

Meeting of the Working Group on Environment (WGE#55)  
22 January 2020  
Telephone meeting

## Minutes

### Adoption of the agenda and adoption of minutes from WGE on Sep 25<sup>th</sup> and Nov 27<sup>th</sup>

The WGE decided to adopt the agenda and the minutes from WGE meetings on Sep 25<sup>th</sup> and Nov 27<sup>th</sup>.

### Hot spots for possible exclusion Ko 3-2 and K 5

The Chair of the SHE-group presented the proposal to exclude hotspots Ko3-2 (Discharges to water from Mondi Pulp and Paper Mill) and K 5 (Sewage treatment in Petrozavodsk) by full-track exclusion. The WGE decided to exclude the hotspots Ko 3-2 and K 5 and ask ministers to assent to the exclusion.

### Hot spot outreach material

The WGE discussed the final draft of the brochure on environmental improvements at the Barents Hot Spots.

### Ministerial declaration

Finland noted a drafting error in the section on hot spots that will be corrected. No other changes to the declaration were requested from WGE members. After final corrections, the declaration will be forwarded to the ministers, in order to be adopted at the Environment Ministers' meeting. Alexander Druchinin will review the translation into Russian of the declaration.

### Update on the ministerial meeting

The Chair of the WGE provided an update about the ministerial meeting. The WGE discussed the agenda and practical issues regarding the ministerial meeting.

### Any other business

The WGE Chair informed that NEFCO is currently preparing to open the call for proposals for the Nordic-Russian Programme for Environment and Climate Co-operation (PECC-2).

### List of participants 22.01.2020

1. Elin Kronqvist, Deputy Director, Ministry of Environment, WGE Chair (SE)
2. Åke Mikaelsson, Programme Coordinator for Russia, SEPA, SHE Co-chair (SE)
3. Rickard Nätjehall, Policy Officer, SEPA (SE)
4. Saija Vuola, Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Environment (FI)
5. Helena Dahlbo, Senior Researcher, Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) (FI)
6. Ingrid Lillehagen, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Climate and Environment (NO)
7. Alexander Druchinin, Deputy Head of International Organizations Division, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Russian Federation, SHE Co-chair (RU)
8. Julia Bobina, Climate, Environment and Hot Spots Adviser, International Barents Secretariat (IBS)