



Joint Working Group on Culture (JWGC)
of the Barents Euro-Arctic Region
Protocol of the meeting 16 June Arkhangelsk, Russia

**JWGC Meeting Protocol
Arkhangelsk, Russia
16 June 2008**

1. Opening of the meeting

The Chairs - Mrs. Dikova (Russia) and Mrs. Østgård (Tromsø) - opened the meeting and welcomed the participants noting that the national representatives from Nordland and Sweden (national) were unable to participate in the meeting and that the representative from Finnmark would attend later. A special warm welcome to the representative from the Working Group of Indigenous Peoples and the invited guests as chairman of the Regional Council (RC). Presentation of participants of the meeting in JWGC (Annex 1).

Practical information about the rest of the day because the meeting will end with the reception for the participants of the International Forum "Culture of the Barents region" (17. -18. June 2008) including the JWGC members.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The enclosed agenda (Annex 2) was adopted with the following changes (proposed by the Chair): The item on the agenda "Report from each region/country" was moved before the item "New winds in Barents. Part B".

3. Adoption of the Protocol of the meeting 19 November 2007 (Luleå, Sweden)

The participants of the JWGC Meeting adopted the Report from 19 November 2007.

4. Presentation of the Regional Council by Mr. Pauli Saapunki, Chair of the RC.

Mr. Pauli Saapunki, Chair of the RC, thanked for the invitation to the JWGC meeting. He underlined the importance of culture in the work of the Barents Region. «If you don't know your own history, you can't build your future». Culture represent the bridge to build the future. He put a strong emphasis on the importance of young people to build the future – they are the future.

He also expressed his concern for the indigenous people and a challenge to have enough resources available to secure their future. Furthermore, he wish to improve the approach to our cooperation in the Barents Region. So far, we work mostly with a technical approach. In this work, all the regional leaders have been asked to present their vision in our work to stimulate a closer dialogue. For the next meeting of the RC in Brussel in Spring 2009, he wish to get input for the agenda. Important to show our area of work to the other parts of Europe!

5. Presentation of the Working Groupe of Indigenous Peoples (WGIP) by Valentina Zganich.

Ms. Zganish thanked for the invitation to the meeting and presented the Nenets traditional culture and language. The economic resources are crucial for the change of the current patterns.

She underlined the importance of the work on the involment of the Nenets culture in all events in the Barents Region in order to make the people feel proud of their culture. We have to respect culture diversity in the Region and how to focus on working together. Among the activities she named the following: a movement on the promotion of the Nenets culture, participation in festivals and discussions, work with (projects on) tourism. She invited people (if they are specialist in this area) from outside to their festivals. Examples: a project on tourism in Finland; and the Nenets are going to take part in the Riddu Riddu Festival in June in Norway.

6. Adoption of the Report of the Barents Cultural Cooperation Programme 2003-2006 by Mrs. Olga Anisimova (Murmansk).

The Report is in the process of its translation and will be sent to the JWGC members. Mrs. Anisimova gave a short presentation. The report will be presented by Mr. Sergey Ershov at the Forum "Culture of the Barents region" the next day.

The goal of the report is to summarize the information about the Program realization and the conditions of cultural cooperation in the BEAR in the period 2003-2006.

The section "Multilateral projects" the Program realization of the cultural cooperation in the Barents Region 2003-2006 "Voices in the Barents Region" has been fulfilled by 86%.

The cultural cooperation "People-to-people" was realized through a great number of conferences, round tables and master-classes. Fellowship and twin-cities relationships between the territories and cities of the Barents Region have become a very important and significant aspect of cultural cooperation. A crucial moment was to involve not only regional centers but also small living places. The next important aspect is appearance of practice of signing bilateral cooperation agreements in the cultural sphere of arts for 1-2 years between cultural officials in the BEAR territory. This fact is considered to be very important while budgeting costs for events declared in the agreements. Should be pointed out the critical importance of festival and seminar organization due to the opportunity for different public traditions to revival and integrated in the BEAR cultural space in close connection with the elements of up-to-date achievements in culture, business, education, management and other spheres of people's life.

The analysis of the realized bilateral projects represents the information how the interests of cultural cooperation participants were shared in the period 2003-2006. Firstly, the combined projects (joint projects) made up 30% of the whole quantity.

The second position belonged to the bilateral projects in the sphere of music and dancing (21%). The next place was for bilateral projects in the sphere of library business (15%). The projects connected with painting, theatre, folk art and education in the cultural sphere share the equal positions (7%). The projects in the sphere of museum work and literature made up 3% per each direction.

