

# Wadden Sea Board

**WSB 14  
11 June 2015  
Copenhagen**



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<b>Agenda Item:</b>	5.5
<b>Subject:</b>	Draft Terms of Reference for Task Group Shipping
<b>Document No.</b>	WSB 14/5.5/1 Rev.1
<b>Date:</b>	04 June 2015
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Designated Chair, Task Group Shipping</b>

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The attached Terms of Reference for the future TG Shipping were submitted to the Wadden Sea Board by the designated Chair of the Task Group.

**Proposal:**      **The meeting is invited to consider the draft Terms of Reference.**

### **Trilateral Task Group Shipping**

In October 2002, the Wadden Sea was designated as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), because of its outstanding universal value in combination with its vulnerability to international shipping activities, in particular the adjacent North Sea, being one of the world's busiest international shipping areas. The designation will thus assist the bordering countries in further protecting and using the area in a sustainable way.

The designation of the Wadden Sea PSSA is also seen as recognition of the extensive regime of protective measures already in place. Despite the considerable progress made in the improvement of shipping safety and the environmental protection measures intended to minimize maritime pollution, shipping will continue to be a potential source of risk for damaging the Wadden Sea and adjacent coastline. This calls for an ongoing attention by a Shipping Group to advise the Wadden Sea Board.

The Sylt Declaration encompassed a number of agreements on shipping with regard to the Wadden Sea PSSA. Central agreements were to establish within the already existing framework of the Bonn Agreement (DenGerNeth-plan) a coordination mechanism for issues related to the Wadden Sea PSSA and to instruct the Wadden Sea Board to discuss the PSSA Evaluation Report. Also in the Tønder Declaration it is stated that implementation of the work by both the Taskgroup Shipping and the Shipping Group under the Wadden Sea Forum should continue.

In order to implement the agreements of the Tønder Declaration, a trilateral Task Group Shipping (TG-S) has been established by the Wadden Sea Board. This group will be a combined group of the former trilateral Task Group Shipping and part of the WG Shipping and Harbour group under the Wadden Sea Forum. Stakeholders will be invited on annual basis.

### **Task**

The overall task of the trilateral Task Group Shipping (TG-S) is to implement the operational plans as stated in the Tønder Declaration, to evaluate the outcomes of the Bonn Agreement work and continue to consider (future) shipping activities in the sense:

- (1) Relevant competent Shipping authorities will chair the group and the secretariat will make the arrangements for annual meetings and workshops.
- (2) Arrange the implementation of the 5 operational documents adopted by Tønder declaration.
- (3) Raise the awareness and education for the Wadden Sea PSSA and other relevant regulations to mariners and relevant stakeholders.
- (4) Support the collection of relevant shipping and environmental data for the Wadden Sea PSSA within the TMAP, taking into account existing data bases.
- (5) Assess potential effect to the PSSA area derived from risks in adjacent waters with special regard to the development of wind parks on the North Sea, drawing on the information and experiences gathered in the framework of the BONN AGREEMENT BE-AWARE project.

- (6) Coordinate the information exchange relevant for the Wadden Sea within the Bonn Agreement respectively, in order to ensure coordination between the Wadden Sea PSSA and the BONN AGREEMENT, DenGerNeth sub-regional cooperation.
- (7) Consult with competent authorities about the risk reducing effect of specific measures toward Shipping industry in general.
- (8) Coordinate the information exchange between the responsible authorities and the implementation steps following the agreements of the Tønder Declaration.
- (9) Continue to improve the level of response – between the three parties - to (the impact) of maritime incidents.
- (10) Continue to update the vision for the Wadden Sea PSSA based also on the aforementioned points taking into consideration expansion of electronic aids to navigation, offshore installations and maritime transport.
- (11) Stimulate the further development and application of the Green Port concept (TD par.58)
- (12) Stimulate where reasonable and feasible the accelerated implementation of LNG (TD par.56)

## **Composition**

The TG-S will be an integrated co-operation of part of the Wg. Shipping and Harbors under the WSF and the former Task group Shipping under the WB.

The TG-S will be composed of a chair, representing competent Shipping Authorities and appointed by the Wadden Sea Board, as well as members from each country.

These members represent the responsible authorities of the BONN Agreement (one from each country) and the responsible authorities of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (one from each country).

Three permanent members representing the Wg. Shipping and Harbors of the WSF will participate in the new TG Shipping. For special topics, e.g LNG and Greenports, expertise will attend for the agenda item.

The CWSS will act as secretariat for the TG-S. Also there will be annual contacts with stakeholders preferably in back-to-back meetings.

## **Output**

- (1) Annual progress report on the implementation of the five operational documents under the Tønder Declaration
- (2) Coordination of the BONN Agreement work (among others sub-regional DenGerNeth Plan) and Wadden Sea PSSA.
- (3) Assessment of the necessity to implement overall risk analysis for the Wadden Sea PSSA.
- (4) Integration of relevant shipping data into TMAP

## **Budget**

The TG-S will have a budget for meetings and external expertise from the WSB.

## **Reporting Schedule**

To be decided. First meeting to be held before 1. October 2015.