



# **EUROREGION BALTIC**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2006 – 2007**



President **Mikhail J. Plukhin**, Minister of Development of Territories and Cooperation with the Municipalities of Kaliningrad Oblast, chaired **the Euroregion Baltic Executive Board** that consisted of four other national representatives:

**Bernth Johnson**, Chairman of Regional Board of Blekinge, Sweden

**Jan Kozłowski**, Marshal of Pomorskie Voivodeship in Poland,

**Raisa Mincinauskiene**, Vice-Governor of Klaipeda County (who replaced Irina Rozova in September 2006)

**Per Ole Petersen**, Member of the Council of Regional Municipality of Bornholm

During the Russian Presidency **Euroregion Baltic Executive Board** met on 2nd June 2006 in Karlskrona, 3rd October 2006 in Karlskrona and 7th January 2007 in Elbląg.

**Euroregion Baltic Council** held its meetings on 30th March 2006 in Kaliningrad and 20th November 2006 in Svetlogorsk.

In 2006 – 2007 **Euroregion Baltic Council** was constituted by 32 members:

#### **Bornholm – Denmark**

1. **Ken Bolmar**, Member of Regional Council on Bornholm
2. **Per Ole Petersen**, Member of Regional Council on Bornholm

#### **Klaipeda – Lithuania**

3. **Vaclovas Dackauskas**, Mayor of Klaipeda District
4. **Arvydas Jakas**, Mayor of Silute District
5. **Dalia Makuskiene**, Chief Officer of Foreign Relations Office in Klaipeda County
6. **Raisa Mincinauskiene**, Vice-Governor of Klaipeda County
7. **Vytautas Rinkievicius**, Governor of Klaipeda County
8. **Rimantas Taraskevicius**, Mayor of City of Klaipeda

#### **Kaliningrad – Russian Federation**

9. **Boris Batalin**, Member of Kaliningrad Region Duma
10. **Alexnader Gregorev**, Association of Municipalities of Kaliningrad Region
11. **Fedor Jaroshevitch**, Head of Baltijsk Municipality
12. **Victor Koshelev**, Deputy Head of Baltijsk Municipal Administration
13. **Alexander Kuznetsov**, Member of Kaliningrad Region Duma
14. **Mikhail Plukhin**, Kaliningrad's Minister of Territorial Development
15. **Juri Rozkov-Jurevski**, Kaliningrad's Representation to Poland
16. **Juri Savenko**, Mayor of Kaliningrad

#### **Association of Polish Communes Euroregion Baltic – Poland**

17. **Zbigniew Karpowicz**, Chair of Association of Polish Communes ERB
18. **Jan Kozłowski**, Marshal of Pomorskie
19. **Piotr Ołowski**, Governor of Pomerania
20. **Henryk Słonina**, Mayor of Elbląg
21. **Jacek Protas**, Marshal of Warmińsko-Mazurskie
22. **Jadwiga Semmerling**, Member of Council of Młynary
23. **Adam Supeł**, Governor of Warmińsko-Mazurskie
24. **Joanna Zielińska**, Member of Council of Gdynia

#### **South-East Sweden**

25. **Anders Åkesson**, Regional Council in Kalmar County
26. **Bo Frank**, Regional Council in Southern Småland
27. **Lillbill Grähs**, Regional Council in Kalmar County
28. **Bernth Johnson**, Chair of Blekinge County Council
29. **Ragnar Lindberg**, Regional Council in Southern Småland
30. **Alexander Wendt**, Region Blekinge
31. **Gert Wollinger**, Regional Council in Kalmar County
32. **Karin Wernersson**, Regional Council in Southern Småland



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Four ERB Presidents (from left to right): Mr Jan Kozłowski (2004 – 2005), Mr Bernth Johnson (2007 – 2008), Ms Irina Rozova (2005 – 2006) and Mr Mikhail Pluhin (2006 – 2007)



Members of the Polish, Russian and Swedish delegation to the Council meeting in Kaliningrad on 30th March 2006 in front of Immanuel Kant's tomb outside the Kaliningrad Cathedral



Employees of the Russian Secretariat of Euroregion Baltic in Baltijsk





***Between 30th March 2006 and 14th March 2007 Euroregion Baltic was under the political leadership of Minister for Development of Territories and Cooperation with the Municipalities of Kaliningrad Oblast, Mr. Mikhail Plukhin***

*With the feeling of pride and great pleasure, between March 2006 and March 2007, I acted as the President of Euroregion Baltic, one of the largest and most effective Euroregions in Europe.*

*At present, Euroregion Baltic comprises the territories of five countries: Denmark, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden, following the withdrawal of the Kurzeme Region last year.*

*Activities within the Euroregion Baltic implemented in the last twelve months have been predomi-*

*nantly based on the ERB Strategy and Join Development Programme, adopted in November 2005. The priorities for the Russian Presidency were outlined and coordinated with the view of these policy documents.*

*The organisation of an international conference entitled "Lithuania and Poland in the Schengen Treaty: Consequences and Perspectives for Euroregional Cooperation between the Kaliningrad Oblast and its Neighbouring Regions" was the major event held in 2006. It was planned and financed within the Seagull II project, and conducted in November 20, 2006 in Svetlogorsk, gathering over 70 regional politicians, representatives of foreign ministries and parliaments.*

*The Seagull II project remained a major project executed within Euroregion Baltic, with its main objective of enhancing the institutional capacities within our organisation still being crucial in the future success of the implementation of the ERB Strategy and Join Development Programme. During the Russian Presidency the project moved forward to come now to its final stage before the end of 2007.*

*Another priority was to establish the Centre for Crossborder and Euroregional cooperation in Baltijsk at the premises of the already existing National Secretariat of the Russian Party in Euroregion Baltic. Presently, the Centre provides consultation and assistance to a large audience of participants of crossborder cooperation in the Kaliningrad Region.*

*Finally, a hockey tournament for the youth teams from Russia and Sweden was organized between 13 and 14 March in Blekinge, Sweden. I do hope this initiative will continue in the future and become a regular yearly winter sports event in Euroregion Baltic.*

*In the last year the ERB Executive Board paid a lot of attention to the preparation of the European territorial cooperation program of the South Baltic Area. Today, we have all the reasons to look into the future of our Euroregion with optimism, considering the opportunities presented by the new EU financial instruments aiming to support of interregional and crossborder cooperation between 2007 and 2013.*

