

To ExCom 14/4/19 Annex 1a

ANNEX V

MODEL TECHNICAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Final Report - Baltic Sea AC</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">(*) please cross out words that are not applicable</p>

Agreement number:		Convention period:	
Year: 2018-2019	Country: DENMARK	Agreement duration:	12 (months)
Title: Baltic Sea Advisory Council			
Partner: Baltic Sea Advisory Council			
Partner's legal representative: Esben Sverdrup-Jensen			
Period covered by the report	From: .01/04/2018 To: 31/03/2019		
Convention amendments	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that the attached information is accurate and in accordance with the facts. In particular the financial data provided in this report corresponds to the expenditure actually incurred by the project partners for carrying out project activities. This information has been approved by the authorities representing the partners involved in the activities set out in this Report.

.....
 (Original signature of the person legally authorised to act on behalf of the contracting organisation and who signed the agreement))

Name of partner's legal representative: Esben Sverdrup-Jensen

Position within the organisation: BSAC Executive Committee chair

Place & Date: Copenhagen.

Report to be returned to the following address:	European Commission Directorate General Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Unit CFP AND STRUCTURAL SUPPORT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION Office : Rue Joseph II 99 01/07 B-1040 BRUSSELS
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Introduction

The report should briefly present the objectives, work and results achieved throughout the period concerned.

A. ORGANISATION

Name of the organisation in national language <i>(full and abbreviated if applicable)</i>	Østersøens Rådgivende Råd
Name of the organisation in EN, FR	Baltic Sea Advisory Council

Head Office

Street - Number	Axelborg, Axeltorv 3, 6 th floor
Post code - Town/city	1609, Copenhagen V
Country	Denmark

Contact Person

Name	Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sally Clink
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Authorised signatory

Name	Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sally Clink
Position	Executive Secretary	

B. OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Describe actions taken by the AC in order to fulfil its work programme. Is there any risk that the AC does not meet its targets in terms of outcomes? If yes, explain why.

Introduction

When the BSAC delivered its mid-term report on 13th August 2018, the outlook for the BSAC was uncertain in terms of who would chair the BSAC. This was fortunately resolved at the Extraordinary General Assembly in November 2018. Work nevertheless continued at a steady pace under the temporary chairmanship of the General Assembly honorary chair.

The following main focus areas are those in the work programme. The actions taken are provided under each of them:

- **The landing obligation in the Baltic and selectivity**

“The BSAC wants to make sure that it gathers and shares experience of the landing obligation in the Baltic and works to ensure its optimal application “

The EU’s regional Specific Control and Inspection Programmes (SCIPs) set objectives, priorities, procedures and benchmarks for inspection activities in priority fisheries. In connection with the revision exercise for three SCIPs expiring in 2018, the Commission consulted the ACs. The BSAC held a Focus Group on 29th May 2018, so as to prepare answers to the key questions in the consultation. The final reply was approved by the ExCom on 28th June 2018. It was a comprehensive paper which also included general statements on fisheries control as well as technical measures. Fisheries representatives expressed support for increased control by using the tools currently available. The OIG representatives expressed support for the use of remote monitoring (CCTV). This issue closely relates to the Commission’s proposal for a revised Control Regulation (published on 30th May 2018) and it was also discussed at the Working group meetings – see below under Focus: A new control regulation.

The BSAC ExCom chair took part at the Advisory Board meetings of the European Fisheries Control Agency on 9th October 2018 and 27th February 2019 and reported on current work and discussions within the BSAC relating to control and state of play with the landing obligation.

By letter of 12th March 2018, the Commission wrote to the BSAC to ask for information and experience on choke species in the Baltic fisheries. The Secretariat compiled a table based on input received from BSAC members and sent this to DG Mare.¹ Fisheries representatives from all the Baltic Member States gave input and in general informed that choke species were not a big problem in the Baltic. The BSAC has not discussed this in detail with the Commission.

An important meeting for the BSAC was the Commission Workshop on digital tools for monitoring and reporting catches for small scale fisheries (SSF) on 4th and 5th of December in Brussels. Three BSAC fisheries representatives took part and provided input from practical experience at sea.

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“The BSAC is ready to take a proactive approach with regard to selectivity and plans to work to enhance better co-operation between fishermen, scientists and net-makers and co-ordinate the work on selective cod trawls carried out in different Baltic Member States to come with potential solutions as soon as possible.”

¹ <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-replies-to-questions-from-DG-Mare-on-choke-sp>

The BSAC has maintained efforts to remain involved in the process of shaping the joint recommendation authorising the use of alternative T90 trawls in Baltic Sea fisheries (2018/47 of 30th October 2017). In continuation of the work done already in 2017-2018 on technical specifications of the T90 cod end in the demersal fishery, the BSAC sent a second reply (24th April 2018) to clarify certain details on the technical specifications. It also wrote a letter (1st October 2018) to the BALTFISH Presidency about BACOMA and T90 as a response to the consultation by the BALTFISH Presidency on a joint recommendation from BALTFISH. The BSAC pointed out that the development of this particular modification of the T90 and BACOMA has been a long-term process.

