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VS: VS: Newsletter from North Sea Region

Fra: NSC Newsletter <info@vgrnyhetsbrev.se>

Sendt: torsdag 9. juli 2019 09:48

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CPMR NORTH SEA
COMMISSION

CPMR North Sea Commission newsletter | July

Dear members and friends of the North Sea Commission,

This summer edition of the NSC Newsletter will give you the main updates from NSC **Annual Business Meeting (ABM)** and **North Sea Climate Conference** held on 25-26 June 2019. If you want to explore more pictures from the event or download all the presentations [here](#).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who attended and helped to make the conference such a huge success! Without your active and valuable participation, the event would not have been the same. A special appreciation goes to the speakers, who provided meaningful content, Region Västra Götaland for hosting us as such beautiful location, and the North Sea Region Programme for great and seamless co-organisation!

After finishing the spring with a big-bang, we now take summer vacation to charge the batteries for the upcoming autumn - which will be filled with North Sea activities.

Until then; have a nice summer,
The North Sea Commission Secretariat



The North Sea Climate Conference 2019

*"brilliant" "vibrant and positive atmosphere" "good networking" "I learned a lot!"
"great conference" "a home-run"*

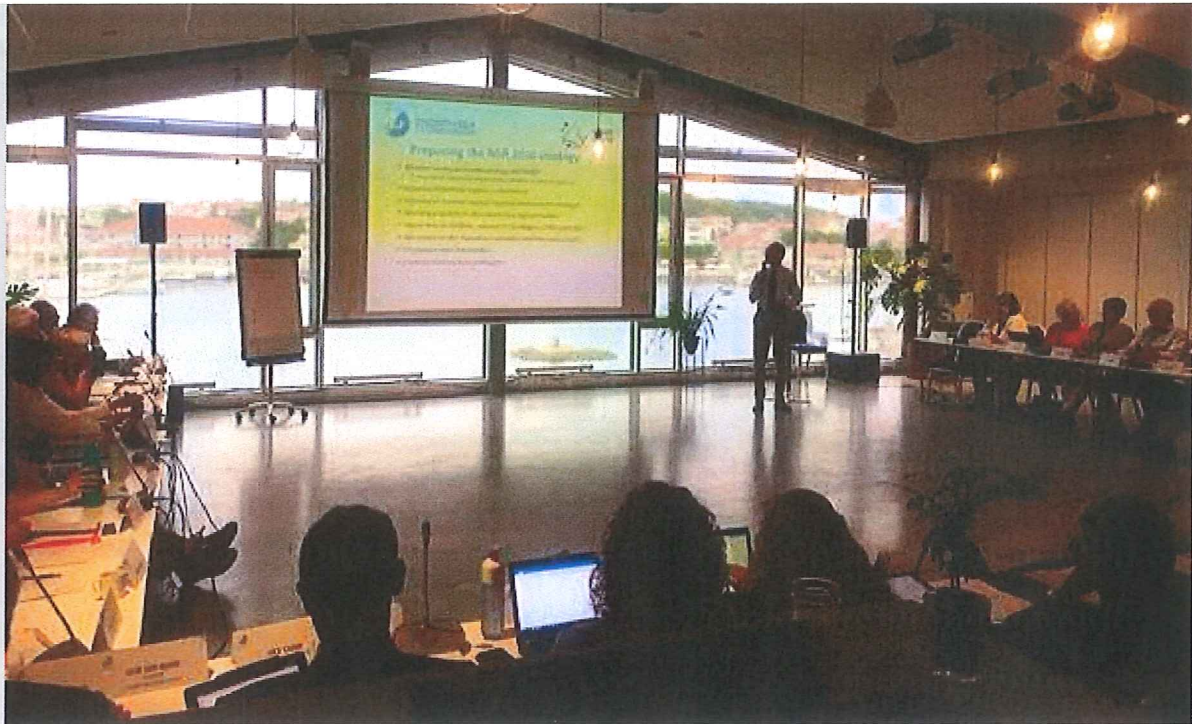


The first impressions from the around 230 participants at this year's North Sea Conference is overwhelmingly positive. Besides amazing view of the island Marstrand in the Region Västra Götaland, Sweden, the conference showcased how we can tackle climate change by working together in the North Sea Region.

To achieve real change and gear up the region for climate change we need to involve different stakeholders at different levels – and that is what the North Sea Conference did. Regional public agencies, young citizens and companies shared their thoughts and initiatives to create a climate-smart society. It manifested how local innovations can contribute in creating game changing, green technology, not only for the North Sea - but worldwide.

Read the full article about the conference [here!](#)

Annual Business Meeting 25 June 2019 – it's a wrap!



The North Sea Commissions members gathered at the NSC Annual Business Meeting (ABM) on 25 June 2019 in Marstrand, Sweden.

Reflecting on the year passed, President Kerstin Brunnström emphasised that whilst it's been a year of changes and uncertainties, with elections in several North Sea regions and a yet looming Brexit, the North Sea Commission has had a very active year. Looking at the 2019-2020 NSC Action Plan adopted at the ABM, the busy times will continue.

