



CPMR **BALTIC SEA**
COMMISSION

CPMR BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

ACTIVITY REPORT 2016-17



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FOREWORD



Dear readers,

I am proud to conclude the activities of the last year in this report. The main decision at our last General Assembly in Gävleborg was to have a newly adopted

Vision and Mission Statement for the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission.

This states:

- Hiumaa, (EST) on 5-6 October, 2016
- Schwerin (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern) on 12-13 January 2017
- Brussels, (BE) on 25-26 April, 2017

The main priority for 2016-17 was *“Working for a stronger involvement of regional stakeholders in the governance and implementation of the EU Strategy of the Baltic Sea Region.”*

With this priority in mind, I would like to sum up the highlights and success of our actions the last year in three P’s - *Profiling, Policy and Projects.*

Profiling: Profiling is of high importance for our organisation, enabling us to reach out and make a difference in cooperation with other actors.

Highlights have included our participation in the 7th EUSBSR Annual Forum in November 2016, and the planning and preparation of the 8th EUSBSR Annual Forum, take place after the General Assembly.

As a co-organising partner of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and in close cooperation with DG REGIO, we have ensured an Annual Forum with a strong regional perspective and participation.

Policy: The long-term thematic Working Groups cover the policy areas of Accessibility and Transport; Maritime Affairs and Renewable Energies. All three develop general and specific policy positions, which put forward the common ambitions of our Member Regions.

One of this year's main successes has been a major mapping exercise, led by the Maritime Working Group, where we have ensured a regional input into the on-going process of DG MARE.

We also supported DG MARE by developing an Action Plan for the EU Strategy for Sustainable Blue Growth in the Baltic Sea, that will be presented at the 8th EUSBSR Annual Forum.

In addition, the Transport Working Group has supported the CPMR in the on-going development of its position on the upcoming review of the CEF regulation and

the enlargement of the TEN-T corridors. Integrating a Baltic perspective in the overall position of the CPMR is an important aspect of our activity.

Projects: are not only a way of deepening cooperation among our members, but also working with other relevant partners. The Energy Working Group can be cited as a prime example.

On May 24, the project "Learning Among Regions on Smart Specialisation" was approved against tough competition by the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme. This is the first project that has so clearly sprung out of the actions of one of our working groups.

All these achievements provide us with a solid base to build upon for our next year. In a Europe where many are questioning the founding principles of our common European project, I am proud to be part of building it together with you.

Thank you,

Jari Sainio

Vice-President of the Regional Council of Helsinki-Uusimaa, President of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission

ORGANISATION



MEMBER REGIONS

As of March 2016, the Baltic Sea Commission (BSC) has 19 Member Regions from around the Baltic Sea.

- Sweden: Blekinge, Gävleborg, Gotland, Norrbotten, Skåne, Stockholm, Västerbotten, Västra Götaland, Örebro
- Estonia: Entire Country
- Finland: Helsinki-Uusimaa, Kymenlaakso, Ostrobothnia, Oulu, Päijät-Häme, Southwest Finland
- Germany: Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
- Norway: Nordland
- Poland: Podlaskie

All of Estonia as a Member

Over the last year the CPMR BSC ran the Project “BSC Goes Baltic”, which provided financial support for Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian participants to attend CPMR BSC meetings.

The project enabled closer dialogue with regional and local stakeholders in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania about the political and administrative relevance of CPMR - BSC membership.

Representatives from each Baltic country produced a report, which was taken into consideration for the drafting of the work plan for the three working groups.

In November 2016, the county councils of Estonia successfully applied for CPMR membership as an entire country, since the state doesn't have a regional level. Estonia is represented by elected politicians from sub-state level.

