

29 June 2020, Korsør

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
Policy Area on Clean Shipping (PA Ship)

Minutes

14th International Steering Committee meeting of PA Ship
Skype, June 15 2020

The Steering Committee meeting was conducted as a conference call due to the COVID19-pandemic. The draft agenda for the meeting included an update on the ongoing IMO negotiations on GHG emission reductions with a focus on implications for clean shipping, and update from DG RTD on relevant EU programmes, an update on the revision process of the Baltic Sea Action Plan, presentations by flagship leaders, and a presentation of the seed money project LISA. The meeting gathered members of the Steering Committee, the European Commission, flagship leaders and relevant stakeholders

The documents from the meeting are available on [PA Ship's website](#).

1. Welcome remarks

Ms. Josefine Eva Lilly Pallesen, Policy Area Coordinator (PAC) for PA Safe welcomed the participants to the meeting and thanked everyone for participating. Ms. Pallesen informed that a virtual SC meeting had been arranged due to the COVID19-pandemic. The next meeting will – if possible – be arranged as a physical meeting. Finally, Ms. Pallesen informed the SC that the PAC team at Danish Maritime Authority consists of Ms. Pallesen and Mr. Rasmus With and newly appointed Senior Advisor, Mr. Henrik Noes Piester.

2. Approval of agenda and minutes

Ms. Pallesen invited the SC members to comment on the draft agenda and the draft minutes from the 13th SC meeting. The draft agenda and draft minutes were approved by the SC without amendments.

3. Presentation by DMA representative on IMO regulations related to Clean Shipping

Ms. Stine Olsen, Head of Section at the Danish Maritime Authority provided an update on the IMO negotiations concerning reduction of GHG emissions. IMO adopted the initial strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships in 2018. The current focus is on developing and agreeing on short term measures with effect from 2023 and which can result in at least a 40% reduction in CO2 emissions per transport work in 2030. Discussions on Market Based Measures will be initiated in the near future.

Please refer to appendix no. 1 for more details.

4. News from DG RTD

Ms. Agnieszka Zaplatka from the European Commission – Directorate General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) gave a presentation on EU funding opportunities for maritime R&I, with a particular focus on waterborne transport in the new Horizon Europe. Ms. Zaplatka informed, that the

availability of funding will depend on the negotiations concerning the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework. However, the COM is currently working on the content and structure of the new programme. Ms. Zaplatka informed, that Horizon Europe will build on the success of the current programme, Horizon 2020. The Commission has set out to adapt and to improve the programme in order to reflect the evolving needs of EU citizens and the economy. Therefore Horizon Europe will keep the three pillar structure, continue to be based on excellence and maintain the tested funding rules and procedure of Horizon 2020, but in a simplified form.

Ms. Zaplatka informed, that that PA Ship related objectives will fall under the second pillar in the new Horizon Europe, which seeks to address “Global Challenges and Industrial Competitiveness”. According to the COMs proposal this pillar will receive 52.7 billion EUR, whereof 15 billion are directed toward Climate, Energy and Mobility.

For more details on the presentation, key figures and numbers, please refer to appendix no. 2. Participants are also welcome to contact the PAC team, who may contact Ms. Zaplatka upon request.

5. Update on the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan by Markus Helavuori, HELCOM

Mr. Markus Helavuori, Professional Secretary at HELCOM informed the participants on the ongoing revision process of the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP). The decision to update the BSAP was made in 2018 at a ministerial meeting, and new plan seeks to adapt to current HELCOM topics and objectives, which have not yet been met in the Baltic Sea. Current objectives are e.g. Marine litter, underwater noise, seabed loss, biodiversity conservation, climate change. Moreover, the updated BSAP will also make references to global targets and commitments, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals etc. Mr. Helavuori informed, that different activities related to the update process are being carried out at the moment, such as; review of current objectives in BSAP and existing implementation measures; and consultations with stakeholder countries, HELCOM groups and other regional sub groups. Finally, Mr. Helavuori informed that the first full draft of the updates BSAP is expected ultimo 2020 and the final approval to take place at the 2021 ministerial meeting.

For more details please refer to appendix no. 3.

6. Tour de table of the country Steering Committee members in light of Covid-19

The Steering Committee members and representatives from Latvia, Finland, Denmark and Germany reported on the various restrictions on mobility and social distancing protocols that have been implemented in their respective countries in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These factors have paused port state inspection of vessels, although countries have now started carrying out such inspections again.

7. Updates by Flagship /Project platform leaders on current situation in light of Covid-19

Overall, the Flagship leaders informed, that the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the postponement or cancellation of events. Meetings have been organized as online meetings if possible. In order to address this challenge, the Interreg BSR secretariat has offered a prolongation to the projects in order for these to meet their objectives.

ECOPRODIGI

Project Leader, Ms. Milla Harju, provided an update on ECORPODIGI. Ms. Harju informed, that the 1st report on project findings was published in early 2020. The report can be found [here](#). The

project is now moving into its final phase and the next steps therefore includes: digitalization roadmaps for increasing eco-efficiency in the BSR maritime sector; Pilotings of digital tools with maritime industry end users, incl. a 2nd synthesis report on findings; Training programmes for shipyards, shipping companies & ports; and finally Policy briefings & recommendations to increase eco-efficiency and digitalization in the Baltic Sea region. However, due to the Covid19 pandemic, the event and meetings have been postponed and therefore also the expected deliveries. Ms. Harju informed, that the project has been prolonged to March 2021 and the full project partnership remain committed to delivering the final results.

