



ÅLBORG
ÅRHUS
BERGEN
BREMEN
ELBLĄG
GDAŃSK
GDYNIA
KALININGRAD
KALMAR
KARLSHAMM
KARLSKRONA
KIEL
KLAIPEDA
KOŁOBRZEG
KRISTIANSAND
LÜBECK
NÆSTVED
NAKSKOV
NORRKÖPING
NYKØBING F.
ROSTOCK
RIGA
ST. PETERSBURG
SOPOT
STRALSUND
SUNDSVALL
SZCZECIN
TURKU
VENTSPILS
VISBY
WISMAR
YSTAD

NEWSLETTER N°1



To: The Member Cities

Dear colleague,

It is of great pleasure to me being able to tell you that the work within the Union of the Baltic Cities UBC – now is attaining it's forms and has started to get into shape.

The Executive Board will hold it's second meeting at the end of February in Riga. The four committees are working within their respectively fields of interest with the goal to report on the issues and make their proposals to the General Conference in May this year. The Secretariat with our Secretary Mr. Piotr Krzyżanowski, will shortly move into beautifully restored office premises in famous „Green Gate”, overlooking the old center town square of Gdańsk.

Some projects have been initiated and some of them may surely be of interest for the member cities. I will revert to this subject later on.

The tasks for our Union are indeed numerous and important. Of course the result is entirely depending of what we as member – individuals are willing to make efforts in the form of ideas and personal work.

Therefore it is my great hope that you and your staff – co – workers in your city, actively wish to contribute to the work of the Union for development of the Baltic Region. On of the most important missions for UBC is to stimulate the member cities create actively exchange of professional experiences and realize project works. To facilitate our outlines of our future work, we would like you to answer some questions regarding your own city on the forms attached to this letter. We thank you on beforehand for your reply.

To be able to keep our Union together and develop the network between our cities, it is quite surely a necessity to exchange running information. Therefore, the Board has decided that a UBC – NEWSLETTER will be compiled regularly by the Secretariat for the member – cities and for other receivers, who might be interested in our work and progress. The UBC – NEWSLETTER – this one being the initial issue, will be published about four times annually – with complementary issues if needed. I do hope that your city will contribute to the contents of the newsletter.

The Baltic Region is an area of great variation in culture with many common interests. Through our work within UBC, I hope that we together will contribute to the development of the Baltic Region in many fields.

Finally, I wish to convey to your City my warm welcoming greeting to the next General Conference in Kalmar, May 22 – 24th 1992.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Anders Engström'.

Anders Engström

President

I. Work of the Union

THE CONFERENCE IN GDAŃSK.

On 19–20 September 1991, in Gdańsk – the First Conference of the Baltic Cities.

The participants of the Conference have made the following decisions:

- adopted the Statute of the Union of the Baltic Cities;
- elected the President and two Deputy Presidents of the Union for a two– year period:
 - Mr. Anders Engström (Kalmar) as the President of the Union;
 - Mr. Michael Bouteiller (Lübeck) and Mr. Vjacheslav Nikolajewicz Tcsherbakov (St.Petersburg) as the Deputy Presidents of the Union;
- elected the Executive Board for a two year period:
 - Århus – Denmark
 - Gdańsk – Poland
 - Kaliningrad – Russia
 - Klaipeda – Lithuania
 - Kristiansand – Norway
 - Riga – Latvia
 - Rostock – Germany
 - Sundsvall – Sweden
 - Tallinn – Estonia
 - Turku – Finland
- and decided upon the location of the Secretariat of the Union for a two– year period to be in Gdańsk.

FIRST MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

On 6–7 December 1991, in Lübeck – the First Meeting of the Executive Board.

The meeting elected Mr. Piotr Krzyżanowski (from Gdańsk, Poland) as the Secretary of the Union.

The following decisions have been made during the meeting:

- to strengthen the cooperation between the Union, the EuroCities and EC in the field of market and development policy, social dialogue, assistance for small and medium enterprises;
- to investigate current contacts between the Cities;
- to send letters asking cities, which have not signed the Declaration, to declare their member status;
- to have still a fee of USD 2000, and that is up to the President to take decision which particular cities might have a fee less than this;
- to authorize the President and the Secretary to sign the financial documents of the Union.
- The meeting was introduced the proposal concerning time and programme for the next annual conference in Kalmar.

The meeting decided it would take place on 22 – 24 May, 1992.

