

PA Education, Science and Social Affairs

Steering Group meeting, **online, 15 March 2022**

TIME 14.00 – 15.00 (CET)

VENUE ZOOM

MINUTES 1. Opening

Greeting words

Ms. Corinna Nienstedt

*Director General - Europe – International Affairs – Protocol,
Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Senate Chancellery*

Ms. Josefin Carling

Secretary General, Norden Association in Sweden

Chairman for the Steering Group

Mr. Raimondas Paškevičius

*Ministry of Education, Science and Sports in the Republic of
Lithuania*

2. Adopt the agenda

To confirm the agenda for today's meeting

3. Work Plan 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2024

Anders introduced the draft work plan. Afterwards comments were made on the importance of organizing capacity building and study visits. Furthermore, to discuss the frequency of meetings with the Baltic Sea Network – European Social Fund. The importance of policy dialogues and to take part in policy discussions in Member States bringing the value of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region into the national agendas. Finally, a question was raised on the status of the emerging flagship on integration of migrants. A highly relevant topic in relation to the war in Ukraine with the increasing numbers of refugees. The topic will be put on the agenda for next meeting in June. Until then the Presidency and PACs will discuss possible actions to take on short and longer perspectives.

To endorse the Work Plan.

4. Rules of Procedure

The Group of National Coordinators gave some minor remarks to the Rules of Procedure adopted by this Steering Group at the meeting in November. Anders introduced the proposed changes in the document. The Chairman proposed the Norden Association in Sweden to be appointed as Lead Policy Area Coordinator (PAC).

To endorse the Rules of Procedure with the amendment.

To appoint the Norden Association in Sweden to Lead-PAC.

5. A.O.B.

The war in Ukraine was discussed and possible support that can be provided by PA EDU. Maybe, in distance education or other areas

where an immediate response is needed. Anders welcome members of the Steering Group to contact him with proposals and ideas on how we can contribute.

7. Next meeting

To hold next meeting in Stockholm on 15 June at 11.00 to 17.00 followed by dinner. The meeting will be a working meeting discussing national implementation, monitoring and evaluation. It was decided to organize one or two study visits the day after before lunch.

MEMBERS

POLICY AREA FOCAL POINTS / MEMBERS OF THE STEERING GROUP

Estonia

Ms Piret Sütt, Ministry of Education and Research

Finland

Ms Johanna Hulkko, Ministry of Education and Culture

Germany

Ms Corinna Nienstedt, Senate Chancellery, Hamburg

Latvia

Ms Aļona Babiča, Ministry of Education and Science

Lithuania

Mr Raimondas Paškevičius, Ministry of Education, Science and Sports

Sweden

Ms Inger Wijkström, Ministry of Employment

POLICY AREA COORDINATORS

Core Group

Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg

Senate Chancellery

Ms Corinna Nienstedt, Director General

Mr Thomas Jacobs, Baltic Sea cooperation

Europe – International Affairs – Protocol

Norden Association in Sweden

Ms Josefin Carlring, Secretary General

Mr Anders Bergström, Coordinator

GUESTS

EU Commission

Ms Blagovestka Riiser, DG for Regional and Urban Policy

Baltic Sea Network – European Social Fund

Mr Ulrich Wolff, State Ministry of Labour, Health, Social and Family Affairs and Integration, Hamburg

Ms Ege Eloo, State Shared Service Centre, Estonia

Ms Laura Laivina, Ministry of Finance, Latvia

Flagship leaders

Baltic Science Network (BSN)

Ms Franziska Jerosch, State Ministry of Science, Research and Equalities, Hamburg

Baltic Sea Labour Forum (BSLF)

Ms Daria Akhutina, Council of the Baltic Sea States

School to Work (S2W)

Mr Gunnar Anderzon, Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions