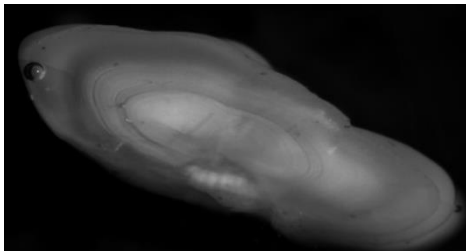




# Eleventh Annual Report

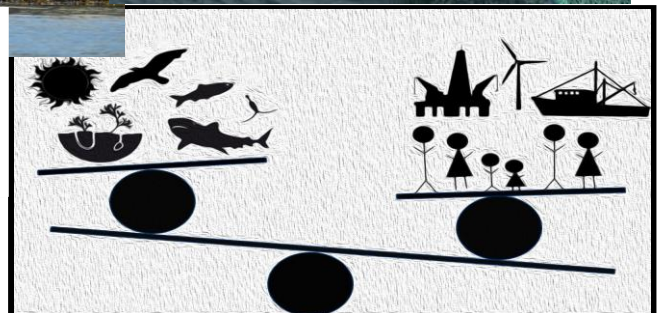
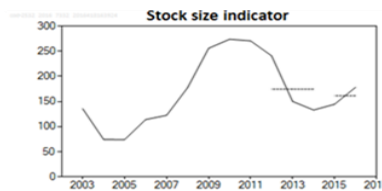
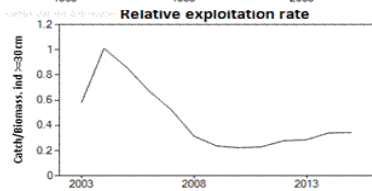
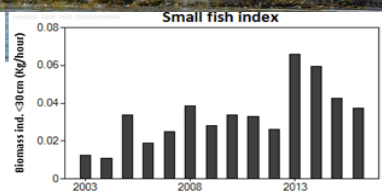
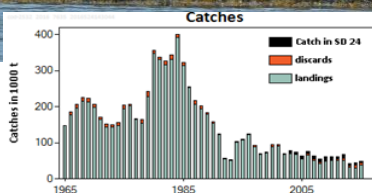


**Baltic Sea Advisory Council**  
**May 2017**



Tagging Baltic Cod

With some slides from presentations made by experts at BSAC meetings and a photo from Staffan Larsson of a modified selection panel



## **Eleventh Annual Report of the Baltic Sea Advisory Council May 2017**

### **Introduction**

The annual report covers the activities of the Baltic Sea Advisory Council's (BSAC) eleventh year from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016- 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

Representatives of the BSAC in 2016-2017 have included fisheries associations, producer organisations, processors, market and trade organisations, trade unions, environmental NGOs, a consumer organisation and recreational and sports fishermen.<sup>1</sup>

The structure of the BSAC consists of a General Assembly, an Executive Committee, three Working Groups (for demersal fisheries, pelagic fisheries, and salmon and sea trout) and a Sub-group for ecosystem based management. The demersal and pelagic working groups have been holding joint working groups since 2010, because they share issues of common interest. The salmon and sea trout working group has been inactive since 2012. The Sub-group on ecosystem based management held its very first meeting in March 2017.

### **Main results achieved by the BSAC during the year 2016 – 2017**

#### **Priority: Selectivity in the demersal fishery and discards**

**Results:** Staffan Larsson Swedish Cod Fishermen's Producer Organisation gave a presentation on selectivity in Baltic trials at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Maritime Congress, Szczecin 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016. At the BSAC Executive Committee meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017, Staffan Larsson presented a proposal to establish a network for gear development for the Baltic cod fishery within the framework of the BSAC. External funding will be sought for the first meeting of the network and it is hoped this will happen during 2017.

It has also been the subject of discussions at the BSAC-BALTFISH-EFCA joint workshop on the landing obligation, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Technical measures and possible ways of reducing unwanted catches, including an overview of the gear trials in the Baltic Sea, were thoroughly discussed by both representatives of the industry and NGOs.

