

Meeting minutes for the

22nd Meeting of the international Steering Committee for the Policy Area on Clean Shipping of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)

11 June 2024, 12:30-15:30

Teams meeting (online) - all times CEST

Participants

Chair: Marite Augustmane, Maritime department, Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia

PA Ship Coordinator: Milla Harju, Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom

Steering Group members: FI Mirja Rosenberg (deputy to Anita Mäkinen), Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom; SE Lina Pettersson, Swedish Transport Agency; DE Susanne Heitmüller, Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH); LV Marite Augustmane and Laima Rituma, Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia; PL Edyta Zabicka and Iwona Chrzastowska-Kawalek, Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation; EE Kaspar Andersson (deputy to Rene Rajasalu), Ministry of Climate of Estonia; Simona Jonuškienė, Lithuanian Transport Safety Administration

Invited guests: Marta Ruiz, HELCOM; Kadi Kasepold, TTU/ REISFER project; Erik Fridell, IVL/ EMERGE project; Marlene Riedel, Baltic Sea Action Point; Petri Koskinen, DG Regio/ European Commission; Emelie Tingström, SMA/ PA Safe

1) Welcome words and Tour de Table 12:30 - 12:45

Chair: Ms. Marite Augstmane, Ministry of Transport (Latvia)

PAC: Ms. Milla Harju, Finnish Transport and Communication Agency

Welcome and introduction by the chair, followed by Tour de Table of the participants.

2) Approval of the Agenda and Minutes of the Last Meeting 12:45 - 12:50

PAC: Minutes from the latest Steering Committee meeting held in May 29th 2023

The meeting agenda together with the meeting minutes from November were approved.

3) Activities of the Policy Area Coordinator 12:50 - 13:00

PAC: Update on actions taken by the PAC since last meeting and plans for the near future

- PAC presented the various activities that the Policy Area had attended since November 2023 - please see the "Presentation 22nd SG Meeting EUSBSR PA Ship" (here after Presentation 1) -document for details.

- Mr. Petri Koistinen was happy to hear about the Erasmus+ project, and asked the PAC to come back to him should the project be approved. He would then like to use it as an example of project outside the BSR.
- The final two Project Idea Generation Workshops will be held in Poland and Latvia, the date for the Polish will be on the 16th of October, followed by the SG meeting on the 17th October. Latvia's workshop will also take place this year, however no set dates as of yet - PAC Safe, Seppo Mäkinen has been in touch with the Latvian Safe SG member to organize.
- EUSBSR Annual Forum will be held in Visby, Sweden on the 30th and 31st of October. PA Ship will be co-organising two workshops: one on idea aligning PA Action goals with HELCOM's Action Plan, the other on rebuilding sustainable Ukraine, where PA Ship's role would be supporting from project application experience.
- The first Operational group meeting was held, with the aim of linking project work to a larger stakeholder group. Small national project from Sweden, Red Noise Baltship visited to reach a larger stakeholder group with the objective of upscaling their project.
- Some of the results from the Project Idea Generation Workshops were presented - please see Presentation 1 for more details.

4) Available EU Funding Calls 13:00 - 13:10

PAC: A look into the list as provided by Euro Access

- Relevant Horizon calls are due in September, which the PAC acknowledged is very short for initiating an application now, but as the topics are very relevant to PA Ship objectives the PAC encouraged the participants to keep an eye on the outcomes of these calls. Please see Presentation 1 for more details.
- Interreg Baltic Sea Region Platform call will be announced this summer - PAC will share more information as it comes.

