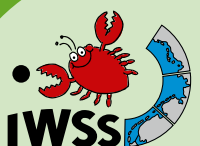


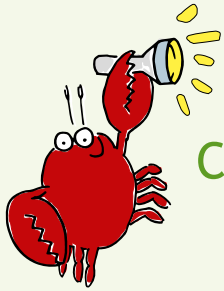


IWSS Role Play

## *Climate Change in the Wadden Sea: “Embank or back off?”*

Trilateral Ministerial Conference on the Future of Coastal Protection





## Colophon

### Conceptual Development

- International Wadden Sea School

### Expert Advice

- Dr. Hans-Ulrich Rösner, WWF
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### Graphic Design

- Jan Wichmann, [www.jones-design.de](http://www.jones-design.de)
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### Financial Support

- Bingo! Die Umweltlotterie
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## Time plan

(Preliminary phase for the person responsible for leading the role play - reading time: 30 min.)

### Preparation phase

Introduction .....	5 min
Open scenario is read aloud .....	5 min
Distribution of roles and props .....	10 min
Role play procedure.....	5 min
Time for reading.....	10 min

### Role Play Phase

Opening of the conference .....	5 min
Questioning of the representatives.....	45 min
Common decision making .....	10 min

Closing Phase ..... 15 min

**Total duration 110 min**

Optional: Follow-up activities

This role play should provide for an international discussion concerning climate change and coastal protection in the trilateral Wadden Sea with students beginning in the 10th grade.

The players can choose to use the directions or play independently the representative roles of the ministers of the environment and interest groups from nature protection, coastal protection, agriculture and tourism of the three Wadden Sea countries Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. They will be made sensitive to the important questions and the different interests concerning the Wadden Sea within the three countries. The aim of the game is to develop compromises and alternative solutions for the common future of the Wadden Sea.



## Requirements

### Participants

- 15 players (3 Ministers of the environment, 12 interest group representatives)
- 1 moderator (nature guide/teacher or pupil)
- Audience or general public
- Complementary roles i.e. reporters are possible

### Role game materials

- 4 ties: 3 for the ministers of the environment from the Wadden Sea countries (DK, D, NL) in the representative colors of the countries, 1 with dots for the moderator)
- 3 national flags (Denmark, Germany, Netherlands)
- 12 name tags on lanyards for the nature conservationist, tourist manager, coastal protectionist and agriculturalist from the 3 countries
- 2 big dice
- 6 info cards with spotlights on the present situation of the Wadden Sea
- 4 fact sheets on coastal protection
- 48 argument cards, 4 per interest group representative (4) and country (3)
- 3 info sheets for the ministers of the environment with background information and opening speech
- master copies of the memo sheets for the ministers of the environment

## Stage setting

- Put tables together as podium for ministers, position 3 national flags, water glasses and pens.
- Opposite to the podium position chairs in 3 groups for the interest group representatives of the different countries.



5 min

## Preparation phase

### Introduction

- Announce the duration of the role play: approximately 1.5 hours.
- Distribute to the group the 6 spotlight cards. (The spotlights should give a general overview of the problem areas that the role play considers.)
- The cards are to be read aloud in any desired order.

5 min

### Open scenario is read aloud

**Nature guide/teacher:** *“Here, today, the ministers of the environment from the three Wadden Sea countries - Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands - meet together with representatives from various interest groups. It should be commonly decided how the Wadden Sea coast in the future should be protected against increasing sea level rise caused by climate change. In order to make this decision the ministers ask the opinions of experts from the areas: agriculture, coastal protection, nature protection and tourism. They want to take into consideration the different interests of these groups. It is, however, extremely important that at the end of the conference the ministers have to agree to a common declaration for the whole Wadden Sea. Also, in reality there are conferences of the Wadden Sea ministers held regularly where decisions concerning questions of trilateral Wadden Sea protection are made, ie. 2005 on Schiermonnikoog and 2010 on Sylt.*

**The three primary questions which are important for the future of the Wadden Sea are:**

1. *Should coastal protection only consider the protection of human settlements or also salt marshes and tidal flats?*
2. *Should we in any case maintain the present coastline or, in given areas, retreat because of rising sea levels?*
3. *Should coastal protection authorities react to raising sea levels, as is common to date, with concrete and steel or should they put more emphasis on the use of sand supplementation?*

*For this ministerial conference different roles have to be filled, which we would like to distribute now. A moderator will guide us through the role play and is strictly non-partisan concerning content, however can at any time interrupt to steer the course of the conference.“*



10 min

## Role distribution and props

### Role distribution


- Fill the role as moderator (pupil or nature guide / teacher).
- Select three ministers of the environment.
- 12 participants form 3 country delegations of 4 persons each
- The country groups determine independently who their interest group representatives are (tourist manager, agriculturalist, coastal protectionist, nature conservationist).
- The remaining pupils are either reporters or general public (or also protesters).

### Props

- The three country delegations sit separately in groups on chairs and receive name tags, per person 4 argument cards from the appropriate country and interest group being represented and per delegation a facts sheet with definitions.
- The three ministers should sit at the conference podium and obtain country ties, information sheets, memo sheets and a fact sheet.
- The moderator receives the dotted tie and the role play instructions.

