

European Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries Sinkevičius  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi 200  
B-1049 Brussels  
Belgium

Sent by e mail to: [cab-sinkevicius-contact@ec.europa.eu](mailto:cab-sinkevicius-contact@ec.europa.eu)  
cc: [mare-ac@ec.europa.eu](mailto:mare-ac@ec.europa.eu)

Ref: BSAC/2023-2024/22

Copenhagen, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

**Subject: Follow-up invitation to Our Baltic Ministerial Conference**

Dear Commissioner Sinkevičius,

On behalf of the Baltic Sea Advisory Council (BSAC), I would like to thank you very much for the invitation to attend the Our Baltic Ministerial Conference on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

The BSAC highly appreciated the opportunity that was given to present the BSAC recommendations when it comes to the energy transition of the fishing fleet in the Baltic.

As mentioned during my intervention, the BSAC has finalised its recommendations and it is a pleasure to share them with you in annex to this letter.

The BSAC recommendations build on previous recommendations of other Advisory Councils and put forward Baltic specific remarks.

The BSAC recognises the need to reduce dependency on fossil fuels and move to renewable and low-carbon energy sources as quickly as possible. However, it is fundamental to point out that any spending on greening an industry must be based on a solid and viable future for the business and company at hand. The Baltic Sea ecosystem is experiencing a regime shift and several of the fish stocks are in a state of decline, and to invest funds at this stage is a risky venture.

In the document, background information is considered first, the BSAC recommendations are then presented on the basis of the above considerations. It also includes an Annex with details on EMFAF programs in the Member States.

Finally, the BSAC stands ready to further work on the topic with the support of experts. It will engage in the Energy Transition Partnerships and closely follow the discussions.

Kind regards,



Jarek Zieliński  
BSAC Executive Committee Chair