

#014 BRISK  
7th Meeting  
Riga, Latvia, 6-7 September 2011

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## Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> BRISK/BRISK-RU Meeting 6-7 September 2011 Riga, Latvia

### Introduction

0.1 The Seventh meeting of the Project on Sub-regional risk of spill of oil and hazardous substances in the Baltic Sea (BRISK/BRISK-RU) was held in Riga, Latvia from 6 to 7 September 2011.

0.2 The Meeting was hosted by the Marine and Inland Waters Administration of State Environmental Service of Latvia, BRISK Project Partner 6. All BRISK and BRISK-RU Project Partners were represented at the Meeting. The list of Participants is included in **Annex 1**.

0.3 Mr. Peter Soeberg Poulsen, Project Manager of BRISK acted as Chairman of the Meeting, Ms. Evija Smite, representative of Project Partner 6 acted as Secretary of the Meeting.

0.4 The aim of the Meeting was to discuss:

- Further results of the risk analysis;
- Investment plans;
- The status and development of the sub-regional agreements;
- Financial issues;
- Information and communication issues;
- Next meetings and other issues.

### Agenda Item 1

#### Opening

1.1 The Meeting was opened and chaired by Mr. Peter Soeberg Poulsen, Project Manager of BRISK. Welcome words were expressed by Mr. Rolands Bebris, Deputy Director of Environmental Protection Department of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia. In his welcome words he stressed the importance of the commitments of the Project and the expected outcomes that will be valuable to evaluate and ensure adequate response capacity in the Baltic Sea and reduce oil spill risk.

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## **Agenda Item 2                      Approval of the Agenda**

2.1    The Meeting adopted the Agenda. **Annex 2.**

## **Agenda Item 3                      Further results of the risk analysis**

3.1    The Meeting took note of the presentation by Mr. Carsten Jurgensen, Project Consultant, COWI on the results of risk assessment on oil impact and damage, the work on modeling of the effects of the response scenarios on the risks as well as updated maps on environmental sensitivity (**Presentation 1 and 2**).

3.2    The Meeting took note of the view by Russia that risk reducing measures considered in the presentations have not any effects on oil spill response capacity, as such measures just effect on likelihood of oil spill but not on the size of it. Russia further commented that the main aim of BRISK/BRISK-RU is to assist Baltic Sea countries to have adequate oil spill response capacity. Response capacity is determined by size of potential oil spill. The Russian partner further expressed the view that the approach proposed in the presentations has deviations from the provisions of BSAP and announced aims of BRISK, and an opinion that, the assessment of efficiency of risk reduction measures requires more detailed and in depth investigations. The Meeting took note of the clarification by COWI that risk reducing measures have been included in the risk assessment as discussed by the HELCOM Meeting of Experts on Maritime Safety, 22 February 2011, Malmö, Sweden.

3.3    The Meeting discussed the possibilities and the need for having the risk reducing scenarios further discussed by relevant national experts and concluded that as the next Meeting of the Maritime Group is only in mid-November, the draft report with the details should be distributed to MARITIME contacts via correspondence.

3.4    The Meeting agreed that each sub-regional group should discuss and agree on spill size that the countries should be ready to respond to, identify the most suited measures to decrease the risk and prepare investment plans accordingly.

3.5    The Meeting took note of the comments by some partners that the real recovery rate in the Baltic Sea is much higher than it is calculated in the Project (about 10% for spills over 5000 t), possibly as e.g. only government owned oil spill recovery resources in the countries were taken in to consideration. In reality resources of private oil companies would also be engaged, however in national territorial waters and economic zone only. Such situation is, for instance, very common for Russia. The Meeting recognized that for further work in sub-regional groups there is needed more detailed information and explanation on calculations of recovery and recovery rate as well as other outcomes of the risk assessment made by COWI in order to plan appropriate

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response capacity in each sub-region. The Meeting took note that such information will be provided in written form by the Consultant, COWI.

