



ÅLBORG
ÅRHUS
BALTISK
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FREDERICIA
GDAŃSK
GDYNIA
HAAPSALU
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KARLSHAMN
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KAUNAS
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KØGE
KOŁOBRZEG
KOTKA
KRISTIANSAND
KURESSAARE
LIEPĀJA

LÜBECK
LEBA
MAMONOVO
MÖRBYLÅNGA
NAKSKOV
NÆSTVED
NORRKÖPING
NYKØBING F.
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PALANGA
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YSTAD

NEWSLETTER No 7

Dear Members and Friends,

I have a great pleasure to present to you a recent issue of the Union's Newsletter introducing latest activities and work of the Union as well as presenting interesting articles provided by the members cities and institutions from and outside Baltic Sea area.

Let me pay your attention to the significant improvement of the Union Commissions work. Already this year I participated in two interesting events arranged by the Commissions. In January the Commission on Culture had its first conference held in the city of Szczecin. Representatives of 27 UBC member cities had an opportunity to exchange information about various culture events taking place in different cities and discuss coordination of preparations to major upcoming events in particular: III International UBC Culture Festival - Szczecin '95, Cultural Capital of Europe - Copenhagen '96, Millennium of the city of Gdańsk 1997, 600th Anniversary of Kalmar Union 1997.

In March 1995 I took part in the 2nd Workshop on Labour Market Development in UBC member cities, successfully organized by the Commission on Social Affairs, upon the invitation of the Mayor of Rostock - where 24 member cities were represented. The meeting discussed the present situation on the labour market in member cities of Baltic countries and proposed a number of transnational common projects aimed at job promotion, especially for youngsters, women and longterm unemployed. It was emphasized that the UBC should enter close cooperation with the EU in realization of mentioned projects, through active participation in OUVERTURE, LEDA and other EU programmes. The Social Commission stressed the special necessity of practical support and assistance to eastern Baltic communities to deal with growing problem of unemployment.

The Commission on Transportation is organizing an important Conference under the heading: Actual problems of the sea-land transportation systems of the Baltic Sea regions, to be held in Gdańsk, April 27-28. The conference will deal with such aspects as: developments of the motorways and ferry connections, problems of public transport in eastern cities etc. Here, I have to mention that UBC was recently granted by Swedish government with 300,000 SEK to carry out the project on public transport reform in Lithuanian and subsequently Latvian and Estonian cities.

I can not overlook the important fact of obtaining by the Environmental Commission 550,000 DK from Nordic Council of Ministers to implement the part of Baltic Sustainable Cities Programme concerning Institutional Strengthening. The Commission has already selected 8 member cities, that shall be responsible for organization of 4 seminars in the fields of: Solid Waste Management and Environmental and Physical Planning in 1995. The precise content and time-schedule of each event shall be decided at the planning meeting of responsible cities to be held in Vilnius on 20-21 April. Finally, I should like to encourage all member cities to take part in the 1st International UBC Economic Exhibition InterBaltic '95 to be held in Gdynia on 7-9 September 1995.

I extend my warmest greetings to all of you and wish you a pleasant lecture.



Anders Engström
President



Kalmar, April 1995



I. WORK OF THE UNION

The 10th Meeting of the UBC Executive Board

The 10th Meeting of the Executive Board of the Union of the Baltic Cities was held on 8-9 October 1994, in the city of Liepaja, Latvia, on the invitation of Mr Teodors Enins, Mayor of Liepaja. The meeting was attended by the members of Union's Executive Board, representatives of Union's working Commissions and delegates from new member cities. Representatives of the Commissions submitted reports on latest activities and informed about planned actions and projects.

Mr Carl Nielsen, chairman of the UBC Commission on Environment reported that Commission forwarded an application to the Nordic Council of Ministers to finance the part of Baltic Sustainable Cities Programme concerning institutional strengthening and human resources development. Mr Nielsen informed that after receiving necessary finances from the Nordic Council, the project shall be implemented in 1995.

Prof. Maciej T. Krzyżanowski, chairman of the Commission on Transport reported on commission's actions underlining the importance of the meeting of four Mayors from: Baltijsk, Kaliningrad, Gdańsk and Elbląg organized in Baltijsk on 29 August 1995 under the auspices of the commission. The meeting was called a "mile step" towards opening of Pilava narrow and Vistula Bay for international shipping and tourism.

Dr Ulrich Bauermeister from Rostock informed about establishing the permanent office of the Commission on Social Affairs in Rostock employing three (earlier unemployed) persons. One of the offices aims shall be to investigate the situation on labour market in UBC member cities.

Mr Sławomir Szafrąński, chairman of Culture Commission invited representatives from all member cities to take part in the III International Art & Culture Festival of the Union to be held in Szczecin in August-September 1995.

Mrs Hjördis Höglund informed the Board about the



preparations to the next UBC Women's Conferences which are planned to be held in Sundsvall in October 1995 and in Karlskrona in May 1996 in association with the "Women Can" Exhibition.

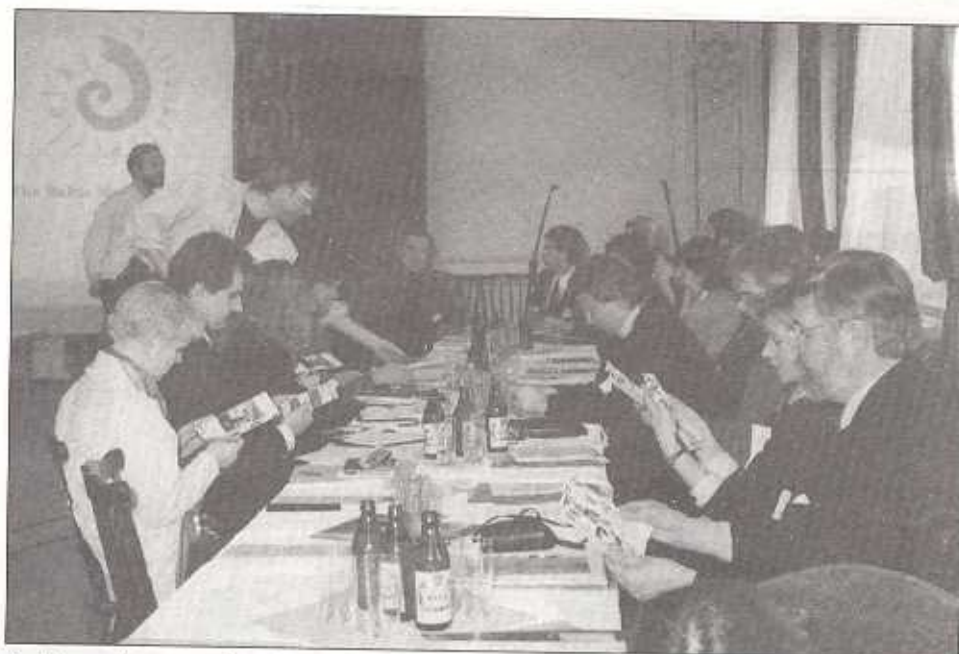
Mr Bengt Enge from Kalmar reported on the Seminar on Social Welfare held in Kalmar, where representatives of UBC member cities from south-east Baltic countries had an opportunity to learn about the Swedish social welfare and insurance systems. President Anders Engström informed that the city of Kalmar together with the UBC are willing to organize further seminars on social field.

Mr Andrzej Jankowski, Secretary of the city of Gdańsk informed the Board that in 1997 Gdańsk will celebrate its 1000th anniversary. The city of Gdańsk will organize a number of various events e.g. culture festivals, sport competitions, exhibitions etc. to commemorate the city Millennium. The Millennium Organizational Committee has already spread a letter to all UBC member cities inviting them to take active part in the scheduled events. Mr Anders Engström added that also in 1997 Kalmar will celebrate 600th anniversary of the Kalmar Union. Representatives of Gdańsk and Kalmar agreed to coordinate activities and events to be organized in both cities in connection with mentioned anniversaries and invite other member cities.