Currently, similar solutions are under consideration with representatives from Latvia and Lithuania. The CPMR and its Baltic Sea Commission are currently in contact with Polish regions.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



The recent Executive Committee took place on the 25 – 26 April 2017

BSC Executive Committee 2016-18

President:

Jari Sainio, Helsinki-Uusimaa Region (FI)

1st Vice President:

Annika Sandström, Stockholm County Council (SE)

2nd Vice President:

Kalev Kaljuste, Parnumaa County Government (EE)

Full Members:

- Erik Bergkvist, Region Västerbotten (SE)
- Wolf Born, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (DE)
- Richard Sjölund, Ostrobothnia (FI)

Alternate Members:

- Merten Barnert, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (DE)
- Talvikki Jori, Regional Council of South West Finland (FI)
- Anders Öberg, Norrbotten County Council (SE)

Executive Committee Meetings

- Hiiumaa, (EE) on 5-6 October 2016
- Schwerin (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern) on 12-13 January 2017
- Brussels, (BE) on 25-26 April 2017

The organisation also held a Pre-CPMR General Assembly Meeting in the Azores, on November 2016, which was open to all Members of the Baltic Sea Commission.

The Secretariat

Region Norrbotten and Region Västerbotten are currently hosting the Secretariat. Ms Åsa Bjerling, Executive Secretary, for the Baltic Sea Commission works 100% for the organisation and is based in Brussels, currently at the North Sweden EU Office. In spring 2017, Mr Niklas Schmalholz was appointed as Policy Analyst, based at the CPMR Office in Brussels, responding to the Executive Secretary of the Baltic Sea Commission.

Finances

The 2016 Financial Report has been submitted to the General Assembly.

The budget for 2017 was set at 139,300 Euros. The final budget-figure was 139,189 Euros.

Raising Membership fees

Out of a total budget of 139,300 Euros for 2016, 28,800 Euros were covered by the membership fee. The rest of the cost is covered by the hosting regions.

The last General Assembly agreed to raise the membership fee from 1,600 Euros in 2016, in a three-step process, up to 5,000 Euros in 2019. The membership fee is set to rise by one thousand Euros per year between 2017 and 2019.

The purpose of an increase in membership fees is to lower the future expenses of hosting the secretariat, enhancing the financial stability of the organisation.

Projects with external funding

The organisation is now taking part in strategic projects. The Executive Committee has developed a budget and financial report format that also includes external project funds. This will ensure visibility and strategic steering of the organisation.

Through the administration of Region Norrbotten, CPMR Baltic Sea Commission has received the following funds in the period of 2016-2017:

BSC Goes Baltic

- Funds received by: Swedish Institute.
- Duration: January 2016 – December 2016.
- Total budget for CPMR BSC: 50,000 Euros. Partners: Hiiumaa County Government, Riga Planning Region and Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania.

8th EUSBSR Annual Forum

- Funds received from: Interreg BSR.
- Duration: November 2016 – October 2017.
- Partners: German Federal Foreign Office.
- Total budget for CPMR BSC: 50,000 Euros.

Through the administration of the CPMR, the Baltic Sea Commission Secretariat has been commissioned to develop three reports providing a regional perspective on Sustainable Blue Growth in the Baltic Sea. The funds were used to cover expenses of 33,000 Euros for external expertise in the mapping exercise, which is outlined in the Report from the Working Group on Maritime Affairs.

MAIN FOCUS

2016-2017



STRONGER INVOLVEMENT OF REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS IN GOVERNANCE & IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

Since the adoption of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region in 2009, the BSC has promoted multi-level governance and supported regional stakeholders to engage in the governance and implementation of the Strategy.

During the 2016 General Assembly, it was decided that the BSC should put extra emphasis on *involvement of regional stakeholders in the governance and implementation of the EU Strategy of the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)* throughout 2016-2017.

Actions

Tracking links between regional development & transnational cooperation

Throughout Spring 2017, the CPMR Member Regions were involved in designing a communication tool, which will support the understanding of how regional development links to transnational cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region.

- The results of these efforts will be showcased during the 8th EUSBSR Annual Forum in Berlin. They will support the Baltic Sea Commissions' input on the on-going work of the European Commission and European Council on how Cohesion Policy could

support the implementation of macro-regional strategies.

The tool is planned not only to be used within the framework of the working groups of the BSC, but also to support further involvement of regional stakeholders in implementation and governance of the EUSBSR.