The BSAC took part at the BALTFISH Forum meeting in Copenhagen on 29th June 2018 and again at the BALTFISH Forum meeting in Stockholm on 5 September 2018. At both these meetings, BSAC representatives provided input on technical measures/selectivity, informed on its advice about TACS and quotas, and gave information on relevant meetings held. The BSAC hosted the first day of an ICES Workshop (WKIDEBCA) on methods for stakeholder involvement in gear development on 22nd May 2018, Copenhagen. The BSAC produced a report from the first day. This workshop confirmed the importance of stakeholder involvement in the development of fishing gears and the development of advice and best practices to help identify incentive structures, self-sampling methods and way for facilitating stakeholder development.

At short notice, the BSAC was consulted by MEP Gabriel Mato, rapporteur for the technical measures file. This was a technical and very specific consultation, relating, amongst others to the Article 4 of the technical measures proposal on targets. The BSAC could only contribute in a limited way, given the time constraint, but sent an answer.²

- **Multiannual multi-species management of the Baltic fish stocks, taking into account ecosystem interactions**

"The BSAC will strive to provide the best advice and recommendations which take into account multi-species considerations and interactions."

"The BSAC will strive to provide the best advice and recommendations which take into account multi-species considerations and interactions."

Multiannual, multispecies management was addressed within the framework of the ICES 2019 advice for the Baltic fisheries and the Joint Working Group held in Tallinn, on 11th and 12th June 2018. The BSAC recommendations for the fishery were further dealt with by the ExCom at its meeting on 28th June 2018, and subsequently adopted and sent on 4th July 2018³. The BSAC had the opportunity to present the recommendations at the BALTFISH Forum-BSAC meeting on 29th June 2018.

The BSAC also sent a contribution to the Commission's consultation on fishing opportunities 2019.⁴

On 29th January 2019, the Baltic Sea Advisory Council Executive Committee hosted a theme meeting on the eastern Baltic cod. The scientists and experts came to present their latest information and data on the stock status and ecosystem conditions and challenges facing the eastern Baltic cod stock. In their presentations, they made clear that the eastern Baltic cod is stressed by multiple factors and is in an acute critical state. The BSAC unanimously approved

² <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-letter-to-MEP-Gabriel-Mato-about-technical-me>

³ <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-recommendations-for-the-fishery-in-2019>

⁴ <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-contribution-to-Commission-Consultation-on-Fi>

the recommendations produced at the end of the theme meeting, in which the BSAC called on BALTFISH Member States and the Commission to make the matter the primary priority and react to the situation.⁵

- **Multiannual management plan for salmon**

"The BSAC is ready to get involved in further consultations of the draft plan, including the technical measures for salmon."

This has not been possible, since there is still no proposal put forward by the Commission, so the BSAC has gone as far as it can with work on salmon.

- **Ecosystem based management**

"Work will continue in the framework of the BSAC working group on ecosystem-based management."

The focus has been on seals, eel and fisheries management in Natura 2000 areas.

Seals were on the agenda of three meetings of the Working Group on Ecosystem-based Management. The BSAC produced a majority statement on illegal culling of seals. It also raised issues with the regulation 1007/2009 on trade in seal products and sent a letter to DG Mare. At the invitation of DG Mare, it was subsequently sent to BALTFISH. The BSAC discussed and produced input to a planned BALTFISH/HELCOM workshop on seals, with a list of proposed topics.⁶ At this Symposium on seal/fisheries interactions, held on 19th – 20th March 2019, hosted by BALTFISH, the Chair of the ecosystem-based management group was invited to present the BSAC work on seals and to present the views of the members. So the work has been carried out both internally and externally.

On 13th March 2019, the BSAC working group on ecosystem-based management held a meeting to update and discuss an overview of the fisheries management measures in Natura 2000 areas in the Baltic. Member States and the Commission took part. The meeting defined some basic principles for work concerning fisheries management measures in protected areas, among others the need for full transparency of the work being done, constant dialogue with the stakeholders (including the Advisory Councils) and the Commission and a need for more coherence between spatial protection measures in order to bring to improve the co-operation between the fisheries and environmental sector.

- **Eel**

This has been covered under the above Working Group on ecosystem based management

On 15th May 2018, the BSAC wrote to confirm its objective of working and developing input for the management of eel and to respond to the Commission's planned evaluation of the eel regulation 1100/2007. After a meeting of the

⁵ <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/The-outcome-of-the-BSAC-Theme-meeting-on-eastern-B>

⁶ <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-outputs-on-seals>

ecosystem-based management working group on 4th September 2018, the BSAC prepared and adopted replies to questions sent by the Commission and sent them on 24th September 2018.⁷

Responding to the Commission's online consultation and questionnaire on the eel management regulation was more difficult, since it was addressed to individual respondents and because views within the BSAC on eel management are diverse. Members of the BSAC were encouraged to reply individually. In its reply to DG Mare, the BSAC reiterated the advice already sent.

- **Recreational fisheries**

"Any activities/work are pending a letter from the BSAC to BALTFISH and reply from BALTFISH".

