

17th Steering Group meeting of the Policy Area Nutri “To reduce nutrient inputs to the sea to acceptable levels” of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2020

Opening:

The 17th meeting of the Steering Group (SG) of the EUSBSR Policy Area Nutri (PA Nutri) was called to order in Webex 17 November 2020 at 14.00 EET by the Policy Area Nutri Coordinators (PACs).

Present:

1. Anna Hernberg, chair, PAC Nutri Finland, Ministry of the Environment
2. Magdalena Dawidowicz, PAC Nutri Poland, Ministry of the Infrastructure
3. Laura Saijonmaa, PAC Nutri Finland, Ministry of the Environment
4. Josefin Hjort, NFP Sweden, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management
5. Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky, HELCOM Secretariat
6. Agne Lukoseviciene, NFP Lithuania, Ministry of Agriculture
7. Ann Riisenberg, 2nd NFP Estonia, Ministry of the Environment

Apologies:

1. Raul Ilisson, NFP Estonia, Ministry of the Environment
2. Pekka Jounila, DG REGIO, European Commission
3. Heike Imhoff, NFP Germany, Ministry of the Environment
4. Wera Leujak, NFP Germany, Federal Environment Agency
5. Lasse Tor Nielsen, NFP Denmark, Ministry of the Environment and Food
6. Baiba Zasa, NFP Latvia, Ministry of the Environment

A. Introduction

Anna Hernberg presented the agenda for the meeting. Magdalena Dawidowicz informed the SG that there are organizational changes ongoing in Poland and she is now working in the Ministry of the Infrastructure. Further changes are expected to take place in the near future.

B. Updated EUSBSR Action Plan Nutri

Anna Hernberg presented some changes in the administration brought by the EUSBSR updated Action Plan. The presidency of the Steering Groups should rotate among Member States on an annual basis. SGs will for example endorse Rules of Procedure

of the PA, substantial reports of the PA and annual work plans. The logical guideline would be to follow the order of the EUSBSR presidency. Since Germany (holding the EUSBSR presidency from July 2020 to June 2021) has communicated that they are not willing to take on the first rotating presidency, Anna Hernberg asked if there are any volunteer Member States to take on the first SG presidency in 2021. NFP Sweden Josefin Hjort said that she would consult her organization about this and get back to the PACs with an answer.

The SG discussed the flagship definition that is going to be published on the EUSBSR website and used as a part of the Action Plan. The SG did not see a need to change the existing definition since the flagship concept has been working well and will bring added value also in the updated Action Plan.

C. PA Nutri Work Plan 2021

Anna Hernberg introduced the draft PA Nutri Work Plan section by section and asked for comments.

The SG presidency will have an opportunity to comment on the work plan when it is known which Member State will take the first presidency. The work plan will then be presented to the SG for formal approval.

D. Norwegian participation to Nutri SG

Anna Hernberg informed the SG that HA Neighbours has approached Nutri about introducing a Norwegian member in Nutri Steering Group. HA Neighbours is looking for a Norwegian organization and representative interested in joining the Nutri SG and recommends inviting a Norwegian representative as an observer member. When the representative has been found, the SG will decide whether to accept them as an observer member. The SG welcomed this information.

E. Next meeting

The next PA Nutri SG meeting will take place in the spring of 2021.

The meeting ended at 15:10.