

**Protocol no 8**  
**Steering Committee of**  
**the Barents Euro-Arctic Transport Area**  
**Date: September 11, 2003**  
**Place: St. Petersburg, Russia**

**Members present:** Tomas Brolin, Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications in Sweden; Kjell Rosanoff, Ministry of Transport and Communications in Norway; Vyascheslav Parfenov, Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation (part time), and Kristina Weichbrodt, European Commission DG TREN.

**Other participants:** Dimitri Radobolski, Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation; Jane Baekken, Norwegian Ministry of Transport and Communications; Elena Hazova, Administration of the President of the Russian Federation; Alexander Maximov, Archangelsk Oblast; Lev Shustov, Republic of Karelia; Svetlana Vorontsova, assistant to Administration of the President of the Russian Federation; Juha Hyvärinen, assistant to Finnish Ministry of Transport in St. Petersburg, Anna Arsenieva, assistant to Finnish Ministry of Transport in St. Petersburg; and Martti Miettinen, Secretary of BEATA Steering Committee.

### **§1 Opening of the Meeting**

Mr Parfenov welcomed the participants to St. Petersburg.

Mr Brolin opened the meeting and the meeting agenda (Appendix 1) was adopted.

### **§2 Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the Steering Committee (Protocol no 7)**

The minutes of the seventh meeting of the Steering Committee in Luleå, Sweden, January 22, 2003, were approved (Appendix 2).

### **§3 Revision of the Action Program**

☐ In its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting in Luleå, the Steering Committee delegated the task of drafting the BEATA Action Program 2004-2008 to a task force (Brolin, Baekken, Miettinen). In spring and summer 2003, the task force had prepared a proposal for the new Action Program, which had been sent to the Committee members before the meeting.

Finland, Norway and Sweden did not have any further comments on the Action Plan draft. The Commission wanted to update some of the information that describe the TEN-T revision process in the EU. Russia needed more time for comments, which includes translating the document into the Russian language.

Formatert: Punktmerking og nummerering

It was decided that any remaining comments and proposed revisions concerning the Action Program must be sent to the secretary by October 15, 2003.

#### **§4 Revision of the backbone network**

The BEATA chair had opened the backbone network for revision in accordance to the original backbone network decision made in Rovaniemi in 1999. No proposals for revisions had been received by the deadline in spring 2003. Finland, Norway and Sweden saw no need for any changes in their territories.

The only part of the backbone network needing further work is in the Komi Republic due to the recent decision to accept Komi as member of the Steering Committee. It was decided that the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation communicates this matter to the representatives of the Komi Republic, who were not present, and will come back with a proposal of the backbone network for Komi. The Komi network is to be sent electronically to the secretary by October 15, 2003.

#### **§5 Sustainable Transport in the Barents Region (STBR) project**

Mr. Miettinen made a presentation on the STBR project and outlined the course of the future work. The Interreg III B part of the project covering the Nordic countries had started with a kick-off meeting in Bodö, Norway, August 14, 2003. A specific project secretariat had also been established jointly in Oulu, Finland, and Luleå, Sweden.

The Russian part of the project could not be launched at that time, since any work in Russia must be financed using other source, such as the Tacis CBC program. The planned meeting of the BEAR Communications Group in Narjan-Mar (24.9.) could have provided an opportunity for project preparation, but due to conflicts of time no STBR partners from the Nordic countries could participate. Therefore it was decided:

- A special Tacis application meeting will be held in Archangelsk in November, 2003. The exact date must yet to be decided.
- Parties of both sides will start preparing proposals for potential applications that support the STBR work in Russia.

#### **§6 Change of chairmanship**

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding the term of the current chair country of Sweden ends in this meeting and the next country, Norway, assumes the chair of the BEATA Steering Committee.

Mr Kjell Rosanoff took over the gavel of the chair for the next two years, Oct. 2003 - Oct 2005.

Mr Rosanoff outlined verbally the objectives of the future work. However, a more detailed Norwegian program will be provided in the next Steering Committee meeting, which will be held in early 2004. The final time and place will be announced later.

#### **§9 Closing of the meeting**

Chairman closed the meeting.

Martti Miettinen

Tomas Brolin

#### **APPENDICES:**

1. Agenda no. 8
2. Protocol no. 7