

Report of the UBC Working Group on Gender Equality,  
**Stockholm,**  
**Wednesday, November 9, 2016,**  
**10.00-14.00,**

Members of the GEWG present at the meeting<sup>1</sup>:

	Name	City	Contact
1.	Ann-Sofie Lagercrantz	Kalmar, Sweden	<a href="mailto:ann-sofie.lagercrantz@kalmar.se">ann-sofie.lagercrantz@kalmar.se</a>
2.	Anu Kilpinen	KOTKA, Finland	<a href="mailto:anu.kilpinen@kotka.fi">anu.kilpinen@kotka.fi</a>
3.	Asta Puodziuniene	Panevezys, Lithuania	<a href="mailto:asta.puodziuniene@panevezys.lt">asta.puodziuniene@panevezys.lt</a>
4.	Charlotte Lundkvist	Umea, Sweden	<a href="mailto:charlotte.lundkvist@umea.se">charlotte.lundkvist@umea.se</a>
5.	Hanna Maidell	Helsinki, Finland	<a href="mailto:Hanna.Maidell@hel.fi">Hanna.Maidell@hel.fi</a>
6.	Joanna Leman	Gdynia, Poland	<a href="mailto:j.leman@gdynia.pl">j.leman@gdynia.pl</a>
7.	Johanna Ek	Orebro, Sweden	<a href="mailto:johanna.ek@orebro.se">johanna.ek@orebro.se</a>
8.	Kaspars Varpins	Liepaja, Latvia	<a href="mailto:kaspars.varpins@pp.liepaja.lv">kaspars.varpins@pp.liepaja.lv</a>
9.	Linda Gustafsson	Umea, Sweden	<a href="mailto:linda.gustafsson@umea.se">linda.gustafsson@umea.se</a>
10.	Małgorzata Tarasiewicz	Gdansk, Poland	<a href="mailto:tarasiewicz@neww.org.pl">tarasiewicz@neww.org.pl</a>
11.	Toril Hogstad	Kristiansand, Norway	<a href="mailto:Toril.Hogstad@kristiansand.kommune.no">Toril.Hogstad@kristiansand.kommune.no</a>

*Linda Gustafsson, Anu Kilpinen and Johanna Ek had sent letters of apologies.*

Gender Equality Working Group Meeting went according to the agenda with no additional items added. The meeting took place in SALAR - Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions, which is both an employers' organization and an organization that represents and advocates for local government in Sweden. In the beginning of the meeting the Working Group could learn about the activities of SALAR on gender. After the presentation and discussion the WG continued its internal meeting in the premises of SALAR.

### **Welcoming coffee**

### **Presentation of the minutes from Gdansk meeting and discussion.**

#### **Approval of the Gdansk minutes.**

There have been no comments or additions so the minutes from Gdansk were approved unanimously.

### **Reports (informal) of the “matrix-plans”, meetings, co-operation with the other UBC commissions.**

#### **Discussion on a letter to the chairpersons of the Commissions.**

Three representatives of the WG have been in touch with the Commissions accordingly with the assignment; Hanna Maidell, Kaspars Varpins and Toril Hogstad. The Commissions have been interested in cooperation on gender mainstreaming and further steps will be taken in order to secure such cooperation. The main activity the WG is going to take will be writing of a letter to the chairpersons of the Commissions.

1

Present	Absent
---------	--------

Toril Hogstad will draft the first version of the letter. The WG will also invite the Commissions to the seminar on the Charter of Equality that is going to take place in Gdansk on March 31.

#### **Action plan for 2017 of the WG on Gender Equality:**

- Gender equality “mainstreamed” in the coming Växjö Annual Meeting in 2017 (October 24-27) - the WG will propose a topic for discussion at the Växjö conference.
- Updating of “Women and Men in the UBC” publication  
It was decided that no updates are necessary. Maybe in future at the website of the UBC.
- UBC-www-pages and using of the social media in communication between members of the WG

#### **Election of the two representatives to the Executive Board meeting (10<sup>th</sup> November)**

Hanna Maidell (Helsinki) and Malgorzata Tarasiewicz (Gdansk) were elected to represent the Group at the Board meeting next day to present the activities of the group and plans for the future.