- The meeting decided that the cities which take a leading role in the Commissions, i.e.:

social and culture issues	Lübeck, Rostock
environmental protection	Århus, Turku
telecommunication	Kalmar, Riga
transportation	Gdańsk, Kaliningrad;

will be asked to provide the Union with information on the activity undertaken.
- The meeting decided to let new cities enter the commissions of the Union after the General Conference.

NEXT MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Next Meeting of the Executive Board will be held in Riga, 28 February 1992. Preliminary agenda will be furnished by the President and the Secretary during working meeting in Gdańsk by the end of January. Papers provided by the Commissions in : transportation, social aspects, environmental protection and telecommunication will be discussed. The meeting will identify national/international projects and launch the programmes of action for consideration at the Conference in Kalmar. The meeting will consider financial matters as well.

NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Next General Conference will be held in Kalmar, 22–24 May 1992. The Conference will discuss the aim of the Union and of its Commissions. The agenda of the Conference will be adopted during next meeting of the Executive Board.

II. Information from the Members.

Århus



Århus is a green city!

Århus is a green in varying and beautiful scenery. Situated on the open bay towards the coast. The forests on the north and south and the river valleys to the west are delineated. The interaction, too, between the city and the countryside is clear and comprehensible. The fact that the open countryside is in close proximity to the city has enormous recreational importance as a life giving force. Besides inspiring people to a better understanding of nature and culture it is valuable to be able to follow the changes of nature and the seasons. And the interaction between the city and the countryside.

It is one of the essential tasks of this age to understand, this dynamic balance between nature and culture, to expand it and ensure its continuance.

For right at this moment nature is under pressure: the water, the air and the earth are subject to such great pressures. Therefore it is essential that the present environmental projects are maintained, expanded and understanding of the interaction between culture and nature becomes more widespread.

Clean air, earth and water are no longer things we can take for granted.

Neither is the healthy interaction between the city and the countryside.

However, foresighted planning will be able to ensure this healthy interaction. It must be our vital aim in the coming years to protect the air, the water and the earth, our basic resources and to preserve the sound interaction between the city and the countryside.

Gdańsk



The meeting point between the EUROCITIES network and Baltic Cities Union, Granary Island Project.

The City of Gdańsk formally has joined EUROCITIES network in September, 17th during annual conference of this interesting Consortium of the European Cities.

Gdańsk, together with the City of Barcelona has received status of a „lead city” in area of Land Information System, thanks to formal support of this idea on behalf joined efforts of :

Pasqual Maragall,

Mayor of Barcelona, President of C.E.M.R.

Jacek Saryusz Wolski,

Undersecretary of State for European Integration and Foreign Assistance,

Franciszek Jamroz,

Mayor of Gdańsk

Theme of Land Inventory in Poland is one of the most important issues, linked to privatization strategy and creation of better conditions to invest in Poland.

First „battle field” of land information system in Gdańsk was won.

It was a pilot project, that implemented a database for the Granary Island area.

Next step is a preparation of financing project supported by different international institutions, including support of cities united within the Union of Polish Metropolitan Cities, the European Community and different American sources of co – financing .

This area has been prepared for investment for several years and collected already the serious forces.

Investment is being prepared for multifunction area including hotels, offices, representatives of international firms, restaurants and housing complex. All linked to telecommunication facilities and placed in the medieval center of Gdańsk.

Baltic Cities Union activities of the City refer to works on breaking barriers in transport links, in all possible fields – that still make difficulties in closer cooperation with the Baltic States. Last week the specialists from the field of transport met in Kaliningrad, in order to discuss on different transport infrastructures .

Secretariat has received a letter from editor of the Newsletter, concerning the initiative of publishing articles about Member Cities and some activities with respect to maritime economy, cooperation, etc.

The letters are in the attachment to the Newsletter.

Contact person:

Robert Lach

Representative of the mayor of Gdańsk for Eurocities

Phone: 48 58 32-39-33

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Kalmar



Environmental status of the coast, Kalmar town district.

According to new Swedish legislation the physical planning of the municipalities should include also their water areas. In Kalmar, situated in an area without larger lakes, the main effort has to be given the coastal water. In order to do proper planning you must have good knowledge of the area question.

In Kalmar one was lucky in that respect because a lot of environmental monitoring had been done in the 1980's and a lot of information had also been collected by staff and students at the Kalmar University College. In order to evaluate, compress and present all these data a joint project between Kalmar environmental authorities and the institute of natural sciences at Kalmar University College was started in 1989. This resulted in a comprehensive file with basic data to be used by specialists and a colored booklet for the public.

