

EUROREGION BALTIC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Klaipeda, 25th February 2005

Meeting Place:

Radisson SAS Hotel, Sauliu g. 28, Klaipeda

Participants:

Members of ERB Council, Denmark

Mr Niels Chresten Andersen on behalf of Ms Annelise Molin, Council Member from the
Regional Municipality of Bornholm

Members of ERB Council, Lithuania

Ms Irina Rozova Vice-Governor of Klaipeda County
Ms Dalia Makuskiene Klaipeda County Economic & Social Development
Department Head
Mr Vytaustas Rinkievicius Secretary of Klaipeda County
Mr Vidmantas Pleckaitis Vice Mayor of Klaipeda Municipality, on behalf of Mr
Rimantas Taraskevicius, Mayor of Klaipeda Municipality
Mr Arvydas Jakas Mayor of Silute District

Members of ERB Council, Poland

Mr Jan Kozłowski Marshal of Pomerania Voivodeship
Mr Zbigniew Karpowicz Association of Polish Communes Chairman
Mr Zbigniew Puchajda on behalf of Mr Andrzej Ryński, Marshal of Warmia-
Mazury Voivodeship
Ms Jadwiga Semmerling Mayor of Mlynary
Ms Joanna Zielińska Member of Council of Gdynia

Members of ERB Council, Russian Federation

Mr Alexander Kuzniecov Duma of the Kaliningrad Region
Mr Boris Batalin Duma of the Kaliningrad Region
Mr Juriy Rozkov-Jurevskiy Kaliningrad Region Representation to Poland
Mr Victor Koshelev Baltijsk Municipality Administration

Members of ERB Council, Sweden

Mr Bo Frank Municipalities and County Council in Southern Smaland
Ms Lillebill Grähs Regional Council in Kalmar County
Mr Gert Wollinger Regional Council in Kalmar County
Mr Alexander Wendt Region Blekinge
Mr Bo Löfgren substitute for Ms Ethel Duvskog, Region Blekinge

Invited guests

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| Mr Sergey M. Overko | Representative of the Kaliningrad Region in Lithuania |
| Mr Liudvikas Zukauskas | Mayor of Skuodas Municipality |
| Mr Salvijus Jodka | Vice Mayor of Palanga Municipality |
| Mr Algimantas Vysniuskas | Vice Mayor of Neringa Municipality |
| Mr Virgilijus Pozingis | Director of Silute District Administration |
| Mr Valdemaras Grazys | Klaipeda District Municipal Council |
| Ms Giedre Butkute | Klaipeda County Regional Development Department |
| Ms Janina Lukauskiene | Neringa Municipality Economic Development & Foreign Relations Department Head |
| Ms Irena Satkauskiene | Economic Development Department, Palanga Municipality |
| Ms Krystyna Wróblewska | Pomeranian Voivodeship International & Economic Cooperation Department Head |
| Mr Evaldas Jankauskas | Kretinga Municipality Economic Development Department Head |
| Mr Kenneth Johannesson | Region Blekinge |
| Mr Valdas Puckorius | Klaipeda Municipality Economic Development Department Head |
| Mr Boris A. Tregubov | Deputy Head of Economic Development and Trade Department in the Kaliningrad Region Administration |

ERB Secretariats

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| Ms Karen Lynn Jacobsen | Danish ERB Secretariat |
| Mr Zigo Rutkovskis | Latvian ERB Secretariat |
| Ms Magdalena Szymanowska | Polish ERB Secretariat |
| Ms Elena Butorova | Russian ERB Secretariat |
| Mr Ulf Andersson | Swedish ERB Secretariat |
| Mr S. Demkowicz-Dobrzański | ERB International Permanent Secretariat |

Projects

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| Ms Marianne Eckerbom | ERB Environmental Working Group, Municipalities and County Council in Southern Smaland |
| Ms Ewelina Bonar | ERB Youth Project Leader |
| Ms Elina Tyrberg | ERB Youth Project, Sweden |

The meeting began at 16.00

1) Welcoming the participants by ERB President, Mr J. Kozłowski and opening of the meeting

ERB president, Mr Jan Kozłowski opened the meeting and welcomed the ERB Council members, secretariats, invited guests, and the representatives of the local media (see Annex 1)

2) Internal Council Matters

a. Approval of the final Agenda

The Agenda was approved by the Council members without alterations or amendments.

b. Appointment of the Council members co-signing the minutes

Ms Irina Rozova and Mr Jan Kozłowski were requested by the ERB Council to co-sign the minutes from the Council meeting on 25th February 2005 in Klaipeda.

3) Presenting the current national representations in the ERB Council and Board

Each ERB National Delegation presented their members of the Council (see Annex 2).

4) Resolution accepting the national representations in the ERB Council and Board

The ERB Council accepted the candidates recommended by the ERB National Delegations to the ERB Board and Council.

5) Accepting the date and place for the next Council meetings

A proposal was put forward and approved to hold the next Council meeting in Klaipeda on October 24th, 2005. The following Council meeting was scheduled to be held in the Kaliningrad Region at the end of February 2006 to allow the Russian partners to take over ERB presidency.

6) Report from ERB President, Mr J. Kozłowski on the Polish presidency in 2004, followed by questions and discussion. Presenting the Annual Report

ERB President, Mr Jan Kozłowski presented a brief account of the activities conducted and initiatives taken in last twelve months, during which he chaired the Board of Euroregion Baltic (see Annex 3).

7) Report on the 2nd draft of the JTDP to be submitted for consultations among the ERB member regions, by the Project WP5 Leader, Mr Ulf Andersson

Following the Gdańsk Conference in December 2004 and the Seagull Steering Committee meeting held in Klaipeda on 31st January 2005 Mr Ulf Andersson briefly discussed the general contents of the Second Draft of the JTDP, which will now be sent out to the ERB member regions for consideration and feedback. Mr Andersson informed that the Conference materials are now available on the ERB website. He also introduced the time schedule of activities leading to the final approval of JTDP by the ERB Council on 24th October, 2005. The Council took note of the information delivered by Mr Andersson and accepted the time framework for the approval of JTDP.

Coffee break followed

8) Report on the Seagull II project application and signing the partnership declarations by the ERB member regions.

As a result of the successful Seed Money Application a project proposal was presented by Mr Slawomir Demkowicz-Dobrzanski aiming at assisting the ERB organisational structures in introducing measures in order to improve institutional capacities of Euroregion Baltic, facilitate the implementation of the JTDP and the management of a future Neighbourhood Programme. The project proposal was produced in a joint effort of ERB International Secretariat, Danish and Swedish Secretariats. The representatives of the ERB regions have been invited to the project and signed the co-financing statements.

9) The Baltic MaSTER project. Letter of intent

Mr Bo Löfgren presented MaSTER, a cooperative project by the Blekinge Regional County Council and SydSam (see Annex 4). He discussed the contents of the project and

requested ERB to provide strong political support to the project by signing the letter of intent. The ERB Council agreed to provide such support and President Kozłowski signed the letter.

10) Report on the ERB Youth Project status by the Project Coordinator, Ms Ewelina Bonar

Ms Ewelina Bonar present the contents of the ERB youth project, which received a Phare CBC subsidy for the year 2005. She briefly outlined the first activities planned within the project (see Annex 5).

11) Presentation of the Lithuanian candidate to hold the ERB President's Office in 2005, Klaipėda County Vice-Governor, Ms Irina Rozova, and of the Russian candidate to become ERB Vice-President, Mr Alexander Kuzniecov. Acceptance of the two candidates

Lithuanian ERB Council member, Ms Dalia Makuskiene presented the candidate of the Lithuanian Partner to hold ERB presidency in 2005. Klaipėda County recommended Ms Irina Rozova, recently appointed Deputy Governor of Klaipėda County, to act as the president of the Euroregion Baltic.

Ms Irina Rozova is a graduate of the Lomonosov State University in Moscow, the Faculty of Journalism. Since then she has constantly improved her qualification at different training courses, such as English language, psychology, audit, etc. Between 2002-2005 she was a member of Klaipėda City Council. In political life she is a chairperson of the Russian Alliance and a member of the Social Affairs Committee. Before Ms Irina Rozova worked mainly in the sphere of mass media: regional radio stations „Raduga“ and „Laluna“, Television and Radio Committees of Kaliningrad Region and of Omsk (Russian Federation), also at daily newspaper „Klaipėda“. The ERB Council followed the recommendation and appointed Ms Irina Rozova new ERB President.

Russian ERB Council member, Mr Victor Koshelev presented the candidate of the Russian Partner to hold the position of ERB Vice-President in 2005. Kaliningrad Region recommended Mr Alexnader Kuzniecov, recently appointed Chairman of the Budgetary Commission of the Kaliningrad Oblast Duma. He had previously been the Head of Baltijsk Municipal Administration for three terms, and ERB President in 2000. The ERB Council followed the recommendation and appointed Mr Alexander Kuzniecov new ERB Vice-President.

12) Official ERB Presidency change-over

ERB Presidency was officially taken over by the Lithuanian Partner, and Ms Irina Rozova commenced the eighth presidency term in ERB. The outgoing President, Mr Jan Kozłowski wished the incoming President all the success in her work. Afterwards, small gifts were exchanged, so was the official Presidency symbol: ERB mallet.

13) Inauguration speech by ERB's new President, Ms Irina Rozova

ERB President, Ms Irina Rozova took over chairing of the meeting and opened her term with the inauguration speech (see Annex 6).

14) Closing of the meeting

At 19.00 hours all the attendees attended dinner held at the venue.