



## **Working Group on Environment, 10 November 2010**

### **1. Approval of agenda**

### **2. Information**

- Approved minutes from meeting/telephone meeting in Kiruna
- Adopted work programmes of subgroups

### **3. Information from subgroups**

- the subgroup on hot spot exclusion, especially update on database for hot spot exclusion
- the subgroup on cleaner production, especially on possible cooperation with the working group on energy
- the subgroup on nature protection, especially on the progress on the Barents Protected Area Network

### **4. Up-coming activities of the subgroup on water issues**

- International Conference on Water Resources Management and meeting of the subgroup on water issues and regional working group on environment, 30 November-2 December 2010
- Conference on Climate change and water management – meeting the challenges in the Barents region, May-June 2011

### **5. The development of an Action Plan on Climate Change for the Barents Euro-Arctic Council**

The report on the development of an Action Plan on Climate Change for the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (attached) was discussed at the last meeting of the Committee of Senior (CSO) officials of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council in Abisko (October 2010). The report, including recommendations for further actions, had been prepared by the Swedish Presidency of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council together with the International Barents secretariat. The members of the CSO will be able to make any last comments to the development of an Action Plan on Climate Change by the 31 of November. At its meeting the CSO also decided that the Chairmanship, together with the chairmans of relevant working groups and IBS, will explore the possibility of arranging a conference related to climate change on a topic with cross-sector interest. The activity is planned to be financed by the Chairmanship and complementary to other work on climate change following the recommendations of the report. The CSO also decided to work together with the incoming Norwegian chairmanship and the Province of Norrbotten, incoming chair of the Regional Council, to develop other activities of interest. WGE are invited to comment on further work needed.

### **6. Update from the International Barents Secretariat**

The IBS representative is invited to give a short up-date on the current work of IBS, especially on the support for facilitating project funding.

## **7. Preparations for the 10th Ministerial meeting for the Ministers of Environment in the Barents Euro-Arctic Council**

The next Ministerial meeting for the Ministers of Environment will be held in Umeå, Province of Västerbotten, celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of ministers. The WGE is invited to discuss a possible timing for the meeting, and important issues that the meeting should give special attention to.

## **8. Date for next WGE meeting**

## **9. Other issues**