



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 Alta, Norway on the 8th and 9th of February

Main topics were IV Barents Indigenous peoples Congress, Second Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit in 2019, WGIP participation at UNPFII Eighteen Session: 22 april-3 may 2019, and the possibility of extra financing for WGIP activities from Interreg programs.

Outcomes were that as for the participation New York we would need to plan more ahead, as applying for visas for the Russian participants of WGIP could take several months. As for the summit and congress, topics, main questions, participation, invited guests, financing and other relevant issues both for the Congress and Conference was looked upon and discussed more thoroughly.

2nd meeting was held in Inari, Finland on the 13th of April

Main topic were the Action Plan 2019-2023, Congress Resolution, The IV Barents Indigenous peoples Congress and II Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit Budget, Possible meeting with federal agency of national affairs and RAIPON in Moscow in June, Side event during the 75th year anniversary for the liberation of Finnmark and the Situation on Kola with grazing lands of the agricultural cooperative "Tundra" from January this year.

Outcomes were that we would try to fit our action plan into other WGs action plans so we can spread our cooperation. The secretaries informed about the economical status of the congress and summit. It was decided that a possible meeting in Moscow is of interest for the group, and the secretary would look into possible dates. As for the possible side event during the 75th year anniversary for the liberation of Finnmark, it was decided that the secretariat will check the possibilities for this meeting and notify the working group. The representative from the Saami

at the Russian side of the border informed about the situation on Kola with grazing lands, and Yury Khatanzevskiy said that Raipon would look into it.

3rd meeting was held by skype on the 24th of August

Main topics were the evaluation of the 4th Barents Indigenous Peoples Congress and the the 2nd Barents Indigenous Peoples Summit, financing of the WGIP, travel expences of the WGIP, the side event during the 75th year anniversary for the liberation of Finnmark, applying for finances for a potential 3 year cultural/ indigenous cultural project from the cultural department of Norway, WGIP participation at the XVII BEAC Foreign Ministers' Session in Umeå, 3rd of October and WGIP participation at UNPFII Eighteen Session: 13th-24th of april 2020

Outcomes were that all WG representatives from Norway, Sweden and Finland's travel expences are to be covered by the representative Saami Parliament in the future, as the WGIP budget is small and have not been regulated according to cost increases in travel, accomodation and so on. It was decided not to hold a side event during the 75th year anniversary for the liberation of Finnmark as the reindeer batalion was already a part of the official program. We decided not to apply for the 3 year cultural/ indigenous cultural project from the cultural department of Norway as it turned out after dialouge with the department, that it doesn't apply for a working group such as ours. It was decided that chair and both secretaries are to participate at the ministerial meeting in Umeå October the 3rd, and WGIP participation at UNPFII is still up for discussion.

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. Ms. Tatiana Egorova(secretary of the WGIP) has represented the working group when necessary

Barents Regional Council: Ms. Domna Khomiuk(Sámi, Russia) represented the WGIP in the meetings of the Barents Regional Council.

Barents Regional Committee: Mr. Lars Anders Bær has represented the WGIP in the Barents Regional Committee.

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

BEAC Working Group on Environment: Ms. Daria Shvetsova (Veps, Russia) represented the WGIP in the BEAC Working Group on Environment.

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.

Joint Working Group on Culture: Ms. Alexandra Fomina (Nenets, Russia) represented the WGIP in The Joint Working Group on Culture

Mr. Lars Anders Bær

CSO-meetings

- March 26-28th, Piteå
- June 13rd, Stockholm
- October 3rd, Umeå
- October 28-29th, Kirkenes

Regional Committee meetings

- April 3rd, Tromsø
- October 2-4th, Umeå

Regional Council meetings

- April 3rd, Tromsø
- October 2-4th, Umeå

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- Barents Predators Seminar in Svanselse, Sweden, March 4th 2019
- Meeting with Vice-Governor on indigenous issues of NAO and NAO representative in BRCommittee, 11th of March, Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- Meeting with the leader of Ethno-Cultural Centre and indigenous representative in the BEAC JWGC, 11th of March, Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- Meeting with reindeerherders and nenets organisation "Yasavey", 12-13th of March, Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- Nenets Peoples Congress and Yasavey Congress on 21-22nd of March in Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden

- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- The 9th Barents Parliamentary Conference, Haparanda, 17-18 September
- BEAC XVII Foreign Ministers' Session, Umeå, 3rd of October
- EU Arctic dialog, Umeå, Oct 3rd
- EU Indigenous dialog, Umeå, Oct 4th
- Barents Ministerial Meeting on Health and social issues on 11-12th November 2019 in Oslo
- Norsk-svensk samarbeid for styrket ungdomsfokus i Barentsregionen, Stockholm 3rd of December 2019.

The chair has also been involved in work with OECD study on Linking Indigenous communities with regional development, both the Swedish and global study.

Internal meeting with secretaries of WGIP:

1. 16-17th of January in Tromsø, Norway.
2. 25-26th of February in Kirkenes, Norway.
3. 20-21st of March in Narjan-Mar, Russia.

Ms. Tatiana Egorova

CSO-meetings

- October 28.-29th, Kirkenes

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- Meeting with Vice-Governor on indigenous issues of NAO and NAO representative in BRCommittee, 11th of March, Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- Meeting with the leader of Ethno-Cultural Centre and indigenous representative in the BEAC JWGC, 11th of March, Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- Meeting with reindeerherders and netens organisation "Yasavey", 12-13th of March, Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- Nenets Peoples Congress and Yasavey Congress on 21-22nd of March in Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- Joint Working Group on Culture, held on 24-25th of April, Vardø-Vadsø, Norway.
- Meeting with Sami delegates to BIPC and BIPS, 10th of May, Murmansk, Russia.
- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- Meetings with Murmansk Centre for Indigenous peoples of the North, 3rd of July, Murmansk, Russia.

- Cooperation in the Arctic, panel discussion on People-to-people cooperation, 13th of November, Murmansk, Russia

Internal meetings with chair of WGIP

1. 16-17th of January in Tromsø, Norway.
2. 25-26th of February in Kirkenes, Norway.
3. 20-21st of March in Narjan-Mar, Russia.

Mr. Pjera Heaika Muotka

Sami Representative, Norway

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- The 6th Arctic Leaders' Summit (ALS6) in Rovaniemi, Finland, 13-15th of November 2019
- Arctic Leaders' Youth Summit in Rovaniemi, Finland, November 12-13th, 2019

Mr. Yury Khatanzevskiy

Nenets Representative, Russia

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden

Mr. Tuomas Aslak Juuso

Sami Representative, Finland

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden

Mr. Evgeniy Foteev

Veps Representative, Russia

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden

Ms. Ida Holm Hansen

Secretariat, Norwegian Barents Secretariat

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- Meeting with Vice-Governor on indigenous issues of NAO and NAO representative in BRCommittee, 11th of March, Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- Meeting with the leader of Ethno-Cultural Centre and indigenous representative in the BEAC JWGC, 11th of March, Narjan-Mar, Russia.
- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- BEAC XVII Foreign Ministers' Session, Umeå, 3rd of October
- EU Arctic dialog, Umeå, Oct 3rd

Internal meetings with chair of WGIP

1. 16-17th of January in Tromsø, Norway.
2. 25-26th of February in Kirkenes, Norway.
3. 20-21st of March in Narjan-Mar, Russia.

