

Final  
**SUMMARY RECORD**

**MEETING OF THE WADDEN SEA BOARD  
TRILATERAL WADDEN SEA COOPERATION**

**WSB 8**

**Copenhagen, 26-27 June 2013**

**AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING**

The chairman, Mr Ilse, opened the meeting at 09:00 h and welcomed the participants and supportive staff to the eighth meeting of the WSB. Mr Lauenborg, Mr Gabanyi, Mr Rösner and Mr de Hoop had apologised. Mr Holst-Christensen replaces Mr Poulsen as WSB member of the Danish delegation. A list of participants is in **Annex 1**.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Document: WSB 8/2/1 Draft Agenda

The meeting **adopted** the draft agenda of the meeting. The agenda is in **Annex 2**.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: SUMMARY RECORD WSB 7**

Document: Final Draft Summary Record WSB 7

The final draft Summary Record WSB 7 was **adopted**.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Netherlands

- The LIFE+ project Wadden Sea Invasive Alien Species has been submitted on 25 June, in time for the 2013 call.
- The Dutch parliament has discussed Wadden Sea issues. The focus of the discussion was on oil spills and the prosecution of offenders, as well as on the progress in bilateral talks between Germany and the Netherlands including e.g. the deepening of the shipping channel in the Ems and the possible impacts.
- The three Dutch Wadden Sea provinces have published a Wadden Sea Vision, containing all existing policies. The Vision has been received positively. It will be discussed in autumn in the provincial parliaments and will be the basis for future Wadden Sea policies and for the Wadden Sea fund.
- The covenant recreational shipping between government, nature protection and the recreational sector has been renewed.

Denmark

- The Water schemes under the Water Framework Directive have been turned down by Court.
- Within the Interreg IVA programme for The German-Danish border region an analysis in Germany has revealed an increase in knowledge and acceptance of the National Park Wadden Sea. A similar questionnaire will now also be carried out in Denmark.
- On 22 May a symposium on Wadden Sea related research was held with the aim of initiating a platform for research cooperation and establishing a research agenda.

### Advisors

- Mr. Friis-Hauge informed that on 3 June a WSF energy symposium had been held. The outcome will be presented in more detail in the overall WSF report.

### CWSS

- The new CWSS website is in operation; feedback is requested.
- The programme for the 2013 Wadden Sea Day (29 August; theme Salt marshes) has been circulated.
- The report "breeding birds in trouble" has been published on the CWSS website.
- A reports on trends in moulting shellducks has been published. One of the findings is that there has been a shift from the Elbe estuary to the Dutch Wadden Sea.
- A report on trends in breeding and migratory birds has been published.
- In March CWSS staff members Enemark and Lüerssen have visited Banc d'Arguin, upon invitation of UNESCO
- In June CWSS staff member Marencic has visited a world heritage site in the Philippines to present the Wadden Sea tourism strategy.

The meeting **noted** the information.

### **AGENDA ITEM 5: BUSINESS PLAN 2010 – 13**

Documents: WSB 8/5/1 Report TG-C; WSB/8/5/2 Report TG-M; WSB/8/5/3 matrix; WSB/8/5/4 Report TG-Shipping

#### *Task Group Climate*

WSB welcomed the consolidated version of the climate adaptation strategy, as in document WSB 8/5/1. The Dutch delegation proposed to include references to existing national programmes and to mention innovative solutions. The German delegation proposed to change the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence of aim nr 2 (p.5) into "The strategy focuses on the Wadden Sea Cooperation Area. As far as directly relevant adjacent offshore and mainland areas may be considered additionally". Mr Verheij proposed to add "and activities" to the third bullet under natural dynamics (p.6) and to mention cooperation with the WSF also in relation to policy development (p.8).

The meeting **agreed** to annex the strategy to the draft MCD. It was also **agreed** that the proposed changes to the strategy would be dealt with by the ad-hoc editorial group after the consultation phase, including proposed changes resulting from the consultations (see also agenda item 7.4). WSB then discussed and amended the MCD text on climate adaptation. The outcome of the discussion is presented in markup mode in the consolidated draft MCD in **Annex 3**.