Mikhail Pluhin  
President of Euroregion Baltic

***The implementation of the Joint Development Programme (JDP) will be the greatest challenge for Euroregion Baltic in the years to come. Hence, to assist the implementation effort ERB member regions have since 2005 been implementing the Seagull II project, whose general objective is to improve administrative capacities within the Euroregion and to support to create networks of regional and local authorities, research institutions, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector, all contributing to the implementation of the JDP.***

## **1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SEAGULL II PROJECT IN 2006**

### **1.1 PROJECT REFERENCE NETWORKS**

The Joint Development Programme calls for the establishment of crossborder structures, responsible for the implementation of the prioritised activities. This recommendation constituted the point of departure for the Seagull II project and the establishment of the so-called reference networks, i.e. networks of politicians, civil servants, local and regional institutions, experts and non-governmental organisations centred around each of the specified focus areas and actions. Eight such networks were set up in 2006 to correspond with the themes of SMEs and innovation, rural development, tourism, transport infrastructure, social dimension, water forum, energy forum, and environmental protection in the Kaliningrad Region.

In 2006 we found out that the involvement of the organisations in the reference networks is very much dependent on the political commitment of the regions themselves. Therefore, the project management proposed that the ERB member regions each lead selected reference networks. Such regional patronage secure the Joint Development Programme with long-term political support and provide the regions with more control over its implementation process. Later in the year, the regional coordinators identified experts to lead the work of the networks and establish so-called core groups of four to five people forming project development teams within each network. These core groups include civil servants from the ERB member regions that deal with the issues of the Euroregion Baltic Joint Development Programme.

No	Name of Network	Regional Patron	Regional Coordinator	Expert
1	SMEs & Innovation	Elblag Municipality	Slawomir Demkowicz - Dobrzański	Bertil Eifrérm
2	Rural Development	Regions of Warmińsko – Mazurskie & Bornholm	Niels Chresten Andersen	Mariana Gomez Johannesson
3	Tourism Development	Region of Pomorskie	Kora Stańczyk	Jacek Zdrojewski
4	Transport & Logistics	Region Blekinge	Per Gudmund Lindencrona	Hans Håkansson
5	Social Dimension	Region of Pomorskie	Krystyna Wróblewska	Janusz Gałęziak
6	Water Forum	Region Kalmar	Erik Ciardi	Carolina Gunnars-son
7	Environment Protection	Kaliningrad Region	Yuriy Tsibin	Boris Chubarenko
8	Energy Forum	Region Kronoberg	Ulf Andersson	Hans Gulliksson

### **1.2 ATTENDING INTERNATIONAL FAIRS BY REFERENCE NETWORKS**

Some of the project networks organised their meetings to coincide with international events whose topics related to the main subject of the networks. Two major events of this kind were the following:

#### **1.2.1 TOURISM DEVELOPMENT NETWORK**

Members of the Tourism Development Network participated in the trade fair held in Gdańsk between 7th and 9th April 2006. Apart from giving the ERB regions the possibility to come to Gdańsk and use the space to promote themselves at no participation charge, the project

enabled the tourism reference network members to meet and discuss the prerequisites for co-operation within the tourism area resulting from the ERB Joint Development Programme. The meeting also dealt with the outcome of the Danish-led project (2005) New Visions of Tourism Development in the Baltic Sea.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of the ERB member regions, Local Tourism Organisations from Bornholm, Iława, Olsztyn, Szczytno, Wejherowo and Tourism Development Agency of Pomorskie Region



Euroregion Baltic stand at the Tourism Fair in Gdańsk, 7 – 9 April 2006.

### 1.2.2 NETWORK FOR SMEs AND INNOVATION

On 24 – 25th June the 5th International Trade Fair for Small and Medium Enterprises was organised under the auspices of the President of Elbląg and in cooperation with the local Chamber of Commerce and Industry to accompany the national celebration of the Maritime Festival in Elbląg, Poland. The main focus of the meeting was to identify possibilities of common project ideas that on the one hand would relate to the ERB Joint Development Programme, and on the other implement ideas of interest to the ERB member regions.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of the ERB member regions, Chambers of Commerce and Industry from Bornholm and Elbląg, Regional Development Agency in Olsztyn and Elbląg Investment Company.

### 1.3 STUDY VISITS

The project Steering Committee and Coordination Group made two study visits in 2006 to collect experience in the areas of relevance to the implementation of the Seagull II project and Joint Development Programme.

#### 1.3.1 STUDY VISIT NO 1

Blekinge in Sweden was the region selected for organising the first study visit within the Seagull 2 project, following recommendations by the project reference networks. The members of the Steering Committee and Coordination Group paid two visits: to Telecom City and Blekinge Business Incubator.

Telcom City is one of the greatest IT clusters in telecommunication sector, founded in 1993. Telcom City is a network consisting of a continuously growing number of different members, it is a good example of triple helix cooperation and public – private partnership: Cooperation between the municipality of Karlskrona, Blekinge Institute of Technology and 50 companies with

over 4000 employees (among others: Ericsson, Flextronics, Telia Sonera but also small companies employing less than 10 employees, the smallest one only 5).

Telcom City is run and administered as a municipal project (project management is paid by the municipality). This means that the members of TelcomCity accept that the city handles joint resources according to the rules for the municipal administration and in line with what has been decided by the TelcomCity board of directors. The board (responsible for overall strategic issues) consisting of high level decision makers within the members. Project is co-financed by private companies and the rule is that bigger ones pay more than smaller ones.

Blekinge Business Incubator was established in 2004 from the three formerly existing incubators. Now it is owned by BBI IF (which has its major members from the former incubators Karlskrona Innovation Center, SoftinCubator and Netport), Blekinge Forskningsstiftelse – a science foundation and ALMI business partners in Blekinge. BBI is co-financed by the region and national government.

BBI is an institution which provides guidance and services to newly established businesses and its main objective is to prepare the innovators to become a successful companies. Services provided by BBI consist of three categories: workspace, Business consulting and coaching, addition services (e.g. accounting, a personal IP, computer rental). There is also a possibility to get the seed capital for starting businesses.

