

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
Stockholm, Sweden
October 14, 2010

Present:

Bjarne Store-Jakobsen
Valentina V. Sovkina
Galina A. Arteeva
Elizaveta Kharitonova
Lars Anders Baer

Secretariat:

Christina Henriksen
Evgeny A. Yushkov
Lars Miguel Utsi

BEAC:

Kerstin Rosén

Absent:

Tuomas Aslat Juuso

- 16/10 Approval of call-up
- 17/10 Approval of agenda
- 18/10 Approval of protocol from Kirkenes meeting
- 19/10 Information
- 20/10 Update on projects
- 21/10 The resolution from Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 2010
- 22/10 The Second Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 2012
- 23/10 New chair of WGIP
- 24/10 UNPFII 2011 (May 16-27)
- 25/10 Substitute member for WG on Environment
- 26/10 WGIP representative to the WG on Economic Cooperation
- 27/10 Chairmanship in Regional WG on Youth Issues
- 28/10 Economy
- 29/10 Activity plan
- 30/10 BIPO update
- 31/10 Other issues
- 32/10 Next meeting

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16/10 Approval of call-up

The call-up was distributed to members, observers and other relevant bodies on September 14th, whereas the members of the WGIP were informed of the meeting date in late August.

Decision: The call-up is approved.

17/10 Approval of agenda

The secretariat has not received any suggestions to items for the agenda.

Decision: item 18/10 is approval of protocol from last meeting.

To 31/10 other issues: WGIP WORKSHOP 2010

Lars-Anders Baer: New representatives will be elected for the UNPFII; Baer suggests a brief discussion on UNPFII. To be discussed under 24/10

Decision: The agenda is approved with changes.

18/10 Approval of protocol

Decision: The protocol is approved.

19/10 Information

Written updates from the representatives should be sent to the secretariat prior to the meeting, for translation and distribution.

Written update received from Yasavey and from the Barents Indigenous Peoples' Office (BIPO).

Bjarne Store-Jakobsen: A letter was sent from WGIP to BEAC and BRC on June 23 regarding the resolution from Barents Indigenous Peoples Congress. The issue was discussed at the CSO meeting in Kiruna on October 12. The Chair of WGIP was present; as was the Chair of the Barents Regional Committee. A consensus was reached upon the following: the indigenous peoples of the BEAR will be directly represented in the Committee of Senior Officials. One (1) representative from each indigenous people (Veps, Nenets, Saami), will be invited to the CSO meetings. The Chair of the Regional Committee indicated that the issue will be presented for the Regional Committee and the Regional Council, regarding direct representation in those bodies as well.

This decision (CSO) is a signal to the BEAC regarding direct representation in BEAC, referring to the BIPC resolution.

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Galina Arteeva: Participated in JWGHS meeting in Syktyvkar 23-24 September. Written report is attached.

Valentina Sovkina: A written report on BIPO and SUPS MO activities is distributed to the present members of the WGIP. BIPO/SUPS MO was invited to the celebration of the International Day of Indigenous Peoples in Shongui, and to the Drum Ceremony on September 13.

Sovkina held a presentation at the Barents Regional Parliamentarian Conference in Murmansk on September 29.

A joint committee on indigenous peoples among parliamentarians in North-West Russia is established. The secretariat might be located in St Petersburg.

Elizaveta Kharitonova: The new President of the Republic of Karelia, Mr Andrey Nelidov, has met with Vepsians, Karelians and Finns already.

Zinaida Strogalschikova (Vepsian Cultural Society) is elected member of the Public Chamber of Karelia, and appointed Head of the Cultural Committee. The Public Chamber was established by Putin a few years ago, and it exists on both federal and regional level.

A new census will be held in RF; aiming at indigenous peoples and including mapping of language skills. Each individual will be responsible for registering their ethnic identity. The question of a census of indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation is also an economic issue for the region, as the regions receive state support to the regional development programs for indigenous peoples (through the Federal Ministry of Regional Development).

Christina Henriksen: Kautokeino commune (Norway) and Zapolyarny Rayon (Russian Federation) have signed a new agreement on cooperation. This happened in Iskateley, NAO, on September 24, 2010.

The Association of World Reindeer Herders (WRH) has, in cooperation with the NAO administration, consultants and Kautokeino commune, initiated a pre-project on production and processing of reindeer hides in Nenets Autonomous Okrug.

Yasavey, the NAO administration and the Norwegian Barents Secretariat have, in cooperation with the Canadian partners, agreed to hold a workshop on the Nenets Radio Project, in Naryan-Mar on March 10, 2011.

Decision: Elizaveta Kharitonova will prepare a brief report on the established parliamentary committee, including its mandate and composition. The report will be sent to the secretariat and distributed among the WGIP representatives.

20/10 Update on projects

Indigee - Indigenous Entrepreneurship: The steering committee will have a meeting on October 18-19 in Luleå, and the first Indigee conference will be in Vilhelmina on November 28-29.

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Kerstin Rosén: BEAC Chair has evaluated the first year of the Swedish Chairmanship.

Future plans for BEAC Chair:

- Raw materials: BEAC will arrange a seminar in Brussels, as planned
- Environment: Forestry – BEAC seeks to improve the cooperation between Sweden and Russia

Obshina Kildin: The Chair and the secretariat met the project manager (SEG) in Tana in September. The project has been stopped, due to the fact that the project did not develop in the desired manner. Approximately NOK 1 000 000 has been spent on investments and project management. The project manager awaits the development of the situation.