Finally, the WSB **agreed** to continue with the trilateral expert groups to perform the tasks as described in the MCD.

#### *Task Group Management*

The report of TG-M (Document WSB 8/5/2) was introduced by Ms Hedtkamp. The meeting **noted** the report and thanked the CWSS and the bird group for organising the breeding bird workshop. WSB **agreed** that the alien species strategy be annexed to the MCD as a strategic framework for dealing with alien species in the Wadden Sea. The meeting furthermore **agreed** to annex the TMAP Strategy to the MCD. The TMAP Strategy had already been adopted by WSB-6.

WSB then discussed and amended the corresponding text of the draft MCD. The result is in **Annex 3**. WSB also instructed TG-M to take up the further work on the science-policy matrix,

in particular to organise the discussion with the trilateral scientific community. Generally, the meeting felt that science issues (research agenda, research platform, research fund) should be dealt with in relation to the future of the cooperation (foundation, competence centre etc.).

### *Task Group Shipping*

Ms. Schneider, member of TG-Shipping, presented document WSB/8/5/4, containing the vision as elaborated by TG-Shipping and the operational plans.

WSB generally regarded the vision a good basis for further cooperation on the issue of shipping safety and thanked TG-shipping for its work. Mr Friis-Hauge referred to the WSF progress report in which several actions are listed that is not part of the vision. WSB **agreed** to annex the operational action plans to the draft MCD. A corresponding text for the draft MCD was **agreed** upon, as reflected in **Annex 3**.

### **AGENDA ITEM 6: WADDEN SEA WORLD HERITAGE**

Documents: WSB 8/6/1 Report Task Group World Heritage; WSB 8/6/2 Report Task Group Sustainable Tourism Strategy

### *Task Group World Heritage*

The meeting in particular discussed the future of the International Wadden Sea School (IWSS), the flyway vision and the draft Wadden Sea World Heritage Strategy.

It was **agreed** to invite in addition to the WWF other appropriate organizations to host the IWSS on the conditions indicated in order to provide a good decision making basis; delegations were invited to inform the secretariat on their financial contributions.

It was also **agreed** to annex the Flyway Vision to the draft MCD and to instruct the Task Group to investigate the option of signing the Vision together with relevant stakeholders at the conference.

Finally it was **agreed** to annex the Wadden Sea World Heritage Strategy to the draft MCD and instruct the Task Group with reviewing the comments on the draft ensuing from the consultations; a particular point of attention in the further process would be to define the strategic partners, the preliminary indication of the potential partners in the draft Strategy should therefore be deleted for the time being; the draft should furthermore be brought to the attention of the Foundation Feasibility Committee.

### *Task Group Sustainable Tourism Strategy*

Mr Holst Christensen stated that preliminary comments from Danish stakeholders focussed on the length of the action programme which should be shortened respectively prioritized. Ms Schokker-Strampel and Mr Scherer indicated that they were content with draft strategy and consultations had commenced. Mr Verheij indicated that obviously the implementation of the strategy would be crucial and he suggested contemplating charging the WSF with the work.

There was overall consensus that the strategy was very important and that it should be separately signed by the stakeholders at a side event at the Conference to articulate responsibility for its implementation.

It was **agreed** to take note of the report of the Task Group and to instruct it with preparing a document to be signed at the conference by the stakeholders having developed the draft strategy and being willing to support its implementation.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: WADDEN SEA CONFERENCE**

Documents: WSB 8/7.1/1 Programme Tønder Conference; WSB 8/7.2/1 Draft Agenda; WSB 8/7.3/1 Policy Assessment Report; WSB 8/7.4/1 Ministerial Council Declaration; WSB 8/7.4/2 Ministerial Council Declaration, WSF proposals

### **7.1 Programme Wadden Sea Conference**

In discussing and commenting on the draft programme it was **agreed** that if ministers should take part in panel discussion they should be given a clear role which should be reflected in the programme. Also the title of the panel discussion was discussed; it should be focused on the core of the cooperation. The Danish organizer should **consult** with the other delegations on the further detailing of the programme.

