



## B7 Baltic Islands Network B7 Rügen Chairmanship 2011

Landkreis Rügen  
D - 18528 Bergen auf Rügen, Germany  
Tel. +49 3838 813 466  
Fax. +49 3838 813 270  
E-mail: [christoph.loewen@landkreis-ruegen.de](mailto:christoph.loewen@landkreis-ruegen.de)

### DRAFT MINUTES of B7 BOARD MEETING

Venue for the meeting: EU-Information Office of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern,  
Address: Boulevard Saint Michel 80, B-1040 Brussels, Phone:  
+0032 2 741 6000

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2011

Time Schedule: 10:30 – 12:30

#### Officials :

Island	Name	Position		Arrival	Departure
Rügen	Christoph Löwen (CL)	B7 Board / Chair 2011	YES	29 March, 17:35	31 March, 19:10
Bornholm	Henrik Eybye Nielsen (HEN)	B7 Board	YES	29 March, 12:50	30 March, 20:25
Gotland	Ulla Pettersson (UP)	B7 Board	YES	29 March, 16:20	31 March, 18:15
Gotland	Bo Dahllöf (BD)	B7 Steering Committee	YES	28 March	31 March
Saaremaa	Jaan Leivategija (JL)	B7 Board	YES	29 March,	31 March,
Hiiumaa	Aare-Villu Kattel (AK)	B7 Board	YES	29 March, 18:55	31 March, 19:45
Öland	Anders Nyholm (AN)	B7 Board	YES	29 March, 14:00	1 April, 8:55
Åland	Emma Mattsson (EM)	B7 Board	YES	28 March,	31 March, 18:15
Bornholm	David Hunt (DH)	B7 Facilitator	YES	29 March	31 March,
Rügen	Nadine Stüdemann (NS)	B7 Secretariat 2011	YES	29 March, 17:35	31 March, 19:10

#### Board Meeting

##### §1. MINUTES of PREVIOUS MEETING

Purpose of agenda item: To approve the minutes from Board Meeting via Web Conference on 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2011

**Decision: Minutes approved**

##### §2. APPROVAL of AGENDA

Purpose of agenda item: To approve the agenda for the meeting

CL: Proposal to start the Board Meeting with the preparations for the Brussels meeting as new paragraph 3.

**Decision: Agenda approved**

##### §3 Preparation for Brussels meetings (DH)

###### EU Cohesion Policy – B7 wants:

- Territorial cohesion
- Structural funding linked to place
- Not the same as EU2020
- Provide investment framework for disadvantaged regions such as islands
- One programme for B7 islands (Central-South Baltic)

**Islands of the B7 Co-operation Network:** Bornholm (Denmark), Gotland (Sweden), Hiiumaa (Estonia), Rügen (Germany), Saaremaa (Estonia), Åland (Finland) and Öland (Sweden).



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### **Problems:**

- Administration of EU projects (check of all invoices, interviews with project people)

### **EU Strategy for Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) - B7 projects:**

- Baltic Master II: Maritime Safety
- Baltic Deal: Agricultural pollution
- Isle Pact: Energy self sufficiency

**DH: Generally positive position of B7 to EUSBSR, but B7 has to find out where else it can link to the strategy**

## **§4. RÜGEN CHAIRMANSHIP PROGRAMME (CL)**

Purpose of agenda item: To give an update on the Annual programme

### **4.1. Information about latest B7 events on Rügen**

- B7 Cooking Course on 2<sup>nd</sup> March in the Grone School: very positive feedback on the island, 17 participants tried to learn how to cook typical B7 islands dishes, Arne, Ermo and Inga gave assistance to the cooks, Martina presented B7 organization and activities
- Photo exhibition by Toomas Kokovkin at the Rügen Gallery in Putbus 5<sup>th</sup> March at the Rügen gallery in Putbus: successful opening presentation, many interested visitors and political guests, speeches by the Landrätin Kerstin Kassner, Toomas Kokovkin and the Rügen photograph Lutz Grünke

### **4.2. Fishery Conference, 24<sup>th</sup> May in the Sassnitz town hall (CL)**

- Overview about conference preparations

CL: Handout of the invitation and programme for the conference and invites all Board members to come to Rügen together with a fisherman or somebody who works in the fields of fisheries. Rügen tries to apply for financial support at the leader programme concerning travel and accommodation costs for the fishermen. If the application fails, every island has to pay for the fishermen by themselves. Every fisherman should give a short overview about the island's fisheries situation.