Looking Ahead: Preparing the Baltic Sea Region for the Future

The 7th Annual Forum in Stockholm, in November 2016, focused on the future of a Baltic Sea Region and a desired vision for 2030. The BSC's preparatory meeting in the Azores, which took place on the 4 November 2016, adopted the position *"Looking Ahead: Preparing the Baltic Sea Regions the Future"*, which contained regional input on how cooperation in the Baltic Sea macro-region could be improved. The position was distributed during the 7th Annual Forum.



'7th Annual Forum of the EUSBSR', Stockholm, 8-9 November, 2016

The BSC organised the following activities during the forum:

- The Maritime Working Group co-organised a workshop with DG MARE on the topic of *"Accelerating strategic cooperation for sustainable blue growth in the Baltic Sea Region"*.
- Annika Annerby Jansson, Vice-President of the CPMR and Region Skåne, spoke at the opening session, highlighting the above-mentioned Position Paper and responding to the opening remarks of Corina Crețu, European Commissioner for Regional Policy, the Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven and the Finish Prime Minister Juha Sipilä.
- Jari Sainio, President of the BSC, took part in a panel on local and regional authorities' roles in the Baltic Sea Cooperation and Executive Secretary.
- Tiina Perho, Chair of the Maritime Affairs Working Group in the BSC, took part in one of the main sessions, speaking about Climate and Sustainable Development Goals.
- Åsa Bjerling, Executive Secretary of the BSC, took part in a panel on Vision2030 and emphasised the necessity for territorial cohesion.

Let's Communicate! – official communication of the EUSBSR

The *"Let's communicate!"* project aims to maintain and further develop the communications of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and is the main

communication point for the EUSBSR. The BSC is an associated partner of the project and will continue to provide support.

“Let’s communicate!” will also aim to further develop the positions of the EUSBSR framework. Emphasis will be placed on supporting the communication work of the various internal stakeholders of the Strategy framework, particularly the Policy Areas and Horizontal Actions. In addition, the project will reach out in order to attract new stakeholders to take part in the action.

Enhancing relationships within the EUSBSR

Throughout the year, the organisation enhanced its relationships with organisations involved in the governance of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Commission, with DG REGIO, the National Contact Points of the Strategy and with several Policy Area Coordinators.

The BSC Working Groups have improved their connections with PA Transport, HA Climate, PA Innovation and HA Capacity of the EUSBSR.



Baltic Executive Programme in Sopot, Poland

8th ANNUAL FORUM OF THE EUSBSR, BERLIN 13-14 JUNE 2017

The two-day Annual Forum, which takes place the day after our General Assembly, will gather more than 800 stakeholders of the Baltic Sea Region. The programme contains three large sessions, 28 workshops and surrounding activities, organised by stakeholders, flagships of the Strategy and other actors of the BSR.

The BSC has co-organised the event with the German Federal Foreign Ministry. We provided support by communicating with regional and local stakeholders, and providing opportunities for local and regional stakeholders to share their perspectives on governance and implementation of the EUSBSR.

At the Forum, the BSC will co-organise a seminar with DG REGIO on *“Macroregional strategies and their links with Cohesion Policy”*. Additionally, we will organise a workshop showcasing the work of the EUSBSR Task Force *“Policy as a driver for Regional Development”*.

REPORTS FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

TRANSPORT & ACCESSIBILITY



Meeting of the Transport & Accessibility Working Group in Umea, Västerbotten

Thematic Priorities

In March 2016, the BSC adopted a position paper emphasising “A Baltic Regional Perspective on the Implementation of the Trans European Transport Network (TEN T)” ([link to the policy position](#)). This position is a fundamental part of the activities undertaken by the Transport & Accessibility Working Group and the BSC Secretariat during 2016-17.

During spring 2017, The Working Group on Transport & Accessibility identified four main thematic areas of substantial significance for the BSC members. The thematic areas are: revision of both the “Connecting Europe Facility” and the TEN-T Corridors, the support for state aid for regional airports, and the enhancement of connections with third countries.

BSC Transport Working Group

The Chair of the Transport Working Group is Mr Kai Holmberg, Regional Council of Kymenlaakso, Vice-Chairs of the Working Group are Mr Johan Söderling, Region Västerbotten and Bosse Andersson, Stockholm County Council (since October 2016) (Mr Erik Johansson, Region Örebro County, was Vice-Chair until October 2016).