### **7.2 Agenda Ministerial Council Meeting**

The proposed draft agenda was **approved** with the comment that the Policy Assessment Report should be presented internally e.g. by the secretary.

### **7.3 Policy Assessment Report**

In discussing the draft Policy Assessment Report it was **agreed** that it should be considered as a technical background document that does not need the adoption of the ministers.

Further it was **agreed** to note the current draft and to make it subject to consultations in conjunction with the draft Ministerial Council Declaration. The ad-hoc group was **instructed** to review the comments and to prepare and update draft for WSB 9 and TMAG to work on a separate assessment report, containing 10-15 ecosystem themes to be highlighted and to be published in a separate brochure on the occasion of the conference.

### **7.4 Ministerial Council Declaration**

In addition to the parts of the draft MCD, discussed under agenda items 5 and 6, the meeting discussed the still outstanding parts of the draft MCD (document WSB/8/7.4/1), including text proposals from the WSF (document WSB/8/7.4/2).

WSB **agreed** upon a consolidated draft MCD, including annexes, to be subject to national consultation procedures after the summer holidays, including translations if necessary. The new draft MCD (mark-up version) is in **Annex 3**.

With regard to the future of the trilateral cooperation, amongst others in relation to the World Heritage foundation (draft MCD §§ 5-6), it was **agreed** that the Danish delegation would draft a text proposal for submission to WSB-9.

The meeting **acknowledged** that several annexes are still under development. It was **agreed** that the ad-hoc editorial group will prepare a new draft MCD, including annexes, for submission to WSB-9, taking account of the results of the national consultations, and input by the relevant Task Groups. Ms Nickel reminded that the consultation within Germany will not be finalized before November.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: WADDEN SEA FORUM**

Document: WSB 8/8/1 ICZM Strategy

Mr Vollmer introduced document WSB 8/8/1 on the WSF ICZM Strategy for the Wadden Sea Region. He further gave a presentation about the progress on ICZM instruments like the Planning Portal, goose management, shipping safety and energy issues. With regard to shipping safety, a set of recommendations to increase the safety standards were presented. The results of the energy symposium would contribute to work towards a CO<sub>2</sub> neutral

Wadden Sea Region. In this respect, a close cooperation of WSF and TWSC would be desirable to define objectives and working steps. The meeting **took note** of the presentation and the document and **agreed** to await the outstanding background documents.

Mr Friis-Hauge informed the WSB about the critical financial situation of the WSF, which would lead to a shutdown of the WSF secretariat if no balanced budget could be reached from 2014 on.

The delegations stated not to have room to move for increasing their contributions and referred to necessary support from the local and regional administrative levels but gave also commitment to support the WSF financially on the current level.. Ms Nickel reminded that German regulations preclude an institutional funding of the WSF and project funding is the only option available for a continuation of the financial support by the German Federal Environment Ministry. The meeting also pointed to future cooperation options in the framework of a possible World Heritage Foundation. The meeting **noted** the information.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 9: CWSS BUDGET**

Document: WSB 8/9/1 Audit

The audit statement CWSS financial statements 2011 and 2012 of the auditors was **adopted**.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 10: NEXT MEETING**

WSB 9 will be held **9-10 October 2013** in the Netherlands.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 11: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The German delegation presented the idea of a Wadden Sea World Heritage Centre of excellence and offered to draft for the next WSB meeting a concept of a feasibility study including contents, possible contractors.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 12: CLOSING**

Ms Nickel, also on behalf of the Dutch delegation, thank the Danish delegation for the very interesting excursion and the excellent dinner, as well as for the good meeting facilities. The chairman thanked the participants for a very pleasant meeting and constructive discussions, and closed the meeting at 14:00 hours.

