

MEETING DOCUMENT

Wadden Sea Board (WSB 42)

23 November 2023
Wilhelmshaven, Germany



Agenda Item: 7. Wadden Sea Board Advisors

Subject: Wadden Sea Forum

Document No.: WSB 42/7.1

Date: 01 November 2023

Submitted by: Wadden Sea Forum

At the WSF-44 plenary meeting in September 2023, the participants discussed thoroughly the future development of the WSF. In this discussion no sustainable and long-term solution for the continuation of the WSF was developed. The efforts of the Executive Committee of the WSF to find a successor for the position of the Managing Director were not successful. Therefore, the WSF EC decided at its meeting at October 6 with deep regrets to start the process of closing the WSF society.

Proposal: The WSB is invited to take note of the document.

To

Chair of the TWSSC
Anne Marie Vaegter-Rasmussen

and

Members of Delegations of the
Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation

01 November 2023

Information on the Decision of the EC of the WSF e.V.

At February 11, 2011, the Wadden Sea Forum society, i.e. WSF e.V., was founded. The foundation of the WSF society took place on the aspiration of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (TWSC) in order to establish a legal body as basis for handling and payment of the Managing Director and administrative staff to fulfil all tasks for a trilateral secretariat and support all Wadden Sea Forum plenary meetings.

Since then the TWSC supported the WSF e.V. financially in order to maintain the secretariat of the WSF and its activities.

In the meantime, certain members reduced the financial support and the WSF e.V. has to cope with structural deficits since years.

During the course of this year, the current Managing Director as well as the Team Assistant cancelled their contracts with the WSF e.V. due to lack of financial stability as well as the reduced possibilities of recurrent closing the financial gap through project acquisition. With the beginning of 2024, the WSF e.V. has no workable office. At the end, the efforts of the EC to find a successor for the Managing Director was not successful.

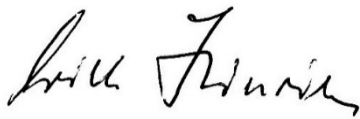
Moreover, the discussion on the "future of the WSF" at the WSF-44 plenary meeting in Jever did not indicate a sustainable and long-term solution.

Finally and with deep regrets, the members of the EC decided at October 6, 2023, to start the process of closing the society WSF e.V.

Best regards,



Preben Friis-Hauge
(Chair of the WSF e.V.)



Erich Hinrichs
(Vice-Chair of WSF e.V.)



Pieter van Kuppenveld
(Member of EC of WSF e.V.)