Working Session of the UBC Commission on Culture

The City of Szczecin organized on 16-18 January this year Session of the Commission on Culture. The purpose of the Session were as follows:

1. A meeting of people who work on culture in municipalities, institutions, organizations and societies in UBC cities.



1. Cultural Capital of Europe – Copenhagen '96
2. Millennium of the City of Gdańsk – '97
3. 600th Anniversary of Kalmar Union – '97
4. Cultural Capital of Europe – Stockholm '98
5. Festival of 300 years of Russian Fleet – Kaliningrad '96

Participants of the Session discussed many problems concerning culture like information system among UBC cities. They also agreed that a new separate Commission on Sport and Tourism should come into being in the UBC

2. An exchange about important cultural activities in the area of the Baltic Sea in the coming years.

3. A presentation of the idea of the III Festival of Art and Culture which will be organized in Szczecin in August and September 1995.

About 60 persons came to take part in the Session, representing 27 UBC cities from 10 countries. Organizers informed in details about plans for III Festival of Art and Culture and invited artists from Baltic Cities to participate in it. Many different information on important international festivals in the Baltic Sea Region were presented by their managers – for example:

structure. Other problems will be discussed in the next meeting of the Commission on Culture which will be organized in autumn this year. It is hoped that the city of Visby will try to do it.

Among guests in Szczecin Session were – President of the UBC - Mr A. Engström, Mayor of the City of Gdańsk - Mr T. Posadzki, Deputy Mayor of the City of Gdynia - Mr Z. Urola, Ms K. Wilkenhorn - Copenhagen '96, Mr J. Herstad - Kalmar '97. All guests were warmly welcomed by mayor of the City of Szczecin - Mr B. Sochański.

SLAWOMIR SZAFRAŃSKI, CITY OF SZCZECIN
Chairman of UBC Commission on Culture

Working Meeting of UBC Commission on Environment

The working meeting of the Union's Environmental Commissions was organized in Århus on 3rd of February 1995 by chairman of the Commission Mr Carl Nielsen. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the implementation of the part of Baltic Sustainable Cities Programme concerning the Institutional Strengthening, in connection with the fact that Union obtained finances in amount of 550.000 DK for project realization. The project is directed to municipal staff administration and public utilities personnel and will be implemented through the series of workshops, seminars, courses and "on-the-job" trainings.

The Commission decided that in 1995, four seminars shall be organized in the fields of:

I. Solid Waste Management and Recycling.

II. Environmental and Physical Planning.

Following the earlier spread questionnaire the Commission appointed eastern and western cities to be responsible for organization of the seminars. The following cities were selected:

A. Gdańsk, Riga, Tallin, Turku as regards Solid Waste Management.

B. Ålborg, Karlskrona, Klaipeda, Liepaja as regards Environmental Planning.

Each activity will be planned and realized in cooperation between western and eastern city under coordination of project coordinator and UBC Secretariat. The eastern city shall be the host of the activity. The seminars will be followed by "on-the-job" trainings for representatives of eastern cities and will be held in western partner cities.

Additionally, the high-level workshop on public utilities reform is also planned to be organized in cooperation with European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Representatives of mentioned above cities shall meet on 20-21 April 1995 in Vilnius, where a common planning meeting will be prepared and led by Environmental Commission and project coordinator. The planning meeting will decide upon the content and methodology of selected activities and will propose the time-schedule for project realization in 1995.



The Second Workshop of the UBC Commission on Social Affairs

On March 20-21, 1995 the Second Workshop of the UBC Commission on Social Affairs was held in Rostock. The workshop was organized by the office of the UBC Commission on Social Affairs in Rostock and chaired by Anders Engström, President of the Union, Michael Bouteiller, Vice-President of the Union, Mayor of Lübeck, Dieter Schröder, Head of Commission on Social Affairs and Mayor of Rostock.

24 UBC members communities were represented among them 10 eastern European cities. In behalf of the EU Development Programmes LEDA and OUVERTURE, 2 consultants took part. The regional labour markets were represented by 13 participants from several institutions in Rostock. After the Start Workshop 1994 the Second Workshop was focused on transnational cooperation in common labour projects.

The primary goals of the interesting discussions were:

- exchange of experience about present situation on the labour markets in the UBC member cities,
- presentation of selected labour market projects for employment promotion in the several participating cities,
- presentation and discussion of current and future transnational common projects for job promotion especially for youngsters, women and longterm unemployed,
- promotion of labour market projects with participation of eastern European countries by the European Union, information about the present program guide lines, aims target groups, advice for application for the LEDA and OUVERTURE Programmes,
- necessities and chances for an intensified promotion of the Baltic region by the EU, demand for creation of future EU Initiatives and Development Programmes for activities in the Baltic Sea area,

- presentation of a brief review based on the data obtained from the UBC "Questionnaire on Labour Market Situation" circulated in 1994/1995 in all member communities by the Office of the Commission on Social Affairs.

During the 2nd Workshop on Employment Development 8 projects were proposed and agreed by the participants for developing and realization as common projects within the UBC Commission on Social Affairs. The involvement of eastern European partners into existing or future common projects was one of the main topics in the discussion which showed how complicated are the conditions for cooperation. The western European participants demonstrated a real openness and readiness for cooperation in their current and future projects for job promotion. At the same time the reaction of our eastern European guests were reserved and not quite clear because of the complicated political development in their countries. Especially in the smaller communities there exist hardly experience with financial support by the EU, the responsibilities within the communities often change and language problems make the understanding more difficult. The cities stressed their demand of further qualifications and training for their staff. Therefore the training project of the UBC Commission on Social Affairs met a good response and was evaluated as the start of direct eastern-western cooperation.

The UBC Commission on Social Affairs confirmed the special necessity of practical support and assistance for eastern European communities in the field of labour market to overcome the existing weaknesses for cooperation. The Rostock Office will be developed as a clearing and consultation point for labour market projects within the UBC.

HEIKE FRÖHLICH, ROSTOCK
COMMISSION ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

Young people from the Baltic Sea Area built nature trail in Lahemaa National Park, Estonia

"The best thing I have done in my life" was the summing up of the camp by one of the participants. After 11 days of work, education and lot of fun together the 41 participants and 6 leaders from the member cities in the Union of the Baltic Cities were united as a group not only with a lot of common memories but also the knowledge that is possible to do something for the environment together.

The 1994 Environmental Summercamp for Youth in the Baltic Sea Area in Lahemaa National Park, Estonia was the third camp since the start of the project in 1992. The practical work for the participants was to build a trail to a nature monument in the National Park, the "House Stone" or "Majakivi" in Estonia. The practical work was not only teaching the participants that it is possible to do

something real to improve the environment, it also allowed the participants to get to know each other. Or as one of the participants said "If you should carry a plank weighing 60 kg you just have to co-operate with the others in the group to manage". Besides the 5 days of the practical environmental the programme was also including practical environmental education, lectures, excursions and lot of fun together.

The idea behind the project came in 1991 from the former Minister President of the German State Schleswig-Holstein, Björn Engholm. He suggested the North European Club to do something for youth in the Baltic Sea Area around the theme of environment. Together with the Union of the Baltic Cities, the Confederation of Norden Association and Baltic Youth Office, this idea



become reality in 1992 when the first camp was arranged at Jamnuiza Agricultural School Latvia.

The camp this year was planned together with the National Park authorities, the Estonian Green Movement and the Nordic Information Office in Tallinn. Besides the application fees the camp was also financially supported by the State of Schleswig-Holstein, the Nordic Council of Ministers and the sponsors Sandvik International AB and Bergkvists Insjön AB.

PER BERGMAN
PROJECT MANAGER



International Exhibition of the Baltic Sea Region - INTERBALTIC '95

INTERBALTIC '95, INVESTBALTIC '95 (Investment Forum) and ECOBALTIC '95 (Ecology Forum) - the three fair-type events, combined in one, will be held at the exhibition hall of the WORLD TRADE CENTER EXPO in Gdynia on 7-9th September, 1995.

The formally fixed date for organized the events has been put off on the suggestion of one of the co-organizers: the Baltic Sea Chambers of Commerce Association (BCCA). On the other hand, due to an extreme importance of ecological problems in the Baltic Sea Region a separate forum of ecology ECOBALTIC '95 has been joined to the other two events: INTERBALTIC & INVESTBALTIC '95.

The main issues the events will concentrate on are:

- Communal economy
- Tourism
- Ecology
- Investments

Although, other topic are not excluded.

It is expected that both the UBC City-Members as well as



the BCCA Members and individuals companies will take part in the events.