Already during the year 2017-2018, BSAC members discussed a proposal from the chair to create a separate working group to focus on recreational fisheries. Views differed on this. It was agreed to consult BALTFISH on this. The Danish Presidency replied by letter that it did not intend to create a working group on recreational fisheries, but to deal with this on an ad hoc basis. At the BSAC ExCom meeting on 8th May 2018, the ExCom made the same decision. During the year, there have been no specific issues on recreational fisheries, but relevant input has been included and referred to at meetings.

- **A new control regulation**

"The BSAC will dedicate a working group meeting to deal with this."

The BSAC held two meetings during the year, but work is not completed and it intends to continue the work on this. Involvement of DG Mare at a future meeting is seen as a pre-requisite for successfully dealing with the proposal, which is complex, and for clarifying the articles.

- **Producing recommendations on fishing opportunities for 2019**

"The BSAC will hold a working group to deal with this, and to develop recommendations for the Baltic fishery in 2019."

The BSAC held a Joint Working Group to discuss the ICES advice for the Baltic for 2019. The Working Group was held in Tallinn, on 11th-12th June 2018. The BSAC recommendations for the fishery for 2019 were further dealt with by the ExCom at its meeting on 28th June 2018, and subsequently adopted and sent on 4th July 2018. The BSAC developed a reply to the Commission's Communication on the fishing opportunities. This was adopted by a written procedure and sent to the Commission on 20th August 2018.

The BSAC took part at the BALTFISH Forum meeting on 29th June 2018 in Copenhagen and informed on the process of developing the adopted recommendations of the BSAC for the fishery in the Baltic. The BSAC representatives presented the BSAC recommendations to the BALTFISH Forum on 5th September 2018, held by the Swedish Presidency.

⁷ <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-replies-recovery-of-eel>

The BSAC took part at the Commission 2018 Seminar on Fisheries Science 14th September 2018, Brussels to review long-term fisheries science challenges, long-term trends with respect to maximum sustainable yield, and mixed fisheries in the North-east Atlantic, the North Sea, the Baltic Sea, and in the Mediterranean.

At the BSAC Executive Committee meeting on 6th November 2018, it was agreed to follow up on the October Council decisions on TACs and quotas for 2019. On 12th December 2018, the BSAC sent questions to BALTFISH and DG Mare. Replies were received on 12/2/19 and 6/3/2019.⁸

- **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”

The BSAC ExCom held a theme meeting on eastern Baltic cod on 29th January 2019. Scientists and experts presented latest information and data on the stock status and ecosystem conditions and challenges facing the eastern Baltic cod stock. These were sent on 22nd March 2019; a reply was received from BALTFISH⁹.

The BSAC followed and took part in the scientific work taking place in ICES to assess the eastern and western Baltic cod stocks. There was the ICES Workshop to evaluate the effect of conservation measures on Eastern Baltic cod (*Gadus morhua*) 14th-15th August 2018, Copenhagen, and WKBALTCOD2 – the ICES benchmark on Baltic cod, 4th to 8th February 2019, Copenhagen.

Cooperation with ICES: The BSAC, on behalf of all the AC Secretariats, wrote to ICES on 6th April 2018 to confirm the wish of all the ACs to continue the format of holding a separate meeting of the ACs with ICES before the annual MIACO meeting. BSAC representatives took part at the annual meetings with ICES in 2019.

Finally, the BSAC was invited to take part in evaluation carried out by the consultancy Poseidon on the support of EMFF direct funding to the ACs. The Secretariat compiled the responses received from members.

- **External meetings**

“The BSAC will take part in relevant external meetings.”

Many relevant meetings have been referred to above. Key fora and meetings for the BSAC have been: Commission hosted and arranged meetings, BALTFISH, EFCA, ICES, HELCOM, as well as relevant conferences, seminars and annual meetings. The chair, vice chair honorary chair and secretariat have amongst them covered 24 such meetings. 35 BSAC members have attended various external meetings. All meetings are reported on and communicated to the BSAC members.

The BSAC has held the following own meetings in connection with its agreed work programme for 2018-2019:

⁸ <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-letter-with-comments-on-the-decisions-taken-a>

⁹ <http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/The-outcome-of-the-BSAC-Theme-meeting-on-eastern-B>

Agreement number: [complete]

Model framework partnership agreement: December 2016

Four Executive committee meetings, two General Assemblies (one of them extraordinary), four working groups, two focus groups and two management team meetings. The budget planned for 1 GAss, 3 ExComs, 3 WGs and 1 FG. The budget has done well to cover all this.

