

Final SUMMARY RECORD

28th Meeting of the Wadden Sea Board (WSB 28)

14 March 2019
Berlin, Germany



1. Opening of the Meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Ms Karin Lochte, at 09:15 on 14 March 2019. She thanked the Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein for providing the meeting venue and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety for hosting the dinner the night before.

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Christian B. Rieper, Deputy Director General at the Danish Environmental Protection Agency, as the new Head of the Danish delegation.

The meeting also welcomed Ms Carolin Galler, Ministry for Environment, Energy, Building and Climate Protection in Lower Saxony, as a guest.

Mr Marco Brodde from the Danish Ornithological Society, representing Danish NGOs active in the Danish Wadden Sea area, was welcomed to the meeting as the proposed Danish advisor from the NGOs.

Mr Verhulst passed on the apologies from Ms Schokker-Strampel and Mr Staghouwer who were absent due to illness, respectively other obligations. Mr Stempel sent his apologies for not being able to attend and Mr Klöpffer assumed his role as Secretary for the meeting.

A list of participants is at Annex 1.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Document: [Draft Agenda](#)

The meeting adopted the draft agenda of the meeting with two amendments: upon the request of Germany, Agenda item 6 (Status of discussion on Wadden Sea World Heritage Partnership Center) was shifted to item 5 (as 5.11) and the proposal of Mr Verhulst was followed to start with agenda items 7.1/1 and 7.1/2.

3. Record WSB 27

Document: [Summary Record WSB 27](#)

The summary record of the 27th meeting of the Wadden Sea Board (WSB 27) was adopted without changes.

4. Announcements

4.1 Announcements

Denmark

- The next parliamentary election day will be no later than 17 June, just before WSB 29. It is not expected that this will have any effect on the representation of Denmark. More information on the election will be available by WSB 29;
- The environmental assessment report regarding the extension of the Harbour of Esbjerg: the draft for UNESCO regarding the OUV and the environmental assessment report will be sent to TG-WH for comments in April 2019. There will only be a few days to comments on the draft. A certification is on its way but not expected before 2020¹;
- There are two projects (in different stages of preparation) with the aim of establishing Dark Sky parks in Southern Denmark at the moment, one of which is planned for Mandø (the other one is on the island of Als on the East coast);
- Despite the efforts to restore the houting habitats, it seems that populations have not increased in abundance, as shown by the most recent monitoring results from 2014. Currently a new monitoring of the populations is in place and the results will be presented in a few months. Based on these data (among others), scientific investigation will proceed as preparation for possible further action, following the updating of the national Danish Houting Action Plan;
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is allowing the collection of oysters in the Wadden Sea by hand, with currently only two permits issued, as a pilot. The press is speculating about a re-opening of the commercial ship-based fisheries in protected areas in the future. The underlying protection regime is set out in a Statutory Order.

Germany

- Ms Ilka Wagner has been appointed as the successor of Ms Christiane Paulus as representative of the federal level in the WSB. Ms Wagner intends to participate in WSB 29;
- In the States of Lower Saxony, Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein the project CRANIMPACT investigates the effect of shrimp fisheries on subtidal habitats and communities. The project is led by the Thünen-Institute of Sea Fisheries and financed by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and the States of Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein;
- Lower Saxony made an important step forward in protecting estuarine habitats listed under the Birds and the Habitats Directives: The “Außenems” nature reserve protection regime came into force on 24 January 2019 in agreement with the Netherlands; the “Tideweser” nature reserve protection regime came into force on 24 February 2019, *inter alia* covering large parts of the navigation channel of the outer Weser.

Netherlands

- Investments of around EUR 6.5 million have been granted for sublittoral nature research, the project ‘Waddenmozaïek’ and several tens of millions of euros for green energy projects in the Ems-harbours;
- The islands in the Dutch Wadden Sea recently signed an agreement for zero CO₂ emissions mobility (mobility on and to the islands);

¹ GER: Draft letter to UNESCO was sent to TG-WH members in April and comments by GER and NL had been received by the end of the month.

