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AARHUS
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KALININGRAD
KALMAR
KARLSHAMN
KARLSKRONA
KAUNAS
KIEL
KLAIPEDA
KØGE
KOŁOBRZEG
KOTKA
KRISTIANSTAD
KURESSAARE
LIEPĀJA

LÜBECK
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MAMONOVO
MÖRBYLÅNGA
NÆSTVED
NAKSKOV
NORRKÖPING
NYKØBING F.
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PALANGA
PANEVĖŽYS
PÄRNU
RÉZEKNE
RIGA
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VISBY
VÄSTERVIK
VÄSTERÅS
WISMAR
YSTAD

NEWSLETTER N° 8

Dear Members and Friends,

When I am writing these words only one week is separating us from our General Conference in Aarhus in Denmark. The main subject of the Conference will be social and labour-market issues. For us - representatives of the cities - these are one of the most important problems for the future. The whole Europe contends with difficulties related to the growing unemployment. In the majority of West-European countries the unemployment rose significantly in the 1990-ies. For East-European countries the unemployment was in principal the unknown notion. Presently, in such a short time, the unemployment ratio has multiplied and will surely increase within a few next years. These problems are not easy, but we, acting on the local level, must find a way to solve them.



Recently, I have visited Brussels together with Michael Bouteiller, our Vice-President, and Pawel Żaboklicki, our Secretary General. It was a very meaningful visit. During two days we have not only met the representatives of the member-cities to the European Union, but also the representatives of numerous EU General Directorates. At the same time the intensive discussions concerning special programmes for the Baltic Sea took place. I believe that many projects referring to the future of our cities might be implemented with the financial assistance of the European Union programmes. Our cities should be more active with submitting proposals of cooperation projects. It will be possible to use more ECU if we attain knowledge about existing EU programmes and the way of utilizing them. We will be returning more often to that matter in our cities next year.

Finally, I would like to thank all for the fruitful cooperation in the year 1995 and wish a truly joyful Christmas and the New Year both to You and to Your Cities in 1996.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Anders Engström".

Anders Engström
President

Kalmar, December 1995



I. WORK OF THE UNION

The 11th Meeting of the UBC Executive Board

The 11th Meeting of the Executive Board of the Union of the Baltic Cities was held on 22-23 April 1995, in the premises of the City Hall of Vilnius. The meeting was attended by the members of the Union's Executive Boards as well as the representatives of UBC working Commissions. Participants submitted reports concerning latest Union activities and discussed current issues and projects.

Mr Carl Nielsen, chairman of the Commission on Environment, informed that in September 1994, UBC submitted an application to the Nordic Council of Ministers for finances to implement the Project on Institutional Strengthening. In December the Union was granted with the amount of 550.000 DK. The day before the Board meeting, the Commission and responsible cities, met to discuss the content and schedule of seminars selected within the project. It was agreed that 2 seminars and 2 courses in the fields of Solid Waste Management and Physical Planning shall be organized in the cities of Klaipeda, Liepaja, Riga and Gdańsk. Mr Nielsen informed also that application to EU LIFE Programme 1994 for Baltic Municipal Environmental Audits project, was rejected due to limited LIFE budget. The Commission submitted revised application to LIFE'95 in March.

President Anders Engström reported from the 2nd Workshop on Employment Development organized by the Commission on Social Affairs in Rostock, on 20-21 March 1991. The workshop was attended by the participants from 24 member cities, among them 10 cities from south-east part of the Baltic Sea region. The workshop task was to promote transnational unemployment decreasing projects, mainly directed to eastern UBC communities.

Mr Sławomir Szafranowski, Szczecin, chairman of the Commission on Culture, submitted report from the Working Session of the Commission held in

Szczecin on 16-18 January 1995, where over 60 representatives from 27 UBC member cities had an opportunity to exchange information about various culture events taking place in the 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.

Mr Zdzisław Urla, Deputy Mayor of Gdynia, on behalf of the cities of Gdynia and Karlskrona submitted a proposal to create UBC Commission on Sport with the secretariat in Gdynia. The Board welcomed the proposal and nominated mentioned cities as the leading cities of the Commission.

Mrs Hjördis Höglund from Sundsvall reminded that next UBC women's conference shall be held in Sundsvall on 5-8 October 1995. The conference is to be organized jointly by Union of the Baltic Cities and Women for Environment and Health network from Sundsvall. The theme of the Conference is "Women around the Baltic - our role in Agenda 21". Report from the conference is included in the Newsletter.

Mr Paweł Żaboklicki, acting Secretary of the Union, was officially elected by the UBC Executive Board as the Secretary General of the Union of the Baltic Cities.





The 12th Meeting of the UBC Executive Board

The 12th Meeting of the UBC Executive Board took place on 7-9 September 1995 in the city of Gdynia, Poland, on the invitation of Mrs Franciszka Cegielska, Mayor of Gdynia. The meeting was held in association with the first International Exhibition of the Baltic Sea Region *InterBaltic'95*, organized by WTC-Expo Gdynia, while the Union was one of co-organizers. The Board meeting was attended by the members of UBC Executive Board, representatives of working Commissions, as well as invited guests. Representatives of the Commissions submitted reports describing Commissions activities since the 11th Executive Board Meeting in Vilnius.

Mr Carl Nielsen, chairman of the Commission on Environment reported on two major projects carried out by the Commission. Mr Nielsen presented the preliminary timetable of seminars and courses on solid waste and physical planning, to be organized within the frame of Project on Institutional Strengthening. As regards the financing of Baltic Municipal Audits Project, Mr Nielsen informed that Commission received a letter from EU DGXI (LIFE) informing that project has been evaluated as satisfactory and may receive the grant, however due to limited resources the UBC application for 350.000 ECU should be reduced by 30%. The Environmental Commission revised the application as requested. The final decision concerning the grant is to be taken by LIFE management committee in the end of the year.

Dr. Ulrich Bauermeister from Rostock presented the results of the work of the Commission on Social Affairs since April emphasizing the survey on unemployment situation in Baltic cities, carried out by the Commission. In response to the questionnaire sent out to member cities, the Commission collected the information on local labour market statistics, employment development projects, legal regulations for unemployed etc. All information have been compiled and may serve as a manual for social projects managers in the cities. Thanks to this investigation UBC will be able to work out more concrete projects on social field.

Prof. Maciej Krzyżanowski, Gdańsk, chairman of the Commission on Transportation Conference on Actual Problems of the Sea-Land Transportation Systems of the Baltic Sea Regions organized by the Commission in Gdańsk on 27-28 April 1995. Report from the conference is included in the Newsletter.

Mr Sławomir Szafrąński, chairman of the Commission on Culture, in his report focused on the III International UBC Culture Festival held in Szczecin

between August-September 1995. An article describing the festival is enclosed in this Newsletter. Mr Szafrąński also informed that the Calendar of Culture festival in Baltic cities prepared by the Commission is available since June on Internet. As regards the Catalogue of Cultural Institutions - it will be printed and sent out to all cities in the end of the year.

Mr Raimonds Pavulitis, Riga, reporting from the Commission on Telecommunication concentrated on three main issues, namely the access of all UBC member cities to the Internet, creation of the databases and the proposal from Gdańsk to create V-SAT satellite telecommunication system and GIS network between selected UBC member cities.

Mr Zdzisław Urla, Deputy Mayor of Gdynia, reported from the first meeting of the Commission on Sport which took place in Gdynia the day before the Board Meeting. Mr Urla was elected as a chairman of the Commission.

Mr Anders Engström, the President of the Union, on behalf of the cities of Kalmar and Rezekne put forward a proposal to create the UBC Commission on Tourism. The Board accepted the proposal and recommended the General Conference to officially approve creation of the Commission on Tourism.

Mr Andrzej Jankowski, Secretary of the City of Gdańsk, reminded all participants of the meeting that the city of Gdańsk will celebrate in 1997 the 1000th anniversary of its recorded history and will commemorate it by organizing a number of remarkable events. One of such events will be European St. Dominic's Fair - an opportunity for Gdańsk partner cities and regions for culture and economic presentation. This special year will be also the occasion to organize the next General Conference of the UBC in Gdańsk.

The Board discussed also the problem of UBC projects



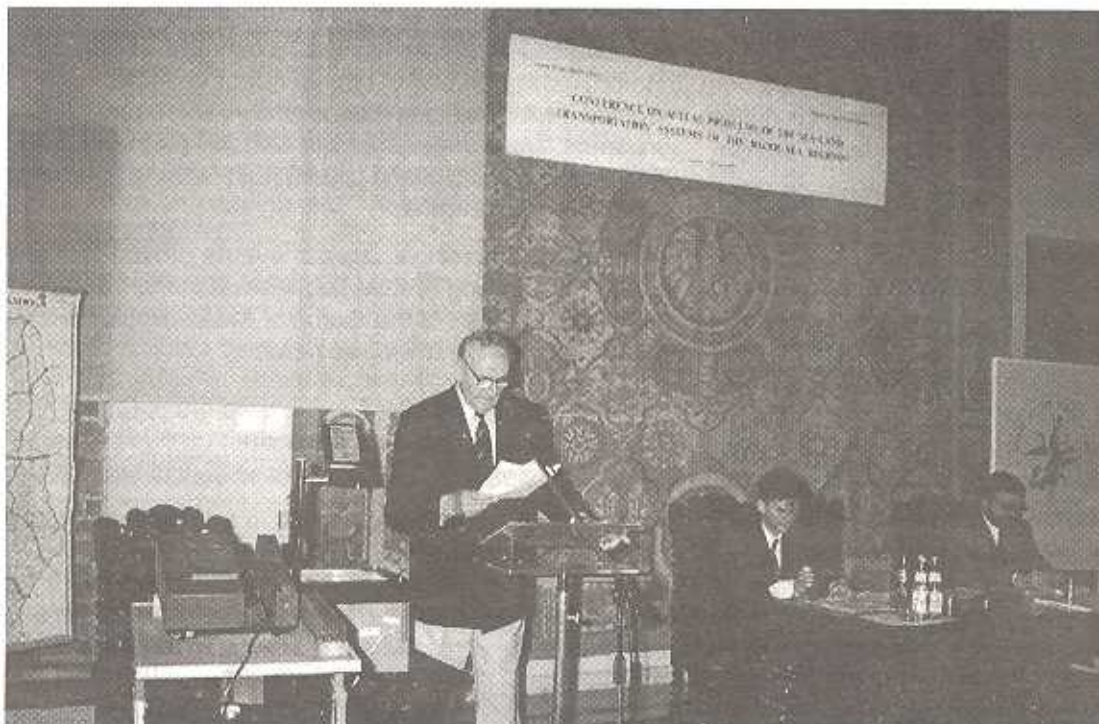


financing, underlining that UBC must strengthen the cooperation with the European Union in question. It was stressed that UBC should undertake regular contacts with EU officials in order to promote and lobby UBC activities within the European Union. UBC must encourage European Commission to make various programmes such as PHARE, OUVERTURE etc. more

accessible for UBC and first of all to launch, as soon as possible, the Baltic Sea Development Programme.