Management meeting 11th April 2018, Copenhagen

Executive Committee and General Assembly meetings 8th and 9th May 2018, Copenhagen

BSAC hosted Stakeholder Workshop, on stakeholder involvement in fishing gear development, 22nd May 2018, Copenhagen

BSAC Focus Group to deal with Control (reply on the SCIP) 29th May 2018, Copenhagen

Joint Working Group meeting 11th-12th June 2017, Tallinn

Executive Committee meeting 28th June 2018, Copenhagen

BSAC Joint Demersal and Pelagic Working Group, 23rd August 2018, Copenhagen

BSAC Ecosystem Based Management Working Group, 4th September, 2018, Copenhagen

BSAC meeting of fisheries interests representatives with the honorary chair, 26th September 2018, Copenhagen

BSAC Extraordinary General Assembly and Executive Committee meetings, 6th November 2018, Gdynia

Secretariat Meeting organized for the new BSAC Ex Com chair, 5th December 2018, Copenhagen

BSAC Working Group to deal with control, 28th January 2019, Copenhagen

Executive Committee meeting (incl. Theme meeting), 29th January 2019, Copenhagen

BSAC Ecosystem Based Management Working Group, 13th March 2019, Copenhagen

Focus Group on BSAC Statutes 28th March 2019, Copenhagen

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C. RESULTS / PRODUCTS

Table C.1 – Meetings organised by the AC and attended by ACs representatives

Title of the meeting	Date	Place	Key results of the meeting (brief summary of the minutes)
Management Meeting	11042018	Copenhagen	The BSAC ExCom chair invited the vice chair, honorary chair and secretariat to a meeting in Copenhagen to prepare and finalise the agendas for the forthcoming ExCom and General Assembly meetings in May. They also finalised the final draft technical report 2017-2018 to the Commission as well as the BSAC draft annual report: both to be presented to the ExCom meeting. There is no written report from this meeting.
Executive Committee	08052018	Copenhagen	<p>The Secretariat and ExCom chair presented for approval the draft financial statement for the year 2017-2018, the draft 12th annual report, as well as the draft work programme and draft budget for the year 2018-2019. These were all approved for recommendation to the General Assembly.</p> <p>The ExCom approved continued compensation for small scale fishermen to attend BSAC meetings. The Secretary also presented the Final technical report 2017-2018 to DG Mare and this was also approved by the ExCom. The ExCom took note of reports from participation at the latest external meetings and decided on BSAC representation at the forthcoming meeting of EU-Russia. The ExCom agreed to hold a Focus Group drafting group to develop a response to the Commission's consultation of the ACs on the new Specific Control and Inspection Programmes (SCIPs). The ExCom discussed, but decided not to create a working group to deal with recreational fisheries. A WWF representative gave a presentation on the work so far with the MARELITT project to remove derelict fishing gear. There was a presentation from DTU Aqua of modelling of the Baltic ecosystem and environmental impacts, and information given by a FLAG representative on transnational projects on seals and cormorants. On eel, the BSAC agreed to send a positive response to the Commission's roadmap concerning the evaluation of the eel regulation from 2007. There was a standing ovation to thank Reine J. Johansson, the outgoing ExCom chair for his work for the BSAC. In anticipation of the General Assembly agenda item to deal with the election of the BSAC Executive Committee chair, the honorary chair invited selected participants to an evening meeting on 8th May 2018 to discuss the options facing the General Assembly in terms of nominated candidates. Meeting report: http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Executive-Committee-meeting-(1)/ReportExCom080518FINALCORR.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>

<p>General Assembly</p>	<p>09052018</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The BSAC honorary chair opened the meeting and referred to the important items on the agenda: the elections as well as proposals for amendments to the statutes. He called on members to work in a constructive way. Eva Kjer Hansen, Minister responsible for fisheries in Denmark, underlined the importance of the work done by the BSAC, appreciated the cooperation between the BSAC and BALTFISH and thanked Reine J. Johansson outgoing ExCom chair for his contribution. She encouraged a constructive and collaborative approach to working together. The BSAC Chair presented the annual report for the BSAC year 2017-2018, highlighting specific key areas of work during the year. The secretary presented the draft financial statement. The General Assembly approved the draft annual report and the draft financial statement for 2017-2018 and took note of the reports from the chairs of the BSAC working groups for the year. It also took note of and approved the proposed work programme and draft estimated budget for 2018-2019 and approved the continuation of the current certified auditor for the 2017-2018 accounts. The General Assembly welcomed the two new members Association for Low Impact Coastal Fishery and Danish Recreational Fishermen. The General Assembly decided to extend the ExCom to 30 members (18 representing the fisheries sector, and 12 representing OIG), with 3 seats vacant in the OIG. The General Assembly elected Steve Karnicki as the honorary chair for 2018-2021. The new Executive Committee unanimously appointed the chairs of the demersal and pelagic working groups (Michael Andersen and Mart Undrest). The honorary chair thanked the outgoing ExCom Chair for 12 years of work for the BSAC. He then presented the two nominations for the post of the ExCom chair. Before taking a decision on the two candidates put forward, the meeting adjourned and the Honorary chair called for a further meeting, including the participation of the EU representative, to continue discussions on the way forward towards electing a new BSAC chair. Some participants from the BSAC OIG made clear to the chairman that they were unable to support the candidate put forward by the industry group, considering him too controversial. Various options were discussed, but none of them was accepted as a consensus recommendation to the General Assembly. The General Assembly did not elect the ExCom chair. It approved the recommendation from the group appointed by the honorary chair to appoint Steve Karnicki as acting BSAC ExCom chair until an extraordinary general assembly could be held. Meeting report: http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-General-Assembly-meeting/GA08052018finalreport.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>
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<p>BSAC hosted Stakeholder Workshop Methods for Stakeholder Involvement in Fishing Gear Development</p>	<p>220518</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>Stakeholder groups (fishing industry, scientists and managers met at the first day of this three-day workshop to provide feedback on the risks and potential problems associated with a more inclusive framework for working on fishing gear development, while gaining insight into how the different stakeholder groups perceive their role and the role of the other stakeholder groups. Science representatives presented their goals and insights. Industry representatives and managers presented their perceptions and explained their roles and how they can contribute. The meeting discussed and evaluated risks and problems as well as the roles of different stakeholders. Meeting report: http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/ICES-Workshop-Methods-for-Stakeholder-Involvement/BSACreportICESBSACWorkshopWKMISGDFINALrev-(1).pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>
<p>Focus Group SCIPs (Specific Control and Inspection Programmes)</p>	<p>29052018</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The Focus Group met in Copenhagen, with external links facilitated by web conference. Participants drafted a response to the four questions put to the Advisory Councils in their consultation paper on the SCIPs. They also provided additional input on eel. The draft reply on the SCIPs was sent to the meeting of the Joint Working Group 11th-12th June in Tallinn for further comments and then for finalisation and adoption at the ExCom meeting on 28th June 2018. There is no report from the meeting, as the output from this meeting was the reply from the BSAC: http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-replies-to-the-Commission-s-letter-and-questi</p>

