

Wadden Sea Board

WSB 5
14-15 March 2012
Leeuwarden



Agenda Item: 8
Subject: Progress WSF Activities
Document No. WSB 5/8/1
Date: 14 February 2012
Submitted by: WSF Secretariat

Attached is the progress report by the Wadden Sea Forum which will be introduced by the chair.

Proposal

The meeting is proposed to comment respectively note.

Wadden Sea Forum

Overview of the Activities of the Wadden Sea Forum since WSB 4

WSF plenary and Steering Committee

The WSF-19 meeting took place on 15-16 November in Norden with a content-related emphasis on the North Sea Region Planning Portal, the sustainability indicator tool and energy issues in the WSR.

RWE Dea informed about the exploratory drillings in the Wadden Sea and the potential impacts on the Wadden Sea. TenneT gave a presentation about off-shore grid connections and its technical requirements. Also challenges of the offshore grid and methods for cable laying were introduced in detail. RWE Dea AG introduced activities to reduce light emissions in the off-shore business with the example of "Mittelplate". Also the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site was a topic at the WSF meeting and Jens Enemark informed the meeting about activities in communication and marketing.

WSF-20 meeting is scheduled for 23-24 May in Denmark. The Steering Committee will meet on 18 April.

Working Groups

Only two working groups met since November.

ICZM

Main topics of the working group were again Sustainability Indicator Tool and the WSR Planning Portal. Furthermore, future works topics were discussed with an emphasis on IZCM and MSP with regard to climate change and adaptation measures.

Shipping & Harbour

The topics of the shipping group were mainly on shipping safety and technologies for clean shipping. The meeting discussed a document from German Lloyd about LNG as ship fuel and enlarged upon this issue with a concrete example of emission free ferry routes to the Wadden Sea islands.

Topical Issues

Besides the work in the different working groups, the WSF elaborates on topical issues, which have an overarching character and concerns different stakeholders and authorities.

Wadden Sea Culture

In order to integrate several initiatives with regard to cultural history, identity and cultural traditions, the WSF has scheduled a meeting for 1 March to discuss cooperation and possible common projects with representatives of organ culture, Wadden Art, research on Wadden Sea Region identity and others. The meeting will be informed orally about the meeting results.

Goose Management

Representatives of the agricultural sector and the regions met on 23 February to discuss the feasibility of elaborating a draft strategic framework goose management plan, based on the former goose report. The meeting elaborated on aims, responsibilities for implementation and regional policies as well as on integration under a transnational umbrella. The WSB will be informed about the meeting results.

Cooperation

The WSF started a cooperation with the ENHANCE project under FP7 on research, technological development and demonstration. The WSF will organize stakeholder workshops in the field of enhancing society's resilience to catastrophic natural hazard impacts.