

BSRAC news and meetings

A last minute reminder about our two working groups:

Demersal Working Group 14th April 2010, Copenhagen

All you need to know is here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1450&kind=4&pageld=1081

Pelagic Working Group 15th April 2010, Copenhagen

Everything you need is here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1452&kind=4&pageld=1081

It's your last chance **today** to sing up!

Contacts with Russia:

Within the framework of the bilateral agreement between the EU and Russia for the Baltic, the Commission recently held in Kaliningrad an initial meeting with the Russian authorities. At this meeting there was an exchange on current fisheries management and a discussion of the rules of procedure for cooperation under the agreement. Russian expressed the wish to be granted observer access to our BS RAC meetings. On behalf of our chair and vice chair a letter has been sent welcoming this and inviting Russia to attend meetings as observer. They have been duly notified of the above working groups.

General Assembly 11th May 2010

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1418&kind=4&pageld=1081

The invitation and draft agenda have now been sent out. Note the revised start time of 16hrs. Please note the invitation from Alex Olsen (Federation of National Organisations of Importers and Exporters of Fish) about visit the processing plant Espersen Lithuania in Klaipeda.

Executive Committee 12th May 2010

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1419&kind=4&pageld=1106

Invitation and draft agenda go out next week (4 weeks before)

A questionnaire is underway – BS RAC members (only) please reply!

This evaluation is a **web-based survey with RAC member organisations** in order to get important feedback on key issues, such as the functioning of the RACs, budget and financial information, and fee structures.

The link to the survey is here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NL6GSTK>

Commission and EP news and meetings

Commission seminar: Financial Policy in the Future Common Fisheries Policy, 13th April 2010, Brussels

This seminar is to: (1) Set the scene and discuss the role of financial and structural instruments in the CFP; (2) Discuss the role of fleet support under a reformed CFP; (3) Discuss the role of support for innovation and environmental protection; and (4) Discuss the role of support for coastal development and small scale fleets. It will be chaired by the Commission. Experts and stakeholders will be asked to share their experiences and



reflections in order to initiate debate among participants. Representing the BS RAC will be Reine. J. Johansson (BSRAC chair). See programme here:

http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1457&kind=4&pagelid=1227

Maritime Day 2010

The Commission has launched the Maritime Day website where you will be able to find information on this event and to register for participation. See here:

<http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeday>

Long-Distance RAC seminar on Control and Compliance 15th and 16th April, Vigo

See here:

http://ldrac.eu/index.php?option=com_eventlist&Itemid=77&func=details&did=23

The Trawler newsletter from the European Parliament for April is here:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/201004/20100407ATT72279/20100407ATT72279EN.pdf>

Other news and meetings

See Fishing News International for April The not-so-silent Baltic

Go and read Fishing News International for April with several reports on "The not-so-silent Baltic" Michael Andersen, Ryszard Malik, Ewa Milewska, Henrik Svenberg and Mart Undrest kindly contributed with interviews with the FNI journalist Quentin Bates.

And we made use of photos kindly provided by Vesa Karttunen, Malin Lönnroth/ Lena Talvitie and Madeleine Lundin from the Marine Centre, Simrishamn.

I've scanned the articles. Let me know if you want to see any, if you can't get hold of the newspaper.

Quentin Bates says any feedback on this press coverage would be appreciated and, of course, any Baltic news in the future would also be a big help. It's up to us. Contact Secretariat.

The Baltic Sea Strategy: the latest: increased cooperation to give a sustainable fishery: Baltfish

The Swedish ministry of agriculture is working with web pages concerning the Baltic Sea strategy. There is one on fisheries here: <http://www.regeringen.se/sb/d/12784/a/142347>

It's in Swedish, but it features an interview with Marcus Öhman, Government official from the Swedish Ministry of Agriculture. Roughly translated, is what is discussed here.....

