



Resolution on the reinforcement of island- and coastal protection

In their function of bulwarks for the coasts, the islands note that they are exposed to special strains which are enhanced by the clearly exponentially increasing effects of climate change.

For this reason, the islands demand the following

- the continuation of the protection plans, taking into consideration current developments and long-term changes in the coastal zone.
The islands expect to be substantially involved in the continuation of the protection plans within the framework of ICZM.
The islands suggest to determine a base line for the islands' coasts, which will have to be defended using all means available. This procedure has proved successful in the Netherlands. It can be followed, for example, when updating the General Coastal Protection Plan in Lower Saxony.
- Coastal protection is not only a responsibility for the individual federal states or provinces, but has to be taken up by the Federal Republic of Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands or the EU as a whole. In view of the increasing problems in island and coastal protection, the islands expect that the financial and staffing resources to guarantee a sustainable coastal protection will be improved. This is especially necessary for local structures.
- In view of the current developments on the islands caused by storms or storm tides in the winter season, the islands expect concrete measures to eliminate the damages incurred and to prevent further danger. The people living on the islands are unsettled by weather events and by the public debate on global climate change. They need clear statements and information.
- The islands expect clear statements, not only for themselves, but also for the federal states, provinces and national states, on what kind of changes are to be expected through climate change in the island and coastal zones within the next decennia. Such statements are necessary to plan a sustainable island and coastal protection, but also to be able to make decisions about the economic development in this region.
When thinking through such future scenarios, the consequences of the deepening and broadening of ship channels in the Ems and Jade estuaries have to be explained, and the construction of the Jade-Weser port as well as the extension of the Ems port should be taken into account.

Adopted at the conference of Euregio the wadden on 25th of May 2007, Island Sylt, Germany.

This resolution will be committed to:

The national governments of Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands.