DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD

39th Meeting of the

**Task Group World Heritage (TG-WH 39)**

7 November 2022

Virtual Meeting

1. **Opening of the Meeting and adoption of the agenda**

*Document: TG-WH 38/1-Draft Agenda*

The chairperson, Ms Barbara Engels, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants to the 38th meeting of the Task Group World Heritage (TG-WH) which was conducted as a video conference. A list of participants is in Annex 1. The proposed draft agenda of the meeting was adopted as in Annex 2.

1. **Summary Record TG-WH 38**

*Document:* *Summary Record TG-WH 38*

The summary record of the TG-WH 38 meeting was adopted without changes.

1. **Announcements**

No written announcements have been received in advance.

1. **World Heritage Management Plan (SIMP)**

**4.1 Finalizing the SIMP**

Barbara Engels informed the meeting on the outcome of the Wadden Sea Board meeting 38.

The WSB endorsed the draft SIMP version 1.0 for adoption by the Trilateral Governmental Council at the 14th Trilateral Governmental Conference in Wilhelmshaven. The SIMP would be a stand-alone document, with the official title ‘The SIMP, Integrated Management Plan for ONE Wadden Sea World Heritage’.

Soledad Luna informed the meeting that the layout of the SIMP is in progress, as well as the translation into Danish, Dutch and German. She also introduced the SIMP video clip which will also be presented at the TGC.

The meeting suggested that the video explicitly mentions the triple crisis and the need for nature conservation and should also underline what has already been achieved. The five key topics should be explained with examples, e.g. increasing shipping safety and making energy transition more nature friendly. Furthermore, the protection of the OUV and the global responsibility should be mentioned in the start, as well as that the SIMP is a tool to engage further partners to sustain and strengthen the OUV.

With regard to the foreword, the Secretariat asked for support in collection of statements and photos of involved stakeholders by 10 November, considering a balance of regions, gender, age and of persons involved in both policy and management.

**4.2 SIMP implementation strategy**

Regarding the implementation strategy, the WSB 38 endorsed the proposed implementation matrix and supported the execution of the immediate next steps.

The meeting agreed to organize an online meeting on the SIMP implementation to discuss in more detail who should be involved (existing trilateral groups, WSF, WST, other stakeholders) and what resources are needed.

1. **Reporting to World Heritage Centre**

*Documents:   
TG-WH/39/5-1 – Submission of State Party information to the World Heritage Centre.*

**5.1 Reporting according to OG 172 and 174**

With date of 6 July 2022, the World Heritage Centre sent a letter to Germany and the Netherlands concerning new gas developments (NL/D border 20 km off Borkum) and plans for a new oil production license (Mittelplate Germany).

Thomas Borchers informed the meeting Germany is preparing the draft answers (one on gas drilling together with the Netherlands, and one on new oil production license) and will inform the TG-WH accordingly.

Signe Marie Rohde informed the meeting that Denmark has sent an information letter on the deepening of the Grådyb fairway at Esbjerg Harbour, 14 September 2022 to the Centre but has not yet received feedback.

With regard to the Ternaard gas field, Karst Jaarsma informed that additional information (English translation of the EIA including assessment of potential impacts on the OUV) was sent to the World Heritage Centre on 21 July 2022, and that feedback has not yet been received.

**5.2 Periodic Reporting**

The meeting instructed CWSS to fill in the questionnaire on section II and to submit the draft to TG-WH to add further information from the parties. An online meeting should be scheduled in January 2023 to discuss the questionnaire including the impacts on the OUV attributes.

**5.3 Guidance for impact assessment**

The new guidelines for assessing impacts from projects that could potentially affect World Heritage properties (sent to TG-WH on 15 August 2022) have been published in August 2022 (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2465>). Barbara Engels offered to invite IUCN to introduce the guidelines at the next TG-WH meeting.

**6. Next Meeting**

The next WSB meeting is scheduled in March 2023 (to be confirmed).

The next TG-WH meeting should therefore be scheduled **around 1 February 2023**

**7. Any Other Business**

None

**8. Closing**

The Chairperson closed the meeting by thanking all participants for their input.

**Annex 1**

**Participants TG-WH 39, 7 November 2022**

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**Annex 2**

**AGENDA**

**TASK GROUP WORLD HERITAGE**

**TG-WH 389**

**11 November 2022**

**1. Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda**

**2. Summary Record TG WH-38**

**3. Announcements**

**4. World Heritage Single Integrated Management Plan**

**5. Reporting to World Heritage Centre**

**6. Next Meeting**

**7. Any Other Business**

**8. Closing**