Mrs. Daria Shvetsova

BEAC Working Group on Environment

- Umeå, Sweden, 24-25th of September

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden

Mr. Andrey Dubovtsev

Joint Working Group on Tourism

- Stockholm, Sweden, 4th and 5th of November

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

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Ms. Domna Khomiuk

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- February: Meeting with the governor of Murmansk Region, meeting with the Chairman of the Murmansk Regional Duma, meeting at the Ministry of Culture of Murmansk Region
- February 25th and 26th, 2019 the Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation - held a seminar in Murmansk on hunting, fishing, land and water legislation, pension and social security of indigenous peoples.
- Participated in a workshop on hunting in the administration of the Lovozersky district on February the 27th
- - International Forum "Year of Indigenous Languages in Russia", March 20th-22nd, in the city of Khanty-Mansiysk
- Participated at a meeting in the Lovozero National Cultural Center of the Minister of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Ministry of Defense on resolving the issue of protecting the rights to traditional activities and preventing the legalization of hunting in protected areas, on April 5th
- Held a presentation of the Sami literature at the Lovozero National Cultural Center, on May 20th, as part of the celebration of the International Year of Indigenous Languages and Sami Word Day,
- Participated at a meeting of specialists from the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture of the Moscow Region was about clarifying the rules of legislation in the field of fisheries on May 23rd in Lovozero, on the initiative of the Council of Representatives of the Indigenous Minorities, under the Government of the Murmansk Region, the Lovozersky National Cultural Center.
- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- The ecological action "Territory of Good Deeds", oz. Popovsky (village of Lovozero) June 13th.
- Festival of culture of the peoples of the North "Tales in the Sand." June 20th
- VI ethnocultural festival of the Leningrad region "Russia-harmony of cultures.", August 24th
- Meeting of the Council of Representatives of the Indigenous Minorities under the Government of the Ministry of Defense, September 17th at the Center of the Peoples of the North
- The 75th anniversary of the defeat of the Nazi forces in the Arctic, near Olenegorsk - the traditional regional military-sports, military-patriotic, tourist rally of youth "In the same ranks with the Victory", from October 18th to October 20th
- October 24th 75 years ago, the Petsamo-Kirkenes operation began, the result of which was the complete defeat of the Nazi forces in the Arctic and in the Norwegian province of Finnmark. In memory of those events, an open lesson was held with students from the city of Snezhnogorsk.
- Session of the Saami Council, October 25 – 26th, Murmansk -
- Youth Forum "ETHNOMURMAN", November 01st, Murmansk

Mr. August Sjøvoll

Barents Regional Youth Council meetings

- Joensuu, Finland, Friday 14th-15th of February

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- The Barents Regional Youth Council's annual event, Switch, Vuokatti, Finland, 15th -18th of August
- BRYC Board meeting 14th of April 2019

Ms. Alexandra Fomina

Joint Working Group on Culture meetings

- 24-25th of April, Vardø-Vadsø, Norway

Seminars, conferences and official meetings

- IV Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 27th of May, Lycksele, Sweden
- II Barents Indigenous Peoples' Summit 28th of May, Lycksele, Sweden

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

WGIP has successfully conducted the fourth Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress and Summit in Lycksele, and have conducted 3 very productive meetings. As it has been decided that the Sami Parliaments in Norway, Sweden and Finland will fund the costs of their representatives, WGIP aims to be more proactive on arranging relevant seminars and events in 2020, and be represented more widely in other WG and on several relevant arenas.

5. Youth involvement (how has the working group included young people or worked with youth issues during the year)

Youth involvement has been a high priority for the WGIP during 2019.

WGIP has through our youth representative in Barents Regional Youth Council, current chair August Sjøvoll, been a part of planning, arranging as well as participated in several youth projects, and has also worked with youth related issues. For example the BRYC sexual health conference in Kiruna in May, Glitter, a summer camp on female empowerment that took place in Tromsø in the middle of July and the BRYC annual event Switch in Vuokatti, Finland in August. WGIP have also invited an all youth panel with representatives from the Veps, the Nenets and the Sami from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia to our II Barents Indigenous People's Summit to discuss the topic "*When collaboration is cultural life saving*".

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

WGIP has successfully conducted the fourth Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress and Summit in Lycksele, 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. Therefore the Sámi Parliaments of Sweden, Norway and Finland have decided to contribute to our funding by covering all travel expenses connected to their representatives in the Working Group. The previously planned study trips to other regions have been postponed to 2020 because planning and conducting of the BIPC and the BIPS have been very time consuming.

7. Other