## Annex 1

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**Annex 2**

**AGENDA  
MEETING OF THE WADDEN SEA BOARD  
TRILATERAL WADDEN SEA COOPERATION  
WSB 8**

**Copenhagen, 26-27 June 2013**

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Summary Record WSB 7
4. Announcements
5. Business Plan 2010 – 13
6. Wadden Sea World Heritage
7. Wadden Sea Conference
8. Wadden Sea Forum
9. CWSS Budget
10. Next Meeting
11. Any Other Business
12. Closing

**Annex 3**

12<sup>th</sup> Trilateral Governmental Conference on the Protection of the Wadden Sea  
Tønder, 5 February 2014

| Draft ~~Ad hoc working group 28 May 2013~~ Version 27 June 2013  
**Ministerial Council Declaration**

## TRILATERAL WADDEN SEA GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL

### TØNDER DECLARATION

5 February 2014

**Ministers** responsible for the protection of the Wadden Sea of the Netherlands, Denmark and Germany and representing their respective Governments in the **Trilateral Wadden Sea Governmental Council** on the Protection of the Wadden Sea

**Reaffirming** the objective of the Joint Declaration 2010 to protect and manage the Wadden Sea as a single ecological entity shared by the three countries in accordance with the Guiding Principle which is “to achieve, as far as possible, a natural and sustainable ecosystem in which natural processes proceed in an undisturbed way”;

**Welcoming** with appreciation the extension of the Wadden Sea World Heritage with the Hamburg National Park and the nomination of the Danish Wadden Sea in conjunction with an extension of the German (Niedersachsen) property;

**Acknowledging** the potentials of having the entire Wadden Sea included on the World Heritage List for reinforcing the existing conservation and management and contributing to regional sustainable development;

**Acknowledging** also that the key requirement ensuing from the inscription on the List is to jointly maintain the integrity of the Wadden Sea World Heritage;

**Reaffirming** the importance of international cooperation, e.g. along the African-Eurasian Flyway, and with the Republic of Korea and the Wash/North Norfolk Coast;

**Acknowledging** the ~~findings of the 13<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium for contribution of science to~~ the further development of the protection and management of the Wadden Sea as an ecological entity;

**[Acknowledging** the shared landscape and cultural heritage of the Wadden Sea region;]<sup>1</sup>

**[Noting** the Policy Assessment Report which draws attention to a number of areas where it is suggested to further improve the status of the Wadden Sea and expand the cooperation for the protection and management of the Wadden Sea;]<sup>2</sup>

**Acknowledging** that conditions for safety must be ~~maintained safeguarded, taking into account climate change effects~~ and sustainable development ~~enhanced at national, regional and local levels; supported and enhanced~~

**Determined** to meet these challenges and to continue to protect and manage the Wadden Sea for present and future generations in close cooperation with those who live, work and recreate in the area and in this respect appreciate the work of the Wadden Sea Forum;

and therefore share the view to:

### WADDEN SEA WORLD HERITAGE

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<sup>1</sup> Reservation Germany

<sup>2</sup> Pending finalisation Policy Assessment Report

## Strategy 2014-20

1. Welcome the boundary modification in 2011 to include the Hamburg National Park and the nomination of the Danish Wadden Sea in 2013 including the extension of the Lower-Saxony National Park for inscription in the World Heritage List in response to the decision of the World Heritage Committee on the inscription of the Dutch-German Wadden Sea in 2009 which will, when accepted, ensure the representation of the entire Wadden Sea on the List and reinforce its Outstanding Universal Value.
2. Appreciate the pride and great and increasing support which the Wadden Sea World Heritage has engendered and received in the Region since the inscription in 2009, underlining the shared responsibility for the protection of this trans-boundary ecosystem and acknowledge its branding quality and catalyst potential for sustainable development and international benchmarking<sup>3</sup>.
3. Adopt therefore the Wadden Sea World Heritage Strategy 2014-20 in Annex 1# and instruct the Wadden Sea Board with its implementation ~~including making sufficient resources available for its implementation inviting the relevant stakeholders to participate.~~
4. Continue to contribute to the work of the World Heritage Convention in particular the World Heritage Marine and the Sustainable Tourism Programmes.

