

EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION
NATIONAL COORDINATORS GROUP
2nd MEETING UNDER THE LITHUANIAN PRESIDENCY

25 November 2021

Minutes

§1 Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as suggested by the Presidency.

§2 Change of coordinators of PA Safe and PA Ship

PA Safe

Following the decision of the Steering Group of PA Safe of 6 October to confirm Sweden's application to take over the role of co-PAC of PA Safe from Denmark, the Swedish Maritime Administration presented their application and informed about the planned activities.

The NCG appointed Sweden (Swedish Maritime Administration) as a new co-PAC of PA Safe as of 1 January 2022.

PA Ship

Following the decision of the Steering Group of PA Ship of 6 October to confirm Finland's application to take over the role of lead PAC of PA Ship from Denmark, the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency/Traficom presented their application and informed about the planned activities.

The NCG appointed Finland (the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency/Traficom) as a new lead PAC of PA Ship as of 1 January 2022.

§ 3 RoP of PA Ship

The lead PAC Ship (the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency/ Traficom) presented the draft Rules of Procedure (RoP) of the PA Ship Steering Group.

The NCG adopted its Communication to the SG of PA Ship on the SG RoP providing recommendations to improvement of the document. The NCG invited the PA Ship to submit the revised version of the SG RoP in early 2022.

Let's Communicate!

§ 4 RoP of PA Culture

Representative of Let's Communicate project (LC) presented the draft RoP of the PA Culture Steering Group.

The NCG adopted its Communication to the SG of PA Culture on the SG RoP providing recommendations to improvement of the document.

§ 5 Prolongation of Let's Communicate project in 2022

Representative of the LC expressed their intention to continue this project in 2022 (January - September, for a period of 9 months) and presented their work plan.

The NCG discussed and endorsed the LC work plan as amended on the basis of the NC's comments.

The LC will prepare and present their second interim activities report (of July-December 2021) in early 2022.

§ 6 Rules of Procedure of the National Coordinators Group of the EUSBSR

The Presidency presented its compromise proposal of the NCG RoP which was prepared after intensive informal bilateral consultations with the Member States.

The NCG approved the RoP with Annexes [to be uploaded on the EUSBSR website].

§ 7 Debrief of the Joint Programming Committee meeting of 10-11 November

Representative of the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Joint Secretariat debriefed the NCG on the outcome of the Joint Programming Committee meeting of 10-11 November 2021 and informed about the modalities and financial opportunities for the EUSBSR Governance.

§ 8 AOB

- **Capacity building programme for capacity builders in the EU macro-regional strategies. Debrief**

Representative of the LC debriefed the NCG on their participation in the INTERACT Capacity Building training programme for MRS Support Structures (Module 1).

- **Update on representation of the EUSBSR in various events**

The Presidency updated about the events it participated on behalf of the NCG. It also informed about upcoming activities that could be of interest to the NCG and PACs.

- **Further coordination of PA Tourism**

German delegation informed about the resignation of current PAC Tourism as of January 2022 and invited Member States to consider the possibility to take forward this function from Germany.

- **Change of co-PAC of PA Culture**

Polish delegation informed that the Adam Mickiewicz Institute will take forward the function of co-PAC of PA Culture as of 1 January 2022. The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of Poland will remain member of the SG of PA Culture.

Participants:

Lithuania, Robertas Bružilas (Chair), NC, MFA

Lithuania, Laura Čeponytė, MFA

Lithuania, Paulius Ratkevičius, MFA

Germany, Maurice Gajan, Federal Foreign Office

Germany, Winfried Maier, Federal Foreign Office

Sweden, Anna Hagström, Prime Minister's Office

Estonia, Karin Rannu, NC, MFA

Denmark, Anders Henriksson, NC, MFA

Finland, Helena Tuuri, NC, MFA

Finland, Henrik Veikanmaa, MFA

Latvia, Ita Klekere, NC, MFA

Poland, Joanna Wojtkowska, NC, MFA

Poland, Kamila Wojsznis, MFA

European Commission, Petri Koistinen, DG Regio

Let's Communicate, Kirsi Ahlman (Centrum Balticum)

Let's Communicate, Juhani Ailio (Centrum Balticum)

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Other invited participants:

Norway, Olav Berstad, MFA

Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration (Item 2)

Emelie Tingström, Swedish Maritime Administration (Item 2)

Valtteri Laine, Finnish Transport Agency/Traficom (Item 2, 3)

Elena Kolosova, Interreg Baltic Sea Region Joint Secretariat (Item 7)

Let's Communicate!