Moreover, from the positive point of view, the participants of the BEAR cultural cooperation were not focused only on developing specific projects in the competence frame, but they strove to perform all tasks set up in the project, find the points of mutual understanding and contacts with representatives of other cultural institutions.

In the period of the Program realization all goals and tasks were achieved. All 13 regions of the Barents cooperation were involved in this process. Creative people – artists, musicians, writers, librarians, museum professionals, masters of folk and decorative and applied arts – became key participants of the Program and its implementers.

Cultural public figures, creative people, population could show realize the unique character of their regions in the context of globalization.

The Program realization gave an opportunity to enlarge the frames of communication at all levels: between cultural local authorities, creative people and municipality and counties population. The results were to establish strong and wide relations between the associations of creative people from the Barents region different territories.

It was a very positive fact of the cultural cooperation program that realization helped to involve a great number of young representatives into joint projects. The joint work on preserving of cultural heritage played a very significant role in the Program realization. However, there were some negative moments while the Program was being realized. In the whole period of Program realization it was not managed to provide constant financial support to cultural projects at the national level. This fact caused the failure of some projects or the situation when the projects weren't finished. The main source of financing of the Program events was the regional and municipal finances, grants from the Norwegian Barents Secretariat, the Nordic Council of Ministers, the Nordic Culture Fund, also from other European funds and programs.

The results of the realization of the Program "Voices in the Barents region" can be identified as the following:

1. Common cultural space on the territory of the Barents region has been created.
2. True equal partnership has been established.
3. The governments have increased their attention to the cultural cooperation in the BEAR.
4. Establishing of professional networks in the sphere of culture.
5. The Program realization has enhanced a significant role of cultural cooperation as well as the Barents Region in European context.

The Program of cultural cooperation in the Barents region "The Voices of the Barents region" in 2003-2006 was the first large-scale experience of planned cultural cooperation organized in the BEAR. In the whole, the results of the program give the evidence that this experience was successfully managed and could serve to the further strengthening and developing of cultural ties and cooperation between 13 regions of the Northern territories of Finland, Norway, Russia and Sweden.

7. Report from each region/ country: what of interest for the JWGC has happened in the region and future prospects (5 min for a region/ country).

Presentation from Troms by Mrs. Ellen Østgård:

Riddu Riddu Festivalá 2008 will take place 9-13 July in the Manndalen valley in Kåfjord, Northern Norway. Here you will be able to learn about the diversity of Sámi culture and to meet indigenous peoples from other parts of the world. This year the special focus is on the Ne'nets. Indigenous Youth Camp with young people from all over the world - this year they will celebrate its 10-year anniversary!

Riddu Riddu Centre for Northern Peoples was established this year.

The Nordic Youth Film Festival (NUFF) for young people between 15 and 25 years old will take place 7.-15. June 2008. Based at the youth Culture House TVIBIT in Tromsø, the NUFF has already a five-years successful-story. The NUFF discovers the world of the Youth Cinema.

The Program BarentsKult was established spring 2008 and provides NOK10 mill. for the support of projects and strengthen the cooperation between Russia and Norway. Its owners are Ministry of Foreign affairs, Finnmark and Troms County Councils. Nordland will attend it as well.

Presentation from Västerbotten by Mrs. Karin Westling

In general there is a structural change in Sweden at the national and regional level. Some regions in the south have already united in a bigger region. A consequence of this change is that money will go directly to the region for dissemination. Many regions in Sweden have applied for this and Västerbotten and Norbotten have applied with Väster Norrland. If this system becomes reality, it

will start since 2011 and we will have a similar and united administration responsible for health, culture, education etc. National cultural policy – will be revised in 2009.

Presentation from Norrbotten by Mrs Kerstin Hamre

13.-14. November 2008 the celebration of the Human Rights Days with the focus on Indigenous People and minority will take place in Luleå.

Presentation from Karelia by Mrs Antonina Kamirova

8. June 2008 the Epos Days with groups from Rovaniemi and Karelia together with 700 participants will take place. The Literature project is running and will be present at the Forum next day.

Presentation from Murmansk by Mrs Olga Anisimova

The V International Folk Festival of the North-West of Russia and the BEAR took part in Uмба (Terskiy district, the Murmansk region) on June, 15-16. This festival is organized one time in three years. Folk teams and handicraftsmen of the Murmansk region, the North-West of Russia, Finland and Norway were invited to the festival. Each folk team presented the folk program of their region and handicraftsmen exhibited and sold their works in the “City of craftsmen”. The different activities were organized on the different stages and on the Festival glade at the White Sea gulf shore.