## Foundation<sup>4</sup>

5. Thank the Foundation Review Committee for exploring values and functions of a joint Foundation for the Wadden Sea World Heritage.
6. Agree to establish a Wadden Sea World Heritage Foundation in line with the recommendations of the Committee and .....

## Sustainable Tourism Strategy<sup>5</sup>

7. Acknowledge the engagement of stakeholders, including local and regional governments, in the development of an overall sustainable tourism strategy in a participatory approach supported by the Interreg-North Sea Region Programme PROWAD project in order also to meet the request of the World Heritage Committee.
8. Welcome the joint strategy "Sustainable Tourism in the Wadden Sea World Heritage", as in Annex 2#, as a shared responsibility of governments and stakeholders and their willingness to jointly implement it and instruct the WSB to oversee the implementation of the strategy and action plan.
9. Regard the Strategy as a contribution to the aims and objectives of the World Heritage Convention and the implementation of its sustainable tourism programme.

<sup>3</sup> Branding quality, catalyst potential and international benchmarking to be further explained during the drafting process

<sup>4</sup> First meeting Foundation Committee scheduled 2 July 2013 Text to be amended on the basis of outcome of the work of the Foundation Review Committee and discussions by the WSB. As a consequence of the anticipated nomination of the entire Wadden Sea as a World Heritage site the Wadden Sea Board will identify future strategic directions for the organisation of the trilateral cooperation

<sup>5</sup> Currently it is planned to submit the final draft to WSB 9 (October 2013) after conclusion of the consultations over the summer and review of the comments and suggestions

## Flyway Cooperation

10. Acknowledge the central importance of the Wadden Sea for global populations of migratory birds being a key feature of the Wadden Sea World Heritage, noting with concern ~~also~~ that many migratory bird species-populations are in decline.
11. Appreciate the progress made within the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative, e.g. setting up a consolidated network of competent bird counters, including further capacity building, and developing preliminary status assessments at the flyway level, initiated in response to the decision of the World Heritage Committee to strengthen cooperation on management and research on the African Eurasian Flyways with relevant state parties.
12. Agree to continue and where necessary expand the cooperation on management and research in the flyway context as outlined in the vision in Annex 3#, shared by relevant organisations.
- ~~13. Request the WSB to investigate possibilities for applying modern techniques for Flyway monitoring.~~

## NATURE CONSERVATION AND INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

- ~~14.~~13. Reconfirm that the Wadden Sea Plan is the coordinated management plan for the Wadden Sea World Heritage property which also applies to the nominated property.
- ~~15.~~14. Therefore also strive for intensifying the cooperation at the operational management level.
- ~~16.~~15. [Continue the trans-boundary harmonisation efforts of existing EU Directives, especially in the national implementation of the Birds, Habitats, Water Framework and Marine Strategy Framework Directives and harmonise where relevant the trans-boundary implementation of forthcoming Directives at the earliest possible stage.<sup>6</sup>

## Alien Species Strategy

- ~~17.~~16. Pursuant to § 25 of the Sylt Declaration welcome the ratification of the International Convention for Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention) by all three states.
- ~~18.~~17. Adopt>Welcome in accordance with §26 of the Sylt Declaration a trilateral strategy strategic framework in Annex 4# as a framework for dealing with alien species in the Wadden Sea in response to the decision of the World Heritage Committee on the inscription on the World Heritage List of the Dutch-German Wadden Sea in 2009 and complying with the EU Strategy on Invasive Alien Species and instruct the WSB to coordinate the development of an alien species and management action plan.<sup>7</sup>
- ~~19.~~18. Welcome the joint application for a trilateral EU LIFE+- project on alien species in the Wadden Sea, expected to be an important input to the development of the trilateral management and action plan and, as appropriate, the implementation and possible further development of the Strategy.

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<sup>6</sup> Reservation Denmark

<sup>7</sup> Pending discussion of consolidated draft at WSB-9

## Sustainable Fisheries<sup>8</sup>

~~20-19.~~ Stress the importance of the implementation of their ambitions<sup>9</sup> to develop Wadden Sea wide trilateral policy principles for a further development of sustainable fisheries and agree to the *Framework for Sustainable Fisheries* in Annex ~~5#~~.