### 1.3.2 STUDY VISIT NO 2

Seagull II Steering Committee and Coordination Group had its second study visit also in Blekinge, this time upon the recommendation from the project Work Package 2.

This time, the aim of the visit was to enable the involved partners to familiarise themselves with some experience in constructing statistical databases of regional indicators. The establishment of such a statistical tool is one of the outputs of the project. By means of an unsophisticated system collecting the agreed statistics from the ERB member regions it will be possible to assess progress in the implementation of activities recommended in the ERB Joint Development Programme.

During the Seagull devERB some investigation was made into the election and availability of relevant indicators. At the moment, within the framework of the Seagull II project, these indicators are being adapted in such a way that it will be possible to relate them to the areas prioritised in the Lisbon and Gothenburg Strategies. Some assistance in this work can be sought in the results of the research performed by ESPON – European Spatial Planning Observation Network. In their report from the last year called "In Search for Territorial Potential" innovative methods were proposed to group of indicators in order to receive an aggregated indicator, reflecting a status of the region in terms of its implementation of Lisbon and Gothenburg related objectives, e.g. major economic structures, labour market efficiency, accessibility to main EU transport networks, risk of exposure to natural and man-made disasters, young populations, metropolitan centres, proportion of renewable energy, structural fund expenditure per capita, etc.

During the visit the participants learnt about the technical organisation of such systems. Mr Krister Nilsson from Region Blekinge presented technical capacity of regional banks of statistical data. Functions allowing a comparison of a number of regions and its graphical presentation, either in tables or graphs, seemed most interesting. These facilities will be a necessary part of what the ERB database should be capable of doing.

The members of the Steering Committee also requested important information concerning financial cost of such a database. There are two possibilities: either through institutions like statistical office, paying a yearly subscription fee, or commissioning the construction of such a base on the ERB website and server. In the coming months the Seagull II Work Package Nr 2 will attempt to answer the question which will be a better solution for Euroregion Baltic.

## 2 CULTURAL AND SPORTS COOPERATION

***Culture, education and sports remain important aspects of the cooperation within Euroregion Baltic, relating to the people-to-people collaboration at the local level and constituting the foundation for good socio-economic relations. Here are some examples of the ERB projects of this sort:***



## 2.1 BALTIC YOUTH GAMES

The project "Euroregion Baltic Youth games" came into being in 2004 and referred to the European Commission's initiative "Education through sport". The Municipality of Starogard Gdański was the project's leader and initiator. The main aim of the project was to organise an event involving a number of sports and engaging international partners from the whole Euroregion Baltic area. It was to emphasise the multi-cultural dimension of this undertaking. During the first Games, for the youth between 13 and 15 years of age from Denmark, Lithuania, Russia, Sweden and Poland, the following sport competitions were held: basketball, volleyball, football, athletics, and boxing (for girls and boys).

On the 9 of November 2006 in the Kazimierz Dejna City Stadium in Starogard Gdański, the 2nd Euroregion 'Baltic' Youth Games were formally opened. Although they continued last year's project, they developed into a much more impressive event. This time, 700 competitors from 9 countries (Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Denmark, Poland, Russia and Sweden) participated in the Games. Apart from volleyball, football and basketball two more sports – swimming and handball – were introduced into the agenda. Moreover, for the first time the disabled sportspeople took part in the competition. They competed in table tennis.

The Games were accompanied by various events related to the celebrations of 'Days of Starogard'. On the 9th of June, after the opening ceremony, celebrations began in the city park. Also on the first day of the Games, youths from the city's junior high schools gathered together at the ceremony of Gimnazjada – junior festivity where schools cabarets performed.

## 2.2 FROM THE SEA WE ARE

The 22nd International Competition of Fine Arts for Children and Youth From the Sea We Are attracted 2992 entries, of which 180 qualified to the Main Exhibition at Elbląg Museum of Archaeology and History, and 105 were selected to accompany exhibitions to be held in Poland and around Euroregion Baltic.

Due to the high quality of the submitted works the Jury awarded a collective Grand Prix to the Elementary and Junior High Schools No 24 in Gdańsk, as well as three individual prizes. 48 works of arts received equal awards and 121 more were selected to be displayed at the Main Exhibition.

The young awarded authors and their teachers were invited to the opening of the Main Exhibition held on 20th May 2006 in Elbląg Museum at Sigmund Augustus Boulevard in the Old Town area. The Exhibition was accompanied by the ceremony of presenting awards.

After the ceremony, the winners of the competition awards attended a five-day long workshop in one of the seaside resorts at the Baltic Sea where they could improve their artistic skills by taking part in training in painting, drawing and sketching techniques.

## 2.3 HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

A hockey tournament for the youth teams from Russia and Sweden was organised between 13 and 14 March 2007 in Blekinge, Sweden. The tournament was hosted by the Swedish organisers in the Telenor Arena in Karlskrona and in the town of Kallinge. They also provide the board and accommodation for all the attending young hockey players and their adult carers. Other costs related to the participation of the Russian team (ferry tickets, bus travel, new sports outfits for the players and trainers) were covered by the private sponsors from the Kaliningrad Region. Special assistance was offered by the Swedish Consul in Kaliningrad, Mr Manne Wängborg who issued the visas for the Russian team at no charge.

ERB President, Mr Mikhail Plukhin assisted the preparations for the tournament from the very beginning, having himself the personal experience of the game. The opening ceremony of the competition was attended by the Deputy Health Minister of the Kaliningrad Government, Mr Irek Gimaev, who had won five hockey world championships.

Euroregion Baltic already has the regular sports events in the summer: Euroregion Baltic Youth Games in Starogard Gdański, in the Region of Pomorskie. Its latest edition managed to attract over 700 young sportsmen and sportswomen from eleven European countries, including non-ERB partners from Belarusia, Germany and the Ukraine. The winter hockey tournament in the Swedish Region of Blekinge may constitute a good foundation for a regular ERB winter event and continue to develop in the future to become as popular as its summer counterpart.



## 2.4 CULTURE & ARTS

The Culture & Art project, submitted within the LT—PL—RU Interreg III A Neighbourhood Programme, was awarded an ERDF/Tacis grant. The Association of Polish Communes Euroregion Baltic (Lead Partner), and Kaliningrad Centre of Education and Methodology and Ministry of Culture at Kaliningrad Regional Government (Project Partners) will implement this 325 - thousand euro project in three work packages: the first dealing with training for staff of cultural institutions, the second building an internet portal of cultural institutions in Kaliningrad and Poland, and the third constructing a culture development strategy.