Communes associated in the Union of the Seaside Cities and Communes, located in Gdask, are expected to be the Polish partner to the UBC Members.

The Polish Minister of Transport and Maritime economy has become the honorary sponsor of the events while the City of Gdynia is inviting the UBC Executive Board for a consecutive session to be

held at the same time as the events. The UBC Secretariat does encourage all the Members to actively promote the events and take part in them as city administration since they are on excellent opportunity to intensify various types of contacts among partners within the Region.

The Organizers: The World Trade Center Gdynia EXPO are distributing the application form, and are at disposal to furnish you with all necessary information.

Please apply to:

WORLD TRADE CENTER GDYNIA EXPO
ul. Tadeusza Wendy 7/9, 81-341 Gdynia
Tel. +48 58 286 163 or 286 167
Fax +48 58 286 164 or 286 168

World Trade Center Gdynia

EXPO





The Baltic Cities Business Network

The Åbo Akademi University and the City of Turku have carried out a pilot project called "The Baltic Cities Business Network". The aim of the project was to make an updated review on the current market/business situation in five selected cities in the Baltic region. The cities in the pilot phase were Tartu in Estonia, Liepaja in Latvia, Klaipeda in Lithuania, Gdynia in Poland and Kalmar in Sweden. In addition a similar report was made concerning the city of Pärnu as an extra outcome of the project.

The project was carried out by participants of the international extended education course "Urban Environment 1994-95" arranged by Åbo University, one of Turku universities. A team of 3-5 academic persons of different educational background and from different countries were designed to work with each city. They gathered data for the report from different sources during their visits in the target cities.

As the main outcome of the project a special report was published from each city. These reports include an updated review on the present situation and contact

addresses in the cities with a special emphasis on the economy and business opportunities. As the reviews were made by a foreign team the result differs from a normal city marketing bulletin. The city reports have been delivered to companies in Turku Region via the Turku Chamber of Commerce. The interest has been considerable and the project has already now initiated new commercial contacts between companies.

The project was implemented as a part of the network activities of the Union of the Baltic Cities. The organizational assistance and support from the cities involved made it possible to carry out the project. The reports (in English) from these five different cities are available at the Åbo Akademi University, Centre of Continuing Education, Mr Björn Grönholm, tel. +358 21 2654740, Fax +358 21 2654943.

MIKKO JOKINEN
CITY OF TURKU

Other recent Conferences and Meetings in which UBC has actively participated:

- **II Conference on Baltic Subregional Cooperation**, Lübeck-Travemünde, 17-19 October 1994
- **MCAP Baltic Cities Meeting**, Greifswald, 27-28 January 1995
- **ECO-BALTIC Conference**, Lübeck, 8-10 March 1995
- **CBSS Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials**, Elbląg, 15-16 March 1995
- **OECD & WHO Conference "Our Cities - Our Future"**, Madrid, 22-25 March 1995
- **Conference on Cooperation in Southern Part of the Baltic Sea Region**, Malmö, 27 March 1995
- **Workshop on Networks and Communication in the Baltic Sea Area**, Tampere, 27-28 March 1995
- **BTC Cultural Workshop and Cultural Tourism Seminar**, Norrköping, 5-7 April 1995

The Union has new Members

The number of Union Members now totals 57 cities. More Cities decided to join the Union, these are namely: Świnoujście from Poland and Tampere from Finland. We would like to warmly welcome these new cities and wish them fruitful cooperation with the remaining 55 Member Cities of the Union.



II. INFORMATION FROM THE MEMBER CITIES

Ålborg



Environmental Centre of Administration and Technology (ECAT) in Kaliningrad

Support is on its way to the region and city of Kaliningrad concerning their considerable environmental problems. From July this year the region is expected to open an exciting new environmental centre where four experts from Western Europe in cooperation with Russian experts will tackle the environmental problems of the region. The project has a provisional term of three years after which the Russian experts should continue on their own. The Kaliningrad region is situated as a Russian pocket with the access to the Baltic Sea.

Exciting city cooperation. The exciting aspect of the centre is the fact that it has been realized through an extraordinary city cooperation across borders - with assistance from the EU. The four experts from Western Europe will settle in the region for the three year project period. These experts will be situated in the centre of the problems and the whole idea of these environmental centres is therefore also an exciting alternative compared to more common EU-projects. The initiative was taken by Ålborg as the fourth biggest Danish municipality and Bremerhaven in Germany who started the project in close cooperation with the EU-Commission. From a Danish view the project will be one of the biggest municipal projects ever, which a Danish municipality experience on foreign land.

Immediate support. Over a three year period Ålborg will deliver equipment and environmental expertise for 1,8 million DK, while the support from Bremerhaven is 1,5 million DK. Furthermore the EU-financing is app. 9 million DK. The actual support is supplemented by several

environmental activities where the EU also could assist with additional support and financing. The EU-Commission will send their own representatives to Kaliningrad and it is the purpose that the environmental centre and the EU will work closely together. Previously the EU has supported similar centres in Riga and St. Petersburg and the intention is also that these three places should assist each other in different ways a.o. exchange of experience and ideas.

Water and Air. Kaliningrad has asked Ålborg and Bremerhaven for support especially to handle problems of purification of drinking and sewage water. They also seek support to handle problems of significant air pollution and waste management. App. 900.000 citizens live in the Kaliningrad region. The destruction of the environment has reached great dimensions - especially caused by wood pulp and paper industry. The environmental development form a threat towards the economic development of the region where a.o. Kaliningrad is harassed by considerable erosion of the local industry plants. Worn-down industries pollute more and an evil circle has started.

However, a positive economic development is happening concurrently with positive environmental development - and that is what the two Western European towns - Ålborg and Bremerhaven - intend to help with.

HENRIK SKOV
ÅLBORG EU-OFFICE

Fredericia



Fredericia Makes 1995 the Year of Events

Events and development. These are two words characterizing Fredericia in 1995. The year of events results from goal-direct planning as well as from coincidences. All together the result is quite impressive. The most untraditional event takes place on 17th and 18th June,

and it has been named The Free City of Culture. For two days the old fortification town closes its gates and the culture invades the streets. For this occasion a new city council has been elected, including a new mayor, for whom the only purpose is to turn the two days into a cul-



development is increasing heavily - especially in Fredericia. An analysis reveals that the business life expects a continuously accelerating development. In Fredericia it is especially concentrated on the international transport center, Distribution Taulov. A number of national as well as international forwarding agencies have already established themselves in the center and more are on their way.

Triangle Region. Eight cities surrounding the Little Belt have as the Triangle Region entered into a close cooperation in developing the region's economic/business life. The cooperation was formalized in 1994 and the practical results will produce from this year. The strength of the

tural mass-experience, which is expected to arise interest also outside the city limits.

Bridge Marathon Race. On 17th September the two most famous bridges in Denmark celebrate their 60th and 25th anniversaries. Both bridges connect Jutland with Funen. The day is celebrated by an enormous event, to which 30.000-40.000 participators are expected. A Bridge Marathon Race alone attracts approximately 6000 runners. The runners will cross both bridges and half of the 6 roadways will be closed. A bicycle race as well as a bridge march will also take place, and during the whole arrangement an enormous balloon will hang over the bridges as a fine "landmark".

International Ironman. 1995 is also the year where Fredericia is host for the International Ironman, which is one of the European Triathlon Union's official Prestige Races. The event takes place on 19th August, and the best European triathletes are already reported having signed up as well as overseas triathletes, although the deadline for signing up is not close at all. The organizer, Fredericia Triathlon Team, expects a large number of participants.

Business. Like other European countries Denmark has been marked by the economic crisis. But crossing the threshold to 1995 the trend has reversed. The positive

Triangle Region is based on the region's excellent infrastructure and the good placement in relation to the Nordic countries, Balticum and Europe. The eight cities have a number of qualities which give them a natural leading position in the development. You find Denmark's largest freight port in Fredericia, as well as Denmark's largest railway junction, and Denmark's second airport in Billund. And you must not forget, that Denmark's largest motorway junction lies in the middle of the area. In the light of this the Triangle Region has the best opportunities for becoming a development success and that's probably why the first results are already facts.