The coastal waters in Kalmar are polluted by four sources, namely; streams, urban storm water, point sources and deposition from the atmosphere. Quantitative data for nutrients and some heavy metals were compiled and presented in different maps.

Most of the nutrients were transported to the coastal waters by streams, but for nitrogen the sewage treatment plant in Kalmar and atmospheric deposition made considerable contributions. Some areas along the coast were classified as eutrophicated.

Some areas close to the city of Kalmar had increased values of heavy metals in the sediment. The most likely explanation was polluted urban storm water.

The distribution of animal and plant communities could be rather well defined. Their composition was rather normal, but in some places signs of eutrophication could be found.

As a summary, based on the description of the status of the coastal water, the following measures were recommended.

1. Reduce the outlet of nutrients to the waters in the urban area.
2. Try to use wetlands for nitrogen reduction in a small stream.
3. Try to reduce the transport of nutrients to the shallow archipelago in the northern part of the area.
4. Reduce the urban storm water transport to the Bay of Klackeberga.
5. Try to reduce the use of phosphate – containing detergents by advice to the public.
6. Establish a cooperation group with the closest municipalities.

Contact person:

Mr. Per Alind

Kalmar kommun

Box 611

391 26 Kalmar, Sweden

Phone: 0480 – 864 83



Consulting Bureau Lübeck – BBL

The Consulting Bureau Lübeck was founded in April 1990. The initiative for this nationwide unique kind of Bureau came from the German Trade Union, district Nordmark.

The Bureau is a new instrument that is supposed to promote and support activities concerning structural policies in the region of Lübeck. The Bureau plays role of cooperating institution that wants to work together with already existing establishments. The setting up of networks and the social dialogue are important requirements.

The highest quality of service of the Bureau is guaranteed by scientific employees and other scientific collaborators who work on different projects according to demand. There are also different consultants and institutions involved.

The following partners are responsible for the Consulting Bureau:

- the City of Lübeck;
- GEWOS Institute for City-, Regional- and Housing Research;
- German Trade Union, district Nordmark.

The financial support of the Bureau comes from:

- the EC – European Fond for regional Development (EFRE);
- the Ministry of Economy, Technique and traffic of Schleswig – Holstein;
- the City of Lübeck;
- the Hans – Bockler – Donation of the German Trade Union.

The activities of the Bureau are connected with its aims and are concentrated on:

- involvement in the consulting of small and medium sized enterprises;
- consultation, support and information concerning innovation and change of products;
- involvement in the coordination of initiatives coming from employees;
- development and support of the social dialogue between the management of enterprises and employees who represent their interests – inside as well as outside the enterprises;
- involvement in the realization of program – initiatives;
- presentation of a strategic process of finding an aim for city and regional development;
- involvement in the improvement of the conditions for the cooperation between public and private sectors;
- preparation and arrangement of innovative location informations;
- initializing and presenting time and work saving processes concerning management – especially when working on tasks that need interdiscipline and cooperation.

The BBL is managed by Mr. Ingo Kulbrodt and located in the middle of the old town – right next to the City Hall of Lübeck.

The address of the Consulting Bureau Lübeck:

Breite Strasse 66,
D – 2400 Lübeck 1
Germany
Phone: (0)451 / 7 16 99
Fax: (0)451 / 12 21 099

Environmental projects in Sundsvall.

In 1989 the government appointed a commission for an environmental project in the Sundsvall area. The commission should take initiatives and propose measures which would substantially improve the environment in the area within ten years. It carried out 28 individual studies on environmental protection and nature conservation and in its final report in December 1990 the commission proposed an environmental plan for the city.

The plan was adopted by the City Council in 1991 and is now carried out. Among other things the plan deals with:

- The disturbance caused by traffic in the city center.
- Industrial residues on the sea – bed and beaches of Sundsvall Bay.
- Waste and emissions to the air and water from major process industries and municipal facilities.
- Forests and agricultural landscapes.
- Knowledge and awareness of environmental issues among the population.

In an „environmental balance sheet“ the city will report the achievements every year during the nineties. The goal is to have a clean environment in the city by the year 2000.

The Allergy Projects in Sundsvall in 1988–91 was conducted by the city and the county of Vasternorrland and supported by the Allergy Governmental Commission. Its aim was to examine different methods of dealing with information and changes, in order to mitigate and prevent certain kinds of allergy and hypersensitivity with children and young people. The work is now continued by an Allergy Committee in the city.

Healthy Sundsvall was a project in 1989–91 with the intention to ensure, by different means, a better health for the inhabitants of the city. The idea was borrowed from WHO's work concerning Healthy Cities in Europe.

