

Fehmarn Belt Business Conference 2010, 13/14 September 2010, Copenhagen

COPENHAGEN DECLARATION

The following declaration was agreed at the “Fehmarn Belt Business Conference 2010” in Copenhagen, with participation of 280 leading European representatives from business, academia, government and administration.

In the knowledge that

- the metropolitan regions of Hamburg/Lübeck and Copenhagen/Malmö are among the most dynamic and competitive economic regions in Europe;
- a fixed link across the Fehmarn Belt from 2018 would considerably reduce the travel time between the cities, and would thus create a dynamic growth axis in Northern Europe;
- a fixed link across the Fehmarn Belt would bring the labour markets of the two countries closer together, and facilitate transfer of innovations and know-how;
- inter-regional cooperation would give sustainable stimuli for growth and value creation;

the Fehmarn Belt Business Council calls upon all who hold responsibility at European, national and regional level to work for shaping of the framework conditions for business in the catchment area of the Hamburg-Copenhagen axis, in accordance with the following principles:

It is necessary to promote the creation of consortia of companies based in the region to build the Fehmarn Belt link. The FBBC will contribute to creating transparency with respect to possible partner companies, on both sides of the Belt, in order to facilitate contacts with them.

The infrastructure in the catchment area of the fixed link needs to be modernised in accordance with needs and in a manner appropriate for the region. That includes a two-track, electrified railway line for the full length, and a continuous 4-lane motorway from Lübeck to Copenhagen, including the Fehmarn Sound Bridge and the Storstrøm Bridge, to be realised by the time of completion of the Fehmarn Belt link. In addition, road connections to the central regions of Schleswig-Holstein, as well as connections to Jutland, should be improved. In the long term, the goal is to upgrade the railway line between Hamburg and Copenhagen as a high-speed line.

Cross-border cooperation between the universities and scientific institutions, including the exchange of scientific staff and students is desirable, and the conditions for that should be created at the lowest bureaucratic level. Transfer of knowledge between the regions must be promoted and co-funded by the respective governments. Cooperation of the regional technology transfer offices is to be developed by transparent, cross-border structures. In particular, regular exchange of information is needed and coordinated cluster policy, especially in the field of Life Sciences.

Dependable, inexpensive and environmentally sound energy supply is indispensable for the development of existing companies and location of new companies along the Hamburg-Lübeck-Øresund axis.

The Members of the Fehmarn Belt Business Council are:

Dansk Erhverv, Dansk Industri, Dansk-Tysk Handelskammer, Handelskammer Hamburg, IHK Schleswig-Holstein, Kaufmannschaft zu Lübeck, Udviklingshuset Sjælland, Unternehmensverband Nord, Sydsvenska Industri- och handelskammaren.

Copenhagen, 14 September 2010