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Joint WG	11-12062018	Tallinn	<p>The ICES/ACOM vice chair Colm Lordan presented to the WG the ICES advice for the Baltic for 2019, starting with the rules for the advice on fishing opportunities in relation to the specified management objectives and the different stock categories. After the presentation, including questions and answers, the floor was opened for discussion and the initial development of draft BSAC recommendations for the fishery for 2019. Different views on the advice and the fishing opportunities were noted. Western Baltic herring and the two cod stocks were those stocks that gave rise to most discussion and questions. The Secretariat was asked to produce, after the meeting, draft BSAC recommendations for the fishery in the Baltic Sea in 2019 for further development and finalisation at its ExCom meeting on 28th June 2018. Pascale Colson, DG Mare gave a presentation of the Commission's Consultation on Fishing Opportunities for 2019 and the Working Group took note. The Working Group took note of the comments made to the draft replies to the Commission's letter and questions about the SCIPs and decided to include them in the reply, which would be forwarded to the ExCom for final approval. The Working Group was reminded about the Commission's request for input to its request for information on experience with choke species and the draft table of replies being finalised by the Secretariat. The Commission representative conveyed a message from DG MARE to the BSAC, concerning the election of a new Chair for the BSAC and the honorary chair informed the meeting that internal consultations are taking place and that meanwhile he was pursuing the work programme issues in hand. Meeting report: http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Joint-working-group-meeting/BSACWG11_120618ReportFINAL.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>
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<p>Executive Committee</p>	<p>28062018</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The ExCom took note of the explanations from the secretary on the expenditure incurred in the first months of the year 2018-2019 and problems experienced due to delayed authorisation of funding from the Commission. The acting chair informed of the initiative taken by him to propose an amendment of the BSAC statutes, so as to allow election of a chair from outside the BSAC. The secretary informed of the BSAC's personal data policy. The ExCom adopted the BSAC reply to the Commission on the SCIPs and asked the Secretariat to forward it to the Commission. It was also noted that the BSAC replies to Commission questions on choke species would also be sent to the Commission. The ExCom discussed the draft BSAC recommendations for the fishery in the Baltic for 2019 and the ExCom adopted the document presented with amendments made. The director of the Danish herring processing factory "Fiskernes Filetfabrik" made a presentation of the socio-economic consequences of a western Baltic herring TAC set at zero. The ExCom took note of a proposal from the OIG of a focus group on written procedures and decided to give members more time to reflect on this and discuss it at a later stage. The ExCom took note of a report from the ICES workshop on stakeholder involvement in fishing gear development and of information on forthcoming meetings at which the BSAC will be represented. The ExCom discussed holding a joint HELCOM-BSAC-BALTFISH workshop on seals and interactions between fisheries and marine ecosystems. A draft opinion concerning the existing EU ban of commercial use of seal products was discussed and the majority of the BSAC agreed to send a letter to the Commission with a request to amend the EU legislation on trade in seal products. Finally, the honorary chair confirmed that the planned Executive Committee meeting on Tuesday 6th November was to be replaced by an extraordinary General Assembly meeting.</p> <p>http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Executive-Committee-meeting-(2)/BSACExCom280618ReportFINAL.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>
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<p>BSAC Joint Demersal and Pelagic Working Group</p>	<p>23082018</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The BSAC Joint Working Group was chaired by Michael Andersen, Demersal Working Group chair. The Working Group dealt with the Commission’s proposal for a control regulation amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009, and amending Council Regulations (EC) No 768/2005, (EC) No 1967/2006, (EC) No 1005/2008, and Regulation (EU) No 2016/1139 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards fisheries control. This first meeting to deal with the proposal focused on the main topics and sub-topics presented in the Commission’s proposal.</p> <p>General comments from members highlighted particular concerns with reference to relevant articles. . Participants agreed on the need for a control regulation and a level playing field. They agreed that there is no need for a regionalisation of the rules. It was also agreed that the rules have to be in compliance with the rules of the CFP and the Basic Regulation, as well as other relevant legislation. The Working Group welcomed in the proposal the new detailed and exhaustive list of activities which would constitute serious infringements of the CFP rules. The meeting went on to deal with the main topics and sub-topics in the proposal, under specific headings. The meeting agreed to continue the work in more details, by giving comments to specific articles, at a subsequent meeting. The Working Group also discussed a request for input from the Advisory Councils to MEP Gabriel Mato, the rapporteur of the European Parliament on specific items of the draft regulation on the conservation of fishery resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures, which was currently under negotiation between co-legislators. The Secretariat was asked to draft a reply. Meeting report: http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Joint-Demersal-Pelagic-WG/BSACJointWGControl23082018reportFINAL.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>
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<p>BSAC Ecosystem Based Management Working Group</p>	<p>04092018</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The meeting was chaired by Nils Höglund. It dealt with eels and seals. On eel, the meeting dealt with the Commission's consultation to evaluate the eel management regulation 1100/2007 of 18th September 2007. The Working Group was asked to discuss the questions put forward in the letter from DG Mare Director General Aguiar Machado to the BSAC (Acting Chair Steve Karnicki) and to BALTFISH (Director Ole Toft), sent on 5th June 2018, asking it to provide input on measures to take in 2018 in order to promote the recovery of eels. The Working Group dealt with the questions referred to in the original request from the Commission and the Secretariat prepared draft replies as the discussions progressed. It was agreed that the WG chair would inform BALTFISH at its meeting on 5th September 2018 of the discussions.</p> <p>On seals, the Chair referred to the proposed joint HELCOM/BALTFISH workshop on seals and asked for topics and questions which should be brought up at the meeting. The Chair summarised the discussion by noting the key topics raised by the WG. The chair presented a draft statement on illegal seal hunting and invited the WG to adopt it. After discussions, members were invited to send further comments by written procedure. A letter was subsequently (15th October 2018) sent to BALTFISH and to HELCOM containing suggested items to be dealt with at the workshop on seals and forwarding a BSAC statement on the illegal killing of seals.</p> <p>The WG took note of a reply from DG Mare to the BSAC letter from 28th June 2018 on trade in seals. http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Ecosystem-Based-Management-Working-Group/WGEBM04092018finalreport.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>
<p>BSAC meeting of fisheries interests representatives with the honorary chair</p>	<p>260918</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The meeting held discussions on the selection of a candidate who would agree to run for the position as Executive Committee chair and have the respect and full support of the fisheries interest group. The meeting also had a brief discussion of the BSAC statutes, which was work in progress connected with the forthcoming Extraordinary General Assembly. General Assembly members were informed of the proceeds of this meeting. No report from this meeting.</p>