It has also been a year of changes for the NSC. President Kerstin Brunnström thanked Vice-Chair John Lamb, Southend-on-Sea, for his many years of engagement and welcomed Peter Argyle, Aberdeenshire as new Vice-Chair of the NSC.

Several external guests were invited to discuss current strategic issues for the NSC. Eva Maria Gram from the Danish Ministry of Energy, holding the presidency of the North Seas Energy cooperation gave an update on its developments. Nicholas Brookes, CPMR Executive Director, informed about its work on a CPMR manifesto, which is the strategic document on which the CPMR lobbying efforts will be built around. Talking about the future of territorial cooperation, Christian Byrith, Director Joint secretariat at the Interreg North Sea Region Programme, reported that informal meetings to prepare the next programming period had started.

Read the full report from the Annual Business Meeting [here](#).



Marstrand Declaration

Marstrand Declaration

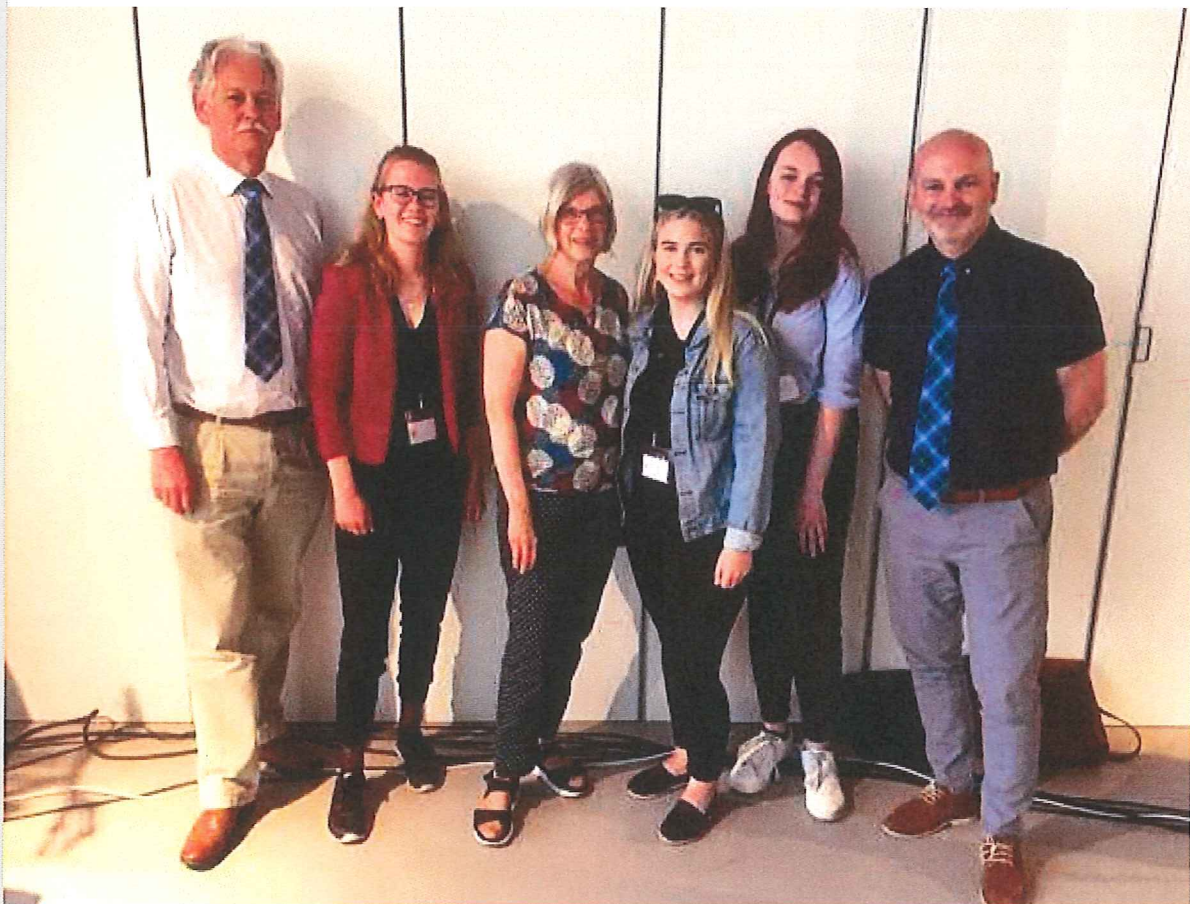
Adopted by the CPMR North Sea Commission Annual Business Meeting
25 June - Marstrand, Sweden

The regions of the CPMR North Sea Commission (NSC) met in Marstrand (Vastra Gotaland, SE) on the 25th of June 2019 for the 28th NSC Annual Business Meeting. On behalf of its members, the North Sea Commission wishes to convey the following messages:

On 25 June the North Sea Commission Annual Business Meeting adopted the Marstrand Declaration. With the Declaration the NSC members urges the EU and national governments to ensure immediate action to tackle the climate emergency, adopt an ambitious agenda for Europe until 2030 and work towards strong North Sea cooperation in the Brexit era.

