

Meeting minutes

28th Meeting of the International Steering Committee for the Policy Area on Maritime Safety and Security of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region – Formal part

May 31 2023, 08.30 – 11.30 CET

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81681693811?pwd=V1lzSEkvVmtraHJIYWxqSz1lSW8zZz09>

1. Welcome Words and Tour de Table 08.30-08.40

Chair: Tove Jangland, Swedish Transport Agency

Madam Chair Tove Jangland welcomes everyone to the meeting.
Estonia, Germany and Lithuania did not participate in the meeting.

Short discussion on steering group representation.

Post meeting comments from PACs:

Steering group members are the official representative of the member state. This is relevant when formal decisions are taken, in other matters the steering group member does not have to express the official standpoint of the country it represents.

2. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes from the Last Meeting 08.40-08.50

Chair: Tove Jangland, Swedish Transport Agency

The agenda and previous meeting minutes were approved by the meeting.

3. Activities of the Policy Area Coordinators 08.50-09.05

PAC: Emelie Persson Tingström, Swedish Maritime Administration

The Policy Area Coordinators work since last meeting was presented. The tasks have involved, Idea Generation Workshop In Klaipeda held back to back with the workshop in support to Ukrainian mariners in Klaipeda. There has also been online workshops on wind power in Gulf of Bothnia. The PACs have review Interreg BSR applications and provided feedback to the applicants. Planning of further idea generation workshops have also been conducted as tasks related to suggestion on policy work such as input document, Policy lab one pager. The PACs have also attended regular meetings with EUSBSR.

4. Support for Ukraine 09.05-09.20

PAC: Seppo Mäkinen, Traficom

Workshop in Klaipeda at the Lithuanian maritime academy in March on site and online. Three main topics came out of the workshop.

1: Online courses that fit the curriculum of the Ukrainian students. Hands on training is also essential.

2: Traineeship on board Nordic vessels

3: Remote simulator courses

Currently not possible due to not sufficient broadband on the Ukrainian side.

Seek for funding supposedly Erasmus+ for partners from Finland, LT and Sweden, educational institute as lead.

Latvian Maritime Academy is suggested as a possible partner from Latvia.

Action: PACs to inform SeaFocus as they gather up partners for the project.

5. **Baltic Policy Lab - 09.20-09.45**

PAC: Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration

Based on discussion in last meeting where the work conducted in Sweden was presented. The Swedish Transport Agency and the Swedish Maritime Administration was appointed the task to write a one pager and a policy input document that the projects can use to bring forward to the steering group.

Summary of policy lab, what is a policy lab. Why a policy lab, the legislative organisations can interact with other involved organisations on potential future policies. The example of the Swedish smart ship policy lab. Idea to look for funding for a policy lab that could be helpful for all Baltic states.

Policy input document

Policy input documented presented with the example from STM Validation Project.

Identify the right authority and put together a reference group of people to help the project go forward with a policy area suggestion.

Preferably a group of three organisations to work on the topic.

Discussion on involvement with HELCOM working group. Bringing the topic to a higher level for an example EUSBSR level.

Which issues would be the best to start off with from each country?

(Not necessarily the perspective of each country but also reflections from the participants point of view)

Finland: New alternative fuels, ship building and safety related to new alternative fuels.

Latvia: Alternative Fuels such as hydrogen, Smart Navigation and unmanned vehicles

Sweden: digitalisation of fairways and navigational aids to be used from shore

Poland: protection of critical maritime infrastructure, underwater cables and pipelines, unmanned autonomous vessels, offshore wind energy, hazardous materials dumped in the Baltic Sea

Denmark: Green shipping, alternative fuels and safety related to alternative fuels

Estonia and Lithuania are welcome to send in their suggestions later.

Discussion & questions:

- Denmark: sometimes difficulties to understand: how and why so good to explain. In general a good ideas.
- Latvia: possibility to get more info on the Swedish Smart ships policy, a successful case;
- Sweden: important to know what the "perks" are, good way to work efficiently;
- BSP: national level or transnational level (regional Baltic Sea), potentially could be funded as a small project from BSP / Interreg;
- PAC: good proposal from Tom. Fulfills the goals of PA Safe and EU SBSR;

- Denmark: DMA future lab together with private sector, how do we make this happen. Internal funding and several risk analysis. More info in next meeting;
- The steering group supported the idea of the Policy Input Document and the suggested work model.