<p>BSAC Extraordinary General Assembly and Executive Committee meetings</p>	<p>06112018</p>	<p>Gdynia</p>	<p>The Extraordinary General Assembly Steve Karnicki, the BSAC honorary chair led the meeting, the main purpose of which was to elect the new ExCom chair. The representative of the Commission thanked the Honorary Chair for the efforts undertaken by him to solve the electoral deadlock. She underlined that the swift functioning of the BSAC is of great importance for the European Commission. Esben Sverdrup-Jensen was nominated as the new ExCom chair. The election of Esben Sverdrup-Jensen as BSAC chair was by applause/acclamation. The Honorary Chair stated that the work towards finding a candidate that all members can support had been difficult and lengthy. He thanked the Secretariat for the support given during the interim period between the elections. The meeting was invited to vote on a series of proposed amendments to the BSAC statutes. The General Assembly agreed on one amendment (Proposed amendment number 8: from the Honorary Chair: on the quorum requirement in Point 13) and rejected the other amendments. The General Assembly decided to establish a Focus Group to review the BSAC statutes and propose necessary amendments. The Focus Group was tasked to prepare a draft for consideration by the General Assembly in May 2019. Meeting report: http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Executive-Committee-meeting-(3)/ReportGA06112018FINAL-(1).pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB The Executive Committee</p> <p>The ExCom took note of the update on expenditure 2018-2019. The demersal and pelagic working group chairs reported on the outcome of the October Fisheries Council meeting to deal with fishing opportunities for the Baltic for their respective stocks. Michael Andersen, Chair of the Demersal Working Group referred to the Council decisions on the TACs for 2019 for the eastern and western cod stocks. He informed that an ICES benchmark working group was scheduled for February 2019 to find better ways to assess the eastern stock. Members had the chance to comment and ask questions. The Secretariat was asked to compile all the questions regarding the Council decisions and send them to the Commission and BALTFISH. Michael Andersen also gave a report of the work done at the Joint WG on 23rd August to deal with the Commission's proposal for a revised Control Regulation. Mart Undrest, chair of the Pelagic WG informed of the state of play with work on a rebuilding plan for western Baltic herring. Nils Höglund, the Chair of the Working Group on Ecosystem based management informed of the work and outcome of the meeting of the EBM Group held on 4th September 2018. At the request of one member of the ExCom, it was agreed to ask the Secretariat to produce a state of the art overview of the fisheries management in Natura 2000 sites in the Baltic Member States. The ExCom decided that the next ExCom meeting would be a BSAC "theme meeting" to invite experts to come and speak about relevant Baltic topics/problems facing the Baltic. Meeting report: http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Executive-Committee-meeting-(3)/BSACreportExCom06112018FINAL.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>
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<p>Secretariat Meeting organized for the new BSAC ExCom chair</p>	<p>05122018</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The meeting was attended by the BSAC Chair, the Vice-Chair, the Honorary Chair, the Chair of the Demersal Working Group, the Chair of the EBM Working Group, the BSAC Secretary and Rapporteur. The Chair of the Pelagic Working Group sent his apologies. The aim of the meeting was to take stock, look forward and consider BSAC work and meetings, as well as external meetings for the year to come. The meeting supported the idea to establish a management team to deal with administrative and practical issues. It was agreed that the Vice-chair would draft the Terms of Reference of the management team. It was confirmed that the ExCom meeting on 29th January 2019 would include "a theme session" to invite experts to come and speak about relevant Baltic topics/problems facing the Baltic and to focus on the eastern cod. The meeting proposed dates for the BSAC meetings until the end of June 2019. A short report was produced from the meeting and sent to ExCom (not put on website)</p>
<p>BSAC Working Group to deal with control</p>	<p>28012019</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The group carried on where it left off during the meeting of the Joint Working Group on 23rd August 2018, when it started discussions on the Commission's proposal for a revised control regulation. It dealt with the individual articles in the amended Regulation 1224/2009, of relevance to the BSAC. Work got as far as Article 55, Recreational fisheries. It was agreed for the Working Group to meet again to discuss the remaining articles and prepare its recommendations. Meeting report : http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-working-group-control-req/ReportBSACJointWG28012019FINALOK.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>

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<p>Executive Committee</p>	<p>29012019</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The ExCom Chair presented the draft work programme 2019-2020. He noted that in implementing its work programme for 2019-2020, the BSAC would be taking a dual approach: a long-term approach with focus on overarching issues, relating to the Common Fisheries Policy, and a short-term approach, covering specific meetings and activities, which would feed into the long-term approach and provide input. A discussion on the future Common Fisheries Programme will be initiated already now, in order to produce a communication from the BSAC to the Commission. He appealed to all the BSAC members to actively engage in this work. The ExCom adopted the draft estimated budget and the work programme 2019-2020. The ExCom adopted the Terms of Reference for the BSAC Management Team and the Terms of Reference of the Focus Group to deal with statutes and written procedures. The ExCom decided that proposals for project support will be filtered by the Management Team. It was agreed to put general provisions concerning project support by the BSAC on the BSAC website.</p> <p><u>Theme meeting: spotlight on eastern Baltic cod:</u></p> <p>The meeting took place with external links facilitated by web conference. Scientists and experts were invited by the BSAC to present information on the state of the eastern Baltic cod stock, as well as the results of recent surveys, and to give supplementary information on predators and on the ecosystem. In their presentations, they made clear that the eastern Baltic cod is stressed by multiple factors. The participants had the opportunity to ask questions, discuss and draw conclusions. The meeting reinforced the accumulated knowledge that the eastern Baltic cod is in an acute critical state.</p> <p>The meeting considered a draft statement calling on BALTFISH Member States and the Commission to take the matter seriously, to make it the primary priority, to make available the necessary resources for further research and react to the situation. The BSAC called for possible measures, including the use of emergency measures, to be explored in establishing an emergency plan for eastern Baltic cod. The draft statement was finalised and adopted in written procedure. It was sent to the Commission and BALTFISH.</p> <p>Meeting report: http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Executive-Committee-meeting-(4)/BSACExComThememeeting29012019REPORTandSTATEMENTFINALOK.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>
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<p>BSAC Ecosystem Based Management Working Group</p>	<p>13032019</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The Working Group met, with external links facilitated by web conference. The main item of the meeting was to update and discuss an overview of the fisheries management measures in Natura 2000 areas in the Baltic. Discussions were based on the four questions relating to Natura 2000 and dealt with in a paper produced by the Secretariat after agreement of the ExCom. Invited representatives from the Member States Denmark, Germany, Poland and Sweden informed on the processes linked to marine protected areas and the fisheries management measures in place or being developed. The invited HELCOM representative informed on the work on marine protected areas done by the HELCOM. Commission representatives replied to questions put by the WG and joined the discussions. The Working Group appreciated that the meeting had provided an opportunity for a dialogue between stakeholders and the Member States on conservation measures in protected areas and agreed to continue it in the future. The meeting concluded by defining some basic principles for work concerning fisheries management measures in protected areas.</p> <p>Meeting report: http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/Meetings/BSAC-meetings/BSAC-Working-Group-on-Ecosystem-Based-Management/ReportBSACWGEBM13032019FINAL.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>
<p>Focus Group on Statutes</p>	<p>280319</p>	<p>Copenhagen</p>	<p>The Focus Group met in Copenhagen, with external links facilitated by web conference. The aim was to agree on a set of statutes and procedures that are simple and cover all necessary points. The Focus Group decided to change the heading from Statutes to the Rules of Procedure of the BSAC, as more appropriate for a set of provisions that also includes operating principles of the BSAC. After going through the entire document, the Focus Group decided to ask the Secretariat to re-structure the entire document, so as to make it simpler and easier to read. The Focus Group discussed the BSAC Working Group Procedures. The Focus Group noted that the draft Procedures for the Development and Presentation of BSAC Advice (submitted by Lindsay Keenan) contained practices already followed by the BSAC and after redrafting, it could be used as a best practices document. The Focus Group decided to continue its work by a written procedure. The final draft was sent to the General Assembly for its forthcoming meeting on 15th May 2019. . A short report from the meeting was sent to ExCom (not put on website).</p>

