide with the next NSC Executive Committee meeting; the date for this is expected to be in March 2006.

Vice President Findlay then thanked everyone who had attended the meeting and reiterated her request for information to be sent by the deadline of 30 November 2005.