#### **Agenda Item 4                      Investment plans**

4.1 The Meeting invited the lead countries of sub-regions to arrange meetings of sub-regional groups **in the beginning of October** to discuss the risks, gaps and optimization of response capacity in each sub-region.

4.2 The Meeting took note that the common framework for the sub-regional meetings, including the aims, background information and expected outputs will be prepared and distributed by the Project Manager.

#### **Agenda Item 5                      Agreements**

5.1 The Meeting took note of the information on the ongoing work regarding response agreements:

- Bilateral response agreement between Poland and Russia has been signed on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2010, covering the south-eastern part of the Baltic Sea. The contingency plan under this agreement will be ready within three months.
- Bilateral agreement between Lithuania and Russia on joint actions to prevent pollution of the Baltic Sea by oil and hazardous substances has been signed in October 2009. Under the agreement a joint contingency plan will be developed.
- The draft agreement between Poland and Germany has been approved by Poland and submitted to Germany. The SWEDENGER plan will be extended as soon as the agreement between Poland and Germany (POLGER) plan will be concluded.
- Sweden, Estonia and Latvia had a sub-regional meeting in Karlskrona on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2011 and discussed the updating of the draft of SWEESTLAT plan. Comments have been compiled and changes made. The next meeting to discuss and finalize the draft plan is planned in Karlskrona in the beginning of October.
- New bilateral response agreement between Estonia and Latvia, including also oiled wildlife and shoreline response, is being prepared by Estonia. Currently the draft agreement is under consideration in Estonia and awaiting feedback from the Estonian Ministry of Interior.

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## Agenda Item 6 Financial Issues

6.1 The Meeting took note of the presentation by Mr. Carsten Jurgensen, COWI on the new re-allocated budgets of the Project Partners. All Partners except of one have filled in the table on budget re-allocation. Those who not yet filled the table are requested to do it **until 9 September 2011**.

6.2 The Meeting took note that all major budget changes (exceeding 20% of total partner's budget) and all major re-allocation actions are to be explained and justified. Justification should be sent to Carsten Jurgensen by e-mail. Budget re-allocation further will be sent to JTS Secretariat for approval.

6.3 The Meeting urged the Project Partners to submit Project progress reports on time and observe the deadlines.

## Agenda Item 7 Information and communication

7.1 The Meeting took note of the information by the HELCOM Secretariat on information and communication activities where BRISK/BRISK-RU projects have been actively presented in different international organizations, such as EU, EMSA, the Black Sea Commission, Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference etc., and events, as European Maritime Day in Gdansk in May 2011, Baltic Sea Day in St.Petersburg in March 2011 and World Maritime university/International Maritime Organization Conference in early 2011, and has raised a big interest. The Partners are invited to inform more about the Project locally in their countries.

7.2 The Meeting requested Project Partners to submit suggestions for BRISK/BRISK-RU Final conference to be held on 8 December 2011 on organizations, persons and speakers to be invited. Preliminary agenda of the Conference will be prepared by the HELCOM Secretariat.

7.3 The Meeting discussed the content and form of BRISK/BRISK-RU newsletter to be prepared by the HELCOM Secretariat, pending financial resources available and Executive summary of the Project that will be prepared by the Lead Partner and Project Consultant, COWI with Partners participation.

7.4 The Meeting discussed the necessity for common interpretation and understanding of project results and outcomes that should be discussed and agreed among the Project Partners before the Final Conference and publishing material. The Meeting agreed on the need of a Project Partners meeting before the Final Conference.

7.5 The Meeting took note of the presentation by the HELCOM Secretariat on the transfer of BRISK/BRISK-RU GIS data to the HELCOM map and data service, to

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enable display the data related to the risk assessment in GIS format for future use and downloading by the project partners and other interested users (**Presentation 3**).

7.6 The Meeting requested the Project Partners to inform the HELCOM Secretariat, following an enquiry by the Secretariat, on the status of the Project data – copy right and restrictions in order to decide about data displaying for public access.

7.7 Sweden informed that all data provided for the Project by Sweden have no restrictions for public use.

7.8 The Meeting decided to present BRISK/BRISK-RU project results to the HELCOM Response 14/2011 meeting that will be held on 13-15 September 2011 in Helsinki.

