



BALTIC SEA REGION UNIVERSITY NETWORK

PLENARY MEETING

BUSINESS MEETING

Draft Minutes

Date: Friday, 22 March 2013 at 14.00 – 16.30

Place: University of Latvia, (main building), Senate Hall, Raiņa Blvd. 19, Riga

1. Opening of the meeting

List of participants – **Annex 1**

Election of the chairman

Traditionally rector of the coordinating institution chairs the meeting

- Prof. Marcis Auzins, Rector of the University of Latvia, was elected Chairman of the meeting

2. Adoption of the agenda

Mr. Dmitry Vasilenko (St. Petersburg State University of Economics) proposed to approve first the President (item 11) and then the Coordinating Institution/Secretariat (item 10).

- PM agreed the proposal
- Agenda was adopted

3. Report 2010-2013

Mr. Kari Hypponen, BSRUN President, presented the report 2010-2013.

BSRUN participation statistics – **Annex 2**

BSRUN membership changes since 1 July 2010 – **Annex 3**

- PM took note of the report

4. Future priorities of BSRUN

PM was invited to discuss future priorities for BSRUN.

PM was invited to give SC feedback on past BSRUN activities – **Annex 2**

Future topics for Annual BSRUN forum:

Annual BSRUN Forum "Green University" Poland, Olsztyn,
University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, 30-31 May 2013
Invitation letter – **Annex 4**

Prof. Jerzy Jaroszewski (University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn) informed about the event.

CBSS-BSRUN university cooperation:

CBSS SEBA project event, Kaliningrad, Russia, preliminary date 7 June 2013
CBSS-BSRUN event on university cooperation including EuroFaculty, Summer University etc.

Sergey Verteshev (Pskov State University) informed about the EuroFaculty meeting in Pskov on 16 April 2013.

Enhanced cooperation in teaching and research

- PM discussed the cooperation in teaching and research

5. Changes to the Rules and Regulations

Mr. Kari Hypponen, President of BSRUN and Chairman of SC, in his message on 27 November 2012 invited member institutions to send their comments and possible amendments by 22 December 2012 (three months before the PM) – **Annex 5**

Secretariat had received comments and possible amendments from three member institutions by the given deadline:

- University of Turku – **Annex 6**
- University of Eastern Finland – **Annex 7**
- St. Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance (after the merger – St. Petersburg State University of Economics) – **Annex 8**

BSRUN President had asked for clarifications concerning proposals:

- University of Turku – **Annex 9**
- St. Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance (after the merger – St. Petersburg State University of Economics) – **Annex 10**

Received replies by the given deadline 15 January 2013:

- University of Turku – **Annex 11**
- St. Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance (after the merger – St. Petersburg State University of Economics) – **Annex 12**

SC proposed paragraph 3.2. (Legal status of BSRUN, BSRUN Rules and Regulations) for the discussion at PM.

- PM took note of the SC proposal but did not take it up

SC proposal:

approval of the following changes to the Rules and Regulations - **Annex 13**

- PM approved the new Rules and Regulations
- The new Rules and Regulations will come into force from 1 January 2014 and replace the Agreement of 2010

6. New term of offices

In order to move to a calendar year basis SC proposes the new term of offices for the President, SC and Coordinating Institution/Secretariat from 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2016. This would then also mean the extension of the current terms till the end of 2013.

SC proposal:

to move to a calendar year basis: 1 January 2014 – 31 December 2016 (three year term) and to extend the current terms for the President, SC and Coordinating Institution/Secretariat till the end of 2013.

- PM approved that the new term of offices for the President, Steering Committee and Coordinating Institution/Secretariat will start from 1st January 2014 for a three year term. The current terms for the President, Steering Committee and Coordinating Institution/Secretariat were extended till 31 December 2013.

7. Approval of the membership fee 2013

SC proposal:

- approval of the membership fee of 1000 € for 2013

Since there are two major events during the spring term of 2013, the Secretariat needs to start collecting the membership fees early in the year to cover the costs incurred. Therefore as the SC proposed on 19 October 2012 members were asked in advance for their approval of a membership fee of 1000 € for 2013 so that the bills could be sent out already before PM.

SC proposal has been agreed by the members by silent procedure.

- PM approved the membership fee 1000 € for 2013

8. Approval of the membership fee 2014-2016

SC proposal:

- approval of the membership fee of 1000 € for 2014
- PM approved the membership fee of 1000 € for 2014

PM was invited to discuss the membership fee for 2015-2016

- PM decided that the annual membership fee for 2015-2016 is 1000 €

9. Institutional composition of SC

SC proposal:

only one member per country with his/her personal substitute on SC and approval of the institutional composition of SC according to **Annex 14**

- PM approved the institutional composition of SC (the first one in brackets is the member, the second one - substitute):

Belarus (Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno, Grodno State Agrarian University)

Estonia (University of Tartu, Tallinn University of Technology)

Finland (University of Turku, University of Eastern Finland)

Latvia (University of Latvia, Riga Technical University)

Lithuania (Vilnius University, Kaunas University of Technology)

Poland (Warsaw University, University of Warmia and Mazury)

Russia (St. Petersburg State University of Economics, Yaroslav-the-Wise State University of Novgorod)

10. Approval of the President

SC proposal:

PM appoints the president for three years from 1 January 2014.

- Mr. Kari Hypponen was appointed President for three years from 1st January 2014 by a solid vote.

11. Approval of the Coordinating Institution

University of Latvia has coordinated the organisation since 1 July 2010. Mr. Kari Hypponen, President of BSRUN and Chairman of SC, in his message on 27 November 2012 invited member institutions willing to coordinate the network and to host the Secretariat to express their interest in writing by 22 December 2012 (three months before the PM). The Expression of Interest should include a statement on the objectives for and commitment to the task and a description of the arrangements for hosting the Secretariat.

BSRUN Secretariat had received the Expression of Interest from two member institutions by the given deadline:

- University of Turku – **Annex 6**
- St. Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance (after the merger – St. Petersburg State University of Economics) – **Annex 8**

BSRUN President had asked for clarifications concerning proposals:

- University of Turku – **Annex 9**
- St. Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance (after the merger – St. Petersburg State University of Economics) – **Annex 10**

Received replies by the given deadline 15 January 2013:

- University of Turku – **Annex 11**
- St. Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance (after the merger – St. Petersburg State University of Economics) – **Annex 12**

SC proposal:

PM appoints the coordinating institution for three years from 1 January 2014.

- University of Turku (Eliisa Sarkilahti) withdrew the proposal to coordinate the network.
- St. Petersburg State University of Economics and the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn made a joint proposal to the PM that these two universities should share the coordination.
- PM decided that there will be two coordinating institutions for the next three years. SC was given the task to prepare the changes to the Rules and Regulations and will send the document to members for the approval.
- University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn will be the legal representative of BSRUN and will coordinate the activities together with St. Petersburg State University of Economics for three years from 1 January 2014.
- University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn and St. Petersburg State University of Economics were appointed coordinating institutions by a majority vote (two against; three abstained).

12. Plenary Meeting of 2016

The next PM shall be organized in 2016 where the coordinating institution is located.

- PM took note that the location and timing will be sent to member institutions later

13. Any other business

There was no other business.

14. Closing of the meeting

Chairman closed the meeting at 16.30 and thanked the participants for their contribution.