DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD for CHAIR

29th Meeting of the

**Task Group World Heritage (TG-WH 29)**

11 October 2019

Bremen, Germany

1. **Opening of the Meeting and adoption of the agenda**

*Document: TG-WH 29/1-Draft Agenda*

The chairperson, Ms Engels, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants to the 29th meeting of the Task Group World Heritage (TG-WH).

A list of participants is in Annex 1. The proposed draft agenda of the meeting was adopted as in Annex 2 with an additional item “World Heritage marine programme”

1. **Summary Record TG-WH 28**

*Document:* *Summary Record WSB 28*

The summary record of the TG-WH 28 meeting was adopted without changes.

1. **Announcements**

*Documents:   
TG-WH 29/3/1 Management and Action Plan for Alien Species (MAPAS)  
TG-WH 29/3/2 Status World Heritage  
TG-WH 29/3/3 Announcement from Lower Saxony*

* Denmark: A report on the conservation status of habitats and species according to Habitat Directive article 17 reporting has been published by the University of Aarhus <https://dce2.au.dk/pub/SR340.pdf>
* Schleswig-Holstein: The director of the National Park Administration, Detlef Hansen, will retire in February 2020. A new Head of the Authority will be appointed.
* Lower Saxony: 11th Migratory Bird Days (12 – 20 October), discussion of Dutch gas extraction off the island of Borkum, development of a Biosphere transition zone, 2019 Lower Saxon World Heritage Forum on 19 November.
* CWSS: MAPAS will be distributed to WHC. Information about developments in the Yellow Sea on World Heritage and the MoU with Korea.

The meeting **noted** the information and instructed CWSS to submit the MAPAS to the World Heritage Centre.

1. **World Heritage Management Plan (SIMP)**

*Document: TG-WH 29/4/1 Development of the World Heritage Management Plan*

Ms Luna introduced the document and informed on the outcome of the site managers workshop in in Tönning on 18 – 19 September 2019.

The meeting welcomed the site-managers involvement and carefully considered their recommendations. In an interactive manner, the meeting prioritized the key topics that need special attention: firstly, the criteria/elements of the OUV such as geological processes, ecology and biology criteria should be focused on. Secondly, the effects of human activities in the WH property which should be addressed as key topics (fisheries, tourism, shipping), and effects on the property from outside (e.g. industrial facilities surrounding the WH property such as oil and gas rigs, wind farms and coastal protection activities).

Climate change was identified as a global, overarching topic. Means to support management were discussed. Additionally, the meeting recognized that the existing TWSC groups address most of the key topics recommended by the site-managers. The group agreed that linking the recommended key topics to the TWSC groups establishes their direct involvement the development of the SIMP, and the content of the SIMP is anchored in the work of the TWSC groups. Finally, the meeting updated the preliminary structure of the SIMP and decided on the next steps in the process of developing its content. A separate report will be submitted to the WSB.

1. **State of conservation requests WHC**

Ms Bauer informed the meeting that an answer to the request of the World Heritage Centre (WHC) regarding the plans for the deepening of the river Elbe was still in preparation. The competent authorities on state and federal level are currently coordinating the response on the request and it is planned to submit it to the group for comments in a written procedure.

Mr van Dokkum informed the meeting that the response letter to the WHC concerning mining issues was also still in preparation.

Mr Jørgensen informed the meeting with regard to the extension of the Esbjerg the EIA has been initiated. The scope of the extension has changed as result of the political decisions and plans for the installation of an artificial island (extension no. 6) have been removed. A draft response letter to the WHC is in preparation.

The meeting **noted** the information.

1. **Climate Change Vulnerability Index (CVI)**

Mr Marencic informed the meeting that the EG Climate was proceeding with the preparation of an expert workshop on CVI in February 2020. A list of participants to be invited will be prepared by a small coordination group consisting of the chairpersons of EG-C and TG-WH and the secretariat. On proposal by the chairperson, Ms Sobottka **volunteered** to support the coordination group.

1. **WH Supplementary Budget**

*Document: TG-WH 29/7/1 Draft World Heritage Supplementary Budget 2020*

Mr Marencic introduced the first draft of the Supplementary Budget 2020 regarding World Heritage related document which was currently being prepared for discussion by the High Level Group.

The meeting took note of work progress and **identified** four work topics to be handled with priority: IWSS, cooperation with the marine programme, WSFI and arctic workshop, and the communication strategy. The latter one should be updated as soon as possible to define target audiences, to develop WH communication material accordingly (update or new flyer/brochure and video) and define appropriate communication channels (e.g. social media).

The meeting suggested that the budget related to PROWAD LINK should be listed in a separate overview and that a discussion on Yellow Sea and MoU requires a strategic discussion by WSB.

Mr Jørgensen suggested addressing the UNESCO “Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, 2021-2030” (<https://www.oceandecade.org/>) in the supplementary budget.

1. **WH Marine Programme**

Ms Sobottka informed the meeting of the 4th World Heritage Marine Programme site managers’ conference (Glacier Bay, Alaska, 4 – 9 September 2019) where she represented the Wadden Sea World Heritage site (<https://www.waddensea-worldheritage.org/news/wadden-sea-among-world%E2%80%99s-flagship-marine-protected-areas-milestone-conference-united-nations>).

Various topics were discussed such as private-public partnerships, climate adaptation, satellite technologies for management, as well as marine litter.

She regarded the conference as an effective tool to exchange experiences between the 5o marine sites, to learn from each other and to further strengthen the motivation and commitment on collaborative and partnership action for the protection of the Wadden Sea World Heritage.

The meeting **noted** the information and thanked her for attending the conference and representing the Wadden Sea WH at this important event.

1. **Next Meeting**

The next meetings will take place in Bremen or Hamburg end of April 2020 and end of September 2020 pending on the exact dates of the WSB meetings in 2020.

A joint workshop of TG-M and TG-WH on the SIMP should be scheduled end of January / beginning of February 2020.

The meeting **instructed** the CWSS to schedule the exact meeting dates as soon as the WSB schedule has been fixed.

1. **AOB**

The chair informed the meeting that the World Heritage Centre (WHC) has recently started a three-year project about renewables (esp. wind farms) adjacent to WH sites and their effect on the OUV. Several Workshops are planned and it was asked for contribution. As the distribution list, at least within Germany, concerning the WH sites was unclear the chair will forward the Email to TG-WH.

1. **Closing**

The chairperson closed the meeting thanking the participants for their contribution, and wished all a safe trip home.

**Annex 1**

**Participants TG-WH 29, Bremen 11.10.2019**

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**Annex 2**

**AGENDA**

**TASK GROUP WORLD HERITAGE**

**TG-WH 29**

**Bremen, 11 October 2019**

**1. Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda**

**2. Summary Record TG WH-28**

**3. Announcements**

**4. World Heritage Management Plan**

**5. State of conservation requests WHC**

**6. Climate Change Vulnerability Index (CVI)**

**7. World Heritage Supplementary Budget 2020**

**8. World Heritage Marine Programme**

**9. Next Meeting**

**10. Any Other Business**

**11. Closing**