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**REPORT FROM MEETING**  
***Barents Regional Working Group on Youth Issues***  
***joint with BRYC***

**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2010  
**Time:** 1400-1700  
**Place:** Saga Hotel Tromsø

**Members of the Regional working group on Youth Issues**

Maria Östensson	Chair	Sweden
Lars Miguel Utsi		Indigenous
Olga Pokrovskaya		Russia

**Members from BRYC**

Ksenia Kipurova	Chair	Arkhangelsk Oblast	Russia
John Asle Somby	Deputy Chair	Finnmark	Norway
Halvard Rundberg		Indigenous rep	Norway
Risto Ukkonen		Lapland	Finland
Robert Lundgren		Västebotten	Sweden

**Others:**

Laila Dalhaug, The Norwegian Barents Secretariat	Norway
Immanuel Reiersølmoen Sør-Varanger Municipality	Norway

**Not attending:**

Maria Petrova, BYCO	Russia
Lene Hansen	Norway
Anastasia Starostina	Russia

# Agenda

**Item 01/2010**      **Adoption of the agenda.** Adopted, adding information from Eva Theiz according to event during the Swedish chairmanship 2011

**Item 02/2010**      **Adoption of the protocol from last meeting**  
(held jointly with BRYC). Adopted

**Item 03/2010**      **Information from the regions**  
New initiatives, upcoming international events

## **Ksenia Kipurova**

The youth forum Team 29 will be arranged in Arkhangelsk 27<sup>th</sup> of July-1<sup>st</sup> of August. Ksenia will be holding a workshop on international youth cooperation, the possibilities for funding and the possibilities for cooperation and networking within the Barents cooperation.

The Barents Stream summercamp got grants from the Norwegian Barents secretariat and look for participants in Sweden and Finland. It will be arranged in mid July for 9 days.

## **Robert Lundgren**

The Teftä-festival was arranged in Västerbotten with Barentsprofile. The bands from Tromsø and Alta made great success. It will be arranged a Info-camp in Umeå 18.-19.september for youths from Norrbotten and Västerbotten. Youths from different NGOs will be invited. The next board meeting will be arranged the days prior to the camp and the members can join in for the camp.

The website for music exchange over the borders is under considering and might be under construction within a year.

He will contact Barentsobserver.com for information and discussions about a Barents Web Radio.

## **John Asle Somby**

The youth councils in Nordland, Tromsø and Finnmark gathered in Troms and a new initiative came up. "Sjarkpiratene" The project aims to challenge the politicians on youth policy. Several festivals come up now; Skiippaggurra, Riddu Riddu, Markomeannu, Midnattsrock, Varangerfestival, Kalottspel, Døgnvill, Bukta.

GÁVNNADEAPMI 2 will be arranged in 2011 In Hætta or Kilpisjärvi. It's an indigenous youth gathering for Sámi youth from all 4 Barents countries. The sami youth organisation in Norway have visited the Sámi youth organisation in Sweden's annual

meeting. They will have a stand during Riddu Riddu. A project will be carried out in Ankarede where the participants will join in on a bus from Varanger and joik their way through the region. It will be arranged at the end of July.

### **Halvard Rundberg**

At the Riddu Riddu festival the indigenous youth camp will take place. The indigenous people of the year are the Veps from Karelia. Halvard Rundberg will hold a workshop for youth under 18 that focuses on identity. Halvard is cooperating with the Døgnvill-festival about a Barents Spot where two bands will get 20-30 minutes each.

### **Risto Ukkonen**

There is a Kalott jazz and blues festival this summer. The Bumblebeat is a rock concert for youth in Torneo and will gather many young people from the region.

### **Olga Pokrovskaya**

There was a seminar for NGOs in April and were made a list of events. Think mental fashion are planning to establish an office in Murmansk and work with HIVC and AIDS. A cinemafestival was carried out and will be an annual international event. The TRASSA festival is running with many different festivals. There is a federal forum for youth 14-30 years with international participation. The economical forum will be arranged in September.

### **Immanuel Reiersølsmoen**

Immanuel took part in the meeting to be local resource in the planning and implementation of the Barents Passion Week. He works at BASEN in Kirkenes and arranges music events. Immanuel informed about the Barents Border Rock

### **Maria Østensson**

The Norden-organisation in Västerbotten have a project together with Karelia and work now to find Finnish partners and may apply for Interreg funding. FNUFF are working on the event "Northern Bridges" and will arrange a café in Umeå for cultural exchange. They are asking BRYC to cooperate. There are also some smaller åprojects like summercamps and so on.

## **Item 04/2010**

### **Information about projects**

- The Barents reggae rock and rights tour have a pilot-project going on and they will prolong the period out 2010. They have been in Murmansk, Rovaniemi, Tromsø and Umeå. The opening of the project will be in Kirkenes during the Barents Spectacle festival in February 2011. It's produced a documentary from the pilot by Adam Zetterquist.
- The new initiative "Barents Pilots " where two Barents enthusiasts will visit Upper secondary schools in northern

Norway to inform about the High north policy and the possibilities for cross-border cooperation will be launched in October 2011.

- The Young Entrepreneurs part 2 is again brought into new life through a new Finnish initiative. The Norwegian Barents Secretariat is actively involved and will be partner in the project. It's important to find Swedish partners.
- The Barents Builders have been arranging two gatherings and the last gathering we will try to arrange during the event in Kirkenes in October.
- Ylva Pavval is working with a project targeted to girls in Sapmi. Niejda - Chicks in Sápmi is a mentoring program for Sami girls in Sweden. The project is run by the Barents Regional Youth Council, and the Sami Parliament Sáminuorra
- Lars Miguel Utsi informed about the Indigenous Entrepreneurship project that has got grants from Interreg and will be launched this fall.

#### **Item 05/2010**

##### **Barents Youth Event 2010**

"Barents Passion Week" 20<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> of October Kirkenes. BRYC informed about the discussions and decisions during the BRYC meeting and the difficulties with the financing of the event. Different alternatives for financing were discussed and it may be possible to apply from the ministry for gender equality and integration in Sweden.

#### **Item 06/2010**

##### **The Barents Regional Youth Programme 2011-2015**

We will make a new draft and use the information from the priority areas as appendixes to the program. It should be short and to the point. We need to send the draft to the regions for input as soon as possible. It will be sent out within next week with deadline august 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Item 07/2010**

##### **Other issues**

##### **Finnish member In WGYI**

The members of the working group have been the same for some of the countries since the establishment in 2003. We have asked the regional committee to look into the possibilities of giving the task to another region in Finland that have the capacity to take part in the meetings. But nothing has happened since last meeting. They should soon find a new representative in the Working group and BRYC. Maria Østensson will send a formal request to IBS and ask for assistance to find a member for the regional working group.

##### **Swedish presidency and youth event 2011**

The event was planned to be a part of the RRR project. Further it would be good to involve the respective youth structures in the preparatory work. It's quite uncertain how the project will be financed and organized.