



Consolidation of the UBC Commissions

Proposals sent after the Board meeting in Turku

1. City of Örebro / sent by Carinne Lancereau

The municipality of Örebro has been member of the Union of Baltic Cities since 2003 and is active in several Commissions. The municipality has been involved under several years in the discussions about a new structure for the existing Commissions which are 13 today.

Our proposal wants to give the possibility to strengthen the organisation and to reduce the amount of travelling with more efficient meetings.

On a local level, the municipality has just made some changes in its own organisation just to meet the future goals in a more efficient and sustainable way.

After discussion within the municipality with different departments and civil servants, the proposal from Örebro municipality is the following in accordance with the Sustainable Development concept:

1. Commission of Ecology: Environment, Energy, Transport
2. Commission of Economy: Business, Education, Tourism, Culture
3. Social Commission: Gender, Youth, Health, Sport
4. Commission of City planning: Urban planning, Local safety, (Transport)

2. City of Tartu / sent by Heiki Hansen, Elva

Tartu have made a proposal for the commission structure and here it is:

1. Culture + Education + Sport + Youth Issues
2. Urban Planning + Environment + Transportation + Energy + Local Safety
3. Health and Social Affairs + Gender Equality
4. Business + Tourism Horizontal commissions are not necessary in their opinion.

All the Estonian cities support Rakvere proposal from the last year.

3. City of Oskarshamn / sent by Ted Lindquist

With reference to your invitation to contribute to comments to UBC Task Force on Commission consolidation, I can inform you that Oskarshamn Municipality are keen to continue the UBC cooperation. The Executive Committee has considered the issue on hand on a board meeting on August 26 th, § 186. Having said this I can confirm you that the City of Oskarshamn support the structure that have been suggested by the UBC Task Force Commission [President Per Boedker Andersen];

1. Business + Education
2. Environment + Energy
3. Urban Planning + Local Safety + Transportation
4. Culture + Sport + Tourism
5. Health and Social Affairs



We also agree that there need to be two horizontal commissions/networks for:

- 6. Gender Equality
- 7. Youth Issues

However we would wish to stress the importance to agree on a defined set of rules/regulations for the commission's work as soon as possible. We further believe that it could be interesting to consider to increase the cooperation with commissions for youth and education to lift issues related to environment and energy. Finally we would wish to state our interest to continue to be an included party and have insight into the board of the commission working on energy issues, i.e. if the above structure is adopted, the "Commission for Energy and Environment". I would also like to clarify that this doesn't mean that Oskarshamn is in charge of the administration of the new commission.

4. The Commission on Environment / sent by Björn Grönholm

The Commission on Environment has been coordinating the UBC Sustainability Action Programme 2010 – 2015 and similar programmes before. These programmes have been closely tied to the UBC Strategies. For the moment the planning of the next UBC Sustainability Action Programme 2016 – 2021 has started and will have the first development workshop in Riga on 17 September 2014, with the intention to present a proposal for the UBC Executive Board in summer 2015. As a part of the new Sustainability Action Programme and with respect to the types of challenges cities are working with, it is important to include broad cross-sectoral topics. In this work, in coordinating the Sustainability Action Programme, the UBC Commission on Environment has been touching on also other themes than Environmental themes (Maritime, mobility and transport, climate change, etc.). With the information received from the Executive board that city of Oskarshamn is not interested to continue hosting the Energy Commission, the UBC Commission on the Environment hereby declare the interest to include the Energy theme into the Commission on Environment activities.

We are also open to further discuss the consolidation and involvement of several themes.

5. The Commission on Business and Tourism / sent by Wolfgang Schmidt

UBC should aim to make sure that the commission's can do their work efficient and goal orientated. Therefore the board should set strategic topics for one or two years. A steady and professional secretariat for one or more commissions and a concrete contact person in the board is required.

The commission has already successfully merged with the Commissions on IT (2010) and Tourism (2014). The steering committee is generally open for a merger with Education and Transportation.