Look to Fredericia. The port of Fredericia is Denmark's largest industrial harbour measured in amount of goods. 11,5 mill. tons of goods were handled in 1994, which was 500.000 tons more than the port of Copenhagen. The port of Fredericia is specialized in bulk, wood steel, Ro/Ro and container activities. The port's international profile is expanding in 1995 through a promotion campaign under the slogan: Look to Fredericia. In 1995 the investment programme in new Ro/Ro facilities and Europe's most modern and dust free bulk terminal is completed.

PER NØRRET
DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, FREDERICIA

Gdańsk



1000th Anniversary of the City of Gdańsk "997-1997"

In 1997 the city of Gdańsk will be celebrating its Millenium, marking a thousand years of recorded history. The celebrations will allow us to present to the world our history and culture and the achievements in many

fields of the people who lived and worked here over the centuries.

Gdańsk's strategic position on the shore of the Baltic Sea has since the beginning been the source of its



wealth and power. At the crossroads of routes linking east with west and north with south, the city remains an important port with many ties with all the countries bordering the Baltic. We do hope that 1997 will provide the opportunity of sharing this common heritage with the people of the Baltic region while at the same time strengthening our cooperation. We have already launched an initiative to proclaim the years 1996-98 as the Baltic triennial. Copenhagen has been designated the cultural capital of Europe in 1996, Kalmar celebrates 600th Anniversary of Kalmar Union foundation in 1997 and Stockholm will be the Europe's cultural capital in

1998. We will be working together to co-ordinate the events in the four Baltic cities.

One of the events we would like others in the region to join us in is the Saint Dominic fair. Held annually in Gdańsk and a showcase for the arts, culture and crafts, we would like the 1997 fair to become a window on the whole region. Individual cities will have the opportunity not only to present their histories and culture but also current economic and investment opportunities. At the same time we hope the fair will provide a meeting place for all the people of the Baltic region.

As you probably know, Gdańsk is a home to the Secretariat of the Union of the Baltic Cities. Gdańsk is a symbol of the momentous recent changes in eastern and central Europe, has long supported the idea of greater Baltic integration within the framework of Europe. It would therefore be an honour for our city to become the venue of the Baltic Union's general conference in 1997, the year of the Millennium.

We look forward to your interest and support during our celebrations, would appreciate your participation in the events and remain open to any idea and suggestions you may have. And, of course, we eagerly anticipate seeing you here and hope you will have a wonderful time in our city.

TOMASZ POSADZKI
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GDAŃSK

For more information please contact:

Mrs Maria Kowalewska-Koska,
General Secretary
Organizing Committee
of Gdańsk 1000th Anniversary
ul. Wały Jagiellońskie 1, 80-853 Gdańsk
Tel. +48 58 319755
Fax +48 58 310181



GDAŃSK 997-1997®

"The World of the Baltic Sea" – documentary film

Last October the 5-persons crew from Video Studio Gdańsk made the first step of shooting for the series documentary "The World of the Baltic Sea". It took place mainly in Sweden, but they were also at Rugen

and in Szczecin. They visited Karlskrona (shooting in Maritime Museum, ancient monuments, coastal skiers, peat bogs in Torhamn), Kalmar (the castle, landscapes, Landsmuseums), Oland (the ornithological



station, "bird watches", landscapes, ruins of the Borgholmen castle, coastal terraces, stone remnants, windmills), Uppsala (Uppsala Energi AB, architectonic ancient monuments, kurhans, the Baltic University), coasts of Uppland (atomic power station, landscapes), Stockholm and environs (the Stockholm University, Scansen museum, city landscapes, Historiska Museet, Vaasa Museet). As far as Rugen is concerned, they shot some ports, windmills, flying birds. The satellite images were shot at the Szczecin University. We shot

about 25 hours of materials. The next step is planned in April, 1995.

Video Studio Gdańsk would like to thank all people and institutions very much for many-sided help and co-operation during our crew work and stay in Sweden. It would be difficult for us to implement our plans without your kind assistance.

JOANNA PACANA
VIDEO STUDIO GDAŃSK

Gdynia



The Twin Cities Sporting Competition - Gdynia 1995 (TCSC)

Like many other European cities, Gdynia is also such a fine place where youngsters from our "Twin Cities" can meet together. Most of them are coming here from all over the Baltic Region: Kaliningrad, Kalskrona, Kiel, Klaipėda, Kotka. The only "outsiders" are from Baranovichy and Plymouth. But who can deny, that those both towns are connected with Baltic Sea and Region by many links and ties? We hope moreover that the tenth team, from Kristiansand, will join next Competitions.

For whom is the TCSC? ("Mini Olympics" - as our friends from Plymouth are calling the TCSC"). Mainly for 15-years old girls and boys, pretty good in following ranges: football, basketball, handball, orienteering, and "opty" class races. About 200 competitors have joined the II TCSC last year. The Competition is also a challenge for local authorities schools and sport clubs.

What is the TCSC done for? The main premise and idea is to bring about friendship, cooperation and familiarity for the new Baltic generation. This is the best bet for the future of Baltic Europe. This task is protected by Honorary Committee of TCSC, composed of the Representatives of a/m Cities, the Consuls and different authorities. The Mayor of Gdynia is the chairman. To our satisfaction, TCSC is supported by EU Commission, Polish Government and other authorities, organizations and firms. Therefore we can cope with many problems as well as expenses.

Who is responsible for proper organization of TCSC? Obviously local authorities (City Office) of Gdynia, covering most expenses, arranging effective promotion and cooperation. The second partner is the Schoolsport Union, responsible for observance the Olympic rules and proper courses of the matches. Third partner are primary schools, dealing with the reception and pleasant stay of visitors. Acting together as the Organizational Committee of TCSC, we are trying to give optimal conditions to all our guests.



What UBC can do with the TCSC? Very much indeed. Firstly, we can discuss over the idea of TCSC as a rising and positive trend in Baltic Region, agreeable to principles of UBC. later on-to join the Honorary Committee of TCSC and (during the III TCSC in 22 week) to arrange discussion over the widespreading of the TCSC upon other Baltic Cities. In the meantime, to engage itself in inquiring the funds from the EU Commission, under the "Europe of Regions" Program. We hope also, that the Twin Cities Sporting Competition in Gdynia will be regarded as UBC enterprise.

RYSZARD TOCZEK, CITY OF GDYNIA



Helsinki



Helsinki - a Living Work of Art

The Daughter of the Baltic and capital of Finland has its eyes on the prize - European City of Culture in the year 2000. Helsinki is already brimful with artistic life. A new opera house, internationally recognized symphony orchestras, theaters, cinemas, art galleries, a rich variety of museums, open air concerts, festivals, sports, parkland

and water activities. All this within easy walking distances. Helsinki provides something for virtually everyone, all year around. Centuries of interaction as a gateway for the cultures of both East and West have created a distinctive flavor that is Helsinki's own. Discover Helsinki Yourself! Taste the difference. It is fresh. It is alive.

High Lights of the Year 1995:

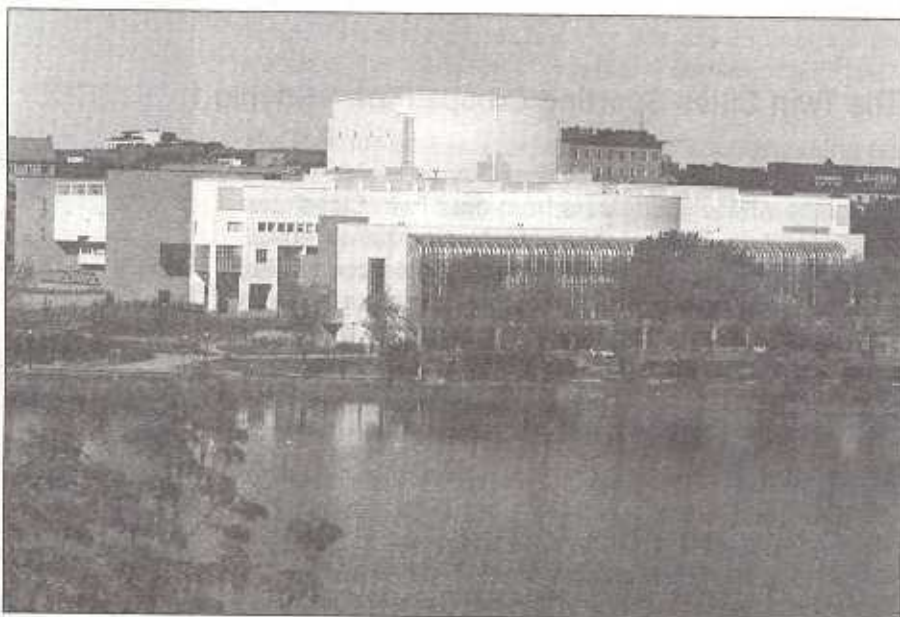
ARS '95, 14.02 - 28.05 in the Museum of Modern Art, is the largest exhibition of modern art in Scandinavia, with about 100 artists from 18 countries all over the world.

