

# **Proceedings of the first and formative meeting of the Steering Committee of the Barents Euro-Arctic Pan-European Transport Area, Oslo 8th of December 1998**

## **Agenda:**

- 1 Welcoming and introduction of representatives
2. Mutual orientation on status
3. Rules of procedure
4. Action programme - and further work
5. Any other business

## **Present:**

Sweden

Mr. Peter Fäldt

Ministry of Transport and Communications

Representative

Deputy director, infrastructure unit

Finland

Ms. Rita Piirainen

Ministry of Transport and Communications

Representative

Chief engineer, infrastructure unit

Ms. Marjukka Vihavainen-Pitkänen

Ministry of Transport and Communications

Deputy representative

Secretary for international affairs

Unit for international affairs

The Russian Federation

Mr. Vyacheslav Mikhailovich Parfenov

Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation

Representative

Deputy Chief of Department of Foreign Economic Relations and

International Co-operation

Norway  
Mr. Kjell Rosanoff  
Ministry of Transport and Communications  
Representative, Chairman  
Deputy Director General

European Commission  
Mr. Sven Mogensen  
Representative  
DG VII- Transport  
Principal Administrator  
International Relations

The Barents Regional Council  
Mr. Hannu Viranto  
Representative  
Provincial Government of Lapland  
Head of International Department

Other participants:

Dr. Vladimir A. Masloboev  
Embassy of the Russian Federation in Norway  
First Secretary (Co-operation in Barents Region)

Mr. Martti Miettinen  
Permanent secretary  
TRANSYS LTD.

Mr. Leif Ellingsen  
Ministry of Transport and Communications, Norway  
Advisor

## 1. Welcoming and introduction of representatives

The chairman opened the meeting at 10 a.m. with a welcome and let the representatives present themselves. Russian Ministry of railway transport did not have the opportunity to participate. All other parties (Ministries of transport of Finland, Russia, Sweden and Norway and the EU Commission) were present. A representative of the Barents Regional Council also participated in the meeting. There were no remarks to the agenda.

## 2. Mutual orientation on status

Each party gave a short orientation on the status, particular with reference to priorities made by Ministers at their meeting in Arkhangels in 1996. There has been a considerable progress in this field, although much also remains to be done.

## 3. Rules of procedure

Draft rules of Procedure for the Steering Committee was discussed. The rules are modelled on rules for similar Steering Committees of Helsinki Corridors (Pan European Transport Corridors), adjusted to be in line with the previously signed MoU on development of the Barents PETRA. With some minor technical changes the rules of procedure were adopted.

According to the rules the Steering Committee will report on its work once a year both to the Barents Council, the G-24 Transport working Group and the European Commission

Chairmanship and secretariat will rotate among the participating countries in line with the rotation in the BEAC. In addition participants welcomed the Finnish initiative to establish a permanent secretary in Helsinki - funded by the Finnish Ministry of Transport.

## 4. Action programme and further work

A draft Action Programme for the period 1999 - 2003 was discussed. This programme will be the framework for more detailed work in the Committee. Although there is some need for redrafting, participants agreed on the content of the draft in general. It was agreed that more detailed written comments should be exchanged by the end of this year.

The Programme covers all modes of transport: roads, railways, sea routes, aviation and combined transport systems. It also includes all

ancillary installations, such as ports, border crossings, terminals and telematic systems, which are necessary for the uninterrupted flow of traffic.

The first tasks of the Committee will be to define a backbone transport network of the PETRA and to collect traffic and network information, as necessary for further priorities. The parties agreed to supply the necessary data by the 1st of April 1999.

In May 1999 the Committee aims at arranging a seminar where also other authorities, the Regions, organisations and Financial institutions should participate. In this seminar presentations also will be given on a project level.

#### 5. Any other business

The committee agreed on having its next meeting in connection with the above mentioned seminar in May 1999

The meeting was closed at 1 p.m.