

MEETING DOCUMENT
Wadden Sea Board (WSB 33)

27 August 2021
Wilhelmshaven



Agenda Item: 4
Subject: Announcements by CWSS
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Submitted by: CWSS

The following paper gives a written overview of the announcements of CWSS to the WSB 33.

Proposal: The meeting is invited to note the announcements.

Announcements by CWSS to WSB 33

1 Information on staff at the CWSS

On the 1st of September 2020, the position of programme officer for the Partnership Hub, starting with a one-year contract, was taken up by Cristina Nazzari. This position has been prolonged until 31 dec 2022 thanks to the extension of the Interreg Prowad Link project and the contribution of the Netherlands.

During the parental leave of Annika Bostelmann, as announced at the WSB 32 meeting, the CWSS is pleased to have found a replacement with Ditte Hviid from Denmark.

On 2 August 2021, Amelie Banke joined the CWSS for the coming 14 months as a volunteer, thanks to the National Park Authority Hamburgisches Wattenmeer. She will be active in supporting communication and event planning, particularly for German presidency events in 2022.

2 Partnership with Oris

The long-term part of the cooperation with Oris addresses beneficial PR and media accompaniment, with each year focussing on a specific Wadden Sea-related issue highlighted by annually organised one day event. To move away from a top-down approach, the event programme is developed as a participatory campaign.

The idea for a “Clean Wadden Sea Sailing” initiative was proposed by the Trilateral Wadden Sea Sailing Association (TWSSA) and aims to clean the Wadden Sea and its coasts sustainably and thereby raising awareness about marine litter, which presents a threat to our Wadden Sea World Heritage Site. The event, scheduled for 18 September in the Netherlands, is seen as product launch and kick-off event for Oris’ VIP clients, as well as press. The event is centred around and partly supported by the harbour of Lauwersoog. The programme will be implemented by Oris in partnership with the Dutch Focal Point, CWSS and TWSSA.

3. Other issues

Youth conference 2022

Germany plans to initiate a ‘Youth Conference’ as part of its presidency of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation. BfN/ BMU approached the CWSS to organise this conference in September 2022, as lead project coordinator, due to its key position in the trilateral network. A project application is under preparation which enables the CWSS to approach young people in all three Wadden Sea countries in a targeted and timely manner, and to align the project on a trilateral and cross-border basis. The aim of the project is to develop a format that has the potential to initiate a voluntary service on a trilateral level.

Yellow Sea Cooperation.

Last month, at the 44th World Heritage Committee meeting hosted by China, the South Korean tidal flats and archipelago (Getbol) were inscribed on the World Heritage List. On behalf of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation and referring to our long-lasting cooperation, the CWSS has congratulated our Korean partners with this milestone.

From their side the hope was expressed that this would lead to a reinforcement of the Korean Getbol and Wadden Sea collaboration also including a strengthening of the cooperation with the areas of the West/Yellow Sea and Bohai Sea as recommended by the IUCN and the World Heritage Committee.

During the 44th World Heritage Committee meeting, the executive secretary of the CWSS was invited to give a brief talk on the importance of international cooperation when it comes to nature conservation, at an online side event organised by the Chinese hosts. The event focussed on wetlands and their vital importance in the protection of migratory birds and securing biodiversity. The focus was especially on the Yellow Sea. The Wadden Sea cooperation and the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative is seen as an international model showcasing achievements on the conservation and sustainable development of coastal habitats for migratory birds.