The main objective of the project is to establish a new network of cooperation of Kaliningrad region and neighbouring territories in Poland, in the sphere of culture. The Project activity is united into three main blocks "System of additional professional education", "Effective communication", and "Strategy of development". The result of the first block aiming to raise education and level of competence of workers of culture and art of neighbouring territories in the sphere of management, is introducing the pilot course of raising professional qualification "Management of culture". The result of the second block is to build up the system of information exchange and professional communication of workers and organisations of culture and art of neighbouring territories. This block consists of a virtual platform (Internet portal on 3 languages: Russian, Polish, and English) and a platform for "life" communication. In order to coordinate and further develop this activity it is planned to create a Council of professionals of culture and art. The third block will result in elaborating the strategy of cross-border cooperation in the sphere of culture and art within the next 5 years.



The dancing group of children from the Kaliningrad Region during the entertainment part of the culture education workshop.

## 3 PARTICIPATION IN PROJECTS

### 3.1 BALTIC MASTER

The activities of the Baltic Master project are arranged in the four following work packages:

- Preparedness and Division of Responsibility
- Safe Transportation at Sea
- Sustainable Spatial and Regional Development
- Communication and Dissemination



The following project events were held in 2006, also gathering the representatives of the ERB member regions participating in the project (i.e. Municipality of Bornholm, Klaipeda County, Pomorskie Voivodeship and Region Blekinge)

On 6th September 2006, the Helsinki Commission, Helcom, conducted its annual international exercise Balex Delta 2006 outside Gdynia

On 7th September 2006, Work Package 1 met in Rønne to discuss work structure for oil response task, improved preparedness in Region Halland and the project communication plan. Between 19 and 20 October 2006, Baltic Master midterm conference took place in Snekkersten, where the participants debated on e.g. contingency planning, PSSA, maritime traffic monitoring and coastal planning in Trelleborg.

Between 9 and 10 November 2006, Coastal and Ocean Management – Professional Development Course was delivered in Gdańsk.

Between 13 and 15 November 2006, Baltic Sea and Maritime Strategy was discussed during Finnish EU Presidency meeting in Helsinki, Finland.

On 14 December 2006, a seminar on PSSA took place in Malmo.

PSSA is Particularly Sensitive Sea Area, i.e. the area in need of special protection through action by International Maritime Organisation because of its significance for recognised ecological reasons (*uniqueness, vulnerability, dependency*) socio-economic reasons (*economy, recreation, human dependency*) or scientific reasons (*research, monitoring, historical value*), and which may be vulnerable to damage by maritime activities."

*(IMO Resolution A.927(22) and Guidelines for Identification and Designation of PSSA)*

The Baltic Sea was designated as PSSA in 2005 by a joint document signed by Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden.

### 3.2 BEN

The Board of Euroregion Baltic made a decision to take active part in the whose aims are to promote spatial development and territorial integration in the Baltic Sea Region by strengthening Euroregions as competent planning partners with national authorities and international institutions, and by building a network of Euroregions for continuous capacity-building and sharing of experience. In order to achieve the objectives, the project aims at:

- increasing the institutional capacity and strategic planning capabilities of the Euroregions through a structured exchange of knowledge and experience on best practices,
- answering specific problems in specific Euroregions through targeted competence-building,
- deepening the communication between the Euroregions and their national, central authorities through specific forums,
- establishing a permanent (but non-institutional) network among the Euroregions through a series of durability measures or tools.

The first BEN event officially attended by Euroregion Baltic was a seminar on the newly adopted Northern Dimension Framework Document held on 25th January in Lappeenranta, Finland. ERB has been monitoring the development process of the Northern Dimension (ND) initiative since its 2nd Action Plan, at that time expecting it would become an important tool assisting crossborder cooperation in the region. Today, with the subsequent revision of this policy it seems of significance that the ND has now become the joint policy of the European Union, Iceland, Norway and the Russian Federation, whereby all the partners involved confirm the importance of territorial cooperation, encouraging the support of the European and national levels.

ND may present an interesting field for the ERB to act. Firstly, its geographical coverage comprises all its member regions, although the main focus is that on the North-West Russia. Secondly, the stakeholders of the policy are not only its main partners like European Union, Iceland, Norway or the Russian Federation but also are other actors: regional councils in the North (e.g. CBSS and Nordic Council of Ministers), as well as regional and sub-regional organisations. Thirdly, the collaboration within the ERB demonstrates compliance with the most common themes of crossborder cooperation, which are so closely reflected in the latest ND policy document.

Considering how Euroregions can benefit from the Northern Dimension, three aspects seem relevant. Firstly, the ND supports the cooperation within the so-called partnerships, e.g. Northern Dimension Partnership for Public Health and Social Well-being or Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership. It could be an idea for the ERB members either to join the already existing ND Partnership or form a new one, e.g. Northern Dimension Crossborder Partnership. Secondly, the ND offers the assistance to the cooperating crossborder partners from the international financing institutions. Finally, the ND provides the technical support: the IT system. In this respect, all the Baltic Sea Region and the ND actors can benefit each other. The thousands of bilateral and multilateral projects and activities taking place at the regional and sub-regional levels can promote themselves and the system itself can develop to offer a more complete picture of the cooperation.



Baltic Euroregional Network

### 3.3 EAST – WEST

The transport corridor Vilnius-Esbjerg via Klaipeda/Kaliningrad, Blekinge and Öresund is an important link between east and west in the Baltic Sea Region. Private stakeholders, authorities and universities want to take a joint initiative strengthening the corridor which contributing to sustainable growth and development along the corridor.

Transports in the east-west direction are dramatically growing in the Baltic Sea Region. However, planning of transports and infrastructure is still made with national boundaries as point of departure. Transnational co-operation is needed if the opportunities of integration shall be capitalized. Although transport growth from Asia and the Black Sea is strong, the corridor between Vilnius-Esbjerg to the North Sea/UK and Benelux encloses severe problems that hamper the development.

