

Wadden Sea Board

WSB 10
11-12 December 2013
Tønder



Agenda Item: 5

Subject: Declaration of Intent – Flyway Vision / Tourism Strategy

Document No. WSB 10/8.4/2

Date: 5 December 2013

Submitted by: Secretariat

Objective

To endorse draft Declaration of Intent to be signed at the Tønder Conference on 4 February 2014

Background

As agreed at WSB 9, TG-WH has discussed the signing procedure for the Flyway vision and the Tourism Strategy.

The TG-WH agreed that both the Flyway vision and the Sustainable Tourism Strategy should be signed by relevant stakeholders at the Conference through a Declaration of Intent (DoI) to demonstrate the commitments to the vision and strategy (see TG-WH report WSB 10/6/1).

Status

Attached are the two DoI's which have been prepared by the secretariat together with the TG-WH taking into account the discussions during consultation process and further comments from the different parties and regions.

Proposal

The meeting is proposed to endorse the DoI for signing at the Conference

Declaration of Intent

Flyway Vision of the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative

Migratory birds find lasting refuge along the East Atlantic Flyway from northern breeding areas to their key Wadden Sea stopover and to the African coastline, and inspire and connect people for future generations.

We, the undersigned

Acknowledging the Flyway Vision developed by the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative which aims to encourage and guide implementation of the request of the World Heritage Committee at the inscription of the Wadden Sea as a World Heritage Site to strengthen international cooperation in conserving migratory birds along the entire African Eurasian Flyway;

Appreciating that this Flyway Vision will improve collaboration and communication between those involved in the Wadden Sea, notably the regional and national governing authorities, science community, civil society and Non-Governmental Organisations in the framework of already existing international instruments, especially along the East Atlantic Flyway;

Acknowledging the associated Plan of Action which will be progressively revised taking into account the results and outcomes of the monitoring and capacity building programmes, and future activities in the context of the flyway vision.

Declare the intention:

1. To actively **support** and **contribute** to the implementation of the Flyway Vision by integrating it within our responsibilities and activities and as part of their communication program
2. To closely **cooperate** with partners along the East Atlantic Flyway to further strengthening and enhancing the flyway network
3. To **cooperate** in implementing the Plan of Action within our personnel and financial resources and to seek as appropriate additional funding for its implementation
4. To **invite** other relevant organisations to join the flyway vision by signing the Declaration of Intent

Tønder, 4 February 2014

Signature

Potential organisations for signing the flyway vision

International

- AEWA
- BirdLife International and regional representatives in Africa
- Wetlands International and regional representatives in Africa
- CAFF
- PRCM (regional West African body for coastal zone & marine conservation)

World Heritage Sites

- Parc National du Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania
- Doñana, Spain
- Parc National des Oiseaux du Djoudj, Senegal
- Reserve Biosphere du Bijagós (planning to become WH site)

Regional and local organisations and stakeholders

- National Parks of Niedersachsen, Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein
- National Park Danish Wadden Sea
- NABU, Germany
- Vogelbescherming, The Netherlands
- Dansk Ornitologisk Forening, Denmark
- WWF regional offices
- Provinces, rural districts and municipalities

Declaration of Intent

Sustainable Tourism in the Wadden Sea World Heritage Destination

“Working together for the benefits of present and future generations”

We, the undersigned

Having developed the strategy for sustainable tourism in the Wadden Sea World Heritage Destination together with many stakeholders in the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark which describes and guides how tourism sector together with other stakeholders can actively contribute to and benefit from the aims of the World Heritage Convention in protecting the natural values of the Wadden Sea;

Acknowledging this strategy adds value to successful existing local, regional, national and trilateral initiatives throughout the whole area by creating synergies and new partnerships to strengthen the cooperation and commitment of stakeholders for the World Heritage;

Acknowledging also that an associated action plan has been developed on the basis of the input from stakeholders and in accordance with the Strategy to coordinate and further the practical work in the forthcoming period,

Declare the intention

5. To actively **contribute** to the implementation of the strategy by integrating it within our responsibilities and policies in regional and local tourism strategies and action plans, and other relevant policies and management;
6. To actively **communicate** the strategy within our responsibilities and work fields and widely **cooperate** with other stakeholders on the Wadden Sea World Heritage Destination cross-border, cross-sector, and internationally;
7. To closely **cooperate** to implement, within our personnel and financial possibilities, the action plan and to seek, as appropriate, funding from European and other funds for its implementation,

Tønder, 5 February 2014

Signature

Proposed list of organisations for signing the DoI on Sustainable Tourism

The Netherlands

- Provinces: one signature on behalf of the three provinces
- Municipalities: one signature on behalf of island and mainland municipalities,
- Tourism sector: ANWB, Beleef Friesland, Groningen Marketing
- Chamber of Commerce (to be confirmed)
- Waddenvereniging.

Germany

- State Ministries of Environment (Lower Saxony, Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein)
- State Ministries of Economic Affairs (Lower Saxony, Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein)
- National Park Administrations (Lower Saxony, Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein)
- Landkreise (counties) and/or NP Advisory Boards (stakeholders representatives),
- Tourism sector: Nordsee GmbH, Nordsee-Tourismus-Service (NTS)
- WWF

Denmark

- Four Wadden Sea municipalities (with its tourism sector)
- National Park