



THE BARENTS WORKING GROUPS ANNUAL REPORT

Name of the Working Group: BEATA Steering Committee

The current Chair and the Chairmanship period: Swedish chairmanship November 2017 – September 2019

1. Priorities of the Chairmanship

Goals for Swedish chairmanship of BEATA Steering Committee October 2017-September 2019
“Transport cooperation in the Barents-Euro Arctic area for the future – innovative solutions for strengthened competitiveness and sustainable development”

- Prime goal is to update and develop the Joint Barents Transport Plan (JBTP)
- Continue developing the cooperation with the countries concerned
- Seek greater coordination and synergy between BEATA and Barents Regional Council and Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics (NDPTL)
- Promote transport policy objectives and strive for innovative, sustainable and efficient transport solutions in the region • Showcase Swedish solutions and innovations
- Promote strategic and flexible planning of cross-border infrastructure measures and have a well-functioning exchange of information on planned measures with other countries
- Help reduce obstacles to transport flows in the region by highlighting challenges and changing experiences

A number of issues to be highlighted:

- o Forecast models for cross-border transport flows
- o Road safety – Vision Zero (Swedish Strategy for road safety)

o Four step principle and Strategic Choice of measures studies o Infrastructure, transportation and connection to tourism, where appropriate.

2. Meetings (meetings held, main topics and outcomes of the meetings)

Meeting in the BEATA Steering Committee 20-21 March 2019 in Luleå, Sweden

Main topics:

Discussion on the work on the revision of the draft Joint Barents Transport Plan (JBTP).

Presentation on the Swedish Vision Zero (Road Safety) and the next global ministerial conference on Road Safety in Stockholm 2020.

Discussion on BEATA representation in the Steering Group of RWGTL Kolarcticproject.

Information update from the representatives of the Ministries present regarding new policies in infrastructural area.

Information from the International Barents Secretariat.

Meeting in the BEATA Steering Committee, 27 August 2019 in Stockholm, Sweden

Main topics:

Preparations for the transport ministerial meeting and finalization of ministerial declaration.

Finalization of Youth Recommendation to Foreign Ministers Session in October 2019.

Presentation of the incoming chair's priorities.

Transport Ministerial Meeting of the Member States of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC) 11-12 September 2019 in Umeå, Sweden

Theme: *Sustainable transport solutions in the Barents Region*

Presentation on Climate Challenges and Opportunities in the Barents Transport Area by RISE Research Institutes of Sweden.

Presentation on Cooperation on Sustainable Transport Solutions East-West. Region Västerbotten

Presentation of the work in BEATA SC.

Adoption of ministerial declaration and statement of ministers on sustainable transport in the Barents region. [link](#)

Welcoming of the Norwegian chair and presentation of Norwegian Priorities.

Meetings in BEATA SC also included the participation of the Barents Regional Council Working Group on Transport and Logistics, BRWGL.

3. Other activities (projects, events, programmes etc.)

Studyvisits:

BEATA meeting in Luleå was combined with presentation and a visit to Luleå Harbour and a tour on an ice-breaker.

Transport Ministerial was combined with presentation and study visit to Umeå Harbour.

Meetings:

JBTP Working Group:

24-25 January, meeting in Rovaniemi

27 May, video meeting

20 June, video meeting

26-27 August, meeting in Stockholm

Participation in the Barents Regional Council Participation in Tromsø, 2-3 April 2019. (BEATA chair Annelie Mannertorn)

9th Barents Parliamentary Conference in Haparanda 16-18 September 2019 with theme transport (Swedish State Secretary Mattias Landgren and BEATA chair Annelie Mannertorn)

Participation in the BEAC Foreign Ministers Session 3 October 2019, including exhibition. (BEATA chair Annelie Mannertorn).

Presentation of JBTP in the Tourism Working Group 4 November 2019 in Stockholm (Annelie Mannertorn)

4. Results of the year (decisions, new initiatives, improvements)

Main:

A revised Draft Joint Barents Transport Plan was presented by the JBTP Working Group

A Ministerial Declaration was adopted by the transportministers in Umeå September 2019.

Others: Improved synergy with Tourism Working Group regarding transport. Agreement on participation in BWGTL Kolarcticproject: invitations will be sent to representative of BEATA for possible participation.

5. Youth involvement (how has the working group included young people or worked with youth issues during the year)

Recommendations were made to the BEAC Ministerial Meeting 3 October 2019 in Umeå on Youth and Road Safety. (See www.barentsinfo.fi/beac/docs/YouthRecommendations.pdf)

6. Evaluation of the work (What went well, what needs improvement)

Coordination with other Barents working groups is important in order to achieve synergies.

Help from IBS concerning registration of participation to the ministerial meeting was very valuable.

7. Other