



Minutes of Meeting of the Core Interims PostBALTEX Science Steering Group

Climate Service Center, Hamburg, Germany, 22 April 2013

Note: In these minutes, the new programme is referred to in the text as “PostBALTEX” or “the new programme”, as the new name was only decided during the course of this meeting. For all future communication, the approved name of the new programme will be used.

A. Rationale

This scope of the meeting of the Interims Science Steering Group of PostBALTEX was to prepare the launch of the new programme at the 7th Study Conference on BALTEX on Öland, 10-14 June 2013. Specifically, decisions shall be taken concerning the way the new programme will be presented on the Wednesday morning session (12 June), conditions for a membership in the new steering group, names for new members for a larger Interims-SSG to be approached after terms of reference have been drafted, and concerning a name and logo of PostBALTEX.

B. Presentation of the BALTEX status quo and activities to extend into 2014 (M. Reckermann)

Conferences in preparation:

- **12-15 May 2014 in Szczecin, Poland: Climate Change - The environmental and socio-economic response in the Southern Baltic Region – II (SZC 2014).** The conference will be organized jointly by the University of Szczecin (Andrzej Witkowski, Jan Harff) and the International BALTEX Secretariat. The first conference of this sort was in 2009 (www.baltex-research.eu/SZC2009). The Conference website will be: www.baltex-research.eu/SZC2014. 1st Announcement and website available soon. Topics: Proxies and modeling of climate change: Past and future projections; Climate and coastal areas: Natural dynamics and socio-economic development, changing Baltic Sea coasts and their sustainable protection; Adaption of energy politics to climate change
- **16-19 June 2014 in Lund, Sweden: 3rd Lund Regional-scale Climate Modelling Workshop: 21st Century Challenges in Regional Climate Modelling (RCM 2014).** Organized by Lund University, SMHI, DMI, HZG (Markku Rummukainen, Lars Bärring, Burkhardt Rockel, Jens Hesselbjerg Christensen) together with the International BALTEX Secretariat. The 1st and 2nd conferences of this sort were in 2004 and 2009; 1st Announcement and website online: www.baltex-research.eu/RCM2014. Topics: Regional Climate and Earth System Models, Very-high-resolution RCMs, Challenges for RCM evaluation and application, RCM ensembles

Working Groups presently installed in BALTEX:

- **BALTEX Working Group on Radar:** Jarmo Koistinen, FMI and Daniel Michelson, SMHI; new activity: BALTRAD <http://baltrad.eu/>

- **BALTEX Working Group on the Utility of Regional Climate Models:** Markus Meier, SMHI; activities related to a summary publication; possible connections related to RCM 2014 in Lund
- **BALTEX Working Group on Data Management:** Michael Lautenschlager, World Data Centre for Climate. Climate Modelling data available @ WDCC (available for PostBALTEX): CMIP5 data for IPCC 5; CORDEX data; Euro-CORDEX data; Ensembles: Regional data from DMI as back-up/long-term archive; CCLM-Remo data from AR4; ERA observations @ ECMWF (international); ERA data @ WDCC (national, permission needed); Long-term archiving of PostBALTEX data possible at WDCC through HZG participation @DKRZ; ECDS database @ SMHI

BALTEX Data Centres presently installed:

- **Meteorological data at WDCC (Lautenschlager):** Data can remain there, are accessible via CERA
- **Hydrological Data at SMHI** – Inquiry by Ola Pettersson/SMHI: What becomes of data base? Suggestion to transfer to GRDC, after legal issues are settled (who is data producer, permissions)
- **Radar data** – Consult Jarmo Koistinen/FMI and Daniel Michelson/SMHI
- **Oceanographical data** – Consult Philip Axe/SMHI

Other pending activities:

1. **BACC II book to be published in early 2014.** Follow-up activity: Summary booklet for non-scientists in English and the Baltic Sea riparian languages
2. **Further BALTEX Phase II Wrap-Up activities:** BALTEX Assessment on the water and energy cycle (Berger et al.); BALTEX Assessment on the coupled climate models (Meier et al.)