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<sup>1</sup> The list members of the BSAC for 2016 - 2017 is at the end of the Annual Report

### **Priority: Multi species management plan**

**Results:** No specific issues or results relating to this, after the BSAC produced its comments to the Baltic Multi Annual Plan on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015. However, reference was made with respect to the multi annual management plan in the BSAC recommendations for the fishery in the Baltic Sea in 2017 finalised and sent to the Commission and Member States on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017 (a corrected version forwarded on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016).<sup>2</sup>

### **Priority Technical measures for the Baltic Sea fisheries**

**Results:** The Commission's proposal for an EU regulation on technical conservation measures was dealt with by the BSAC at working groups on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016 and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016. BSAC representatives attended a meeting with the European Parliament Fisheries Committee rapporteur for the technical measures dossier on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017. A set of BSAC recommendations was finalised and approved at the Executive Committee meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017.<sup>3</sup>

### **Priority Salmon management plan**

**Results:** The Commission put forward a proposal for a multiannual management plan for Baltic salmon.<sup>4</sup> In its recommendations on technical measures, the BSAC did not make recommendations concerning salmon; the BSAC reserved its position due to the lack of a salmon multiannual plan in the Baltic. The BSAC recommended to the Commission that the work with a salmon multiannual plan should be prioritised and that the BSAC will abstain from taking any positions on technical measures regarding salmon until such a plan is presented.

### **Priority Conference: the environmental situation in the Baltic and its impact on fisheries**

**Results:** It had not been possible to obtain co-funding for such a conference, so it did not take place. Available resources were channelled into a workshop to deal with the Landing Obligation and which took place on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

### **The meetings held by the BSAC 2016 -2017:**

#### **BSAC Executive Committee and General Assembly 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

Both meetings took place at the Madison Hotel, Hamburg. There were 37 participants at the Executive Committee meeting and 39 participants at the General Assembly meeting.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-recommendations-for-the-fishery-in-the-Baltic>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-recommendations-on-technical-measures>

<sup>4</sup> COM (2011) 470 Final [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/procedure/EN/2011\\_206](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/procedure/EN/2011_206)

At the Executive Committee meeting the Secretariat presented the draft financial statement for the year 2015-2016, the draft tenth annual report, as well as the draft work programme and draft budget for the year 2016-2017 for approval by the ExCom. These were all approved for recommendation to the General Assembly. Referring to the work programme, the ExCom discussed possible topics that could be dealt with in the framework of a specific Focus Group: fisheries management in Natura 2000 areas and recreational fisheries. Input for the terms of reference of this Group was invited from the ExCom members.

The BSAC chair gave an update on the efforts to seek support for a conference on the environment which the BSAC hoped to be able to hold during the year. The BSAC had foreseen some funding from its the budget for such an event, but there was still no decision on co-funding by the Swedish government.

The ExCom elected by consensus Edward Stern from the Fisheries Secretariat as Vice-Chair of the BSAC. The ExCom also took note of a draft text on working procedures for its working groups, presented by the Secretariat and invited the members to comment on it by correspondence. The ExCom took note of the information on meetings that had been attended by the BSAC members.

**The BSAC honorary chair Steve Karnicki** opened the General Assembly meeting. On the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BSAC, he highlighted the past achievements and future challenges of the BSAC.

**Dr. German Jeub, Director General for Fisheries**, German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture gave a review of fisheries at the time when the BS(R)AC was established. Referring to BALTFISH, he said that the German Presidency of BALTFISH [which began on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016] will make all efforts to implement a comprehensive set of technical measures through delegated acts and will also place recreational fisheries on its agenda. He concluded that open dialogue between BALTFISH and the BSAC will be ensured.

**Dr. Michael Naumann, Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research, Warnemünde** gave a presentation on the intense inflow activity into the Baltic since 2014 and its impact on the Baltic ecosystem.

**Evangelia Georgitsi, DG MARE, European Commission** presented the Commission's proposal for a Technical Measures framework regulation for the EU.

The ExCom chair presented the draft annual report for the year 2015-2016. The General Assembly approved the draft annual report and the draft annual accounts for 2015-2016 and took note of reports from the working groups for the year 2015-2016. It also took note of, and approved, the proposed work programme and draft estimated budget for 2016-2017. The General Assembly approved the continuation of the current certified auditor for the 2016-2017 accounts.