For more details please refer to appendix no. 4.

COMPLETE

Project Leader, Ms. Miina Karjalainen, provided an update on COMPLETE. Ms. Karjalainen informed, that in terms of most recent and most important activities, the COMPLETE project has co-hosted [two working group meetings](#) of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) held in Gdynia, Poland in March 2020, presented a draft non-indigenous species (NIS) monitoring programme for the HELCOM State and Conservation meeting in May 2020, and released a documentary film '[Baltic Hitchhikers](#)' focusing on biofouling issues. Finally, Ms. Karjalainen informed, that due to Covid-19 the project has been prolonged to March 2021.

Post the meeting, it has been informed, that COMPLETE has been granted financing for the extension phase project, COMPLETE PLUS. This will commence once COMPLETE expires in March 2021.

For more details on COMPLETE please refer to appendix no. 5.

EMERGE

Before introducing Project leader, Mr. Jukka-Pekka Jalkanen from EMERGE, Ms. Pallesen informed, that the EMERGE project is still awaiting Flagship status confirmation from the Commission. The PACs are in contact with the Commission regarding the issue and will advise the Project leader and SC group once a final decision has been reached.

Mr. Jalkanen proceeded with his presentation on EMERGE. Mr. Jalkanen informed, that since the project is still in its introductory phase it has not been severely challenged by the Covid-19 pandemic. Some activities relating to the project's experimental work has been postponed, but the work on modeling work has been less impacted by COVID19. The project has currently not applied for a prolongation in light of this.

For more details on EMERGE please refer to appendix no. 6.

CSHIPP

Project Leader, Ms. Riita Pöntynen provided an update on the project platform. Ms. Pöntynen informed, that a number of publications are in process, including a Best Practice Manual on Clean Shipping Financing and a State-of-the-Play report on Clean shipping technologies. Publications are available [here](#). The project has applied for prolongation until March 2021 due Covid19.

For more information please refer to appendix no. 7.

8. Presentation of seed money project on “Linking Sea and Land Flagship process”

Mr. Anders Berg from the Swedish Transport Administration, introduced the participants to the newly approved seed money project process under PA Transport called Linking Sea and Land (LISA). The LISA project has been granted 50.000 EUR and is set to commence in august 2020 and end June 2021. The LISA project will focus on improved efficiency in connectivity between land corridors and sea links.

Thus far the project holds 5 partners from the Baltic Sea Region, but other interested stakeholders are invited to contact Mr. Anders Berg, project leader, or Mr. Erlandson, if they are interested in learning more and possible join the full scale project.

For more information and contact details on LISA please refer to appendix no. 8.

9. Presentation of the PA Ship key autumn activities and process towards developing a roadmap for the future

Mr. Piester gave an update on upcoming activities related to PA Ship. Mr. Piester informed, that the PAC team will receive funding from the Interreg BSR programme to continue activities until summer 2021. The funding will cover the basic PAC tasks as well as activities and events involving the SCs and other stakeholders of PA Ship and PA Safe. These activities will lead to the development of a joint maritime Roadmap for the Future, which will include a proposal for the future organization and priorities of the two PAs. Also, the process will support the development of work plans for PA Ship and PA Safe, cf. the upcoming revised Action Plan. The proposed plan is listed here:

Main activities and events in 2020-2021

- Joint workshop in Brussels on key maritime issues of mutual interest with inputs from DG MARE, DG MOVE, SEA Europe, ECSA, and other experts (2nd half 2020). The workshop will contribute with input to the discussion of a joint maritime roadmap for the future and to the development of work plans for PA Ship and PA Safe.
- Annual Forum workshop on maritime digitalisation (2nd half 2020)
- Conference: The potential of shore-side power generation (2nd half 2020). The conference will provide port authorities and those within the sector with the know-how and practical examples of shore-side power generation to facilitate the transition to a greener shipping and cruise industry in the Baltic Sea Region.
- Joint workshop on blue growth with maritime stakeholders and experts involved in the EUSBSR and EUSAIR (1st half 2021)
- Interviews, analysis and drafting a roadmap for the future (1st half 2021)
- A policy and strategy seminar in 2021 on maritime challenges, results and presenting a roadmap for the future (Summer 2021)

Events will be held back to back with SC meetings to minimize travel activities. The SC noted that online meetings are good alternatives to physical meetings: It is easier to participate and there are no expenses.

Mr. Christian Hald-Mortensen from Danish Ministry of Food and Environment commented, that access to EU funding will be important for launching new maritime activities, and that synergies to a new project funded by Nordic Council of Ministers should be explored.

10. AOB

Ms. Pallesen informed the SC about the revision of the EUSBSR Action Plan, and noted that the work on the revised Action Plan is expected to be finalised in 2nd half of 2020. Ms. Pallesen concluded the meeting and thanked the participants for their inputs. A date for the next SC meeting will be circulated to the SC members as soon as possible.