Netherlands Forum for UNESCO Global Geoparks

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Chair (Name and email):
Harry van Zon. N.B.: he is an independent chair, not connected to a Geopark (or other institution) and thus not attending EGN-meetings.
The Geopark-representative of the forum is Margaretha (Gretha) Roelfs, g.roelfs@drenthe.nl

Members (please list all UGG’s followed by external partners involved in your Forum/Committee):

Hondsrug UGG
Gretha Roelfs; Forum-representative in EGN/GGN

Netherlands National UNESCO Committee
Marike Bontenbal, secretary

TNO/Geological Survey Netherlands
Michiel van der Meulen

NBTC Holland Marketing
Angélique Vermeulen

Netherlands Cultural Heritage Agency
Henk Weerts

Independent expert
Hugo Bouter (expertise: physical geography)

Independent expert
Hans Renes (expertise: social geography, landscape history)

Independent expert
Harry van Zon, independent chair (expertise: public administration and physical geography)

Observers
Flemish UNESCO Committee
Robert Missotten

Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate
Roel van Raaij

Active Applications in your country (name, year of application submission):
None

Interested territories that you are advising:

- Schelde Delta
- Peelhorst (before called ‘Peelrandbreuk’
- Heuvelrug
- Gooi en Vecht
- Rhine-Meuse Delta (before called ‘Holland Delta’)
- Twente

Most of them are in an early stage, not ready to apply yet.
Committee/ Forum Activities (bullet points your activities for the last 6 months):

- 12 till 16-03-2018: Attendance of forum-members at the HollandDelta WWIC18 Conference, organized by the Holland-Delta initiative (now Rijn Maas (Rhine-Meuse) Delta)
- Different contacts (email, telephone) with initiatives and actors
- 15-05-2018: Fieldmission to initiative Schelde Delta: fieldtrip, information on approach, exchange of visions, advise from the forum
- 22-05-2018: Consultations of geoparkinitiatives:
  - Rijn Maas Delta
  - Peelhorst
- 22-05-2018: Forum-meeting
  On the agenda:
  - Progression of geoparkinitiatives
  - Reflection on the consultations
  - Reflection on the fieldmission
  - Progress Hondsrug UGG
  - Organisational affairs, progress report
- Ongoing: observing developments in National Parks-policy