The project "East-West Transnational Transport Corridor " aims to strengthen the corridor through a wide range of activities dealing e.g. with development of an overall strategy for the corridor, infrastructure improvements, new solutions for business and logistics and strengthened transport research and co-operation between researchers.

Specific tasks are divided into five work packages, dealing with e.g. developing a joint transnational strategy/action plan of the East West Transport Corridor and dissemination of the projects overall results, innovative activities related to ITS ( Intelligent Transport Solutions), preparation works for the implementation of infrastructure projects to improve port terminals and its hinterland connections and Urban planning, environmental impact and capacity issues related to the ports.

Below are some activities involving the cooperation of the ERB partners in the East – West project, as well as some other transport related projects.

The seminar for ERB Council members and representatives of Kaliningrad Region on East-West, Baltic Gateway, Baltic Master, Seagull II projects was hold together with the ERB Council meeting in Svetlogorsk, on 20th November. The transport projects implemented in the ERB were presented to participants of the seminar, conducted within the activity of the Seagull II project transport reference network. According to Mr Bengt Gustafson, representative of Region Blekinge, the results of these projects would be the foundation for the establishment of a permanent group of transport experts where representatives of the ERB member regions would be involved in.

The Round Table was held in February 2007 at the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation where the above described projects were presented to heads and specialists at the Ministry of Transport of Russia, representatives of State authorities, transport associations and unions, transport universities, participants of the traffic process, cargo owners, etc. The topic of the Round Table was a discussion on the issue of developing and improving the current transport corridors, the possibilities of financial and organisational resources in the formation of the network of logistics centers in Russia and their connection to the world transport system.

Aiming at full participation of the Russian partners in the East – West project the application during the last round of Interreg IIIB\Takis programme was prepared by partners of Region Blekinge, Klaipeda County and Kaliningrad region. Unfortunately, the application was not approved.



***In his speech delivered at the Forum organised by the Baltic Commission of the Conference of the Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) on 1st June 2006, ERB President Mikhail Pluhin highlighted two more areas of focus during the Russian presidency in Euroregion Baltic. They were identified as:***

#### **4 OPENING OF THE CROSSBORDER AND EUROREGIONAL COOPERATION CENTRE IN BALTIJSK**

The centre of crossborder and euroregional cooperation in Baltijsk will be located within the ERB National Secretariat of the Russian Party.

This future centre will be an important instrument for local authorities of the municipalities in the Kaliningrad Region in establishing partnership relations, also within Euroregions, as well as in preparations for and implementation of common projects. The centre will also promote the increasing of effectiveness of crossborder contacts. The main objective of the centre is to assist the municipalities in forming and developing such contacts, and to promote cooperation within Euroregions aiming at social and economic development of the Kaliningrad Region that will be balanced with environmental protection and an increase in living standards of the local population.

Financial resources have been provided by the Kaliningrad Regional Duma and Governor of Kaliningrad Region - G.V. Boos - to organise work of the ERB Russian Secretariat and to equip the Center. A conference hall has been made available by the Administration of Baltijsk Municipal District where the first stage of reconstruction was already made. The part of the centre housing the ERB Russian Secretariat was opened in the middle of 2006.

Technical equipment was provided within the Seagull devERB (Takis Russian component), including five computerised working stations, equipment for the dedicated Internet channel. Now, within the implementation of the Seagull II project video meetings and videoconferences can be conducted through Marratech software. Activities at the centre will continue with additional office equipment planned to be purchased within the Seagull II project. Once completed, the centre will become well-equipped and fully accessible to the partners in euroregional and cross-border cooperation.

A large number of international activities were held at the centre within the cooperation going on in the ERB, Baltic Gateway and East-West projects, twinning relations with Karlskrona, Elblag and Krynica Morska and negotiations in the area of business, culture and sport. The exhibition dedicated to Alfred Nobel is also located in the centre due to active participation of the General Consulate of Sweden in the Kaliningrad Region. Frequent videoconferences are held within the Seagull II project during which representatives of the Government of the Kaliningrad Region, local authorities and universities take part.

#### **5 INVOLVEMENT IN THE ISSUES RELATED TO CROSSING THE BORDER WITH THE KALININGRAD REGION**

The need to provide a sustainable set of activities aiming at supporting the cohesion process in the Euroregion Baltic area has been tackled by the Joint Development Programme containing a proposed action plan to be implemented in the ERB in the next 10 - 15 years. The Seagull II project, on its part, aims at improving organisational capacities within the Euroregion and assisting in the implementation process of the JDP so that crossborder and transnational activities implemented on the ERB territory could support the Northern Dimension, European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument, Lisbon and Gothenburg Strategies, the Common EU / Russia Economic Space. These activities are more and more intensive and bring notable effects. Together with the new financial perspective of the European Union new possibilities emerge to intensify joint operations that would benefit the improvement of the social-economic cohesion of border regions and help integrate more effectively local communities. However, ERB member regions face problems that need solving. The availability and visa application procedures, as well as the very act of crossing the border still remains the obstacle for the ERB members to participate in mutual undertakings. These problems concern sea travel and tourism, going by air and by land.

For this reason, as part of the Seagull 2 project we are now managing a series of two conferences entitled: Poland and Lithuania's accession to the Schengen Treaty: consequences and perspectives for the crossborder cooperation between the Kaliningrad Region and its neighbours, whereby we are seeking practical solutions to define possible ways of continuing the cooperation in the Euroregion in the context of the enlarged Schengen Treaty and to contribute to the prevention from new divisions on the EU's external borders. The first conference took place in Svetlogorsk in the Kaliningrad Region, attended by over 70 regional politicians, representatives of foreign ministries and parliaments of Lithuania, Poland of Russia, as well as of the Consulates of Denmark, Lithuania, Latvia, Germany, Poland and Sweden residing in the Oblast, and the border service people from Lithuania, Poland and Russia.

The first conference aimed at providing the information on the existing visa systems on the EU borders with the Kaliningrad Region of the Russian Federation, changes resulting from the enlargement of the European Union and on the possible consequences that the enlargement could have had on the flow of goods and people across these borders. It was emphasised that the introduction of the visa regime on 1 May 2004 did not hinder the traffic on the borders. It seems sensible to conclude that the introduction of the so-called Schengen visas alike will unify the system in all the countries, enabling their citizens to travel more freely. This position was unanimously voiced by the representatives of Denmark, Lithuania, Germany, Poland and Sweden. All the same, the Schengen stipulates the provision for bilateral agreements between different countries to further facilitate conditions for people to travel between the EU member states and their external neighbours.

