



Secretariat Annual Report – 2008/09

In 2008/09 the Secretariat has continued to meet the administrative and strategic needs of the organisation whilst seeing only a small change in personnel. Graduate placement Mr John Young, who was hired to update the KIMO website, brochure and newsletter, has left the organisation to undertake postgraduate studies and has been replaced by Miss Hannah Bateson who will undertake research into the economic cost of marine litter and develop a communication plan for KIMO.

The Secretariat has facilitated the organisation through the International Board Meetings (2), the 2009 International Conference and AGM in Den Haag and KIMO National Coordinators Meetings (2). It has continued to carry out the activities agreed at these meetings during the interim periods and has initiated, developed and implemented a number of initiatives as agreed by the Board.

Membership in the organisation remained strong with new members in the KIMO International Baltic Forum and the addition of an associate member in Germany, where Insel und Halligkonferenz have joined the organisation. Therefore the total membership has increased this year and KIMO now represents 152 municipalities (85 Full members, 2 Associate members representing 67 municipalities).

Over the year, the Secretariat represented KIMO at 29 international stakeholder and other meetings dealing with issues concerning KIMO (see appendix). At all these meetings the Secretariat has been actively involved in promoting issues of concern and establishing valuable networks with Government delegations, other NGO's (both environmental and industry) and has prepared and presented reports on behalf of KIMO.

The Secretariat continues to participate in the international fora where KIMO has observer status. The Secretariat attended, prepared and presented papers as part of the work undertaken within the OSPAR Convention at Environmental Impacts of Human Activities Working Group (EHIA 2009), Biodiversity Committee (BDC 2009), OSPAR ICG Marine Litter (2) and 2009 Commission meeting. A particular focus this year has been on the development of the OSPAR Quality Status Report, which is produced every ten years highlighting the state of the marine environment in the northeast Atlantic. KIMO along with the Dutch government was responsible for the development of the chapter on marine litter. The background report for this

chapter was the UNEP OSPAR report on marine litter in the northeast Atlantic, which was written by KIMO and will be published and presented to Ministers at the 2010 OSPAR Ministerial meeting. KIMO has also continued to coordinate the OSPAR Intercessional Correspondence Group (ICG) on Marine Litter for the Dutch Government on a contract basis. Mr Rick Nickerson has been hired on a consultancy basis to facilitate the group.

Following its application last year KIMO was awarded official observer status at HELCOM, Baltic Marine Environment Protection Committee, during the Commission meeting in March. The Secretariat will be attending the Response and Maritime Groups in the next year highlighting issues of concern to KIMO, including in areas relating to maritime safety.

The Secretariat has also been involved in the implementation of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive by attending the first Marine Strategy Coordination Group and Working Group on Good Environmental Status. These groups will facilitate the stakeholder involvement in the process where KIMO is one of a select group of NGO's and the only representing local government. In addition to the stakeholder involvement the Secretariat has also been appointed as an expert to the Task Group providing advice on the Good Environmental Status descriptor on marine litter, which will meet over the next 6 months.

Continuing focus has also been on the campaign on pollution from containerships with the production of a campaign pack for members. The Secretariat also attended the EU Maritime Day Stakeholder conference in Rome to lobby officials from DG Transport and has recently held a meeting with Brian Simpson MEP, Chair of the European Parliament Transport Committee, to discuss how to raise the issue further in Brussels.

This has involved considerable resources in time and of travel and attendance but also in research and preparing documents for submissions. Because of KIMO input into these negotiations there continues to be progress on key issues such as marine litter, maritime safety and chemical weapon and munitions dumps.

The KIMO Website site has been completely redeveloped over the last year, by graduate placement Mr John Young, to make it more user friendly and to implement new and updated features such as videos, picture slide shows and interactive maps. The new layout groups information on the site into KIMO's key action areas making it much easier for members and visitors to access information on a particular topic and modernises the existing design. It is hoped this will encourage more people to use the site and lead to an increase on the 12,924 visitors who viewed the site last year. This has also been complemented by the development of a new KIMO brochure that follows the same basic sections the website to make it easy for potential members to find the information they need. The secretariat would like to thank Mr Young for all this hard work over the year.

Finally the Secretariat would also like to acknowledge the assistance it has received from all KIMO members but especially from the President, National Co ordinators and Shetland Islands Council staff and members without their support and cooperation it would not be possible for KIMO to have the impact it does.

John Mouat
Secretariat
KIMO International

KIMO INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED 2007/2008:**October 2008:**

18th KIMO Annual General Meeting & Conference –Tønder
KIMO International Board Meeting- Tønder
KIMO National Co-ordinators Meeting – Tønder
KIMO International Baltic Forum – Tønder
OSPAR EHIA Working Group – Lowestoft, UK

November 2008:

OSPAR ICG Marine Litter - Ross-on-Wye, UK
BP Shipping Course – London, UK

December 2008

KIMO Baltic Coastal Erosion Seminar - Jurmala, Latvia
KIMO UK Meeting – Fife, UK
Marine Targets 2010 Seminar – Brest, France

February 2008:

KIMO Baltic Meeting - Malmö, Sweden
OSPAR Biodiversity Committee – Stockholm, Sweden

March 2008:

KIMO Baltic FFL Meeting - Utska, Poland
KIMO UK Meeting – Stornoway, UK
FFL SW Launch – Cornwall, UK
FFL SW BBC Filming – Cornwall, UK

May 2008:

OSPAR ICG Marine Litter – Vigo, Spain
EU Working Group on GES – Brussels, Belgium
EU Marine Strategy Coordination Group – Leuven, Belgium
KIMO International Board Meeting – Isle of Man
KIMO National Coordinators Meeting – Isle of Man
OSPAR ICG Bergen – London, UK
EU maritime Day Stakeholder Conference – Rome, Italy

June 2008:

KIMO UK Conference – Aberdeen, UK
Government Marine Environment Symposium – Hamburg, Germany
KIMO Baltic Forum - Klaipeda, Lithuania
Wadden Sea Forum- Harlingen, Netherlands
OSPAR Commission – Brussels, Belgium

September 2008:

HELCOM Response– Stockholm, Sweden