

BALTFISH and transparency of its activities

At the BALTFISH Forum meeting on 26th April 2017 in Berlin, **the chair of the BALTFISH Presidency** opened the discussion on the transparency of BALTFISH activities. He informed that a number of requests had come from stakeholders to increase the transparency of BALTFISH, among others to create a BALTFISH page on the European Commission's web site. The European Commission has informed that for technical reasons, it is not able to host BALTFISH on its website. He thus asked the BSAC whether it would be possible to create such a page on the BSAC web site.

The BSAC Chair responded that this issue had been discussed during the pre-meeting held by the BSAC, prior to the Forum meeting. No conclusions had been reached by the pre-meeting, but different proposals had been put forward (e.g. BALTFISH own website, the use of the BSAC website, to have a separate page on the European Council website). He added that the BSAC will discuss this further and inform the Forum of its discussions and of the need for transparency of BALTFISH activities under regionalisation. This will be discussed at a coming ExCom meeting with a view to drafting a recommendation to encourage BALTFISH to give further thought to this.

The ExCom is invited to discuss this and put forward suggestions for a recommendation to BALTFISH.

Questions to the ExCom (not exhaustive list):

- How to make the activities, documents and output from BALTFISH more transparent?
- Should a website be used for this purpose?
- Are other communication methods proposed?
- Should BALTFISH create its own website? If so, how to manage this as the BALTFISH Presidency passes to different Member States?
- Should the BSAC create a page on its website for BALTFISH?