



THE BARENTS WORKING GROUPS
ANNUAL REPORT

Name of the Working Group: Working Group of Indigenous Peoples
The current Chair and the Chairmanship period: Lars Anders Bær, 2018-2019

1. Priorities of the Chairmanship

The 4th Barents Indigenous Peoples Congress 2019 and the 2nd Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit 2019

2. Meetings (meetings held, main topics and outcomes of the meetings)

1st meeting held in Murmansk 12th and 13th of March 2018

Main topics were introducing new members to the WGIP work, election of new chair, participation in other WG and Karelians to the WGIP; application presented by a representative from the Karelians.

Outcomes were so so, as the meeting was interrupted early in the first part by a bomb threat to the hotel where the meeting was held, which delayed the meeting and shocked the members of the working group, our observers and visitors to the introduction of the work of the WGIP. Our most urgent question about electing the new chair was therefore postponed, and elected later at a phone meeting, while presentation of the application from the Karelians took place as planned.

2nd meeting was held per Skype Wednesday the 21st of March.

Main topic was electing a new chair.

Outcome was that Mr. Lars Anders Bær was elected unanimously.

3rd meeting held in Brussels 6th of June 2018

Main topics were the 4th Barents Indigenous Peoples Congress which is to take place in 2019, and the **Outcome** of this meeting was that it was decided that we will arrange both the 4th Indigenous Peoples Congress and the 2nd Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit as a two day event. Topics for the events were also decided at this meeting

4th meeting held in Kautokeino 22nd of September 2018

Main topics were the 4th Indigenous Peoples Congress and the 2nd Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit, the new action plan for indigenous peoples in the Barents region, and renewal of WGIP terms of references and participation in other WG's.

Outcomes from this meeting was that it was decided that the 4th Indigenous Peoples Congress and the 2nd Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit are to take place in Lycksele, Västerbotten county, Sweden at the end of May 2019. The secretaries and the chair were also given the mandate by the WG to draft a program for the 4th Indigenous Peoples Congress and the 2nd Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit. The terms of references were approved, and two new representatives were chosen from the WGIP to the JWGC and the BEAC WGE.

3. Other activities (projects, events, programmes etc.)

WGIP`s representation in the formal structure of the Barents Euro-Arctic cooperation 2018

Committee of Senior Officials: Mr. Lars-Anders Bær represented the WGIP in the meeting of the BEAC Committee of Senior Officials.. Ms. Ida Holm Hansen (secretary of the WGIP) has represented the working group when necessary.

Barents Regional Council: Ms. Domna Khomiuk represented the WGIP in the meetings of the Barents Regional Council. Ms. Ida Holm Hansen has represented the WGIP in the Barents Regional Council when necessary.

Barents Regional Committee: Ms. Ida Holm Hansen has represented the WGIP in the Barents Regional Committee when necessary.

Barents Regional Youth Council (BRYC): Mr. August Sjøvoll represented the WGIP in the Barents Regional Youth Council (BRYC)

BEAC Working Group on Environment: Ms. Anna Prakhova (Sámi, Russia) represented the WGIP in the BEAC Working Group on Environment. On the 3rd of September Daria Shvetsova was elected as a new representative.

Joint Working Group on Tourism: Mr. Andrey Dubovtsev (Sámi, Russia) represented the WGIP in the Joint Working Group on Tourism.

Joint Working Group on Youth: Ms. Tatiana Egorova (Sámi, Russia) represented the WGIP in the Joint Working Group on Youth.

Mr. Lars Anders Bær

CSO-meetings

- Luleå, Sweden, January 31st -1st of February
- Skellefteå, Sweden, May 31st-June 1st
- Kiruna, Sweden, October 3rd-5th
- Hemavan (Tärnaby), Sweden, December 17th-18th

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- Policy Workshop: Indigenous economic development in the European Arctic - Brussels, 5th of June
- UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples(EMRIP),seminar, 5th and 6th of November, in Chiang Mai, Thailand, on the issue of migration, national borders as it relates to indigenous peoples. Invited by EMRIP and financed by UN))
- Indigenous Land rights , Governance and Economic Development. The Case of Sweden Side event at UNPFII, 17th of April, New York. (Financed by The Sami Parliament, Sweden)
- Phone meeting with the Swedish Chairmanship the 5th of December
- First MIREU SLO Workshop 8th and 9th of May in Rovaniemi and financed by MIEUR)
- Second MIREU SLO Workshop-Regional Development, Leoben, Austria, 24th and 25th of October
- Meeting with the county of Västerbotten the 13th december

Ms. Tatiana Egorova

CSO-meetings

- Luleå, Sweden, January 31st-February 1st
- Skellefteå, Sweden, May 31st-June 1st

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- Barents Co-operation 25 years; Fostering common opportunities in the European Arctic, Belgia, Brussels 5 June
- Joint Working Group on Youth, held on 12th April, in Umeå, Sweden.

Ms. Ida Holm Hansen

CSO-meetings

- Luleå, Sweden, January 31st-February 1st

Regional Committee meetings

- Rovaniemi, Finland, 23rd of May

Regional Council meetings

- Rovaniemi, Finland, 24th of May

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- Barents Co-operation 25 years; Fostering common opportunities in the European Arctic, Belgia, Brussels 5th June

Mrs. Anna Prakhova

BEAC Working Group on Environment

- Piteå, Sweden, 23rd May-24th May
- Skellefteå, Sweden, 13th November-14th November

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- Barents Ecological Film Festival, Petrozavodsk, Russia, 28th of April-03rd of May

Mr. Andrey Dubovtsev

Joint Working Group on Tourism

- Luleå, Sweden, 26th April-27th April

Working Group of Indigenous Peoples

- Murmansk 12th and 13th of March

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- Deputy head of department of tourism Murmansk region Tsykunova Svetlana, on June 27th

Ms. Domna Khomiuk

Regional Committee meetings

- Syvtykar, Russia, 26th and 27th of September

Regional Council meetings

- Syvtykar, Russia, 26th and 27th of September

Mr. August Sjøvoll

Barents Regional Youth Council meeting

- Luleå, Sweden, 14th-16th of April

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- Indigenous youth and urbanization; challenges and opportunities, Moscow, Russia the 11th of May

- Across cultures, Kirkenes, Norway, 8th-11th of November

4. Results of the year (decisions, new initiatives, improvements)

It has been decided that we will conduct the 4th Barents Indigenous Peoples Congress and the 2nd Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit in Lycksele, Sweden, the 27th and the 28th of May.

We have also decided to expand our participation in the working groups, and have elected a long awaited representative to the Joint Working Group on Culture, on the 3rd of September Alexandra Fomina was elected as a new representative. We have discussed the possibility to be represented in more working groups as well, but it all depends on funding.

The possibility of one or several study trips to the different regions have been discussed to learn more about each others way of doing things and to see the strength of indigenous life in the Barents region.

5. Evaluation of the work (What went well, what needs improvement)

WGIP has successfully revised our terms of references, and have conducted 3 very productive meetings. WGIP could be more proactive on arranging events, but as it is now the funding we receive is just about enough to conduct our meetings and be represented in other working groups.

6. Other