C. Topics discussed

1. Presentation of PostBALTEX at the 7th Study Conference on BALTEX

Given the prospect that H.M. The King of Sweden will honour the opening ceremony and session with his presence, and the related media presence, it was suggested to present the new name and logo already during the presentation which Markus Meier will give on the Monday morning on PostBALTEX, and not on the Wednesday morning where there will be a special morning session on the PostBALTEX programme. It was considered crucial to take advantage of the expected media presence on Monday morning to spread the scope, name and logo of PostBALTEX. Also it should be checked what the cut-off time is for the news for the following day, to possibly switch presentations.

On the Wednesday morning, there will be a special session on PostBALTEX. The sequence of presentations should be changes to have a more coherent presentation and discussion of the new programme. Therefore, the presentations of the international programmes Future Earth and GEWEX should be given at the beginning of the session. Then, there will be two presentations by representatives of the new programme to specify in more detail the scope (see Decisions and Action items). After the break, there will be a moderated discussion on PostBALTEX in plenary. To support the discussion, there should be questions circulated and answered in written form by the audience, which would be the basis for the open discussion (see Decisions and Action items).

2. The new Science Steering Group:

The new Science Steering Group shall root in the Core Interims Steering Group (Annex 2). New members to fill up the Steering Group so that a good representation according to the criteria set out below will be nominated and invited. Terms of reference need to be drafted and approved, after which new members are to be invited. New members to be approved by the new Steering Group. An annual self-evaluation on member activities should warrant that the group stays active. Criteria for steering group members are:

- Active contribution to SSG meetings, conferences, workshops, summer schools, chairing working groups and contribute in projects like BACC and Grand Challenges projects
- Country balance
- Gender balance
- Scientific discipline balance
- Institutional balance

The relative importance of gender vs. country balance was discussed controversially; these should be considered as equally important, and to be decided on an individual basis. The current membership of the Core Interims Science Steering Group, as of this meeting (22 April 2013), is given in Annex 2.

Further candidates for the new steering group should be selected from the list of candidates which were suggested by BSSG members, and former members of the BALTEX WG on PostBALTEX (see Annex 3). The resulting larger interims steering group shall be presented at the Öland Conference. After one year, the interims steering group shall convert into the new Science Steering Group, including potential modifications in membership and/or terms of reference.

It was further suggested to install a "Senior Advisory Board", with renowned senior scientists from the BALTEX community and beyond, to advise the Steering Group and to potentially provide support whenever necessary. Other large players in the Baltic Sea region should also be represented in this group (HELCOM, BONUS, ICES, etc.).

3. Educational scope of PostBALTEX

A strong educational aspect for the new programme was discussed positively. In particular, the organisation of summer schools on different topics was mentioned as desirable activity, if possible on a yearly basis. This, however, was doubted to be efficiently organisable; a 2-yearly period was deemed more possible.

4. Name and Logo of the new programme

The list of suggested names was presented again; acronyms were not favoured, as already discussed in the last meeting. Two names were favoured in the end: *Baltic Future* and *Baltic Earth*. Pros and cons of both names were discussed, followed by a vote (see Decisions).

D. Decisions and Action Items

1. There shall be two further BALTEX Assessments as final publications wrapping up BALTEX.

The first will be on the "*Water and Energy Cycle in the Baltic Sea basin*" (writing team led by Franz Berger), and a second one on "*Coupled Regional Climate Models and their Added Value*" (writing team led by Markus Meier). Deadline for both assessments shall be 1 June 2014, in order to have printed copies ready for distribution at the RCM2014 conference in Lund (16-19 June 2014).

Action: Franz Berger and Markus Meier and their respective writing teams

2. The name of the new programme is "Baltic Earth". This was decided by the absolute majority of the members present at the meeting. The name shall symbolize the intention of the new programme to provide a research network for all aspects of Earth system research on the regional scale of the Baltic Sea region, from physical, biogeochemical and biological to human aspects.