### **BSAC Joint Working Group meeting 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

The meeting took place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Copenhagen. There were 31 participants.

**Carmen Fernandez, ICES/ACOM vice-chair** presented to the working group the scientific advice for the Baltic fishery for 2017. The WG held discussions on the advice for the different Baltic stocks and had an exchange of views and positions. Notes were taken of the differing views and provisional reactions and positions on the different stocks and a report was produced from the meeting. The WG took note of the status of the BSAC work on the technical measures proposal presented by the Commission. It was agreed to hold a meeting of the WG to continue the work on technical measures on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016 in Copenhagen.

The WG chair concluded the meeting with the task of producing a draft recommendation on 2017 TACs for further discussion and adoption by the forthcoming ExCom.

### **BSAC Executive Committee 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

The meeting took place at the National Fisheries Research Institute, Gdynia. There were 24 participants.

The ExCom discussed a text with draft BSAC recommendations for the fishery in the Baltic for 2017. A revised text was subsequently sent to the ExCom for final written approval, before being sent to the Commission and Member States as BSAC recommendations. The Secretary gave an update on the BSAC expenditure so far and informed that the final version of the BSAC Annual activity report for 2015-2016 had been approved by the Commission.

The ExCom unanimously agreed to establish a Working Group on working procedures under the chairmanship of the honorary chair Steve Karnicki. It was decided that this group would also discuss how to strengthen the role of the BSAC in regionalisation. The ExCom took note of the reports from external meetings.

### **BSAC Technical working group 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

The meeting took place at Kalvebod Brygge, Copenhagen, the meeting room kindly provided by Espersen A/S. There were 26 participants.

The WG began a detailed analysis of the Commission's proposal for technical measures, article by article, with a view to developing BSAC recommendations. It also focused its discussions with a view to preparing a position for the forthcoming BALTFISH Forum meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2016 in Frankfurt. This included discussion of a BALTFISH paper on measures to improve the situation of the Baltic cod stocks.

The WG had to postpone to a forthcoming working group an agenda point to deal with ecosystem and environmental issues.

### **Pre-meeting for BSAC members to the BALTFISH Forum meeting 30<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

The meeting took place at the Lindner Hotel, Frankfurt There were 13 participants.

The participants discussed the ICES advice for the Baltic Sea for 2017 and the corresponding fishing opportunities. They agreed for the BSAC chair to present the viewpoints of the BSAC to the BALTFISH Forum meeting.

The participants also dealt with the subject of closure periods for cod and what information the BSAC could provide to BALTFISH on the work done so far within the BSAC to address and formulate advice on the Commission's proposal for technical measures.

### **BSAC Drafting group on working procedures for working groups 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

The drafting group took place at the National Fisheries Research Institute, Gdynia. There were 7 participants.

The drafting group met to prepare a draft set working group procedures for the BSAC. A draft was discussed and agreed on by the drafting group. This was subsequently presented to the BSAC ExCom for approval. The group did not produce recommendations on the strengthened role of the BSAC in regionalisation.

### **BSAC Executive Committee 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

The meeting took place at the Park Inn Hotel, Copenhagen. There were 40 participants.

The ExCom adopted the draft set of working procedures for the BSAC working groups. The Fischereischutzverband (the Association of Fisheries Protection) Schleswig-Holstein was accepted as member of the General Assembly (an organisation with 100 single members: small scale fishermen and 150 members, covered in 9 member organisations).

**Dr. Dirk von Ameln, Senior Advisor to the CEO, Nord Stream** presented the concept and planned development of the Nord Stream II pipeline in the Baltic. BSAC members raised concerns, such as the fact that two pipelines together will probably have a negative affect and a considerably bigger impact, by making access to the fishing grounds more difficult.

**Dr. Harry Strehlow, Thünen Institute of Baltic Sea Fisheries, Rostock** gave a presentation on recreational catches in the Baltic. He highlighted the scale of recreational fisheries, including its high value, the large number of anglers, its impact on achieving management objectives as well as the problem of allocation of resources between sectors.

The ExCom decided by consensus to ask Nils Höglund, Coalition Clean Baltic to draft the Terms of Reference of a Sub-group on ecosystem/environmental issues, with the assistance of the BSAC Secretariat.

