

Spitsbergen – Svalbard

Council of Directors of European Industrial Federations

CDEIF – annual meeting 1-4 July 2009

Welcome to Svalbard!

Svalbard is one of the world's largest areas of untouched scenery and in our opinion the most exotic place to meet in Europe. The Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise, NHO, is therefore proud to invite you to this unique archipelago which will give you experiences and memories for a lifetime.

When we have our annual meeting in July the arctic summer awaits you with beautiful colours, majestic mountain formations and endless arctic tundra with its diverse flora and fauna. Given fair weather, the sun is visible day and night at the time of our visit to the archipelago.



The island is located at 74 – 81 degrees North and 10 – 35 degrees East. We are close to the North Pole and the harsh and unstable weather can be a challenge while being a unique part of your arctic experience. Note that the average temperature in July is + 5 degrees Celsius.

You should therefore bring warm and windproof clothes that are meant for outdoor use. This includes:

- ✓ warm and windproof jacket and trousers
- ✓ woollen or warm sweater
- ✓ hiking boots
- ✓ warm headgear or hat and sunglasses
- ✓ gloves, mittens and a warm scarf.



We will experience Svalbard from a vessel going from Longyearbyen to Barentsburg. The temperature in the arctic waters is low, so warm clothing is essential.

Scenery and environmental protection



The Arctic environment is extremely fragile and demands particular consideration from travellers. A number of laws and regulations are designed to protect the scenery and cultural artefacts on Svalbard.

Because it is off the beaten track, and virtually untouched by man, most of this territory is still pristine,

without roads or other signs of human intervention.

Longyearbyen – the Norwegian centre in Spitsbergen

Longyearbyen is the seat of Norway's main administrative centre on Svalbard.

There are around 2000 inhabitants in Longyearbyen (of a total of approx 2500).

Longyearbyen is now a modern community of families with schools, kindergartens, a university campus, a local paper, shops, restaurants, a hospital, a church and cultural activities of various kinds. The settlement was founded by the American John Munroe Longyear in 1906. In the past, Longyearbyen was purely a mining community. Since the early nineties, though, it has gradually changed. Nowadays, tourism, research and education form part of its backbone together with mining. Svalbard's airport has flights to the mainland all year round.



Some 60 km to the south-east of Longyearbyen, at the north bank of the Van Mijenfjord, lays the mining community Sveagruva. Svea Nord, which is the most important mine of all the mines belonging to Store Norske Spitsbergen Grubekompani (Great Norwegian Spitsbergen coal company), is situated 5 km from the settlement facing the Høganes glacier.



In 2008, almost 3500 tonnes of coal was excavated from Svea Nord.

Barentsburg the most important Russian settlement at Svalbard

Barentsburg is the second largest settlement at Svalbard. The Russian state-owned mining company Trust Arktikugol owns and runs the mine and the community. Trust Arktikugol initially purchased the mining facilities from the Dutch company Nederlandsche Spitzbergen Companie in 1932. The mine as such is right in the middle of Barentsburg, about 500 metres below ground. Its coal production equals about 160.000 tonnes annually. There was a time when all of 1500 people lived here, but the population has been declining since 1990 and currently a little under 500 people live here. Half the population comes from the Ukraine, the rest are mainly from Russia.

Barentsburg has its own coal-fired power station, a hospital, a hotel, a school,



kindergarten and a culture and sports centre. The community receives supplies about twice a year by boat from Murmansk. They also have a pig shed and greenhouses. Moreover, Barentsburg houses the Russian consulate at Svalbard and a research centre run by the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Nice to know

- ✓ Bring extra shoes for indoor use.
 - *Why?* An old tradition in Longyearbyen is to take your out-door shoes off whenever you enter a building. This is due to all the coal dust from the mines.
- ✓ Do not walk outside Longyearbyen.
 - *Why?* Polar bears still exist and represent a danger. It is therefore not recommended to leave the city without a guide carrying a weapon and other necessary equipment.
- ✓ You can shop for outdoor equipment and sports gear.
 - *Why?* Svalbard is a tax-free area which means that many commodities are cheaper here than on the mainland. Despite its small size Longyearbyen offers a variety of shops.
- ✓ Do not bring full gala attire.
 - *Why?* The harsh outdoor climate and the informal, cozy indoor atmosphere found at Svalbard do not encourage a black-tie event, and it will not be required for the gala dinner.

July 1st**ARRIVAL – charter flight 17:15, transfer to hotel****Programme:**

Reception and Welcome Dinner**The Radisson SAS – Polar hotel****July 1st***Svalbard – a unique archipelago***Brasseri Nansen**

20:00

Svalbard is part of the Kingdom of Norway, but not all Norwegian legislation applies to the archipelago. Svalbard is as such a police district and the Governor's main tasks is to firmly and consistently uphold Norwegian sovereignty, apply the Svalbard Treaty correctly and ensure that it is adhered to, maintain public order and stability in the area, protect the area's unique wildlife and to sustain Norwegian communities in the archipelago.

**Deputy Governor of Svalbard****Lars Fause**

July 2nd**Conference Programme**

Conference hall

The Radisson SAS – Polar hotel

09:00

*Welcome to Svalbard – from a business perspective***Director General Finn Bergesen jr**

09:15 *High Stakes in the High North – energy and climate change.*

The High North will be Norway's most important strategic priority area in the years ahead. The Government will intensify efforts to exercise Norwegian sovereignty and ensure sustainable management. Climate change happens faster in the Arctic than elsewhere on earth. What are relevant adaptation measures for the region?



**Special Advisor for Energy and Climate Issues ,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

former: Minister of Trade and Shipping 1991-1994

Minister of Foreign Affairs 1994-1997, Minister of Defence

2000-2001, Norway's ambassador to Germany 2003-2007

Mr Bjørn Tore Godal

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 *How will business be affected by the objectives for a new global Climate Agreement?*

Forward-looking decisions represent the various tracks that are essential to reaching a secure climate future. Reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases, development of climate-friendly technology, and financing of measures towards the developing countries are essential measures from the Bali Road map. How should the business community respond?



**Director General of the Confederation of
Danish Industry, member of Climate
Consortium Denmark
Hans Skov Christensen**

Discussions

11:45 *Arctic science for global challenges.*

Our climate is already changing, particularly in the Arctic where permafrost is melting, glaciers are receding, and sea ice is disappearing. Changes in the Arctic will not only affect local people and ecosystems but also the rest of the world, because the Arctic plays a special role in global climate.



Head of secretariat for International Polar Year

Olav Orheim

12:30 *Business strategies for the Swedish Presidency*

Sweden starts its Presidency and policies are being prioritised. Energy- and climate change negotiations. How should business respond?



Lawyer, the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise

Torbjörn Spector

13:00 Lunch Brasserie Nansen

14:30 *Economic recession – what should be done to turn recession into economic growth?*

What is the strategic response to governments, the financial sector and business in relation to the crisis?



Chief Economist Dnb NOR

Øystein Dørum

15:30 *Economic recession – how is business responding.*

**CEO, Federation of German Industries e.V.
(BDI)**



Dr. Werner Schnappauf

Discussions

16:30 *Conference conclusions*

Finn Bergesen jr.

Partners Programme July 2nd

09:00 **Endalen – a walk among arctic flora and fauna**

We meet in front of the Radisson SAS Polar Hotel Spitsbergen's main entrance. We drive to Endalen, and the guide takes us on a hike in the valley. We have time to study the flora and fauna, which varies during the course of the summer. In Svalbard terms, the area is rich in plant life, and at times also teems with bird life. The walk is suitable for all age groups, except those who have difficulties with walking in off-road terrain.

Please also note that you have to wear warm clothes for this event. Duration approx 3 hours.

13:00 Lunch Brasserie Nansen

14:30 **A Cultural and historical meeting with Longyearbyen**

We meet in front of the Radisson SAS Polar Hotel Spitsbergen's main entrance. The tour includes a visit to the Svalbard Museum and the Gallery Svalbard.

Svalbard Museum presents fragments of Svalbard's 400 year history and describes factors that help support life and the activities taking place here,



which together reveal the close relationship between sea and land, nature and culture and history.

Duration approx 3 hours

20:00	Gala banquet	Huset
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July 3rd

09:00 Visit Barentsburg with MS Langøysund

Duration 6-7 hours

We meet in front of the Radisson SAS Polar Hotel Spitsbergen hotel's main entrance.

The boat will be travelling from the Advent Fjord into the Ice Fjord passing by the Bird Cliffs teeming with birdlife and past the abandoned Russian mining settlement of Grumant, Coles Bay, Cape Laila and Cape Heer before turning into Green Fjord to Barentsburg. A warm lunch will be served en route to the Green Fjord and Barentsburg. Guided tours with English speaking guides as well as some time which you can spend as you like in Barentsburg. Return by Bird Cliffs and the abandoned Russian settlements in Coles Bay and Grumant. If you are lucky, you may be able to observe seals or whales.

Please note that you have to wear warm clothes for this tour.

20:00	Dinner	Funken
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July 4th DEPARTURE – charter flight 09:15