

Project name: #014 BRISK

**Minutes of
Project Partner Meeting #04
5 – 6 OCT 2010
Aarhus/Denmark**

1. The 4th Meeting of the Project on Sub-regional risk of spill of oil and hazardous substances in the Baltic Sea (BRISK) was held in Aarhus, Denmark on 5 – 6 October 2010.
2. The aim of the meeting was to discuss:
 - Risk analysis
 - Status and development of the sub-regional response agreements
 - Financial reporting
 - Communication issues
3. The meeting was organized by Admiral Danish Fleet – Lead Partner of the BRISK project.
4. All project partners were represented at the meeting. The list of participants is included in Annex 1.
5. Mr. Peter Søbørg Poulsen, Project Manager of BRISK acted as Chairman of the meeting. Mr. Ib Corneliussen Nielsen, Esbjerg Safety Consult A/S, Project Coordinator of BRISK acted as Secretary of the meeting.
6. References available on HELCOM meeting portal:
 - Power Point presentation by CRJ
 - Power Point presentation by AL
 - Power Point presentation by HEGL

Agenda item 1, Opening

Lead Partner (LP) Project Manager Peter Søbørg Poulsen (PSP) opened the meeting, and welcomed the partners to the 4th project Partner meeting.

Agenda item 2, Approval of the agenda

The tentative agenda was approved as included in Annex 2.

Agenda item 3, Presentation of BRISK Russian and Lithuanian partners

Russia (RU) and Lithuania (LIT) were welcomed to the BRISK project, and their delegates were introduced to the other partners.

Agenda item 4, Project status

LP Technical Manager Carsten Jürgensen (CRJ) informed that the risk analysis is running in accordance with the schedule. It is expected to be completed SEP 2011.

LP Financial Manager Karin Rothmann Hansen (KRH) informed that the 3rd progress report is under preparation based on input from the countries. Partners who have not yet sent their reports were encouraged to do so immediately.

Furthermore KRH addressed the following subjects:

- LP has received payment from EU for the 1st and 2nd reporting periods, and the partners have been paid accordingly.

- The total project budget will not be change, but there will be changes for the individual countries.
- There is a gap between the budget and the reported amount of money. It shows that the partners do not use the money available in their budget. This can cause problems with shared costs, which is paid by LP. Consequently PSP and CRJ strongly encouraged the partners to meet their budgets.

Agenda item 5, Risk analysis

COWI consultant Albrecht Lenz (AL) gave a presentation on the risk analysis computer model. The presentation will be available on the HELCOM meeting portal. AL addressed the following items:

- Map showing vessel traffic based on AIS information 2008 – 2009.
- Ice effects.
- Traffic net.
- Accident map 1999 – 2008 from HELCOM data base.
- Model risk of route with and without ice

The input to the risk analysis model has been provided by the countries. Russia asked if the model will give the correct picture and would like a more practical way. FI, EE, and RU were of the opinion that modeling the ice effects on risk of accident need to be further investigated. Consequently it was agreed to form a group to discuss this issue. The group shall consist of Russia, Finland, Estonia, AL and CRJ. The group shall start discussions NOV 2010.

COWI consultant Henrik Garsdal (HEGL) gave a presentation on drift and fate in the computer model. The presentation will be available on the HELCOM meeting portal. HEGL addressed the following topics:

- Oil spill modeling
- Chemical spill modeling
- Response to spills

For calculation and prediction of drift of oil in water with ice the official HELCOM Sea Track Web model is used.

For response time information from HELCOM data base is used.

CRJ gave a presentation on environmental sensitivity. The presentation will be available on the HELCOM meeting portal.

CRJ presented a sensitivity matrix and a map based on data input from the project partners exclusive Russia and Lithuania. Russia and Lithuania informed that data for the sensitivity calculation is available. It was however not clear if the data is available in the right format to fit into the computer model. Arne Grove, the Nordic Council of Ministers, Russia, and CRJ will clarify this matter.

Finland wanted a second chance to specify data for a new sensitivity matrix and map. It was agreed that each partner gets a second chance to submit revised data. CRJ will come back with information about how and when this work shall be done after the HELCOM RESPONSE meeting.

It was decided to establish a work group – chaired by Finland - to give input to environmental sensitivity with the following members:

- Finland (Meri Hietala)
- HELCOM (contact point Monika Stankiewicz)
- Poland (Juliusz Gajewski)
- Sweden

- Lithuania
- Russia
- Germany – Participation not confirmed
- Latvia – Participation not confirmed

Lead Partner (CRJ) will prepare Terms of Reference for the work group.