#### **Agenda Item 8 Other Issues**

8.1 Project Partners checked and updated the contact addresses of BRISK and BRISK-RU projects.

8.2 The Meeting took note of the information that similar project to BRISK just in a smaller scale will be carried out also in Bonn Agreement area including risk modeling, assessment and analyzing. The project will be carried out within 2 years.

8.3 The Meeting thanked Latvia for excellent organization of the meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 9 Next meetings and closing the Meeting**

9.1 The Meeting decided to hold the next Project Partners meeting on **21-22 November 2011 in Copenhagen, Denmark**.

All presentations are available at the HELCOM Meeting portal:

[http://meeting.helcom.fi/web/response/1?  
p\\_p\\_id=110\\_INSTANCE\\_PhRq&p\\_p\\_action=0&p\\_p\\_state=normal&p\\_p\\_mode=view&p\\_p\\_col\\_id=column-  
2&p\\_p\\_col\\_pos=2&p\\_p\\_col\\_count=3&110\\_INSTANCE\\_PhRq\\_struts\\_action=  
%2Fdocument\\_library\\_display%2Fview&110\\_INSTANCE\\_PhRq\\_folderId=1551746](http://meeting.helcom.fi/web/response/1?p_p_id=110_INSTANCE_PhRq&p_p_action=0&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_col_id=column-2&p_p_col_pos=2&p_p_col_count=3&110_INSTANCE_PhRq_struts_action=%2Fdocument_library_display%2Fview&110_INSTANCE_PhRq_folderId=1551746)

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## ANNEX 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS		
<b>DENMARK</b>		
Mr. Peter Soeberg Poulsen Project Manager	Admiral Danish Fleet HQ National Operations Maritime Environment P.O. Box 1483 Soedalsparken 20 DK-8220 Brabrand	Dir.Phone: +45 89433405 Fax: +45 89433427 <a href="mailto:pol.con.den@sok.dk">Email: pol.con.den@sok.dk</a>
Ms. Inge Nedergaard	Admiral Danish Fleet HQ National Operations Maritime Environment P.O. Box 1483 DK-8220 Brabrand	Dir.Phone: +45 89433136 Fax: +45 89433141 <a href="mailto:sealift@sok.dk">Email: sealift@sok.dk</a>
Mr. Alex Jensen	Admiral Danish Fleet HQ National Operations Maritime Environment P.O. Box 1483 Soedalsparken 20 DK-8220 Brabrand	Office: +45 89 43 34 05 Mobile: +45 89 43 34 77 <a href="mailto:pol.con.den@sok.dk">Email: pol.con.den@sok.dk</a>
<b>ESTONIA</b>		
Mr. Mart Käbin	Police- and Border Guard Board Pärnu mnt 139/1 EE-15183 Tallinn	Dir.Phone: +372 6149174 Fax: +372 6149016 <a href="mailto:mart.kabin@politsei.ee">Email: mart.kabin@politsei.ee</a>
<b>FINLAND</b>		
Ms. Meri Hietala	Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) Marine Research Centre Marine Pollution Response Unit P.O. Box 140 FI-00251 Helsinki	Dir.Phone: +358 40 534 1960 Fax: +358 95490 2478 <a href="mailto:meri.hietala@ymparisto.fi">Email: meri.hietala@ymparisto.fi</a>
<b>GERMANY</b>		
Mr. Michael Akkermann	Central Command for Maritime Emergencies (CCME) Maritime Pollution Control/High Sea Section Am Alten Hafen 2 D-27472 Cuxhaven	Dir.Phone: +49 4721 567 481 Fax: +49 4721 567 490 <a href="mailto:MAkkermann@havariekommando.de">Email: MAkkermann@havariekommando.de</a>
Ms. Birgit Bohme	Central Command for Maritime Emergencies (CCME) Maritime Pollution Control/ Inshore Section Am Alten Hafen 2 D-27472 Cuxhaven	Dir. phone : +49 4721 567 232 Fax : +49 4721 567 365 <a href="mailto:bboehme@havariekommando.de">Email: bboehme@havariekommando.de</a>

