

Wadden Sea Board

**WSB 12
20-21 May 2013
Groningen**



Agenda Item:	6
Subject:	Quality Status Report 2016
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Date:	5 May 2014
Submitted by:	CWSS

In §61 of the Ministerial Council Declaration from Tønder it is stated to elaborate the next Quality Status Report (QSR) in time for the conference 2018.

§61. Instruct the WSB to elaborate the next Wadden Sea Quality Status (Outlook) Report for 2016 in time for the 2018 Conference, in order also to be in line with the reporting cycles of the N2000 Directives and Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

The document comprises information and a draft proposal for initial activities for the preparation of a QSR 2016.

Proposal

The meeting is proposed to note the proposal and to instruct the CWSS to implement the initial activities.

Proposal QSR 2016

Background:

The Wadden Sea Quality Status Reports aim to provide a scientific assessment of the status of the Wadden Sea ecosystem and an evaluation of the implementation status of the trilateral Targets as formulated in the Wadden Sea Plan.

The QSR is intended to:

- describe and evaluate the current ecological status of the Wadden Sea
- identify changes in this status and their possible causes
- identify issues of concern and indicate possible measures of redress, including evaluation of the likely effectiveness of these measures
- identify gaps in knowledge

Objectives:

1. The next QSR is planned to be published towards the end of 2016
2. Trilateral assessment as basis for policy input to TGC 2018 and reporting to UNESCO in accordance with the policy reporting cycle
3. Delivering basis and input for the International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium in 2017 in Denmark
4. Focusing of TMAP work (data handling, expert groups, assessment criteria, information system, connection to major EU directives e.g. MSFD)
5. Promoting the Trilateral Cooperation

Product / Content:

- Follow up and review of QSR 2009
- QSR 2016 is planned as a monographic synthesis/outlook format as previously compiled to some extent in the QSR Synthesis report in 2010 or more consistent in the Great Barrier Reef Outlook report based on e.g. thematic reports and publications
- Corresponding data background will be available online, in particular displayed by the information system
- The overall goal is an approachable product for a wide audience with components to deliver data and analysis on expert level

Implementation:

- Appointment of editorial group and organization of drafting group meetings (TOR of editorial group, relation to TG-M)
- Preparation of a budget (authors, communication, publication, meetings, data management and info system, GIS work, web presentation)
- Data handling coordination by CWSS
- Fixed format of QSR chapters (by TG-M or editorial group)

The QSR 2009 (20 thematic reports, 120 authors) can be used as reference to estimate the reasonable expenditure with its overall budget of approx. €230,000. This expenditure cannot be covered by the regular WSP/TMAP budget, additional financial support by the parties will be necessary for the QSR 2016.