Helsinki Act Changing Forms of Performing Arts - is an international performing arts event to be held for the first time during 09-14.05.1995 in Helsinki. Helsinki Act in a biennial performing arts festival and symposium for artists, producers, scholars and educators. Helsinki Act wishes to open up a discussion about the changes taking place in performance culture in a unifying Europe, and a multicultural world.

The 1st International Sibelius Conductors' Competition will take place in Helsinki in May 1995 at the Finlandia Hall and Opera House, with the Helsinki Philharmonic, Finnish Radio Symphony and Finnish National Opera Orchestras. The head of the jury will be conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen.

Among other international competitions during the year 1995 in Helsinki are the Helsinki International ballet Competition (11-21.06. 1995) and the 7th Jean Sibelius International Violin Competition (18.11 - 01.12. 1995).

One of the most important event in Helsinki will be the **Helsinki Festival 1995**. The Festival (20.08-03.09.



1995) will be an "all arts festival" more than ever before, thanks to the Finnish conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen who has taken over the artistic direction for the season 1995 and 1996. This is really new. The festival fortnight will contain an action-packed "All arts festival". Classical and contemporary music will continue to form the hub of the festival, there will also be more for devotees of the visual arts, theater, dance, jazz, cinema, pop & rock music. The tradition of the Night of Arts will continue.

KRISTINA NIKLANDER
INFORMATION OFFICER, HELSINKI

A Living Work of Art



Helsinki for European Cultural Capital 2000



Kalmar



Kalmar receives visitors from the Baltic States

The City of Kalmar, Kalmar County Council and Kalmar County Administrative Board have had six guests from the Baltic states during a period of four weeks. In order to develop co-operation between the sister-cities of Kalmar and Panevezys, Kalmar had previously decided to give a series of study visits in the field of environmental control. There were three participants from Panevezys; one from the Ecology Department of the City of Panevezys, one from Panevezys Regional Environmental Department and one from the Panevezys Health Care Department. Two participants came from Estonia, both from Haapsalu, one working with culture and education and

one working with regional development and the labour market. One participant came from Dagauvpils in Latvia and his occupation was connected with the field of nuclear power safety. A number of special events were organized, eg. visits in several municipal and regional departments, the university, companies and the nuclear plant in Oskarshamn.

The participants from the Baltic states expressed a great interest in connection with their visit in Kalmar and hopefully the visit will lead to an investigation of the possibilities of increase of the environmental protection.

Democracy Project in Lithuania

During 1994-1995 three cities in the south-east of Sweden run a democracy-project in Lithuania. The purpose of the project between Kalmar, Växjö and Kalskrona and their sister-cities Panevezys, Kaunas and Klaipeda is to exchange democratic experience and traditions at the local level.

The main target group has been the members of the city councils and city boards, but members of the parties have been also the participants. During 1994 the politicians have been studying questions like Sweden political science with Western European views, the principle of public access to official records, relations between the city and massmedia and public influence on physical

planning. In a democratic society the actual elections are one of the most important occasions. Therefore 42 politicians and 30 teachers were in Sweden before or during the elections to study the campaign.

The project will continue during 1995 when the politicians will discuss internal information, information on the citizens, public education and the relationship between the state and the city.

Of course Swedish politicians will visit Lithuania during the first local elections which will be held on 25 March.

BENGT ENGE, CITY OF KALMAR

Karlshamn



A Border Country

More than a year ago, the urban district of Älmhult, Karlshamn and Olofström undertook a joint project aimed the improvement of the transport system integrating the provinces of Skåne and Blekinge. There are many reasons for this effort. This 'border region' comprises several plants and terminals with a considerable demand for transport capacity - e.g. IKEA, Volvo Olofströmsverken, Karlshamns AB and the Port of Karlshamn. Several official reports confirm the fact, the activities within these plants generate considerable goods flow.

Today, these 'generators' of goods flow are lacking an efficient transportation system integrating their plants and terminals. In addition to this, there is no efficient integration of the important national transport routes. The importance of access to the Baltic has increased considerably during the last few years - much due to the fact that new markets for international trade have emerged along its southern and eastern shores. There are further reasons to integrate the major national transport routes. This measure will certainly facilitate transport by sea,

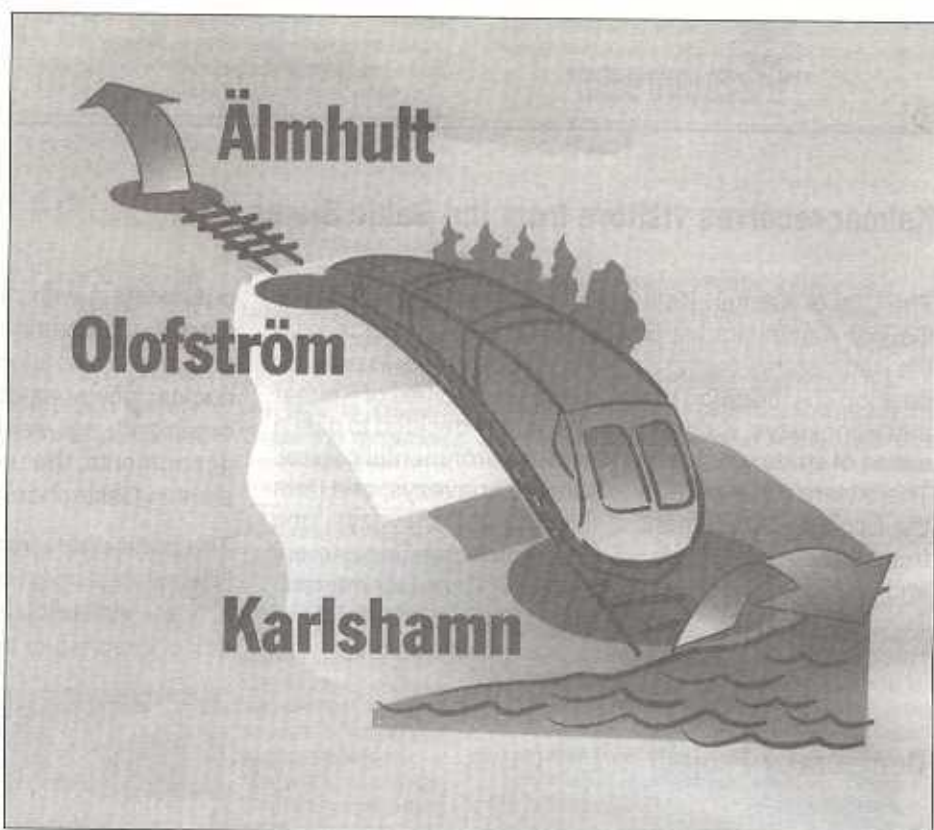


thus reducing the present concentration of goods in the Öresund region.

One of the projects launched by the urban districts suggests an extension of the present railway between Älmhult and Olofström to connect it with the Blekinge Coastal Line. Thus, goods destined to or from the province of Blekinge and its seaports, can easily be hauled to the Southern Main Railway Link in the city of Älmhult. This is possible with goods of both international and domestic origin. The three urban districts and the Port of Karlshamn has carried out a joint survey specifying the actual volumes of goods and proving the benefits that freight consignors should be able to reap from the South-Eastern Link.

The pilot study mentioned above includes a coast-benefit analysis.

The methods developed by the Swedish national Rail Administration have been applied in this analysis, which has been carried out with the official Railway Department for the Southern Region. A railway connecting the city of Olofström with the Blekinge Coastal Line will also link the latter to the Main Northern Railway Line. The estimated total national benefit of this



integration is reaped partly from reduction of travelling time and pollution - partly from benefits generated by competition itself. The South-Eastern Link will prove profitable from a national point of view. Its interaction with the Port of Karlshamn also provides excellent prospects for regional economic growth and continental trade.

