

**UNION OF THE BALTIC CITIES**  
**79<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
Berlin, 15 June 2017

**AGENDA (as of 07.06.2017)**

1. Opening of the meeting by UBC President and adoption of the agenda. Election of two persons who, together with the President, will check the minutes.

Welcome by Hans Dostert, Political Section at the Representation of the European Commission in Germany.

2. UBC involvement in the EUSBSR Annual Forum in Berlin, Youth Conference and Seminar 'Nothing about us without us', 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Marie-Louise Rönnmark and Youthful Cities Commission co-Chair Carsten Adamsen.
3. XIV UBC General Conference in Växjö, 24-27 October 2017.  
"Leadership for the future – Cities as leaders for glocal sustainable development"  
The draft programme proposal is attached.

1. Welcome
2. Confirmed speakers

Per Bødker Andersen, President of UBC  
Bo Frank, Lord Mayor of Växjö  
Paweł Adamowicz, Mayor of Gdańsk  
Gunars Ansins, Deputy Mayor of Liepāja  
Alessandro Cenderello, Managing Partner for EU Institutions, Ernst & Young  
Lena Ek, Senior Advisor, Sustainable Seas Foundation, Former Minister of Environment, Sweden, President of Södra  
Jørgen Kristiansen, Deputy Mayor of Kristiansand  
Karl-Heinz Lambertz, 1st Vice President of the Committee of the Regions  
Jyrki Myllyvirta, Mayor of Lahti  
Pärtel-Peeter Pere, CEO, Future Place Leadership  
Marte Mjøs Persen, Mayor of Bergen  
Wolfgang Röttgers, Councillor, Kiel  
Peter Schenk, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (preliminary confirmation)  
Anne Stenros, Design Director, Helsinki  
Rasa Šnapštienė, Deputy Mayor of Kaunas  
Carina Svensson, Chair of the Environmental Council, Association Chairman of VA SYD, Councillor, City of Malmö  
Alan AtKisson, Author and Senior Sustainability Consultant (moderator)

3. Meetings of the UBC Commissions  
Afternoon 24 October 2017
4. Parallel sessions

1. Communications Workshop.
2. State of the Youth Guarantee in the Baltic Sea Region: Current Situation and a Road Map for the Future. TF on Youth Employment and Well-Being
3. HA Capacity (including training)
4. Glocal developments in the maritime economy: cross-border cooperation. Interreg funding for glocal development in the maritime economy. Interreg South Baltic
5. Interactive meetings with technical experts and specialized civil servants of the city of Växjö.
6. Baltic Water Excellence Forum
7. Sustainable Development Goals in local & regional setting. Euroregion Baltic, CPMR BSC, Karlstad, Växjö. Followed by: Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation. CDP. Sustainable Cities Commission.
8. UBC-BDF Digital Top of Europe.
9. Baltic Sea cities as leaders of comprehensive cooperation between the EU and the Black Sea region. WiseEuropa Institute.
10. Data collection principles for civil protection prevention activities. Together we can. Safe Cities Commission.
11. Baltic Sea organisations (UBC, BSSSC, ERB, CBSS etc) working together on youth issues in the Baltic Sea Region.
12. Gender mainstreaming and the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men at the Local Level. WG on Gender Equality.
13. Culture – key to sustainable leadership. Culturability - cultural planning meets sustainability. Cultural Cities Commission.
14. Euro Velo No 10 cycling route as an opportunity to strengthen the Baltic Sea Region tourism brand, through the cities cooperation. Marshall Office of Pomorskie Voivodship.
15. Urbanization, Mobilities and Immigration as a driver of urbanization in the Baltic Sea Cities. URMI project.

5. Report on UBC activities , President Per Bødker Andersen
6. Status of the implementation of UBC Strategy 2016 – 2021
7. Discussion
8. Auditor's Report

Auditor's Report is attached.

9. Board of Audit Report

Information to the Board:

Board of Audit inspected UBC Secretariat in Gdańsk on 17 May 2017. Board of Audit report is under preparation.

10. Absolving the Presidium, Executive Board, Secretary

11. Membership Fees 2018-2019

Proposal to equalise fees for 'eastern' and 'western' cities. Currently 'eastern' cities have 30% discount.

Expected UBC income from membership fees in 2017: 224 625,00 €

10% rise for 'eastern' cities: 12 765 €

20% rise: 24 270 €

30% rise: 35 775 €

Proposal 1

Raise of 10 % per year in the next three years

Proposal 2

Raise of 10 % per period between General Conferences

12. Executive Board in the next period

Proposal:

Board member cities to consult member cities in each country and submit a candidate to the General Conference

13. President and Vice-Presidents in the next period

14. Board of Audit in the next period

15. Auditor in the next period

So far UBC was audited by the licensed auditing company BILANS from Gdańsk. Price for audit 2015-2016 ca. 880 eur.