Presentation from Arkhangelsk by Mrs Irina Gubina

Cultural Competence Cluster: Two training sessions on the project aiming at utilizing Nordic experience in the areas of public administration, information technologies, innovation in culture and cultural industries have been executed.

Presentation from Oulu together with Osterbotten by Mr Tomi Aho

1.- 10. June 2008 Cultural Caravan Project with a train to 9 cities through Karelia and Oulu, with seminars and concerts. This project will continued as Cultural Cavalcade in 2010.

Presentation from Finland by Mrs Anne Päkikila

Kajaani process - presentation in the minister meeting. The Nordic Ministers of Culture have set up a Policy Group to prepare a possible cultural partnership. The Northern Dimension is part of the argumentation for the partnership in the Barents region, and it will give possibilities for the new form of financing projects.

Presentation from Finnmark by Mrs Marianne Pedersen

New culture plan for 2008-2014 which includes the multicultural and international issues and their importance.

15. May 2008 cultural days in Murmansk which is part of the bilateral agreement between Finnmark og Murmansk Oblast. Concert with Philharmonic orchestra of Murmansk and the famous Sami Norwegian artist Mari Boine.

Sami music project 2007-09, network, producer and competence.

Russian Norwegian Library Services in Kirkenes, a Library that in cooperation with Troms now has applied for a national status.

Presentation from Norway by Mr Bendik Rugaas

The cultural minister will give a speech at the Cultural Forum conference and have meetings with the Russian minister of Culture. He will present the Norwegian Governments high north strategic plan. This strategy deals with many areas, but contains as a substantial part the culture of the

Barents Region and the bilateral cooperation between Russia and Norway.

Presentation from Lapland by Mr Kari Laine

Mr Laine underlined the importance of the Barents work must be better known.

8. "New winds in Barents" (2nd programme of Cultural Cooperation 2008-2010):

- Part A:

Information about the meeting of Regional Committee in February (Kaajani, Finland) by Mrs Ellen Østgård:

Presentation of the mandate and work of the JWGC and New Winds in the Barents Region with the topics that were adapted by the RC meeting.

Information about the meetings of CSO in April (Moscow, Russia) by Mrs Natalia Dikova:

Presentation of New Winds in the Barents Region was very successful. The CSO approved the JWGC activities directed towards enhancing of interaction in the cultural field between the BEAR territories.

There was a question about indigenous people, about their participation and their place in the Program. The CSO asked to involve more vigorously the WGIP in the events organized and carried out by the JWGC within the BEAC.

- Part B: Discussion about the projects. (Each member of the JWGC should give some information about the proposals of his/ her BEAC region concerning the projects).

Overview of all the projects presented at the meeting (Annex 3) – list of projects

Outlook and Progress plan B:

There are any good projects, but they need to be reformulated within the context / demand of plan B (Annex 4). This means not as a technical list, but in a way to make the implementation of activities easier for other partners.

It is important to consider the projects in relation to each other and related to topics/areas as literature, heritage, young people, networking, and so on.

Time frame: before the meeting in Kirkenes!

9. Next meeting in Kirkenes, Norway

Topic / Focus: Indigenous People (inquired at the CSO meeting April 2008).

Date: Week 5 / 2009 – Barents Spektakel 2009

**PARTICIPANTS JOINT WORKING GROUP ON CULTURE (JWGC) Meeting 16. June 2008
(Arkhangelsk, Russia)**

CHAIRS 2008-2009

OSTGARD Ellen (regional)
Deputy Head of Culture and Sports, Troms County Council
Box 6600, 9296 Tromsø, Norway
ellen.ostgard@tromsfylke.no

DIKOVA Natalia L. (governmental)
Deputy Head of Europe, Asia, Africa and America Division,
Department of Contemporary Arts and International Cultural Relations,
Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation
Maly Gnezdnikovskiy per., 7/6, build.1/2, Moscow, 125009, RUSSIA
dikova@mkmk.ru, rg@mkrf.ru

MEMBERS

Finland

Lapland	LAINEN Kari Secretary General, Arts Council of Lapland Box 8278, FI-96101 Rovaniemi, Finland kari.laine@artslap.fi
Osterbotten	HOLOPAINEN Tuure Director of Cultural Affairs, Council of Oulu Region Kauppurienväki 8 A , FI-90100 Oulu, Finland tuure.holopainen@pohjois-pohjanmaa.fi
Oulu	AHO Tomi Secretary General, Arts Council of Oulu Veteraaniväki 9, FI-90100 Oulu, Finland tomi@olh.intermin.fi
National rep.	PÄKKILÄ Anne Special Government Adviser, Ministry of Education Box 29, FI-00023 Government, Finland anne.pakkila@minedu.fi

