



UNION OF THE BALTIC CITIES
69TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
Tampere, Finland, 18 March 2014

AGENDA draft 03.03.2014

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of two persons who, together with the President, will check the minutes.
3. Presentation of the City of Tampere.
4. Task Force on youth employment and well-being, info about 1st meeting on 17 March 2014, plan of work.

Task Force on youth employment and well-being shall work until the next General Conference in Gdynia in 2015. Its work is based on the UBC General Conference in Mariehamn resolution establishing an international Task Force on youth employment and well-being. The resolution is attached.

5. Consolidation process of the UBC Commissions, discussion with the leaders of the Commissions.

The General Conference in Mariehamn, 2-3 October 2013, mandated the Executive Board of UBC to actively continue dialogue on the structure and content of the UBC Commissions and obliged the Executive Board to reach a decision on the issue during the year 2014, so that starting from 1.1. 2015 the UBC shall have between five to seven Commissions which start to be operative from that date. The old Commission structure ceases to be in force on the same date. The GC resolution is attached.

Recommendation:

To establish a task force to propose the new division of commissions at the Board meeting in autumn 2014.

6. UBC and the EU Baltic Sea Region Strategy.
 - possibilities with multi level governance, 1st Vice-President Marie-Louise Rönmark
 - update on EUSBSR implementation and the new Baltic Sea Region programme, Strategy Coordinator

As part of the European Union's new funding period (2014-2020), the Baltic Sea Region programme is being currently finalized. The public consultation on the Draft Version has been opened and will be open until 28 March 2014.

The Baltic Sea Region Programme covers eleven countries, eight of them EU Member States and three partner countries (Belarus, Norway, Russia). The Programme has been interlinked with the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and also, where applicable, the Russian North-West Strategy.



As UBC Member cities are key stakeholders in the Baltic Sea cooperation, and as the Baltic Sea Region Programme is central for funding of our future projects, it is of greatest importance that the UBC and its Member Cities and Commissions, both jointly and on their own send their comments concerning the Draft Version, which one can reach through the website:

http://www.eu.baltic.net/Public_consultation_give_your_comments_to_the_Operational_Programme_2014_2020_and_the_Environmental_Report.29098.html

The President encouraged member cities to

- send their own comments on the Draft Programme to the authorities concerned; and
- send their comments and views to the Secretariat at info@ubc.net by 5 March 2014

7. Report: Men and Women in the UBC, Gender Commission, Linda Gustafsson and Charlotte Lundkvist.

8. Information from Strategy Coordinator.

- Information on BSR Urban Forum for Smart Cities project (BUF) - update

As the cities are playing a crucial role in the Baltic Sea Region development, UBC Board has, together with the Baltic Development Forum (BDF) and the City of Turku taken the initiative to prepare a concept for a “Baltic Sea Region Urban Forum for Smart Cities”.

For this, we have received approval and financial support by the Seed Money Facility of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

Baltic Urban Forum concept was launched at the UBC General Conference in Mariehamn and ideas as well as initial concepts were discussed in the initiative group workshop on 19-20 January 2014 in Tartu, Estonia.

Currently the initiative group is developing and focusing the concept of the Baltic Urban Forum.

The Baltic Urban Forum concept plan will be presented and further developed in Riga, Latvia on 23 April 2014, just before the Energy Cities Annual Conference (23-25 April 2014) in Riga. UBC Member Cities and representatives are invited to participate in both events.

As the Baltic Urban Forum will play key role in the Baltic Sea Region development in the next decade, we hope that member cities, but also interested businesses or citizens organizations can use this excellent opportunity to provide input to the concept.

The workshop will take place in the premises of the Riga City Council, Ratslaukums st. 1, on 23 April 2014 between 11-16.

More about the Baltic Urban Forum concept development at: <http://smartcitylab.eu/buf/>

More information about Energy Cities Annual Conference at riga2014.energy-cities.eu
UBC member cities will get 20% fee reduction for the Energy Cities Annual Conference.

- EUSBSR Annual Forum and BDF Summit in Turku, 3-4 June 2014



9. Report on UBC activities within CECICN in the period 2013-2014. The report is attached.

Recommendation:

The Executive Board takes the report to knowledge.

10. Implementation of the recommendations of the UBC Task Force on development, working methods.

UBC internal regulations – proposals from the task force.

The Task Force report including proposals is attached.

11. Energy Cities proposal on cross membership with UBC.

Proposal from Energy Cities on cross membership with UBC is attached.

Recommendation:

The Board decided to accept Energy Cities proposal on cross membership and expressed hope for mutually beneficial cooperation between both organisations.

12. Financial report and budget.

Funding for Commissions in 2014 - decision of the Presidium.

The Presidium made a decision on Commissions' funding in 2014. The respective amounts are stated in the attachment.

Financial report and budget are attached.

13. Next 70th UBC Executive Board meeting back-to-back to EUSBSR Annual Forum and BDF Summit in Turku, 3-4 June 2014.

14. Proposal from Commission on Business to hold the autumn Executive Board meeting and BizCom meeting in Nice. Proposal is attached.

Recommendation:

1. The UBC Business & Tourism Commission and the General Secretariat are commissioned to organize a joint meeting of the UBC Executive Board and the Commission in Nice, France in autumn 2014.

2. The City of Nice shall be won as host.

3. The meeting shall partly be financed by the budget of the Commission.

15. Any other business.

Application from Dolina Charlotty resort to become UBC supporting member.

Application is attached.

Recommendation:

The Board authorised the Presidium to decide on conditions for Dolina Charlotty resort to become UBC supporting member.

Mentioned above documents are available at:

<http://www.ubc.net/documentation,76,2550.html>