- The container ship MSC Zoe lost 342 containers in a storm on 2 January 2019 within the 12 nm zone off the Dutch Wadden Sea islands on its route to Bremerhaven. 220 containers have been recovered and 60% of debris salvaged, most contained toys and electrical appliances. The remaining containers will be removed in the coming months. The company owning the MSC Zoe has taken responsibility for the incident and is covering all costs. The Wadden Academy is investigating the impact of this accident and the authorities are currently calculating the costs. The containers holding chemical substances have not been found yet, however no environmental impact is expected since the amount of substances was considered as too low. Ms Knoke noted that there is an initiative by Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony to track containers with potentially harmful content by electronic tracking devices. Ms Slump responded that the Dutch Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management will start an appeal within IMO to use tracking devices for all containers. She is looking for political support by Germany a.o.
- The potential reasons that caused the death of 20,000 guillemots (*Uria aalge*) are still being investigated. A connection to the MSC Zoe incident can be excluded with a high degree of certainty, since the birds did not show any plastic pieces or paraffin in their stomachs. The chemical pollution deriving from the incident was considered as too low. A severe impact of the accident on the overall population of guillemots was questioned.

Wadden Sea Forum

- The upcoming WSF plenary meeting will take place on 9-10 May in Groningen, Netherlands;
- The WSF has appointed a new vice-chair, District Administrator Stefan Mohrdieck from Dithmarschen. He will be officially elected at the next plenary meeting;
- For the time being, the two WSF advisors for the WSB are Preben Friis-Hauge and Manfred Vollmer.

Nature NGOs

- The official investigation report of the Glory Amsterdam incident describes a whole series of failed communications and operations, casting a poor light on the present system of the handling of ship incidents in Germany. The general issue of shipping in the vicinity of the Wadden Sea was highlighted in the Call for Action 2018 from the nature NGOs, who consider both the cases of the MSC Zoe and of the Glory Amsterdam as a confirmation of the need for additional measures.

CWSS:

- The participation of the Wadden Sea World Heritage at the world's largest tourism fair ITB, 6-10 March 2019 in Berlin, was considered as very successful. All three countries were represented, together with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO World Heritage Magazine. The latter already expressed interest in participating next year. The team was awarded a prize for being “the nicest exhibitor” in the hall.

4.2 Appointments

- The chairperson invited Mr Brodde to introduce himself. Mr Rieper added that Denmark was aiming for a stronger representation in the WSB to underpin its ambition in the cooperation and to formalize the relationship to the Danish NGOs. He considered Mr Brodde an excellent choice, supported by all Danish NGOs involved in the Wadden Sea area. Mr Friis-Hauge added that Mr Brodde was well known and supported the appointment. The chairperson welcomed Mr Brodde to the WSB.

- Mr Rösner noted that the Wadden Sea Team was aiming for NGO representatives from all three countries and he therefore recommended the appointment of a third advisor. The Netherlands and the Chairperson echoed the proposal.
- The meeting **appointed** Mr Brodde as WSB advisor and expressed a positive attitude towards a re-appointment of an advisor from the Dutch NGOs. Mr Verhulst noted that he would like to extend such a positive attitude to potential advisors in general.

5. Implementation Leeuwarden Declaration

5.1 Wadden Sea World Heritage

5.1.1 TG WH Progress Report

Document: [WSB 28/5.1/1 TG WH Progress Report](#)

Parties thanked the group for the report.

Agenda items 1.1 “MSC Zoe” and “Glory Amsterdam” incidents, 1.2 Decrease of houting population in Denmark, and 1.3 Esbjerg harbor extension plans were addressed under agenda item 4 “Announcements” and 5.5 “Maritime safety and pollution prevention of shipping”. Agenda item 3.2 “10th Anniversary Wadden Sea World Heritage inscription” was addressed under 5.10 “Communication and education”.

The Netherlands expressed their positive starting attitude towards the use of the WSWH logo for the documentary movie “Silence of the Tides”.

Mr Vollmer informed the meeting of a marine litter workshop that would be held in October in Oldenburg, during which the scientific community aims to involve stakeholders. The WSF was cooperating in this activity.

The WSB **noted** the information.