Within the projects a wide range of initiatives were taken. A mayor task was to improve living conditions in two large residential areas with different social problems. The work, with the label „Healthy Sundsvall“, is continued in collaboration with the county of Vasternorrland.

Contact Person:

Marie Louise Henriksson
Sundsvall Commune
851 - 85 Sundsvall
Phone: 060 - 191398

III. Views.

So far the Secretariat hasn't received any information from the Cities. As soon as we get any information we shall systematically include it in the successive publications.

IV. Timetable (meetings, seminars, conferences, festivals).

A complete list of events which will take place in the Baltic Region this year is being completed and will be included in NEWSLETTER N° 2.

ENCLOSURES.

Dear Readers,

To start publishing any news on the activities in the cities of the Baltic Region, we would be very grateful if you could give your answers to the accompanying Reporting Form.

Secretary

REPORTING FORM

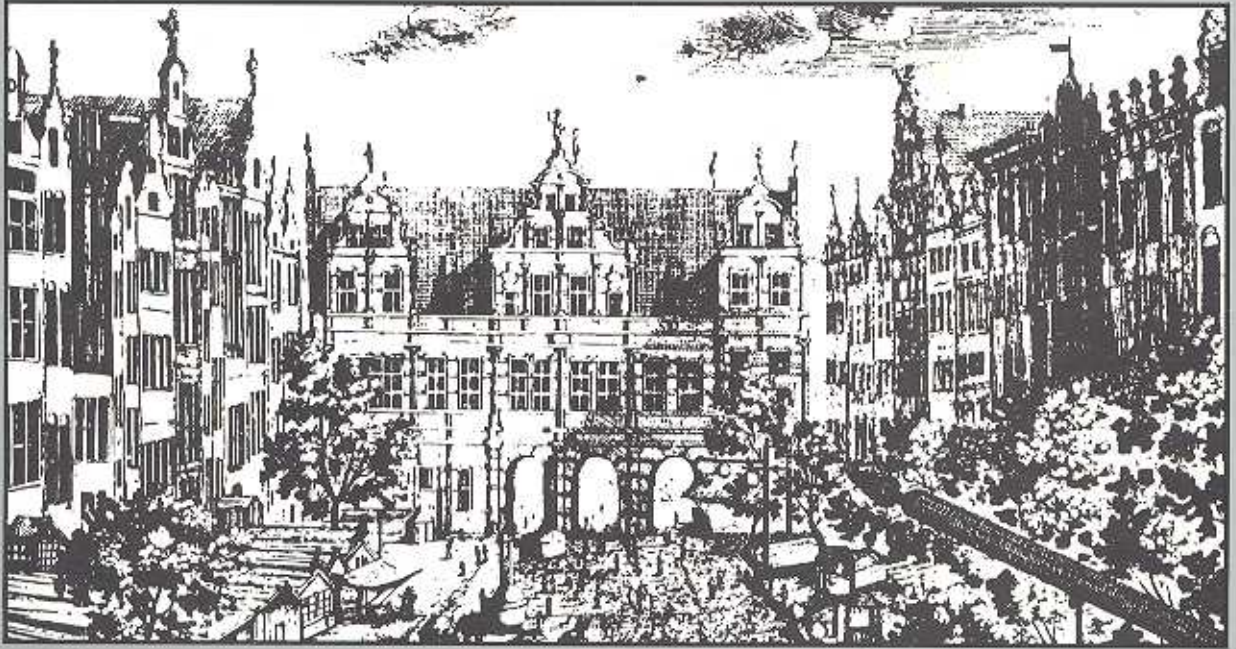
1. Contact persons who will represent the City in working contact between the City authority and the Union /name, address, phone, fax, telex, position in the City/.
2. Information on cooperation between „Sister – Cities” (if any) and main topics.
3. Proposals for the Conference of the Union, which will be held in Kalmar, May 1992 /items which should be raised, etc./.
4. Topics about which city – members would like to find in Newsletter (submit their issues to Newsletter).
5. Information regarding subjects, which by members are considered important for the Union of the Baltic Cities to work with.
6. Other matters.

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telex: 0512887 pkz pl

BANK ACCOUNT OF THE UNION

WBK III o/Gdańsk
351809 – 664 – 189 – 44



**What you see here is a famous Green Gate.
For the centuries it was a place of meetings of all Polish Kings.
The Green Gate building has been devoted by the Mayor of Gdańsk
as a seat for Secretariat of Union of the Baltic Cities .**