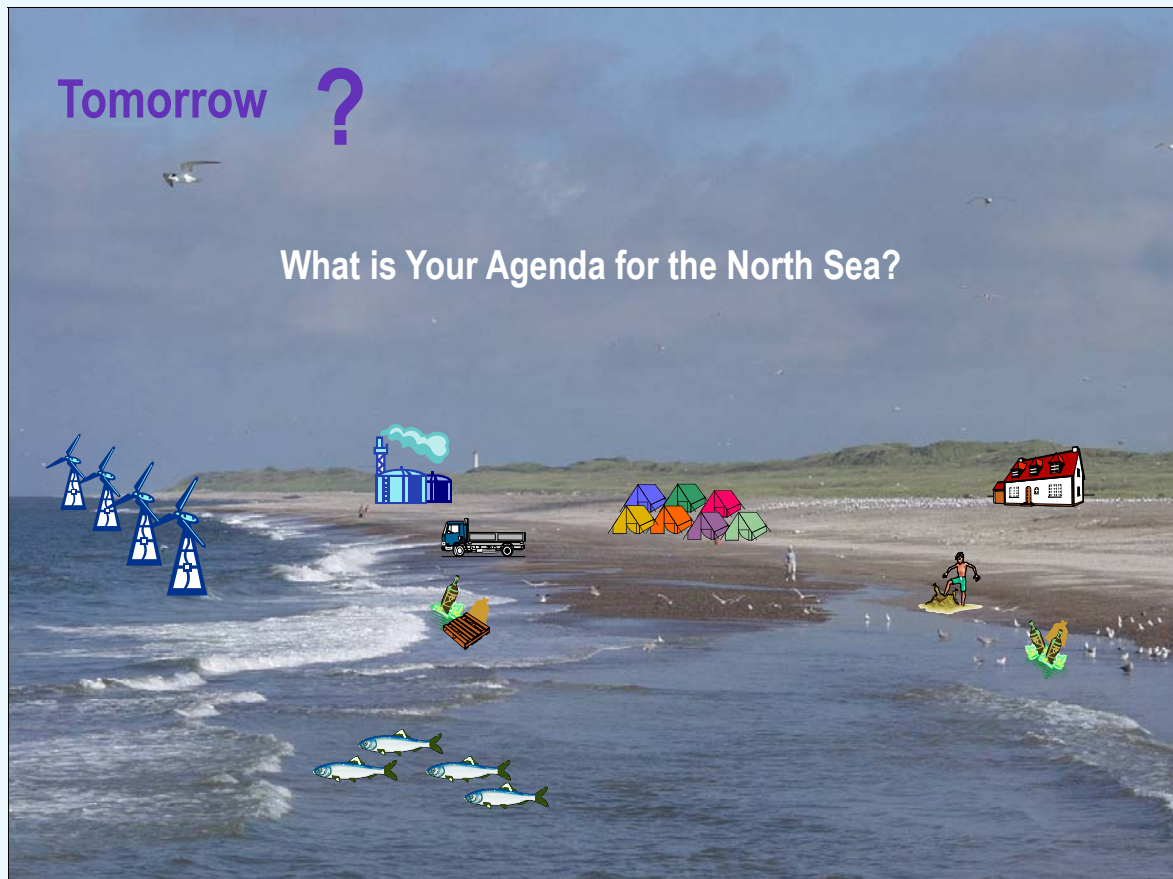


# CONFERENCE REPORT

## The North Sea - Today and Tomorrow

International Conference on Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Environment - Fisheries - Regional Planning and Development



Published by North Sea Commission  
Ringkjøbing County

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# Summary

The North Sea Commission held an International Conference on the North Sea in Ringkjøbing Denmark on 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2005. Over 170 participants from coastal regions discussed the state of the North Sea and the impact of agriculture, fishing, fish farming, shipping, ports and harbours, and other human activities upon coastal waters.

The North Sea is one of the most carefully studied seas in the world but there is concern over its current state. The North Sea is still exposed to many risks, including the release of contaminants, damage to sensitive habitats, high levels of nutrients and the danger of accidents from shipping. Climate change and the increased release of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, is making sea water more acidic and poses major risks to the whole marine ecosystem. We

need to gain a much better appreciation of the importance the North Sea plays in all our lives to counter these threats.

Much of the conflict between different activities taking place in the North Sea is not being resolved effectively. In particular, practical and political difficulties stand in the way of implementing integrated coastal zone management (ICZM). It was concluded that the North Sea Commission itself, as an inter-regional body, could play a key role in bringing all the interests together. Creating partnerships between different people and organisations was seen as especially important

Conference Workshops highlighted the dangers of the single sector approach. They recommended that the NSC should:

- Produce a plan to integrate the management of the coastal zone.
- Make the North Sea an area of excellence for environmental awareness and action.
- Endorse a more flexible, long-term approach to solving North Sea issues.
- Join with other agencies to handle issues crossing the land-sea boundary.
- Establish Coastal Forums to bring different interests together

The conference concluded that greater involvement of all parties was needed to promote good stewardship of the North Sea, including fishers, farmers, business people, tourists, consumers, scientists, environmental interests and of course all the people living along the coast.

## The North Sea Commission

The North Sea Commission (NSC) is a co-operative venture of 71 regional authorities from around the North Sea with members from 8 countries: Denmark, England, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Scotland and Sweden. The Commission was founded in 1989 to encourage and develop partnerships and to foster joint enterprises. It aims to strengthen co-operation within a group of countries which share a common tradition of involving local citizens in resolving the issues which affect them. The NSC has established Thematic Groups on the Environment, Transport, Economic Development, Education & Research, Culture & Tourism and Fisheries. For more information go to [www.northsea.org](http://www.northsea.org).

## Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions

The North Sea Commission is one of six geographical commissions under the umbrella of CPMR (the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions). Through the CPMR the NSC has links and contacts to most of the Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe. CPMR has proven to act as a strong and efficient lobbying organisation towards the EU in important Regional Policy matters. For more information regarding the CPMR visit [www.cpmr.org](http://www.cpmr.org)

# The North Sea - Today and Tomorrow

## International Conference recognises Environmental risks and need for resolving conflicts.

The Conference, organised by the North Sea Commission, focused on sustainable management and the resources of the North Sea. Over 170 participants from the coastal states discussed the current state of the North Sea and the impact upon its coastal waters of agriculture, fishing, fish farming, shipping, ports and harbours, and other human activities. *Those taking part included the Danish Minister of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Hans Christian Schmidt; Scottish Deputy Minister for Finance and Public Services and Parliamentary Business, Tavish Scott; and former Danish Prime Minister and now Member of the European Parliament, Poul Nyrup Rasmussen; representatives of national and local governments, regional, non-governmental organisations, fishers, scientists, and participants in coastal industries.*

The North Sea has long been an important highway for transporting goods and people between Scandinavia, continental Europe and the British Isles. A common maritime heritage binds those of us who live around the North Sea. All the countries of the North Sea have highly developed economies, democracy, well-educated work forces and a strong tradition of research and innovation. Our countries were the founders of the

industrial revolution and they remain highly industrialised. The North Sea itself is amongst the best studied seas in the world. It is one of the areas where concern for the state of the marine environment originated. *It was therefore fitting that the priority of the Conference was to examine the current state of the North Sea and consider how to manage the resources of the North Sea in a more sustainable way.*

The high attendance at the Conference showed that many of us from around the North Sea are concerned at its current state. The various contributions made to the Conference were very diverse. These contributions are given in full on the NSC website [www.northsea.org](http://www.northsea.org) but **two common conclusions emerged.**

- *The North Sea is still exposed to many risks and uncertainties.*
- *Much of the conflict between different activities taking place in the North Sea is not being resolved effectively.*

*The first conclusion was that the North Sea is still exposed to many risks and uncertainties.* Although in general the inputs of heavy metals, oil and chemicals have decreased, some contaminants still ex-

ceed safe levels. Human activities along the coast, including tourism, housing and commercial development, are disturbing many sensitive habitats. Ships carrying dangerous cargoes still present a risk of catastrophic accidents, and ships both at sea and in harbour create pollution. Nutrients in some coastal waters are stimulating excessive plant growth leading to reductions in oxygen and creating a risk to other living organisms. Fishing is having a direct effect upon fish stocks, with several commercially important stocks now in a precarious state, and it is also affecting the wider ecosystem.

More seriously, the sea is absorbing much of the increased release of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, making its water more acidic, with effects upon the global carbon cycle. Global climate change is altering living conditions for both large and small organisms in all our oceans – including the North Sea! We take many of the services provided by the North Sea for granted. *We must develop a better public understanding of the major changes currently taking place in the oceans and our attitude to the North Sea must change. We must gain a better appreciation of the importance the North Sea plays in all our lives.*



Climate change posed particular risks. The pattern of winds blowing over the North Sea is changing, as well as the strength of the winds and the pattern of storms. Circulation and mixing of the waters may change, together with the quantities of oceanic waters entering the North Sea. Rainfall is increasing in some areas and seasons, changing the input of fresh water, nutrients and sediments from the land. Sea level is rising, especially in the south, and coupled with an increasing frequency of storm surges this may result in increased flooding of low-lying areas. The North Sea is already warmer, and tomorrow it will be even warmer. *Long-term monitoring programmes are showing dramatic long-term changes to the ecology of the North Sea.*

Despite concern over the changes taking place in the North Sea, and a strong wish to establish reference levels against which these changes can be judged, some long term monitoring programmes on which we depend are themselves at risk. *Secure and steady funding is required for the very important environmental monitoring work taking place in the North Sea.*

*The second conclusion was that much of the conflict between different activities taking place in the North Sea is not being resolved effectively.* It is evident that

almost every activity taking place within the North Sea has an impact upon others; exploitation of one resource affects another; and activities in one place affect activities in others. We must adopt a well coordinated approach to the management of coastal resources. We cannot have a series of separate strategies, unrelated to one another. *Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is very important if we are to improve the state of the North Sea.*

Recommendation 2002/413/EC on Integrated Coastal Zone Management from the Directorate General of the Environment of the European Commission invited Member States to produce, by the beginning of 2006, a national strategy for the integrated management of their coastal zones. However, although one third of Member States (including France, Spain, Germany and Finland) are committed to the production of a national strategy; one third do not intend to do so but would rather implement specific actions within an existing framework: and the last third did not respond at all. *Despite general agreement that ICZM is important, many practical and political difficulties stand in the way of implementing it!*

One of the reasons put forward for the lack of action is that we live in a hierarchical political structure,

which acts against inter-regional, cross-sectoral co-operation. Poul Nyrup Rasmussen spoke of 5 democratic levels standing over us. Within such a hierarchy alliances between regions become especially important. *The North Sea Commission itself, as an inter-regional body, can play a key role in implementing ICZM within the North Sea.*

Resolving conflict within the North Sea is not a matter of acquiring more information, although finding out the facts is important. Conflict can only be dealt with through social structures and institutions tailored to the task of resolving the differences which exist between people. In practice, when co-ordination and integration is required, our traditional, top-down systems of management have only limited utility. *Special structures are required to promote an integrated approach. Partnerships, where different organisations or interests can work together to achieve a common aim, provide a solution.* One successful example has been the North Sea Commission's own Fisheries Partnership, which has now established the North Sea Regional Advisory Council to advise the European Commission and Member States on the management of North Sea fisheries.

Workshops were held within the Conference, each involving a wide range of different stakeholders and



interests. They were intended to generate proposals for better co-ordination and integration within the North Sea. *The Conference Workshops were asked to identify particular issues and then to propose actions on the part of the North Sea Commission or politicians to resolve these.*

*The conclusions of the three Workshops, on the Environment, Fisheries and Regional Planning & Development, are summarised in Table 1.* They show a number of common features.

Firstly, and perhaps most importantly, the Workshops highlighted the dangers of the single sector approach. *It is very important to combine all the activities taking place within the coastal zone and to integrate all sectoral plans: this is the very essence of Integrated Coastal Zone Management. The Workshop on Regional Planning & Development recommended that an NSC Working Group should produce a plan for the implementation of ICZM for the North Sea.*

Secondly, all the Workshops stressed the need to provide information and promote public awareness of the importance of coastal waters, and the resources and services they provided. *We must brand the North Sea as an area of excellence in en-*

*vironmental awareness. The Workshop on the Environment recommended several initiatives to improve the visibility of the North Sea. For instances efforts to reduce chemical pollution and to promote sustainable energies and shipping.*

Strong emphasis was placed by the Workshops on the need for management of activities within the North Sea to be more flexible. *At a time of major, global, environmental change we must be more adaptive in managing the resources of the North Sea. We need to learn from our experiences and adjust our management actions accordingly. The Workshop on Fisheries recommended a more flexible, adaptive and long term approach to the management of North Sea fisheries.*

Discussion at the Conference suggested that we needed to break down the boundaries between different areas. *We should combine our interests in the land, the inshore and the offshore and treat them together. The Workshops on Environment and Regional Planning & Development recommended the development of more formal links with OSPAR, CPMR & other agencies to enable the NSC to deal more effectively with cross-boundary issues.*

Finally, we need to involve all those interested in the North Sea in any attempt to integrate the different sectors. *We must extend stakeholder involvement in the stewardship of our coastal seas, to include fishers, non-governmental organisations, tourists, consumers, local people, scientists and environmental interests. The Workshop on Fisheries recommended the establishment of an Inshore Fisheries Forum by the NSC to bring together all inshore interests.*

At the Conference, Gunn Marit Helgesen, the President of the North Sea Commission, pointed out that if we work together we can achieve all that we need to. Working together was the overall theme of the Conference. The Conference had been organised to give everyone the chance to speak – through individual presentations, through the Speaker's Corner and through the Workshops. Different interests and sectors were assembled to debate the state of the North Sea and to decide on an integrated approach towards solving its environmental problems. *The people of Ringkjøbing County had provided a great service through organising this important Conference on behalf of the North Sea Commission. By working together in this way we can make a difference!*



# Outcomes from the Three Workshops

## Workshop 1 – Environment

## Workshop 2 – Fisheries

## Workshop 3 – Regional Planning and Development

*One of the main activities during the conference were the three workshops*

Their aims were to focus on important issues needed to secure combined management strategies in the coastal zone around the North Sea.

The North Sea Commission hosted a conference where the participants engaged in an open dialogue on the importance of the future issues, involving short-term and long-term actions in managing the coastal zone in the light of the current environmental status in the North Sea.

The three workshops each produced a list of priorities that were presented at the plenary discussion in Session 4.

*The outcome from the three workshop are presented at the following pages:*



# Workshop 1 - Environment

**Chairs:**

**Alison McInnes**, Aberdeenshire Council  
**Per Hörberg**, NSC Environment Group

| Issues                            | Management Action (NSC)   | Political Action   |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Public awareness and education    | Initiatives for awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Sea Week of the Sea</li> <li>• Media campaign to market projects</li> <li>• NGO North Sea forum</li> </ul> | Marine awareness on school agendas   |
| Sustainable shipping              | Develop good practice guidance with the shipping industry   | Support EU directive on quality of marine fuels<br>Support KIMO on maritime safety<br>Promote sustainable shipping               |
| Chemical pollution                | NSC to compile information on similar problems and action in other European seas  | Support strong new European legislation, REACH   |
| Offshore renewable energy sources | NSC to continue commenting on OSPAR guidelines including fisheries and environment concerns<br><br>Demonstration/promotion of positive fisheries interactions                       | Promote a balanced expansion of offshore renewable energy sources<br><br>Promote integration of stakeholders in planning process |



## Workshop 2 - Fisheries

**Chairs:**

**Ann Bell, Aberdeenshire Council**  
**Josianne Støttrup, ICES**

| <b>Issues</b>   | <b>Management Action (NSC)</b>   | <b>Political Action</b>   |
|---|--|---|
| Improved relations between fishers and scientists                                       | Ensure continuation of the NSC Fisheries Partnership<br><br>Include inshore fisheries and control agencies in the Partnership  | Support continuation of the Partnership   |
| Stakeholder participation and improved stewardship                                      | Establish North Sea Commission Inshore Fisheries Forum<br><br>Search for funding for the Regional Advisory Councils (RACs)   | Support the RACs<br><br>Highlight inshore fisheries issues in relation to RACs<br><br>Inshore Fisheries Forum to be represented on RACs |
| Quality of fish products  | Inshore Forum to address issue of quality<br><br>Improve market access for coastal fisheries   | Support availability of appropriate funding for quality and marketing   |
| The financial position of the fishing fleet   | Promote awareness of fisheries needs to the finance sector - qualified financiers are required to deal with the fishery sector.  | Promote the greater use of economic and social impact assessments in management decisions   |
| Improved fisheries management   | Support fora where politicians at local, national and European level can consult the fishing industry and react more quickly in providing support for improved management  | Promote a change towards a more flexible and adaptive system of management – including a longer term approach                           |
| Resolve controversy over the advantages of selling or leasing fishing rights to fishers | Arrange a seminar on the advantages & disadvantages of different fishing rights systems  |   |
| Segmentation of the inshore and offshore fisheries                                      | Establish NSC Inshore Fisheries Forum, to bring together all inshore fisheries management systems around the North Sea, providing them a strong voice within Europe.<br><br>Define the scope of coastal fisheries in opening seminar | Promote separation of inshore and offshore fisheries in terms of management and rights  |

# Workshop 3 - Regional Planning & Development

**Chairs:**

**Julian Swainson**, Suffolk County Council  
**Clive Gilbert**, SAIL

| Issues  | Management Action (NSC)  | Political Action   |
|---|--|--|
| <p>To what degree is ICZM being implemented by NSC members?</p> <p>Penetration of ICZM into governments' thinking</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop to determine progress indicators</li> <li>• Working group to produce overall view of problems and identify need for integration, produce plan</li> </ul> | <p>Distribute message about ICZM to political decision makers</p>  |
| <p>Invisibility of coasts in information – poor understanding of issues</p>   | <p>Encourage members in understanding and in the adoption of indicators</p> <p>State of the coasts report</p>  | <p>Need to adopt indicators</p>  |
| <p>Integrate coastal issues with marine policies</p>  | <p>Improve relationship with OSPAR and CPMR</p> <p>Develop more formal links, participating on trans-boundary issues &amp; encouraging OSPAR to consider coastal issues</p>                                | <p>Encourage politicians to develop coastal strategies</p> <p>Stimulate production of national plans</p> |
| <p>Source and application of tourism tax revenues</p> <p>Tax incomes from tourism are not available locally</p>       | <p>NSC to develop an economic model to encourage tourism tax revenue to be reinvested in coastal tourist areas</p> <p>Share best practice</p>  | <p>Promote sustainability through intelligent financial management</p>                                   |
| <p>IT licensing costs</p> <p>Mapping and information charges</p>  | <p>NSC to promote free exchange of information gathered publicly</p> <p>Software sharing?</p>  |  |

# The Programme

**Harry Jensen** of Ringkjøbing County and Chair of the NSC Fisheries Group opened the Conference and welcomed the participants to Ringkjøbing. He thanked the North Sea Commission and the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions

(CPMR) for their sponsorship and assistance.

**Gunn Margit Helgeren**, President of the North Sea Commission thanked Ringkjøbing County for hosting the Conference. She believed it would promote better networking between

people from around the North Sea. She promised that the North Sea Commission would take the findings of the Conference very seriously.

*The papers presented at the Conference are available at [www.northsea.org](http://www.northsea.org)*

## Session 1: Environmental Status

### The environmental challenges in the coastal zone around the North Sea

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Chair:</b>                  | <b>Ewa Wlodarczyk</b> , European Environment Agency   |
| <b>Gert Verreet:</b>           | Environmental status of the North Sea   |
| <b>Markus Salomon:</b>         | What can be done to improve the quality of the North Sea?   |
| <b>Katherine Richardson:</b>   | Does the ocean give us more than fish?  |
| <b>Hans Christian Schmidt:</b> | National environmental priorities for the North Sea   |
| <b>Bill Turrell:</b>           | Climatic changes in relation to the North Sea   |
| <b>Dima Litvinov:</b>          | Habitat destruction and its causes  |
| <b>Keith Brander:</b>          | How information from long term plankton monitoring can be applied in support of marine management |
| <b>Per Toppenberg:</b>         | Conflicts in the coastal zone   |
| <b>Bo Riemann:</b>             | Common recommendations for implementing the Water Framework Directive in the Baltic Sea           |

## Session 2: Status of resources in the North Sea

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Chair:</b>               | <b>Eskilde Kirkegaard</b> , European Commission                               |
| <b>Poul Degnbol:</b>        | Status of the fish stocks in the North Sea                                    |
| <b>Hugo Andersson:</b>      | Fishermen's view on the fish stocks   |
| <b>Lars Dagnæs:</b>         | The North Sea as a highway  |
| <b>John Mouat:</b>          | Pollution from shipping and proposals for the future                          |
| <b>Hugo Niesing:</b>        | Coastal protection, experiences and recommendations from the EUROSION project |
| <b>Josianne Støttrup:</b>   | Beach nourishment – effects on fish and fish habitats                         |
| <b>Andreas Kannen:</b>      | Strategy and planning for wind farms in the North Sea – German ICZM Strategy  |
| <b>Anne Grethe Ragborg:</b> | Environmental impacts– demonstration project Hornsrev wind farm               |

## Session 3: Integrated Coastal Zone Management

### Workshop Session

- Chair:** Alan Pickaver, EUCC
- Clive Gilbert:** ICZM – sustainability development indicators
- Alan Pickaver:** Aims of the workshops

### Workshop 1

#### ENVIRONMENT

- Chairs:** Alison McInnes, Aberdeenshire Council  
Per Hörberg, NSC Environment Group
- Finn Bro Rasmussen:** Chemical pollution of coastal waters
- Nancy Holm:** Consequences of dumping litter at sea
- Lisbeth Ottosen:** Green North Sea docks
- Sabine Christiansen:** Marine protected areas
- Samu Numminen:** Coastal co-operation in reducing diffuse nutrient load – farmers at the forefront

#### Workshop discussion

### Workshop 2

#### FISHERIES

- Chairs:** Ann Bell, Aberdeenshire Council  
Josianne Støttrup, ICES
- Keith Brander:** Fish distribution and climate changes
- Eskilde Kirkegaard:** Main fisheries management problems
- Edel Åsjord:** Fishermen's views on ICZM
- Ian Napier:** The Shetland experience of local fisheries management
- Chris Frid:** Ecosystem-based fisheries management

#### Workshop discussion

### Workshop 3

#### Regional Planning & Development

- Chairs:** Julian Swainson, Suffolk County Council  
Clive Gilbert, SAIL
- Jane Taussik:** The contribution of land use planning to coastal management
- Anni Hornum:** Coastal tourism – scale and economic importance