It was agreed that the Terms of Reference could be further discussed during the next meeting of the Joint Working Group, dealing with technical measures.

### **BSAC Technical Working group (on technical measures) 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

The meeting took place at the Park Inn hotel, Copenhagen. There were 24 participants.

The Working Group dealt with two issues: the terms of reference of an ecosystem-based Sub-group and the Commission's proposal for technical measures. The Working Group decided to establish an Ecosystem-based Management Sub-group and adopted its Terms of Reference. It was agreed that the Sub-group will refer to the BSAC Demersal Working Group. The Terms of Reference were sent to the ExCom for approval at its meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017. There was agreement to hold a first meeting of this group in March 2017. The Technical Working Group discussed the Commission's proposal for a Regulation on technical measures. The Working Group focused its work on Annex VIII to the Commission's proposal. It also discussed Articles 20-25 of the proposal (the Working Group of 16th August 2016 had discussed and proposed amendments to Articles 1 – 21 of the proposal). The Working Group expressed the hope to see a more open-ended technical measures regulation after its revision. The outcome of the group consisted of the BSAC proposals for technical measures, not all of them necessarily a direct response to the Commission's proposal.

### **BSAC Executive Committee meeting 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017**

The meeting took place at the Sea Fisheries Division, Fisheries Department, Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation, Warsaw. There were 37 participants.

The draft budget and work programme for the year 2017-2018 were submitted to the ExCom and approved. The ExCom decided that the BSAC would consult internally and investigate the creation of a working group to deal with recreational fisheries.

With reference to ecosystem management, the ExCom decided that the BSAC would deal with this under a specific sub-working group. The following issues were 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.

**Pascal Savouret, Executive Director of the European Fisheries Control Agency** referred to the BALTFISH/ BSAC/ EFCA Joint Workshop on monitoring, control and enforcement of the Landing Obligation, scheduled for 9th March 2017 in Hamburg. EFCA proposed an agenda focusing on the first two years of the implementation of the Landing Obligation in the Baltic Sea, the main challenges and problems encountered in its implementation as well as the landing obligation beyond 2017. The joint workshop was considered an important part of the dialogue between BALTFISH, the EFCA and the BSAC. The ExCom adopted the BSAC recommendations on technical measures, including the agreed amendments.

**Karin Hüsey, senior researcher from DTU Aqua** gave a presentation on the project TABACOD (Tagging of Baltic Sea Cod), aimed at solving the aging and stock assessment problems of eastern Baltic cod by means of tagging methods.

**Dr. Eng. Krzysztof Radtke, National Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Gdynia** presented a summary of the autumn research BITS survey conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Research Institute.

**Marta Kalinowska, WWF Poland** presented the Marelitt project, the main objective of which is to combat the Derelict Fishing Gear (DFG) problem in the Baltic Sea.

### **BSAC-BALTFISH EFCA Joint Workshop on the Landing Obligation 9th March 2017, Hamburg**

The workshop took place at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Hamburg Airport. There were 46 participants.

Fisheries control authority delegates from the Baltic Sea Member States (Baltfish Forum, chaired by Germany), members of the Baltic Sea Advisory Council (BSAC), representatives from the European Commission (DG Mare), a member of the European Parliament and representatives from the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) met in Hamburg at a Joint Workshop to examine the state of play for the implementation of the landing obligation with respect to the major commercial species of the Baltic Sea: cod, salmon, herring, sprat and plaice.

The workshop took stock of the first two years of the landing obligation in the Baltic Sea, as well as the reporting obligations and recording of catches, compliance issues, discard data and scientific advice, current situation and future needs.

It also dealt with the main issues encountered as the newly introduction of plaice, the handling and storage of catches onboard and the landing of catches, focusing on difficulties.

The technical measures and possible ways of reducing unwanted catches, including an overview of the gear trials in the Baltic Sea, were thoroughly discussed by both representatives of the industry and NGOs.

It was noted that a certain discarding level was still prevailing in the Baltic Sea and it was concluded that any improvements would depend on an increased engagement of the industry as well as the possibility to develop innovative gear.