Finally the Board discussed the preparations and the programme of the forthcoming III General Conference of the Union of the Baltic Cities, to be held in the city of Aarhus, Denmark, on 8-9 December 1995.

The Conference on Actual Problems of the Sea-Land Transportation Systems of the Baltic Sea Regions



conference committed to the realization of TEM-Scandinavia and economic importance of Via Baltica and Via Hanseatica motorways. As regards the sea transportation, the conference pointed out an important factor characteristic for the Baltic countries - an increase of the efficiency of ferry and ro-ro connections in the central and eastern transport corridor of the Baltic Sea.

The Conference on Actual Problems of the Sea-Land Transportation Systems of the Baltic Sea Regions was held in Gdańsk on 27-28 April 1995 and was organized jointly by the UBC Commission on Transportation and Mayor of the City of Gdańsk.

The conference was attended by around 80 participants representing the Transportation Commission, the member cities and institutions connected with the transportation infrastructure.

The conference was the continuation of the first one which was held in June 1993 and focused mainly on the Trans European Motorway and other existing at the time projects. The new political and economic situation of that part of Europe caused the necessity to discuss these issues again. The result of such a need was the second

The presentations given by the representatives of Elbląg and Kaliningrad regions described the desired free access for the international shipping and tourism to the Vistula Bay area as the crucial condition for the development of both regions and the unquestionable advantage for the whole Baltic transportation.

Moreover two speeches were referred to the re-organization of the public transport in the new market-oriented Baltic countries and the last one gave the general information about the development of Yacht Port and Marina in Leba.

More details and all presented during the Conference speeches are included in the report published by the Secretariat of the Union of the Baltic Cities.

The Third International UBC Art & Culture Festival, Szczecin'95

The most important and the biggest international cultural event in Szczecin in the whole 1995 was the *III International UBC Art & Culture Festival*. This great feast of art went on from the 10th of August to the 30th of September, as part of the whole year programme called

50th Anniversary of Polish Szczecin. It was organized under the auspices of President of the UBC (Mr Anders Engström), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland (Mr Józef Wierzbicki) and Mayor of the City of Szczecin (Mr Bartomiej Sochański). The main organizer



of the event was Culture Section of the Municipality Office and specially employed on that occasion Project Coordinator of the festival Mr Jarek Wójcik. Szczecin's cultural institutions - *Castle of Pomeranian Dukes* and *13 Muses Club* helped very much in organizing of concerts and exhibitions.

Festival was focused specially on visual arts and consisted of three main parts. Two of them were exhibitions of modern art, the third - presentations of another cultural activities, in between: music groups (classical music, folk, jazz), and performances of dance (modern ballet and folk). Almost 1000 artists from Baltic Sea countries (except Norway and Finland) performed in Szczecin.

"*Horizon Line*" exhibition was the presentation of modern art (sculptures, prints, graphics, installations, paintings) of the Baltic Sea countries in which took part 17 artists.

"*On line*" exhibition was only an application to "*Horizon Line*". 18 artists presented to the audience their works created by using sophisticated technology of electronic media. Two interesting catalogues edited specially on this occasion are now remembrance of "*On Line*" and "*Horizon Line*". Curator of these exhibitions was Mr Lech Karwowski.

Opening of the *III International UBC Art & Culture Festival* was a celebration which took place from Thursday, the 10th, to Sunday, the 13th of August 1995.

Many important guests came to, for instance Deputy Minister of Culture of the Republic of Poland Mr Micha Jagiello, President of the UBC Mr Anders Engström, Mayors and Deputy Mayors of Baltic cities (Kaliningrad, Gdynia, Baltijsk, Klaipeda) and delegations of member-cities of the UBC. Because of the fact that two previous festivals were organized by the city of Kaliningrad, music and dancing groups from this city have been invited to open Polish turn of the UBC Art Festival.

Budget of the festival was totally about 70 000 USD, almost all expenses were covered by the City of Szczecin, with help from some local sponsors.

Meetings of persons, who are in charge of culture in Baltic Sea region and of course from the artistic society, fructified with project to realize next year in Szczecin - for instance "*Days of the Swedish Culture*" (wide presentation of Visby and Gotland Island), exhibition of artist from Danish *Kulturfabrikken*.

Practice of Szczecin's cultural events proved that the idea of organizing of traveling festival is the very good way to present art of the region of the Baltic Sea and to meet lovely and enthusiastic persons.

MAGORZATA STUPNICKA
CITY OF SZCZECIN

INTERBALTIC'95 Exhibition



On 7-9 September 1995 in the fairs hall of the World Trade Center Gdynia-Expo, the International Economic Exhibition of the Baltic Sea Region - INTERBALTIC'95 took place. That event was combined with the International Investment Forum (INVESTBALTIC'95) and with the Ecological Meeting (ECOBALTIC'95) of the mentioned region.

The exhibition was opened by the Minister of Transportation and Maritime Economy of Poland - Mr B.Liberadzki, the Governor of the Gdańsk Voivodeship -

Mr M. Płażyński, the Mayor of the city of Gdynia - Mrs F.Cegielska and the President of the UBC - Mr A.Engström.

The event was attended by the representatives of the cities and communes from Russia, Sweden, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland which are associated in the Union of the Baltic Cities and the Polish Union of the Seaside Cities and Communes. Moreover, the representatives of the Baltic Sea Chamber of Commerce Association, Foundation Ecobaltic and others interested in the Baltic region development, participated in this Baltic meeting. The exhibition was the occasion to organize at the same time other connected with this

topic events such as the seminars related to the investment issues, 12th Board Meeting of the Union of the Baltic Cities and the working meeting of the Commission on Sport of the UBC.

The main aim of the INTERBALTIC'95 was to create an opportunity and platform for bringing closer contacts and the exchange of experience in the field of culture, science and economy between all parts engaged in the cooperation within the Baltic countries.



The exhibitors of INTERBALTIC'95 were awarded by the Chamber of the Industry and Commerce - Gdynia. The awards were given to:

- The city of Gdynia - the host of the first exhibition this kind - for the interesting initiative in the Baltic Region;
- The city of Świnoujście for the most interesting Polish offer in the investment category;
- The city of Kaliningrad for the most interesting foreign offer in the investment category;

- The commune of Postomino for the most interesting Polish offer in the tourism category;
- The city of Riga for the most interesting foreign offer in the tourism category;
- The organizers of INTERBALTIC'95: Polish Union of the Seaside Cities and Communes, Union of the Baltic Cities, Baltic Sea Chamber of Commerce Association, Foundation Ecobaltic, WTC Gdynia-Expo for the interesting initiative.

Working Meeting of UBC Commission on Sport

Since the creation at the Board Meeting in Vilnius, 21 April 1995, the first meeting of the UBC Commission on Sport has been organized in Gdynia on 7th of September and was accompanying event to taking at the same time INTERBALTIC'95.

The establishment of the Commission was the proposal of two cities - Gdynia and Karlskrona what is reflected in a fact of holding by these cities the leadership on this field UBC activity. However, following the rules of the UBC Statute, the existence of the Commission must be approved by the General Conference of the Union, what will happen in very near future.

During the meeting of the Commission in Gdynia, some important decisions about the organization and activity of this new UBC organ were made. First of all Mr Zdzisław Urla, Deputy Mayor of the city of Gdynia, was elected as chairman of the Commission. The function of the deputy chairman will be held by the Deputy Mayor of Karlskrona - Mr Björn Fries.

Apart from two mentioned cities, the meeting was attended by representatives of eleven other UBC members. The next working session of the Commission was agreed to take place in Karlskrona in March 1996 where



the calendar of the sports events of 1996 will be elaborated.

Furthermore, the Commission secretariat and administration will be run by the City Hall of Gdynia where you are welcome to get more information:

City Hall of Gdynia
Al. Piłsudskiego 52/54
81-963 Gdynia
Tel./Fax +48 58 203721

The Second UBC Women's Conference

The second UBC Women's Conference entitled "Women around the Baltic - our role in Agenda 21" was held on 5-8 October 1995 in the city of Sundsvall, Sweden. The conference was organized jointly by the Union of the Baltic Cities and Women for Environment and Health network in Sundsvall. The Sundsvall's Women for Environment and Health network is an intersectorial group of professionals, top managers and politicians.

The first UBC Women's Conference named "Women and the Labour Market" took place in Kaliningrad on 13-15 May 1993, where thirty five women from seven UBC countries exchanged opinions and experiences on such problems as: situation on the labour market, growing unemployment, wage discrimination, etc.



The Sundsvall conference was attended by 70 participants from 25 Baltic cities (7 countries) who emphasized the following issues:

- equality must be a basis in all fields of human activity, in our work and life,
- women's skills should be recognized and utilized,
- local women's organization should take an active part in politics and social policy development to promote health and environment,
- women's organizations should establish one network linking all of them.

All participants agreed that the best way to improve



women situation is to create networks, giving opportunities to exchange experiences and support each other. The conference called upon the UBC and other organizations to support and coordinate these networks offering education and training, e.g. in leadership and organizational development, making women better equipped to support other women in the cities.