Kola Saami Radio: The new established foundation must pay NOK 100 000 for the shares in Kola Saami Radio. The foundation is currently working to implement the process of taking over the control of Kola Saami Radio, and secure the operation.

21/10 Resolution from Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 2010

The resolution was distributed to the Committee of Senior Officials on June 23rd 2010, followed by a letter (attachment). The issue will be discussed at the Barents Regional Council meeting in Kajaani on November 11th 2010.

Decision: The secretariat awaits the protocol from the CSO meeting in Kiruna. A letter will be sent to the CSO as a response, underlining the importance of the decision made. The WGIP takes the CSO decision into consideration.

22/10 The Second Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress 2012

Lars Anders Baer suggests having a dialogue with Saami Parliamentary Council regarding potential co-conferencing.

Valentina Sovkina will investigate possible plans for a conference in Murmansk regarding indigenous peoples in BEAR.

Decision: The secretariat, in cooperation with the representatives, will prepare a program proposal for the next WGIP meeting.

23/10 Election of the chair of WGIP

All participating organizations/parliaments are free to suggest candidates for the position as Chair of WGIP, among the WGIP members.

The secretariat did not received any proposals for the Chair of WGIP, prior to the meeting.

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Lars Anders Baer: The board of the Saami Parliament in Sweden has discussed the issue of chairmanship of the WGIP and the necessary tasks, and concluded that the task demands large efforts and time. Bjarne Store-Jakobsen is a suitable candidate for the Saami Parliament in Sweden, due to availability and seen in the context of close connections with the Norwegian side, who has a significant role when it comes to financing of cross-border projects. The Saami Parliament in Sweden does not have the resources needed to act as Chair of the WGIP.

Galina Arteeva confirms that the issue has been discussed with Aleksandr Belugin, the permanent representative of Yasavey to WGIP.

Kerstin Rosén confirms the financial support of NOK 100 000 for WGIP from the Swedish MFA for 2011.

Valentina Sovkina informs that a new representative from the Saami people in Russia will be elected this year, at the second Saami Congress in Murmansk on December 11, 2011. Sovkina suggests changing the WGIP guidelines regarding the chairmanship and the appointment of Russian Saami representative.

Bjarne Store-Jakobsen proposes that Lars Anders Baer is elected Chair of the WGIP for the coming two (2) years.

Galina Arteeva proposes to postpone the election to the next meeting.

Proposals:

- Bjarne Store-Jakobsen, Saami, Norwegian side
- Lars Anders Baer, Saami, Swedish side

Decision: The election of Chair will be postponed to the next meeting. The change of guidelines will precede the item of election at the next WGIP meeting.

24/10 UNPFII 2011

According to decision 05/10, the WGIP will start preparations for participation in the tenth session of the United Nations' Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The planning of a side event and the WGIP participation as a whole should start rather soon, and there must be a decision on the theme and cooperation partners for the side event.

The tenth session will take place in New York City on May 16-27 2011.

Indigenous peoples and forestry will be an item during the UNPFII in 2011.

A report will be presented on the theme Reindeer herding and extractive industry.

Decision: The Secretariat will prepare a proposal regarding a side event, and potential funding for the purpose, ahead of the next WGIP meeting. This will happen in cooperation with Gáldu, and possibly IWGIA, RAIPON, IPS.

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25/10 Substitute member for WG on Environment

The WGIP must decide on a substitute member for the WG on Environment. Mr Tor Mikalsen is the WGIP representative.

Proposals:

- Anna Prakhova, Saami, Russian side

Decision: The decision is postponed to the next WGIP meeting.

26/10 WGIP representative to the WG on Economic Cooperation

The WGIP has received an inquiry from the Regional Committee regarding indigenous peoples' representation in the WG on Economic Cooperation.

The WGIP will decide upon a representative to this WG.

Decision: The decision is postponed to the next WGIP meeting. The WGIP representatives will send proposals to the secretariat prior to the meeting.

27/10 Chairmanship in Regional WG on Youth Issues

The WGIP representative to the Regional WG on Youth Issues will take over the chairmanship. The WGIP will discuss priorities and proposals for initiatives within the work of the RWGYI.

Decision: The information is taken into consideration.

28/10 Economy

Applications for funding for 2011 will be sent to the Ministres of Foreign Affairs in Sweden, Norway, Finland and Russia

Decision: The information is taken into consideration.

29/10 Activity plan

Update on upcoming internal and external activities.

Decision: The activity plan is taken into consideration.

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30/10 BIPO update

The Head of BIPO reports from the activity.

Decision: The information is taken into consideration.

31/10 Other issues

- WGIP WORKSHOP 2010
- Potential theme for future seminar: Tourism in Murmansk Oblast

Valentina Sovkina informs about a tourism issue in Murmansk Oblast. The authorities seem to plan moving the population of Kanevka from the village, in order to use the area for tourism. Ponoï Silver (Tourism Company) has proposed this to the Governor. The purpose is to arrange hunting trips for tourists, which the reindeer herders fear will have serious consequences for the reindeer husbandry in the area.

Decision: The information is taken into consideration. The secretariat will prepare the program for WGIP WORKSHOP 2010 and invite the necessary organizations and persons. The issue of tourism in Murmansk Oblast, on expense of the local population, should be presented at the next CSO meeting and the next Regional Council meeting.

32/10 Next meeting

The secretariat suggests that the next meeting is held in Helsinki, Finland, on December 15th 2010.

Decision: The next meeting will be held in Helsinki on December 15.

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