

***DRAFT* minutes**

29th 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

October 3 2023, 15.00 – 16.30 EEST

Riga City Council office, Latvia

1. Welcome Words and Tour de Table 15.00-15.10

Chair: Aleksandrs Pavlovics, Latvian Transport Accident and Incident Investigation Bureau

Attendees

DE	Dina	Matusova	German Waterways and Shipping Agency	
DK	Morten Viggo	Weiss	Danish Maritime Administration	
EE	Tarmo	Ots	Ministry of Climate	
			Finnish Transport and Communications Agency	
FI	Juha-Matti	Korsi	Latvian Transport Accident and Incident Investigation Bureau	
LV	Aleksandrs	Pavlovics	Ministry of Infrastructure	
PL	Edyta	Żabicka		
		Chrzęstowska-Kawałek	Ministry of Infrastructure	
PL	Iwona	Kawałek	Finnish Transport and Communications Agency	PAC Ship
FI	Mirka	Laurila-Pant	Finnish Transport and Communications Agency	co-PAC Safe
FI	Seppo	Mäkinen	Swedish Maritime Administration	co-PAC Safe
SE	Ulf	Siwe	Interreg Baltic Strategy Point	
UA	Viktorii	Hladii	DG Regio	
EU (FI)	Petri	Koistinen		

Chair Aleksandrs opened the meeting with introduction of himself.

Tour the table

2. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes from the Last Meeting 15.10-15.15

Chair: Aleksandrs Pavlovics, Latvian Transport Accident and Incident Investigation Bureau

Agenda was approved

Minutes of the previous meeting 31.5.2023 were accepted.

3. Activities of the Policy Area Coordinators 15.15-15.25

PAC: Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration

Ulf presented PAC activities.

4. Baltic Policy Lab - 15.25-15.55

PAC: Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration

Ulf briefed on the Policy Lab one pager (attached). A Policy Lab is a way to assist regulatory authorities with external resources to develop new policies. It can be set up as (part of) a project and get external financing. Could we possibly create a common Baltic Sea Region Policy Lab? In Sweden funding comes from the national maritime funds and coordination has been from the national research institute RISE as a part of a bigger project.

DK: Morten briefed on a future lab one pager (attached) with two examples from Denmark: one on carbon neutral container ships and the other on remote-controlled surveying ships.

Discussion on PAC proposal (national regulation policy) and DK proposal (more hands on case studies). Someone needs to be working on coordination a Policy Lab basically full time, thus it needs public funding.

EE: Tarmo briefed about the EE intentions on government and industry co-operation.

EU: Petri, does it happen in other countries? Ulf: We know of DK, GB & SE. It might happen under different name(s) in other countries.

Ulf presented the notes on the issue from last meeting. Everyone thought it is a good idea, covering the region, but complex. Funding possibilities, 3. Best possibility: a separate small project, to include also Norway (NO). A concrete steps toward regional issue. Discussion on steps and candidates to take the lead.

- **Action 1: A homework for all, to come up with 1-2 subjects / issues (to get a list)**

EE pointed out to avoid duplication (with other PAs). Idea within PAs to concentrate on certain (agreed divided between PAs) topics. Alternate fuels is too big to swallow. Remote pilotage and windfarm & maritime traffic conflicts.

- **Action 2: PACs to discuss with other PAs and HELCOM on the issues, to avoid duplication. Check on the BSAP actions.**

Short discussion on windfarms, planning and regulations, FI, PL, DE.

5. Idea Generation Workshops - status 16.05-16.10

PAC: Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration

Ulf briefed on the Donsö idea generation workshop and the ideas, that came up. PAC shall follow up the ideas generated from FI, LT and SE: projects forming and applications coming.

EE: SG could have an overview on idea generation, has it been successful. **Action: one pager information.**

PAC: ideas could be relevant for other PAs as well. They are hosted in co-operation with PA Ship.

6. Policy Suggestions and other input from the Operational Group 16.10-16.20

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

Digital transition of data on-board (back and forth).

EE: Tarmo: EU Initiative is ongoing, discussion. Member states(MS) shall keep the info available. Currently ship certificate at the moment. Sailors certificate is more complicated, data protection issue.

National level discussion is possible, DK example. A possible action for MSs to report their national regulations and examples.

7. Project and initiative information 16.20-16.25

PAC: Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration

Ulf presented the current status of projects and described what they are about.

Lack of projects on action 4: preparedness and response for maritime accidents. Discussion with other PACs and HELCOM. Good cooperation example in North Atlantic. Swedish Coast Guard is willing to lead an application for a similar Baltic cooperation initiative.

SAR is not always Coast Guard responsibility., E.g. in SE SMA. FI Coast Guard, PL separate organisation.

EU Petri: In a Stockholm meeting about a year ago – the application from PA Safe not fitting the Interreg. Are the PACs happy today?

Ulf: There is a mismatch between the PA Safe Actions and the Interreg objectives. However, the argument that the projects do not fit in is a silly idea. Several projects have been coached by Interreg BSR and PA Safe to better fit Interreg BSR. PA Safe is very content with the outcome of the latest call and so is PA Ship, with funding of many projects, some which are relevant for both.

EU Petri: pleased, that the projects were being helped also by BSP. Good policy.

8. Any other business & Conclusion 16.25-16:30

Chair: Aleksandrs Pavlovics, Latvian Transport Accident and Incident Investigation Bureau

EE Tarmo: PA Safe web-site to update. E.g. Steering group members. **Action PAC: Update web** [INFO: some PA have this on the web – some not]

DE Dina: more info on idea generation workshop.

Ulf: Northern Germany Maritime Cluster meeting in Lübeck. Co-run together with the cluster. **Action Ulf: Send info to Dina and Susanne**, as well as the organizers of German side.

Next meeting, online, Timeframe, annual report and projects signed. Ulf's suggestion: not formal but another meeting (virtual) on Policy Lab issue.

Aleksandrs closed the meeting at 16:44 with information on the Workshop 1 tomorrow at 10:00.