



MINISTRY OF SPORT, TOURISM AND YOUTH POLICY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Department of youth policy and international cooperation

26 January 2009

**Barents Euro-Arctic Council's
Working Group on Youth Policy (WGYP)
Annual report 2008**

Background

The Working Group on Youth Policy (WGYP) was established as an Ad Hoc Working Group in 1999 upon a Finnish proposal. By a decision of the CSO in December 2002, the mandate of the group was prolonged and revised, and the group was transformed into a permanent working group, integrated in the structure of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council. The work of the WGYP is based on the Plan of Action adopted at the Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth Policy in the member states of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council, Tromsø 14 -16 of May 2001.

Activities in 2008

During the Russian chairmanship in 2008 the work of the WGYP focused on the following activities:

- Implementing the Tromsø Plan of Action;
- Cooperating with other bodies of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council and the Regional Council, as well as with international organisations and relevant regional structures;
- Steering and supporting the Barents Youth Cooperation Office (BYCO) activities.

The WGYP held one ordinary meeting (24-25 November in Moscow) chaired by Roman Aleksandrov, Deputy Head of Department of youth policy and international cooperation of Ministry of sports, tourism and youth policy of the Russian Federation.

In accordance with the program of the chairmanship of the Russian Federation in the BEAC for 2007-2009 the WGYP has started to work on organizing The Conference of Ministers responsible for youth policy and international youth event in 2009.

The WGYP prolonged the agreement on the Barents Youth Cooperation Office (BYCO) for the period of 2009-2010.

Plans for 2009

The WGYP will identify the dates, places and format of the events, set in points 41-44 of the program of the chairmanship of the Russian Federation in the BEAC for 2007-2009

The Conference of Ministers responsible for youth policy will take place in Murmansk.

Provisional dates: 28 September – 2 October 2009.

The WGYP will prepare a Declaration to be adopted by Ministers. The next WGYP meeting will be devoted to detailed elaboration of the Declaration. The draft will be finalised at the September meeting of the WGYP.

The International youth event will take place in Murmansk straight before the Ministerial Conference.

Provisional dates: 26-27 September 2009.

50 youth representatives (4 from each Barents region) and observers from international youth structures will be invited to the International youth event.

The Russian Federation will pay meals and accommodation of participants. Travel costs will be covered by each region itself.

The meetings of Working Group of Youth Policy of the BEAC:

24-26 March 2009

26-27 September 2009