HEN & UP: Due to participation in the CPMR Annual Conference on Saaremaa (19/20 May) it won't be possible to arrive on Sunday (22<sup>nd</sup> May). Proposal to have Board Meeting in the afternoon on Monday (23<sup>rd</sup> May) and Steering Committee Meeting in Berlin on 25<sup>th</sup> May.

CL: There is a new flight connection between Frankfurt and Rostock, then drive to Sassnitz via bus shuttle.

**Decision: All Board members find out about possible participation of a fisherman from their own island and check travel possibilities and send feedback to Secretariat as soon as possible**

### **4.3. Programme for Berlin visit (CL)**

CL: After Fishery Conference (24<sup>th</sup> May) all B7 members will go by train to Berlin and stay the night in a hotel (to be announced later).

10:00 Meeting with Cornelia Pieper, Minister of State at the German Federal Foreign Office in Berlin, Guided House Tour

12:30 Lunch

15:00 Meeting with Christian Ahrend, Parliamentary Chairman of the FDP  
Parliamentary party in the German Bundestag, Visit of German „Bundestag“

Ca. 17:00 Departure



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### **4.4. Schwerin Meetings (CL)**

CL: First preparations have been started. Soon get into contact with the EU office in Schwerin.

### **4.5. International Co-operations and meetings (CL, DH)**

- CPMR Islands Commission General Assembly (19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> May, Saaremaa is preparing)  
Ulla und Henrik will go to CPMR Islands Commission Conference
- BSSSC Annual Conference (5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> October, Szczecin)
- Baltic Development Forum and 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Forum of EU-Strategy for Baltic Sea Region (24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> October, Gdansk)
- Other dates relevant for B7  
EM: can't participate in B7 Annual conference, (elections in October)- maybe the new member can participate

### **§5. ACCOUNTS: (Facilitator)**

Purpose of agenda item: To review accounts

#### **5.1. Final Accounts for 2010**

DH: Presentation of summary regarding final accounts 2010

**Decision: Final Accounts 2010 approved**

#### **5.2. Accounts for 2011**

DH: There was an error regarding the inclusion of the projects. Corrected version attached.

#### **5.3. Budget surplus/Interest rates**

CL: Raise of question concerning low interest rate on B7 Budget

HEN: Reason is the low Euro-rate and the fluctuation of the Euro. Now the interest rate is only 0,33 % per year on Bornholm. There is no problem to transfer the bookkeeping and the surplus to another island. Proposal: take half of the surplus money and bind it for 1 or 2 years to get 2 % interest rate

CL: On Rügen the interest rate is 0,5 %/year but private banks have higher interest rates (for example 2,2%/year)

HEN: Suggestion – Preparation of 3 example scenarios for next meeting (Check if allowed!)

1. Half of surplus money – binding it for 1 year/2 years
2. Half of surplus money – Buying Government Bonds
3. Call other banks on Bornholm to get better interest rates

AN: B7 should not focus too much on this topic

DH: Saaremaa asked for 5000 € for preparations of CPMR Islands Commission General Assembly on 19/20 May

**Decision: CL and HEN will find out about the three suggestions. All islands shall think about how to proceed with the B7 budget surplus. Final decision will be made in next meeting.**



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### **§6. PROJECTS (Facilitator DH)**

Purpose of agenda item: To give update on the ongoing B7 projects

#### **6.1. Baltic Master II – working quite well at the moment**

DH: Presentation of main events in the Baltic Master II Project. Project target is to improve maritime safety in the Baltic Sea by developing and exercising an Oil Spill Plan

- Jan 26 Sweden Parliament Stockholm
- April 26 Mini Conference in Tallin + GOTFREP
- May 11 – Exercise on Gotland
- May 20 – EU Maritime Day in Gdansk
- August 30 – Exercise with Helcom, Balex, SOK
- Sept. 27 – Brussels
- Oct 25-26 – Gdansk – Karlskrona Final Conference

