



Baltic Euroregional Network (BEN) – Final Conference

(24-26 October 2007, Jelgava/Latvia)

Wednesday, 24 October 2007

- 14:00-16:30** **Basketball tournament “BEN Friendship Cup”** at the Sport Centre of Jelgava District (Aviācijas iela 8 in Jelgava) (*Bus will depart from Jelgava District Council at 13:30, from hotel Zemgale at 13:45*)
- 16:30** **Awarding of the winners and closing of the tournament**
- until 18:00** **Arrival of participants to Jelgava and checking in at the hotels**
- 17:45** **Departure for Grenctāle Guest House *Rožmalas* by bus** (from Hotel Zemgale at 17:45 and from Hotel Jelgava at 18:00)
- 19:00-22:30** **Welcome Reception at Guest House *Rožmalas***
- *Welcome speech*
Amb. Valdis Krastiņš (tbc), Chair of the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) Committee of Senior Officials
 - *Buffet*
 - *Performance by the local youth brass band of Skaistkalne Municipality*

Thursday, 25 October 2007

- 08:45-09:30** **Registration and welcome coffee**
Jelgava Palace
- 09:30-10:15** **Opening and welcome speeches** (moderator*, Teppo Heiskanen, Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM) Office in Lithuania)
- **Mr. NN**, Representative of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) of the Republic of Latvia, representing the Latvian Presidency of the CBSS
 - **Ms. Kristina Pingoud**, Counsellor, Deputy Chief of the Secretariat for the Nordic Cooperation, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, representing the Finnish Chairmanship of the NCM
 - **Mr. Gints Kaminskis**, Chairman of Zemgale Planning Region Development Council
- 10:15-11:45** **Presentations**
- *The Baltic Euroregional Network (BEN)*
Mr. Šarūnas Radvilavičius, NCM Office in Lithuania, Main project Coordinator of the BEN
 - *Highlights of Work Package 1*
Ms. Merle Krigul and Ms. Katri-Liis Leppik, Helsinki/Tallinn Euroregion
 - *Highlights of Work Package 2*
Ms. Olga Kareva, Vyborg Region Municipality
 - *Highlights of Work Package 3*
Ms. Sandra Martinsone, MFA of Latvia
- 11:45** **Press conference**
- 12:00-13:30** **Lunch at café *SILVA***
(In a distance of 5-10 minutes walk from Jelgava Palace)
- 13:45-14:45** **Sustainability of the BEN project** (moderator **Mr. Torben Aaberg**, Öresund Committee)
- *The BEN Strategy*
Mr. Šarūnas Radvilavičius, BEN Strategy Working Group

* Every session is introduced and concluded by a speech of respective moderator.

- *Developing the knowledge base of the cross-border cooperation using the E-library*
Ms. Gulnara Roll, Peipsi Centre for Transboundary Co-operation
- *The BEN Best-practice Handbook*
Mr. Anthony Jay, CBSS Secretariat

14:45-15:00

Taking of BEN family picture
(Grand Stairs of Jelgava Palace)

15:00-15:15

Coffee break

15:15-16:15

Presentations of follow-up projects respectively project ideas emerged from the co-operation within BEN
(moderator **Ms. Reet Kokovkin**, Hiiumaa County Government representing Baltic Islands Network B7)

- *“BEN EAST”*
Mr. Pavel Petrov, NCM Information Office in St. Petersburg
- *“Eco-Transboundary Education”*
Ms. Olga Vasilenko (tbc), Chudskoye Project (Pskov, Russia)
- *Cooperation between Zemgale Region (Latvia) and Republic of Karelia (Russia)*
Mr. Raitis Madžulis, Zemgale Planning Region Administration

16:15-17:15

Free time

17:30

Departure for Vecauce Castle (Dobele district) by bus
from Hotel Zemgale 17:30 and from Hotel Jelgava 17:45.

19:00-23:00

BEN Project Closing Dinner (Vecauce Castle)

- *Closing speech*
- *Dinner*
- *Performance by Brothers Petrovski (piano and saxophone) and soloist Ms. Zane Dombrovska*

Friday, 26 October 2007

08:00-08:30

Checking out of the hotels

NB! Please take your luggage with you on the bus! There will be no return to Jelgava! The bus will be at hotel Jelgava at 8:00 am and hotel Zemgale at 8:30 am!

09:00-12:00

Technical visit in Euroregion Saule to:

- *RAF Business incubator complex*
- *Rundāle Palace*

13:00-14:30

Lunch at Guest House *Bērzkalni* (Bauska district)

14:30-17:00

Direct transfer to Riga airport and bus station