



The Minister for the Environment
Mrs. Karen Elleman
Højbro Plads 4
1200 Copenhagen K

Harlingen/Husum/Copenhagen, 1 March 2010

Your Excellency, dear Mrs. Elleman,

On behalf of the nature NGO's in the Dutch-German-Danish Wadden Sea Region we would like to congratulate you with your recent appointment as Danish Minister for the Environment.

In this capacity you will represent Denmark in the Trilateral Cooperation on the Protection of the Wadden Sea, in which Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands have been working successfully together since 1978 to protect this unique coherent transboundary ecosystem. At the 11th Trilateral Governmental Conference on the Protection of the Wadden Sea, to be held on the island of Sylt from 17-19 March, Denmark will take over the Presidency of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation.

We are looking forward to working with you personally at the Conference and we are confident that the work for the protection of this area of outstanding international importance will continue vigorously under your Presidency.

In particular, we would appreciate Danish initiatives on the following issues:

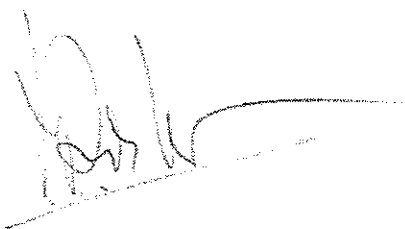
First of all, the completion of the World Heritage Site 'Wadden Sea'. Just a few days ago the state of Hamburg - which within Germany also owns a small part of the Wadden Sea - decided that they now would also like to become part of the World Heritage Site. In this light we urge Denmark to quickly initiate a process aimed at the completion of the World Heritage Site 'Wadden Sea' with the parts owned by Denmark and Hamburg.

Secondly, we would stress the urgency of the operationalisation of the Wadden Sea Plan 2010, to be adopted at the Sylt Conference, notably with regard to adaptation to climate change, shipping safety, estuaries and alien species. In this context attention should also be given to harmonisation efforts of international legislation (EU and IMO) and to promoting Integrated Coastal Zone Management.

Thirdly we assume that Denmark will continue to lead the cooperation in the years to come at the high level of strategic and visionary commitment that has always been expressed by the three governments. As the structure of the cooperation is about to change at the Sylt conference, it is of particular importance to guide the new Wadden Sea Board in such a way that it can fulfil the role given to it.

With a view of further supporting you, we are circulating this letter to the press.

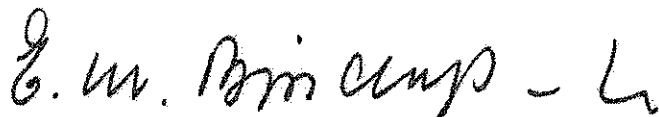
Best regards,



Mr. Herman Verheij, Waddenvereniging
(Nominated Advisor to the Wadden Sea Board)



Dr. Hans-Ulrich Rösner, WWF Deutschland
(Nominated Advisor to the Wadden Sea Board)



Ella Maria Bisschop-Larsen, Danmarks Naturfredningsforening

Also on behalf of:

Marco Brodde, Dansk Ornitologisk Forening – Birdlife Denmark

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**Senior Officials
Meeting
SO 34**

**9-10 February 2010,
Sylt**



Agenda Item: 5.1
Subject: Conference Programme
Document No. SO 34/5/1-1
Date: 25 January 2010
Submitted by: CWSS

Attached is the programme of the Sylt Conference which was endorsed at the last SO-meeting. The chair may wish to provide additional information on the programme.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed to adopt the programme for circulation to the participants to the Conference.

11. Trilateral Governmental Wadden Sea Conference / 1. Council Meeting
Sylt, Germany, 17. – 19.3.2010

Preliminary Conference Programme (23.11.2009)

Wednesday, 17.3.

- 09:00 Opening of the Conference Secretariat
- 09:30 - 13:00 Pre-meetings (SO/HOD)
- 13:00 - 14:00 Lunch SO Delegations
- Until 17:00 Arrival of Ministers
- 17:00 - 17:30 Joint visit of the exhibition
- 17:30 - 18:30 Meeting Ministers with their national delegations
- 19:00 Presentation of the Scientific Symposium film
- Signing Ceremony of the Joint Declaration
- Reception/Invitation by BMU

Thursday, 18.3.

- 09:00 - 09:10 Wadden Sea Impressions with Kids' Voices
- 09:10 - 09:20 Opening of the Conference and Statement by Minister/Chair D
- 09:20 - 09:30 Welcome addresses (5 min each): Mayor Sylt, Minister SH
- 09:30 – Statements of Ministers NL and DK
- 09:50
- 09:50 - 11:00 "A Vision for the Wadden Sea – Steps to Achievement"
- Statements and interactive discussion with ministers
- WSF
 - Green NGO
 - International guests: UNESCO, EU, CBD, Korea
 - Scientist
- 11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break
- 11:30 - 13:00 Council Meeting ("closed session" with separate agenda)
- 13:00 - 14:00 Lunch by Invitation of Schleswig-Holstein
- 14:00 - 14:15 Presentation and Signing of Ministerial Declaration
- Closing of the conference

- 14:15 – Press conference
14:45
15:00 – First Meeting of the Board
15:30
16:00 - 18:30 Visit of „Erlebniszentrum Naturgewalten“
19:00 Dinner by invitation BMU

Friday, 19.3.

Excursion in the Wadden Sea National Park / the World Heritage Site
"A walk through the Wadden Sea Plan"