#### **Conference with CEMR/European Charter in spring 2017 in Gdansk**

The Working Group would like to use the European Charter on Equality between Women and Men at the Local Level as a tool for development, to show gender equality as a way to build a success story for cities, for their effectiveness and economic success. The plan is to organize a seminar in Gdansk on March 31st, 2017 on the educational character of the Charta, presenting the stories of Charta's signatories and its implementation in the chosen cities in the Baltic Sea region. The seminar will have an aim to encourage Polish cities to sign the Charta. The WG would like to stress the educational dimension of the Charta. The plan is also to encourage partner cities to work with each other on the signing and implementing of the Charta. (i.e. cities which have already signed the Charta can encourage the partner cities to do the same). There was a discussion on the best title for the seminar to make it attractive like: Gender Equality as a success story for the cities. The final decision has not been taken and the discussion will continue by e-mail.

Malgorzata Tarasiewicz + UBC office will be responsible for the practical arrangements and Ann-Sofie Lagercrantz and Hanna Maidell for the planning with CEMR. The invitation to the seminar will be send to all Commissions and member cities.

#### **The time and place of the next meeting in 2017**

Gdansk 30/3/2017,

Kristiansand 1/9/2017

Annex 1. Report of the WG presented at the Board meeting in Stockholm, November 2016.

<b>REPORT (interim) of the GENDER EQUALITY Working Group</b>			<b>9/11/2016</b>	<b>Coordinators of the Group: Malgorzata Tarasiewicz (Gdansk) Hanna Maidell (Helsinki)</b>
Background	The Executive Board Meeting in Kemi 2015	The Working Group started in the beginning of 2016 and its Action Plan was approved in January 2016.		
Member Cities in the WG:		Kristiansand Gdansk Gdynia Helsinki Kalmar Kotka Liepaja Panevezys Umea Örebro		
<b><i>Aims in Action Plan 2016</i></b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Clarifying the aims of the WG		Discussion in the WG Meeting	Rostock 15/03	
Scrutiny creation	meetings reporting budget follow-up	reporting to the UBC Executive Committee co-operation with the UBC-Secretariat three meetings 2016: Rostock 15/03 Gdansk 21/06 Stockholm 09/11 <i>Planned meetings 2017: Gdansk 30/3/2017, Växjö 24/10/2017</i>	Stockholm, 10/11/2016	
Invitation letter to all member cities	sent in February 2016	New members: Kotka Liepaja Gdynia Örebro Kalmar		
Matrix for the mainstreaming of gender equality promotion - In the actions of the	Sharing the responsibility between the WG members	Matrix created:  Small and Prosperous Cities Commission <i>Toril Hogstad;</i>  Sustainable Cities Commission <i>Malgorzata Tarasiewicz</i> Safe Cities Commission <i>Kaspars Varpins</i> Planning Cities Commission <i>Asta Puodziuniene</i>	Gdansk, June 22, 2016 Introduction in the Commission Hamburg 22/10	a letter to chairpersons of the commissions to be sent

commissions		Inclusive and Healthy Cities Commission <i>Joanna Leman/Monika Pawlińska</i> Youthful Cities Commission <i>Anu Kilpinen</i> Culture Commission <i>Hanna Maidell</i>		
In the actions of UBC		Annual meeting 2017/Växsjö	Meeting with Jaana Simula 9/9	
Getting more Cities to sign European Charter (CEMR)	contacts to CEMR and City of Gdansk	a seminar/conference in Gdansk together with CEMR and Salar in Sweden, cities Gdansk and Kalmar	31/3 2017	Malgorzata + UBC office responsible for the practical arrangements Ann-Sofie and Hanna for the planning with CEMR
UBC Publication Men and Women in the UBC	new edition in co-operation with Umea	decided: not to publish it anymore, the latest version can stay on the www-page	Stockholm 9/11	
<i>Besides the Action Plan</i>				
Outreach and promotion	co-operation with the Secretariat on website	new documents reach wider audience through social media <a href="http://www.ubc.net/commissions/working-group-gender-equality">http://www.ubc.net/commissions/working-group-gender-equality</a>	Helsinki-Gdansk 2016	