Actions:

- Swedish Transport Agency make presentation from 23.11 into more of a success story to help to understand and explain the concept
- Denmark: To present policy work in next SG meeting.
- PAC to check informally with Interreg representative if Interreg funding could be a way forward.
- PACs to coordinate these topics that has been brought up and investigate a little more on each issues, is there for example ongoing work/projects?
- Estonia and Lithuania to send in their suggestions on “Which issues would be the best to start off with from each country?”
- In cover letter of the Minutes of this meeting: Member states shall add topics to policy issues, PACs to coordinate

BREAK 09.45-10.00

6. Idea Generation Workshops (held and planned) 10.00-10.15

PAC: Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration

Lithuanian workshop; idea generation in the morning and the ideas selected was worked further with. Topics that came up was:

- Training on handling new alternative fuels.
- Psychological aptitude (not safety).
- Shallow water surveying and scrubber sludge.

It is beneficial to have joint idea generation workshops PA Safe and PA Ship together as the topics are interrelated.

The PA plan to have future idea generation workshop together with other shipping events. Next up is Sweden, Donsö Shipping Meet in August (29th). And after that Estonia October 12th.

Spring 2024:

Danish Maritime Fair in May.

Germany spring 2024 MARISSA/Maritime Cluster of Northern Germany (MCN).

Autumn 2024:

Latvia

Poland, Gdynia and Gdansk are possible locations. Looking for possible events back to back.

7. Policy Suggestions and other input from the Operational Group 10.15-10.30

PAC: Seppo Mäkinen, Traficom, Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration

LT idea generating workshop:

Open Loop Scrubbers – to ban within the Baltic Sea ? - no IMO regulation

Co-operation with HELCOM Maritime

Handling of scrubber sludge (port facilities), some currently dumped in open sea (outside territorial waters)

Policy lab: Rules and regulations, national and within the Baltic Sea

Technology lab: technology and facilities to handle scrubber sludge in ports

Green transition; wide variety of matters, handling alternative fuels on board and in port, windfarm energy transport, ports as energy hubs.

Policy lab and technology lab.

Discussion & questions:

Suggestion to cooperate even further with other PAs which for example will be done at the annual forum where we intend to host a joint workshop with other Policy Areas.

Operational Steering group meeting last had a lot of presentations on ongoing or intended project. A suggestion is to have more thematic sessions with the operation steering group to get more discussion.

- PAC: Scrubber Sludge handling, PA Ship to lead.
- Green transition, together with PA Energy (discussion latest at Annual Forum)
- BSP: co-operation with PA Spatial planning on the Green transition. HELCOM VASAB.
- PAC: PACs have co-operation with HELCOM VASAB (=PA Spatial Planing) and participate to meetings.

8. Project and initiative information 10.30-10.50

PAC: Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration

Previously we had few projects going on related to PA-Safe but more projects are now ongoing and awaiting potential approval.

Sustainable Flow Project started May 1st aiming to reduce the environmental footprint in ports. The project include among other topics information exchange in real time between port and Ice breaker.

Projects awaiting approval will be presented at the October meeting if approved.

Action 4 (preparedness and response to maritime accidents and security issues) is where we have less projects among our actions.

MaDaMe s-124, s-125 standards led by University of Turku

Ormabass, building on the previous R-Mode projects, led by the Germany Space agency

Open Risk 2 project, risk assessment in Norway will be implemented in Finland and look at how to implement it in other countries after the project has taken place

Areas of interest for research:

Ongoing topics

Continued bathymetric surveying

Offshore windfarms

Anomaly detection

Discussion & questions:

- NELSON plans to apply for CEF funding in the call opening this autumn (approx. Oct) closing Probably Jan 2024 (Decision June 2024). The idea is to have the first version of the NELSON project application ready in August.
- PAC added that PA Safe & PA Ship has received confirmation on a stand at the networking village;

9. Any other business 10.50-11:00

Chair: Tove Jangland, Swedish Transport Agency

10. Changing Chair & Next meeting Oct 3 afternoon (tentative), Riga, Latvia 11:00-11:20

Chair: Tove Jangland, Swedish Transport Agency

Chair Appointed: Aleksandrs Pavlovics, Transport Accident and Incident Investigation Bureau, Latvia

Issues of presidency

Latvia briefed on the changing chairs. Latvia has not been presented much in PA Safe projects before. Foster involvement of Latvian stakeholder.

Next meeting

Back to back with Annual Forum on October 3d in the afternoon. Formally decided.

The agenda and layout of this year's annual forum and how to sign up for the annual forum was presented. PA Safe and Ship will have a stand at the forum where projects can present their work.

<https://www.eusbsr.eu/annual-forum>

Madam Chair thanked the Policy Area Coordinators

11. Wrap-up and Conclusion 11.20-11:30

Chair: Tove Jangland, Swedish Transport Agency