

Minutes of the GSEO meeting 25th March 2015 – Kõltsu Manor, Keila vald, 76702 Harju county, Estonia



Participants:

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| Denmark | Vivi Yieng-Kow |
| Estonia | Siim Meeliste |
| | Laura Särg |
| | Timo Tatar |
| Finland | Hannu Lipponen |
| Latvia | Dainis Dravnieks |
| Lithuania | Daumantas Kerezis |
| Norway | Ole-Jacob Edna |
| Poland | Aneta Ciszewska |
| Russia | Natalia Nozdrina |
| Sweden | Björn Telenius |

Approved by the GSEO through
written procedure.
01 June 2015

Other Participants:

Council of the Baltic Sea States Krista Kampus

Agenda

1. Other Business

- ✓ CBSS representative gave an overview of the work of CBSS, their role within the re-organisation of the Baltic Sea cooperation networks and EUSBSR, as well as possibilities for future cooperation between CBSS and BASREC.
- ✓ The Account Holder gave an update on the current budgetary situation.
- ✓ Estonia will be the lead country for **“The Study on the Development of Regional Gas Market in the Eastern Baltic Sea Region.”**

2. The Future of BASREC

- ✓ Discussions were held over how to improve the efficiency of the BASREC format, including the GSEO meetings, and about the role of BASREC within the regional cooperation networks of the Baltic Sea Region. The following main points were outlined as a suggested basis for future cooperation:
 - There is a need to revise the existing format based on the reasons expressed in the presidency non-paper and in the written opinions sent by Sweden, Poland and Finland.
 - GSEO level will meet beyond 2015 on an *ad hoc* basis. The initiative to propose a meeting at GSEO level on an energy issue of common interest can be taken by any of the BASREC countries when they see such a need.
 - Under the revised format, no BASREC meetings at minister’s level are foreseen, for the time being.

- Ongoing projects could be finished beyond 2015 if needed. New projects cannot be initiated unless they are finished by the end of 2015, except for maintaining the BASREC website.
- The current Account Holder, GSEO, ExCom, the lead countries, and other participants to the ongoing project activities shall carry their full responsibilities beyond the end of 2015, if needed.
- There is no new budget framework foreseen after 2015, for the time being. In case of a common decision to pursue an activity/a project which require dedicated financing, the issue of funding is discussed and decided upon on a case-by-case basis by interested parties.
- As we are meeting on an *ad hoc* basis there seems to be no need for an expiry date and a rotating presidency for the revised meeting format.
- The country initiating the “*ad hoc* meeting” is carrying out the initiative.
- The revised BASREC format would be based on mutual interest in regional energy issues.