

26 March 2019 N2018/04753/FJR

Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

BSAC Executive Committee Chair Esben Sverdrup-Jensen Axelborg, Axeltorv 3 1609 Copenhagen Denmark

Outcome BSAC Ex Com Theme meeting on the eastern Baltic cod stock

Dear Mr. Sverdrup-Jensen,

Thank you for your letter of 4 March 2019 regarding the outcome of the BSAC Executive Committee theme meeting focusing on the eastern Baltic cod stock on 29 January 2019.

I would like to take this opportunity to underline the importance of solid and meaningful input from all relevant stakeholders and that BALTFISH in particular welcomes the BSAC's efforts with respect to fisheries management in the Baltic Sea.

As far as the eastern Baltic cod stock is concerned, BALTFISH appreciates the BSACs initiative to organise the theme meeting and has taken note of the enclosed extract of the meeting report and of both the conclusions and recommendations therein.

BALTFISH would also welcome further elaboration and input by the BSAC, including further comprehensive and concrete proposals on how to address the difficult situation of this stock.

I would also take this opportunity to assure the BSAC that BALTFISH very closely and with great concern follows the difficult situation and development of the eastern Baltic cod stock.

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ICES have indicated that its advice for the Baltic Sea stocks, including cod, will be released on 29 May 2019. BALTFISH is prepared to discuss the advice when released.

Best regards,

Sara Colliander

Fisheries Director and current BALTFISH Chair