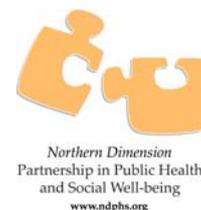


**Committee of Senior Representatives (CSR)  
Nineteenth Meeting  
Brussels, Belgium  
27-28 October 2011**



<b>Reference</b>	CSR 19/5/Info 2
<b>Title</b>	NDPHS participation in and contribution to the 20 <sup>th</sup> Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference
<b>Submitted by</b>	Secretariat
<b>Summary / Note</b>	This document summarizes the NDPHS participation in and contribution to the 20 <sup>th</sup> Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference (BSPC) held on 28-30 August 2011 in Helsinki, Finland.
<b>Requested action</b>	For information and discussion

## 1. Introduction

The 20<sup>th</sup> Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference was held on 28-30 August 2011 in Helsinki, Finland, with the theme Green Growth for a Bluer Baltic Sea. The conference addressed a range of issues, among them health and social well-being. As part of the anniversary celebrations the BSPC also took the opportunity to look back at its cooperation as well as discuss future cooperation.

A political **Resolution was adopted** at the end of the Conference. The resolution (cf. document CSR 19/5/Info 3) contains recommendations in the fields addressed during the conference and includes several paragraphs of direct relevance to the NDPHS. Notably, **the BSPC granted to the NDPHS an Observer status.**

## 2. NDPHS contribution to the 20<sup>th</sup> BSPC

The participants from the NDPHS side were: Dr. Bernt Bull, ASA EG Chair; Dr. Anna Korotkova, representative of the NDPHS CSR Chair Country; Mr. Marek Maciejowski, Head of the Secretariat, and Dr. Zaza Tsereteli, ASA EG ITA.

The NDPHS contributed to the 20<sup>th</sup> BSPC as follows:

(i) submitted **two background papers**:

- ““Social welfare and health care” sector of the Northern Dimension policy,” developed by the NDPHS Secretariat, with input from the NCD EG Chair;<sup>1</sup>
- “Alcohol is a key public health and social concern across the society,” developed by the ASA EG;<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Available at

[www.ndphs.org/internalfiles/File/Speeches/NDPHS\\_background\\_paper\\_for\\_20th\\_BSPC.pdf](http://www.ndphs.org/internalfiles/File/Speeches/NDPHS_background_paper_for_20th_BSPC.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> Available at [http://ndphs.org/?doc.ASA\\_EG\\_background\\_paper\\_for\\_20th\\_BSPC.pdf](http://ndphs.org/?doc.ASA_EG_background_paper_for_20th_BSPC.pdf).

(ii) made **two speeches**:

- Delivered by the Head of the Secretariat on behalf of the CSR Chair.<sup>3</sup> This speech referred to the first of the above-named background papers;
- Delivered by the ASA EG Chair. This speech referred to the second of the above-named background papers;<sup>4</sup>

(iii) displayed the newly produced NDPHS **roll-ups**<sup>5</sup> and disseminated the NDPHS **leaflet**.<sup>6</sup>

### 3. Conclusions and further steps

Regrettably no discussion about health arose after the above-named two speeches, which can be taken as an indication that efforts to increase the awareness and understanding of health and social well-being issues among parliamentarians need to continue. The BSPC Work Programme 2011-2012, which calls, *inter alia*, to “further develop contacts and interaction with the Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being on relevant health-related topics,” provides for an opportunity to continue such efforts.

**Therefore, the CSR might wish to discuss: (i) possible further steps in cooperation with the parliamentarians to direct their attention to health issues in the region, and (ii) possible follow up on the 20<sup>th</sup> BSPC Resolution items of direct relevance to the NDPHS.**

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<sup>3</sup> Available at [www.ndphs.org/?speeches](http://www.ndphs.org/?speeches).

<sup>4</sup> Ppt presentation is available at [http://ndphs.org/?doc,ASA\\_EG\\_Chair\\_Presentation\\_20th\\_BSPC\\_Helsinki\(1\).ppt](http://ndphs.org/?doc,ASA_EG_Chair_Presentation_20th_BSPC_Helsinki(1).ppt).

<sup>5</sup> Available at <http://ndphs.org/?roll-ups>.

<sup>6</sup> Available at <http://ndphs.org/?leaflet>.