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Alan Pickaver:</b>      | ICZM – progress indicators                                    |
| <b>Per Arne Tveit:</b>     | Regional development in small fisheries communities           |
| <b>Runar Bergheim:</b>     | Coastal planning and tourism                                  |
| <b>An Cliquet:</b>         | Integration and participation in coastal zone decision making |
| <b>Workshop discussion</b> |   |
| <b>Tavish Scott:</b>       | Environmental and coastal interests in Scotland               |

## Session 4: Integrated Coastal Zone Management (continued)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Chair:</b>   | <b>Poul Degnbol</b> , ICES  |
| <b>Ewa Wlodarczyk:</b>                                      | Relevant environmental indicators for the North Sea – should they be prioritised? |
| <b>Alison McInnes:</b>                                      | <b>Report of Workshop 1 –Environment</b>  |
| <b>Josianne Støttrup:</b>                                   | <b>Report of Workshop 2 – Fisheries</b>   |
| <b>Julian Swainson:</b>                                     | <b>Report of Workshop 3 - Regional Planning &amp; Development</b>                 |
| <b>Plenary discussion and evolution of a consensus view</b> |   |

## Session 5: Speakers' Corner

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>Chair:</b> | <b>Tommy Mostrup</b> , Ringkjøbing County |
|---------------|---|

## Session 6: Future Environmental Policy

### Sustainable development

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Chair:</b>                | <b>Peter Byman</b> , NSC Vice-President   |
| <b>Tony Hawkins:</b>         | Regional Advisory Councils – the first step towards the involvement of stakeholders in fisheries management |
| <b>Poul Nyrup Rasmussen:</b> | The EU's political priorities for the North Sea   |
| <b>Christian Byrith:</b>     | The Interreg IIIB North Sea Programme   |
| <b>Paul Gilliland:</b>       | Spatial management in the North Sea   |

### Concluding session

|                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Tony Hawkins:</b> | Consensus on priorities |
|----------------------|-------------------------|

**Peter Byman**, the Vice-President of the North Sea Commission drew the Conference to a close by thanking the participants for their enthusiasm. He thanked Ringkjøbing County for their excellent organisation of the Conference