The conference underlined that issues of welfare, environmental protection and development can not be separated. Economic development should bring improvement in the quality of life, health and environment. The conference recognized the great need of women's participation in these work, especially in Agenda 21.

The next UBC Women Conference will be held on 8-12 May, 1995 in Karlskrona in association with the "Women Can" exhibition.

Report from Sundsvall conference is available from:

Ms Hjördis Höglund
Tel./Fax +46 60 122241
Information about the next conference:
Ms Birgitta Tornqvist
Tel. +46 455 80737
Fax +46 455 18011

Training Course in Solid Waste Management - joint WHO and UBC effort

The environmental Commission of the UBC commenced its first common action in environmental education together with World Health Organization (WHO) in Jurmala, Latvia, 26-28 October 1995.

WHO had the main responsibility of the arrangements of this particular Waste Management Training Course which was tailored for municipal waste specialists from different cities. The total number of participants was 50 coming from Russia (Kaliningrad region), Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland. Some of the participants were sponsored by Nordic Council grant to UBC.

During the course, European solid waste specialists gave brief introductions to the participants on most of the sectors in solid waste management. Furthermore, WHO introduced its Waste Management pamphlet series. WHO has produced three pamphlets by now: Solid Waste and Health, Waste Collection and Landfill. The first one, Solid Waste and Health has also been translated

ed into Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian. There are plans to translate other documents as well, but the financing is not yet clear.

The course in Jurmala was the first one in a series of events UBC is going to organize in waste management. This training is a part of UBC Commitments resulted from the participation in HELCOM's Baltic Sea Programme. Next events will be seminars concentrating on recycling and physical planning. They will take place in Riga and Klaipeda early next year.

WHO Waste Management briefing pamphlets and other information are available from:

Bill Sutherland
Course Coordinator
WHO Euro, 8 Scherfigsvej
DK-2100 Copenhagen
Tel. +45 39 171717
Fax +45 39 171878

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

- **Hansa Business Days,**
Karlskrona, 11-12 May 1995
- **2nd Baltic Sea Conference,**
Norrköping, 18-20 May 1995
- **4th Ministerial Session of CBSS,**
Gdańsk, 19-19 May 1995
- **2nd Plenary Session of CLRAE,**
Strasbourg, 30 May-1 June 1995
- **4th Baltic Parliamentary Conference,**
Ronne, 12-13 September 1995
- **Regiones ad Mare Balticum - Forum'95,**
Bornholm - South Scania, 13-16 September 1995
- **EUROCITIES East/West Seminar,**
Gdańsk, 22-23 September 1995
- **3rd Conference on Baltic Subregional Cooperation,**
Västerås, 8-9 November 1995



II. INFORMATION FROM THE MEMBER CITIES

Copenhagen



Regional Strategy'95 - Copenhagen in the Baltic area

With its location on the Sound, Copenhagen constitutes the entrance to the Baltic Sea. Throughout history Copenhagen has been the natural link between the North Sea and the Baltic area and has therefore played an important role in the development of the Baltic region.

Copenhagen is also the primary municipality in the Øresund region. This region is now undergoing extensive regional internationalism, not least after the decision to construct a permanent link across the Sound, as well as Sweden's recent membership of the European Union. One of the most important instruments in this development process is INTERREG II, the EU's regional development programme. The purpose of this programme is to ensure greater cohesion in the Greater Copenhagen area and the South Scania region in Sweden by strengthening both new and existing relations in the form of support for project development within specially designed areas. The INTERREG II programme will be implemented in the near future. The EU has granted a total sum of about DKK 97 million for the programme in the period from 1994 to 1999.

By granting this support, the European Commission has directed the attention to the far-reaching perspective of furthering the integration of the much larger, but also much more heterogeneous Baltic region. The experience gained in the development of the Åresund region as part of the Baltic region may well become an important starting point for all parties involved.

The Commission has determined that a well-coordinated, regionally anchored effort is required in the Baltic

region heading for further integration between the EU and the countries in Eastern Europe, in terms of both economic development and welfare. The Commission wishes to play an active role and is now finishing the formulation of a Baltic policy, including the realization of a broad, coherent programme for the granting of financial support for regional project development.

It is the opinion of the City of Copenhagen that the outcome of these efforts, as well as the experience gained, can be applied to an increasingly large geographical area, the more that joint efforts in this area are unified and integrated. In this connection, considerable mutual advantage could be obtained if various initiatives were coordinated.

There are already a number of relevant organizations in the Baltic area, which would be able to take up this challenge, matching future EU initiatives, and thereby strengthening the development of the society by means of targeted cooperation directed towards a long series of concrete issues. The City of Copenhagen believes that in this respect the UBC is one of the most important regional organizations. The City of Copenhagen participates both in the overall planning work and in the work carried out by the Commission on Environment. Most recently Copenhagen has offered to grant support via its office in Brussels, just as Copenhagen has offered to contribute to future efforts at several levels, for example by providing EU funds for projects controlled by the Union of the Baltic Cities.

KLAUS ROBERT SVENDSEN
EU CONSULTANT, COPENHAGEN

Gdańsk



Millennium of Gdańsk (997-1997)

In 1997 the city of Gdańsk will be celebrating its millennium. The first record of the city's name appeared in a

biography of Bishop Wojciech Ślawnikowic by Joannes Canaparius of the Monte Cassino Monastery. This biog-



raphy, *Vita Sancti Adalberti*, recorded the city's name as *Urbs Gyddanyzc*. To commemorate and celebrate the 1000th anniversary of the oldest record of Gdańsk, the Gdańsk City Council declared 1997 as the Year of the Gdańsk Millennium. The beginning of our second thousand years will be an occasion of great joy. For this special jubilee we are going to invite all our friends from all the Baltic countries. Apart from visiting the headquarters of the Union of the Baltic Cities here in Gdańsk, you will be able to take part in many events by us together with our friends from Copenhagen, Stockholm and Kalmar as part of the European Baltic Season 1996-1998.

For the celebration of our thousand birthday we invite everyone to visit the city on the Motława. We are open to your suggestions as to what might be done to celebrate our jubilee. The organizing Committee of the 1000th Anniversary of Gdańsk is creating a programme of the celebration events that will highlight our economic, religious, cultural, sports and scientific achievements. Among the major events, one can mention:

- international conferences and scientific seminars, including: *Gdańsk in European Economy and Culture*, *Musica Baltica*;
- various museum exhibition on different aspects of the history of Gdańsk and its tradition, including: *Aurea Porta Rzeczypospolitej*;
- *Pomeranian Exhibition* depicting economic achieve-

ments of Pomeranian provinces and their investing offers and opportunities;

- various maritime events and competitions, including: *International Yacht Rally*, *Sail Gdańsk'97*, *International Rally*, *Vistula Rally 997-1997*, *All-Polish Canoeing Rally*, *Finn World Gold Cup*, *International Millennium Hobie Cat Cup - Catamaran Sailing Race*;
- a series of concerts and music festivals, including: *International Organ Music Festival*, *Gdańsk Maritime Song Contest*, *Festival of the Thousand*, *Polish-German Oratorio Academy*, *Maria Cantat Choir Contest*;
- theater performances and festivals, including: *Gdańsk Shakespeare Week*, *International Festival of Open-air and Street Theater*, historic performances *Community Play and Merchant Power*, premieres of plays written for the 1000th Anniversary of Gdańsk;
- *Festival of Monumental Mural Painting*;

- *European St. Dominic's Fair*, which will provide an opportunity of cultural and economic presentation for Gdańsk partner regions and cities, *Craft Fair*;
- Goldwasser Festival;
- conferences and meetings of youth, including: *International Baltic Scout Jamboree*, *International Meeting of Youth*.

All this and more will be waiting for everyone who comes to visit Gdańsk in 1997 to celebrate millennium together with its citizens.

For more information, please contact:

Organizing Committee of the
1000th Anniversary of Gdańsk
ul. Waly Jagiellońskie 1, 80-853 Gdańsk
Tel. +48 58 319755 Fax +48 58 310181
Bank account: WBK SA O/Gdańsk 351809-664-131



GDAŃSK 997-1997®

Gdańsk's activities in global actions for environmental protection

The city of Gdańsk is a member of International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). ICLEI is an organizer of international Campaign for Climate

Protection. Signing in Amsterdam Declaration in 1993 and others, including the last one signed in October 26 (1995), Gdańsk has pledged to reduce the green gases



emission till the year of 2005. This reduction should be less by 20 % compared with the data of 1990. Despite of the reduction of green gases emission, other emissions, such as SO₂ and dust are being reduced.

At the beginning of 1995 the balance of the emission in the commune of Gdańsk has been prepared. By the end of the year the plan of air state improvement will be completed. The plan will include further undertakings to reduce the emission, which will be acceptable as far as optimal costs and effects are concerned. As an example of such undertakings may serve the development of central heating, local change of the fuel, e.g. coal to gas, modernization of the burning process and others.

With the water management the Baltic offshore waters along the Gdańsk Gulf have been purified, what enabled the opening of the beaches. The "hot spot" in this part of the Baltic Sea is still the sewage outlet, the place of discharge of effluent after chemical and mechanical treatment from the sewage treatment plant have already started.

From 1991 Gdańsk has been calculating the amount of pollution load discharged to the sea from rivers, indus-

try, sewage treatment plants. The load is being reduced every year. Compared to 1988 the reduction depending on the used parameter is:

BZT ₅ (tO ₂ /year)	58%
ChZT (tO ₂ /year)	60%
Total Nitrogen (tN/year)	90%
Total Phosphorus (tP/year)	80%
Suspended Solids	82%

The above mentioned activities, apart from many other plans undertaken on behalf of the environment protection have been included in Local Agenda 21. Local Agenda 21, which has been developed since 1992, was published by Gdańsk City Executive Board in September 1995. Once again in 1996 local authorities intend to discuss with the citizens the visions of entering into XXI century in accordance with the sustainable development.