As the follow-up task of the Seagull 2 project, based on such formulated preliminary conditions, a report was commissioned. It will be prepared and presented to the ERB Board for approval by the Centre of Scientific Research in Olsztyn. It will contain a description of existing regulations, analysis of statistical data and the proposal of action that the Euroregion can take towards regional and national authorities in support of the cooperation in the area of the South Baltic and in the Euroregion itself, creating better conditions for the implementation of the Lisbon and Gothenburg Strategies, as well as for the extensive use of financial means available in the EU between 2007 and 2013. The action suggested will be under discussion at the second border conference which will be held on 15 March 2007 in Karlskrona, the capital of the Swedish County of Blekinge.

## **6 OTHER MAJOR EVENTS**

### **6.1 VISBY, 16 – 18 AUGUST 2006**

In 1992 Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) was established. It is the overall political forum for regional intergovernmental cooperation. In 1996, Heads of Government around the Baltic Sea met for their first summit ever on the island of Gotland in the Baltic Sea. Leaders laid out the course for their cooperation under the heading „Stability, Prosperity and Solidarity”.

With this background the Swedish Government arranged a conference in August 2006 on the island of Gotland, „Prosperity and Sustainability - local cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region”. The conference was to provide a forum for discussion among those most closely concerned on prospects and challenges for local and regional cooperation. The aim of the conference was to help attune joint efforts, create additional political momentum and contribute to the strengthening of local cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region.

The discussions was focused on three sub - themes; Strengthening cooperation between local, national and international actors, Securing a good and sustainable livelihood for citizens in the region and Promoting trade and investment in the region. The discussions were suppose to contribute to ideas and inputs that would be passed on to organisations and institutions in the region.

### **6.2 BORNHOLM, 9 – 11 OCTOBER 2006**

Since 1992 the Regional Municipality of Bornholm has had its own programme for Baltic cooperation “Baltic Educational Island programme”, funded by the Danish Ministry of Interior with a-round 20 Million EUR in total, to more than 300 concrete projects with partners in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Russia.

In 2005 the programme expired and this was marked with a final Conference with main Baltic partners on Bornholm 9th October, with presentation of the final report and main achievements observed by Baltic partners, as well as discussion of the future perspectives of Baltic Sea cooperation – in general and for the cooperation between Bornholm and its Baltic partners.

The Conference was followed up by five 2-days workshops in different subjects, like Rural development, social and health issues, tourism etc. in order to discuss future cooperation directions, identify and develop new projects and to identify new funding opportunities.

The Conference gathered more than 100 participants, and one of its events included the rural development workshop, which focused on the Euroregion Baltic joint action to establish a rural development centre in the South Baltic area. The participants were mainly members of the Core Group in the Seagull II Rural Development Reference Network. They succeeded to discuss and develop an outline for a South Baltic Centre for rural development, presented to and consulted afterwards with the whole Network, and now basis for the creation of a concrete project partnership.

### 6.3 EUROPE DIRECT EXCHANGE SEMINAR, 23 - 24 OCTOBER 2006

The exchange seminar of Europe Direct offices from around the Euroregion Baltic member regions was held between 23 and 24th October at the premises of the ERB International Secretariat. The ERB regions were represented by the Europe Direct offices from Blekinge (Sweden), Bornholm (Denmark), Slupsk (Poland), Sodra Smaland (Sweden), and Warminsko-Mazurskie (Poland).

The aim of the seminar was to prepare a joint project to be implemented with the objective of drafting and disseminating information on how the EU policies and programmes can improve the integration of young people in the assistance to the development process within Euroregion Baltic.

### 6.4 ERB AS AN EXAMPLE OF CROSSBORDER COOPERATION

Invited by El Institut d'Economia i Empresa Ignasi Villalonga in Valencia the International Secretariat represented the Euroregion Baltic at the two meetings organised in the city. On 12th December 2006 the Cotemporary Culture Centre was officially opened and a seminar held on the cooperation within Euram or the Mediterranean Arch, grouping together the Valencia Commune, Region of Catalonia and the Balearic Islands.





This inaugural session was opened by Clement Eliseu, the editor-in-chief of the Valenciano edition of El Pais. He introduced the listeners into the wide range of themes of collaboration of the regions in Europe, addressing cultural, social and historical aspects of the relations between Valencia, Catalonia and the Balearic Islands, in the context of their status in Spain and the entire European Union. In the next speech, Joan Baptista Casas, the Vice-president of El Institut d'Economia i Empresa Ignasi Villalonga, paid attention to the economic significance of the cooperation of regions which will have the fundamental meaning in counter-balancing the dynamically developing regions that constitute the so-called „European banana“.

Sławomir Demkowicz-Dobrzański talked about the Euroregion Baltic and its evolution from its establishment, through the development of the Joint Development Programme and setting up of the permanent secretariat, until the realization of the Seagull 2 project, aiming at enhancing institutional structures within the Euroregion and preparing its members for the full realisation of tasks resulting from the Joint Development Programme.

Between 13 and 14 December 2006 a conference concerning the development of the port industry was held in Valencia attended by the representatives of ports from all over the world. As part of the cooperation being implemented in the Euroregion Baltic, the information was presented on common projects, realised jointly by the ERB member regions, as for example Baltic Master, East West, SEB Trance the Link and Baltic Gateway Plus.

## **7 PARTICIPATION IN THE PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE CBC SOUTH BALTIC PROGRAMME;**

From 2004 Euroregion Baltic carried out a lobbying campaign aiming at the acquisition of a CBC area status in the new financial period 2007 – 2013. The rationale behind this ERB ambition was to facilitate the implementation process of its common strategy and Joint Development Programme.

The major step in the lobbying campaign was to issue a position paper by which all the ERB member regions expressed their common goal for Euroregion Baltic to acquire the CBC status, and for all its members to be able to fall under the CBC eligibility criteria. This position paper was adopted and disseminated in August 2005. It was also presented in a series of follow-up meetings in 2005 and 2006 with the regional and national representations of the ERB member countries to the European Union, members of the EU Parliament, EU Regional Policy Commissioner, Ms Danuta Hübner and her personnel.