Kotka



"PORT OF ART" Exhibition in Summer 1995

Kotka, a town about 56.000 inhabitants and with vividly developing harbour activity, is situated on the northern coast of the Gulf of Finland. With the PORT OF ART exhibition, planned to be held in the summer of 1995, Kotka will be the meeting point of the Baltic Sea area. There will be about 20 artists exposing their works of art from the Baltic Sea area and also from Iceland. Finland will be also represented by the artists Art-stevedores (Juha Metso, Timo Mähönen and Heimo Suntio), Maaria Wirkkala and Paavo Rabinä; Sweden by Jan Svennungsson and Ebba Matz; Norway by Jeannette Christensen and Anne Katarine Dolven; Denmark by Anders Krüger; Iceland by Thorvaldur Thorsteinsson; Germany by Gudrun Wassermann and Ivonne Jokl; Estonia by Jaan Toomik and Tea Tammelaan; Latvia by Oleg Tillbergs, Kristaps Gelzis and



Aija Zarina; Lithuania by Mindaugas Navakas; Poland by Krzysztof Bednarski and Russia by Sergiej Bugajev.

Being a harbour town Kotka is familiar with an international atmosphere and the vicinity of foreign countries. With the help of Kotka Port Authority the PORT OF ART exhibition will endeavor to search for and to examine this "far horizon". Naturally, Nordic art is represented as an important element and part of the Finnish identity. The aim is to make this event, now realized for the second time, a regular discussion-provoking major event every five years. The works of art will be constructed in the public places of the City with the purpose of creating a living dialogue between the town's inhabitants and visitors and the works of arts.



The PORT OF ART exhibition is planned to be built as the Radar open air sculpture exhibition which was arranged by the town of Kotka in 1990. Five years ago, in a mood of inspiration, people started to talk about a special "Kotka spirit". This time there will be an art seminar also, because interaction between art and cultural circles is essential for the development of human ways of expression. The organization committee of ARS BALTI-CA has approved PORT OF ART as one of its projects for the year 1995 with Finland in charge. In Finland the

significance of the exhibition has been recognized on a high level: Mrs Eeva Ahtisaari, the wife of the president of Finland, has consented to be the patroness of the exhibition.

As to its location and interests Kotka also wishes to be a bridge between east and west. We hope the exhibition will be a forum for people with reflections and feelings.

TAINA RASI
CULTURAL SECRETARY, KOTKA

An International Symposium - "PORT-LOGISTICS-KOTKA"



goes. Our country being a new member of the European Union we look forward for increasing volumes especially in transit cargoes and we aim to develop related services.

Based on these future prospects we are arranging an international symposium on transportation and port services here in Kotka, Finland on 31st August 1995. The programme concentrates in presenting the international transportation routes via Southern Finland and the development plans of these routes. At the same time we evaluate port services in Kotka through port users' points of view, focusing on functional aspects and needs for improvement. We even have the presentation of future port service development plans to St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region. As one important part of our programme we see the expectations of the

European Union for Finnish logistical services providing for the needs of the Union and transits.

The contact person:

Mrs Sirkka Kotola, Chancery Secretary
Kotka City Hall
PB 205, FIN-48101 Kotka
Tel. +358 52 2274208
Fax +358 52 2274234

The Town of Kotka is arranging together with the University of Helsinki, Kotka Centre for Continuing Education an international symposium on ports and logistics at the end of August. The background and the purpose of the programme in brief are as follows. The port of Kotka is the main exporting port on the Eastern Baltic Sea. In 1994 the volume of the port was 8,3 million tons, of which 2,6 million tons were Russian transit car-

Kristiansand



Kristiansand - a City of Many Faces

Kristiansand was founded in 1641 by the Danish-Norwegian King Christian IV. The idea was to create a new center for all trade on the southern coast. Ideal natural conditions and a variety of incentives were the requirements for achieving the aim. Harbours, trade, shipping, timber, milling, small-scale industry and fishing provided the basis for the town's growth. Kristiansand was

intended to be the capital of Southern Norway, and that is what it has become. Kristiansand is Norway's largest city in Skagerak, it is approaching the year 2000 as a bustling, prosperous city. Kristiansand is Norway's leading holiday and leisure resort with the highest number of sunny days annually. Since the Second World War, Kristiansand had



led the way nationally in housebuilding, and regionally in business, education, culture and education.

Kristiansand city center is unique as regards communication. The ferries to Denmark take passengers over to the European mainland. The airport bus leaves from the city center for Kristiansand Airport, from where passengers can continue their journey by plane to anywhere in the world. Both the railway station and the bus terminal are also located in the city center.

A wide spectrum of cultural and sporting activities are available. The city has a thriving music life, ranging from a symphony orchestra, operatic society and church music festival to school brass bands and rock groups. Sports activities in Kristiansand take place in 20 outdoor sports halls. There are facilities for international competitions in gymnastics, badminton, canoe and kayak. Kristiansand is tailor-made for the outdoor life and recreation. Well-kept country for walks is within easy reach of both the city centre and the residential areas. There are excellent opportunities for skiing. Kristiansand is much more than sun, summer, sea and skerries.

Kristiansand takes good care of industry and commerce. Its position as a city of trade and commerce is not accidental. It has come about because of excellent communication, cheap electricity, well arranged industrial sites and financial services. More than 140 industrial service and commercial firms are established here and the number is increasing all the time.

Kristiansand is a professional congress city which has good communication. Short distances between various locations are important for a congress venue. There are various types of accommodation, including hostels, summer hotels, holidays apartments and motel. There are three camping sites inside the municipalities boundaries, a wide variety of restaurants, bars, pubs and a number of excellent places to eat. Kristiansand is the main education center in Southern Norway. This is of great importance for the city as higher education provides fresh recruitment for the city's industry, commerce and culture.



The college environment in Kristiansand is broadly based. Adger College, Kristiansand College of Education, Kristiansand College of Nursing, the Norwegian Military Academy.

Visitors should allow themselves plenty of time in Kristiansand, to relax and experience the local atmosphere and variety. The city itself is worth seeing. There are many interesting places: Setesdalen, the valley to the north of Kristiansand, the modern sculptures in the new park, Norway's largest exhibition of cars known as the Monte Carlo collection, Vest-Agder County Museum, Christiansholm Fortress and many, many others.

To find out more about Kristiansand, please contact:
City Hall Information Centre
Rådhusgt. 18, 4601 Kristiansand
Tel. +47 380 75025

Sopot



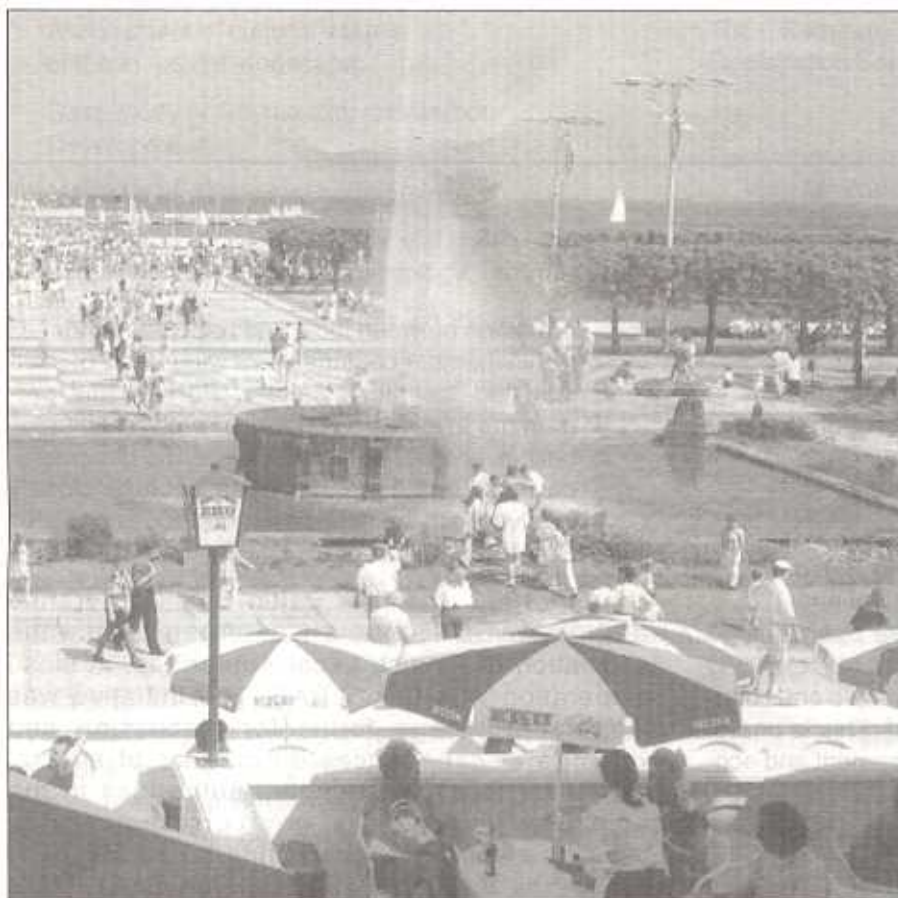
Sopot - the Summer Capital of Poland

Sopot is often called the beauty of the Baltic Sea or the summer capital of Poland. The place brings two immediate associations: the pop music festival and the seaside resort whose beaches attract masses of people.