16. Venue of the XV UBC General Conference in autumn 2019

Invitation from the City of Kaunas, attached.

4. Proposal to appoint an Executive Board member to each Commission to follow their work.

Cultural Cities – Kaunas

Gender Equality WG – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Marie-Louise Rönmark

Inclusive & Healthy Cities - Gdynia

Planning Cities - Lahti

Safe Cities - Liepāja

Smart & Prospering Cities - Kristiansand

Sustainable Cities – Vice-President Jarkko Virtanen

Youthful Cities - Växjö

\*To be revised after elections at the General Conference in Växjö on 26.10.2017

5. UBC Task Force on Youth Employment and Well-Being: new co-operation and other executed and planned activities of 2017.

UBC TF on Youth Employment and Well-Being has started a cooperation with the EUSBSR Flagship School to Work (S2W). The Flagship aims to strengthen transnational cooperation between stakeholders in the BSR in the field of education and works in order to prevent early school leaving and to develop new support methods for vulnerable groups of students/youth, specifically NEETs and newly arrived refugees.

The Flagship has created a common platform of understanding and learning, and dissemination of different successful methods to deal with the issues around drop outs and NEETs. Moreover, it arranges study visits and workshops, and supports cooperation and creation of the new joint projects. This means that Flagship goals are parallel to the goals set by the UBC Board meeting in Kaunas last year to the Task Force; co-operation within the UBC, joint projects, surveys, workshops and seminars. Cooperation can also support the work of the Task Force on Refugees and Youthful Cities Commission. Coordinator Inta Simanska introduced the flagship at the last Board meeting in Kristiansand.

Activities of Spring 2017:

- BSR Integrate Now, a joint ESF project to support the integration of newly arrived refugees, started in Turku, Stockholm and Malmö on March
- Study visit to Hamburg 27-28.4.
- Workshop in Berlin during the BSR Annual Forum 13.6.
- Flagship kick-off seminar in Stockholm 19.6.
- Planning of other new projects and other forms of co-operation

Planned activities: Fall 2017

- Study visit and workshop in Turku (October)
- Seminar in Tartu (November)
- Workshop in Växjö about Youth Guarantee (proposed)?
- Planning of other new projects and other forms of co-operation
- Dissemination and marketing of Knowledge Platforms (including collection and dissemination of the best practices)

Flagship is coordinated by SALAR (Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions). At the moment there are 57 members from the Baltic Sea Region. UBC TF on Youth Employment and City of Turku's education division coordinate the Knowledge Platforms of Early School Leaving and Newly Arrived Refugees. Knowledge platform's main idea is to support projects and other development work among the main target group, youth at risk of dropping out from education and labour market. Measures are divided under two titles: Support and Development.

6. Proposal from Mayor of Rostock - conference on integration of war refugees.

In March 2016 city of Rostock hosted the UBC Conference *"The Impact of the European Refugees Crisis in the Cities of the Baltic Sea Region"*. The conference discussed the role of municipalities, focused on best practices and analysed the needs, challenges and the chances faced by the cities in connection with the influx of the refugees. How has the integration been progressing for these

two years? The city of Rostock proposes to hold the conference on "*Integration of War Refugees on our Civil Society - Goal, Challenges, Status, Outlook*" on 12-14 March 2018.

7. Proposal how to take care of the new member cities (Rostock)
8. Any questions raised by the Commissions/WG.
9. Information on communications and marketing issues, Communications Manager.
10. Evaluation of UBC by external auditing company KPMG Finland.

At the meeting in Kaunas, 7.06.2016, the Board had a throughout discussion on organization of the UBC work, regulations, procedures and secretariat. The Board stressed that all institutions even well functioning ones, should periodically evaluate its performance, procedures and organization. The Board decided that UBC should ask some external consulting company specialised in management to check procedures within UBC organization whether something could be organised even better than it is now. The President decided to appoint KPMG Finland to perform the evaluation.

11. New issue of Baltic Cities Bulletin.

The new Baltic Cities Bulletin entitled "Sustainable and climate-smart Baltic Sea Region cities" gives the floor to the cities who successfully work with the sustainability and climate change matters. The stories present the ideas, solutions and best practices on how the cities act for more smart, sustainable and safe future, how they are prepared for the challenges that the climate change brings.

The Bulletin is available online

<http://ubc.net/publications> and

[https://issuu.com/unionofthebalticcities/docs/pdfsam\\_merge\\_6595d1c3d6a2d0](https://issuu.com/unionofthebalticcities/docs/pdfsam_merge_6595d1c3d6a2d0)

12. Any other business.
13. Next 80<sup>th</sup> UBC Executive Board meeting.  
To be held during the XIV UBC General Conference in Växjö on 25 October 2017.

The attachments are available here:

<http://ubc.net/document-categories/executive-board-meeting-documents/79th-ubc-executive-board-meeting-berlin-15>