To achieve this ambition the Ministers will strive to

~~21-20.~~ Incorporate and implement the *Framework for Sustainable Fisheries* in their national fisheries policies, in order to realize a sustainable fishery in the Wadden Sea and as such introduce level playing field for the fishery sector in the Wadden Sea.

~~22-21.~~ Realise a balance between areas with sustainable innovative fisheries and the designation of substantial no-take zones where, in particular, bottom contact with any towed fishing gears is excluded. Sustainable innovative fisheries are characterized by the use of best available fishing techniques, bycatch reduction programs and reduced fishing pressure.

Furthermore the Ministers will

~~23-22.~~ Urge the MSC-foundation to develop and implement one common certification approach for fisheries activities in the trilateral conservation area, taking account of the European and trilateral conservation schemes, and on that basis support the fisheries in the Wadden Sea in reaching the MSC certificate.

~~24-23.~~ Confirm their wish to preferably realize sustainable fisheries by negotiations and stakeholder participation. The aim is to realize an economically sound fisheries sector, meeting the changing consumer expectations and respecting the sustainability-limits of the trilaterally protected Wadden Sea.

~~25-24.~~ Instruct the WSB to arrange an operating schedule including the negotiation phase with a fixed finish date no later than ~~December~~ 2015, and the implementation process.

## Natura 2000

~~26-25.~~ Acknowledge the activities of the member states in designating and enhancing coherence as well as the efficiency of the Natura 2000 Network within the Wadden Sea Area.

~~27-26.~~ Agree therefore to cooperate in evaluating the assessments under the Habitats Directive, also with the aim to prepare a common Natura2000 roof report.

## Breeding Birds

~~28-27.~~ ~~Aware-Concerned of about~~ the persistent decrease of breeding bird ~~species~~ ~~populations~~ in the Wadden Sea, caused mainly by low breeding success.

~~29-28.~~ ~~Acknowledge that breeding birds need sufficient healthy, undisturbed habitats with a natural water regime and high vegetation diversity.~~

~~30-29.~~ ~~Authorise-Instruct-~~ the WSB to ~~develop and-~~ implement a trilateral Action Plan on improving conditions for breeding birds.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Study reservation by NL, DK, DE

<sup>9</sup> From the Ministerial Council Declaration of the Eleventh Trilateral Governmental Conference on the Protection of the Wadden Sea, Westerland/Sylt, 18 March 2010.

<sup>10</sup> WSB-9 will be informed about status Action Plan

## Seals

- | ~~31.~~30. Appreciate the positive effects of long-term trilateral seal policy and management, as reflected by the highest population level ever counted.
- | ~~32.~~31. Therefore continue their cooperation in the context of the Seal Agreement, including the Seal Management Plan which will be updated in 2016, reconfirming the guidelines on taking and releasing of seals.

## Estuaries

- | ~~33.~~32. Acknowledge the essential functions of estuaries in the total Wadden Sea ecosystem and express their concern about the deteriorated ecological situation of some estuaries.
- | ~~34.~~33. Contribute to the recovery of this habitat by taking measures on appropriate temporal and spatial scales, e.g. through integrated management plans for N2000, while improving safeguarding accessibility and raising safety standards against flooding.

## ENERGY

- | ~~35.~~34. Recognize that the increasing use of offshore energy and the related construction of electric transport cables through the Wadden Sea contributing to the more sustainable energy supply may negatively impact the Wadden Sea ecosystem.
- | ~~36.~~35. Recognize also that recently a substantial number of electric power stations have been built or planned directly adjacent to the Wadden Sea and that the intake of cooling water accumulative may have a significant impact on fish species and that the enhanced emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> are in discrepancy to limiting global warming and enhancing sea level rise of §24 of the Sylt Declaration.
- | ~~37.~~36. Instruct WSB to investigate-review therefore the impacts ensuing from such constructions on the Wadden Sea ecosystem with a view and to consider measures to avoid or mitigate possible negative impacts including looking for best practices with the aim of developing a common code of conduct for the Wadden Sea Area.