JADWIGA KOPEĆ

HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT., GDAŃSK

Gdynia



Gdynia - an international partner

On the 7th of September 1995 in Gdynia took place the UBC Executive Board Meeting. Three mayor points were established: forming of the UBC Commission on Sport headed by Gdynia Deputy Mayor, approvement given to the idea of establishing of the UBC Commission on Tourism, visiting international exhibitions: INTER-BALTIC, INVESTBALTIC, ECOBALTIC. Gdynia is the organizer for the Twin Cities Sporting Competition. With the support that the tournament gets from UBC, it may be expanded very well to other Baltic and not only cities. On the 21st of October 1995 Gdynia together with our partner cities: Aalborg, Kiel and Plymouth was awarded by the European Commission with "The Golden Stars of Town Twinning - 1995". The award was given for the organization of the II Twin Cities Sporting Competition held in 1994. We feel very proud of this award because it gives us satisfaction that our efforts have been recognized by EU - supporting this initiative.

Gdynia's international policy will intensify contacts both with its twin cities as well as others in the Baltic Sea Region. Our goal in foreign policy is to close the "Baltic Ring" of twinning cities by the agreements with Latvia and Estonia. Gdynia is a partner in the Baltic Sea Cities Business Network 1994-95 - which is aimed to carry out an updated review on the present market situation in five

selected cities in the Baltic region: Tartu (Estonia), Liepaja (Latvia), Klaipeda (Lithuania), Kalmar (Sweden) and Gdynia.

Gdynia, one of the organizers of EUROPARTENARIAT Poland 1994, will continue the meeting in 1996 during Baltic Sea Partenariat - a programme between European Union and the Baltic Sea countries. The Baltic Sea Partenariat programme is to support implementation of pilot projects in a number of fields such as information, training, consulting services, investment markets, equipment identification, access to new technology. An international objective is to create a favorable climate for the development of SME's and the access to local, financial and export market.

The Interprise programme is another field of Gdynia's activity. Interprise is an EU agreement for small and medium sized environmental companies. Its aim is cooperation for better business and higher profits.

Gdynia together with its twin city in Sweden - Karlskrona was the initiator of the Union of TEM Cities established to support the construction of the Trans European Motorway leading from Oslo to Athens. Gdynia-Karlskrona ferry connection is part of the motorway.



Another direction of Gdynia's foreign policy is integration with European Union. Five of our twin cities (Aalborg, Karlskrona, Kiel, Kotka, Plymouth) come from EU countries. With all of them Gdynia cooperates closely both in the field of culture, sports, social and economic activities. For example close contacts with Kiel resulted in a successful visit of a 120-persons group between the 30 September and 3 October 1995 which enabled the citizens of Gdynia and Kiel to get to know the area and to make friends, Polish people and their hospitality. We would like to continue together with Kiel authorities such a cooperation with the return visit in Kiel next year in May. Aalborg was our partner during the cruise of barkentine "Pogoria" to Aalborg and Copenhagen. The aim of the visit which gathered Gdynia representatives of different institutions was to recognize new possible fields of cooperation between the two cities.

Delegates of Gdynia visited in October our Swedish part-



ner - Karlskrona to discuss problems connected with drug and alcohol abuse.

MAGORZATA DEHMEL
IZABELA DUDEK
CITY OF GDYNIA

Helsinki



Helsinki by winter

Helsinki winter highlights.

Is Helsinki in winter dark, cold and melancholy? This year a light festival will be arranged in November-December to drive the gloom away. The festival will include facade lighting, installations, the performing arts and exhibitions and sales of articles related to light.

An important goal of the project is to create a network involving artists, companies, public corporations, city offices, art schools and cultural institutions. The intentions is to expand the event from year to year and reach a climax in 2000.

The opening of Christmas Streets with traditional Christmas decorations will help to bring light to the darkest time of the year. A Christmas Park will be opened at the Esplanade 14-17 December with traditional Finnish decorations, handicraft and Christmas delicacies for sale.

The concert season: competitions and new works.

The International Jean Sibelius Violin Competition will be held in Helsinki on 18 November -1 December. The Sibelius violin competition is one of the most prestigious and best-known international violin competitions in the world, and certainly ranks as one of the major violin events. The winners over the years have included many celebrated virtuosos like Oleg Kagan, Victoria Mullova and Leonidas Kavakos. The competition is held once in every five years in Helsinki, and is open to violinists of all nationalities who were born in or after 1965.

The Finnish National Opera's autumn season was opened with performances of new Finnish works. Erik Bergmans's opera *The Singing Tree* was presented on 3 September and Olli Kortekangas' first full-length opera, *The Book of Jonah*, will be given its premiere on 17 November.

Arabian nights in Helsinki?

Devotees of jazz, rock and pop will gather in November to Arabia, which is one of the oldest industrial areas in Helsinki. A series of concerts called "The Arabian Nights" will be arranged to celebrate the Pop and Jazz Conservatory that has recently moved to the area. The Conservatory, which has close on 1,000 students, is using a new concert hall that has been built in the area.

Several buildings within the Arabia area have considerable historic and architectural value. The old factory buildings accommodate the University of Industrial Art and Design Helsinki. It is the center of academic education and





research in industrial, interior and other related disciplines. The University is designing an audiovisual center and film studio in the neighbouring textile factory.

During the next 20 years, the quarters in the Arabia area will be developed into a center of industrial design and manufacture, visual culture and musical education, with their various support services. The overall aim is to create an industrial art center of real distinction by European

standards. It is expected to generate new industries and to reinforce the cultural identity of Helsinki.

For further information please contact:

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Kaliningrad

Environmental Center for Administration and Technology - ECAT

It is our pleasure to inform you that after Riga and St. Petersburg, Kaliningrad is now the third Baltic city to have established an international Environmental Center for Administration and Technology (ECAT) with the support of the European Commission (DGXI) and in the cooperation with Aalborg in Denmark and Bremerhaven on Germany. The Environmental Center was officially opened on October 18 with participation of Mayor V. Shipov (Kaliningrad), Vice-Governor S. Buchelnikov (Kaliningrad Oblast), Mayor Kaj Kjær (Aalborg) and Councillor Wolfgang Weiss (Bremerhaven).

ECAT-Kaliningrad has its own legal personality, with its own workplan and budget. It is directly attached to the City Hall of Kaliningrad and its functioning has the active support of the Kaliningrad Regional Administration and the Kaliningrad Regional Committee for Environmental and Natural Resources Protection. We hope that such a supportive legal frame will enable ECAT-Kaliningrad to effectively develop, implement and coordinate international environmental projects and technical assistance in the entire Kaliningrad area.

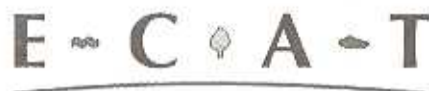
Besides our local input and the support of the European Commission, ECAT-Kaliningrad has the financial and practical support of our city partners the Aalborg Local Authority, Denmark and the CETAQ on behalf of Bremerhaven Mayor's Office, Germany.

As it is the case in the other ECATs, the practical work in ECAT-Kaliningrad intends to combine Russian and West-European experts and their know-how to concretely improve the environmental situation in our area.

The team in Kaliningrad will consist of five experts from Western Europe and five experts from Russia and the Belgian lawyer and expert of international environmental law Mr Gino Van Begin is the team leader.

The other persons in the team are:

- Dr Ingrid Hofmann, biologist, earlier employment at TUV Energie und Umwelt GmbH in Berlin
- Arne Grove, chemical engineer, earlier employment at Dansk Teknologisk Institut



- Ulrik Stork, economist from the university in Bremen.

The Russian experts are expected to be appointed in near future.

Aalborg is taking care of the coordination between the different collaborators.

After handling its internal organization, ECAT-Kaliningrad plans to identify during the next six months at least two clearly visible projects for which it will activate fund-raising and follow-up their implementation. In line with the local problems and needs, ECAT-Kaliningrad has started to investigate the possibilities to tackle the problems of industrial wastewater treatment and may well focus on a transfer of technology to reduce and treat wastewater from a paper and pulp industry in the area or another major pollution industry. Another project ECAT-Kaliningrad may get involved in, concerns the protection of a nature reserve and its sustainable development with respect to eco-tourism.

Therefore, we would like to take the opportunity of this Newsletter to lance a call to all Members of the Union of the Baltic Cities to consider your possibilities in providing ECAT-Kaliningrad with assistance, both regarding possible expertise and equipment, to realize its aims and projects.

VITALY V. SHIPOV, MAYOR OF KALININGRAD
FINN RISOM, CITY OF AALBORG

For further information, you are welcome to contact:

Mr Gino Van Begin
Teamleader of ECAT-Kaliningrad
Ul. Gorkogo 25, 236040 Kaliningrad
Tel. +7 0112 275240
Fax +7 0112 275110



Kalmar



The Social Welfare Project enters its second phase

In mid-October, phase two of the Social Welfare Project was launched through a visit to Kalmar by a delegation from Panevezys, headed by Deputy Mayor Raimondas Alekna. The purpose of the stay was to study how social services, care of elderly, pension insurance and health care operate in Kalmar. Previously, a similar visit has been made in Panevezys, when the Swedish authorities called on their counterparts.

In the beginning of December, phase two will be concluded as the representatives of Kalmar and Panevezys meet in Lithuania to work out a detailed co-operation programme. The joint work might include the Swedish authorities learning how to fight diphtheria and tuberculosis. These diseases were eradicated a long time ago in Sweden, which has led to knowledge being lost. For the authorities of Panevezys, the collaboration may involve, for example, the transfer of knowledge on how pensions are managed, or how Kalmar organizes the care of young people with social problems.



The co-operation programme will commence during the spring of 1996, on condition that funding has been received from the Swedish government.

MIKAEL DAXBERG
PROJECT LEADER, KALMAR

Karlshamn



A future venture at Stilleryd

Karlshamn has a long tradition in the shipping trade. The docks are situated on the southeast coast of Sweden and are among ten largest goods harbours in Sweden. The customs and pilotage services have localized their regional organization to Karlshamn. Dock activities are also well-supplied facilities such as haulage contractors and forwarding agencies. Petroleum, timber and stone products are regularly shipped out by way of Karlshamn. During 1995 ferry routes have been established between Karlshamn-Gdynia and Karlshamn-Liepaja.