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<b>LATVIA</b>		
Ms. Evija Smite	Marine and Inland Waters Administration State Environmental Service Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development Voleru Street 2 LV-1007 Riga	Dir.Phone: +371 67408169 Fax: +371 67465888 <a href="mailto:evija.smite@jiup.vvd.gov.lv">Email: evija.smite@jiup.vvd.gov.lv</a>
Ms. Laura Mazmaca	Marine and Inland Waters Administration State Environmental Service Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development Voleru Street 2 LV-1007 Riga	Dir phone : +371 67 408 164 Fax: +371 67 465 888 <a href="mailto:laura.mazmaca@jiup.vvd.gov.lv">Email: laura.mazmaca@jiup.vvd.gov.lv</a>
Mr. Juris Skrube	Marine and Inland Waters Administration State Environmental Service Ministry Environmental Protection and Regional Development Voleru Street 2 LV-1007 Riga	Dir phone : +371 67 408 166 Fax: +371 67 465 888 <a href="mailto:juris.skrube@jiup.vvd.gov.lv">Email: juris.skrube@jiup.vvd.gov.lv</a>
Mr. Ojars Gerke	Latvian Coast Guard Service Meldru str. 5a LV-1015 Riga	Dir phone : +371 67 082063 Fax: +371 67 320100 <a href="mailto:ojars@mrcj.lv">Email: ojars@mrcj.lv</a>
Mr. Rolands Bebris	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development Department of Environmental Protection Peldu street 25, Riga, LV-1494	Dir phone :+371 67026501 Fax: +371 67820442 <a href="mailto:rolands.bebris@varam.gov.lv">Email: rolands.bebris@varam.gov.lv</a>
<b>LITHUANIA</b>		
Mr. Nerijus Blazauskas	Klaipeda University Coastal Research and Planning Institute H. Manto 84 LT-92294 Klaipeda	Phone: +370 46 398838 Fax: +370 46 398845 <a href="mailto:nb@corpi.ku.lt">Email: nb@corpi.ku.lt</a>
Mr Valdas Langas	Klaipeda University Coastal Research and Planning Institute H. Manto 84 LT-92294 Klaipeda	Phone: +370 46 398838 Fax: +370 46 398845 <a href="mailto:vlangas@hotmail.com">Email: vlangas@hotmail.com</a>