Norway

Finnmark	PEDERSEN Marianne Head of Department of Culture and Sports , Finnmark Fylkeskommune Fylkeshuset, 9815 Vadsø, Norway marianne.pedersen@ffk.no
National rep.	RUGAAS Bendik Senior Adviser, Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs Box 8030 Dep, 0030 Oslo, Norway bendik.rugaas@kkd.dep.no

Russia

Arkhangelsk	GUBINA Irina Deputy Chair, Committee for Culture, Arkhangelsk Region Administration Troitsky prospect 49, 163004 Arkhangelsk, Russia gubina@dvinaland.ru
Karelia	KAMIROVA Antonina First Deputy Minister of Culture and Public Affairs of Karelia

Lenin sq 2, 185035 Petrozavodsk , Karelia, Russia
rekunova@mincult.karelia.ru

Komi BELYAEVA Svetlana
Deputy Minister of Culture and Politics
Lenina sr. 73, Syktyvkar, Komi Republic, Russia
mincult@komi.ru

Murmansk ANISIMOVA Olga
Murmansk Regional Administration Committee of Culture and Arts
3, S. Perovskaya str. 183950 Murmansk, Russia
kultura@com.mels.ru

Sweden

Norrbottn HAMRE Kerstin
Project leader Cultur and health, County Council of Norrbotten
Robertsviksgatan 7, SE-971 89 Luleå, Sweden
kerstin.hamre@nll.se

Västerbotten WESTSLING Karin
Officer of Cultural Affairs, County Council of Västerbotten
Köksvägen 11, SE-901 89 Umeå, Sweden
karin.westling@vll.se

Representative of Indigenous Peoples Working Group (WGIP)

ZGANISH Valentina
Memebers of the Indigenous Peoples Working Group
vzagnish@mail.ru

Invited experts

SAAPUNKI Pauli
Chairman of the Barents Regional Council
Paimenpojankuja 5, 93600 Kuusamo, Finland
Pauli.saapunk@pp.inet.fi

GOKKOEV Roman
Barents coordinator, Council of Oulu Region
Kaappurienkatu 8 A, 90100 Oulu, Finland
Roman.gokkoeva@pohjois-pohjanmaa.fi

KHOROSHKINA Elena
Head of Nordic Council of Ministers Information center in Arkhangelsk
eh@norden.ru

GJELSÅS Eirin
Special Advicer Department of Culture and Sports, Troms County Council
Box 6600, 9296 Tromsø, Norway
eirin.gjelsas@tromsfylke.no

Interpreter

SMIRNOV Aleksei

Agenda of the JWGC meeting

Arkhangelsk, Russia

16 June 2008

1. The opening of the meeting (approximately at 13.00).
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Adoption of the Protocol of the JWGC Meeting 19 November 2007 (Luleå, Sweden).
4. Presentation of the Regional Council by Mr. Pauli Saapunki, Chair of the RC.
5. Presentation of the Working Group of Indigenous Peoples.
6. Adoption of the Report of the Barents Cultural Cooperation Programme 2003 - 2006 (made by Murmansk).
7. Report from each region/ country : what interesting for the JWGC has happened in the region and future prospects (5-10 min. for a region/ county).
8. “New winds in Barents” (2nd Programme of Cultural Cooperation 2008-2010):
 - Part A: Information about the meetings of Regional Committee in February (Kaajani, Finland) and of the CSO in April (Moscow, Russia).
 - Part B: Discussion about the projects. (Each member of the JWGC should give information about the proposals of his/ her BEAC region concerning the projects).
9. Next meeting in Kirkenes, Norway.
10. Any other business.

Projectlist				
PART B – ACTION PLAN AND PROJECTS				
2 Programme of cultural cooperation “New winds int the Barents Region 2008-2010				
Country/ region (organizers)	Project name	Objectives/ activities	Multilateral/ bilateral	Schedule/ time span

Country/ region (organizers)	Project name	Objectives/ activities	Multilateral/ bilateral	Schedule/ time span
Russia				
Arkhangelsk	Cultural Competence Cluster	Capacity building	M	2008-
Karelia	The white sea	Cultural economic building	M	
	Karelian Renaissance		M	2008-
	International festival of epics “Kalevala”			2008-
	International cultural “caravan”			2003/ 2007-
	Northern Star – International Theatre festival	Networking/ meeting place		2005-
	The cooperation projects between the symphony orchestra of Karelian State Philharmonic and concert organizations, orchestras and festivals of the Barents euro-artic region	Networking/ meeting place		2009?-
Komi	Sun studio	Cooperation and exchange	B	2008-
	Intersection Point – international Northern Symposium of park sculpture	Networking/ meeting place		2008-
	Polar Book – Barents Library Expedition			2007-
	Searching for Biarmia	Cooperation and exchange	M	2008-
Murmansk	Multicultural concept of social development in the regions with high level of migration	Networking/ meeting place		2008-
	Bridges of understanding and friendship: television conference about children’s and youth’s spiritual development	Networking/ meeting place		2008-
	International scientific conference Cultural heritage of Barents region: the ways of preservation for the further generations	Networking/ meeting place		2009-