#### **6.2. Pact of Islands**

DH: How can all B7 islands be involved? The project leader Bengt-Olof Grahn to hold an event/conference in 2012 together with the Gotland Chairmanship that will include all islands

#### **6.3. Tourism Project**

CL: Within EU Baltic Sea Strategy Mecklenburg-Vorpommern has been named as priority area coordinator for the tourism field. Rügen is interested in implementing a tourism project in B7

DH: Proposal: Talk to people from M-V [flagship project on sustainable tourism](#) to find out if it is possible to join the projects

#### **6.4. Seaweed Project**

HEN: Bornholm created a network group regarding seaweed production. There will be a meeting in Copenhagen on 4<sup>th</sup> of April. After that meeting there will be concrete information for project leaders.

CL: Ole Hertz should deliver a final report to B7

#### **6.5. Storytelling Project**

CL: B7 decided in last Board Meeting to grant money for implementing the project. B7 sent letter of support. It is necessary to find suitable storytellers from all islands.

UP: WG PtP group deals with the implementation of the project

#### **6.6. LUMEN Project**

CL: B7 offered 4125 Euro for the project. Toomas Kokovkin on Hiiumaa has to work out the practical details (lodging, local transport, food) and to attract the funding of the whole project. Only B7's financial support is not enough to send photographers around the islands. B7 is interested in the project, but project team has to find other finances too.

#### **6.7. Project: Baltic Deal**

DH: We have to have good reason to be in there/What will be improved?

Project Objectives: Reduce agricultures pollution in Baltic Sea

- WP 1: Administration (Latvia)
- WP 2: Communication Sweden)



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- WP 3: Exchange of common knowledge (Denmark)
- WP 4: Pilot Activities (Finland)
- WP 5: Demonstration farms (Poland)
- Project Period 2010 - 2013

DH: Possible B7 Involvement:

- B7 Network and contacts + islands as pilot regions
- B7 as a communication channel for Baltic Deal
- Promotion of knowledge and experience

27 – 30 Sept: 20 Anniversary Conference on Bornholm of the fall of the Berlin Wall (interesting names on the programme like Vigdis Finburgadottir, Vytautas Landsbergis, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Uffe Ellemann Jensen, Ole Espersen, Uffe A. Baslev, Rikke Helms, Knud Andersen, Indreek Saar)

### **§7. WG People to People (Chairman CL)**

Purpose of agenda item: To give update on WG PtP activities for 2011

#### **7.1. Youth appeal to B7 politicians and officials (Hiiumaa)**

CL: B7 President Uwe Ahlers will talk about his meeting with young people from Four Corners Youth Parliament (proposal was to meet on Rügen with SC members and talk about possible B7 Youth involvement)

#### **7.2. Overview about events and meeting dates of WG People to People**

CL: presents a short summary about the coming events organized by B7 WG PtP (e.g. PtP Exhibition "Scene Change – Messages and Visions" (Rügen), B7 Day (Rügen), B7 Youth Camp (Gotland))

### **§8. COMMUNICATION: (Chairmanship/Facilitator)**

Purpose of agenda item: Discuss communication issues within B7

#### **8.1. B7 Annual Report 2010**

AVK: Handout of the Annual Report 2010 Hiiumaa Chairmanship to all Board Members (will also be handed out to the Brussels representatives)

#### **8.2. B7 Website**

DH: The website needs to be updated regarding names and photos of B7 members and members of European Parliament from each country

#### **8.3. B7's contribution to 5<sup>th</sup> EU Cohesion Report**

CL: Already done

#### **8.4. EU Strategy for Baltic Sea Region**

CL: Already done

### **§9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**



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**ANNEXES to AGENDA**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>
§ 1	Minutes of Board Meeting in January
§ 3	Rügen Annual Programme
§ 7.3.	B7's contribution on 5 <sup>th</sup> Cohesion Report
§ 5.3.	Tourism notes by Hanna Westerén
§ 5.7.	Information about Baltic Deal Project
§ 6.1.	Youth appeal