### **Sub-group on ecosystem based management 28th March 2017**

The meeting took place at the Park Inn Hotel, Copenhagen. There were 30 participants.

The sub-group confirmed the terms of reference for its work and took note of issues already discussed by the BSAC at earlier meetings with respect to ecosystem based management. It took note that the seminar on ecosystem based management, organised by the BSAC in 2012, discussed the implications of ecosystem based management for Baltic Sea fisheries.

**Mark Dickey-Collas, Ecosystem Approach Coordinator, ICES** presented the “Ecosystem approach to fisheries management” and explained the underlying principles, the necessary ingredients for success, as well as the role played by ICES in providing support and advice to ecosystem based management.



The sub-group discussed a proposal for Marine Protected Areas as a measure to protect habitats and species and proposed a series of points as a BSAC general statement on protected areas.

**Henrik Beha Pedersen, founder and CEO at Plastic Change** gave a presentation on marine litter/plastic, microplastics in fish and a Plastic Free Baltic Ocean project and invited the BSAC to join them in their efforts to combat plastic pollution. The Sub-group decided to keep the issue of marine litter open and maintain a dialogue.

**Karl Lundström from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences** gave a presentation on the impact of cormorants and seals on coastal fish stocks. The Sub-group decided that the matter of interaction between seals and fisheries should be addressed by a series of initiatives.

The Sub-group approved a summary of its meeting, as well as a list of topics to focus on in the near future.

#### **External meetings during the year where BSAC members took part:**

BALTFISH Forum meetings 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016, Warsaw and 30<sup>th</sup> August 2016, Frankfurt

Baltic Checkpoint project meeting 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Copenhagen and EMODnet Checkpoint stakeholder conference and sea basin workshops 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Brussels

CFP Reform Dialogue Forum with the Danish AgriBusiness Agency 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Copenhagen

Commission meeting with the Advisory Councils Inter-AC 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Brussels

Commission Seminar on the State of the Stocks 15<sup>th</sup> July 2016, Brussels

Danish Fishermen Producer Organisation General Assembly 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016, Middelfart

European Fisheries Control Agency Advisory Board meetings 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 Vigo and 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, Brussels

EU Agencies Forum: EU Agencies working for you 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Brussels

Eurofish Governing Council 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Copenhagen

European Parliament Fisheries Committee meeting on technical measures with stakeholders of the Advisory Councils 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Brussels

Fisheries Secretariat Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management seminar 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Stockholm

HELCOM Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries FISH 5 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 Gothenburg and FISH 6 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November Copenhagen and HELCOM cross-sectoral seminar on a cleaner sea 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Stockholm

ICES Advice Drafting Working Group for Baltic stocks 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May 2016, Copenhagen

ICES data collection and benchmark meetings for cod Kattegat 3a+SD 21, salmon SDs 22-24 and herring SDs 30+31, November and December 2016, January and February 2017, Copenhagen

ICES meeting with the Advisory Councils and the MIACO meeting 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Copenhagen

ICES WKSTAKE Workshop on scoping stakeholders on production of operational guidance on assessment of benthic pressure and impact from bottom fishing 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, Copenhagen

INSPIRE project meeting and Annual Science Council 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016, Riga

International Maritime Congress 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Szczecin

International Symposium: "Baltic - a small sea with big management problems", National Marine Fisheries Research Institute 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016, Gdynia

International Workshop on the Major Baltic Inflows 2014-2015: Development and Consequences, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016, Sopot

MareFrame project meetings and workshop 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 Gothenburg, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 Copenhagen and 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016, Copenhagen

Marelitt project meetings, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> September 2016 Warsaw and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016, Malmö

Marine Stewardship Council Annual meeting 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Copenhagen

Natura 2000 Dialogue Forum with the Danish Agri business Agency 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Copenhagen and 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, Copenhagen

STECF working group on the landing obligation 6<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Brussels

### **Keeping the BSAC members informed**

BSAC members have received a monthly newsletter. There has been a total of 15 during the year.