Another major contribution to the success of the campaign was the support offered by the Swedish government, facilitated by the active internal lobbying of the three ERB member regions in Sweden: Blekinge, Kalmar and Kronoberg. In the course of negotiations between the EU member states the geographical scope of a quadrilateral Baltic programme proposed by the European Commission was moved eastwards to include all the Danish, Lithuanian, Polish and Swedish regions in Euroregion Baltic.

Since the first programme meeting in Gdansk 23rd May 2006 the programme area has been further extended and finally decided in November 2006. Now the programme will be one of the biggest CBC programmes in the EU. The area eligible for the Programme includes the following NUTS III units:

- in Poland: Szczecinski, Koszalinski, Slupski, Gdanski, Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot sub-regions and as adjacent (according to the "20% rule"): Elblaski sub-region,
- in Sweden: Kalmar, Blekinge, Skane Counties and as adjacent: Kronoberg County,
- in Germany: sub-regions of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: Greifswald, Rostock, Stralsund, Wismar, Bad Doberan, Nordvorpommern, Nordwestmecklenburg, Ostvorpommern, Rügen, Uecker-Randow,
- in Denmark: Regional Municipality of Bornholm and as adjacent: Zealand sub-region,
- in Lithuania: Klaipeda County and as adjacent: Taurage and Telsiai Counties.

Under certain limitation it will also be possible to include in projects partners from the Kaliningrad Region.

Two main focus areas have now been decided:

- Economic competitiveness, where the focus is on actions promoting: integration of economic and labour markets in the area, transfer of knowledge and know-how between public and private actors and better transport connectivity
- Attractiveness and common identity, where the focus is on actions promoting: sustainable economic use of natural resources and cultural heritage, with particular attention to tourism, development of renewable energy sources and energy saving, management of environmental threats as well as local initiatives supporting people-to-people contacts.

The Polish Ministry for Regional Development will be the programme Managing Authority, and the Joint Technical Secretariat will be located in Gdansk. The five countries involved in the programme have each a representative in the core group which also includes one member representing Euroregion Baltic. The ERB member regions also have one representative each in the Joint Programming Committee where Euroregion Baltic too is represented.

## 8 RESOLUTIONS AND STATEMENTS

### 8.1 POLITICAL REPRESENTATION OF ERB MEMBERS IN THE BOARD OF EUROREGION BALTIC

ERB Board member, Mr Bo Frank raised the issue of political representation in the ERB Board. He requested that the Board should discuss what steps need to be taken in order to ensure that political representation of Euroregion Baltic in its Board has a rank of significance. Following his proposal, at the meeting on 30th March 2006 in Kaliningrad, the Council of Euroregion Baltic adopted the resolution expressing willingness on the part of all the Parties in Euroregion Baltic to provide significant rank to their representatives to the Board.



## 8.2 PAN-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT CORRIDOR NO 6

Following the request voiced by the Association of Amber Motorway Cities, at the meeting on 30th March 2006 in Kaliningrad, the Council adopted a resolution in support of the initiative aiming at the European Commission considering the Pan-European Transport Corridor No 6 an element of the TEN – T network.

### EUROREGION BALTIC INTERNATIONAL PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

#### **Joint Statement of Euroregion Baltic regarding upgrading of the TEN transport corridors in Europe**



At the Euroregion Baltic Council meeting in Kaliningrad on 30th March 2006, its members agreed to pass the following resolution:

In accordance with the Euroregion Baltic Joint Transnational Development Programme, the Council of ERB will take political actions in order to highlight the unsatisfactory situation that all ERB member regions have poor access to the main TEN transport corridors now prioritised on EU and national levels. Their aim will be to mobilise support for actions acting to improve the situation for the South East Baltic Sea area.

In line with the above, we strongly support the idea of upgrading the Baltic-Link corridor in Sweden to be part of the Trans European Network system and part of the PAN European Corridor system.

The Baltic-Link corridor in Sweden consists of road 27 and the railway Coast-to-Coast line. Upgrading of the corridor, connecting the Nordic Triangle to the A1 motorway and the railway axis Gdansk-Vienna in Poland, which are already parts of the above systems – (project no 25 and no 23), would mean enlarging of the PAN European Corridor VI with a Nordic axle, combining the North Sea, the Baltic Sea and the Adriatic Sea.

We believe that the upgrading of the Baltic-Link would also mean better connections between Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea area, combining strategic E-roads and the roads with the TEN status, and facilitating greater cohesion between the old and new EU members (see map below).

The upgrading of the Baltic-Link is also supported by the final conclusions from the former EU Interreg III B project SEBTrans-Link, which states "the entire Baltic-Link corridor should be identified as part of the PAN European Transport Network". The whole corridor includes Sweden, Poland, Lithuania and Kaliningrad/Russian Federation, who were also the partners of the SEBTrans-Link project.

.....  
Mikhail Pluhin  
President of Euroregion Baltic



### 8.3 ENPI ERB PROGRAMME

In support of the efforts aiming at establishing a CBC programme enabling all the ERB member regions to fully participate in the European territorial cooperation, at the meeting on 30th March 2006 in Kaliningrad, the Council passed the following resolution:

## EUROREGION BALTIC

INTERNATIONAL PERMANENT SECRETARIAT



**Joint statement of Euroregion Baltic Council regarding the crossborder cooperation ENPI programmes between 2007 and 2013**

At the Euroregion Baltic Council meeting in Kaliningrad on 30th March 2006, its members agreed to pass the following resolution:

The Euroregion Baltic Council reiterates its earlier position concerning the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), whereby we proposed that all the Euroregion Baltic member regions be included on the list of eligible territorial units for cross-border ENPI programmes and constitute an ERB cross-border Neighbourhood Programme area between 2007 and 2013.

We do consider, however, a less favourable, alternative approach towards future opportunities for cooperation within the territory of Euroregion Baltic, offered by a mixture of other crossborder and transnational programmes within Objective 3 of the Structural Funds, as well as ENPI programmes involving the Kaliningrad Region and its neighbours.

We are confident that Euroregion Baltic can offer a politically well-anchored and effective existing cross-border neighbourhood co-operation platform, capable of implementing the main objectives of the European Neighbourhood Policy, the Northern Dimension and the objectives for EU-Russia relations concerning the Kaliningrad region and the development of the Four Common Spaces.



