

**Conclusions of “Workshop 4: Instruments of an Integrated Political Approach”
in the framework of the European Maritime Policy Conference of the Baltic Sea Area,
Kiel, 21 September 2006**

- 1) The European Maritime Space concept should be strongly promoted as a basis for better cooperation and management of natural resources.
- 2) Transborder cooperation of governmental actors as well as the private sector is of particular importance and efficiency. This type of cooperation needs support from the national and sometimes EU level (e.g. in the case of cooperation with Russian maritime stakeholders).
- 3) The Baltic can be proud of its many active networks. They can serve as good practice examples for other regional seas.
- 4) Marine Strategy and Maritime Policy should be better integrated. This includes harmonisation of terminology.
- 5) Integrated Coastal Zone Management should be highlighted as a very important instrument of sustainable maritime policy. The European Commission should provide stronger guidance to Member States on how to implement ICZM, however, not through a directive. ICZM initiatives should put stronger emphasis on land-sea integration. Spatial planning – an instrument of ICZM so far applied mainly to the terrestrial part of the coast – should be applied to marine areas as well. To that aim, existing pilot projects need to be studied and more projects initiated to test the approach and develop a strategy how best to deal with integrated marine planning.
- 6) Public participation and information is essential, not only as an element of ICZM, and deserves a stronger emphasis.
- 7) European Maritime Policy should not only aim at protecting the environment but improving and if possible restoring environmental quality of the coast and the sea.
- 8) European institutions – in particular the Commission and the Council – should better integrate their policies towards sustainable maritime development.
- 9) SMEs involved in developing innovative technology for sustainable maritime development and marine conservation need more public support. The present policy of co-funding SMEs through the Framework Programme for Research and Development is not enough. 100 % funding is necessary.
- 10) Non-EU countries should be invited explicitly to cooperate with the EU on the Maritime Policy.
- 11) The Common Fisheries Policy needs a fundamental overhaul. This conclusion should be better reflected in the Maritime Policy.
- 12) Maritime actors need better access to and integration of data and information. This includes improving communication between disciplines and sectors.
- 13) The importance of maritime safety cannot be stressed enough.
- 14) Don't focus too much on Europe. European maritime policy should be seen in the global context.
- 15) Maritime stakeholders in the Baltic region should work on a common position and policy.

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