

Folketinget

1. udvalgssekretariat



Til sekretærene for Erhvervsudvalget og
Miljø- og Planlægningsudvalget

Erhvervsudvalget (2. samling)
ERU alm. del - Bilag 261
Offentligt

31. august 2005

J.nr. 249

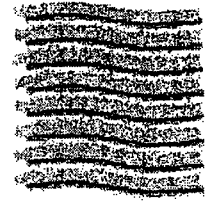
14. Parlamentariske Østersøkonference

Vedlagt sender jeg til Erhvervsudvalgets og Miljø- og Planlægningsudvalgets orientering og eventuelle videre foranstaltning resolutionen fra den 14. Parlamentariske Østersøkonference.

Med venlig hilsen

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Mette Vestergaard'.

Mette Vestergaard



Draft version 10
30 August 2005 at 10.00 hrs

Conference Resolution

Adopted by the 14th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference (BSPC)

The participants, elected representatives from the Baltic Sea States* and the European Parliament, assembled in Vilnius, Lithuania 29 - 30 August 2005, to discuss democracy, stability, forms of enhanced co-operation and infrastructure in the Baltic Sea Region

Convinced that

parliamentary co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region constitutes an active contribution to the development of the region and its neighbourhood by ensuring democratic transparency, initiating and guiding political activities, supporting and strengthening democratic institutions in the participating states and improving the dialogue between parliaments, governments and civil society

Noting

the earlier resolutions of the BSPC, especially aiming at an enhanced co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region with regard to the Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS) and other governmental as well as non-governmental organisations

the Northern Dimension and the EU's European Neighbourhood Policy as frameworks for co-operation and development

the European Neighbourhood Policy as an appropriate instrument to pursue the positive experiences of the Northern Dimension

Taking into account

eutrophication as a serious threat to the environment, fisheries, bio-diversity and outdoor recreation of the Baltic Sea which is of great importance for all countries bordering the sea

that the high priority given to infrastructure in the transport sector in the Northern Dimension Action Plan 2004-2006 shall be maintained in the future development of the Baltic Sea Region and in the Northern Dimension

the need to develop further an integrated maritime policy for the Baltic Sea Region and to participate actively in the ongoing process of making an integrated and all-embracing maritime policy on a European level



Call on governments in the Baltic Sea region and the CBSS as well as the EU to
give high priority to the co-operation in the region and the neighbouring countries

build on mutual commitment to common values within the fields of the rule of law, good governance, the respect for human rights and the promotion of good neighbourly relations

support the development of democracy and a civil society by strengthening the role of NGOs

enhance the dialogue in the Baltic Sea Region with neighbouring countries in strengthening democracy, stability, security, civil society, principles of sustainable development and well-being for all concerned

maintain and strengthen the mechanisms defined and used by the Commission on the Baltic Sea Area marine environment protection (HELCOM) for the conservation of the vulnerable marine environment of the region

Call on governments in the Baltic Sea Region, the CBSS, HELCOM and the EU to

support further development of common regional infrastructure, especially transport and energy networks

continue to develop the Northern Dimension in order to promote security and stability in the region

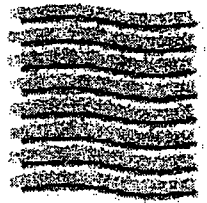
use the Northern Dimension framework, extending to the Arctic region and North-West Russia, to address the special regional development challenges, such as transport, energy, border crossing facilities and environmental issues

make use of the ENP (European Neighbourhood Policy) and EU's financial instruments, such as the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), and support their objectives of sharing the benefits of the EU enlargement with neighbouring countries thus strengthening stability and democracy in the region

participate in the development of an integrated maritime policy and in the implementation of the European Maritime Strategy, the aim of which is to protect and preserve the maritime environment by efficiently using, i.a., the Water Framework Directive

work towards the harmonised implementation of the European Marine Strategy in the whole catchment area of the Baltic Sea by making use of the established regional cooperation within HELCOM

work for the concept of sustainable maritime based logistics chains in Europe



not to slacken in their efforts to protect the marine environment of the Baltic Sea and to promote associated protective measures at all levels

increase efficient use of resources to respond to pollution incidents at sea by further developing the sub-regional dimension in the HELCOM response planning and by enhancing the cooperation on the issue of places of refuge

further coordinate activities and initiatives of the organizations in the Baltic Sea Region towards achieving common aims of stability and welfare in the region

consider if "state liability" might be introduced in the field of transfrontier pollution, and if the "polluter should pay"- principle could include not only companies and individuals, but also states

vitalize the CBSS Working Group activities on democratic institutions

improve conditions of trans-border cooperation, including further work on improving trans-border communication and easing formalities for cross-border travel

enhance cooperation on countering terrorism in the Baltic Sea region including the improvement of appropriate legislation

Agree to

prepare concrete recommendations for action in the field of the "Development of Transport Infrastructure in the Baltic Sea Region"

adopt the amended rules of the BSPC attached as annex to this resolution

Furthermore

the Conference welcomes and accepts with gratitude the kind invitation of the Icelandic Parliament Althingi to hold the 15th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference on 3 – 5 September 2006 in Reykjavik

* Baltic Assembly, Denmark, Estonia, European Parliament, Finland, Free and Hanse City of Bremen, Free and Hanse City of Hamburg, Germany, Kaliningrad, Latvia, Lithuania, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Nordic Council, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Schleswig-Holstein, St. Petersburg, Sweden, Åland