

# Wadden Sea Board

## WSB 28

14 March 2019  
Berlin, Germany



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<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>5.1 World Heritage</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	TG-WH Progress Report
<b>Document No.:</b>	WSB 28/5.1/1
<b>Date:</b>	20 February 2019
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>TG-WH Chair</b>

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Attached is the progress report from the TG-WH 26 meeting.

**Proposal:** The meeting is invited to approve the report

## Progress Report TG-WH

The TG-WH met in Bremen on 31 January – 1 February 2018 and discussed

- the preparation of the **Single Integrated Management Plan** (see document WSB 28/5.1/2),
- the development of a **Climate Vulnerability Index** (see document WSB 28/5.4/1), and
- the joint paper by TG-MM and TG-WH on the **Trilateral Research Agenda** (see document WSB 28.7/1).

### 1. State of Conservation requests

#### 1.1 “MSC Zoe” and “Glory Amsterdam” incidents

On 11 January 2019, the World Heritage Centre (WHC) submitted a request on the State of conservation of the Wadden Sea to the States Parties of The Netherlands and Germany concerning the spill of containers from the cargo vessel “MSC Zoe” near the Dutch and Lower Saxon Wadden Sea islands and to Germany regarding updates on the grounding of the vessel “Glory Amsterdam.

As for previous cases, TG-WH agreed that The Netherlands, together with Germany, will prepare a draft answer on the “MSC Zoe” compiling the available information, and that Germany will prepare a separated draft answer on updates regarding the “Glory Amsterdam”.

The competent authorities in the countries as well as DenGerNeth will be involved.

Both draft answers will be circulated within TG-WH for comments by mid of March 2019 before it will be submitted by The Netherlands, respectively Germany, to the WH Centre.

**Proposal: WSB is invited to note the approach.**

#### 1.2 Decrease of houting population in Denmark

The State of conservation request by WHC regarding the population status of the houting has been answered by Denmark on 23 October 2018 pointing out that Denmark has conducted an extensive restoration project for houting from 2005 to 2013, and that the management of the houting is currently being revised and the need for new actions are considered. In addition, TG-WH was informed by Denmark that a new three-year monitoring programme has started in 2018 to better understand causes of the decrease of the houting population probably due to higher predation pressure (increase of cormorant, grey seal and harbour seal populations).

**Proposal: WSB is invited to note the information**

#### 1.3 Esbjerg harbour extension plans

Regarding the planning for the extension of Esbjerg harbour, Denmark informed WHC on 15 October 2018 that the authority statement on scoping has been concluded and provided the

scoping text which contains the items relating to the World Heritage. With letter of 22 January 2019, WHC provided Denmark with comments by IUCN on the scoping documents and requested Denmark to ensure that there is a clear assessment of the developments in line with the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, including its conditions of integrity, and referred to the IUCN's "World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment" in undertaking the EIA.

TG-WH regarded the existing regulations on the national level, including the protected areas belonging to the Natura 2000 network, as a substantial framework of the EIA and that another instrument would not be required. Instead, TG-WH suggested that in the EIA, the linkage to OUV should be enhanced and referred to how the existing regulations reflect it. TG-WH suggested that Denmark would prepare a draft answer for comments by TG-WH before it will be officially submitted to WHC.

**Proposal: WSB is invited to note the approach**

### **3. World Heritage Strategy and Road Map**

#### **3.1 World Heritage Logo**

TG-WH took note of an overview on the use of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Logo in 2018 and thanked the Logo Focal Points for their work. Compared to 2017, the number of users in category 1 increased from 350 to 534 (user according Logo Guideline Annex 1, non-commercial), mainly because of an increase of national park partners in Germany, in category 2 (other users, non-commercial) from 14 – 17, and in category 3 (commercial use with licence agreement) from 5 to 8. The TG-WH agreed that this overview is useful and wishes to convey its thanks to the focal points for their work.

With regard to an application to use the logo for a documentary movie "Silence of the Tides", TG-WH agreed that the film as such is generally much welcomed and presents a good opportunity to raise awareness for the Wadden Sea. TH-WH decided to postpone the decision to grant the logo after the movie has been finalized, in order to be able judge whether the concerns raised by several members of the TG-WJ have been fully addressed.

**Proposal: WSB is invited to note the information**

#### **3.2 10th Anniversary Wadden Sea World Heritage inscription**

TG-WH acknowledged the progress in preparing the anniversary tour and final event in Wilhelmshaven on 30 June 2019. It was suggested inviting high level representatives from all three states to present a statement or a vision for the future of the Wadden Sea World Heritage. The high event should be organized by CWSS and Lower Saxon as Minister Lies has offered his patronage for the event. TG-WH also suggested inviting the UNESCO division at the German Foreign Office.

**Proposal: WSB is invited to endorse the approach**

### **3.3 Marine Litter**

TG-WH took note of the draft results of the workshop on “Marine Litter in World Heritage Sites” (Norderney 14 – 16 November 2018) and the announcement of CWSS that the final version of survey on marine litter in WH sites and the workshop report will be distributed by end of February 2019.

**Proposal: WSB is invited to note the information**