5.1.2 Development of the Single Integrated Management Plan

Document: [WSB 28/5.1/2 Status Report SIMP](#)

Ms Luna presented a summary of progress including a preliminary structure, a draft process for developing the content of the SIMP and statements of a successful SIMP. The Danish delegation emphasized interest in including the UN Sustainable Development Goals and their support for the general approach. Germany also supported the approach. The Dutch delegation suggested involving site managers at this stage of the process to obtain their input in identifying the key focus issues for the SIMP. This practice would enhance the support for the SIMP and would promote cooperation on the operational level. It was also suggested to develop a timetable with milestones for the WSB specifically. Mr Rösner welcomed the document but also expressed concern that at the end of the process of developing the SIMP the document could just summarize the existing structures and management instruments. He therefore considered it important that the SIMP create also an added value for conservation. As a contribution, WWF submitted a document to TG-WH addressing five issues where the SIMP should have an added value. The document had not been available to everyone and would therefore be circulated to the WSB members by CWSS. The Chairperson congratulated all parties concerned on the inclusive approach to developing the SIMP.

Ms Paulus mentioned the importance of ensuring that all TGs and EGs support the SIMP development upon request.

The WSB **approved** the preliminary structure.

5.1.3 TG-STs Progress Report

Document: [WSB 28/5.1/3 TG-STs Progress Report](#)

Parties thanked the group for the report. The chairman of this TG-STs over the last years, Mr Oeds Bijlsma, who stepped down, was thanked for all his work. The chair would pass this on by sending a letter.

The WSB **noted** the information.

5.2 Nature conservation and integrated ecosystem management

5.2.1 TG-MM Report

Document: [WSB 28/5.2/1 TG-MM Report](#)

Parties thanked the group for the report.

TWSC Review process

Following the TWSC review process (see doc. WSB28/7.1/1), TG-MM was divided into Task Group Management (TG-M) and Task Group Monitoring & Assessment (TG-MA). The meeting appreciated the nomination by Germany of Mr Adi Kellerman and **appointed** him as new Chairperson of TG-MA.

Flyway & Breeding birds

The Netherlands announced that the funding for the Flyway monitoring was secured until January 2021.

Fish targets

Regarding the Swimway Action Programme, Mr Rösner pointed out that further actions would need to be defined for the implementation. He recommended also considering the action needed to recover lost species that had occurred in the Wadden Sea in the past, instead of acting only on the current status. The chair of TG-M(M), Mr Jørgensen, agreed with the comment from WWF and explained that the group had not been able to be more specific on the activities since more substantial information on resources to finance the corresponding research was needed. There would be further specification of the action plan after the Swimway International Scientific Conference in September 2019 which will be presented at WSB 30 in November 2019.

The WSB **adopted** the Swimway Action Programme.

Alien species (see doc. WSB 28/5.2/3)

The WSB **adopted** the Management and Action Plan for Alien Species (MAPAS).

TMAP, QSR & Data Handling

Regarding the pending QSR Synthesis Report, Germany proposed that the new TG-MA should come up with a suggestion on how to proceed by WSB 29. The WSB **agreed** on this suggestion.

Ports and shipping were addressed under Agenda item 5.5.

The Trilateral Research Agenda (TRA) will be addressed in the Agenda item 5.7.1.

5.3 Energy

No items.

5.4 Climate

5.4.1 TG-C Progress Report

Document: [WSB 28/5.2/1 TG-MM Report](#)

Parties thanked the group for the report.

TG-C was requested to deliver input to CWSS as a basis for drafting a press release addressing the Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC) due for publication in September 2019 to WSB 29.

5.4.2 Development of a Climate Change Vulnerability Index (CVI) for the Wadden Sea World Heritage

Document: [WSB 28/5.4/2 CVI Proposal](#)

All parties expressed a positive attitude towards the proposal. The Netherlands and Germany agreed to provide their total share of the required resources already in 2019. Denmark would include its share in the budget for next year. This, however, would not guarantee that the resources would be approved. Denmark, echoed by the chairperson, suggested exploring additional options to cover the unsecured resources, e.g. through an INTERREG project or by other external sources.

Responding to the German concern on limited resources at CWSS to carry out these activities, Mr Klöpper explained that these resources would be combined with the foreseen work of the EG-C anyhow and would therefore not encumber the Secretariat.

The WSB **endorsed** the development of a CVI for the Wadden Sea World Heritage.

