



Karl Falkenberg Director-General  
Environment Directorate-General  
European Commission  
B-1049 Brussels  
Belgium

Date: 3rd July 2009

Subject: The Baltic Sea RAC resolution of 23.6.2009 on measures to solve the conflict between cormorants and fisheries

Dear Karl Falkenberg,

At its recent meeting of the Executive Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> June in Vaasa, the Baltic Sea Regional Advisory Council (BS RAC) discussed the issue of cormorants. It agreed unanimously on a BS RAC resolution on cormorants. The resolution puts forward measures to solve the conflict between cormorants and fisheries. Please find the resolution below. The BS RAC addresses this resolution to DG Environment, and urges the Commission to consider the measures proposed.

This letter is also sent to the Director General for DG Mare, and to all member states around the Baltic.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Reine J. Johansson".

Reine J. Johansson  
Chairman of the BS RAC

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ewa Milewska".

Ewa Milewska  
Vice-chair of the BS RAC

c.c. Director General D.G. Mare Mr. Fokion Fotiadis,  
Fisheries Council of the European Community, European Parliament,  
Community Fisheries Control Agency, ACFA, ICES and HELCOM.

## **The Baltic Sea RAC resolution of 23.6.2009 on measures to solve the conflict between cormorants and fisheries**

The Baltic Sea Regional Advisory Council:

Having regard to rapidly growing cormorant populations, growing financial losses due to cormorants and to the European Parliament resolution of 4.12.2008 on the adoption of a European Cormorant Management Plan (2008/2177(INI)),

Calls on the Commission to consider all legal means to reduce the negative effects of cormorant populations on fishing and aquaculture including:

- Drawing up a long-term management plan for cormorants
- In the short term, the shooting of cormorants according to Article 9 of the Birds Directive, until a long-term management plan is in place.
- If, as a result of the management plan, it is deemed to be effective, to put cormorants on the list of species whose hunting is permitted (Annex II of the Wild Birds Directive).