About the BSC Working Groups and Task Force

Missions

- **Influence EU policies**
  - Follow the political agenda and monitor relevant policy developments at EU levels
  - Formulate Policy Positions, reports, statements and contributions to public Consultations on relevant EU policies
  - Promote the interests of the BSC Member Regions on specific policy areas and participate in relevant events
- **Exchange best practices and experiences, and share targeted information**, raise knowledge
- Serve as a shared **platform for project development**, targeted investments

Composition

- Led by a **Chair and Vice-Chair(s) and supported by Advisor(s)** from the Member Regions
- The Working Groups are **open to all BSC elected representatives and officers**
- **Guest speakers** are regularly invited to the Working Groups (representatives of the EU institutions, stakeholders….)

Activities

- **Meetings about 3 a year** (online, once a year in person, study visits….)
- Reports, position papers

-->Regions can always **suggest topics to address and/or examples to showcase**
Elaboration of the Action Plans 2023-2024

- **February**: the Executive Committee appointed the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the BSC Working Groups for 2023-2024 and tasked the Working Group leaders to elaborate a new two year Action Plan.

- **March-April**: elaboration of the draft Action Plans by the Chairs, Vice-Chairs and respective supporting officers.

- **21 April**: joint online meeting of the BSC Working Groups to present the Action Plans and get feedback from BSC Member regions.

- **23-24 May (Rostock)**: At the BSC Executive Committee, the Chairs of the BSC Working Groups will present the draft Action Plans.

- **19-20 September (Umea-Vaasa)**: At the BSC General Assembly, the draft Actions Plans will be presented and put for approval.
Objectives of the meeting

• Introduction to the **new Chairs** and **Vice-Chairs** of the BSC Working Groups

• **Present** the draft Action Plans

• Gather **comments/inputs** on the Actions Plans

• Get an **update on EU policy development**
Calendar of activities

• **24-25 MAY**: BSC Executive Committee Meeting (Rostock, Germany)

• **14 JUNE**: BSC joint Working Groups meeting: Sustainable Logistic Chains in the Baltic Sea Region (Online)

• **19-20 SEPTEMBER**: BSC General Assembly (Umeå, Sweden and Vaasa, Finland)

• **4-5 SEPTEMBER**: EUSBSR Annual Forum (Riga, Latvia)

• **1-2 NOVEMBER**: BSC Maritime Working Group Meeting (Stockholm, Sweden)

• **6-7 NOVEMBER**: BSC Transport Working Group Meeting (Helsinki, Finland)

• **15-17 NOVEMBER**: CPMR General Assembly (St Malo, France)
Information

• Welcome to Guglielmo Migliori, new policy officer at the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission

• Open call to organise a EUSBSR workshop during the upcoming EUSBSR Annual Forum in October

• MRS week (24-28 April)

• BSC Secretariat moves to East North Finland EU Office (Avenue Palmerson, Brussels)
Written comments from BSC Regions

• Oulu: on the maritime/ transport / ECWG

• Värmland: on the Transport Action Plan
  o Transport ("last mile" issue should be a priority under "Innovative transport solutions". As municipalities are usually road managers for that part it is a concern. Not all municipalities, especially smaller municipalities in rural areas, can afford to upgrade their bridges for BK 4 (74 ton trucks) which are being implemented in Sweden now and in the next ten years)

• Helsinki-Uusimaa: on the Arctic Action Plan
  o ”Create better understanding of the needs and tools for climate adaption.”
  o “Promote the activitivies to support arctic biodiversity”
Thank you!