



European  
Commission

# Our Baltic Conference

## Provisional programme

28 September 2020

### Ministerial Meeting

### Stakeholder Event

9.00-9.30	<b>Joint Opening</b> (Ministers and Stakeholders) <b>Plenary room</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Opening by <b>Virginijus Sinkevičius</b>, European Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries</li><li>Welcome message from <b>HE Valdas Adamkus</b>, former President of Lithuania (TBC)</li><li><b>Minister from the German Presidency of the Council</b> (TBC)</li><li><b>Minister of Environment of Lithuania Mr Kęstutis Mažeika</b></li></ul>	
9.30-10.45	<b>Session 1 – Beneath the Baltic Blue – JOINT SESSION</b> (Ministers and Stakeholders) <b>Plenary room</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>State of the Baltic Sea – What do we know?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>EEA – <b>Hans Bruyninckx</b>, <i>Executive Director</i> (TBC)</li><li>HELCOM – <b>Rüdiger Stempel</b>, <i>Executive Secretary</i></li></ul></li><li>State of Fisheries – What do we know? – <b>ICES Chair Mark Dickey-Collas or Vice-chair Colm Lordan</b></li><li>Coalition Clean Baltic – <b>Nils Hoeglund</b> (TBC)</li></ul>	
10.45-11.00	<b>Coffee break – split between Ministers and Stakeholders</b>	
11.00-12.30	<b>Ministerial Only – Declaration</b> <b>Ministerial room</b> <b>Chair: Commissioner Sinkevičius</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tour de Table of all Member States and MEPs (President of ENVI Committee + President of PECHE Committee + President of AGRI Committee, tbc) –</li><li>Conclusions – next steps = Commissioner Sinkevičius</li></ol>	<b>Session 2 – Eutrophication – Nutrient flows in the Baltic Sea: when nutrients kill</b> <b>Plenary room</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>What are the main sources and impacts? <b>Lena Bergstrom</b> (<i>Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i>)</li><li>Nutrients: The impacts of EU rules. What are the main challenges in the context of the European Green Deal? <b>Christophe Didion</b>, <i>European Commission, DG Environment</i></li></ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is HELCOM coordinating action, and what are the main achievements/ challenges? <i>HELCOM, Associate Professional Secretary Susanna Kaasinen</i></li> <li>• Best practices and new initiatives in Baltic Member States             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ SuMaNu Interreg project – <i>Kaj Granholm, Baltic Sea Action Group</i></li> <li>✓ <i>Kristian and Maria Lundgaard-Karlshøj, WWF Baltic Sea Farmers of the Year 2019</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
12.30-13.45	<p>Press point – Outcome of the Ministerial Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ End of the Ministerial</li> <li>▫ Lunch for Ministers</li> </ul>	<i>Lunch</i>
13.45-15.15		<p><b>Session 3 – Making fisheries more sustainable – challenges and opportunities</b> <b>Plenary room</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the main drivers for fish stock depletion? <i>Anna Rindorf or Marie Storr-Paulsen (Danish Technical University, Aqua Sector) TBC</i></li> <li>• Impacts of bottom-trawling on the seafloor and the wider ecosystem – <i>WWF Baltic Region Ecosystem Programme (Ottilia Thoreson)</i></li> <li>• The Role of EU policy – <i>European Commission, Ms Maja Kirchner</i></li> <li>• Regional Fisheries management <i>Estonian BaltFish presidency (Herki Tuus)</i></li> <li>• Current research projects: Baltic Sea ecosystem case study of PANDORA – <i>Ruediger Voss, University of Kiel</i></li> <li>• Best practices and new initiatives in aquaculture <b>Blue Growth Mussels</b> (<i>Angela Schultz-Zehden, SUBMARINER Network for Blue Growth</i>)</li> </ul>

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15.15-15.30		<i>Coffee break</i>
15.30-17.00		<p><b>Session 4 –Tackling pollution from marine litter. EU Rules as a Driving Force</b>  <b>Plenary room</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the main sources and impacts of pollution and why do we focus on marine litter? <i>Georg Hanke, Chair of Technical Group on Marine Litter at the Joint Research Centre, European Commission</i></li> <li>• The role of EU policy – <i>Michel Sponar, European Commission, DG Environment,</i></li> <li>• How is Helcom coordinating action? <i>HELCOM, Associate Professional Secretary Marta Ruiz (TBC)</i></li> <li>• Best practices in selected Baltic Member States             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Lithuania – TBC</li> <li>✓ Ms Sylwia Migdał, WWF Poland - MARELITT Baltic</li> <li>✓ Anders Finnsen, Svenskt Vatten AB</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
17.00-17.30		<p><b>Final session – Wrap up and conclusions</b>  <b>Plenary room</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of the 4 sessions – <b>Director General of Environment, European Commission</b></li> <li>• Follow-up actions under Helcom Baltic Sea Action Plan – <i>HELCOM Presidency</i></li> <li>• Conclusions and follow-up – <b>Commissioner Sinkevičius</b></li> </ul>



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