# List of Participants

| Surname      | First name     | Organisation                                    |
|--------------|----------------|---|
| Andersson    | Hugo           | Swedish Fishermens Federation                   |
| Bay-Larsen   | Indrid Agathe  | Norlandsforskning, Norland Research Institute   |
| Bell         | Ann            | Aberdeenshire Council                           |
| Bergheim     | Stein Runar    | Asplan Viak Internet A/S                        |
| Bisgaard     | Jakob          | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Blanner      | Peter          | WWF - World Wide Fund For Nature                |
| Brander      | Keith          | ICES  |
| Bräten       | Svend          | County of North Jutland                         |
| Byman        | Peter          | SNN (Fryslân)                                   |
| Bækgaard     | Karsten        | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Carlsson     | Annika         | Region Halland                                  |
| Christiansen | Sabine         | WWF   |
| Cliquet      | An             | Gent University                                 |
| Cluness      | Sandy          | Shetland Islands Council                        |
| Dagnæs       | Lars           | Institut for Transportstudier                   |
| Dahlo        | Paul           | Troms County                                    |
| De Mulder    | Frank          | Prov. East-flanders                             |
| Degnbol      | Poul           | IIFM  |
| Dolmer       | Per            | Danish Institute for Fisheries Research         |
| Dryburgh     | Peter A.       | North Atlantic Fisheries College                |
| Fasth        | Anders         | Vice chairman NSC Fisheries                     |
| Frederiksen  | John           | Interregional Wadden Sea Cooperation            |
| Frid         | Chris          | University of Newcastle upon Tyne               |
| Gertz        | Flemming       | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Gilbert      | Clive          | SAIL  |
| Gilliand     | Paul           | English Nature                                  |
| Glüssing     | Heine          | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Gross        | Jane I.        | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Grundvig     | Hans Henrik    | Fiskeidirektoratet Region Sor.                  |
| Grundvig     | Kari           | Fisheries directorate Region South              |
| Hagen        | Gudrun         | Nordland County Council                         |
| Handeland    | Gisle          | Hordaland Fylkeskommune                         |
| Hansen       | Jens Würgler   | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Hansen       | Kirsten Monrad | County of North Jutland                         |
| Hansen       | Hans           | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Haukvik      | Lars           | North Sea Commission                            |
| Have         | Arne           | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Hawkins      | Tony           | University of Aberdeen                          |
| Hedegaard    | Connie         | Danish Minister of Environment                  |
| Helgesen     | Gunn Marit     | North Sea Commission                            |
| Hindle       | Jerry          | Suffolk County Council                          |
| Hoffmann     | Erik           | Danish Institute for Fisheries Research         |
| Holm         | Nancy          | Keep Sweden Tidy Foundation                     |
| Holt Jensen  | Mikal          | Danish Outdoor Council                          |
| Hooton       | Simon          | Suffolk Coast & Heaths (Suffolk County Council) |
| Hornum       | Anni           | Turistforeningen Vestjylland                    |
| Hvas         | Else           | County of North Jutland                         |
| Højrup       | Thomas         | University of Copenhagen                        |
| Hörberg      | Per            | NSC Environment Group                           |
| Ilkerodt     | Ulf            |   |
| Jakobsen     | Vibeke         | North Sea Commission                            |
| Janssen      | Toine          | SNN (Groningen)                                 |
| Jensen       | Jesper Holt    | Kystdirektoratet                                |
| Jensen       | Henrik         | Viborg Amt                                      |
| Jensen       | Harry          | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Jensen       | Conny          | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Jepsen       | Niels          | Danish Institute for Fisheries Research         |
| Johnsen      | Jan Eirik      | Troms County Koministration                     |
| Jones        | John           | Norfolk County Council                          |
| Jørgensen    | Jørgen         | Viborg County                                   |
| Jørgensen    | Henrik G.      | Sonderjyllands County                           |
| Kamp         | Ole            | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Kane         | Paul           | Aberdeenshire Council                           |
| Kannen       | Andreas        | Forschungs- und Technologiezentrum Westküste    |
| Kanstrup     | Eva            | Ringkjøbing County                              |
| Karlsen      | Tor Ottar      | Buskerud Fylkeskommune                          |
| Kirkegaard   | Eskild         | DG-Fish   |
| Klaebo       | Randi          | Rogaland county Council                         |
| Knudsen      | Bent Hjort     | County of North Jutland                         |
| Knutson      | Geir           | Nordland  |
| Kolstad      | Helge          | Østfold County Council                          |
| Kongsnes     | Torhild        | Østfold County Council                          |

| Surname        | First name      | Organisation   |
|----------------|-----------------|--|
| Kohrsen        | Monica          | Ringkjøbing County                                       |
| Larsen         | Soren           | Funen County   |
| Lauesen        | Susy            | County of North Jutland                                  |
| Laursen        | Martha          | Ringkjøbing County                                       |
| Lervik         | Andreas         | Østfold County Council                                   |
| Lim            | Kevan           | Suffolk County Council                                   |
| Lindboe        | Erik            | Rogaland Fylkeskommune                                   |
| Linden         | Ake             | Vastra Götalandsregionen                                 |
| Lindvik        | Harald          | Sogn og Fjordane County Municipality                     |
| Lisbjerg       | Anna-Lise       | Ringkjøbing County                                       |
| Lissner        | Jorgen          | Ringkjøbing County                                       |
| Litvinov       | Dima            | Greenpeace   |
| Madsen         | Henrik Ringbæk  | County of North Jutland                                  |
| Mathisen       | Gudrun          | Hordaland County Council                                 |
| Matthews       | Ray             | East of England Regional Assembly                        |
| McInnes        | Alison          | Aberdeenshire Council                                    |
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| Pedersen       | Bent Ove        | Ringkjøbing County                                       |
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| Rasmussen      | Poul Nyrup      | European Parliament                                      |
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