

SUMMARY RECORD

40th Meeting of the Wadden Sea Board (WSB 40)



30 November 2022

Wilhelmshaven, Germany

Atlantic Hotel, Room Travemünde, Jadeallee 50, 26382. Wilhelmshaven, Germany

1. Opening of the Meeting

The meeting was opened by the new appointed Danish Chairperson Ms Anne-Marie Rasmussen at 14.50 on 30 November 2022. She welcomed the participants and expressed her dedication and ambition to serve as Chairperson for the next four years with strong spirit to collaborate and to make a difference in the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (TWSC). She passed apologies from Ilka Wagner, substituted by Thomas Borchers and Nanou Beekman (Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality), substituted by Marre Walter (Wadden Sea Management Authority). She welcomed all new members and guests.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Document: [WSB 40 Draft Annotated Agenda](#)

An outline of the agenda is in Annex 2.

The WSB **adopted** the agenda as submitted.

3. Introduction of new members

The chair informed that the composition of the German and Dutch delegations will remain, and she informed on changes regarding the Danish delegation: She announced that Martin Petersen will function as new head of the delegation. New member of the delegation is Hans Erik Cutoi-Toft from the Danish Coastal Authority (Kystdirektoratet) which is the official coastal government agency - a division of The Danish Ministry of the Environment and part of The Danish Nature Agency. Janne Liburd will continue for a short period of time, until her position as chair for the Danish national park is filled and her successor will join the delegation. Christina Egsvang Føns, representing the Danish municipalities, will not continue her representation in the delegation as she will no longer work for the Municipality of Esbjerg. A successor for her will be appointed by the Danish municipalities.

The Chair and entire WSB **welcomed** the new members of the Wadden Sea Board.

4. Outlook on next WSB meeting(s).

The Chairperson informed that signing of the Wilhelmshaven Declaration is foreseen as soon as possible after a new Danish government has been installed. Final clarifications and agreements on the Wilhelmshaven Declaration may be solved in a short online meeting in early 2023 if necessary.

Marre Walter proposed an early WSB meeting to facilitate continuation of on-going and new initiatives, such as planning of a Youth Conference or shipping activities, to not risk losing momentum. Bernard Baerends added that CWSS will prepare a work plan, for which input by the delegations on prioritised initiatives and activities is required.

Thomas Borchers plead for a timely signing of the Wilhelmshaven Declaration by the ministers, as the declaration also forms the basis for the work plan. The signing could possibly be combined with the next in person meeting or aside of an Environmental Council meeting in Brussels.

Martin Petersen suggested an online survey to collect input on the general functioning of WSB meetings, e.g., frequency of meetings, location of the meetings, working sufficiently strategic, detailedness of agenda items and documents. The Chair responded that this will be considered.

The WSB **agreed** to proceed with final clarifications and the adoption of the Wilhelmshaven Declaration in a short online meeting in early 2023.

The WSB further **agreed** to plan the next meeting early, preferably still in March 2023, to keep trilateral work operational and to not lose momentum -given the new Danish government is installed. For this meeting, the WSB **agreed** to submit their proposals in written form to CWSS until end of January 2023 on

- improving the general (strategic) functioning of WSB meetings and other relevant organisational aspects for the upcoming period (frequency and venues of Board meetings), also considering the carbon footprint for travelling
- prioritisation of trilateral initiatives and activities
- the continuation of existing trilateral groups or installation of new groups, including the re-installation of Task Groups and their mandates

5. Introduction and discussion with Youth delegates.

The chair welcomed representatives of the Wadden Sea Youth Conference as guests to the meeting and thanked them for their achievements, engagement and their contributions and speeches at the 14th Trilateral Governmental Conference.

Sara Koek thanked the Board for the opportunity to show their ideas to further youth involvement. She highlighted that the youth could offer energy, new perspectives from their out-of-the-box thinking, and valuable inputs for decision-making. The Trilateral Youth Conference (TYC) was a crucial moment to bring together young adults from the three countries who since then kept discussing online and wanted to organise a youth network. The network will collect views to be combined and used for exchanges with the TWSC.

Kees Hogenboom stressed the progress after the TYC, especially in drafting the network structure for more consistency and future expansion. He reinforced their willingness for a

next event that may have another format and be self-organised by youth that could also look for external funding. For that, it is crucial to have a contact at CWSS. As they have a lot of ideas but not knowing which paths to follow, the WSB was also asked to indicate what could be a workable relation.

Marre Walter asked the guests about their impressions of the last days. Sara Koek said it was inspiring the enthusiasm to involve youth and their attendance was crucial to understand ways for engagement. Kees Hogenboom said the network aims to represent youth, not just the TYC participants.

Janne Liburd suggested to the guests that there were no need to have 1 voice and urged them to ensure that nuances were kept when addressing complex matters. She volunteered to serve as transition contact for the youth to help them organise suggestions for exchanges with the Board. Until then, CWSS will work on naming a new contact person.

Thomas Borchers thanked the impressive and moving speech given by the youth representatives at the Trilateral Governmental Conference. He stressed the importance of youth self-organisation and requested concrete ideas on the type of support the Board could give in setting up the aimed Trilateral Youth Network. He suggested youth to work in the content – their coordination, priorities, role, and how they want to exchange with the TWSC.

The chairperson suggested to the guests to inform the Board once they have developed a preliminary structure for the network. Henk de Vries suggested and offered close contact with organisations to provide information. Thomas Borchers suggested to further discuss the idea of a Trilateral Wadden Sea Youth Voluntary Service. Vera Knoke suggested having youth opinions on the points addressed in the declaration, especially to know their priorities. Leo Pieter Stoel suggested delegations to consider youth involvement in the proposals they intend to submit.

The WSB expressed a strong commitment for engaging with the youth and **agreed** to discuss at the next meeting how to improve interaction with youth.

6. Any other business

There was no other business.

7. Closing

The chairperson thanked Germany for organising the 14th Trilateral Governmental Conference at Wilhelmshaven. She further thanked Christina Egsvang Føns for her work for the TWSC, she will be invited for dinner at the next WSB meeting. She also thanked Simone Prestes Dürnagel for her dedication in involving the Youth. She closed the meeting at 16:00 on 30 November 2022.

ANNEX 1: List of participants

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**40th meeting of the Wadden Sea Board
(WSB 40)**

30 November 2022



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ANNEX 2: Agenda

AGENDA

**40th meeting of the Wadden Sea Board
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- 1. Opening of the Meeting**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 3. Introduction of new members**
- 4. Outlook on next WSB meeting(s).**
- 5. Next WSB meeting**
- 6. Introduction and discussion with Youth delegates**
- 7. Closing**