The Transport Working Group has held two meetings since the last General Assembly:

- 21 June 2016 (back-to-back with the TEN-T Days in Rotterdam, The Netherlands);
- 13-14 March 2017, Region Västerbotten.

Regions participating in the meetings have been: Region Blekinge (SE), Region Gävleborg(SE), Harju County Government (EE), Helsinki-Uusimaa Region (FI), Ida-Viru County (EE), Klaipeda Region (LIT), Kymenlaakso Region (FI), Norrbotten County Council (SE), Nordland Region (NO), Region Örebro County (SE), Region Ostrobothnia (FI), Riga Planning Region (LV), Skåne Region (SE), Stockholm County Council (SE), Region of Southwest Finland (FI), Region Västerbotten (SE) and Vidzeme Planning Region (LV).

Activities in 2016-2017

The working group has cooperated closely with the Director on Transport and Accessibility within the CPMR Secretariat and took part in all the Inter-Commission

Working Groups at European level, providing a Baltic perspective on the development of the positions adopted by the CPMR General Assembly and the Political Bureau in the fields of Transport and Accessibility.

The working group has given input to the drafting process concerning the geographical dimension of the CEF. This will include the CPMR position on the future design of the nine priority corridors of the TEN-T core network. This position is to be adopted on 22 June 2017 by the CPMR Political Bureau.

Accessibility of remote areas is high on the agenda. The future of airline services is a crucial question for many BSC members. Region Västerbotten has been selected to work with the CPMR secretariat to prepare a background paper on aviation and support for state aid for regional airports. This is to be adopted in October by the CPMR General Assembly.

For the 8th Annual Forum of the EUSBSR, the BSC, and the PA Transport of the EUSBSR, are organising important seminars on Transport as a driver for innovation and regional growth. The seminars, which will involve BSC Member Regions, will focus on subjects of importance for the Baltic Sea regions including the added value of better integration of more remote regions and the necessity to synchronise infrastructure development and support efficient intermodal transport services. The next Transport Working Group meeting will be held back-to-back with the CPMR General Assembly and the EUSBSR Annual Forum in Berlin on 15 June 2017.

RENEWABLE ENERGIES



Thematic Priorities

The main focus of the BSC's Renewable Energies work since our last General Assembly has been the creation a partnership to enhance growth opportunities by building capacity among regional innovation actors.

The Working Group has also broadened its scope to include climate change and sustainable goals. In the coming year, the Working Group will take an active role in the CPMR Task Force on Climate, ensuring a Baltic regional perspective in the overall positions of the CPMR.

BSC Renewable Energy Working Group

The Chair of the Energy Working Group is Mr Richard Sjölund, Region Ostrobothnia. Throughout the year, the Energy Working Group gathered for one regular meeting and one preparatory meeting for the project application for the joint Interreg project:

- 27 September 2017 Partner meeting for the Project Application of LARS;
- 29 March 2017, Stockholm.

Partners of the LARS-project application are: Region of Ostrobothnia, Vaasa University/Bothnia-Atlantica Institute; Region of Västerbotten; Pomorskie Region; Päijät-Häme Region; Hamburg University of Applied Sciences; Lithuanian Institute of Agrarian Economics; Oppland Region; the Lithuanian Innovation Center; Ministry of Regional Development Latvia and the CPMR.

The following Regions took part in the meeting in Stockholm: Region Gävleborg (SE), Region Ostrobothnia (FI), Helsinki-Uusimaa Region (FI), Päijät-Häme (FI).

In addition, representatives from the CBSS and NordRegio participated in the meeting with presentations and valuable comments.

Activities in 2016-2017

Learning Among Regions on Smart Specialisation

On May 24, the project “Learning Among Regions on Smart Specialisation” was approved against tough competition by the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme. This is the first project that has so clearly sprung out of the actions of one of our Working Groups.

The three-year project aims to enhance growth opportunities by building capacity among innovation actors. Regions across the Baltic Sea will have the opportunity to share information, best practices and action plans for policy development.

