



**Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Youth policy of the Russian Federation**

**Protocol of the 27th meeting  
of the Working Group on Youth Policy  
of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council  
2-3 April 2009**

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**Moscow, 1 June 2009**

**Participants:**

Mr Roman Aleksandrov, Russia, Ministry of sport, tourism and youth policy  
Mr Björn Jaaberg Hansen, Norway, Ministry of Children and Equality  
Ms Nadezhda Karkach, Russia, Ministry of sport, tourism and youth policy  
Ms Emma Kuusi, Finland, Ministry of Education  
Ms Seija Kähkönen, Finland, State Provincial Office of Lapland  
Ms Eva Theisz, Sweden, The Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs  
Ms Laila Dalhaug, Norway, Norwegian Barents Secretariat  
Mr George Korshunov, Russia, Ukhta State Technical University  
Mr Pavel Laptev, Russia, Federal agency for youth affairs  
Ms Maria Petrova, Barents Youth Cooperation Office  
Ms Ekaterina Sherer, Russia, National Council of Russia  
Ms Inna Tarisheva, Russia, Ministry of foreign affairs of the Russian Federation

**Chair:** Mr Roman Aleksandrov  
**Secretary:** Ms Nadezhda Karkach

**1-2. Adoption of the agenda**

The Chair opened the 27th meeting of the Working Group on Youth Policy (WGYP). The proposed agenda was adopted. The items № 8 International Youth event and № 9 Cooperation with BRYP were replaced from the 2nd day to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the meeting.

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. The program of the chairmanship of the Russian Federation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (proposed by Ministry for foreign affairs of the RF).
4. Adoption of the protocol of the previous meeting
5. Administration of BYCO:
  - a. Current changes of administration of BYCO
  - b. Financial consequences
6. The Conference of Ministers responsible for youth policy in 2009:
  - a. Topics of discussion
  - b. Time plan
  - c. Declaration of Ministers
7. International Youth event
8. Cooperation with Barents regional structures
9. The Conference of Ministers responsible for youth policy in 2009
  - a. Place and format of the Conference: details
10. Information from the Barents Youth Cooperation Office (BYCO)
  - a. Work report 2008
  - b. Financial report 2008
  - c. Work plan 2009
11. Any other business
12. Date and venue of the next meeting

### **3. The program of the chairmanship of the Russian Federation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Council**

Ms Tarisheva from Ministry for foreign affairs of the Russian Federation told about the implementation of the programme of Russian chairmanship in BEAC. The WGYP suggested to include the text of the report in the protocol of the meeting of WGYP.

### **4. Adoption of the protocol from the 25th meeting of the WGYP**

The protocol of the WGYP meeting in Moscow (24-25 November 2008) was adopted without valuable changes.

### **5. Administration of BYCO:**

#### **5a Current changes of administration of BYCO**

The Chair informed the Working Group about refusal of Intereducation to administrate BYCO from the end of March 2009. The BYCO has to be passed under the control of Ministry of sport, tourism and youth policy of the Russian Federation from the Federal Agency of Education. The WGYP requested a written explanation from Intereducation for terminating the contract concerning BYCO administration during 2009. The Chairmanship will ask Intereducation to disseminate it to the WGYP. The Ministry of sport, tourism and youth policy of the Russian Federation has found another organization willing to administrate BYCO from July 1<sup>st</sup> – the National Youth Council of Russia. The National Youth Council of Russia is an experienced organization with a good reputation, a member of European Youth Forum.

The BYCO will keep the work conditions, including the conditions for the employee MS Petrova. It will continue to implement the decisions of the WGYP and to act on the basis of the on the “Agreement on the Barents Youth Cooperation Office (BYCO) for 2009-2010”. The responsibility of National Youth Council will be running the accounts of BYCO and providing bookkeeping support, as well as support in practical issues. BYCO is supervised, reports to and gets instructions from the WGYP and its current Chairmanship.

#### **5b Financial consequences**

Mr. Aleksandrov explained that the transfer is a technical procedure and it will not require new financial contributions. The method of transfer will not change but the annual contracts have to be renewed due to the change of the administrating organisation. The renewed contract will be sent to Swedish ministry as soon as possible. The Norwegian contribution had already been received by Intereducation before the contract was terminated. The Finnish contribution will be also transferred to Intereducation.

### **6. The Conference of Ministers responsible for youth policy in 2009:**

#### **6a Topics of discussion**

Mr. Korshunov submitted the topics for elaboration for the Conference of Ministers responsible for youth policy and told about activity of Ukhta State Technical University. The Working Group discussed the framework and content of the Conference.

It was decided that the meeting of Ministers will be held in the format of a scientific and practical Conference. Conference will be based on the experiences from 10 years of youth work cooperation within BEAC and draw up political guidelines for the future work.