## Members of the Baltic Sea Regional Advisory Council as on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

<b>Fisheries Sector</b>				
Denmark	<b>European Transport Workers' Federation</b>	ETF	Karsten Kristensen	karsten.kristensen@3f.dk
Denmark	<b>The Fishermen's Association of Bornholm and Christiansø</b>		Thomas Thomsen	thomas.bch@mail.dk
Denmark	<b>Danish Fishermen Producer Organisation</b>	DFPO	Kim Kær Hansen	kk@dkfisk.dk
Denmark	<b>Danish Fishermen Producer Organisation</b>	DFPO	Kurt Madsen	dfpo@dfpo.dk
Denmark	<b>Marine Ingredients Denmark</b>	MID	Anne Mette Bæk Jespersen	ambj@maring.org
Denmark	<b>Denmark Pelagic Producers Organisation</b>	DPPO	Esben Sverdrup-Jensen	info@pelagisk.dk
Estonia	<b>Estonian Fishermen's Association</b>	EFA	Mart Undrest	undrest@hotmail.com
Finland	<b>Federation of Finnish Fisheries Associations</b>	FEFA	Vesa Karttunen	vesa.karttunen@ahven.net
Finland	<b>Finnish Fishermen's Association</b>	FFA	Kim Jordas	kim.jordas@sakl.fi
Germany	<b>Bundesverband der Deutschen Fishindustrie und des Fischgrosshandels E.V.</b>		Matthias Keller	info@fischverband.de
Germany	<b>German Cutter-and Coastal-Fishermen's Association</b>	VDKK	Benjamin Schmöde	schmoede@fehmarfisch.com
Germany	<b>Union of German Cutter Fishery</b>		Peter Breckling	Info@deutscher-fischerei-verband.de
Germany	<b>Association of Fisheries Protection (Fischereischutzverband)</b>		Wolfgang Albrecht	fischereischutzverband-sh@web.de
Latvia	<b>Latvian Fisheries Association</b>		Inarijs Voits	zv.flote@et.lv
Lithuania	<b>Lithuanian Fisheries Producers' Association</b>	LFPA	Alfonsas Bargaila	lfpa@takas.lt
Lithuania	<b>The Confederation of Fishermen and Fish Processors of West Lithuania</b>		Algirdas Ausra	baltijos.zvejas@gmail.com
Poland	<b>Association of Fishermen's of Sea- PO</b>		Ireneusz Wójcik	iwojcik@mir.gdynia.pl
Poland	<b>National Chamber of Fish Producers</b>		Krzysztof Stanuch	baltic@balticnet.pl
Poland	<b>Kolobrzeg Group of Producers Fish</b>		Marcin Radkowski	rynekrybny@interia.pl
Poland	<b>Polish Association of Fish Processors</b>	PAFP	Ryszard Groenwald	hel@koga-maris.pl
Poland	<b>Darlowska Group of Fish Producers and Shipowners</b>	DGPR	Katarzyna Wysocka	rybacki-ust26@o2.pl
Sweden	<b>Sweden Pelagic Federation PO (SPF)</b>	SPF	Björn Lindblad	bjorn@lindbladkonsult.se
Sweden	<b>Swedish Fishermen's Federation</b>	SFR	Staffan Larsson	staffan.larsson@stpo.se
Sweden	<b>The Swedish Cod Fishermen's Producer Organisation</b>	STPO	Staffan Larsson	staffan.larsson@stpo.se

Åland Islands	<b>Åland Islands Fishermen's Association</b>		Fredrik Lundberg	fiskare@aland.net
Sweden	<b>Fishermen's Federation for Small-Scale Fishery in Sweden</b>	SYEF	May-Britt Landin	torskflickan@yahoo.se; info@syef.se
Inter-national	<b>European Transport Workers' Federation</b>	ETF	Livia Spera	l.spera@etf-europe.org
Inter-national	<b>EU Fish Processors and Traders Association - Federation of National Organisations of Importers and Exporters of Fish</b>	AIPCE-CEP	Alex Olsen	alex.olsen@espersen.com

