

**Wadden Sea Board**

**WSB 16**

**9-10 March 2016**

**Leeuwarden**

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**Agenda Item:** 6.1 Status of discussion on WSWH Competence Center

**Subject:** Competence Center Road Map

**Document No.** WSB 16/6.1

**Date:**  29 February 2016

**Submitted by:** Secretariat

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Attached is the Road Map developed by the Secretariat in accordance with the outcome of the 2nd Meeting of the High Level Group (HLG 2)

**Proposal: The meeting is requested to consider the document**

**Towards a Wadden Sea World Heritage Partnership Center (PC)**

**Roadmap developed by the 2nd Meeting of the High Level Group (HLG 2), Berlin, 3 February 2016**

(as at 29 February 2016)

1. **Partnership Center**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Product** | **Lead** | **Time line** |
| Draft brief explanatory note on background and raison d’être and added value of future Partnership Center (“Why and What”) | “Why and What” Note | Co Verdaas/CWSS | By WSB 16, March 2016 |
| Discuss, endorse, (respectively modify), considerations of the HLG and adopt plan for discussions and decisions to be taken at upcoming WSB meetings |  | WSB | WSB 16 (March 2016) |
| Define as precisely as possible at this juncture the mandate and tasks of the future Partnership Center | Paper on mandate and tasks | HLG/CWSS | By WSB 17 (June 2016) |
| Define composition, mandate and institutional position (in the context of TWSC) of Steering Committee (StC) | Paper on composition, mandate and institutional position | CWSS in cooperation with Denmark. | By WSB 17 (June 2016) |
| Based on decisions of WSB 16, fine-tune mandate and tasks of PC, as well as composition of StC in consultation with representatives of sectors concerned (NGOs, science, tourism) |  | Drafting group and/or joint workshop (CWSS, Parties, sector representatives) or drafting group | By WSB 17 (June 2016) |
| Commission paper on legal character / structure of CC and legal / institutional linkage with CWSS and Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (TWSC) |  | WSB 17/CWSS in cooperation with Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs and Dutch government Help Desk | WSB 17 (June 2016) |
| Decide on legal character/structure and legal / institutional linkage with CWSS and TWSC |  | WSB | WSB 17 (June 2016) |
| Prepare agreement on staffing arrangements for the future PC for decision by WSB 18 |  | HLG | 3rd quarter 2016, by WSB 18 |
| Agree on funding mechanism and budget of the future PC |  | HLG | 3rd quarter 2016 |
| Discuss, endorse, respectively modify, considerations staffing arrangements, funding mechanism and budget of the future PC |  | WSB 18 | WSB 18 (November 2016) |
| Agree on recruitment and appointment modalities and carry out for future PC staff members, starting with appointment of staff member seconded by Lower Saxony |  | HLG/WSB/CWSS | WSB 18(November 2016); 4th quarter 2016 / 1st quarter 2017 |
| Search for suitable (interim) premises |  | CWSS in cooperation with host country | Ongoing |
| Found PC |  | Parties | 2nd quarter 2017 |

1. **Wadden Sea World Heritage Foundation[[1]](#endnote-1)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Product** | **Lead** | **Time line** |
| Explore possible partners for future Foundation |  | Co Verdaas | 2016 |
| Define the precise mandate and tasks of the future Foundation |  | HLG, Netherlands | 2016 |
| Adopt decision on the above and on commissioning relevant studies (cf. below) |  | WSB 17 | 2016 |
| Start identifying potential members of the Board for endorsement by HLG |  | Netherlands | 2016 |
| Commission study on legal arrangements |  | CWSS, based on instructions of WSB | 2017 |
| Commission drafting of statutes in accordance with the above |  | CWSS, based on instructions of WSB | 2017 |
| Deliberate and prepare decisions by WSB 19 on the above, as well as staffing arrangements and location |  | HLG | 2017 |
| Adopt necessary decisions |  | WSB 19 | 2017 |
| Carry out recruitment process for Foundation staff |  | CWSS in cooperation with Parties | 2017 |
| Search for (interim) premises if not identical to those of CC |  | CWSS in cooperation with host country | 2017 |
| Found Foundation |  | Parties | 2017 |

1. Note: further steps towards the development of a Wadden Sea World Heritage Foundation were endorsed by Wadden Sea Board 15,cf. WSB 15 Summary Record, Agenda Item 6, p. 7. “It was also concluded that one should start with taking further steps in the process of the development of a World Heritage Foundation.” [↑](#endnote-ref-1)