CRJ gave a presentation on the Integral Model Complex incl. data workflow in the computer, and the expected outcome of the calculations.

The question whether the model scenarios shall be extended to include risk-reducing measures was discussed. There were different views on this subject. Majority of the partners who took the floor supported an extension of the scenarios. Russia had the opinion that risk-reducing measures are outside the BRISK mandate. Nordic Council of Ministers (Arne Grove) expressed that the Nordic ministers would be disappointed if risk-reducing measures were not included into the scenario.

It is important that the partners agree on the scenarios. It was therefore proposed to establish work groups to define the scenarios. The following items shall be addressed based on the risk picture. All BRISK countries will participate in work groups as follows:

1. Relocation of existing capacities (vessels). All countries will participate. Led by HELCOM.
2. Additional booms and skimmers. All countries will participate. Led by Poland.
3. Night visibility. Sweden and Denmark will participate. Led by Sweden.
4. Recovery of oil from ice. Finland, Russia, and Estonia will participate. Led by Finland.

Russia stated that relocation of vessels would be difficult and expensive. Denmark informed that, indeed, this relates to high costs, but such relocation has been done in Denmark which is believed has resulted in better response capabilities. Russia also suggested that the computer model should give the answer about additional booms and skimmers. However, for the model to indicate the missing response capacities, an expert input will be needed to find an optimal scenario. The advantage of such a solution is that the experts are able to be actively involved and verify the scenario so it is as realistic and cost-efficient as possible.

It was agreed that COWI will continue the work as planned and conduct modeling to all areas of the Baltic Sea. Additionally modeling of response capability for high risk areas, and for agreed spill sizes will be carried out in the sub-regions.

It was agreed that the scenarios should be defined in the Sub Regions, but the BRISK project will ask guidance from HELCOM Maritime about including risk reducing measures to BRISK.

Agenda item 6, Agreements

The partners informed the following status on the agreements:

- POL/GER is being discussed and is expected to be signed ultimo 2010
- SWESTLAT exists but might be a need to extend it and sign
- SWEDENGER is led by Germany and is operational (PL is expected to joint – see first bullet point)
- FIN/RUS is in place
- FIN/EST in place
- LIT/RUS was signed OCT 2009, which will be followed by the development of contingency plan
- POL/RUS is finalized, but not signed. It is expected to be signed through diplomatic channels
- The Copenhagen Agreement covers, inter alia, SWE/FIN and SWE/DAN

The Meeting discussed areas not covered by any agreement yet, and suggested extending SWESTLAT to cover some additional areas in Sweden. The Meeting also welcomed the information about the new agreement between LIT/RU and soon to be signed new agreement between PL/RU. The Meeting agreed to scrutinize the coverage of the Baltic with the agreements when the risk picture has been completed and hot-spot areas have been identified.

A new agreement map will be prepared for the next HELCOM Response Group meeting.

Agenda item 7, Financial reporting

The subject was covered under para 4 project status.

Agenda item 8, Information and communication

UA informed that a final BRISK seminar is planned to take place DEC 2011.

An interim seminar to present the outcome of the risk assessment is planned to take place MAY 2011. It was proposed to combine it with the European Maritime Day event in Poland on 19-20 May 2011 and the Maritime Institute in Gdansk offered to host the seminar.

UA will prepare a draft communication plan and forward it to the partners. The partners were encouraged to send information about communication activities to UA.

The partners were encouraged to spend the money on the communication budget.

Brochures and posters can be supplied by UA on request.

Russia requested to have the opportunity to contribute to future press releases on BRISK-RU.

Agenda item 9, Other issues

Arne Grove informed that the Nordic Council of Ministers plans to initiate a project dealing wildlife response and invited interested HELCOM countries to stay in contact with NCM.

Russia offered to join Exercise Clean Up AUG – SEP 2011.

Draft minutes of the meeting will be forwarded to the partners for comments before the final minutes will be distributed.

A sensitivity map without "red bubbles" shall be prepared by CRJ.

Agenda item 10 Next meeting and closing of the meeting

Next meeting will take place in (week 6) of FEB 2011.

Project Manager Peter Sørberg Poulsen thanked the participants for fine and constructive discussions and closed the meeting.

Place, Date
Aarhus 6/10-2010



Signature
Ib Corneliussen Nielsen, Project Coordinator