The modern deep water harbour at Stilleryd has good connections with the national road and train network. The harbour is surrounded by large industrial estates with great potential for establishing new enterprises. Ground preparation has been done.

During the ground preparation large amounts of stone

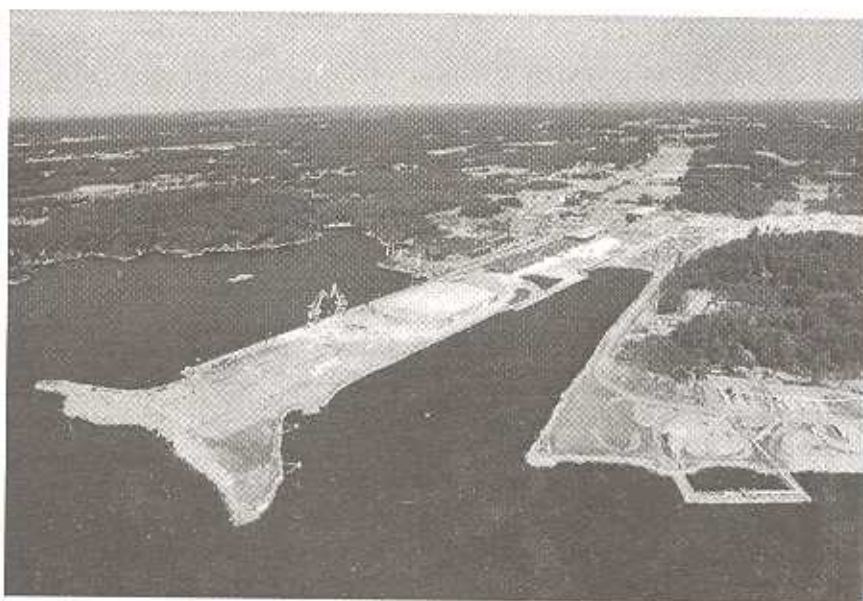
have been ballasted away. These top-quality-crashed-stones have been then shipped out of Stilleryd harbour in large quantities to the markets of northern Germany.

In the Stilleryd area there is an oil power plant with a power production capacity of about 1000 MH. There is also one of Swedish largest Calor gas terminals and a hot water terminal where waste heat from Morums Bruk, the pulp meal, is turned into district heating. This district heating supplies a large area of Karlshamn with environs.

Sunrod Intentional, the manufactures of steam boilers for ships along with about twenty other companies of various sizes and aims are also found in this area. The local authorities are implementing an offensive planning achievement for the Stilleryd area. The main aim is to develop the harbour of Stilleryd into an important center on the transport map of the Baltic region.



The necessary qualifications needed for building a complete combined terminal including logistic companies and a main warehouse are first rate. In connection with this it's worth mentioning that several projects of national dignity concerning infrastructure are being studied in this area, such as "missing links" in the road and railway net. It is very important to be able to get to the deep sea harbours of the Baltic in the shortest possible way. One of this "missing links" is the railway connection between Karlshamn and Olofstrom presented in Newsletter No 7.



Plans for the Stilleryd area drawn up by the local authorities include other interesting possibilities of development. In accordance with national and international aims a fundamental principle concerns the changeover in the society based on recycling. Karlshamn is well ahead when it comes to competence within the sectors of energy and process engineering.

Visions of the future outline activities within the education system, research, technical development and dissemination, biochemistry, biotechnics, recycling of waste materials and also within energy and environmental technology.

Development works are carried out through physical planning and through tangible projects. The local trade and industry support the work of the local authorities with the interest and in a constructive way.

LASSE HIEMLANDER
CITY OF KARLSHAMN

Karlskrona



Let us meet in Karlskrona in 1996 ! Unique venue for women from the Baltic countries

Kvinnor Kan in Karlskrona, between 9th and 12th May 1996, will be an arena showing women's knowledge, competence and creativity.

The Idea and Trade Fairs Kvinnor Kan has been organized every year since 1984. Purposely held in different regions of Sweden, Karlskrona will now host the seventh Fair in order to strengthen the role of women and help them to be more visible. The Fair invariably instigates activities working towards equality between the sexes as well as creating the foundation of strong, active networks for women in the private as well the public sector in this region of Sweden.

The Idea Fair comprises Kvinnor Kan seminars as well as independent seminars including debates and lectures within all possible areas - we can now, half a year before, offer you almost 170 seminars. Some of the seminars will be given in English.

At the Trade Fair, you as an individual or as a representative of a company, can exhibit and market products, ideas, services as well as establish new contacts. Both

small and large companies are welcome and of course also representatives of associations, organizations, trade unions, county councils and municipalities. Activities not dominated by women are also welcome - provided that women exhibit the products and services! Already we have 320 interested companies but still there is room for more.

So, let us meet in Karlskrona, where the sea approach is a combination of tempting green and rocky islands. Karlskrona offers everything to its visitors. So be one of them, regardless whether you are from different parts of our own country or from the countries situated around the Baltic Sea.

For further information, please contact:

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Bredgatan 11, S-37132 Karlskrona
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Kaunas Water and Environmental Protection Project

One of the most complicated environmental protection problems of the Nemunas river-basin which stand for the whole Baltic Sea basin is the problem of sewage produced by Kaunas city. Kaunas, the city with the population of 400 thousand, represents the developed industry city and it is one of a few the same size cities in the Baltic region which still does not have the biological water treatment facilities. This problem has been inherited from the Soviet period which later has even become more complicated due to the difficulties in relation to the transfer to the market economy. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania has recognized the construction of Kaunas Sewage Water Treatment Plant as the priority activity and the Governments of the Scandinavian countries have expressed their favourable attitude towards rendering assistance. Nevertheless, Kaunas has yet remained the environmental "hot spot" of the Baltic region.

In 1990, after the Lithuanian Independence has been proclaimed, the city faced the situation according to which the implementation of such a range project could not have been afforded using just the Municipal funds. But this issue continued to be regarded by the politicians and the executive institutions as the one requiring the special attention. Kaunas Water Supply Enterprise together with the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Swedish company "Stockholm Water" and Swedish consulting company "K-Konsult Water Projects AB" started to collect and analyse the data and prepare the proposals. After the Feasibility Study has been made in 1993, the mayor subjects of the city water supply and water treatment infrastructure have been identified and the financial possibilities have been assessed. The project comprised not only the construction of water treatment facilities, but also rehabilitation of the entire water handling system.

Finally, concluding the long period of negotiations and the preparatory work, on the 7th of September 1995 Loan Agreements have been signed in Kaunas Town Hall to enable the funding of Kaunas Water and Environmental Protection Investment project.

This is one of the biggest investment projects in Lithuania. The total amount of the project makes 399,1 million Litass (almost 100 million USD). The investment structure is as follows: the Government of the Republic of Lithuania - subsidy of 204,3 million Litass (51,1 million USD), Kaunas City Municipality - subsidy of 35,1 million



Litas (8,8 million USD), EBRD - loan for 15-year period - 15 million USD, EU-PHARE - subsidy of 5,2 million USD, SIDA (Agency of the Swedish International Development Cooperation) - subsidy of 3,1 million USD, NEFCO (Nordic Countries Finance Cooperation) - loan for 15-year period making 3 million USD, the Finnish Environmental Protection Ministry - subsidy of 1,5 million USD. A considerable burden will be laid on the citizens - water consumers. Starting since 1 October 1995 the water tariff has increased twice. Special destination closed - stock company "Kaunas Vandenyss" (reorganized from the former Kaunas Water Supply Enterprise) will assign 12,1 million USD from the amount raised by increased tariffs.

The project has been planned in two stages. The first stage planned for the period of 1995-1998 is intended for the completion of the sewage initial treatment construction (mechanical treatment and chemical flocculation), renovation of the old and construction of the new pump station, construction of two new and renovation of four sewage water pump stations, renewal of water supply and sewage water network, putting into practice water saving programme, reorganization of Kaunas Water Supply Enterprise into the autonomous, effective and self-sufficient enterprise.

After the project has been implemented, the quality of the supplied water and sewage treatment quality will improve and this will result in improving the environmental protection situation not only in Kaunas city but also in the entire Baltic Sea region.

LIUDAS MAYLIS
HEAD OF PRESS CENTER, KAUNAS



Kotka



First Interprise-Event in Finland

The very first Interprise-event in Finland supported by the European Commission was held in Kotka on the 5th to 6th of October 1995. The event was called Southern Finland Interprise'95. The theme was "Business co-operation between East and West".

The main target was to offer experienced know-how in Russian trade to the European companies. The Finnish participating companies had been selected among those who are specialized in logistics, construction, business services and industry in Russian markets.

The main organizer of the event was Kymenlaakso Chamber of Commerce. The European co-organizers were the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Belgium, the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce and the Lübeck Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Germany, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry for Rotterdam and the Lower-Maas in the Netherlands and Target Finland Ltd in England.

Managing Director Jyri Häkämies from the main organizer Kymenlaakso Chamber of Commerce told that the event had gained great interest both in Finland and in Europe.

– The European enterprises' interests towards the huge Russian markets have been increasing since the political situation in Russia was changed. Still, due to the uncertain and unsafe circumstances there, the enterprises have hesitated to take straight contacts. This was the point which our main idea based on, to match the

European and Finnish enterprises which already are inside in Russian market. At the almost near border between European Union and Russia we have now an excellent place to offer. The Southern Finland is easy to reach, safe and our companies have skillful and well-educated personnel as well as long experiences in Russian Trade.

– We are sure that this first Finnish Enterprise-event led to lasting contacts and according to the interests the event reached in Russia, we can built up a real important and well acting link between Europe and Russia, said Mr Häkämies.

The event succeeded very well and both the European and the Finnish participants were satisfied with the arrangements and the results. The total number of participating companies was 195 and more detailed statistics are as follows:

- 95 Finnish Interprise companies,
- 69 visiting European companies,
- 31 extra companies (registered after the actual registration period)

For further information please contact:

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Fax +358 52 213007

Meet you in the Internet !

City of Kotka in Finland has its own Internet Server, the address is: <http://www.kotka.fi>. Please, contact us in the Internet! And please, send us your addresses, if you have them! We would like to have links from our pages to UBC Cities. And we hope that people can find a link to Kotka from your Internet pages.

We have constructed our own World Wide Web pages for about three months now. There are pages in Finnish and in English. We have information on Kotka, tourist information and many pages about our big summer events: PORT OF ART Exhibition, The Maritime Festival and Kotka Wooden Boat Show. We also have photos, pictures, time schedules, statistics etc.

We update our pages regularly. In autumn 1995, we will bring the phone numbers and e-mail addresses of our employees in the pages. Then you can send us e-mail even if you do not have your e-mail address - we will have forms by which the mail will be sent.

We are also planning to have a special data bank of wooden boats. The Second Kotka International Wooden Boat Show was held here 27-30 July 1995 - it was a great success!

The Internet contact person:

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Norrköping



Joint regional representation in Brussels

The municipalities of Norrköping and Linköping are in the process of establishing a joint regional representation in Brussels. The work will focus on both lobbying and information as well as support for companies, organizations and municipalities in the home region.

The decision about the representation was made by the city councils of Norrköping and Linköping in the beginning of June and a group of officials from both municipalities had written a proposal based upon discussions with representatives of participants from the region, organizations from the business sector and the municipalities.

The growth of a region is due to how companies, the public sector, education organizers, research institutes and others within the region develop. The development of separate activities depends on the access to creative individuals with the ability to carry out their ideas. Furthermore, the realization of ideas needs money.

Within the EU-organization a large amount of money is available in a thousand different funds. The distribution of money is far from automatic: it is to a large extent dependant of how well-founded the application are, whether the applications are submitted to the right funds, and whether there is enough time for applicants to find out about the areas that are going to be available for proposals.

The funds of EU are mostly represented by people who work in Brussels - a reason for representation in Brussels is that the money is to be collected there. The period of application is minimal, the time between a "Call

for Proposal" from the EU and the last day to submit an application is often as short as three months. It is very difficult to have time to establish contacts and to prepare an adequate application during such a short period of time. This demands a representation in Brussels that in the lobby can find out what is going to happen.

Most of the funds also demand that the projects should be done in collaboration with interested partners in several countries. Since many regions and countries are represented in Brussels a local representative is a simple and effective tool in order to find suitable partners for cooperation.

The organization of the EU is to a large extent built upon the occurrence of so called down stream lobbying, e.g. after a decision is made regions use their influences in order to be able to make the most possibilities given by the decisions. In order to be able to share the possibilities given by the EU, the organization is based upon following rules of the game.

In order to get better insight into how a representation should be organized in Brussels, the group of officials have conducted a number of interviews and visits where the experiences of other municipalities and regions have been utilized. At this point the work is proceeding with the recruiting of a suitable person for the office of representation and to find an appropriate facility for the work.

CAMILA ARNOLDSSON
CITY OF NORRKÖPING

Pärnu



Pärnu - town of thousand events

Pärnu, the small town on the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea has turned into a popular holiday-making resort over the few past years. The economic and cultural life of the town is developing fast these days, offering a sound basis for a wide variety of activities which attract tourists, businessmen and politicians, and provide jobs and decent income for local people.

The summer seasons are especially dashing as the merry-go-round of the economic and cultural events taking place there make a lot of people of any age groups choose Pärnu as their destination. Take a look at the list of some events scheduled for 1996:

- February 1-11, Memorial Tournament in Chess dedicated to the 80th birth anniversary of Paul Keres, an internationally known Estonian chess player
- April 20, A concert dedicated to the 45th anniversary of the KAJAKAS Folk Dance Group
- April 26-28, Fair of Tourism and Holiday Industry SUVETIPP 96
- May 22-26, Qualification Tournament for the European Championship in Volleyball for Female Juniors with the teams from the Ukraine, Greece, Belgium, Latvia, Finland and Estonia participating



- June 1 - Aug. 18 International Art Exhibition A MAN AND A WOMAN
 - June 28-29 Pärnu Jazz '96
 - July 4-7 International Choir Festival PÄRNU 96
 - July 4-14 The 10th International Film Festival of Visual Anthropology
 - July 15-Aug. 15 Artsummer of Pärnu '96
 - July 15-16 International Dog Show in Pärnu
 - July 28 -Aug. 4 The IV Days of Dance and Fashion
 - August 8-11 Reunion of citizens of Pärnu in the framework of ESTO 96
 - August 14-18 The Days of Music in the Town Hall
 - September 20 The 9th Country Music Festival of Pärnu
 - December The 100th Anniversary of Pärnu Museum
- These are a few examples of the events going in this

beautiful resort. Work and recreation, entertainment and rehabilitation of health have always been closely related to each other in Pärnu. The hotels, sanatoria, restaurants and cafes of Pärnu as well as all the other establishments of the resort work all the year round.

It is so simple to find your way to Pärnu as any means of transportation can be used. However, Pärnu being the sea gateway to West-Estonia, sailing might offer the best memoirs ever.

Last but not least - although Pärnu is considered to be the summer capital of Estonia, anybody could find a pleasant and exiting pastime for themselves, whatever the season.

EHA RISTIMETS
PRESS-SECRETARY, PÄRNU

Rostock



Transnational Exchange of Experience for Social Workers

The "Kommunale Arbeitsförderungs-, Beschäftigungs-, und Strukturentwicklungsgesellschaft mbH", KABS mbH, in Rostock is a local institution for adults' employment creation, education and assessment and for offers to youngsters. In 1995, it started to extend its activities into the Baltic region, in cooperation with the UBC Office on Social Affairs in Rostock, the KABS began to search for partners and to design projects for a social workers exchange.

This year, it was possible to coordinate an exchange of experience between our SBBZ and a Danish partner, the VUC Falster (Volkshochschule Falster). Actually it's being carried out. A Danish group of social workers visited the SBBZ Rostock for a week, and the German Group will visit the VUC Falster. The main goal is the transfer of knowledge and experience acquainted in working with unemployed youngsters and adults, to demonstrate working projects to each other, to learn about the impact of these projects within the target groups and to see other institutions with similar objectives.

Of course it is a low budget non-profit project. The whole budget comes up to DM 10.035,-. The Ministry of Justice and European Affairs of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern,

within the "Programme for transnational projects for promotion of European Idea and European Integration", granted 38% of this amount, the lasting 62% were given by the two partners. The fund raising and applications procedure was executed by the UBC Office on Social Affairs Rostock.

Another project is planned with social workers for children and youngsters. We are negotiating with the Kaliningrad City Administration, Department on Labour and Social Affairs, in order to design an ambitious project of four 10-days-study visits of five specialists, two times from Kaliningrad to Rostock and vice versa between the Children's Palace of Kaliningrad and our Children's House "Bunte Bude". We intend to start in summer 1996. Fund raising, project design and application documentation in the European Commission lies in the hands of the UBC Office on Social Affairs Rostock, too.

EVELYN ROHDE AND CHRISTA BEHM, KABS ROSTOCK
KARIN WOHLGEMUTH,
UBC OFFICE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS ROSTOCK

Youngsters' Baltic Sail 1996 - a Pilot Project

During structural changes, young persons are exposed to especially hard burdens. In their search for values and self-estimation they do not find optimum conditions within the actual society. Coming in touch with strange matters or persons causes inner unsureness. That is the reason why it is so important to transmit to the youngsters values like sense of community, comradeship, tolerance and consideration, sense of responsibility and resistance.

The inhabitants of the Hanseatic City of Rostock identify themselves with their sea, the Baltic Sea. This is the origin of the idea to offer this kind of life test to youngsters giving them the opportunity to live common crew life on board of a big sailing ship. Through common sport activity youngsters are able to learn about important social behaviors and to practice them. The experiences made in a sailors crew, where everybody has its responsibility and where team spirit is essential for the suc-





cess of the adventure, will have a long-time effect on the youngsters' minds.

The Hanseatic City of Rostock wants to set a signal of real people's understanding, initiated and led around the Baltic Sea by youngsters from Rostock.

The Cutty Sark Tall Ships' Race, to be driven in summer 1996 within the Baltic Sea, gave the occasion to this ambitious project. All involved four port cities, Rostock, St.Petersburg, Turku and Copenhagen, will be asked to take part.

While cruising through the Baltic Sea a small transnationally mixed crew shall be formed. Five youngsters and one social worker shall enter the ship in every port, in total 24 persons. So, in each port, the youngsters and social workers will have the opportunity to visit the town and to know about institutions and project dedicated to young adult persons.

This way, five youngsters from Rostock, five from St.Petersburg, five from Turku and five from Copenhagen; i.e. twenty youngsters will participate in this project. Additionally, four social workers will take part, i.e. one from each partner-city. The project shall be executed from Dec. 1st, 1995 to Nov. 11th., 1996. The sailing period will be in July and August 1996 (basing on the Cutty Sark Tall Ships' Race timetable).

The whole project budget volume will come up to ECU 95,970.-. In October, an application for an 80 per cent support was sent to the DG V (Employment, Industrial relations and Social Affairs) of the European Commission within the "Cities' Anti-Racism Project".

The main management will be carried out by the Hanse-Sail-Office of the Hanseatic City of Rostock. Many local and international partners have already been found, who will manage the selection and preparation of and the attention to the youngsters, the same as to guarantee the follow-up of this project. It is planned to observe this project by the local and Baltic press and TV. A multilingual brochure written by the participating youngsters will inform about the whole trip.

The youngsters' Baltic Sail could initiate an activity for youngsters' understanding that should be executed year by year. The next occasion is given in 1997 when another Ship Race including four Baltic Sea ports will take place. The beginning and ending point will be the city of Gdańsk that will celebrate its 1000th anniversary. The responsible representatives have already shown their interest in such activity.

KARIN WOHLGEMUTH
UBC OFFICE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS ROSTOCK

Turku



The fascinating and nostalgic world of sailing ships comes to the Baltic in 1996

The Cutty Sark Tall Ships' Race is one of the biggest events for sailing ships in the world. Its aim is to create a framework for young people from different countries to sail and race with each other in the spirit of friendship and challenge. The purpose is to encourage the young in their lives so that they learn to take responsibility for themselves, their friends and their ship.

The Baltic as the venue.

The Cutty Sark Tall Ships' Race will start from Rostock in July the 6th, 1996, with St. Petersburg as the first destination in the competition. From there the ships will sail as a squadron to Turku, where they will change crews. Turku will host the event from the 28th to the 31st of July. The last stage in the sailing race is from Turku to Copenhagen.

The total length of all the legs or stages combined is about 1,500 n.m. The ports around the Baltic taking part in the race co-operate in arranging and marketing the event.

A spectacle of sails in the river Aura.

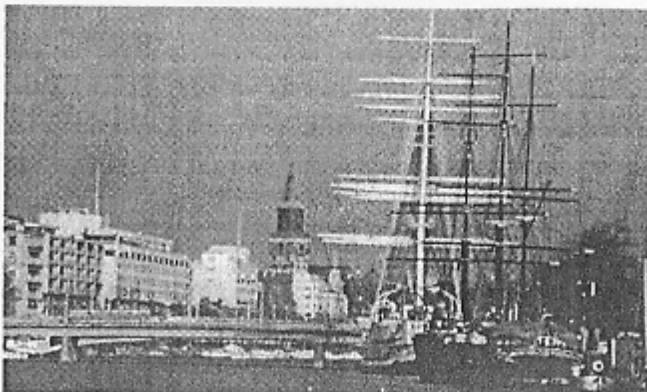
The city of Turku has created interest with its intriguing and diverse scenery. Turku is a maritime city, to which the best approach is through the unique archipelago in front of it. The sailing routes to Turku go through a magnificent archipelago and ultimately to the river Aura running through the city. The depth of the river enables access to even big ships, so that the

Vessels can come right in the middle of Turku for the public to admire.

Many well-known big ships have already confirmed that they will come to Turku. From these e.g. s/v Sedov, the biggest training sailboat in the world, Sir Winston Churchill, Malcom Miller, Alexander von Humboldt and Eendracht belong to the elite of sailing ships. Some 100 to 120 ships with their crews are expected to come to Turku.

Turku wishes the ships with their crews and the general public heartily welcome to Turku, the city of the sea and archipelago.

MAUNO AHLGREN
CITY OF TURKU





III. VIEWS

The Baltic Music Network

The creation and the coordination within events of rock-, jazz- and folk-music in the Baltic Sea Region will improve in the coming years. The Baltic Music Network (TBMN) is an interbaltic formalized network with regional contact persons working to put focus on music live-performances. Since 1993 TBMN has cooperated with Commission on Culture of the UBC.

On October 19-22, 1995 the third seminar of TBMN took place in Eeslitall, Tallinn. At the seminar 34 networkers from Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Kaliningrad, Poland, Denmark, Kaliningrad and St. Petersburg discussed the development of this initiative. Sessions of how to fund-raise internationally, nationally and locally, how to create proper information, how to create and control the quality of cultural projects and how to establish regional cultural non-profit non-governmental associations of TBMN was effected.

The participants also agreed on the object of the network which is the work for interregional increase of tolerance between the countries around the Baltic Sea, in respect of cultural identity of the involved regions, through cross-cultural exchange, mainly in the area of rhythmical music - Jazz, Rock, Folk, etc. The activities of the association are concentrated on:

- Strengthening the democratic organization of the musical life in the Baltic countries;
- Strengthening and development of the exchange of culture in the area of rhythmical music between the Baltic countries;
- Making exchange-projects of culture in the area of rhythmical music between the Baltic countries;
- Establishing, development and maintenance of bilateral and multilateral connections in the area of culture between the Baltic countries.

All established national/regional association will be members of the international organization TBMN. In Denmark the association TBMN-Denmark is already established. In Sweden the cultural organization of clubs M&KS will create a TBMN-Committee. In Finland the live music association ELMU will establish a TBMN-Committee and Poland will be presented by TBMN-Committee of the music organization Kanon. In St. Petersburg, Estonia, Lithuania, Kaliningrad and Germany the networkers will establish national/regional TBMN-associations before the end of 1995.

The seminar was supported by the Kaleidoscope pro-



gramme of the European Commission, the Danish National Association of Amateurmusicians Fajabefa, Restaurant Eeslitall and by participants themselves. The seminar was realized and chaired by Mr Ib Jensen.

In the next month the contact persons, elected by the participants of the seminar, will make a catalogue describing the cultural

events of 1996 which TBMN creates, is partner in or just arranges contacts for. A newsletter with the focus of artistic copyright systems of the countries around the Baltic Sea will be also produced. It will be important economic tool for the bands who will be exchanged in the future.

We hope that important events like Gdańsk 1997, Kalmar 1997, Stockholm 1998 and the UBC member cities will use the network as an operational instrument to upgrade the quality of live music of the coming festivals and cultural twin-cities arrangements. All the time the Baltic Music Networkers are watching the rhythmically venues to offer the very best of the live music in the entire Baltic Sea region.

At the moment all networkers are working as volunteers. It is our hope that authorities in the Baltic Sea region will support the fee of at least one full-time working contact person in each participating association. We kindly ask you for this favour which will mean a tremendously breakthrough of the future cultural cooperation within the Baltic Sea countries.

For further information, please contact:

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The Baltic Music Network
Willermoesgade 52 3.tv.
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Tel. +45 35 264907
Fax +45 35 934413





The Baltic Sea Culture Center

The Baltic Sea Culture Center - established by virtue of the decision of Gdańsk Governor on the 5th of October 1992 - is a state cultural institution which organizes and coordinates the cultural cooperation between Gdańsk and Pomerania region and the Baltic Sea states. These formal words, which are due to Center statute's regulations, are reflected in various concrete cultural events and projects carried out by the Center.

The Baltic Sea Culture Center activities focus on nearly all fields of art. It organizes international conferences, sessions, scientific symposia as well as it maintains contacts with cultural and scientific associations, museums, galleries and, finally, with the private persons in Poland and abroad. It is also the Polish representative at the Baltic Sea states conference of the ministers of culture ARS BALTICA.

Among the most significant cultural project of the Baltic Sea Culture Center are:

- international conferences: "The Town Hall in the Baltic Sea States", "Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland - the Prospects of Cultural Cooperation", "Baltic Photo Art Today", "The Baltic Sea Theater Forum", the meetings with the ambassadors of the Baltic Sea states included in the series entitled "Integration through the Baltic Sea";
- the series of science promotion: the meetings "Gdańsk Historical Relics and Symbols of Culture"; the meetings with the winners of the "Jan Hevelius Scientific Prize of Gdańsk", specialized scientific symposia e.g. "The Socio-Political Changes of Gdańsk since the Half of the 19th Century till the Half of the 20th Century" or "The Topological Methods in Nonlinear Analysis"; debates concentrated on the most vital problems of Gdańsk "Colloquia Millenaria";
- literature: the sessions "The World of the Moomins" - at the 80th anniversary of Tove Jansson birthday; "A Tale and a World" - on the creation of H.Ch. Andersen; the Sessions of Journalists of Literature and Culture Publications from the Baltic Sea Countries: Around the Baltic Sea; books promotions;



- music: Edward Grieg Festival, Carl Nielsen Festival, Music and Poetry from Latvia;

- visual art: individual exhibitions of the artists of the Baltic Sea states; "The Baltic Sea States Graphic Art Triennial", exhibition presenting modern art e.g. "The

Flying Kayak - the Art of Greenland".

The Baltic Sea Culture Center has its residence in the Gdańsk Old Town Hall (which is just celebrating its 400th anniversary), one of a few buildings remaining after the Second World War and designed by a great Dutch Renaissance architect Anton van Obberghen. It has a splendid Main Hall used for symposia and concerts, a representative Entrance Hall, and small, rich in the masterpieces of art former Mayor Office, as well as the modern Gallery, the book store and the antique-shop with the works of art, the coffee-shop, the restaurant and the Irish Pub.

Due to the agreement signed with the Gdańsk Archbishop of the the Roman-Catholic Church, the Baltic Sea Culture Center has since 1995 become the user of the Gothic Church of St. John, where, after the completion of the restorian works the St. John's Cultural-Congress Center will be established. The church, ruined during the Second World War and furthermore devastated in the after-war period undergoes restorian works which aim is the initiation of the full activity of the St. John's Center in 1997, the year of the celebration of the Millennium of Gdańsk. Meanwhile the severe space serves as a place of concerts and exhibitions.

The Baltic Sea Culture Center logo is designed by a distinguished graphic artist from Gdańsk - Jerzy Janiszewski - the author of such signs as, for instance, the famous logo of "Solidarność". The Baltic Sea Culture Center is headed by Mr Maciej Nowak, Director, and Ms Beata Jaworowska, Deputy Director.

For more information, please contact:

The Baltic Sea Culture Center
ul. Korzenna 33/35
80-851 Gdańsk
Tel. +48 58 311051
Fax +48 58 311053

The Baltic Institute in Karlskrona

The emerging cooperation around the Baltic Sea during the 1990-ies is characterized by large political and social flexibility. A typical feature for first years of reforms is the role that unofficial organs have come to play. Therefore, we see today a variety of new actors (municipalities, counties organizations, trade asso-



ciations), often with geographical anchoring in the costal areas, who are active in the Baltic Sea region.

The work undertaken by the Baltic Institute of Sweden, located in Karlskrona in Blekinge, in an example for how a new cooperation system can emerge with the help from such an actor.



The Swedish Baltic Institute started operations in 1992 as an independent organization. During its first years the Institute worked on projects to promote municipal and regional networks for Southeastern Sweden and primarily northern Poland, Kaliningrad and Lithuania. A range of training programmes was started. Priority was given to strengthening communication and environmental work.