Artists flock to Sopot. The town has much appeal for painters, musicians, actors, film makers and writers. The cultural life of Sopot is diverse. Art galleries, exhibitions and concerts are readily available. The Leśna Opera will

mainly be used by Polish Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra, one of the best ensembles in Poland, led by W. Rajski. The State Art Gallery in Sopot attempts to break away from traditional forms of culture. It has won a lot of credits in Poland as a unique promoter of a video art, performance art and installations - the artistic trends derived from conceptualism.

The other aspect of Sopot's art life is connected with the



avant garde artist associated with the "Slinks" Foundation and Spatif, who organize a series of happenings in town. Apart from the small stage of the Wybrzeże Theater, there are two other theater companies in Sopot: an avant garde Theater of Expression led by Wojciech Misiuro and Andre Ochodlo's Atelier Theater which draws from the tradition of cabaret.

The International Song Festival accompanied by additional events such as Video Fairs, is the key event of Sopot's cultural life. It came into existence over 30 years ago. But the beginnings Opera Leśna open-air concert hall go back to the early 20th century. Before the war Sopot was nicknamed "kleine Bayreuth". It owed the name to Wagner Festivals which used to be organized here. Sopot's authorities are planning to revive Wagner Festivals that was famous all over Europe.

Sopot can be proud of the sports facilities and recreation ground such as horse race track, tennis courts, and an athletic stadium. The resort focuses its interest on aquatic sports. It has become clear that the pier is a perfect place for watching yacht races and wind surfing. Since 1992 Sopot has organized preliminary competition for the World Cup of sail boats with a displacement of one ton. A similar event, the World Cup for boats with a displacement of 250 kilograms, is going to take place in Sopot this year.

The chief events of summer 1995 in Sopot:

- The International Tennis Veteran's Competitions
21-24.06.1995
- Horse-riding Competition
07 or 08.07.1995,
25.08.1995 - second race
- International Song Festival
about 24-27.08.1995
- Big Cup - World
Championship Quarter
Ton '95 02-09.09.1995
- CSIO Old Riders - horse riding competitions
15-17.09.1995

Sopot has no industry but there are banks where big capital is accumulated. A project has been developed to open a Business Center which would coordinate business transactions with our neighbours. Right now Sopot serves as a meeting point businessmen who wish to relax in local clubs, cafes and restaurants. Bohaterów Monte Cassino Street, the promenade of the town, which cuts Sopot from east to west is the main attraction for tourists regardless of the time of the year. It connects Opera Leśna concert hall with the Pier. This is the street of amusement with over thirty pubs, cafes and little restaurants.

MACIEJ RUSEK, CITY OF Sopot



III. VIEWS

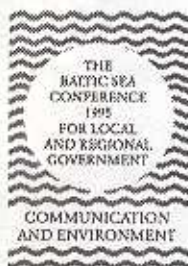
The Baltic Sea Conference, Norrköping, 18-20 May 1995

The Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe, the City of Norrköping and the Östergötland County Council will arrange a conference for local and regional authorities in the countries around the Baltic Sea. The conference theme is "Communication and Environment".

The people of the countries around the Baltic Sea have centuries-old traditions of cultural and commercial exchange. In the new, more open Europe that is currently emerging, the prospects of expanding and strengthening the ties that bind the people and countries located around the Baltic are good. This is one of the basic prerequisites for human development and economic growth.

The increased load on the environment of the Baltic Sea and the need to appreciably improve the situation in the entire region has been the topic of discussion among the countries around the Baltic Sea for many years. By developing an infrastructure for transports, travel and information transfer and establishing the network for cultural, scientific and commercial cooperation - with particular emphasis on sustainable, environmentally-sound development - social welfare in the whole Baltic region can be improved.

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE) is the elected assembly, within 33 member-state Council of Europe, responsible for co-



operation between local and regional authorities within member countries on a wide variety of political and technical matters. Part of this programme involves co-operation between municipalities and regions within a specific geographical area and as such, it has become closely involved with the series on conferences on Baltic Sea co-operation.

In 1993, the first Baltic Sea Conference was held in Helsinki and was organized by the Association of Finnish Local Authorities, in close co-operation with the CLRAE. The initiative was taken to provide a forum for discussion and exchange of experiences on matters of special interest for local and regional authorities in the Baltic Sea Region; in a way corresponding to activities which have been undertaken for many years in the Mediterranean Basin under CLRAE's umbrella.

Now there will be a second Baltic Sea Conference, arranged this time in Norrköping, Sweden and the conference theme will be "Communication and Environment".

For more information, please contact:

Mr Bengt Anckarman
Conference Secretary General
Tel. +46 11 172100
Fax +46 11 172300

Seminar on Preservation of the Industrial Heritage - Gdańsk Outlook II, Gdańsk-Gdynia, 4-7 October 1995

Union of the Baltic Cities is one of the co-organizers of the Seminar initiated by the Technical University of Gdańsk and the City of Gdynia. It is scheduled as an activity within the Gdańsk Millennium celebrations, and on the other hand the one closing the 50-years period of the Technical University of Gdańsk. Organizers want to implement into their practice the spirit of the Council of Europe recommendation No. R(90)20 "On the protection and the conservation of the industrial, technical and civil engineering heritage in Europe". The first step towards this recommendation fulfillment was done two years ago while the first PIH-GO was organized, the first one in that manner in Poland. Today, second edition will be organized.



Subjects planned to be covered in the seminar session include:

- * General aspects presentation concerning the national or European-wide regional approaches to the engineering heritage presentation;
- * Civil engineering heritage recognition, assessment and protection;
- * Case studies of objects and structures conservation, rehabilitation or life-cycle upgrading;
- * Industrial heritage protection;



- * Assessment of cultural values of the industrial landscape;
- * Case study of Gdynia City and harbour Development;
- * Maritime and the navy heritage;
- * Environmental and socio-cultural context of technology.

According to the Tentative Program the seminar activities seem to promise an important and attractive event. It will be a great chance to present Polish scientific circles, the distinguished authors and their international approach to the engineering heritage recognition, documentation and fruitful exploration.

The Seminar Secretariat should received Final Registration Form till July 31, 1995.

For further information please contact:

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Technical University of Gdańsk
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The International Network for Environmental Management (INEM)

The International Network for Environmental Management is the world federation of non-profit business organizations for environmental management and sustainable development established in 1991. The purpose of INEM and its members associations is to promote, disseminate, develop and apply the principles and methods of environmental management.



Its goals are:

- * to reduce the negative environmental impacts of industry worldwide;
- * to show that pro-active environmental policies are a condition of market success;
- * to promote Cleaner Production and Cleaner Technologies, rather than end-of-the-pipe approaches;
- * to help business to integrate environmental management into business culture, operations and methods;
- * to help in particular small- and medium-sized enterprises;
- * to assist business in developing countries and Eastern Europe.

INEM has members and affiliated associations in 21 countries on five continents, with its seat in the German State of Schleswig-Holstein. It helps its members and affiliates stay informed of what their counterparts and other (companies, governments, etc.)

around the world are doing in order to promote the unbureaucratic dissemination of vital know-how and other information. INEM is involved in presenting the case for integrated environmental management to business, the media, the general public and in international fora.

