

**PROTOCOL FROM THE CONSTITUENTLY MEETING IN THE REGION COUNCIL -  
BARENTS REGION - THE EURO-ARCTIC REGION**

Kirkenes, 11th January 1993

The changes in Europe and Russia, has given us a brand new opportunity for a closer co-operation up north. During the last years a firm growth in the bilateral co-operations between the northern parts of Russia, Sweden, Finland and Norway, has occurred.

As a part in the efforts to give the growing co-operation a firmer organisation at a regional as well as at a national level, it is suggested to introduce a new name "The Barents Region" - "Euro Arctic Region".

In addition to the Foreign Ministers meeting in Kirkenes, Norway, 11. th January 1993, the signatories participants from Arkangelsk Oblast, Finnmark fylkeskommune, Lappland Lan, Murmansk Oblast, Nordland fylkeskommune, Troms fylkeskommune, has been true a meeting.

The participating signatories are agree about the following.

1.

To support the initiative from the Foreign Ministers to establish the Barents Region - The Euro-Arctic Region (BR), to comprise the territories to the above-mentioned administrative units, and to follow those principles, measures and the prioritized areas of co-operations, which are in the declaration from the Foreign Ministers meeting in Kirkenes, 11.th January 1993.

2.

To make effort to extend the co-operation within the BR together with other participants.

3.

To establish the following measure as a reason for the regional co-operation;

- to secure a peaceful and stable development in the region
- to strengthen and develop the cultural relationship between the people in the region.
- to encourage to establish new- and extend present bilaterale and multilaterale relations in the region.
- to found a sustainable growth and a social development in the region, which makes efforts to an active and purposed management of the nature and resources.
- to contribute to a developing, which take consideration to the native peoples interests and secure their participation.

4.

To establish the following organizations:

9.

The participating signatories adjuts that The Republic of Karelen can be obtained as a member of the Barents Region, if they apply for membership.

This protocol is maked out in finnish, norwegin, russian, lappish and swedish.

The establishment of the Barents Region - The Euro-Arctic region, confirms by the signatures underneath.

Kirkenes, 11th January 1993.

Arkhangelsk oblast

Murmansk oblast

Samerådet

Finmark fylkeskommune

Nordland Fylkeskommune

Troms Fylkeskommune

Lappland Län

Norbotten Län