### Other Interest Groups

International	<b>OCEANA</b>		Andrzej Bialas	abialas@oceana.org
Finland	<b>Finnish Association for Nature Conservation</b>		Tapani Veistola	<a href="mailto:tapani.veistola@sll.fi">tapani.veistola@sll.fi</a>
Germany	<b>German Angling Association</b>	DAFV	Stefan Spahn	<a href="mailto:s.spahn@dafv.de">s.spahn@dafv.de</a>
Sweden	<b>Gotlands co-management initiative</b>		Rolf Gydemo, Länsfiskekonsulent	rolf.gydemo@lansstyrelsen.se
Sweden	<b>Swedish Society for Nature and Conservation</b>	SSNC	Ellen Bruno	<a href="mailto:Ellen.Bruno@naturskyddsforeningen.se">Ellen.Bruno@naturskyddsforeningen.se</a>
International	<b>The Fisheries Secretariat</b>	FISH	Jan Isakson	jan.isakson@fishsec.org
Sweden	<b>BalticSea 2020</b>		Mogens Schou	mogens.schou@outlook.com
Denmark	<b>Active Consumers</b>		Klaus Melvin Jensen	<a href="mailto:kmj@aktiveforbrugere.org">kmj@aktiveforbrugere.org</a>
Inter-national	<b>Coalition Clean Baltic</b>	CCB	Mikhail Durkin	<a href="mailto:mikhail@ccb.se">mikhail@ccb.se</a>
Inter-national	<b>European Anglers Alliance</b>	EAA	Glenn Douglas	<a href="mailto:glenn.douglas@sportfiskarna.se">glenn.douglas@sportfiskarna.se</a> ; <a href="mailto:email@eaa-europe.eu">email@eaa-europe.eu</a>
Inter-national	<b>CIPS International Confederation for Sport Fishing</b>	CIPS	Hubert Waldheim, President of Federation Internationale de la Pêche Sportive en Mer (FIPS-Mer).	<a href="mailto:hubert.waldheim@t-online.de">hubert.waldheim@t-online.de</a> ; <a href="mailto:office@cips-fips.com">office@cips-fips.com</a>
Inter-national	<b>World Wide Fund for Nature</b>	WWF	Matti Ovaska	<a href="mailto:matti.ovaska@wwf.fi">matti.ovaska@wwf.fi</a>
Poland	<b>Polish Ecological Club</b>	PKE	Piotr Gruszka	<a href="mailto:p.gruszka@tlen.pl">p.gruszka@tlen.pl</a>
Inter-national	<b>The Environmental Defense Fund</b>	EDF	Erik Lindebo	<a href="mailto:elindebo@gmail.com">elindebo@gmail.com</a>

### Changes to membership during the year

European Transport Workers Federation: Sammy Deburgraeve, ExCom substitute, left the ETF and was not replaced during the year.

German Angling Association: Thorsten Wichman became new substitute on the ExCom, replacing Philipp Freudenberg who left the Association.

Latvian Fisheries Association: Viesturs Ulis, became substitute for Inarijs Voits on the BSAC ExCom.

OCEANA: Henrike Semmler became substitute for Andrzej Bialas on the ExCom.

WWF: Justyna Zajchowska, WWF Poland became substitute for Matti Ovaska WWF Finland on the ExCom.

### **Applications**

Fischereischutzverband (Association of Fisheries Protection) represented by Wolfgang Albrecht joined the BSAC General Assembly during the year.

### **Chairperson of the BSAC**

Reine J. Johanssen, Sweden Pelagic Federation PO  
Box 5105, St. Dyrön 390  
47115 Dyrön,  
Tel: +46 708124591

### **Honorary chairperson of the BSAC**

Steve Karnicki  
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### **Vice Chairperson**

Edward Stern, The Fisheries Secretariat, resigned on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017.

### **Demersal Working Group chair**

Michael Andersen  
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### **Pelagic Working Group chair**

Mart Undrest  
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**Sub-group ecosystem based management chair**

(Subject to approval by ExCom on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017)

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The BSAC Secretariat gives its sincere thanks for the **provision of meeting rooms** this year to:

National Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Gdynia (BSAC Executive Committee 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017)

Espersen A/S (AIPCE-CEP) (BSAC Technical working group 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016, Copenhagen),

Government Germany (BSAC BALTFISH pre-meeting 30<sup>th</sup> August 2016, Frankfurt), and

Government Poland (BSAC Executive Committee meeting 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017, Warsaw)

