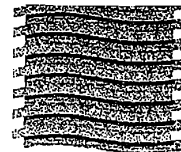


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**BALTIC SEA PARLIAMENTARY
CONFERENCE, BSPC**

May 2006
J. no. 06-52-10

To
the Speakers of the Parliaments in the Baltic Sea Region
the President of the Baltic Assembly
the President of the Nordic Council
the President of the North-West Parliamentary Association of Russia
the President of the European Parliament

***Conference invitation
14-15 August 2006 in Mariehamn, Aaland Islands***

Eutrophication problems of the Baltic Sea

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference Working Group it is a pleasure to invite members of parliaments to an important conference on 14-15 August 2006 in the Parliament of the Aaland Islands in Mariehamn.

The conference intends to

- raise public and political awareness on the critical situation of eutrophication of the Baltic Sea,
- discuss political means of mitigations and
- present prosperous cases of reducing nutrient discharge in the sectors of sources

Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference Secretariat

Ø/o Nordic Council, Store Strandstræde 18, DK-1255 Copenhagen K
Phone +45 33 96 04 00 Fax +45 33 96 00 00

Before the conference all participants will receive a popular and illustrated Conference Background Report with updated facts on status of Baltic Sea eutrophication and information on level of implementation of policies in the affected countries.

Media and NGO representatives will be invited to the conference together with experts etc. Conference language will be English with simultaneous translation to Russian and Swedish.

Excursion and dinner at Faglo (small archipelago) will be included.

Conference Background

Eutrophication is a problem of great concern for all parties around the Baltic Sea. Eutrophication leads to detrimental algae blooming, declining water transparency, Oxygen deficit, death of fish, and eventually to a very unpleasant or even toxic environment for human activities of all kinds.

Sources of the excessive nutrient discharge originate from agriculture, industries, households etc. of all countries around the Baltic Sea and the catchment area. The airborne contribution originates as well from countries further away.

Since eutrophication is a key challenge for the sound Baltic Sea environment the parliamentarians wish to steer a debate, driving eutrophication up the agenda as a tangible way in order to introduce efficient measures.

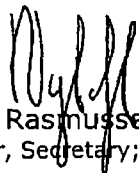
Further information

Please, **indicate your interest** in attending the conference to the secretariat, Ms. Johanna von Wendt, (tel + 45 33 960 444, fax + 45 33 111 870, e-mail jvw@norden.org) at your earliest convenience. Further information and registration form will be circulated in due course. Information on the conference and the BSPC Working Group on Eutrophication will be available on the internet www.bspc.net.

Should you have any questions about the conference or the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference Working Group, do not hesitate to contact Jens Nytoft Rasmussen, Senior Environment Advisor at the BSPC Secretariat, tel + 45 33 960 453, e-mail jnr@norden.org.

Looking forward to welcoming you to Aaland
Yours sincerely

Asmund Kristoffersen
Chair of the BSPC Working Group
Member of Parliament, Norway


Jens Nytoft Rasmussen
Senior Advisor, Secretary; M.Sc.