## CLIMATE

### CO<sub>2</sub> Neutrality Wadden Sea Region

- | ~~38.~~37. Welcome the progress realized at the local level on achieving a CO<sub>2</sub> neutral Wadden Sea region.
- | ~~39.~~38. Continue to support the global and national efforts to mitigate causes of climate change at the regional level.
- | ~~40.~~39. Appreciate the ongoing efforts, especially at the local and regional level, to work towards developing the Wadden Sea region into a CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral area, and reconfirm the Sylt Declaration §24. -

### Climate Change Adaptation

- | ~~41.~~39. Acknowledge that the overall goal of climate change adaptation in the Wadden Sea Area is to safeguard and promote the qualities and integrity of the area as a natural and

sustainable ecosystem whilst ensuring the safety of the inhabitants and visitors, as well as the cultural heritage and landscape assets and sustainable human use.

~~42.40.~~ Adopt a trilateral Climate Adaptation Strategy as in Annex ~~6#~~ on increasing resilience to climate change that is based upon the recognition that dealing with climate change requires the integration of many sectors, activities and fields of expertise and ~~commit themselves~~ strive to implement the priority issues from the Strategy.

~~43.41.~~ Recognise that spatial planning is an important instrument that can be used to achieve the objectives of climate change adaptation and for safeguarding a good interplay between different layers of governments and non-governmental organisations, and between different sectoral interests and also focus on integration.

~~44.42.~~ Express their intention to implement the trilateral climate change adaptation principles and objectives in their spatial planning process as far as possible, in particular at the local and regional level, also focusing on the integration of land- and sea-based activities.

Monitor the implementation of the climate change adaptation strategy and embed the results in long-term trilateral climate change policies, including best practices for adapting to climate change.

~~45.~~ ~~Install a trilateral expert group for monitoring the implementation of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and for providing advice on long-term trilateral climate change policies, based upon progressing knowledge about impacts of climate change and best practices for adapting to climate change impacts.~~

~~46.43.~~ Recognize that the morphological development under sea level rise is a critical element of the natural resilience of the Wadden Sea and that trilateral cooperation for the exchange of knowledge on this subject is essential.

~~47.44.~~ Welcome the successful initiation of a trilateral study on sedimentation behaviour in different tidal basins and acknowledge that the study has already in its first year delivered an exchange of knowledge and expertise between institutions and agencies in the Wadden Sea countries and support its further continuation.

~~48.~~ ~~Support the continuation of the study, amongst others by promoting and supporting the exchange of monitoring data, models and personnel.~~

## MARITIME SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION OF SHIPPING

~~49.45.~~ Welcome the engagement of the stakeholders in implementing the agreements of the Sylt Declaration and ~~in developing~~ having developed the vision and ~~further actions~~ operational plans relevant for the Wadden Sea Particularly Sensitive Sea Area.

~~50.46.~~ Appreciate the vision paper and operational plans and emphasize the importance of the maritime activities and safety of the Wadden Sea PSSA. ~~Approval of the vision and the operational action plan to be annexed preceded by possibly underlining the importance of the maritime activities and safety for the Wadden Sea Region; the operational part of the vision has not yet been developed).~~

~~51.47.~~ Instruct the Wadden Sea Board to use the operational plans as the basis for reviewing and accordingly implement the measures of the operational plan in order to achieve its objectives as in Annex 7#. ~~Agree to continue the close cooperation etc.).~~



52-48. Continue the dialogue between the competent shipping authorities and the nature conservation authorities in order to achieve an even higher level of safety and cooperation.

53-49. Welcome and stimulate the further development of the green port concept.

### **TRILATERAL MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME**

54-50. Reconfirm the central importance of the Trilateral Monitoring and Assessment Programme (TMAP), as the indispensable basis for joint quality status assessments, the Wadden Sea Plan and the successful management of the Wadden Sea within the European Natura 2000 network and as a World Heritage property.

55-51. Adopt the long term common TMAP strategy as in Annex 8# as the basis for the further development of the TMAP and to increase its value in implementing EU Directives and for a wider range of stakeholders including the further development of the information system to allow for a better access of the data.

