



Secretariat Annual Report - 2008

In 2008 the Secretariat has continued to adapt to the expanding needs of the organisation. With the development of the KIMO International Baltic Forum and increasing membership the Secretariat has been restructured. The International Secretariat will relinquish the role of KIMO UK Coordinator, which for the first time will now be a full time post. Mr Tom Piper has been recruited to that role and will also manage the Fishing For Litter Scotland and represent KIMO UK on the Fishing for Litter South West Management Board. Mr John Young has also joined the Secretariat in Shetland on a one year graduate placement and will be responsible for upgrading the KIMO website and promotional material.

The Secretariat has administered the organisation through the International Board Meetings (2), the 2008 International Conference and AGM in Tønder and KIMO National Co ordination 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 continued to grow with the addition of the KIMO International Baltic Forum and KIMO now has members in Poland, Kaliningrad, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. The Secretariat has been active in assisting the Simrishamn Kommune to develop the forum and 14 Municipalities have committed to join the network. The total membership of KIMO has increased by 15 this year with the total number now 125.

Over the year, the Secretariat represented KIMO at 25 international stakeholder and other meetings dealing with issues concerning KIMO (See list – Appendix I). 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 Commission at OSPAR Biodiversity Committee (BDC 2008), OSPAR ICG Marine Litter and OSPAR 2008 Commission meetings. A particular focus was on Marine litter with a paper on the KIMO Sweden Research into Microplastics in Swedish Coastal Waters. KIMO has also undertaken to coordinate the OSPAR Intercessional Correspondence Group (ICG) on Marine Litter for the Dutch Government on a contract basis. This is a first for KIMO that not only allows us to be instrumental in setting the marine litter agenda within OSPAR but

also will bring additional income to KIMO International. Mr Rick Nickerson has been hired on a consultancy basis to facilitate the group.

KIMO was also represented at the Ministerial Meeting of the HELCOM Commission, OSPAR's equivalent in the Baltic, to meet with delegations and highlight our interest in membership. This has now been followed up with a formal application, which will be considered in March 2009 at the next Commission Meeting.

The Secretariat continued to be a member of Reference Group member for the EU funded Sea Breeze project for the Baltic and has provided consultancy services to the ProSea Foundation for two marine awareness courses for BP Shipping in London.

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, radioactive substances and chemical weapon and munitions dumps.

This was particularly the case in relation to shipments of Radioactive waste Mixed Oxide (MOX) fuel from Sweden to the UK onboard the Atlantic Osprey. KIMO through its Swedish and UK Networks was able to raise the profile of these shipments, along with other organisations, which resulted in the Swedish Government stopping all future shipments.

The KIMO Website site attracted 9,704 visitors last year viewing 25,299 pages. However it is now 5 years old and is in need of an upgrade and will therefore undergo a significant modification over the coming year. This has already started with the upgrading of the Fishing for Litter section, which can be accessed at www.fishingforlitter.org, and will continue with the addition of more information on KIMO's key focus areas and the addition of a new Baltic Section.

The Secretariat would 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.

Finally the Secretariat would like to thank the Mr Bo Svard, who retired this year, for the valuable contribution he has made to the organisation over the last 8 years as KIMO Sweden Coordinator.

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

17th KIMO Annual General Meeting & Conference –Wexford
KIMO International Board Meeting- Wexford
KIMO National Co-ordinators Meeting – Wexford
KIMO International Baltic Forum - Simrishamn

November 2007:

HELCOM Ministerial Meeting – Krakow, Poland
Sea Breeze Final Conference – Turku, Finland
BP Shipping Course - London

December 2007

OSPAR Marine Litter Steering Group – Oostende, Belgium

February 2008:

Meeting with Simrishamn Kommune – Edinburgh
OSPAR Biodiversity Committee – De Haag, the Netherlands

March 2008:

KIMO International Baltic Forum – Kaliningrad, Jurmala, Palanga, Klaipda

April 2008:

Meeting with DEFRA, London
Meeting with Peter Erlov re Baltic Forum

May 2008:

KIMO National Coordinators Meeting – Simrishamn
KIMO International Baltic Forum – Simrishamn
KIMO International Board Meeting - Simrishamn
Meeting with Scottish Executive Marine Directorate - Edinburgh

June 2008:

OSPAR ICG Marine litter - Shetland
FFL Meeting Northern Ireland – Belfast
FFL South West Meeting – Newlyn
OSPAR Commission Meeting - Brest

August 2008:

KIMO International Baltic Forum – Palanga, Lithuania

September 2008:

BP Shipping Marine Awareness Course – London