Read the Marstrand Declaration [here](#).

Important steps taken for youth involvement at ABM



During this year, the NSC took important steps towards an integration of youth perspectives into the workings of the NSC. Besides having organised a Youth Parliament Council earlier this year, youth representatives Isla Young (Aberdeenshire), Merit Katerborg (Groningen) and Andrea Risholt (Aust-Agder) were invited to the ABM and the North Sea Conference.

The ABM urged the NSC members as well as the Executive Committee and thematic groups to involve young representatives in the regular work of the NSC. It was also decided to recruit a youth advisor to help develop youth participation within the NSC.

Read the full story [here](#).

NSC and KIMO launch transnational river clean-up in 2020



One of the top priorities of the NSC is marine litter. At the North Sea Climate Conference on 25 June 2019, the plans for a public transnational river clean-up campaign next year was presented by Kerstin Brunnström, NSC President, and Yolanda Schmal, advisor to the Marine Resources Group. It is a joint initiative by NSC and KIMO, the European association of municipalities for sustainable seas, to engage citizens and raise awareness of the issue of marine litter.

Read more about the initiative [here](#).

Thematic group meetings - 25th June 2019

All NSC thematic groups met before the Annual Business Meeting in Marstrand, Sweden, on 25th June 2019.

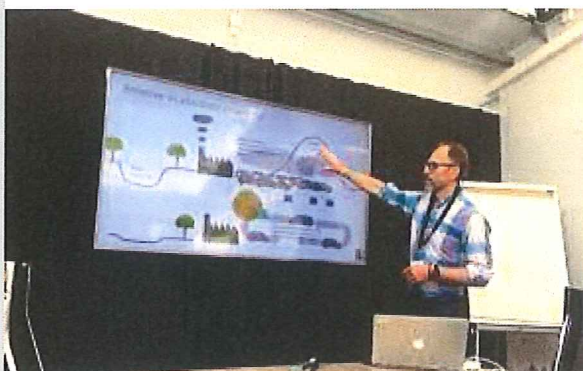
The Marine Resources Group organised a Beach Clean-up

The MRG is committed to keep the marine litter issue high on the agenda and to help prevent plastics degrade into micro-plastics in the ocean, it organised a beach clean-up expedition. After almost two hours, nearly 20 bags full of marine litter, including larger items like a fish crate all the way from Scotland, was collected.

Read the full report [here](#).



The Smart Regions Group discussed Circular Economy



The SRG members were inspired by discussions on Circular Economy in the North Sea Region. Several external stakeholders were invited to present on how business models and designs can facilitate recycling of resources and how to create incentives for increased reuse and recycling of different types of waste.

Read the full report [here](#).

TEN-T high on the agenda for the Transport Group

The members discussed several important strategic issues, such as the new NSC strategy, transport developments in the member regions, clean shipping practices and alternative fuels in public transport. In addition to input and support to the CPMR messages for the EU consultation on the TEN-T revision, the group also decided to submit their own response to the consultation to highlight the specificities of the North Sea Region.

Read the full report [here](#).



'Climate Emergency' at the Energy and Climate Change Group



Climate emergency has been declared in some North Sea Regions and the members discussed different strategies to respond to it. The priority areas of the energy and climate change strand of the new NSC Strategy 2030 was also on the agenda. Francesco Catte from CPMR presented their latest activities, highlighting the need for regional engagement in EU's Integrated National Energy & Climate Plans (NECPs).

Read the full report [here](#).

Welcome reception at Region Västra Götaland



Leading up to the Annual Business Meeting and North Sea Conference, the Region Västra Götaland invited the North Sea Commission members for a smaller reception in their new regional house in Gothenburg, Sweden!

The members were welcomed by First Vice President of the Regional Council, Per Tenggren.

New NSC appointments

Following appointments were made at the ABM on 25th June 2019:

Peter Argyle, Aberdeenshire, new Vice-Chair of the North Sea Commission.

Following appointments were made at Executive Committee on 25th June 2019, in Marstrand, Sweden:

Jimmy Gray, Highland, Chair of the Energy and Climate Change Group

Åshild Kjelsnes, Sogn og Fjordane, Chair of the Marine Resources.
Richard Thomson, Aberdeenshire, as one of the Vice-Chair of the Marine Resources Group.
Beate Johnsen, Vest-Agder, Chair of the Smart Regions Group.
Preben Friis-Hauge, South Denmark, Chair of the Transport Group

Calendar

9-10 September 2019: Strategy Task Force Meeting, Brussels (BE)
3 October 2019: Energy and Climate Change Group Meeting, Inverness (UK)
7-10 October: European Week of Regions and Cities, Brussels (BE)
9-10 October 2019: Marine Resources Group, Stavanger (NO)
17-18 October 2019: CPMR General Assembly, Palermo (IT)
30 October 2019: Smart Regions Group Meeting, Kristiansand (NO)
31 October 2019: Transport Group Meeting, Aalborg (DK)
7 November 2019: Executive Committee Meeting, Brussels (BE)

For more information, visit our webpage cpmr-northsea.org or contact the NSC Secretariat nsc@crpm.org



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