

COMMITTEE ON SPATIAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF
THE BALTIC SEA REGION

Draft Report of the 91st CSPD/BSR Meeting

Koli, 14-15 March 2024

Chairperson: Ms. Anna-Leena Seppälä (FI)

Participants: CSPD/BSR members: Ms. Josiane Meier (DE), Mr. Jens Kurnol (DE), Mr. Tiit Oidjärv (EE), Ms. Tiina Tihlman (FI), Mr. Timo Turunen (FI), Ms. Algimante Treiniene (LT), Mr. Edvardas Minkevičius (LT), Ms. Anita Līvija Rozenvalde (LV), Ms. Patrycja Artymowska (PL), Ms. Kinga Stańczuk-Olejniki (PL), *invited guests:* Mr. Uģis Zanders (Council of the Baltic Sea States Secretariat), *VASAB Secretariat:* Ms. Alda Nikodemusa, Ms. Egija Stapkēviča, Ms. Jana Patmalniece and Ms. Margarita Vološina.

DECISIONS and OUTPUTS

1. The CSPD/BSR (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) adopted the Report of 90th CSPD/BSR online meeting on 24 November 2023 without changes.
2. The Committee adopted the Summary of 90th CSPD/BSR online meeting on 24 November 2023 without changes.
3. The Committee took note of the Report of the VASAB Open Troika online meeting on 22 February 2024.
4. The Committee took note of information on the outcomes of VASAB webinar on spatial resilience and spatial planning on 29 February 2024.
5. The Committee took note of information on the outcomes of seminar ‘Challenges of changing circumstances in Eastern Finland for regional development and spatial planning’ on 13 March 2024 in Koli, Finland.
6. The Committee took note of the information about news and major challenges regarding national spatial planning issues.
7. The Committee was reminded that all VASAB member countries should regularly update the Country fiche on terrestrial spatial planning and send to Secretariat to publish on VASAB website.
8. The Committee took note of the information on a new project application ‘Land-based spatial planners forum’ which was prepared by VASAB Secretariat in cooperation with the project partnership and submitted on 15 February 2024 by lead partner Nordregio to Swedish Institute Baltic Sea Neighbourhood Programme funding with an overall aim to establish ‘Planners Forum’ – a cooperation/support platform for land-based spatial planners of all governance levels to strengthen territorial cohesion in the Baltic Sea Region.
9. The Committee took note of the information on a new project application ‘Northern European Sea Basins project’ which was submitted on 26 February 2024 by lead partner Netherlands Enterprise Agency to European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund call, and which is a continuation of the ‘eMSP NBSR’ project together with the Greater North Sea Basin Initiative.

10. The Committee discussed how to proceed with the development of the Implementation Plan of VASAB Vision 2040 and agreed that a short-term work plan/application plan proposal should be developed for 2 years (2025-2026) by VASAB Secretariat together with Mr. Tiit Oidjärv and Ms. Tiina Tihlman until the next Committee meeting. The Plan should go hand in hand with PA 'Spatial Planning' work plan which already includes huge part of activities which should be included also in a work plan/application plan of the Vision. The Plan should start with ongoing/regular activities/outcomes, actions should be prioritised, as well as the Plan should include actions which are not currently covered in the Vision (security, defence, resilience).
11. The Committee took note of the information about EUSBSR Policy area 'Spatial Planning' news and activities, technical assistance project 'PASPS' and update of EUSBSR Action Plan.
12. The Committee took note of the information about EUSBSR Annual Forum which will be held on 30-31 October 2024 in Visby, Sweden and approved workshop on liveable cities which VASAB will organise together with UBC and present VASAB Vision 2040.
13. The Committee took note of the information about the upcoming informal consultation session of the Joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group to be held on 19-21 March 2024 in Gothenburg, Sweden.
14. The Committee took note of the information about the workshop on Baltic MSP Roadmap assessment held on 26 February 2024 online.
15. The Committee took note of the information about the outcomes of 4th informal consultation session of the BSR MSP Data Expert Sub-group online meeting held on 27 February 2024.
16. The Committee took note of the information about the upcoming 4th MSP Planners' Forum within 'PASPS' project to be held online on 18 April 2024 and hosted by VASAB Secretariat.
17. The Committee took note of the information about the progress of project 'Baltic Sea2Land'.
18. The Committee took note of the information about the progress of project 'eMSP NBSR' (Emerging Ecosystem-based Maritime Spatial Planning Topics in North and Baltic Sea Regions), its final results and final conference which was held on 31 January - 1 February 2024 in Gdansk (Poland).
19. The Committee took note of the information that 'eMSP NBSR' project has received extension until 30 June 2024 with the main aim to disseminate the results of the project.
20. The Committee took note of the information on VASAB Secretariat role in a new project application 'Northern European Sea Basins project' in which VASAB Secretariat will co-lead work package on Ocean governance and lead work package on Project communication.
21. The Committee took note of the information about VASAB Income and Expenditure 2023 and preliminary VASAB Income and Expenditure 2024.
22. The Committee appointed Ms. Egija Stapkēviča as Deputy Head of VASAB Secretariat.
23. The Committee took note of the information about operations of the VASAB Secretariat.
24. The Committee took note of the information about potential Estonian VASAB chairmanship priorities and plans.
25. The Committee agreed to hold 92nd CSPD/BSR meeting online on 11 June 2024 at 13:00 CET / 14:00 EET.