

**Wadden Sea Board**

**WSB 18**

**3 November 2016**

**Wilhelmshaven**

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**Agenda Item**: 5.1 Wadden Sea World Heritage

**Subject**: Progress Report Task Group World Heritage

**Document No**. WSB 18/5.1/4

**Date**: 21 October 2016

**Submitted by**: Chair TG-WH

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Attached is a progress report of the Task Group World Heritage (TG-WH). The meeting is referred to the report.

**Proposal: The meeting is referred to the proposals in the progress report.**

**PROGRESS REPORT TASK GROUP WORLD HERITAGE**

Since the last Wadden Sea Board meeting in June 2016, the Task Group World Heritage (TG-WH) met on 5 October 2016 in Bremen. Ms Barbara Engels was appointed as new chairperson of the TG-WH.

1. **Preparation of Single Integrated Management Plan**

WSB 17 **tasked** the TG-WH with further elaboration of the outline and timeline for the Single Integrated Management Plan (SIMP).

The TG-WH **agreed** on the following next steps on the preparation of the SIMP as outlined in the draft SoC report and WSB 17 document:

1. Assessment of existing trilateral plans and strategies in relation to the elements of a SIMP according to the Operational Guidelines:
   * CWSS to prepare a first draft with a listing of all relevant documents for comments by TG-WH until mid-November,
2. Proposal how to identify main topics as addressed in the SIMP workshop (May 2016) and in the Statement of OUV.
3. Next SIMP meeting (TG-WH/TG-MM) to be organized in early spring 2017.

The TG-WH underlined that the SIMP should also address how to bridge the gap between trilateral strategies and local management activities. Another important issue to be decided will be the binding character of the SIMP and how it should be implemented.

**Proposal: To note**

1. **Preparation PROWAD LINK Project**

The revised “PROWAD Link Expression of Interest” (EoI) was submitted in the 2nd call of the Interreg V B North Sea Region Programme (NSRP) in March 2016 (after rejection of the EoI in the first call in November 2015 with invitation to submit an improved EoI).

At its meeting on 28 September 2016, the Interreg Steering Committee gave approval for this Expression of Interest application. It recommends that the applicant clarifies in the full application the additionality and transferability of the project activities and results and that it takes into account the recommendations from Joint Secretariat, a.o. to differentiate between other projects with similar themes (Waddenagenda, REACT, NAWAKU), to focus the benefit attributable to the project activities and that other targets that are mentioned as results in the application should be used as output or deliverables (decision letter 11.10.2016). Deadline to deliver the full application is 1 February 2017. A decision on the full application will be taken by the NSRP Steering Committee in June 2017.

CWSS is currently preparing the preparation of the full application with support of an external agency. The next partner meeting is scheduled in Hamburg on 11 November 2016, to prepare a detailed draft work plan and budget for the entire project (2017-2010). First bilateral meeting were organized on 6and 7 October (back-to-back of TG-STS), on 10 October (Jurassic Coast), and 13 October (Natural England, Norfolk County Council).

**Proposal: To note**

1. **World Heritage Strategy and Road Map**

TG-WH took stock of the implementation of the road map and concluded that a number of activities have already been implemented,

As appropriate, a new activity “partnership centre and foundation” should be added pending decisions by WSB 18.

For the time being, there are no updates to be reported to WSB.

**Proposal: To note**

**5. WH logo use**

TG-WH took stock of the logo applications submitted in 2016, and approved the proposals for the use of the WSWH logo with regard to the Fisheries Museum Esbjerg (WSWH posters) and the Hotel Schylge (use of WH flag).

TG-WH also noted the concerns raised by the Netherlands that entrepreneurs in the Wadden Sea were still not able to use the logo in a commercial context.

Lower Saxony introduced an application by a national park partner for a commercial use of the WSWH log for a new company “WaddenSea.travel”, as an opportunity to showcase a good example for sustainable tourism offers in the WSWH destination. TG-WH concluded that there is a need to move forward and instructed the secretariat to discuss with the applicant whether the application may be used as a pilot case, and to report back to the TG-WH accordingly.

This should be closely linked to the proposed working group on a business cooperation programme and how to cooperate with commercial partners (see also documents WSB 17/5.1/4 Joint-Meeting-TG-WH-STS, 3 June 2016, WSB-18/5.1/2-Draft-TOR-WH-Business-Cooperation, and WSB 18/5.1/1-Legal-Note-Logo-WSWH.

**Proposal: To note**