Wednesday 15 November 2017 in Cardiff (United-Kingdom)

Meeting between French and British regional and local elected officials

Opportunities for cooperation in the Channel area in a post Brexit context?

Hours: from 13.30 to 18.00

Venue: City Hall, Ferrier Hall, Gorseedd Gardens Road, Cardiff CF10 3ND – Cardiff

Interpretation: French-English

Updated 15/11/2017

13.30 : Arrival of participants

13.45 – 13.55: Welcome Speech by David Rees, Chair of External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee, National Assembly for Wales (confirmed)

13.55 - 14.10: Presentation of the initiative of the Normandy region to strengthen Franco-British partnerships by Mr. François-Xavier Priollaud, Vice-President of Conseil Régional de Normandie (confirmed)


Moderation and introduction: Mr. Nicolas BROOKES, Director responsible for Regional Policy, the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)
SESSION I: 14.25 – 16.05: Impacts of Brexit on cross-border flows over the medium and long term

1. Evolution of flows of people, goods and services: 14.25 – 15.10

**Objectives:** Anticipate the evolution of flows for goods, services and people between French and English Channel regions after Brexit, and draw adaptation responses, especially in the fields of trade and tourism.

- **Jean-Marc Roué,** President of Brittany Ferries and the French Shipowners’ Association (confirmed) – 10 min

**Discussion panel (20 min):**

- **Stephen Horscroft,** Economic Planning and Strategy Officer, Cornwall Council (confirmed)
- **Jean-Paul Mulot,** Permanent Representative to the UK, Hauts-de-France Region (confirmed)
- **Alison Weatherhead,** UK & Ireland Marketing Manager, Normandy Tourist Board, CRT (confirmed)

**Debate with the audience and conclusion (15min)**

2. Cooperation on science, education and training: 15.15 – 16.00

**Objectives:** Anticipate the evolution of cooperation between French and English Channel regions after Brexit in the fields research and youth mobility, and draw adaptation responses.

- **Forough Salami Dadkhah** Vice-President in charge of Europe, Brittany Region (confirmed) - 10min

**Discussion panel (20min):**

- **Guy Hembury,** Deputy Director, Research & Innovation Services, University of Portsmouth Vice-President, Parliamentary & Scientific Committee, Westminster (confirmed)
- **Nathalie Aubourg,** COMUE Normandie Université (confirmed)
- **Paul Witcombe,** Enterprise and Innovation Manager, at Hertfordshire LEP (confirmed)

**Debate with the audience and conclusion (15min)**

*Coffee break 16.00 – 16.15*
SESSION II – 16.15 – 16.55: Maritime Affairs

Objectives: The Brexit raises the issue of the joint management of the maritime space and in particular for activities such as fisheries, marine renewables, maritime transport. This discussion anticipates the imbalances which could be detrimental to the British and European activities operating in the maritime area.

- Didier PERALTA, Councillor for Normandy Region, member of the European and International Affairs Committee (confirmed) - 10 min

Discussion Panel (15 min):

Franck SOTTOU, Councillor for the urban community of Dieppe, representing the Normandie-Sussex Transmanche Operational Partnership (confirmed)

Simon Powell, Operations Director, Marine South East (confirmed)

Debate with the audience and conclusion (15min)

SESSION III – 17.00 – 17.45: Brexit, reflection on the future of territorial cooperation?

Objectives: Bilateral, cross-border and transnational cooperation in the Channel area has been benefiting from INTERREG programmes: INTERREG France (Channel) England, « 2 Seas » and « North West Europe ». Brexit raises the issue of the future and reform of these cooperation tools. How should we keep on cooperating and developing cross-border territories? Which political bodies should be involved? Which financial tools could be used?

- Cllr John Lamb, Leader of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and Vice-President of CPMR's North Sea Commission (confirmed) - 10 min

Discussion Panel (15 min):

Cllr Cliff Jordan, Leader of Norfolk County Council, managing authority of the INTERREG VA France-Channel-England programme (confirmed)

Claire Leterre, Head of the unit "Interregional cooperations and European programmes", Brittany Region, a region member of the CPMR’s Atlantic Arc Commission (confirmed)

Debate with the audience and conclusion (20 min)
17.45 – 18.00: Conclusions - Mr. Didier PERALTA, Councillor for the Normandy Region

Mr. Didier PERALTA will propose to create a Channel Task Force which will be coordinated by CPMR. CPMR will submit a draft workplan to the participants for the first quarter of 2018.