5 min

## Role play procedure



**Moderator:** „All participants first have 10 min. reading time to go through the distributed materials for their individual role and to discuss within their groups. Then the ministers of the environment of the three Wadden Sea countries open the conference by each reading their national position (opening statements). Then the ministers discuss with the representatives of the interest groups (coastal protectionists, conservationists, tourist managers and agriculturalists) about the impending coastal protection decision. For the discussion of each principle question 15 min has been allocated. The order of participation for the interest group representatives as well as the sequence of country representatives can be determined using the dice. The ministers can make further inquiries and make notes on their memo sheets. After the 45 minute hearing, the third phase begins, in which the ministers make common decisions based on their notes of responses to the discussed questions. Goal is a common agreement concerning a trilateral coastal protection strategy. This phase of the final negotiations lasts about 15 minutes.“

10 min

## Time for reading

- All interest group representatives read their arguments. Consultation within the national delegations is welcome!
- The ministers read their worksheets and prepare for their opening statements.



## Role play phase

5 min

### Opening of the conference

- Ministers read their opening statement.

45 min

### Questioning of the interest group representatives

- The ministers listen and question the various contingency representatives.
- Which interest group and which country has its chance to speak, can be decided by rolling the dice or the ministers can make their own choice.

**Special note of importance for the moderator:** Stop the time! Every 15 minutes the theme of the discussion should be changed. After 45 min. announce that now the ministers have to make a common decision. The last statement or question can be allowed.

10 min

### Formulation of common positions

- The ministers discuss amongst themselves max. 5 min. per conflict question and try to agree on a common approach for each question.
- The decisions are to be formulated and written down in a few short sentences.
- At the same time the country delegations try to find a minimum consensus to each of the questions.
- Also these national demands of the interest groups should be written down.

15 min



## Conclusion or closing phase

#### Moderator:

- Requests that the ministers present their trilateral agreement and explain shortly (!) what that means;
- Thanks the ministers for the common declaration;
- Asks each of the country delegations, which interest group representatives would reelect their minister based on the results of the common ministerial declaration;
- Gives opportunity for questions and discussion from the general public and from the participants;
- Thanks to all participants, closing applause.

### Optional: activities following the conference

- Have a group discussion considering the question of whether or not the conference procedure and its results are comparable to the “real” political situation.
- Search for a role independent majority or consensus opinion for the three coastal protection questions.
- Analyze whether the final minister positions from the role play actually corre-

spond to positions of ministers of the environment and discuss how the conference would have proceeded if for example the secretaries of commerce had led the conference.

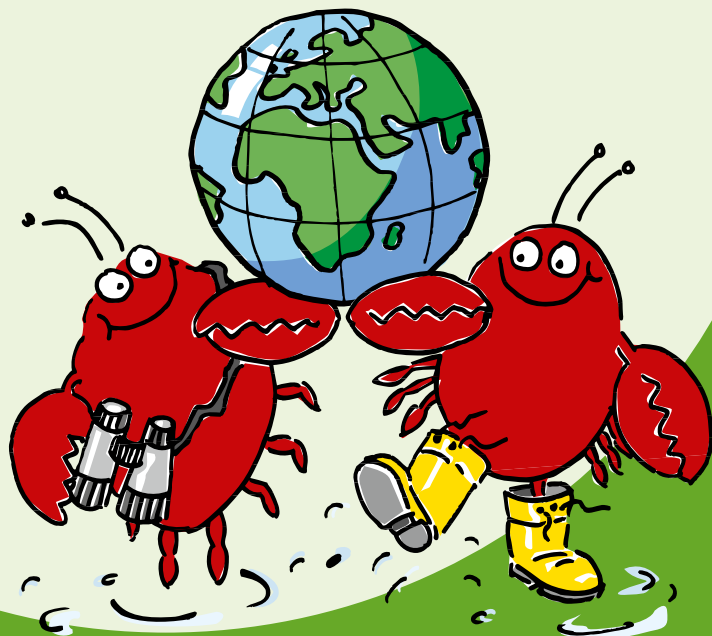
- Formulate letters to the country politicians and coastal protection authorities with suggestions for possible actions, gladly with a copy to the IWSS.



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## The IWSS – Environmental education for ONE Wadden Sea

The “International Wadden Sea School” (IWSS) is an education project of the Wadden Sea countries Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands.

Task and aim of the IWSS are to promote among children and youths the recognition of the Wadden Sea as a shared natural and cultural heritage and to stimulate understanding for its long-term and transnational protection.

Within the framework of the “Trilateral Cooperation on the Protection of the Wadden Sea” the Wadden Sea countries have been working together since 1978 to harmonize their nature protection measures for the Wadden Sea and continue to work together for a common natural heritage.

([www.waddensea-secretariat.org](http://www.waddensea-secretariat.org))

Founded on the 25th anniversary of this cooperation the IWSS complements the activities with transnational environmental education work.