3. The logo of the new programme will be based on the BALTEX logo, with the Baltic Sea in the centre and the two semi-circular arrows forming the circle, symbolising the flow of water, energy, matter and information. The new logo shall indicate the heritage of Baltic Earth in BALTEX, but will be sufficiently distinct the BALTEX logo. The final design will be presented at the Öland Conference.

Action: Marcus Reckermann to prepare and distribute to SSG members variations of the new logo and prepare a decision.

4. Additional members for the Interims Science Steering Group selected by the Core Interims Group: Eight individuals (Annex 4) were selected from the list (Annex 3), in the attempt to balance the criteria of country, gender and institutional affiliation to the extent possible. These individuals shall be invited to the Interims SSG and to attend the Öland Conference, after the terms of references have been drafted. The core group is aware that there are more suitable candidates than could be selected here; they shall be involved in the new programme as Working Group members and other activities, and remain as further candidates for a later SSG modification. The extended Interims Science Steering Group of the new programme shall be inaugurated at the Öland Conference (1st Meeting of the new SSG) and shall have a 1 year-term until 19 June 2014 (3rd Meeting at the RCM2014 Workshop in Lund). The group shall undergo a self-evaluation and an evaluation by the Senior Advisory Group at that time, and, subject to any recommended modifications, shall convert into the approved Science Steering

Group of the new programme. Furthermore, it was decided that Marcus Reckermann, Head of the future International Baltic Earth Secretariat, shall be a full member of the Baltic Earth Science Steering Group.

5. **Senior Advisory Board to be installed.** It was decided to install a “Senior Advisory Board” (SAB) as a second committee, to advise and support the SSG and their activities, whenever deemed necessary. Jüri Elken was named to be asked to chair this committee for the first term. Further members could be recruited from the former BALTEX SSG, and also from representatives of important Baltic Sea region scientific and political stakeholders, like HELCOM, BONUS, ICES, and others. The group should be limited to 8 members.
6. **Terms and References** for the new Science Steering Group, Working Groups and Senior Advisory Board are to be drafted by Markus Meier and Anna Rutgersson, based on the existing ToRs for the BALTEX SSG and WGs. The new draft ToRs shall be presented to and, subject to modifications, be approved by the Group at the SSG meeting at the Öland Conference.
Action: Markus Meier and Anna Rutgersson to draft Terms of reference for the three entities SSG, WGs and SAB.
7. **Two new Working Groups to be installed:**
 - *A Working Group on Outreach and Communication* (Carin Nilsson, Hans von Storch, Marcus Reckermann et al.). The task of this group will be to initiate and design potential outreach activities of the new programme. Also the content and design of the new website and activities in social media shall be in the hands of this group.
 - *A Working Group on Education* (Markus Meier, Anders Omstedt, Marcus Reckermann et al.). The task of this group will be to organise educational activities of the new programme, like Summer Schools etc..*Action: WG Chairs.* The new SSG will decide on the continuation of the other existing BALTEX WGs
8. **The 1st meeting of the Interims Baltic Earth Science Steering Group** shall be in connection with the Öland Conference on Monday 10 June 2013, 17:30 – 19:30.
The 2nd Meeting is planned to take place in Sopot, Poland, in October/November 2013, with Karol Kulinski as host. Date tbd.
The 3rd Meeting is planned to take place in Lund, Sweden, in connection with the RCM2014 Workshop, on 16-19 June 2014.
Action: Marcus Reckermann and Karol Kulinski
9. **There shall be a hybrid newsletter published in autumn 2013**, which will be the final BALTEX and the first Baltic Earth Newsletter at the same time. Hans-Jörg Isemer will be asked to write a historical article on the beginnings and developments of BALTEX from the perspective of the International BALTEX Secretariat.
Action: The International BALTEX Secretariat to prepare this Newsletter, with inputs both from the BALTEX SSG and the new Interims Baltic Earth SSG.
10. The text for **an invitation letter for the new members** to be invited to the Interims SSG shall be drafted.
Action: Marcus Reckermann
11. **“Lobby” work**, e.g. the drafting of a “Letter of Intent” to be signed by potential Institutions to show their dedication towards the new programme, or other activities helping to promote and support the new programme, should be further considered.
12. **Decisions and Action Items related to the 7th Study Conference on BALTEX**
 - a. Name and Logo of the new programme to be presented already at the opening presentation by Markus Meier on Monday morning.
 - b. The sequence of presentations on Wednesday morning to be modified: 1. Future Earth (Martin Visbeck); 2. Jan Polcher (GEWEX); 3. Anna Rutgersson (Details on the Grand Challenges of the new programme); 4. Carin Nilsson on outreach and educational activities of

- the new programme; 5. Break 15 min; 6. Open discussion in plenary, moderated by Benjamin Smith.
- c. Carin Nilsson and Anna Rutgersson to prepare a set of questions for the audience to answer and return to the moderator so they can provide the basis for the discussion.
 - d. Markus Meier and Anna Rutgersson shall prepare a 2-page summary of the presentations given on Monday (MM) and on Wednesday (AR, CN), directed mainly to other scientists and stakeholders, and to be published in the first Baltic Earth newsletter. Copies will also be distributed at the conference.
 - e. A 2-page press release for the conference shall be jointly prepared by the BALTEX SSG and Baltic Earth-SSG chairs, and shall be edited and communicated by the professional Press Offices of SMHI and HZG.

Draft Minutes by Marcus Reckermann, 24 April 2013

Corrections by Markus Meier, 29 April 2013

Annex 1

Participant List

Franz Berger
Meteorologisches Observatorium Lindenberg - Richard-Aßmann-Observatorium, Deutscher Wetterdienst,
Tauche, Germany

Sirje Keevallik
Marine Systems Institute at Tallinn University of Technology, Tallinn, Estonia

Karol Kulinski
Institute of Oceanology PAN, Sopot, Poland

Andreas Lehmann
Leibniz Institute for Marine Sciences, Kiel, Germany

Markus Meier (chair)
Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Norrköping, Sweden

Carin Nilsson (via web conference)
Lund University, Sweden

Marcus Reckermann
International BALTEX Secretariat at Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, Germany

Anna Rugersson (vice-chair)
University of Uppsala, Sweden

Benjamin Smith (via web conference)
Lund University, Geography and Ecosystems Analysis, Lund, Sweden

Hans von Storch
Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, Germany

Eduardo Zorita
Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, Geesthacht, Germany

Annex 2

Current membership of the Core Interims Science Steering Group (as of 22 April 2013)

Franz Berger
Jari Haapala
Sirje Keevallik
Karol Kulinski
Andreas Lehmann
Markus Meier (chair)
Carin Nilsson
Anders Omstedt
Piia Post
Marcus Reckermann
Anna Rutgersson (vice chair)
Benjamin Smith
Hans von Storch
Eduardo Zorita

Annex 3

List of further candidates suggested by BSSG members, and former members of the WG on PostBALTEX

Juris Agars
Andris Anrusaitis
Boris Chubarenko
Inga Dailiniene
Chantal Donnelly
Jüri Elken
Birgit Hünicke
Jaak Jaagus
Tiit Kutser
Urmas Lips
Aarne Männik
Kay Myrberg
Thomas Neumann
Irina Partasenok
Arturas Razinkovas
Gregor Rehder
Martin Stendel
Sergey Zhuravlev

Annex 4

Additional members for the Interims Science Steering Group selected by the Core Interims Group

Juris Agars
Inga Dailiniene
Chantal Donnelly
Kay Myrberg
Irina Partasenok
Gregor Rehder
Martin Stendel
Sergey Zhuravlev