

ERB Transport working group, Stare Jablonski, Poland 2009-11-04

Participators: Suzanne Svensson, Chairman, Region Blekinge
Witold Kielich Warminsko-Mazurskie
Niels Chresten Andersen Bornholm
Bo Lövgren Region Blekinge
Hans Håkansson Region Blekinge
Wiktor Korselev Kaliningrad region
Peter Ratcovich Region Blekinge

1. Wellcome and presentation

The Chairman Suzanne Svensson welcomed all participants and opened the meeting.

2. The MeWa regional aircraft project.

Middle Pomerania who was the LP for this project idea didn't submit the application to the JTS for the South Baltic programme. Some partners were not interested from SE, Gdynia PL and from ERB secretariat. The main reason was lack of interesting airports with strong connections to other destinations (hubs) within the partnership.

Warminsko-Mazurskie and Bornholm still wants to prepare an application with the objective to strengthen the cooperation between airports around south Baltic.

Kaliningrad announces that they have an old military airfield, which might be interesting in this context. Further Kaliningrad informed about the current state of the Russian airline-KLK's bankruptcy.

The meeting decided to continue planning for an airport project, however, provided that the airports in Gdansk and Palanga is involved. Moreover, the focus of the project must be reformulated so that it clearly shows the benefits for the airports in the ERB region. A meeting will be held in January at Gdansk airport where all interested airports and airlines will be invited.

Participants are responsible for contacting their airlines and airports in respective regions.

It remains an open question on which organization is willing to take on the coordination task for the project. This question needs to be decided at next meeting.

3. On-going TEN-T revision

Hans Håkansson presented the current situation concerning the TEN-T revision. The existing TEN-T paths were decided in 1994. The commission sends out in September a draft of new revised guidelines. Deadline for opportunities to affect the content and submitting comments is set to the beginning of 2011.

How will the framework look like in the future, roads, railways, harbours and in water transports? Green corridors, cross-border cooperation and intermodal systems are key words.

There is no connection between the south east Sweden and the northern triangle. Håkansson described the difficult situation of the Swedish south eastern transport corridors that are not designated as nationally important TEN-T routes despite the two ports designated as “Motorways over the sea” and the strong connection to Lithuania and Poland.

The Meeting decided that a resolution should be developed which contains comments on the TEN-T revision from each region in ERB. Final resolution will be presented at the next ERB board meeting.

For the next meeting of the Transport Working Group, a draft resolution will be sent out to all ERB regions (core group) and give them the opportunity to add their specific comments on the TEN-T revision.

At the next meeting in this transport working group a map over TEN-T in the whole ERB area will be presented.

4. Others

Niels Chresten Andersen Bornholm informed about a visit from Nexö seaport to polish harbours. They are preparing a car ferry. The 8th of December they will get money for business plan and marketing. 2011 probably start this ferry line.

They have also plans for Maritime cluster as a south Baltic project. 4 harbours are involved with the same problems, lack of fish, lack of money and how the climate changes will affect the harbours in the future.

Wiktors Korslev Kaliningrad region informed about the new visa rules that says that foreign guests visiting a Russian port, may request a 72 hour visa on arrival at the port

Visions were presented by Korslev about the harbours and airports in the future.

5. Conclusion of the meeting.

Next meeting in January, date will be sent out later.