

## **Minutes for the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Subgroup for Hotspots Exclusion**

**Working Meeting in Piteå on 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2011, at 9.00 – 12.00 CET**

### Agenda

#### **1. Opening of the Meeting**

The meeting was opened in time scheduled, with representation of Sweden (Åke Mikaelsson, Nadya Maslova), Finland ( Henna Haapala), Norway (Barbro Thomsen) and Russia (Andrey Peshkov from MNRE, Ruslan Butovsky from Fund for Sustainable Development) NEFCO (Henrik Forsström). The meeting was a part of the BEAC WGE meeting, so all BEAC WGE participants were present as observers at the SHE18 meeting. Anna Lund (International Barents Secretariat) took part in the discussions on the HS information system.

#### **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

The Agenda was adopted, with the proposal to add item 4d - Implementation of exclusion of prepared hotspots under BEAC WGE as well as 5c – Incorrect information on Norilsknickel web-site. Åke Mikaelsson was appointed Chair of the meeting and Ruslan Butovsky Secretary.

#### **3. Adoption of Minutes from previous meeting**

The Minutes from joint SHE-HEG meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 in Moscow were reviewed and it was decided to adopt it at the next joint SHE 19 meeting to be held in Moscow at October 25, 2011.

#### **4. Presentation of the SHE Report from 2010-2011.**

##### *4a. Brief introduction of the main points of the report*

The main points of the SHE Report were presented by Swedish co-chair of the SHE group Åke Mikaelsson. He stressed the main achievements: (1) development of HSE procedure; (2) nomination of 5 HS for practical exclusion at the Ministerial meeting in November 2011; (3) site visits to 3 hotspots; (4) joint meetings with HEGs; (5) further development of “beac” website; (6) development of HS exclusion plan for 2012 and 2013 and others. The SHE Report was discussed and adopted by the SHE members. SHE group discussed the issue on the wrong information presented by Norilsknickel regarding hotspot M2 (Severonickel in Monchegorsk). It was decided that RF will send a governmental message to the regions and regional offices of Rosprirodnadzror explaining the situation.

*4b. Deliverables for the report.*

A set of deliverables for the report were discussed and adopted after discussions.

D1a. Official letter on appointment and responsible staff at central and territorial levels of AFA.

D1b1. Official letter with Mandate to the HEGs

D1b2 Official response with contact information on all assigned officials in subjects of RF

D1c1 HEG general description and assessment of hotspots prepared for exclusion

D1c2 HEGs proposed priorities for exclusion

D1d General Exclusion Plan (GEP)

D2a Official letter initiating Step 2 - Screening & Analysis.

It was stressed that MNRE in terms of HSE process is considered to be AFA and that has to be confirmed by a letter sent by SHE (Åke Mikaelsson) to Mr. Inamov (Head of Dept. of International Cooperation MNRE). HEGs have to revise and appoint Chairs and Vice-chairs according to adopted Mandate and add a contact person for communication with the HEG. All HEGs have to be revised by October 4 and the information has to be provided to MNRE. The lists of names have to be added to the Mandate and circulated. Andrey Peshkov stressed the importance of translation of the SHE language into the Russian “beurocratic” language more understandable to the regions.

GEP (D1d) was deeply discussed. It was decided that:

- SHE appreciate the idea to have a General Exclusion Plan
- It must consist of 1 general page and 5 pages describing 5 RF subjects
- Each draft must have 2-3 columns (hotspots to be excluded in 2011, by 2013 and after 2013)
- The General Exclusion Plan has to be signed by both co-Chairs and shall be used as a working document for SHE in its operative dialogue with the HEGs
- The final document has to be approved by SHE and presented to WGE for acception
- At the Ministerial meeting the Ministers have to approve 1) the exclusion of nominated hotspots and 2) the correction of names of several hotspots.
- Åke Mikaelsson will refine the details and the docs which have to be adopted electronically.

*4c. Presentation of Step2 – Screening and Analysis (S&A).*

The Step2 was presented at the joint SHE-HEG meeting on September 22, 2011 in Moscow. The S&A Report will have to be currently refined during October 2011 and the updated version will be disseminated by MNRE to SHE as soon as they appear.

It was decided that:

- Nadya Maslova will keep contact with the regions to continuously review the drafts of S&A Reports submitted by the regional HEGs and support them in the refinement.
- As it was decided at the joint SHE-HEG meeting, the first draft has to be presented by October 4, 2011, second – by October 19, 2011 and the final has to be approved at October 25, 2011 at the SHE-HEG meeting in Moscow.
- It is important to mobilize the Technical Advisory Councils (TAC) in each country to review the documents sent by the HEGs.

*4d. Procedural issues on HS exclusion at the BEAC WGE Ministerial meeting*

It was decided that:

- SHE will present the HS nominated for exclusion to BEAC WGE (November 1, 2011 in Stockholm)

- WGE will revise the list and submit it to the Ministers (November 8-9, 2011 in Umeå)
- SHE will invite HEG representatives to a joint meeting in Moscow on October 25, 2011.

## **5. Information Issues.**

### *5a. Confirmation of materials to [www.beac.st](http://www.beac.st) website.*

- A set of documents as it was decided at SHE17 meeting in Moscow (26.08.2011) is already posted to [www.beac.st](http://www.beac.st) site (Report to Ministers, SHE Work Programme, SHE Minutes, NEFCO report)
- SHE has to reconfirm the documents before they are posted to website
- All information has to be submitted to SHE prior to publication on the web site
- SHE has to decide how to manage the information already posted to website

### *5b. Confirmation and prerequisites for information dissemination.*

- It was concluded that Barents Observer is one relevant platform for information dissemination about the Hotspots and that it is getting more popular, News on hotspots have to be published but to elaborate the material it is important to have more people.
- In accordance with the Activity A1 of the SHE Work Programme, SHE has to develop a Communication Plan during October. Åke Mikaelsson and Nadya Maslova will use Swedish EPA experts in the drafting that has to be completed during October..
- Anna Lund will give input to the drafting of the Communication Plan by list of target groups etc. and then assist in refinement and implementation after November, 2011.
- SHE appoints Henrik Forsström, Anna Lund, Ruslan Butovskiy and Arto Vitikka to form an Information Task Force to discuss what kind of information and how it has to be posted on the [beac.st](http://www.beac.st) website. The information must come from MNRE and it should be 1 person responsible for the information. The TF shall copy Nadya Maslova in the correspondence.
- TF has to report on its activities at the next SHE meetings

### *5c. Incorrect information on Norilsknickel web-site*

The co-chairs and NEFCO reported on the inadequate information published on the Norilsknickel web-site incorrectly assuming that the hot spot M2 (Severonickel in Monchegorsk) had been “moved from red to yellow” in follow of parts of the SHE visiting the site on July 9, 2011.

SHE discussed the issue and concluded that this kind of disinformation may negatively impact the confidence for the Procedure and thus its implementation and further exclusion of the Barents Hot Spots.

It was decided that the Swedish co-chair will send a letter to the Russian co-chair about the situation with M2 hotspot for further involvement of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Regional Development in order to appropriately address the issue to the Murmansk government.

## **Any Other Business.**

Henrik Forsstrom reported that for the next year 130,00 Euro was approved by NEFCO to support administration of HSE process and Barenz Secretariat.

**6. Next meetings.**

- Next joint SHE-HEG meeting will take place in Moscow at October 25, 2011
- SHE group plans to have a telephone meeting before October 15, 2011
- SHE group has to present the hotspots for exclusion at the next WGE BEAC meeting scheduled for November 1, 2011 in Stockholm.

**7. Closure of the meeting.**