5) Project Updates 13:10 - 13:50

PAC and Project Managers: Update on projects, presentations by REISFER and EMERGE

Project presentation EMERGE

Mr. Erik Fridell, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute

- Project funded by Horizon 2020, ended in May this year and started Feb 2020. 18 partners.
- Mitigation of the environmental impact of shipping emissions with scrubbers as a crucial theme. (Sulphur removal from exhaust gas)

- The project looked at air and water pollution together, which has not been very common.
- Developed models on pollution (caused by scrubbers) dispersion in the sea.
- Researchers were onboard a container ship Dec 2021, testing and collecting samples along the journey between Baltic Sea and Mediterranean. Showed effects when leaving SECA - switch of fuel. Looked at trade offs.
- Break-even for Scrubbers is around three years. At five years most ships already make money out of it.
With dilution ratio of 1:1 000 000 most sensitive endpoints still suffer.
- For more info on the project visit: www.emerge-h2020.eu

Project presentation REISFER

Ms. Kadi Kasepold, Taltec Estonian Maritime Academy

- The project object is to reduce Co2 emissions from Island ferry traffic
- 1 April 2024 - 31/ 3 2027
- Improve transport area and intermodal nodes in island ferry traffic by reducing CO2 emissions by 10-20% on selected routes in Estonia, Finland, etc
- WP1 - CO2 reduction possibilities and potential in CB island ferry traffic
- WP2, CO2 emission abatement methods and technologies on ferries
- Invitation for the Steering Group to follow their LinkedIn group REISFER - Interreg Central Baltic Project:
<https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/reisfer/>

Progress of other projects

PAC Ms. Milla Harju presented shortly regarding the other PA Ship projects. More details on their development, challenges and status will be shared in written format in the presentation that will be distributed after the meeting.

BREAK 13:50 - 14:00

6) Presentation by the Baltic Sea Action Point 14:00 - 14:10

Ms. Marlene Ridel, Baltic Sea Strategy Point

- The BSP representative reminded the participants on the Annual Forum in 29-31 October Visby, Gotland Sweden. Registration is open. Welcome!
Registration link: <https://eusbsr.eu/annual-forum/>
- EUSBSR has a new website, please take a look and let the BSP know if you miss anything.
- EUSBSR will be updated action plan, what could it look like?
The work is led by PACs but BSP will also set up meeting to get to possible best action plan. A topic to discuss further on next steering group meeting or a specific meeting dedicated to the topic. Work on the matter will be conducted during the fall with a revised version.

7) A farewell presentation by Latvian PA Ship Presidency 14:10 - 14:20

Ms. Laima Rituma, Ministry of Transport (Latvia)

- Latvian Presidency described the last years crucial developments. Please see the Farewell Presentation for more details.
- Thank you for your cooperation!

8) Adding Norway as an observer to the Steering Group 14:20 - 14:50

PAC: See the email sent to you on the 10th of June for details

PAC Ms. Milla Harju presented the interest expressed from Norway to join the Policy Area's Steering Group. Considering the procedure to become an official steering group member it is suggested that they shall join as an observer rather than a member. The process to do this is described in accordance with information from BSP.

PAC Ms. Milla Harju asked the Steering Group whether there are any objections to Norway, which there are not. She concludes that PA Ship will therefore be happy to provide an invitation to Norway to join. The process now moves on to the next phase, where the National Coordinators Group will be considering this proposition.

9) Any other business 14:50 - 15:10

Chair, PAC and meeting participants

- Information you would like to share (e.g., projects, initiatives)
- EUSBSR Annual Forum 2024 and workshops
 - As the EUSBSR Presidency will now be handed over from Latvia to Poland on the 1st of July, our Polish SG member, Ms. Edyta Żabicka congratulates the Latvian Presidency on a great work.
The next steering group meeting will take place in Gdynia on 17th of October back to back with the offshore wind farm conference (Oct 15th) Focus on education needed by the off shore wind sector. Idea generation workshop will take place on 16th of October.
 - Mr. Petri Koistinen asks a save the date for Outlook to be distributed for the events.
 - Ms. Susanne Heitmüller mentions that in regard to the Red Noise Baltship project, there are several underwater noise initiatives/projects under other programs, and as they are activity lead on the activity on policy scenarios they would be happy to share this among other programs and initiatives.
 - Ms. Lina Petersson asks whether it is possible to arrange the next meeting as a hybrid meeting due to limitations in travelling budgets.

10) Closing the meeting

PAC and Chair

All participants are thanked for their contribution and the meeting is closed 14:50.