The main themes of the Conference will be: “Barents – a region attractive to young people”, with the sub-themes:

- Mutual understanding among the young people of Barents region (youth exchanges, people to people contacts, intercultural dialog);

- Involvement of young people in socio-economic development of the Barents region (economical and business aspects);
- The role of youth organizations and youth participation in the development of society.

The results of work of the other working groups of BEAC, other authorities, organizations and Conferences should be used while preparation for the Conference.

Ministry of sport, tourism and youth policy of the Russian Federation will send a letter to Ukhta State Technical University about coordinating the process of preparation to the Conference. Ukhta State Technical University will find experts and business representatives for the Conference from Russian universities and scientific institutions. Ms. Petrova will coordinate the proposals about possible participation of researches from other countries of BEAC.

### **6b Time plan**

The programme should be prepared before summer vacations and should contain the topics of reports, names of experts. The programme of the Conference is attached to the protocol.

### **6c Declaration of Ministers**

The WGYP decided that the declaration will reflect the achievements of WGYP and provide guidelines for the future..

The draft of the Declaration should be done by Russian side and sent before 15 of May. The WGYP decided to organise an extra meeting on June 1 in Murmansk for discussing the draft of the Declaration. BRYC will be asked to contribute to the drafting process.

### **7. International Youth event**

Ms. Dalhaug presented the youth event "ReAction – a Barents Youth Performance against prejudice" arranged by the Barents Regional Youth Council (BRYC) 16-20 September in Arkhangelsk. The theme of this event is an intercultural dialog. WGYP has decided that the theme of ReAction – a Barents Youth Performance against prejudice does not cover all the topics of the Ministerial Conference. The main reason of connecting the ministerial Conference and youth event does not followed. It is expected that the views of young people on major issues of the Conference can be presented at the Ministerial Conference. WGYP suggested Barents regional youth council to investigate possibility to develop the theme of the youth event according to the ministerial Conference themes if BRYC would like it.

### **8. Cooperation with Barents regional structures**

WGYP has considered the letter of RWGYI and BRYC regarding combining the efforts in organising youth event. WGYP thanks for the suggested possibility of cooperation and propose to supplement issues for youth activities according to the themes of the Conference. WGYP is pleased to invite RWGYI and BRYC representatives to the Conference in Murmansk in September 2009. The Working group offers to investigate the possibility of common collaboration of WGYP, RWGYI and BRYC.

### **9a Place and format of the Conference: details**

The Conference will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> in Murmansk. The Conference languages will be English and Russian.

The national delegation should be no more than 7 people and should consist of Minister/ Deputy Minister responsible for youth, youth and regional authorities representatives from each of the 13 territories of Barents region, and experts.

The WGYP agreed that the youth representatives from the Barents region will be included in the national delegations headed by the ministers. Young people will come 1 day before the Conference.

The meeting of youth Barents region will take place on September 23<sup>rd</sup> in Murmansk. Youth will participate in the Conference programme on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

The Russian Federation will pay meals, accommodation and local transport costs for participants.

Following delegates should be invited:

AA 6 members of the BEAC, the European Commission, all the observer members of BEAC, the Council of Europe and the Nordic Council of Ministers (Nordic Child and Youth Committee and the Information Office in Murmansk) .In addition representatives from the Barents Regional Council and the RWGYI, the International Barents Secretariat, the Norwegian Barents Secretariat, Baltic Sea Expert Group on Youth Affairs, Indigenous peoples representatives and National Youth Councils of BEAC countries.

## **10. Information from the Barents Youth Cooperation Office (BYCO)**

### **10a Work report 2008**

Ms. Petrova presented the work report of BYCO for 2008. The WGYP has approved the work report of BYCO.

### **10b Financial report 2008**

Ms Petrova presented financial report for 2008. WGYP suggested the reporter to explain how the inflation and increasing rate of Euro influences on the budget.

### **10c Work plan 2009**

Work plan for 2009 has been presented by Ms Petrova and adopted by the WGYP. The WGYP discussed the opportunity to take a volunteer to the BYCO and suggested Ms. Petrova to use the European Voluntary Service.

The WGYP proposed Ms. Petrova to use additional opportunities in the work, change the strategy of informing about the office activities, to provide information to other Internet sites related to the realisation of youth policy, exchange banners. It was suggested to increase the number of promotional items before the Conference, for example, to create a brochure with information about BYCO, and a banner.

## **11. Date and venue of the next meeting**

The WGYP extra meeting will be held in Murmansk, preliminary dates are 1-2 June 2009.

To: WGYP members

Barents Regional Committee  
Barents Regional Working Group on Youth Issues  
Barents Regional Youth Council  
International Barents Secretariat  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation