

Work programme for the Baltic Sea Advisory Council¹

1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018

General

The main focus of the year's work will be:

- The landing obligation in the Baltic
- Multiannual multi-species management of the Baltic fish stocks, taking into account ecosystem interactions
- Revision of the technical measures in the Baltic Sea
- Ecosystem based management
- Recreational fisheries

The Baltic Sea Advisory Council (BSAC) will continue its involvement within the Common Fisheries Policy. It will also continue to work on establishing and strengthening practices in the new regionalised management, in particular according to Article 18 of the Basic Regulation: Regional cooperation on conservation measures.²

The BSAC will continue to focus on these issues within its planned meetings and working groups.

It will also continue to maintain close collaboration and work with relevant organisations, institutions and fora (European Commission, European Parliament, BALTFISH, ICES, European Fisheries Control Agency, STECF, HELCOM and the national scientific institutes), as well as relevant projects and related activities, to the extent that human resources, time and budget allow.

The BSAC will aim at creating closer links with the PECH Committee of the European Parliament so as to deliver its advice across a broader audience. This is essential due to the role of the EP in the co-decision process.

- **Selectivity in the demersal fishery and the landing obligation**

Selectivity in the cod fishery and the successful operation of the landing obligation continue to be the key issues for the BSAC. It will continue to work closely with the regional cooperation established by BALTFISH and with the European Fisheries Control Agency.

It will also continue to seek close cooperation with science in collaborative projects, such as on the minimisation of discards and on technical improvements to selectivity.

¹ Adopted by ExCom and General Assembly on 11th May 2017

² http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/BSAC-Resources/Documents-section/European-Parliament-and-Council/BR1380_2013UK.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB

- **BSAC Advice on TACs and quotas for 2018**

- **Multi annual management plan**

The Commission's proposal for a multi-annual management plan for cod, herring and sprat was adopted on 6th July 2016.³ The BSAC will follow developments and contribute where necessary.

- **Technical measures for the Baltic Sea fisheries**

The Commission's proposal for a technical measures framework⁴ has not yet been finalised. The BSAC looks forward to contributing with advice and recommendations under the provisions of the Regulation.

- **Salmon management plan**

Contrary to expectations during the Work Programme year 2016-2017, the EU Presidency has not dealt with the Commission's proposal for a salmon management plan which was presented in 2011 (COM (2011) 470).⁵ The BSAC is ready to get involved in this, potentially as part of the work in the new group on ecosystem based management.

- **Recreational fisheries**

The BSAC will consult internally and investigate the creation of a working group to deal with recreational fisheries.

- **Ecosystem based fisheries management**

The BSAC will deal with this under a specific sub working group. The following issues are anticipated: Management of fisheries in marine protected areas, Further work with ecosystem based fisheries management, Implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive in the Baltic, Integrated sea use management/maritime spatial planning, Marine litter. It will report to the BSAC Demersal/Pelagic Working Group.

- **Control measures and the landing obligation and what the BSAC can do to provide advice on implementation**

³ http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/BSAC-Resources/Documents-section/European-Parliament-and-Council/MAMPBaltic2016_1139http___eur-lex-europa.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB

⁴ [http://eur-](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/search.html?DTN=0134&DTA=2016&qid=1464336561710&DB_TYPE_OF_ACT=comJoin&CASE_LAW_SUMMARY=false&DTS_DOM=ALL&excConsLeg=true&typeOfActStatus=COM_JOIN&type=advanced&SUBDOM_INIT=ALL_ALL&DTS_SUBDOM=ALL_ALL)

[lex.europa.eu/search.html?DTN=0134&DTA=2016&qid=1464336561710&DB_TYPE_OF_ACT=comJoin&CASE_LAW_SUMMARY=false&DTS_DOM=ALL&excConsLeg=true&typeOfActStatus=COM_JOIN&type=advanced&SUBDOM_INIT=ALL_ALL&DTS_SUBDOM=ALL_ALL](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/search.html?DTN=0134&DTA=2016&qid=1464336561710&DB_TYPE_OF_ACT=comJoin&CASE_LAW_SUMMARY=false&DTS_DOM=ALL&excConsLeg=true&typeOfActStatus=COM_JOIN&type=advanced&SUBDOM_INIT=ALL_ALL&DTS_SUBDOM=ALL_ALL)

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[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/docs_autres_institutions/commission_europeenne/com/2011/0470/COM_COM\(2011\)0470_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/docs_autres_institutions/commission_europeenne/com/2011/0470/COM_COM(2011)0470_EN.pdf)

- **Other topics and subjects of relevance to the BSAC**

These can be dealt with within existing working groups or can be the subject of a specific working group/seminar:

- Control and inspection issues relating to the Control Regulation 1224/2009⁶
- Data collection: actions and initiatives which can contribute to the collection of data in general as well as of discard data for the purpose of the development of conservation measures
- Health and safety in the fisheries sector

Meetings/activities provisionally planned and to be budgeted for:

1 General Assembly

4 Executive Committee meetings, one of which is held on the same day as the General Assembly.

4 Working Groups and 2 Sub Groups [total: 6 working groups]

3 Management meetings during the year where necessary (prior to ExCom if possible)

⁶ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:343:0001:0050:EN:PDF>

**Provisional meeting/activity agenda:
(BSAC welcomes help with the provision of meeting rooms)**

Meeting	What for	Date	Place
Sub Group on EBFM (and Salmon)	EBFM	April 2017	Tbc
Executive Committee	Preparatory meeting for General Assembly	10 th or 11 th May 2017	Stockholm
General Assembly	Annual Meeting	10 th or 11 th May 2017	Stockholm
Joint Demersal and Pelagic Working Group	To deal with the annual Baltic stock advice	7th-8th June 2017	Klaipeda
Executive Committee	To adopt the advice and deal with other matters	End June/early July 2017	Copenhagen?
Working Group/Seminar /Workshop	Recreational fisheries/ or Anything necessary/relevant	August or September 2017	Copenhagen?
Executive Committee	Business + selected topic	November 2017	Copenhagen?
Joint Demersal and Pelagic Working Group	Recreational fisheries	November/ December	Depending on the topic
Sub Group on EBFM (and salmon)	EBFM	November/ December	Venue depending on the topic
Executive Committee	Business + selected topic	January 2018	Copenhagen
Working Group/Seminar/Workshop	Anything necessary/relevant	February or March 2018	Venue depending on the topic