



# BALTIC SEA REGION UNIVERSITY NETWORK

## PLENARY MEETING

**BSRUN**

### Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday, 25 October 2016, at 14.00-16.00

**Place:** University of Warsaw, Faculty of Management, Szturmowa Street 1/3, room B 205  
(the second floor)

#### 1. Opening of the meeting

Dr. Kari Hyppönen, President of BSRUN opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The participants introduced themselves.

List of participants is attached (Annex 8).

#### 2. Election of chairman

Vice-Rector Prof. Jerzy Jaroszewski, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn (UWM) was elected Chairman of the meeting.

#### 3. Report of BSRUN in 2014-16

Dr. Kari Hyppönen, President of BSRUN presented the report 2014-16 on the following issues:

- BSRUN membership changes since 1st July 2010 (Annex 1),
- BSRUN participation statistics in 2000-2016 (Annex 2),
- partners of the network,
- framework,

- activities.

PM took note of the report.

#### **4. Future priorities of BSRUN**

Vice-Rector Dr. Dmitry Vasilenko, UNECON presented the vision for the future of the network „BSRUN beyond 2016” prepared jointly by the University of Warsaw (UW) and St. Petersburg State University of Economics (UNECON). The following items were mentioned in the presentation:

- network structure (president, two vice-rectors for academic and staff development, SC composition with a right to adjust composition if needed),
- network enlargement (recruitment of members all around the Baltic Sea and finding more active members by changing membership criteria, attracting BSR companies as associate members, attracting national ministries and organizations),
- key areas (problem solving – through trainings, best practices – through seminars, expertise - consulting/expert opinions),
- rebranding (new logo, marketing materials as folders, bags, memory sticks, pens).

PM discussed the future of BSRUN on the basis of the report.

#### **5. Changes to the rules and regulations of BSRUN**

President described the process of making changes to the rules and regulations in two circulars of 27 May and 10 June 2016 to the members.

If member institutions wish to make changes to the rules and regulations they have to inform the Steering Committee (SC) in writing at the latest three months before the following PM that was 25 July this year.

SC proposed some changes to the rules and regulations at its meeting on 3 June. These were circulated to the members in the circular of 10 June. Comments were invited by 25 July 2016.

There were no comments by the given deadline either on the SC proposals or independently.

SC discussed again changes to the rules and regulations at its meeting in Riga on 8 September.

Current BSRUN rules and regulations (Annex 3).

SC proposed to PM that the following changes be made (Annex 4a, 4b).

The following new SC proposals were presented at the meeting.

SC discussed the proposal concerning membership criteria (5.1.1.) at its meeting on 25 October and agreed to propose a more exact formulation "other corresponding higher education institution".

SC also discussed the possibility to establish an associate membership for national and international higher education organisations not eligible under 5.1.1.-5.1.3. to enhance cooperation and exchange of information with BSRUN. Associate members could be e.g. other networks, ministries, agencies.

SC proposed that this be done by adding 5.1.4. as follows:

5.1.4. SC can extend an associate membership to national or international higher education organisations not eligible for membership under the criteria given above to enhance cooperation and exchange of information with BSRUN.

SC proposed to add BUN (Borderland University Network) to the organisations with which cooperation will be explored (5.2.).

PM discussed the proposed changes.

PM approved all the proposed changes to the rules and regulations of BSRUN.

The new rules and regulations are thus amended as of 25 October 2016.

## **6. Approval of the membership application of Berlin School of Economics and Law (Germany) and Saimaa University of Applied Sciences (Lappeenranta, Finland).**

Berlin School of Economics and Law has applied for the membership of BSRUN (Annex 5).

Saimaa University of Applied Sciences has applied for the membership of BSRUN (Annex 9).

SC proposed that both applications be approved with immediate effect.

PM was invited to discuss the applications.

PM approved the applications.

## **7. Approval of the membership fee for 2017-19**

SC proposed that the membership fee should remain at the current level that is 1000 € per year.

PM was invited to discuss the proposal.

PM approved the annual membership fee of 1000 € for 2017-19.

## **8. Institutional composition of SC in 2017-19**

SC proposed that the composition of SC be the following (Annex 6).

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

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

Estonia (Estonian University of Life Sciences)

Finland (University of Turku, Saimaa University of Applied Sciences)

Germany (Berlin School of Economics and Law)

Latvia (Riga Technical University, University of Latvia)

Lithuania (Klaipeda University)

Poland (University of Warsaw, Gdansk University of Technology)

Russia (St. Petersburg State University of Economics [UNECON], The North-West Institute of Management of the Russian Federation Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration [RANEPA])

The heads of the institutions concerned will be asked to appoint their representatives.

## **9. Approval of the Coordinating Institution(s)**

The University of Warsaw and St. Petersburg State University of Economics (UNECON) have jointly expressed their interest in hosting the secretariats of BSRUN in 2017-19. There were no other expressions of interest (Annex 7).

SC proposed that the BSRUN secretariats be hosted by the two institutions.

PM was invited to discuss the proposal.

PM decided that there will be two secretariats for the next three years (2017-19)

and approved the proposal.

A Coordinating Institution acts as the legal entity when so required.

The University of Warsaw was proposed as the coordinating institution.

PM was invited to discuss the proposition.

PM appointed the University of Warsaw as the legal representative of BSRUN for the next three years (2017-19).

## **10. Appointment of the President**

UW and UNECON proposed that Kari Hyppönen be re-elected for the next three years as BSRUN president. There were no other proposals by the given deadline.

SC had agreed not to make a proposal concerning the President.

President wishes PM would seriously consider alternative solutions to the Presidency in 2017-19.

PM was invited to discuss the proposition of UW and UNECON.

PM appointed Kari Hyppönen President for the next three years (2017-19).

## **11. Plenary Meeting of 2019**

PM was invited to discuss the timing and location of the next PM.

PM agreed that SC will inform members in due course about the date and location of the next PM.

## **12. Any other business**

There was no other business.

## **13. Closing of the meeting**

Chairman closed the meeting at 16.00 and thanked the participants for their contribution.