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Country/ region (organizers)	Project name	Objectives/ activities	Multilateral/ bilateral	Schedule/ time span
Finland				
Lapland	The Barents Veterans	Cooperation and exchange	M	2008-
	Barents Puppertry Flex	Cooperation and exchange		
Oulu	Festival of Finnish Theatre in Petrozavodsk	Networking/ meeting place	B	2009-
	Cultural Cavalcade 2010	Networking/ meeting place	B	2010-
	North Text 2006	Cooperation and exchange	M	2006-
	Jewellery triennial of the Barents region 2009-2011	Networking/ meeting place	M	2009-
Sweden				
Norrbottem				
Västerbotten	Story-telling in the Barents region	??	M	2009-
	Repatriation in the Barents region	Networking/ meeting place	M	2009-
	Rock art in Sápmi		M	2009-
	Literary cooperation in the Barents region	Networking/ meeting place	M	2008-
Norway				
Finnmark	Barentsstar.com	Networking/ meeting place	B	2009-
	Pan Barents – Barents Art Triennale	Cooperation and exchange/ Networking/ meeting place	M	2008-
Nordland	Literary heritage of the Barents region	Networking/ meeting place	M	2010-
	Literature communication in the Barents region	Cooperation and exchange	M	2009-
	Youth seminar: Youth, democracy&culture	Networking/ meeting place	M	2009-
Troms	Young Artic – cultural cooperation and festival for young people in the north	Networking/ meeting place	M	2009-
	Youth Film Network	Networking/ meeting place	M	2009-
	Literary Camp for Young People in the Barents region	Networking/ meeting place	M	1997-
	Literature crossing the borders	Cooperation and exchange	M	2009-

PART B - ACTION PLAN AND PROJECTS

PART B IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT of the 2nd Programme of the Cultural Cooperation 2008-2010 "New Winds in the Barents Region".

THIS PART IS AIMED at the practical implementation of Part A of the Programme which defines the main directions of cultural policy and priorities of the cultural co-operation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region (BEAR) for 2008-2010.

THE BASE OF PART B is multilateral and bilateral projects.

THIS PROGRAMME PROVIDES for the participation of all the BEAR in realizing both bilateral and multilateral projects.

NEW PROJECT IDEAS AND PROPOSALS from the regions participating in the cultural co-operation within the framework of the Barents Euro-Arctic Cooperation discussed at the annual meetings of the Joint Working Group on Culture (JWGC). The projects currently in the process of being realized and the results of accomplished projects are should be discussed there as well.

IN CONCLUSION OF THE DISCUSSION PART B might be corrected and supplemented. New projects should be submitted for discussion at the JWGC meeting. The most interesting and attractive for subsequent realisation will be included in Part B after the discussion.

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS concerning multilateral or bilateral projects should be prepared:

Project title

- Partners (participants: countries, organisations, cultural institutions)
- Background information
- Aims and objectives
- Plan of practical implementation
- Place of a project realisation (country, city, town)
- Time span and schedule of a project realisation
- A project budget (only a total sum and a list of the financing sources; the *main* financial source should be indicated the first)

All the above mentioned documents should be sent in advance (30 days before a meeting) to all the JWGC members by e-mail in order to be discussed at a meeting. The project development, invitation of the project partners and work coordination should be done beforehand. The JWGC members should work with an accomplished projects list.

FOLLOWING THE RESULTS of the meeting the Resolution adopted with the list of the projects which will be included in Part B and realised by the concerned participating regions of the BEAR cultural co-operation. The Resolutions of the JWGC meetings are essential annexes of Part B of the Programme. They should be sent to National Ministries of Culture and International Financial Funds in order to be taken into account while projects financing being discussed. The 2nd Programme of the Cultural Co-operation 2008-2010 "New Winds in the Barents Region" (Parts A, B) and Resolutions of the JWGC meetings with the list of the adopted projects could be placed on the following web-sites:

www.barentsinfo.org
www.barentsculture.ru.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTRY (region) that triggers a project currently in the process of being realized or already accomplished should provide all detailed information about state of affairs (achieved results and any problems) at the annual meetings of the Joint Working Group on Culture.