**External meetings during the year where BSAC members took part (with names):<sup>5</sup>**

BALTFISH Forum meetings 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016, Warsaw [Reine J. Johansson, Michael Andersen, Mart Undrest, Nils Höglund, Sally Clink, Ewa Milewska] and 30<sup>th</sup> August 2016, Frankfurt [Reine J. Johansson, Edward Stern, Nils Höglund, Michael Andersen, Steve Karnicki, Sally Clink]

Baltic Checkpoint project meeting 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Copenhagen [Reine J. Johansson, Sally Clink] and EMODnet Checkpoint stakeholder conference and sea basin workshops 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Brussels [Reine J. Johansson, apologies from Jan Isakson]

CFP Reform Dialogue Forum with the Danish AgriBusiness Agency 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Copenhagen [Sally Clink both]

Commission meeting with the Advisory Councils Inter-AC 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Brussels [Reine J. Johansson, Andrzej Bialas, Ewa Milewska, Sally Clink]

Commission Seminar on the State of the Stocks 15<sup>th</sup> July 2016, Brussels [Michael Andersen]

Danish Fishermen Producer Organisation General Assembly 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016, Middelfart [Reine J. Johansson]

European Fisheries Control Agency Advisory Board meetings 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016, Vigo [Sally Clink] and 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, Brussels [Reine J. Johansson]

EU Agencies Forum: EU Agencies working for you 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Brussels [Reine J. Johansson]

Eurofish Governing Council 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Copenhagen [Sally Clink]

European Parliament Fisheries Committee meeting on technical measures with stakeholders of the Advisory Councils 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Brussels [Nils Höglund, Michael Andersen, apologies from Reine J. Johansson]

Fisheries Secretariat Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management seminar 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Stockholm [Pehr Eriksson, Sally Clink]

HELCOM Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries FISH 5 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 Gothenburg [Reine J. Johansson, Jan Isakson] and FISH 6 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November Copenhagen [Nils Höglund, Michael Andersen, Ewa Milewska, Sally Clink] and HELCOM cross-sectoral seminar on a cleaner sea 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Stockholm [Michael Andersen, on behalf of Reine J. Johansson]

ICES Advice Drafting Working Group for Baltic stocks 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May 2016, Copenhagen [Michael Andersen]

ICES data collection and benchmark meetings for cod Kattegat 3a+SD 21, salmon SDs 22-24 and herring SDs 30+31, November and December 2016, January and February 2017, Copenhagen [Michael Andersen, Pehr Eriksson, Nils Höglund, Glenn Douglas]

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<sup>5</sup> This list doesn't say anything about how costs for participation were covered

ICES meeting with the Advisory Councils and the MIACO meeting 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Copenhagen [Reine J. Johansson, Edward Stern, Michael Andersen, Sally Clink]

ICES WKSTAKE Workshop on scoping stakeholders on production of operational guidance on assessment of benthic pressure and impact from bottom fishing 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, Copenhagen [Sally Clink]

INSPIRE project meeting and Annual Science Council 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016, Riga [Pehr Eriksson]

International Maritime Congress 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Szczecin [Stefan Spahn, Staffan Larsson]

International Symposium: "Baltic - a small sea with big management problems", National Marine Fisheries Research Institute 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016, Gdynia [Nils Höglund, Malin Lönnroth, Edward Stern, Ewa Milewska, Sally Clink, apologies from Reine J. Johansson]

International Workshop on the Major Baltic Inflows 2014-2015: Development and Consequences, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016, Sopot [Steve Karnicki]

MareFrame project meetings and workshop 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 Gothenburg, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 Copenhagen and 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016, Copenhagen [Christian Tsangarides, Pehr Eriksson, Edward Stern, Michael Andersen, Reine J. Johansson, Sally Clink]

Marelitt project meetings, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> September 2016 Warsaw and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016, Malmö [Krsysztof Stanuch, Sally Clink]

Marine Stewardship Council Annual meeting 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Copenhagen [Sally Clink]

Natura 2000 Dialogue Forum with the Danish Agri Business Agency 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Copenhagen and 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, Copenhagen [Sally Clink]

STECF working group on the landing obligation 6<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Brussels [Peter Breckling]