



Workplan of the Atlantic Arc Commission Hubs meetings

Agenda available [here](#)

19 & 20 June 2017

14, rond-point Schuman (4th Floor) - Brussels (Belgium)

MONDAY 19 JUNE 2017: Accessibility and Attractiveness

I. Transport

Objectives:

- Present the Atlantic Arc Commission contribution to the Mid-term review of the CEF where our Member Regions have identified priority projects from the Core network that should be included in Annex 1 of the CEF regulation;
- Consolidate a common position on the Motorways of the Seas by gathering regional studies and data available on maritime transport (in terms of volume and traffic forecast in the years to come);
- Identify our first proposals in view of the revision of the TENT-T corridors map, scheduled for 2023.

A representative of the EU Parliament is expected to comment on these proposals and express the EP's views on the EU current and future transport policy.

II. Atlantic Tourism and Culture

Objectives:

- Share regional best practices in tourism/culture sectors to reinforce the profile of the Atlantic Arc as a tourist destination;
- Start working on a joint tourism and culture strategy.

Representatives from different DGs of the European Commission will present a brief "state of the art" to explain current EU priorities & funds to achieve their goals.

DG Mare is expected to present its staff documents on nautical tourism and future opportunities in this area.

DG EAC will give us an update on key dates for tourism and culture so that regions can take advantages of them.

Discussion with participants and speakers could include proposals to further develop a joint transnational strategy on Tourism in the Atlantic to implement the Atlantic Maritime Strategy.

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I. Marine Renewable Energy

Objectives:

- Establish a list of priorities for 2017 with the new coordinating region (Basque Country);
- Update our [interactive map](#) on MRE projects in the Atlantic Arc Commission Regions;
- Discuss and comment on the organisation of an on-field visit in the North Sea Commission in 2017:
 - o Back to back meeting with the [Atlantic Strategy Stakeholder Platform Forum](#) on 8th November in Glasgow?
 - o Back to back meeting with the “Wind Europe” [conference and Exhibition](#) on 28/30 November 2017 in Amsterdam?

Ocean Energy Europe (OEE) will make a brief presentation on the sector’s needs and challenges in the future.

DG Ener is expected to present current projects & strategies in the North Seas regarding offshore wind and how the Atlantic could benefit from this experience.

II. Innovation / Environment & Climate / Maritime Training

Objectives:

- Present the new priorities for 2017 by Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Chair of this Working Group,
- Pool knowledge on regions’ initiatives dealing with two transversal issues which are **skills gap** and **environment protection**,
- Start creating a strategy to protect the Atlantic environment based on the experience gained from the “Bologna Charter” in the Mediterranean,
- Discuss how to capitalize the “Blue Biotechnology Master for a Blue Career” project and expand our action in favour of maritime training.

On environmental protection, the help of the EUCC Atlantic and Emilia Romagna will be useful to prioritize thematic areas and methods to build an “Atlantic charter”.

EUCC Atlantic has a long experience of the environmental challenges of the Atlantic area while Emilia Romagna participated in the creation of the Bologna Charter.

On maritime training, Sea Europe could help us identifying skill needs in other maritime sectors and update us on the “Blue Skills” initiative.

III. Fisheries and Aquaculture

Objectives:

- Update the analyse on the impact of Brexit on fisheries and aquaculture in our Atlantic Regions;
- Enrich the CPMR analyses on the post 2020 EMFF;

- Plan actions to lobby in favour of a moratorium of two years on the landing obligations;
- Discuss about a multiannual management plans for fisheries in the Atlantic.

The participation of Vincent Guerre, assistant to MEP Alain Cadec, Chair of the PECH Committee will enable regions to understand the European Parliament's perspectives in this respect and pass some key messages on the fourth topic mentioned above.

IV. Atlantic Strategy and Task Forces (Brexit and Transatlantic Cooperation)

Objectives:

- Involve regions in the midterm review of the Atlantic Action Plan process;
- Progress on the update of the AAC's analyse on the regional impacts of Brexit;
- Identify actions to develop the international dimension of the Atlantic Strategy;
- Research financing opportunities for the international dimension of the Atlantic Strategy.

The participation of a representative of the UK Permanent Representation in Brussels, who chairs the Atlantic Strategy Group, will enable regions to pass some key messages and learn more about the ASG calendar, especially regarding the 4th Atlantic Stakeholder Platform Forum that will take place in Glasgow next 8th November.

The participation of DG RESEARCH, which follows the Galway Declaration, will be helpful to identify future actions and financing for the Transatlantic Cooperation Task Force.

The Secretariat and Galicia will update the Regions concerning the Brexit Task Force and the CPMR "Future of Europe" ongoing process. A meeting with Commissioner Barnier has been asked for the end of September 2017.