

Barents Eamialbmogiid Lávdegoddi

Arbeidsgruppen for urfolk i Barentsregionen

Рабочая Группа по Коренным Народам Баренцева региона

The Working Group of Indigenous Peoples in BEAR

WGIP meeting

Kirkenes, 8 November 2011

Lars-Anders Baer

Tuomas Aslat Juuso

Bjarne Store-Jakobsen

Elizaveta Kharitonova

Valentina Sovkina

Galina Arteeva

Evgeny Yushkov (interpretation)

Christina Henriksen (secretariat)

AGENDA

31/11 Approval of call-up

32/11 Approval of agenda

33/11 Approval of protocol from the Petrozavodsk meeting

34/11 Barents Indigenous Peoples' Office (BIPO)

- Co-localization with the Norwegian Barents Secretariat and the Barents Youth Cooperation Office in Murmansk

35/11 The Second Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 2012

36/11 Conference on Indigenous Peoples, Business and Environment 2012

37/11 Action Plan 2013-2016 (input and preparations)

38/11 WGIP representation in the Working Group on Environment (WGE)

39/11 WGIP representation in the Barents Regional Council (BRC)

40/11 Other issues

41/11 Next meeting

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31/11 Approval of call-up

Decision: The call-up was approved

32/11 Approval of agenda

Decision: The agenda was approved. Item 38/11 will be discussed first.

33/11 Approval of protocol from the Petrozavodsk meeting

Decision: The protocol was approved.

34/11 Barents Indigenous Peoples' Office (BIPO)

- **Co-localization with the Norwegian Barents Secretariat and the Barents Youth Cooperation Office in Murmansk**

The item was discussed in the Petrozavodsk meeting.

The main aim is to co-locate the BIPO with other relevant Barents organizations in Murmansk City; The Norwegian Barents Secretariat, the Barents Youth Cooperation Office and possibly the Murmansk branch of the Nordic Council of Ministers.

Decision: The WGIP decides to move the Barents Indigenous Peoples' Office (BIPO) from Lovozero to Murmansk city and co-locate the BIPO with the Norwegian Barents Secretariat and other relevant organizations and institutions. Valentina Sovkina maintained her view that the BIPO should be located in Lovozero.

35/11 The Second Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 2012

Decision:

- a) The delegates from the Russian side will return on Saturday 11 February 2012
- b) The draft resolution will be distributed to the delegations no later than 10 January 2012
- c) The final draft Action Plan for Indigenous Peoples in the BEAR 2013-2016 will be distributed no later than 10 January 2012

36/11 Conference on Indigenous Peoples, Business and Environment 2012

3 out of 4 speakers are confirmed.

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Baer suggests inviting Dr James Anaya to open the conference with a key note speech, as the mandate of the Un Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples' Rights is prolonged with 3 more years.

Decision:

- a) The secretariat will send an invitation to Dr James Anaya, the UN Special Rapporteur on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to open the conference on 9 February and follow the Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 2012
- b) Invitations will be distributed no later than 1 December 2011 to regional and state authorities, external indigenous peoples' organizations, funding institutions and other relevant
- c) The WGIP representatives are not included in the delegations
- d) Visa expenses will be covered by the budget if necessary

37/11 Action Plan 2013-2016 (input and preparations)

The WGIP was divided into groups and discussed the priorities and content.

V. Sovkina: The success stories should be promoted, maybe in an annex to the Action Plan.

Decision:

- a) The WGIP representatives should send input and proposals for the Action Plan to the secretariat no later than 1 December 2011
- b) The secretariat will work on the final draft Action Plan 2013-2016 and distribute the final draft to the WGIP representatives no later than 10 January 2012
- c) The WGIP representatives are responsible for keeping their respective organizations informed

38/11 WGIP representation in the Working Group on Environment (WGE)

Anna Prakhova was elected WGIP representative to the WGE at the meeting in Petrozavodsk, after being first elected substitute representative at the WGIP meeting in Helsinki in December 2010.

Anna Prakhova has discussed the participation in the WGE with the former WGIP representative, Tor Mikalsen, and is prepared to participate in this work.

Items for the declaration Ministerial meeting:

- Hot Spot list: 5 hot spots in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region
- Coverage in media – Norilsk Nickel

Russian Federation has signed an agreement with NEFCO, and one of the hot spots can be excluded from the list.

Prakhova encourages the WGIP representatives to be aware of the potential protected areas in their respective regions.

Decision: The information is taken into consideration.

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39/11 WGIP representation in the Barents Regional Council (BRC)

The Chair informed about the participation and the suggestion to ask Aili Keskitalo to maintain the position as WGIP representative to the Barents Regional Council.

T. Juuso: The Finnish side considers it crucial that the Representative to the Barents Regional Council is a WGIP representative.

Decision: The WGIP is awaiting a decision from the Saami Parliamentary Council regarding the official WGIP representative to the Barents Regional Council. Until a formal decision has been made by the Barents Regional Council regarding formal representation of the WGIP, the Veps and the Nenets peoples will appoint their participants to the Barents Regional Council meetings.

40/11 Other issues

Practical information – Christina

News from Finland:

New government in Finland, have signalized a ratification of the ILO Convention No. 169. The government also highlights protection of traditional knowledge. Language vitalization is another important point. The Saami Parliament of Finland took part in the development of the government program, and this method will maintain. Good perspectives for a better relation between the Saami Parliament and the Finnish Government, and hopefully the Finnish side can contribute to the work of the WGIP as well.

The Supreme Court of Finland has decided on a wider definition of Saami people, which could have a big impact on the next election and the legitimacy of the Saami Parliament. A report has been made on territorial use and traditional knowledge, and the work has been led by the President of the Saami Parliament.

Decision: The information is taken into consideration.

41/11 Next meeting

The next meeting of the WGIP will take place after the Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 2012.

Decision: The secretariat will find a suitable date for the next meeting in the beginning of March and inform the WGIP representatives.

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