The Swedish Baltic Institute is now entering a new phase.

A desire has been expressed from different quarters to create a national and international forum to cooperation in a variety of areas such as communication, infrastructure, environment, trade, economy, etc. Alongside the conventional forms for the Baltic cooperation through

diplomatic and political contacts, there is a strong need for the Baltic Institute - an independent organization that can act as a platform for meetings and the exchange of ideas, for studies and joint ventures of various kinds.

As a gateway to Baltic cooperation, Karlskrona is just a natural choice and the location of the Institute in a coastal area gives the questions concerning the Baltic Sea a necessary connection with reality.

For further information, please contact:

Mr Per Gudmund Lindencrona
Director of the Baltic Institute
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Fax +46 455 14468

The Baltic University Programme

The Baltic University Programme (BUP) is an international educational-research project. Over 100 academic centers from the Baltic Sea Region countries as well as Belorussia and Ukraine take part in the project works. The institution, known as well as the Baltic University, was established as the initiative of the Uppsala University (first attempts appeared in the period 1989-1990) during the Planning Conference in Kalmar in 1991. Representatives of 50 university centers from 10 countries participated in the mentioned meeting.

At the moment two main educational-research courses, prepared jointly by the international research teams, are realized:

* *"The Baltic Sea Environment"* broadcasted by the satellite since 1991/1992 and now available on the video cassettes and on the Polish Cable Television;

* *"Peoples of the Baltic"*, which was firstly broadcasted in 1993/1994 and is also obtainable on the cassettes.

The latter describes the history of the region (culture, economy, ethnic issues, international policy) and the present time (problems of the local democracy development, human rights, international safety issues). For each of the mentioned courses the organizers prepared the manuals. All participants of the BUP courses could take an examination and after successful passing they obtain the BUP diploma.

In October 1992 Uppsala University started the new



activity - the Baltic University Geographical Information System (BU-GIS) which is the interbaltic information system. The work of the Baltic University Programme is financed from the Swedish resources. The director of the BUP is Professor Lars Ryden from the Uppsala University.

In each country, taking part in the programme, there are coordinating centers. In Poland this function is performed by the Group on the Baltic University at the University of Gdańsk. Among other Polish centers, the University of Szczecin is also very active on this field. The University of Gdańsk takes part in the implementation of both above mentioned courses. Two direct satellite transmissions were realized in Gdańsk in 1992 and 1993. The Maritime Station of the University of Gdańsk on the Hel Peninsula cooperates also within the BU-GIS programme.

On 21-24 September 1995 the University of Gdańsk





organized with the cooperation of Polish and Swedish institutions as well as with the assistance of the BUP Secretariat in particular, the scientific conference "50 Years after the End of the Second World War. International Politics in the Baltic Sea Region". The conference was attended by the representatives of the science from Finland, Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belorussia, Ukraine, Poland, Germany, Denmark and Sweden. The conference paper will be published soon.

Further information about the programme is available in:

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Fax +46 18 181789
E-mail: Baltic.univ uadm.uu.se

MIECZYSAW NUREK
POLISH BUP CENTER AT GDAŃSK UNIVERSITY

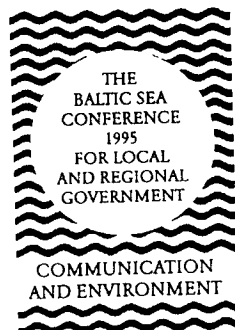
The Baltic Sea Conference May 18-20, 1995, Norrköping, Sweden

The City of Norrköping, Sweden had the honor of being the host of the Baltic Sea Conference on Communication and Environment, May 18-20, 1995.

In 1993, the first Baltic Sea Conference was held in Helsinki and was organized by the Association of Finnish Local Authorities, in close cooperation 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 the CLRAE's umbrella.

The second Baltic Sea Conference was held in Norrköping, Sweden, May 18-20, 1995. It was organized in addition to the Council of Europe a Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe, CLRAE. The Östergötland County Council and the City of Norrköping with co-organizers as The Swedish Association of Local Authorities, The Federation of County Councils, Sweden, the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) and the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI).

Approximately 200 participants came together at Norrköping for the Baltic Sea Conference on Communication and the Environment - political representatives of different professional groups and categories from the Baltic riparian states and additional European countries: Belgium, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and United Kingdom.



The main themes of the Conference were:

- Future Communication in the Baltic Sea Area
- Opportunities provided by new Communication Systems
- Sustainable Mobility
- Exchange of Knowledge and Experience
- Cultural Meetings around the Baltic Sea

The Union of the Baltic Cities was represented by the President of the UBC, Anders Engström. He delivered a very interesting and informative speech about Local Environment initiatives. There were speakers from other organizations as Helsinki Commission, HELCOM, EU, International Environment Management, INEM, etc. Speakers from Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Denmark, Germany and Sweden made the Conference reaching its aim; 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.

For more information please contact the Secretary General of the Baltic Sea Conference:

Mr Bengt Anckarman
Vattenverksvägen 2
S-602 36 Norrköping
Tel. +46 11 172100
Fax +46 11 172300

The International Union of Local Authorities (IULA)

The International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) is a world wide organization of local government, which was founded in 1913.

The principal aims of IULA are:

- to assist in the improvement of the quality of services provided by local authorities to their citizens;
- to help build up institutional capacity for



IULA
International
Union of
Local
Authorities

the development and management of human settlements;

- to strengthen local government as an instrument for socio-economic progress and development;
- to encourage the international exchange of information and professional expertise between local and regional authorities;



to promote local government as the cornerstone of democracy.

IULA serves the interests of local government and democracy by acting as their voice in international fora. It promotes the exchange of information between local authorities and communities from around the world through a range of meetings on regional and global level, most notably its biennial World Congress.

From its network it makes available municipal expertise through its platforms for decentralized cooperation and a number of specialized associated networks. It works to ensure that organizations such as the United Nations, the World Bank and its regional affiliates, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the European Union and other international and national organization give proper attention to the needs of local government in their policies and programme. In many cases, this leads to close cooperation between IULA and other (inter)national governmental and non-governmental organizations.

The highest policy-making body within the International Union of Local Authorities is the IULA Council. This body is representative of all full members of IULA and meets every two years on the World Congress. It sets policy and programme priorities for the future and elects the President and the Executive Committee.

For more than a decade, IULA has pursued a policy of regionalization, which has led to the creation of regional sections for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East, Europe, Latin America and North America.

The programme development and actual service delivery have been decentralized towards the regions.

In addition, IULA has several affiliated organizations dealing with specific areas of municipal concern (e.g. International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives - ICLEI). They operate with a large degree of autonomy, but with a regular exchange of information and, when possible, activities are carried out jointly.

More information you can get in:

World Secretariat
39 Wassenaarseweg
2596 CG The Hague
The Netherlands
Tel. +31 70 3244032
Fax +31 70 3246916

The Center for Environmental Management and Planning (CEMP)

CEMP, part of Aberdeen University Research and Industrial Services (AURIS) Ltd was established in 1972, and provides an extensive range of services - training, consultations, research and the provision of environmental information, on many aspects of environmental management and assessment.

CEMP's clients are from all parts of the world and include, the World Bank, UNIDO, WHO, UNEP, ILO, the British Council, the Department of Environment (UK), planning authorities, public and private companies as well as bi- and multi-lateral international aid agencies.

Specific services offered by CEMP include:

- Management, preparation and review of environmental assessment (EAs)
- Health, social, economic, water, air, ecological, visual, landscape and risk assessment
- Baseline studies, environmental monitoring, air and water pollution assessment
- Environmental audits, environmental policies and management plans for industry and local government
- Resource and land-use planning, coastal planning, forestry, conservation, fish farming and waste management



CEMP

- Legal, administrative and policy advice on environmental management and assessment
- Guidelines and methods for EA
- Environmental information services
- Marine environmental monitoring
- Integration of environmental factors into corporate decision-making

CEMP has access to a comprehensive data base, well equipped laboratories for analytical work, specialized environmental experts in Departments of the University of Aberdeen, and the use of highly qualified, practical and multilingual environmental consultants in the UK and abroad.

With many years practical experience of environmental management and assessment, CEMP can provide efficient services to a wide range of clients.

For further information on CEMP, please contact:

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The Latvian city - Daugavpils - is looking for a sister-city

The city of Daugavpils has sent to the Secretariat of the Union of the Baltic Cities the request to include in the next issue of the Newsletter the short description of the city with the intention to find a sister-city among the UBC members.

Daugavpils, the second town in Latvia in area, was founded in 1275 and is an administrative center of Latgalia with the population of 120 000 residents. Daugavpils is situated at the south-east of Latvia on the Daugava River, 232 km from Riga - the capital of Latvia.

Daugavpils is the very important transport junction of the Baltic region. Many towns not only in Latvia, but also in Russia, Belorussia and Lithuania are connected by railways and main roads with this town.

Daugavpils is the third town in Latvia in industry. There are 23 large industrial enterprises there. The most

important branches of industry are chemical, metal working and woodworking. There are also some enterprises of construction, light and food industries and some workshops on repairs of automobile and railway transport.

Daugavpils is also the most important cultural center of the eastern part of Latvia. The Pedagogic University and the General Technical Faculty of the Riga Technical University are among some educational establishments of Daugavpils. Moreover, there are the theater, national cultural societies and other cultural institutions in Daugavpils.

For further information, please contact:

Daugavpils City Council
K. Valdemara 1
LV-5407 Daugavpils, Latvia
Tel. +371 254 22338 or 22331

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SECRETARIAT OF THE UNION OF THE BALTIC CITIES

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The Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC) is a network of the cities currently consisting of 58 member cities from all 10 Baltic countries.

The Article 1 of the Union's Statue 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 seven working Commissions as follows:

- *Commission on Culture*
- *Commission on Environment*
- *Commission on Social Affairs*
- *Commission on Telecommunication*
- *Commission on Transportation*
- *Commission on Sport*
- *Commission on Tourism*

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.