

UNION OF THE BALTIC CITIES
77TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
Stockholm, 10 November 2016

AGENDA (as of 31 10 2016)

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.
2. Information from the Task Force on Strategy and General Conference 2017.

The Board in Rostock, March 2016, authorised the Presidium to create a Task Force to discuss the implementation of the UBC Strategy. Presidium created the Task Force. The Board in Kaunas, June 2016, authorised the Task Force to deal also with preparations to the XIV General Conference to be held in Växjö in 2017. The Task Force met in Växjö on 13-14 October 2016. The draft report of the Task Force will be circulated in advance of the meeting to the Board members.

- 2.1 XIV UBC General Conference in Växjö, 24-27 October 2017.
- 2.2 UBC Strategy implementation.
3. UBC Work Plan to Support Youth Employment and Well-Being, information on the progress and proposals for next steps of work.
4. Information from the UBC Task Force on Refugees.

At the 75th UBC Executive Board meeting in Rostock held on 16 March 2016 in conjunction with the conference on refugees, the Board decided to authorize the Presidium to create a Task Force to discuss how UBC could follow the results of the conference on refugees in Rostock and promote exchange of know-how between the member cities in question. Presidium created a Task Force led by the City of Rostock.

The Task Force met in Kaunas on 6 June 2016. The meeting was attended by representatives of the cities of Rostock, Naestved, Kaunas, Turku, Växjö and the Secretary General.

The proposals of the TF in Kaunas were as follows:

- to have some practical meetings, where cities could share knowledge. Cities are so full of work, but everybody needs this fresh input to see how the others solve the problems
- to have a space on the UBC website to discuss, debate, bring proposals and share ideas
- actions of the Task Force should be seen also by the political levels.

5. EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, UBC involvement.
- 5.1 7th Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the BSR, Stockholm, 8-9 November 2016, two seminars co-organised by UBC.

“Nothing about us without us - sustainable and a green future and prosperity, growth and jobs from a youth perspective”

The seminar (8 November) focuses on involving in the discussion young people as well as politicians from local and regional level. The seminar brings an added value to the Strategy Forum by including a bottom up perspective on the Baltic Sea Region Vision 2030, sustainable and a green future and prosperity, growth and jobs from a youth perspective.

The seminar will raise the voice of the young people of the Baltic Sea Region and bring their views and proposals into the discussion on Baltic Sea Region Vision 2030. The seminar is organised by BSSSC, UBC and EuroRegion Baltic.

"Cities and Regions: Drivers or Bystanders in the Baltic Sea cooperation"

The seminar (9 November) focuses on cities and regions as key players in the Baltic Sea Cooperation. Regional "ownership" of the EUSBSR is a must for the success of our work. The key role of cities and regions is recognized in statements but what is the reality – now and in the future, looking up to year 2030? And are other stakeholders – especially governments – understanding and appreciating the value of local and regional participation?

In the beginning, top researchers in the theme area will present their analysis and future scenarios, and after that some representatives of relevant organizations will discuss them in a panel. We invite also comments by participants. The seminar is organised by UBC. Partners: Land Brandenburg, BSSSC, CPMR BSC.

5.2 EUSBSR Horizontal Action 'Capacity', activity report and discussion on how to engage cities, regions and other stakeholders in the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

Proposal: The Executive Board discusses the results of these Round Tables and report of HA Capacity as well as of the Annual Forum in general and decides on possible further action.

6. Information and proposals for next steps from Communication Manager on implementation of the UBC Communication and Marketing Strategy

7. Proposal on cooperation between Baltic Sea cities and Eastern partnership / Black Sea cities, City of Gdańsk and WiseEUROPA Institute.

City of Gdańsk and WiseEuropa think tank, propose to establish an expert platform which will provide professional expertise and insights into a variety issues (ie. culture, history, ecology, economy, energy, local administration, society) for the Baltic and Eastern partnership / Black Sea cities. The platform will gather experts and municipal officials from both regions specializing in various fields and organize thematic seminars. The main outcome of these meetings will be analysis and ready-to-use expertise published regularly (in form of reports, case studies, guidebooks, feasibility studies etc). More information is attached.

Proposal: The Board decides UBC would support the initiative.

8. Connections between culture, education and new technologies, Cultural Cities Commission.

9. Information from the Working Group on Gender Equality.
10. Attractive cities - talent management and place promotion, Smart & Prospering Cities Commission.
11. Integration of Natura 2000 sites with urban planning and sustainable development, Sustainable Cities Commission.
12. Initiatives from Safe & Sustainable Cities Commissions.
13. UBC and Carbon Disclosure Project Memorandum of Understanding.

At the 76th UBC Executive Board meeting in Kaunas in June 2016 there was a proposal to sign Memorandum of Understanding between UBC and Carbon Disclosure Project. Proposal of the text of memorandum is attached.

Proposal:

President to sign the memorandum.

14. Baltic Cities Bulletin “Inclusive and healthy cities”.
15. Next 78th UBC Executive Board meeting.
16. Any other business.

The attachments are available here:
<http://ubc.net/taxonomy/term/247>