5.5 Maritime safety and pollution prevention of shipping

Document: [WSB 28/5.5/1 Wadden Sea Container Spill](#)

The Netherlands, with support by Germany, agreed to take the initiative to reply to the letter from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre concerning the container spill and the incident of the Glory Amsterdam for discussion and agreement in TG-WH.

The Netherlands would review the recommendations from former approaches on shipping safety and suggested evaluating the potential for a common position of the TWSC on the further process. A corresponding document would be prepared for WSB 29. Germany suggested including the WSF on this topic. Mr Rösner recommended involving the green NGOs and suggested using the existing PSSA Wadden Sea, which was still an “empty shell”, to aim for “associated protective measures” to be proposed to the IMO. Based on the different inputs, it could be decided at WSB 29 if a further attempt for a workshop with representatives from the maritime sector should be initiated.

The WSB **agreed** on the process.

5.6 Trilateral monitoring and assessment programme

No items.

5.7 Science cooperation

5.7.1 Trilateral Research Agenda – Joint Paper TG-MM and TG-WH

Document: [WSB 28/5.7/1 TRA joint document](#)

The Netherlands welcomed the document and supported the establishment of the Programming Committee. The function of the Committee would not only be to find new financial resources but also to define how to connect with ongoing research. Germany also agreed to the establishment of the Programming Committee and informed the Board that contact had already been made with the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) regarding funding and cooperation on research. Further decisions needed clarification in advance on the concrete tasks and obligations of the Programming Committee, including the scope of the TWSC. Furthermore, the OPteamPH would have a meeting with representatives of the scientific community in April as a first round of the dialogue process and to explore ways to cooperate and what the expectations of the scientific community were. Also, financial aspects concerning resulting actions need to be clarified.

The WSB **approved** the joint document provided by TG-WH and TG-M defining the priority questions for the TWSC and **requested** a common proposal for the next WSB 29 on how to proceed.

5.8 Wadden Sea Forum

Mr Friis-Hauge informed the meeting that the WSF would cooperate with the Danish Wadden Sea municipalities to further extend the sustainability indicator instrument. This would lead to a joint indicator assessment for the entire Wadden Sea Region. Data would be stored at the WSF secretariat. The Netherlands and Denmark appreciated the integration of the provinces and municipalities in the instrument.

The WSF was continuing its work on the policy paper on climate change adaptation. A broad stakeholder discussion would take place at the plenary meeting in May.

The WSF would take part in an AEWA workshop in June 2019 about the implementation of management plans on greylag and barnacle geese. A task force agriculture was expected to deliver recommendations for measures.

It was envisaged to set up a new working group on demographic change. The mayors of some municipalities in Lower Saxony had agreed to cooperate with the WSF in identifying challenges of demographic change. The University of Oldenburg would support the group scientifically. It was also envisaged to invite Danish and Dutch municipalities to cooperate in this group as well. The WSB appreciated this initiative.

The WSF, in cooperation with the University of Oldenburg, would implement a workshop about marine litter on 1 October 2019. More information would be provided at WSB 29.

5.9 International cooperation

5.9.1 Cooperation with other WH sites

Document: [WSB 28/5.9/1 WH other sites](#)

The document was amended based on discussions during WSB 27.

The WSB **adopted** the document.

5.9.2 MOU PNBA Mauritania

Document: [WSB 28/5.9/2 MoU PNBA Mauritania](#)

The WSB **noted** the information.

5.9.3 Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative (AMBI)

Document: [WSB 28/5.9/3 AMBI Memo](#)

The meeting welcomed the document and acknowledged the good cooperation and Germany confirmed its continued support.

The WSB **noted** the document.

5.10 Communication and education

5.10.1 IWSS Annual Report and Workshop Report 2018

Document: [WSB 28/5.10/1 IWSS Annual Report](#); [WSB 28/5.10/2 IWSS Workshop Report 2018](#)

The Netherlands welcomed the reports. Germany echoed the Netherlands and noted that funding was available only until the end of 2019. Germany suggested developing a document for WSB 29 stating what had been agreed in the Leeuwarden Declaration on this topic to decide on the prolongation of this project. This document should be developed in collaboration with CWSS and must include a budget proposed by WWF. The meeting discussed whether the programme should become more ambitious and be taken to the high school level, for example. An extension of the programme would demand enhanced funding.