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Mikhail Pluhin  
President of Euroregion Baltic

## 9 CHANGES TO THE AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING EUROREGION BALTIC

### 9.1 EXTENSION OF THE RUSSIAN PARTICIPATION

On 30th March 2006 the Euroregion Baltic Council adopted a resolution, officially annexing the Agreement Establishing Euroregion Baltic in the following phrasing:

Due to the establishment of the Government of Kaliningrad Region, which is a legal successor of the Administration of the Kaliningrad Region – one of the founders of Euroregion “Baltic”, page 5 paragraph 7 of the Agreement establishing the Euroregion “Baltic” should now be read in the following wording: “Whenever the expression „Russian Party” is used in the Agreement, it should be understood as “The Government of the Kaliningrad Region”, “The Kaliningrad Regional Duma”, and „The Association of Municipalities of the Kaliningrad Region”. This Supplement is an integral part of the Agreement on establishing the Euroregion “Baltic”

### 9.2 WITHDRAWAL OF THE LATVIAN PARTY

On 20th November 2006 the Euroregion Baltic Council accepted the request by the Latvian Party to cease its participation in the activities of Euroregion Baltic.

The Agreement Establishing Euroregion Baltic was annexed with the following document: “With response to the request of the Latvian Party and in accordance with the ERB Statutes Paragraph 5 Point 1.8, the Council of Euroregion Baltic accepted the request by the Latvian Party to cease its participation in the activities of Euroregion Baltic.”

In 2006, the joint budget of Euroregion Baltic, managed by its International Secretariat, was largely based on the budget of the Seagull II project, both by its ERDF component (available since July 2005) and by its Tacis component (available since September 2006).

The ERDF-related expenditure was feasible by the contributions made by the ERB member regions (by the decision of the ERB Council made in May 2004 to support the operations of the ERB International Secretariat), and by the Association of Polish Communes Euroregion Baltic – Seagull II Lead Partner - whose financial commitment has allowed the project to continue smoothly, with the pre-paid expenses refunded on the bi-yearly basis.

The positive financial figure in 2006 is mainly a result of the Tacis advance payment (60% of the total Tacis budget). The ERDF expenditure generated in the second half of 2006 will only be refunded during 2007.

Please, also note that the Latvian contribution of 2 102.90 EUR was due to be paid in 2005. Thus, although made in 2006 it in fact covered the expenditure made a year earlier.

### INCOME:

Lp	Item	Planned for 2006	Realisation for 2006
1	Result as of 31.12.2005	2 900,00 €	-18 124,76 €
2	<b><u>3 Swedish regions of Blekinge, Kalmar, and Kronoberg</u></b>	<b><u>18 000,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>18 000,00 €</u></b>
	Landstinget Kronoberg	3 000,00 €	3 000,00 €
	Södra Smålands kommuner och landsting	3 000,00 €	3 000,00 €
	Region Blekinge	6 000,00 €	6 000,00 €
	Regionförbundet i Kalmar Län	6 000,00 €	6 000,00 €
3	<b><u>Bornholm</u></b>	<b><u>6 000,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>6 000,00 €</u></b>
	Bornholm Regionskommune	6 000,00 €	6 000,00 €
4	<b><u>2 Polish regions :</u></b>	<b><u>6 000,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>6 000,00 €</u></b>
	Pomerania Marshal's Office	3 000,00 €	3 000,00 €
	Warmińsko-mazurskie Marshal's office	3 000,00 €	3 000,00 €
5	<b><u>Lithuania</u></b>	<b><u>2 000,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>2 000,00 €</u></b>
6	<b><u>Latvia</u></b>	<b><u>2 000,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>2 102,90 €</u></b>
7	<b><u>Russia</u></b>	<b><u>2 000,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>0,00 €</u></b>
8	<b><u>Seagull II refund</u></b>	<b><u>142 980,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>106 419,40 €</u></b>
9	<b><u>Interest on account</u></b>	<b><u>0,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>0,00 €</u></b>
10	<b><u>Seagull 2 TACIS - advanced payment</u></b>	<b><u>0,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>49 956,80 €</u></b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b><u>181 880,00 €</u></b>	<b><u>172 354,34 €</u></b>



**EXPENDITURE: 01.01.2006 - 31.12.2006**

<b>Lp</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Planned for 2006</b>	<b>Realisation for 2006</b>
1	Maintaining the office and running costs (postal and phone bills, etc.) including Seagull II expenditure	7 000,00 € 6 588,00 €	9 766,30 € 6 035,64 €
2	ERB Publishing	0,00 €	673,99 €
3	Travel	0,00 €	1 204,49 €
4	Personnel costs including Seagull II expenditure including Seagull II TACIS expenditure	14 500,00 € 9 252,00 € 0,00 €	14 299,74 € 5 669,04 € 414,76 €
5	Meeting facilities	0,00 €	0,00 €
6	Other expenditures including Seagull II expenditure including Seagull II TACIS expenditure	223 340,00 € 223 340,00 €	106 692,95 € 98 596,73 € 4 084,42 €
7	Reserve (incl. Banking charges) including Seagull II TACIS expenditure	200,00 €	637,81 €
8	Expenditures Latvia	2 102,90 €	2 102,90 €
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>245 040,00 €</b>	<b>135 378,18 €</b>
<b>RESULT (Income - Expenditure)</b>		<b>-63 160,00 €</b>	<b>36 976,16 €</b>
International Permanent Secretariat			18 412,16 €
Seagull 2 Tacis			4 561,71 €
Seagull 2			110 301,41 €
Seagull II - Internal Hours from Partners			55 048,41 €
Latvia			2 102,90 €
Result as of 31.12.2005			-18 124,76 €
Realisation MS2 + MS3 - INCOME			190 479,10 €
Realisation MS2 + MS3 - EXPENDITURE			-135 378,18 €
Result as of 31.12.2006 (Income - Expenditure)			<b>36 976,16 €</b>



ERB Council meeting in Kaliningrad on 30th March 2006, opening the Presidency of the Russian Party.



Promotion remains a key issue in the everyday work of the Euroregion; here Niels Chresten Andersen at the Seagull project stand in Malmö on 16th June 2006.