How does the INEM operate? INEM acts as a clearing-house for environmental management know-how, collects information from its member organizations, partner organizations, all level of governments, environmental organizations and the media, and redistributes it in various forms. One of the INEM's area of interests is to facilitate technical exchange by placing the collective know-how of its members and affiliates at the disposal of industries which wish to create industry associations for environmental management. INEM plays adviser role, it provide assistance and support, especially to associations being formed in neighboring countries.

INEM sponsors annual International Industry Conferences for Sustainable Development (IICSD) to provide a public forum for discussion of the latest practical applications of environmental management. This year the Conference on International Industry for Sustainable Development (IICSD) under the name of ECO-BALTIC: Partnership for Sustainable Development in the Baltic Sea Region was held in Lübeck on March 8-10.

Fore more information please contact:

INEM Secretariat
Bahnhofstrasse 36
22880 Wedel, Germany
Tel: +49 4103 84019
Fax: +49 4103 13699



NEFCO - The Nordic Environment Finance Corporation

NEFCO was established, in 1990 by the five Nordic countries as a multilateral institution to support environment investments in Eastern Europe. The purpose of NEFCO is in essence to provide risk capital in support of long term cooperation between business enterprises from the Nordic countries and from Eastern Europe in the field of environmental technology, in order to build up the local production capacity for goods and services needed for environment investments.

A main feature of NEFCO's operations is the possibility to participate in projects on equal terms with the commercial parties as an equity partner in order to ensure a sufficient capitalization of new business ventures. Thereby NEFCO can also act as a catalyst for bringing together the interested parties. A prerequisite for NEFCO's participation in project is a collaboration between entities from the member regions and local entities in the investment countries.

Typically NEFCO participates in projects which are implemented as equity joint ventures, that is a long term cooperation in the form of a corporate entity; a joint venture company or some other type of company according to the legislation in the respective country. NEFCO's participation is limited to a minority holding ordinarily in the range of 25 - 35%. In large projects the portion would be smaller.

In addition to equity capital NEFCO also has the possibility to extend loans. These will in the first instance be used to support projects where NEFCO is a partner in order to facilitate the full financing of the project. Loans are usually made on commercial terms, i.e. at market rates. In some cases loans can be extended in the form of loans with equity features the debt service is related to the financial performance of the borrower.



As NEFCO was created expressly with a view to strengthen the cooperation between the Nordic countries and the neighboring region in Eastern Europe, operations will for the time being be limited to investment projects in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Belorussia and Ukraine.

A particular element for NEFCO is that the activities are exclusively related to projects within the field of environment technology, which means that a main focus should be on the environment effects that can be obtained through the projects. Special emphasis will be given to projects that contribute to a reduction of transboundary pollution which affects the Nordic region.

NEFCO will invest its funds only in commercially sound projects. Therefore not only the expected environmental effects from the business activity in the investment projects are considered but every project is scrutinized for its technical, institutional, economic and financial viability to ensure that the external and local funds are mobilized only for projects which have the potential for successful business.

The initial capital of NEFCO, which will be contributed by the member countries, is approximately 40 million ECU. All decision are made by the board which is composed of one representative from each member country. The offices of NEFCO are located in Helsinki in conjunction with the Nordic Investment Bank.

For more information please contact:

Mr Harro Pitkänen
Director of NEFCO
Fabianinkatu 34
SF-00171 Helsinki
Tel. +358 0 1800341
Fax +358 0 630 976

Association of Cities for Recycling (ACR)

ACR is a Network for the Exchange of Information between cities and Urban Communities on Selective Waste Collection. In order to achieve a significant improvement in the ecological and economic efficiency of the management of urban waste, the Association of Cities for Recycling aims to bring all interested parties and to promote the exchange of information between them.



ASSOCIATION OF CITIES
FOR RECYCLING

The association is based on principles stated in the Charter of the Association:

- Principle of sustainable development,
- Principle of prevention and recovery of waste,

- Principle of partnership between the public authorities, the private sector and the public.

The Association exchanges three kinds of information:

- Technical data on recycling operations, including markets for secondary materials,
- Methods of communication, education and public awareness,
- Legal, economic or voluntary instruments relating to recycling.



The Association of the Cities for Recycling provides its Members with the following services:

- Access to an international network of those involved in the urban waste management,
- A regular newsletter,
- Free technical reports,
- Participation in the specialized working groups and the annual General meeting,

- Free access to a database (from June, 1995) on industrial plants on sorting and recycling wastes.

For further information, please contact:

Mr Pierre Bois d'Enghien
ACR Secretariat
Gulledelle, 100
B-1200 Brussels
Tel. +32 2 775 7701
Fax +32 2 775 7611

KIMO - The Local Authorities International Environmental Organization

KIMO is an international association of local authorities and associated organizations which was formally founded in Esbjerg, Denmark, in August 1990 to work towards cleaning up pollution in the North Sea. The idea for the organization originally came from Vagsoy Kommune in Norway. Vagsoy had been concerned since 1985 about the proposals for further nuclear fuel reprocessing at Dounreay, which they saw as a threat to their fishing industry. The wide spread seal deaths in the North Sea in 1988 and the spread of toxic algal bloom up the west coast of Norway in the same year brought home to them that the threats to marine life in the North sea extended well beyond radioactive discharges. They also realized that any action taken to clean up the North Sea could only be effective if it was coordinated on an international basis and decided to contact some other local authorities to form a nucleus of an international group.



"KIMO's primary objective is the cleaning up of the existing pollution in northern seas and coastal waters, of preventing future pollution and of working to preserve and enhance them and to leave them in a fit and healthy state for the well-being of future generation".

Membership of KIMO is open to district and regional authorities, independent groups, commercial enterprises and private sector organizations. Since its foundation membership has grown and many UK local authorities have recognized the benefits of working within an international partnership to challenge prevailing attitudes. A principle condition of joining KIMO is for each new member to produce an Environmental Action Plan, detailing their approach and initiatives towards cleaning up and controlling pollution within their region.

For further information, please contact:

The other founder members - Shetlands Islands Council, Grampain Regional Council and Esbjerg City Council were selected - at that time - on the basis that they shared with Vagsoy a common interest in protecting their fishing industries. From this modest localized start KIMO has grown in size and in terms of its aims and objectives. It now has 30 members in the UK, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Holland with associate members in Germany.

Mr Rick Nickerson
KIMO Secretariat
Shetland Islands Council
Greenhead, Lerwick, ZE1 0PY
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Fax +44 595 2605



PRESIDENT OF THE UNION OF THE BALTIC CITIES

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Mayor of the City of Kalmar
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SECRETARIAT OF THE UNION OF THE BALTIC CITIES

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BANK ACCOUNT OF THE UNION

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301817-661416-132

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Fax: +7 0112 215395

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Fax: +371 2 220785

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20100 Turku, Finland
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Fax: +358 21 303518



The Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC) is a network of the cities currently consisting of 57 member cities from all 10 Baltic countries.

The Article 1 of the Union's Statute reads as follows:

"The Union was established with the aim of developing cooperation and exchange between the Cities - Union members."

The overriding goal of the Union is to contribute to the positive democratic and economic development for the benefit of people living in the Baltic cities. This is accomplished through unprecedented international cooperation, constant communication, and a common concern: the health, protection and well-being of the entire Baltic Sea Region.

The Union has the observer status with Helsinki Commission, HELCOM PITE, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE).

The Union is governed by the General Conference, the President, two Deputy Presidents and the Executive Board consisting of one member city representative from each Baltic country.

In a daily activity the Union has as its basis six working Commissions as follows:

- *Commission on Culture Affairs*
- *Commission on Environmental Protection*
- *Commission on Social Affairs*
- *Commission on Sport*
- *Commission on Telecommunication*
- *Commission on Transportation*

In each of the respective areas the Commissions oversee specific Union projects, activities and special events. Each city is capable to have its own creative and fully independent input to the Commission's work. The Union is open for the new members. Any coastal city of the Baltic Sea or any other city interested in Baltic Sea area development may become a member of the Union by making a written declaration of its will to enter UBC.

For more information about UBC work and the rules of entering the Union, please contact the Union's Secretariat in Gdańsk.