As a result, LARS will enable regions to share, compare and enhance their smart specialisation strategies, resulting in a

more integrated Baltic Sea region. As the lead partner, the Regional Council of Ostrobothnia will implement the project in close cooperation with the Smart Specialisation Platform in Sevilla, along with PA-Innovation of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.



Enlarging the scope of the Energy Working Group

Representatives from EUSBSR HA Climate, CBSS Expert Group on Baltic2030 and “Nordregio” took part in the Working Group meeting in March 2016 and shared what they are doing within the area of Energy and Climate. The regions at the meeting decided to propose a focus, besides Smart Specialisation and Energy, on Climate.

This work will be tied to the newly started Climate Task Force within the CPMR. In May 2017, the Executive Secretary took part in HA Climate’s round table discussions on Climate, held during the high-level meeting of CBSS.

MARITIME AFFAIRS



Thematic Priorities

Throughout the year, the main focus for the Working Group has been Sustainable Blue Growth.

The BSC's Maritime Working Group, together with the CPMR Secretariat, made a map of Blue Growth Value Chains, together with nine Regions in the Baltic Sea Region.

The results of this work were finalised in October 2016 and the BSC has ensured that when DG MARE commissioned external consultants to develop the implementation strategy, the mapping input would be incorporated in their work.

BSC Maritime Affairs Working Group

The Chair of the Maritime Working Group is Ms Tiina Perho, Regional Council of South-West Finland, Vice-Chair of the Working Group is Mr Harry Bouveng, Stockholm County Council, replacing Mr Gustav Hemming from the same Region, following a decision taken by the Executive Committee in October 2016.

During the year, the Maritime Working Group held two meetings:

- 7 September (online meeting with the regions participating in the mapping);
- 8 March 2017, Stockholm.

The nine Regions that took part in the work with the reports are: Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Nordjylland, Schleswig-Holstein, Skåne, Östergötland, South-West Finland, Ida-Virumaa, Klaipeda, Pomorskie. The Regions that participated in the meeting in Stockholm were South West Finland, Stockholm, Helsinki-Uusimaa and Gotland.

Activities in 2016-2017

The mapping of Blue Growth Value Chains was carried out by the CPMR Secretariat together with nine Regions in the Baltic Sea Region. The purpose of the mapping was to deliver strong suggestions to strengthen key blue growth value chains in the Baltic Sea Region with a regional perspective; to make the connections clear between the value chains and Research and Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3) and key initiatives that could improve the coordination between organisations of the Baltic Sea, to the benefit of blue growth.

As a result of this exercise, the Working Group has decided to be an active part of the creation of a smart specialisation financial platform among Regions during the coming years as a result of this exercise.

During the EUSBSR Strategy Forum in Stockholm, the Maritime Working Group co-organised a workshop with DG MARE on the subject "Accelerating strategic cooperation for sustainable blue growth in the Baltic Sea Region". This workshop

engaged more stakeholders to provide input into the drafting of the Action Plan.

One of the main ideas of the mapping was to build a platform for Regions working on smart specialisation. This is still of relevance for the Regions in the Baltic Sea and is proposed as a priority for the BSC in the year ahead.

The meeting in Stockholm confirmed that the Regions want to continue with sustainable blue growth as the main theme for the working group.

The Maritime Working Group has developed a connection with PA Tourism. In April 2017, they sent a project application to CBSS funding facilities, with the purpose of mapping sustainable tourism projects in the Baltic Sea Region. The BSC is an associated partner in the application.