56-52. Agree to elaborate the next Wadden Sea Quality Status (Outlook) Report for 2016 in time for the 2017 Conference, in order also to be in line with the reporting cycles of the N2000 and Marine Strategy Framework Directives.

### **SCIENCE COOPERATION**

57-53. Welcome the findings of the 13<sup>th</sup> scientific Wadden Sea symposium and ~~the~~ subsequent encourage discussions within the scientific community regarding a trilateral research agenda, a trilateral research platform and a trilateral research fund.

### **LANDSCAPE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE**

A project on indicative planning is under consideration,

### **WADDEN SEA FORUM**

54. Appreciate the continuation oaf the Wadden See Forum in working towards a sustainable, environmental friendly Wadden Sea Region

(Await input from the WSF on:

- The ICZM strategy for the Wadden Sea Region, aiming at sustainability objectives on ecology, economy and society to achieve that economic activities take great social responsibility and safeguard natural ecosystems and cultural historic landscapes.
- The further elaboration of the sustainability indicators and its assessment to provide a measuring instrument of sustainable development for the governments and regional administration.
- The Wadden Sea Region Planning Portal with the visualisation of economic uses and protection schemes on transnational level also to raise awareness for potential conflicts with impacts on the environment.

- The framework of a trilateral goose management scheme and express their willingness to support and cooperate with regional governments to implement the recommendations on accommodating geese whilst minimizing the conflicts with the society).

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- ~~58-55.~~ Continue the cooperation with the Republic of Korea in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding to reinforce the conservation and management of tidal flats.
- ~~59-56.~~ Deliver a joint input on tidal flat management at the COP CBD in the Republic of Korea in 2014.
- ~~60-57.~~ Continue the exchange of information and experiences on the Wadden Sea and the Wash North Norfolk Coast with Natural England in the framework of the Memorandum of Intent, concluded in 1991.
- ~~61-58.~~ Intend to list their consecutive-Wadden Sea Ramsar sites as trans-boundary Ramsar site “Wadden Sea” on the Ramsar List of international importance and thus contribute to the ongoing efforts of the Ramsar Convention to promote the trans-boundary aspect of the protection and the management of wetlands e.g. through enhanced flyway cooperation as mentioned above.

## COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

- ~~62-59.~~ Welcome the Trilateral Communication Strategy and continue and reinforce the communication of the Wadden Sea Cooperation including Wadden Sea World Heritage
- ~~63-60.~~ Underline the importance of an effective and comprehensive information and presentation of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation and the Wadden Sea World Heritage to secure public support of the protection and management of the Wadden Sea as a shared entity.
- ~~64-61.~~ [Enhance the awareness of the young generation of the Wadden Sea as a shared cultural and natural heritage through development of appropriate educational outreach and products by continuing the International Wadden Sea School (IWSS) as an integral part of the World Heritage communication and education.]<sup>11</sup>

## TRILATERAL WADDEN SEA COOPERATION 2014 – 17

- ~~65-62.~~ Thank Denmark for chairing the Cooperation during a prolonged period of time.
- ~~66-63.~~ Welcome the chairmanship of the Netherlands for the forthcoming period 2014 – 2017.
- ~~67-64.~~ Hold the next Trilateral Governmental Conference on the Protection of the Wadden Sea and the regular Trilateral Governmental Council meeting in 2017 on the invitation of the Netherlands Government.

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<sup>11</sup> Pending further discussion on financial support

| ~~68.65.~~ Hold the 14<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium in 2016 in Denmark on the invitation of the Danish Government.

Signatures

## LIST OF ANNEXES

- [1. World Heritage Strategy](#)
- [2. Sustainable Tourism Strategy](#)
- [3. Flyway Vision](#)
- [4. Strategic Framework- Alien Species](#)
- [5. Framework for Sustainable Fisheries](#)
- [6. PSSA Operational Plan](#)
- [7. Climate Adaptation Strategy](#)
- [8. TMAP Strategy](#)