The WSB **requested** WWF and CWSS to prepare a proposal on continuation of the IWSS-project to WSB 29.

5.10.3 10th Anniversary celebration

Document: [WSB 28/5.10/3 10th Anniversary Celebration](#)

The Netherlands welcomed the document and proposed to start the common bike tour on June 19th subsequent to WSB 29. The Parties expressed a positive attitude to the proposal.

Ms Bostelmann pointed out that the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and the Lower Saxony Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Protection would be sending the official invitations. On the final day (Sunday, 30 June 2019) the morning programme would be aimed at the ministers. Schleswig-Holstein informed the meeting that the 10th Anniversary celebrations had already been started in Berlin the week before at a successful evening event with approx. 250 participants.

At the request of Mr Rösner, Ms Bostelmann informed the Board that the Wadden Sea Day (WSD) 2019 would be celebrated on its regular date at the end of August (29th) in its traditional format. The proposed topic would be “Wadden Sea World Heritage interpretation and education with a view to the future”. This year’s WSD would be organized by CWSS in close collaboration with the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park Authority. The WSD would be fully financed by Germany. It was agreed that any content proposals by CWSS would need to be discussed in the WSB for future years.

The WSB **agreed** on this year’s WSD proposed topic.

5.10.4 Update website re-launch

Document: [WSB 28/5.10/4 Update website re-launch](#)

The meeting agreed that each country would appoint a person who would collect and send feedback to Ms Bostelmann. To better streamline the process, Ms Bostelmann would send instructions to all parties on how to submit comments to the website. The period for submission would be four weeks. Any change to the website would need to be translated to all four languages. The time allotted for the translation would be a minimum of two weeks.

Germany underlined that as the website was also the official website for the World Heritage property and therefore would very likely be scrutinized by UNESCO, it was essential that the content was approved by the WSB, before the website would be launched officially. The meeting agreed to including the links to all partners listed in the website.

The meeting agreed that the WSB members and the supporting staff would have access to the documents of all TWSC groups in the future in the website’s log-in area. TWSC group members would only have access to the documents of their respective groups. The Wadden Sea Board meetings and their documents would be set up as public events, where no log-in was required.

The WSB **noted** the document and agreed on the procedure.

5.11 Status of discussion on Wadden Sea World Heritage Partnership Center and Foundation

Document: [WSB 28/5.11/ OPTeamPH Progress Report](#)

The chair of the OPteamPH, Mr Hebbelmann, invited the meeting to discuss the following four points:

1. Identification of new partners and consideration of the Wadden Sea Harbour Initiative as a potential partner

The WSF reflected whether it was necessary to have the Wadden Sea Harbour Initiative as a separate partner. The harbour sector was to be part of the WSF network as other economic sectors like energy, agriculture and fisheries. It was recommended that the OPteamPH work closely with the WSF to involve the relevant socio-economic partners. The Netherlands suggested grouping partners into different levels, i.e. the strategic partners and other partners whose roles were rather specific (like the provision of funds). Germany agreed with this suggestion and recommended signing the MoU with the three identified strategic partners. For identifying new strategic and other levels of partners, Germany suggested that the OPteamPH first prepare a comprehensive list of additional, potential strategic partners and to draft selection criteria for approval by WSB. All parties **agreed**.

2. *Sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the strategic partners green NGOs and WSF and the trilateral science sector as part of the 10th Anniversary celebration*

Ms Sobottka presented the idea of using a two-step approach on the partnership arrangements to achieve a formal commitment with the envisaged strategic partners: The first step would be to sign a non-binding MoU to provide a common framework for all partners to the strategic partnership for the Wadden Sea World Heritage. The second step would be to sign and to combine the MOU with legally binding Agreements of Cooperation between individual partners on certain projects. Mr Rösner supported the two-step approach, as it would allow some partners just to do the first step. He furthermore requested that the nature NGOs needed to be involved in the formulation of the MoU. Ms Knoke pointed out that the MoU with the science sector should not be exclusively with the Dutch Wadden Academy (WA), as German and Danish science partners are equally important.

