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# PROGRAM

**08.30-09.00    Registration**

**09.00-09.30    OPENING OF CONFERENCE**

Mr. Halldór Ásgrímsson, Secretary-General of the Nordic Council of Ministers, officially opens the conference.

Mr. Lars Thstrup, Director of Nordic Atlantic Cooperation (NORA), provides a short introduction to NORA – and the reasoning behind the OECD Review of the NORA Region.

Dr. Bill Thompson, Head of the Rural and Regional Development Unit of the OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate introduces the OECD Territorial Review of the NORA Region.

Mr. Martin Breum, journalist and writer, anchor on the Danish television DR2 and author of a recent book on the Arctic regions, will be the moderator during the conference.

**09.30-10.15 WISE IS THE STRANGER'S EYE: OECD SETS THE SCENE**

The OECD team will set the scene with a comprehensive presentation of the *OECD Territorial Review of the NORA Region*. The presentation will focus on key facts on the NORA region, key policy issues confronting the region and key OECD recommendations to the NORA region.

**09.30-10.15 An OECD panel presents their observations and recommendations:**

Dr. Bill Thompson, Head of the Rural and Regional Development Unit of the OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate.

Mr. Carlos Icaza Lara, Policy Analyst of the Rural and Regional Development Unit, OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate.

Mr. Carl-Christian Schmidt, Head of the Fisheries Policies Division of the OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate.

Gerard Bonnis, Principal Administrator, Environmental Performance and Information Division, Environment Directorate, OECD.

**10.15.-10.45 Coffee Break**

**10.45-11.15 WISE IS THE STRANGER'S EYE: A NEIGHBOUR'S PERSPECTIVE**

Dr. Keith Storey, Professor, Head of Department of Geography, Memorial University of Newfoundland provides a neighbour's perspective from the viewpoint of an academic researcher.

Mr. Dave Collins, Director General, Policy and Coordination, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Newfoundland-Labrador, provides a neighbour's perspective from the viewpoint of a practitioner and peer reviewer in the OECD process.

**11.15-12.00 Q&A**

**12.00-13.15 LUNCH**

**13.15-16.20 WITH OUR OWN EYES: COPING WITH THE CHALLENGES OF THE NORA REGION**

In two panels, some of the mayor regional challenges and main observations and recommendations by the OECD will be discussed by representatives of the region.

**13.15-14.15 Peripherality**

Dr. David Freshwater, Professor, University of Kentucky, United States, and member of the OECD team, will introduce the theme of peripherality.

A panel of politicians from the four NORA countries will discuss the OECD observations and recommendations on peripherality.

**Norway:** Mr. Tom-Christer Nilsen, Deputy County Mayor of Hordaland.

**Iceland:** Mrs. Ólína Þorvarðardóttir, Member of Parliament.

**Faroe Islands:** Mr. Hans Pauli Strøm, Member of Parliament.

**Greenland:** Mrs. Juliane Henningsen, Member of the Greenlandic Parliament, and Member of the Danish Parliament elected in Greenland.

#### **14.20-15.20    Diversification and innovation**

Mrs. Claire Nauwelaers, Policy analyst of the Innovation and Competitiveness Unit, OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, will introduce the theme of diversification and innovation.

Four representatives of the North Atlantic business and innovation sector discuss the OECD observations and recommendations on diversification and innovation.

**Norway:** Mrs. Janne Vangen Solheim, Managing Director, Janus Company.

**Iceland:** Mrs. Helga Valfells, Managing Director, New Business Venture Fund.

**Faroe Islands:** Mrs. Marita Rasmussen, Managing Director, House of Industry.

**Greenland:** Mr. Anders Stenbakken, Managing Director, Greenland Tourism and Business Council.

#### **15.20-15.50    Coffee Break**

#### **15.50-17.00    WITH OUR OWN EYES: BECOMING A REGION BY JOINING FORCES IN A MACRO-REGIONAL STRATEGY**

As a key recommendation of the Review of the NORA Region, OECD encourages the NORA region to agree on a macro-regional cooperation strategy for the NORA Region. OECD refers to the EU Baltic Sea Strategy as a pioneer model for such a cooperation.

#### **15.50-16.10    The EU Baltic Sea Strategy**

Hans Brask, Director of Baltic Development Forum, reflects on lessons learned from the Baltic Sea Strategy, which could be useful for the NORA Region.

**16.10-16.20 Q&A**

**16.20-16.50 A Macro-Regional Strategy for the NORA Region**

Four senior representatives of press and media in the NORA Region comment on the rationale, perspectives and political realism of a macro-regional strategy for the NORA Region.

**Norway:** Mrs. Kari Karstensen, Editor-in-Chief, Finnmarken.

**Iceland:** Mr. Bogi Ágústsson, Reporter, RÚV.

**Faroe Islands:** Mrs. Brynhild Thomsen, Editor-in-Chief, Dimmalætting.

**Greenland:** Mrs. Inga Dora Markussen, Editor-in-Chief, AG.

**16.50 Concluding remarks**

Mrs. Inga Ósk Jónsdóttir, Chairman of NORA, concludes the day with her reflections on today's conference – and the way forward from here.

**17.00 END OF CONFERENCE**