



DRAFT 7 May 2018

The Swedish national Chairmanship of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council and the Finnmark regional Chairmanship of the Barents Regional Council 2017-2019 invite you to:

**“Barents Co-operation 25 Years -
Fostering Common Opportunities in the European Arctic”**

Venue: The Swedish Representation to the EU, Square de Meeûs 30

Moderator: Nora Thorp Bjørnstad

Date: Tuesday 5 June 8:30-13:00

8:30	Registration and Welcome Coffee
9:00	Welcoming by Mr. Mikael Lindvall , PSC Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Sweden to the EU
9:05	A visual introduction to 25 years of Barents cooperation.
9:10	Mr. Björn Lyrvall , Arctic Ambassador, Sweden “European Arctic- an example of successful regional cooperation during 25 years” Ms. Ragnhild Vassvik , Chair of Barents Regional Council and County Governor. Finnmark’s priorities for the Barents Euro-Arctic Chairmanship
9:30	The EU Arctic policy and outcome of stakeholder process in a Barents perspective EU Representative (tbc)
9:45	Presentations: Best practices for cross-border cooperation: - Barents Games, a people-to-people project and youth initiative, Ms. Anne Berit Figenschou (tbc) The Norwegian Confederation of Sports - KOLARCTIC CBC an important Barents contributor, Ms. Päivi Ekdahl , Development Director, Regional Council of Lapland - Transport and infrastructure in the Barents Region (Joint Barents Transport Plan), Mr. Krister Palo , Swedish Transport Administration - The Indigenous Barents, Ms. Tatiana Egorova , Leader Barents Indigenous Peoples Office
10:40	Coffee break
11:00	Why does Barents matter in Brussels? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Urmas Paet, Estonian MEP • Ms. Marita Ulvskog, Swedish MEP (tbc) • Finnish MEP (tbc)



11:30	<p>Talking Barents panel debate: Building a future by joining people – Lessons learnt from 25 years of people-to-people cooperation to deliver future continued success of cooperation in a changing world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Ragnhild Vassvik, Chair Barents Regional Council• Ms. Marie-Anne Coninx, EU Ambassador at Large for the Arctic• Ms. Magdalena Andersson, County Governor, Västerbotten• Mr. Sergey Petrovich, Russian Senior Official in Barents Euro-Arctic Council• Mr. Harri Mäki-Reinikka, Finnish Ambassador, Senior Adviser, Northern Policies
12:45	Q&A – Questions from the audience
13:00	A taste of Barents – lunch reception