In order to have the MoU documents ready to be signed during the 10th Anniversary celebration on 30 June, the WSB **requested** the OPteamPH to develop a draft text coordinated with the envisaged partners and to send it to the WSB members in due time before the WSB 29.

Mr Rösner assumed that interested green NGOs should presumably sign individually as the Wadden Sea Team was not a legal entity. The Netherlands noted the importance of motivating other green NGOs to sign the first step non-binding MoU with the aim of facilitating the later signing of legally binding agreements. The Danish advisor from the NGOs, Mr Brodde, indicated that the NGOs supported the idea of strengthening the network. However, the NGOs still had several open questions regarding the expectations on the Hub.

3. *Concept for the Partnership Hub*

The chair of the OPteamPH explained that the 15 points presented in the Annex were the outline for an extended concept. The Netherlands endorsed the draft key points. Denmark requested further information on point 15 regarding resources. In this regard, Ms Sobottka pointed out, that the Partnership Hub was not intended as a solely state-funded initiative. To reach partnership at eye-level it was necessary that each partner contributes in an appropriate way (e.g. in kind or financial support). The Chairperson suggested investing the time and effort also to explore options for external funding.

The meeting considered the presented key points as a good guideline that could be further elaborated into a concept for the Partnership Hub.

4. *Public Competition for a shorter name of the partnership center (together with the City of Wilhelmshaven)*

Ms Knoke suggested that the jury be composed of the CWSS communication officer, Ms Bostelmann, and a communication expert of each of the three countries. It was suggested that the chair of the WSB could also participate. Additionally, CWSS reported that the Mayor of the City of Wilhelmshaven had volunteered to be part of the jury. The chairperson of the WSB, professor Lochte, was nominated as a member as well. The jury would forward their selection of further suitable names out of the submitted entries for a final decision in WSB.

The meeting **agreed** on the proposal and the process.

6. TWSC Review Process²

Any changes suggested during the meeting will be included in the final version of the documents.

6.1.1 TOR TWSC groups

Document: [WSB 28/7.1/1 TOR of trilateral groups](#)

The Chairperson and the Parties thanked the TWSC review group and the CWSS for the work.

Ms Liburd recommended maintaining the same terms throughout the document. Additionally, Ms Liburd noted that United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) were explicitly addressed only by the NG Education and the SIMP and proposed that all groups should take them into account. This suggestion was broadly supported, and the meeting agreed to refer, in the background section of all groups' Terms of Reference (ToRs), to the 17 UNSDGs in a general way and only explicitly include the main goals relevant to each group. Mr Verhulst expressed his gratitude for all the work done.

The WSB **approved** the TOR of the trilateral groups with the amendments mentioned in the meeting.

6.1.2 Trilateral group members

Document: [WSB 28/7.1/2 Group members](#)

It was noted that some of the listed names were not correct. Each delegation would send the correct names of representatives foreseen for the groups. Ms Bostelmann suggested to list the group members at least in the log-in area of the new website, if not the public area, and would inquire as to approval by each person to have personal information public and how to do it in the proper way. Any changes concerning group members would be reported by the delegations to CWSS, which would submit an updated member list to WSB once a year.

The WSB **appointed** the chairs of the three trilateral task groups:

- TG-M: Henrik Pind G. Jørgensen
- TG-MA: Adi Kellermann
- TG-WH: Barbara Engels

The chairperson would send a letter to Ouds Bijlsma as the outgoing Chair of the TG-STs to thank him for his work.

6.1.3 TWSC Work Plan 2019-2022

Document: [WSB 28/7.1/3 TWSC work plan 2019-22](#)

The Chairperson pointed out that the TSWC Workplan 2019-22 was a living document, therefore it would be open to adaptations in the course of the years.

The Netherlands expressed their gratitude for producing the plan in its current format since it was considered as helpful in visualizing how funding was distributed and where action needed to be taken. Denmark suggested including the corresponding amounts. The Chairperson replied that this approach could become

² Documents under this item were numbered before restructuring the agenda.

complex when considering in-kind contributions. The meeting agreed that this document was sufficient for 2019. For the following year, it should be explored how to incorporate more concrete information including the funding amounts, financial, as well as in kind. As a first step it was agreed to start addressing the topics without approved funding for 2019. It was agreed that CWSS would include the corresponding trilateral groups to contribute more detailed information which would be integrated in the next draft.

The WSB **approved** the approach of the work plan.

6.1.4 TWSC Priorities List 2019

Document: [WSB 28/7.1/4 Priorities List](#)

Mr Verhulst suggested distributing an updated version of this document each year in autumn in order to guide the preparation of each country's budget. Parties agreed that it would be necessary to have this level of transparency also on administration activities.

Mr Rösner highlighted the role of the CWSS in terms of trilateral coordination of conservation issues as one of its core functions. In his opinion this might be insufficiently reflected in the document and he suggested to bring this particular issue into focus for the years to come.

The meeting **endorsed** the approach.

7. Any Other Business

The Netherlands invited WSB members and supporting staff to the (WSB 29) on the Island of Vlieland.

Mr Borchers repeated the German request for the nomination of two financial auditors from Denmark and the Netherlands. Denmark informed the meeting that the Danish auditor had already been appointed.

The meeting thanked Ms Christiane Paulus for her work in the WSB and wished her success in her new position as Director General at the BMU.

8. Closing

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 13:50 and thanked participants for a fruitful discussion.

ANNEX 1: List of participants

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Wadden Sea Board (WSB 28)

14 March 2019
Berlin, Germany



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ANNEX 2: Agenda

FINAL AGENDA

Wadden Sea Board (WSB 28)

14 March 2019
Berlin, Germany



1. Opening of the Meeting

The meeting will be opened by the Chairperson at 09:00 hours on 14 March 2019.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The meeting will be invited to adopt the draft agenda of the meeting.

3. Record WSB 27

The meeting will be invited to adopt the final draft Summary Record of WSB 27 and to check progress in the implementation of the Action Lists.

4. Announcements

4.1 Announcements: Delegates and observers will be invited to make announcements relevant to the cooperation.

4.2 Appointments: Members are invited to discuss new appointments to WSB.

5. Implementation Leeuwarden Declaration

The meeting will be invited to discuss progress in the implementation of the Leeuwarden Declaration. In conjunction with the sub-items below, the meeting will be invited to take note of and discuss progress of the respective Task Groups.

5.1 Wadden Sea World Heritage

5.2 Nature conservation and integrated ecosystem management

5.3 Energy

5.4 Climate

5.5. Maritime safety and pollution prevention of shipping

5.6 Trilateral monitoring and assessment programme

5.7 Science cooperation

5.8 Wadden Sea Forum

5.9 International cooperation

5.10 Communication and education.

5.11 Status of discussion on Wadden Sea World Heritage Partnership Center

6. TWSC Review Process

The meeting will be invited to discuss the outcome of the TWSC review process and to decide on the way forward.

7. Any Other Business

The meeting will be invited to discuss any other business.

8. Closing

The meeting will be closed no later than 16:00 hours on 14 March 2019.

ANNEX 3: Action items arising from the 28th WSB**ACTION ITEMS****Wadden Sea Board (WSB 28)**

14 March 2019
Berlin, Germany



Action #	Agenda item	Actions agreed upon	Person responsible	Deadline
1	5.1.2	Involve site managers in the process of developing the SIMP and develop a timetable with milestones for the WSB	CWSS / TG-WH	WSB29
2	5.2.1	Develop a proposal on how to proceed on the QSR Synthesis Report	TG-MA	WSB 29
3	5.5	Draft letter and proposal of next steps	Dutch delegation	WSB 29
4	5.7.1	Draft proposal on next steps on dealing with the TRA	TG-M/TG-WH/OPteamPH	WSB 29
5	5.10.2	Draft proposal and budget to continue with IWSS 2020-	WWF/CWSS	WSB 29
6	5.10.4	Send Instructions on how to submit comments to the website	CWSS	asap
		Select focal points and send comments to the website	All delegations	two weeks after the meeting; comments within 4 weeks
7	5.11	Develop a draft MoU for the first non-binding step for the strategic partners	OPteamPH	WSB29
		Set up competition to name the Partnership Center	OPteamPH	asap
8	6.1.1	Amend the TWSC Review docs according to the observations made during the WSB 28	CWSS	WSB 29