

Lillehammer, 08 December 2008

**SUMMARY FROM THE 5th CO-ORDINATION MEETING
OF THE BALTIC SEA REGION (BSR) ORGANISATIONS
ON ENERGY AND CLIMATE**

Date: Tuesday, 2 December 2008, 15:00-16:30 **Venue:** Copenhagen Conference Centre, Room 7

Organised by: BDF and BSSSC

Present: BSC-CPMR, UBC, BSPC, NC, BDF, BSSSC and BaltMet.

Excused: CBSS and BASREC had parallel meetings at the same time at the conference centre

Mr Arne Øren (BSSSC) welcomed the participants to the meeting and expressed a special welcome to the representatives from BaltMet.

The agenda was adopted without comments or amendments.

Item 1 Short tour de table. Recent development of mutual interest

Nordic Council informed about their annual meeting. Despite the two crises going on – the NC finds the Climate Change the most important topic to be focused in the future. Energy will also be an issue at the Baltic Assembly end of the week. NC will take part in this meeting.

BSPC Mr. Mart Jussi, Chairman of the BSPC WG on Climate and Energy informed about the last meeting of the WG. A political “well-box” is the basic direction and frame for the future. Energy saving, exchange of success stories and pass of knowledge and technology as well as bigger effort to the public education about the energy. The funds that might become available from Agriculture reform should be earmarked to climate issues. Well box can be found on the web (www.bspsc.net) and will also be sent from NC and distributed attached to the draft minutes. Mr. Jussi asked for comments to the well box from the members of JECP.

BSSSC Mr. Stefan Herms the incoming Secretary General of BSSSC from 1 January 2009 stated that BSSSC will continue to focus on energy and climate issues and that BSSSC will be represented in the Joint Energy and Climate Platform (JECP) by Eastern Norway County Network (ENCN). The new Board member from ENCN Mr. Kjetil Lundemoen (replacing Mr. Ören) will take part in the meetings supported by Ann Irene Saeternes. Mr. Herms informed about the priorities of the in-

coming BSSSC Chairmanship from Hamburg. A youth conference related to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region will be arranged in Hamburg on 3 – 4 February 2009 and the results will be presented to the 2nd Stakeholder Conference in Rostock 5 – 6 February. BSSSC Annual Conference 13 – 15 October 2009 will focus on Regional impacts of the Climate Change – leading up to the UN Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009 (COP 15). The conference will take place in Zealand Region, DK.

BaltMet representative from Riga Chairmanship Zane Paula - Pavula shortly informed about the network of Metropolises in the BSR and their cooperation mainly through concrete project measures. Energy could potentially become one of the topics in future BaltMet cooperation. Representative from Helsinki Maija-Liisa Linkola informed JECF about initiative "Covenant of Mayors" (<http://www.managenergy.net/com.html>), where most of BaltMet cities are involved on individual basis, and about the conference "Covenant of Mayors-how to finance it?" (20 - 21 November 2008, Helsinki) which was organized in the framework of Covenant. Four cities (Stockholm (LP), Helsinki, Riga and Tallinn) are preparing a project focused on implementing the Covenant - energy saving and climate action plans in the cities."

UBC informed about the annual executive meeting with 60/70 people. They adopted flagship projects and got instructed to keep on working with JECF and be in contact with other organisation. Energy commission is working closely with Environment Commission of UBC. Projects on the local level are of high importance to meet the challenges ahead on energy and climate topics. Next annual meeting will be 23 – 25 September 2009 in Kristiansand, NO.

BSC-CPMR energy WG informed about the executive committee meeting back to back with the Round table on Environment related to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. The 2009 General Assembly of the CPMR will focus on energy and climate and will take place in Gothenburg 30.09 – 02.10 2009. Mr. Bergquist will continue as leader of the WG.

BDF informed about the preparatory work with the Summit and stated that it was a success. All participants agreed with that statement! Next summit will take place in Stockholm during the Swedish EU presidency. The draft report from the "Energy perspective of the region" was distributed and all comments and input are welcomed. The final version should be ready by June next year. Finalising this report will be a main focus for first half of 2009. Next platform meeting should have a brainstorming on the report on the agenda.

Item 2 The calendar of BSR energy and climate related events for 2009

Some events mentioned under item 1. BASREC Ministerial meeting will take place in Copenhagen 8 – 9 February 2009. The BSPC WG Energy and Climate statement will be forwarded to the meeting. The JECF should also again send their letter of support the BSPC statement. BDF will make sure that our letter will be sent again to the Chair of BASREC.

EU Sustainable Energy week will take place in week 7.

The event calendar (prepared before the last meeting 22.10) should be updated with the new information and sent out to members of the platform for new input before the next meeting.

Item 3 Conclusions from BDF Summit

Two sessions and two workshops had focus on energy and climate issues. BDF will publish conclusion from the summit. All agreed that the summit was a great success with good speakers, good moderators and interesting discussions. Well done!!! The report on energy perspectives was presented and discussed in one workshop. Some important points to sum up:

- Local and regional governments have to be heavily involved and taking concrete action on the ground to help solve our challenges.
- More actions and less talk are needed to move forward
- Integrating the markets (Nordic/Baltic) – infrastructure investment should be prioritised.

Implication of an integrated energy grid for local and regional authorities should be further elaborated in the JECF. Could be put on the agenda for discussion in an upcoming meeting! The partici-

pants in the meeting recommended BDF to include a point in the conclusion from the Summit concerning the role of Russia.

Item 4 JECP input to the EU Strategy and future actions

The position paper from the 6 organisations to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (B7, UBC, BSSSC, BDF, BSC-CPMR, Euroregion Baltic) was handed over to the EU Commissionaire Danuta Hübner yesterday (01.12.08) here in Copenhagen. The paper included 12 flagship projects – proposed by the different organisations. JECP input on Flagships has been taking into the paper. BSC-CPMR WG energy informed about another idea for flagship project that they wanted to include. As the paper is already sent to the Commission – the only possibility will be to send it in a separate paper as additional input to the position paper. The consultation process is open till the end of the year. Ms. Eva Wahlström will send the input to Inese in BDF. BSPC and NC will also send in comments to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

Item 5 JECP statement to the COP-14. Finalisation of the document

A draft statement was prepared by BDF. BSC-CPMR presented some suggestions for further development of the paper from the JECP. The members in the meeting found the proposals very good and asked Ms. Eva Wahlström to send the paper with her proposals to the members of the platform for information. BDF will forward the final statement to the COP 14 meeting ASAP.

Item 6 Any other business

- Future coordination of the JECP;

UBC Energy Commission and Mr. Stefan Windh stated their interest to coordinate the work of the JECP in 2009 and to host the next meeting.

- Date and place of the next meeting

The next meeting in the JECP will take place on **17 February 2009** in Stockholm. UBC will come up with a proposal for localities and time frame.

Mr. Arne Ören thanked the participants for a good meeting and thanked at the same time for the cooperation and very interesting work done by the JECP in 2008. As he is now stepping out of the role as BSSSC Chairman he wished all the best for the future work of the platform.

The members of the JECP thanked Mr. Ören heartily for his commitment and work in the BSR and for taking the initiative and coordinating the JECP work.