Table C.2 – List of recommendations adopted by the BSAC

N°	Full title	Date of adoption
1	BSAC letter to DG Mare on T90 - clarifying an earlier letter sent on 8 th March 2018 http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-proposes-amendment-to-Commission-Regulation-o	24 th April 2018
2	BSAC letter to DG Mare about eel http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/Input-from-the-BSAC-regarding-the-roadmap-for-eel	15 th May 2018
3	BSAC replies to the Commission's consultation on the SCIPs http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-replies-to-the-Commission-s-letter-and-questi	2 nd July 2018
4	The BSAC proposes an amendment to the Regulation (EC) 1007/2009 on trade in seal products (letters to DG Mare and to BALTFISH) http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/The-BSAC-proposes-an-amendment-to-the-Regulation-(28 th June 2018
5	BSAC replies to the Commission questions on choke species in the Baltic http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-replies-to-questions-from-DG-Mare-on-choke-sp	2 nd July 2018

6	<p>BSAC recommendations for the fishery in the Baltic Sea in 2019</p> <p>http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-recommendations-for-the-fishery-in-2019</p>	4 th July 2018
7	<p>BSAC contribution to Commission Consultation on Fishing Opportunities 2019</p> <p>http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-contribution-to-Commission-Consultation-on-Fi/FishingOppsscanentire.PDF.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>	20 th August 2018
8	<p>BSAC reply to an e mail from MEP Gabriel Mato about the technical measures proposal</p> <p>http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-letter-to-MEP-Gabriel-Mato-about-technical-me</p>	30 th August 2018
9	<p>BSAC replies to Commission letter and questions on the measures to take in 2018 in order to promote the recovery of eel</p> <p>http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-replies-recovery-of-eel</p>	24 th September 2018
10	<p>Letter from the BSAC to BALTFISH Presidency about BACOMA and T90</p> <p>http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/1cb1b1fc-a17f-4737-9f4d-30bb8190ab97/BSACreply2018_2019_15toSWT90BACOMA.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB</p>	1 st October 2018
11	<p>BSAC outputs on seals (concerning input to a possible seal workshop, and concerning illegal killing of seals)</p> <p>http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-outputs-on-seals</p>	15 th October 2018

12	BSAC letter with comments/questions on the decisions taken at the October Council http://www.bsac.dk/getattachment/5130e0cb-7602-4ba0-8b7c-1a24a3abcd9a/BSACchairvicechairquestionstoOctTAC.pdf.aspx?lang=en-GB	12 th December 2018
13	Reply to BALTFISH consultation concerning the joint recommendation and correction of Reg 2019/47 (and the T90 cod end) http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/Letter-from-BALTFISH-about-the-draft-joint-recommen	1 st February 2019
14	BSAC responding to the Commission consultation on the evaluation of the eel regulation http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/BSAC-responding-to-the-Commission-consultation-on	4 th March 2019
15	Conclusions and recommendations from the BSAC Executive Committee theme meeting on eastern Baltic cod http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/The-outcome-of-the-BSAC-Theme-meeting-on-eastern-B	4 th March 2019
16	BSAC reply to the letter from DG Mare concerning the situation for eastern Baltic cod http://www.bsac.dk/BSAC-Resources/BSAC-Statements-and-recommendations/Letter-from-DG-Mare-regarding-the-situation-of-eas	22 nd March 2019

<p>Receipt Acknowledgement</p> <p>Report</p>
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<p>Slettet: ¶</p> <p>-----Sideskift-----</p> <p>¶</p>
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Title of project:

Name of organisation	Baltic Sea Advisory Council
Name of legal representative	Esben Sverdrup-Jensen
Street Number	Axelborg, Axeltorv 3, 6 th floor
Street	
Country code - Post code - Town/City	1609 Copenhagen V
Fax number	
Date you sent in your report / /

Reserved for Commission:

Documents received:

Report	Original + copy
Annexes	

Products received:

CD-ROM	
http://	

Missing data, to be submitted ASAP (not later than two weeks):

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Agreement number: [complete]

Model framework partnership agreement: December 2016

We acknowledge receipt of your Interim Report:

Please use this number in all communication with Commission.

Yours sincerely,

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Name: _____

Position: _____

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