Events of 2016-2017

Month	Meetings organised by the CPMR or Baltic Sea Commission & Representation	Priority Area 2016/2017	Transport and Accessibility	Renewable Energies	Maritime Affairs
May 2016	<p><u>26: CPMR BSC General Assembly, Gävleborg, Sweden</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion / Approval on the vision & mission statement - Update on Activity Report - Raised membership fee - Discussion with the Baltic Sea Interreg programmes - Seminar on the state of play in the EUSBSR with HA Capacity <p><u>27: Stakeholder Conference, Smart Specialisation in the BSR, Gävleborg, Sweden</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CPMR BSC, Policy Area Innovation and BSR Stars hosting a Conference on how to make innovative use of smart specialisation strategies in a macro-regional perspective. 				
June 2016	<p><u>16.-17.: CPMR Political Bureau, Kymenlaakso Region, Finland</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Session on post-2020 Cohesion Policy - Preparation for the CPMR General Assembly - The future of the Arctic dimension & EU-Russia relations - Documents 	<p><u>13.-14.: Baltic Executive Programme, Tallinn, Estonia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 30 politicians and senior officials at local and regional level presented their ideas on how to better support regional and local stakeholders to implement EUSBSR - CPMR BSC has supported HA Capacity in the recruitment and programme output of the programme 	<p><u>21.: CPMR BSC Transport Working Group, Rotterdam</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Baiba Rubesa, CEO of Railbaltica key-note speaker - Update on the three Interreg Programmes - Discussion on BSC Position Paper "Baltic Perspective of TEN-T" and how to support the drafting of the CPMR position for the General Assembly - Minutes <p><u>21.-23.: TEN-T Days, Rotterdam, The Netherlands</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smart & Sustainable Mobility, - Corridor Sessions - Implementation Plan MoS - Programme 		

Month	Meetings organised by CPMR or Baltic Sea Commission & Representation	Priority Area 2016/2017	Transport and Accessibility	Renewable Energies	Maritime Affairs
August 2016	<p><u>29.-30.: Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, Riga, Latvia</u> - Topic: "High Quality Education and Labour – The Future of the Baltic Sea Region" - Session on "Improving labour mobility and combating youth unemployment" - Programme CPMR BSC represented by the President and Executive Secretary</p> <p><u>30.: Meeting with Riga Planning Region, on possible future membership in the CPMR BSC, Riga, Latvia</u></p>				
September 2016	<p><u>15.-16.: BSSSC Annual Conference in Hämmenliina, Finland</u> (Represented by President Jari Sainio) - Workshops on "Save the Sea", Green Economy, Blue Growth - Interreg Sessions - Programme</p>	<p><u>15.: Role of Local and Regional Authorities, Vilnius, Lithuania</u> - Executive Secretary was invited as a speaker by the National Coordinator of the EUSBSR in Lithuania</p> <p><u>20: Workshop Strategic Foresight Report for EUSBSR Strategy, Stockholm Sweden, Executive Secretary invited as a participant</u></p> <p><u>21.: EUSBSR Meeting for the Policy Area Coordinators and Horizontal Action leaders, Stockholm, Sweden,</u> - Executive Secretary invited as a participant</p>		<p><u>8.: Meeting with Regional forerunners for transnational S3 implementation and use of Art. 70, Brussels, Belgium. In cooperation with Policy Area Innovation, EUSBSR</u></p>	<p><u>9.: Online meeting with 9 Regions participating in the Mapping Exercise on Blue Growth Value Chains in the BSR</u></p> <p><u>19.: Be Smart Think Blue, Gdansk, Pomorskie</u> - Executive Secretary presented the Report that the Maritime Working Group has been working on - Blue Growth Value Chains in the BSR</p> <p><u>28.: Ostseeforum in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany</u> - Executive Secretary presented the Maritime Working Group Report - Blue Growth Value Chains in the BSR</p>

Month	Meetings organised by CPMR or Baltic Sea Commission & Representation	Priority Area 2016/2017	Transport and Accessibility	Renewable Energies	Maritime Affairs
October 2016	<p><u>5.-6.: Executive Committee Meeting in Hiiumaa, Estonia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renewal of the three Working Group Chairs until December 2018 - Setting up of the Task Force for the "EUSBSR Annual Forum 2017" in Berlin - Discussion on Position Paper on a "Baltic Vision 2030" - Minutes 	<p><u>12.: Committee of the Regions, Intergroup on Baltic Sea, Brussels, Belgium</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation on "Sustainable Cities Commission" - Update on the EUSBSR by Peter Schenk (DG Regio) 		<p><u>12.: "LARS – Learning Among Regions on Smart Specialisation", Arlanda, Sweden</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partner meeting for project application development 	
November 2016	<p><u>2.-4.: CRPM General Assembly, Azores, Portugal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of the Final Declaration of 44th General Assembly - Discussions on the "Future of Europe", "Mid-term review of the EU-budget", "Future of the EFSI Funds" <p><u>10.: Final Partner meeting "BSC Goes Baltic", Stockholm, Sweden</u></p>	<p><u>7.: CBSS Expert Group on Baltic 2030, Stockholm, Sweden</u></p> <p><u>7.: Partner meeting "Let's Communicate", Stockholm, Sweden</u></p> <p><u>8.: Baltic Development Forum, Stockholm, Sweden</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programme <p><u>8.-9.: 7th EUSBSR Strategy Forum, Stockholm, Sweden</u></p>	<p><u>8.: "TENTacle" Steering Group, Stockholm, Sweden, CPMR BSC represented by Mr Erik Johansson, Region Örebro County</u></p> <p><u>30.: Baltic Sea MEP group in the European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on Transport in the Baltic Sea Region 	<p><u>10.: Managing Authorities Network, Stockholm</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation from Region Västerbotten and Executive Secretary 	<p><u>8.-9.: 7th EUSBSR Strategy Forum, Stockholm, Sweden</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main sessions on: "digital market", "bio-economy", "SDGs", "Sustainable Shipping" and "Cooperation on TEN-T Corridors" of the BSR - BSR Perspective on Europe2030 (SDGs) - Programme
December 2016		<p><u>5.-6.: Baltic Executive Programme, Sopot, Poland,</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CPMR BSC has supported HA Capacity in the EUSBSR in recruitment. Executive Secretary participated as speaker 			<p><u>15.: Blue Growth Seminar Kvarken Council, Umeå, Sweden</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Executive Secretary presented the Maritime Working Group report
January 2017	<p><u>11.-12.: Executive Committee Meeting, Schwerin, Germany</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Financial, Secretarial and budgetary report - Discussion on cooperation with other pan-Baltic actors - Discussion on preparations for the EUSBSR Annual Forum - Agenda 	<p><u>12.-13.: CPMR BSC Task Force for EUSBSR, Schwerin Germany</u></p> <p><u>18.: Participation in Interreg BSR Seminar on Seed Funding Applications, Riga, Latvia</u></p>			

Month	Meetings organised by CPMR or Baltic Sea Commission & Representation	Priority Area 2016/2017	Transport and Accessibility	Renewable Energies	Maritime Affairs
February 2017	10.: Presented the CPMR and Baltic Sea Commission and the benefits of being a Member, Pomorskie, Poland			7.: <u>Speaker at Cleaner Growth Seminar, Stockholm, Sweden</u> , Executive Secretary presented the pilot process of MA Network on Clean Tech 7.: <u>Partner Meeting Clean Tech as a Pilot for the MA Network, Stockholm Sweden</u>	
March 2017	9.-10.: CPMR Political Bureau, Gozo, Malta - Discussion on the “Future of Europe” - Annika Annerby, CPMR Vice-President and Vice-President of Skåne Region chaired discussions on the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) and Motorways of the Sea (MoS) - Discussion on the future of Cohesion Policy post-2020 - Agenda				6.7.: <u>Speaker at the Baltic Sea Future Congress, Stockholm, Sweden</u> - Exchange of ideas on environmental management & blue- and regional growth - Executive Secretary panellist in opening and closing session 8.: <u>CPMR Baltic Sea Commission, Maritime Working Group, Stockholm, Sweden</u>
April 2017	25.-26.: <u>Executive Committee Meeting, Brussels, Belgium</u> - Update on finances, progress in Working Groups, Future of Europe - Discussion on the Work Plan 2017-19 and Event Information				
May 2017				16.-17.: CBSS CSO Meeting and CBSS Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Development, Reykjavik, Iceland,	
June 2017	12.: General Assembly, Berlin, Germany	13.-14.: EUSBSR Annual Forum, Berlin, Germany	15.: Transport Working Group Meeting, Berlin, Germany		12.: <u>Maritime Affairs Working Group Meeting, Berlin, Germany</u> 13.-14.: <u>EUSBSR Annual Forum, Berlin, Germany</u>



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