

### **3b. Budget 2006**

In setting the North Sea Commission budget for the next year the Executive Committee have considered a number of factors. These were:

1. The Executive Committee acknowledges that members expect the fee to be kept to the minimum necessary and to have as much information on future membership fees as possible.
2. There has been no increase in the NSC membership fee since 2001. If they had increased at the inflation rate since 2001, fees would have increased by 9.6%.
3. While this has ensured that members have had no increase in fees it has also reduced the income of the NSC in real terms over the last three years.
4. The Executive Committee is proposing a number of short, medium, and long term strategies to ensure the future development of the of the NSC in a number of papers being presented to the membership in 2005.
5. Running in parallel with these strategies is the need to ensure the organisation is placed on a financial footing that offers short to medium term stability and supports the organisation's strategic development.

Therefore the Executive Committee proposes that to ensure future strategic development, as outlined at the General Assembly in 2005, a raise in membership fees of Euro 268 (10%) is recommended.

The Executive Committee also recommends that the membership fees increase by the inflation rate from 2007, thus offering the medium term financial stability required.

The proposed budget for 2006 is enclosed with two options; 10% increase of membership fee and no increase of membership fee.

#### **Recommendation:**

1. ***For decision***
2. ***The budget for 2006 with a 10% raise of membership fee is accepted as presented in Enclosure 3***
3. ***The budget will be adjusted annually according to the inflation.***

**Enclosure 3**

	Budget 2005	Submission 2005	Budget 2006 10% increase	Budget 2006 no increase
	EURO	EURO pr 20.05.05	EURO	EURO
<b>INCOME:</b>				
Membership subscription	140 000	78 875	154 000	140 000
<b>INCOME:</b>	140 000		154 000	140 000
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>				
General Assembly Expenses	21 000	188	25 000	21 000
Promotional Expenditure	8 700	5 314	8 000	5 500
Travel, Accommodation, etc.	27 000	7 960	27 000	27 000
Thematic Groups	17 600	8 478	20 000	20 000
Co-ordinator Support	40 000	25 939	55 000	50 000
Photocopies, Postage, Telephone etc.	16 000	223	10 000	10 000
Newsletter	1 000	0	500	500
Internet	1 500	19 966	3 000	3 000
Admision, Translation etc.	5 200	160	4 000	2 000
Meetings	1 500	0	1 500	1 000
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>139 500</b>	<b>68 228</b>	<b>154 000</b>	<b>140 000</b>
<b>PARTNERSHIP GROUP</b>				
<b>INCOME</b>				
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>OSPAR</b>				
<b>INCOME</b>				
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>DISPOSAL:</b>				
Transferred from previous year		-70036		
This years surplus/deficite	-500	-10 647		
<b>DISPOSAL</b>	<b>139 000</b>	<b>-80 683</b>		