

NORTH SEA COMMISSION ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Work Programme 2005 - 2006

NSCEG activity	Action	Responsibility	Timescale	Resources & Comments	Output
Influence so that a future "INTERREG IV" reflects NSCEG priorities	Liaise with the NSC, the Interreg secretariat and other stakeholders.	NSCEG Co-ordinator, NSC Executive Committee and secretariat	2005-2006	Co-ordinator's time.	Interreg Programme for the North Sea area, which can co-fund projects of benefit to the North Sea environment.
Green Purchasing	Organise exchange of experience between purchasing experts of the NSC Regions	The Region of Västra Götaland, Sweden	2005	Co-ordinator's and PWG members' time, staff from Region of Västra Götaland	Seminar and decision on potential future contacts, possibly in network
Environmental Training	Promote exchange of experience regarding environmental and sustainability training for politicians	Co-ordinator and PWG	2005-2006	Co-ordinator's and group members' time	
Promoting Environmental Management Systems, EMS, in Regional Authorities	Promote exchange of experience regarding Environmental Management Systems	Co-ordinator and PWG	2005-2006	Group members' time	More NSC Member Regions implementing Environmental Management Systems
Regional Development Plans	Create a network of Regional planners to stimulate work on Regional Dev. Plans.	County of North Jutland, Denmark	2005	Susy Lauesen, amtsl@nja.dk and PWG members	Seminar in November on Reg. Dev. Plans
OSPAR observership	Take part in meetings of OSPAR Committees and working groups	NSC secretariat Specific responsibilities: ASMO , Assessment and Monitoring: vacant BDC , Biodiversity: Per Hörberg, Region Västra Götaland SE	Ongoing	Time of staff from NSC member Regions and/or external institutions, expense funding from NSC Executive Committee	Various contributions to OSPAR policies and decisions

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Take forward actions from NSC Conference “The North Sea – Today and Tomorrow” in Ringkøbing	Analyse final document(s) from Conference, take action on relevant points.	Co-ordinator and PWG	2005	Co-ordinator’s and group members’ time.	Possible seminar in Autumn 2005, Possible Executive Committee action

Promote environmentally sound “sustainable” shipping	Contribute as observer to North Sea Ministerial Meeting 2006 on Environmental Impacts of Shipping and Fisheries. Develop expert content to Ministerial Declaration and other relevant papers.	NSC Executive Committee and secretariat, NSCEG co-ordinator, Region of Västra Götaland	2005-2006	Co-ordinator’s time, experts provided jointly by NSC and Västra Götaland	Possible strong statement by North Sea Environmental (and perhaps Transport & Fisheries) Ministers at Ministerial Meeting in Göteborg, Sweden, May 4-5, 2006
Action on query from Seaham Environmental Association, UK	Investigate background for NSC/Regional action on UK plans for dumping of contaminated dredged material at sea.	Jerry Hindle, Suffolk County Council, Jerry.Hindle@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk and Michael Allen, East of England Regional Assembly, mja16@cam.ac.uk	March 2005		Response to Seaham Environmental Association
NSCEG Organisational and Administrative Action	Action	Responsibility	Timescale	Resources & Comments	Output
Conference reports	Prepare comprehensive reports from all events co-organised by the NSCEG, for publication on the NSC website and/or printed.	Co-ordinator and hosting Regions	Ongoing	Co-ordinator’s time and staff time of hosting Regions	Reports
Member Profiles updates	Update NSCEG Member Profiles	Co-ordinator PWG Country Representatives. NSC secretariat, nsc@northsea.org	Annually	Consultant assistance is used for this activity. To keep information truly useful, members should provide updated information on contact persons, project interests, etc. Improved Member Profiles could include reference to Members’ web pages.	NSCEG Member Profiles updated annually and put on NSC website.

Promotion of NSCEG	Attract new members to the group and increase activity among current members by creating promotional material and approaching new potential group members.	NSCEG Chair and vice-chairs, Co-ordinator and NSC Secretariat.	Ongoing	EG Chair and vice-chairs, Co-ordinator and NSC Secretariat's time (to update and develop contacts on NSC database).	Addition of new members, more activity among current members
Sustainable Transport Conference	Contribute to conference in Kristiansand, Vest-Agder, Norway, on May 31- June 1, 2005.	Co-ordinator and PWG	May - June 2005	Conference organised by NTN Interreg project and the NSC Transport Group. It will a.o. present best practice examples from the North Sea area.	
Inform group on Water Framework Directive	Keep the PWG informed of important developments in the Interreg IIIB project NOLIMP-WFD. Each country representative should follow up WFD work at home.	Hans van Meerendonk, Provincie Fryslân, NL j.h.vanmeerendonk@fryslan.nl PWG Country Representatives	Ongoing	NOLIMP-WFD is a pilot project on the practical consequences of the WFD. The project can support other regions, in addition to present partners, over the next years.	
Ministerial Meeting preparation	Potential NSC activities in connection with Ministerial Meeting in Göteborg, May 2006	NSC Executive Committee and secretariat, NSCEG co-ordinator, PWG, Region of Västra Götaland	May 2006		NSC activities in connection with MM06, May 2006
Increasing links with the other NSC Thematic Groups	1. Examine Action Plans produced by other NSC Thematic Groups in order to identify existing key areas of mutual interest.	Co-ordinator, NSC Secretariat and other Thematic Group Co-ordinators.	Ongoing	Co-ordinator's time.	List of topics of mutual NSC interest for 2005-2006.
	2. Create a strategy and programme of joint initiatives in	Co-ordinator, PWG, NSC Secretariat and other Thematic Group Co-	Ongoing	Co-ordinator's time, PWG members' time	Draft programme of joint NSC activities for 2005-2006.

	association with the other NSC Thematic Groups.	ordinators.			
	3. Investigate new opportunities for the EG to participate with other NSC Thematic Groups on areas of mutual interest.	Co-ordinator, PWG, NSC Secretariat and other Thematic Group Co-ordinators.	Ongoing	Co-ordinator's time, PWG members' time	List of topics for future joint NSC events – for discussion at Autumn meeting of the NSC Co-ordinators.
NSCEG requests to NSC Executive Committee	Action	Responsibility	Timescale	Resources & Comments	Output
	Assume the full responsibility for the promotion of Sustainable Development within the NSC and in the North Sea area.				
	Follow up on the implementation of the Porsgrunn Challenge among NSC members.				Recurring reports on the implementation of the Porsgrunn Challenge (or the most relevant parts thereof)
	Start a timetabled business planning process, implemented across thematic groups and integrated. Template for work agreed.				
	Create a clear “political platform” for the NSC				
	Produce corporate communication on paper/website				

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