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POLAND		
Ms. Agnieszka Peksyk	Maritime Institute in Gdansk Dlugi Targ 41-42 PL-80 830 Gdansk	Dir. Phone +48 58 301 1641 Fax: +48 58 301 35 13 <a href="mailto:apekisyk@im.gda.pl">Email: apekisyk@im.gda.pl</a>
Mr. Marek Reszko	Maritime Institute in Gdansk Dlugi Targ 41-42 PL-80 830 Gdansk	Dir. Phone +48 58 301 87 24 Fax : +48 58 320 32 63 <a href="mailto:marek.reszko@sar.gov.pl">Email: marek.reszko@sar.gov.pl</a>
Mr. Wojciech Wasowski	Maritime Office in Gdynia Marine Environment Protection Inspectorate Chrzanowskiego 10 Str. PL-81 338 Gdynia	Dir. Phone: ++48 58 3553347, mobile +48 663885504 Fax: +48 586206743 <a href="mailto:wojciech.wasowski@umgdy.gov.pl">Email: wojciech.wasowski@umgdy.gov.pl</a>
RUSSIA		
Mr. Arne Grove	Nordic Council of Ministers Information office in Kaliningrad Chernyahovskogo St. 6 Office 116 RU-236040 Kaliningrad	Dir. Phone: +7 (4012) 61 69 72; +7 (4012) 61 69 95 Fax: +7 4012 61 69 73 <a href="mailto:agr@norden.org">Email: agr@norden.org</a>
Ms. Christina Parkhomenko	Nordic Council of Ministers Information office in Kaliningrad Chernyakhovskogo St. 6 Office 116 RU-236040 Kaliningrad	Dir. Phone: +7 4012 61 69 72; +7 (4012) 61 69 95 Fax: +7 61 69 73 <a href="mailto:cp@norden39.ru">Email: cp@norden39.ru</a>
Mr. Alexey Ivanchin	Central Marine Research and Design Institute (CNIIMF) Ltd. Kavalergardskaya str. 6 RU-191015 St. Petersburg	Dir. Phone: +7 812 271-10-15 Fax: +7 8122743864 <a href="mailto:ivanchin@cniimf.ru">Email: ivanchin@cniimf.ru</a>
Mr. Gennady Semanov	Central Marine Research and Design Institute Kavalergardskaya Str. 6 RU-191 015 St. Petersburg	Dir. Phone: +7 8122711015 Fax: +7 8122743864 <a href="mailto:semanov@cniimf.ru">Email: semanov@cniimf.ru</a>
Ms. Natalia Kutaeva	State Marine Pollution Control, Salvage and Rescue Administration of the Russian Federation (SMPCSA) 3/6, Petrovka St., Moscow, 125993	Phone : +7 (495)626 18 06 Fax.: +7 (495) 626 18 0 9 <a href="mailto:kutaevang@smpcsar.ru">Email:kutaevang@smpcsar.ru</a>
Mr. Vladimir Poliakov	Baltic BASU Baltic Salvage & Towage Co. 1, Elevatornaya Square 198096, Saint Petersburg Russian Federation	Phone: +78127840220 Fax.: +78127840755 <a href="mailto:FLOT@BUKSIR.RU">Email:FLOT@BUKSIR.RU</a>



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<b>SWEDEN</b>		
Mr. Alexander von Buxhoeveden	Swedish Coast Guard HQ Stumholmen P.O. Box 536 SE-371 23 Karlskrona	Dir.Phone: +46 455 35 34 56 Fax: +46 45510521 <a href="mailto:Alexander.von.buxhoeveden@coastguard.se">Email: Alexander.von.buxhoeveden@coastguard.se</a>
Ms. Else Timms	Swedish Coast Guard HQ Stumholmen P.O. Box 536 SE-371 23 Karlskrona	Dir.Phone: + 46 455 35 35 57 Fax: +46 45510521 <a href="mailto:else.timms@kustbevakningen.se">Email: else.timms@kustbevakningen.se</a>
<b>HELCOM SECRETARIAT</b>		
Ms. Monika Stankiewicz Professional Secretary	Helsinki Commission Katajanokanlaituri 6 B FI-00160 Helsinki	Dir.Phone: +358 40 840 2471 Fax: +358 207 412 645 <a href="mailto:monika.stankiewicz@helcom.fi">Email: monika.stankiewicz@helcom.fi</a>
<b>CONSULTANTS</b>		
Mr. Carsten Jurgensen	COW! A/S Parallelvej 2 DK-2800 Kongens Lyngby	Dir.Phone: +45 459 71322 Fax: +45 45972212 <a href="mailto:crj@cowi.dk">Email: crj@cowi.dk</a>
Mr. Albrecht Lentz	COW! A/S Parallelvej 2 DK-2800 Kongens Lyngby	Dir.Phone: +45 4597 1259 Fax: +45 45972212 <a href="mailto:abl@cowi.dk">Email: abl@cowi.dk</a>

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## ANNEX 2

### Agenda for the Seventh Meeting of the BRISK Project

6-7 September 2011, Riga, Latvia

#### Day 1

10:00-12:00	Coffee
	1. Opening
	2. Approval of the Agenda
	3. Further results of the risk analysis
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:00-15:00	3. Further results of the risk analysis – continuation
	4. Investment programmes
15:00-15:30	Coffee break
15:30-16:30	5. Agreements
18:00	Dinner

#### Day 2

9:00-10:00	6. Financial issues
	7. Information and communication
10:00-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-12:00	8. Other issues
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:00-14:00	9. Next meetings and closing of the meeting