In October 2009 EU member states agreed on a strategy for the Baltic. Since then work has gone on intensively to turn the strategy into something more concrete. Marcus Öhman explains that Sweden is in charge of fisheries issues, and he is coordinating the work: overseeing the project, following up, reporting to the Commission and so on. At first fisheries wasn't seen as such an important sector to include in the Strategy, because there is the Common Fisheries Policy. But given the uniqueness of the Baltic and its special environment and type of fisheries, there is good reason to work in a more regional way. So fisheries has become an important part of the strategy. The Swedish ministry of agriculture has taken the initiative to create a forum, called "Baltfish" where Baltic countries can meet and discuss fisheries issues and get into the nitty gritty of cooperation amongst the Baltic countries. He points out that the other member states are positive about this cooperation. In the past, there was an organisation for the Baltic countries - in the form of the International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC), but this ceased to exist when all Baltic countries joined the EU: There is still a need for member states and organisations (he doesn't specify which) to meet – the first big meeting will be in June (7th and 8th in Stockholm). The BS RAC has been invited to this meeting (BS RAC chair and Exec Sec). When asked about what results can be expected from this work, Marcus points out the strategy has already played a role in the form of a draft text to prevent discards, and important steps have also been taken towards a sustainable fishery. The important thing now is to get the project Baltfish up and running and gathering momentum and to achieve concrete results. The strategy must not just be a load of empty words. He's in constant touch with the Commission and with project leaders in the other countries following up on work.

We'll report when we have more.....

Welcome to the website of the ICES Annual Science Conference 2010

ICES Annual Science Conference 2010 will be held at la Cité des Congrès in Nantes, France, between 20 and 24 September. The ICES Annual Science Conference provides a forum in which an international community of marine scientists, professionals, and students gather to share their work in theme-based series of oral and poster presentations. Each year, the Conference is hosted by one of our 20 Member Countries, and has a unique website to handle electronic submissions and registration.

Visit the website in the coming months as further details are made available.

Organised by ICES, Hosted by IFREMER

<http://www.ices.dk/iceswork/asc/2010/index.asp>

From ICES more on MSY: an Advice Drafting Group

An MSY Advice Drafting Group (ADGMSY) will meet 3–4 May 2010 at the ICES HQ (for more information see email from Mike Sissenwine below). Please inform the ICES Secretariat direct Michala@ices.dk about participation.

Read the latest newsletter from the Fisheries Secretariat here:

<http://bk.venamail.com/display.php?M=705&C=0cdacbd3e583df8559c319f06bdb0265&S=131&L=1&N=99>

The First edition of the magazine FARNET: the Fisheries Areas Network is here:

The FARNET Support Unit was established by the European Commission to help implement EU measures for the sustainable development of fisheries areas (Axis 4 of the European Fisheries Fund). The Support Unit acts as a platform for networking between fisheries areas and supports and guides Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs) in devising and implementing local solutions to the challenges confronting Europe's fisheries areas. Look under Publications to find the first magazine. There is, for example, some interesting reporting on fisheries related activities and initiatives in North Jutland:

www.farnet.eu

Nord stream's latest news is here:

Including the news that the construction of the pipeline has begun:

<https://e-facts.nord-stream.com/app/article/index.cfm?fuseaction=OpenArticle&aoid=1924&lang=EN>

From the Nordic Council newsletter

Brains Trust to put Baltic Sea Region on international map

Ene Ergma, speaker of the Estonian parliament, is one of several people to propose the creation of a common research space for the Baltic Sea countries, which could include a Baltic Sea Technology Institute dedicated to the study of information-, bio- and nanotechnology, for example. Ergma presented the idea to an international conference in Tallinn in early March, which focused on research, development and regional partnerships within the framework of the European Union's Baltic Sea Strategy.

Read here:

<http://www.norden.org/en/news-and-events/news/brains-trust-to-put-baltic-sea-region-on-international-map>

From the Nordic Council - a Nordic food glossary (fisheries dictionary)

Welcome to the Nordic food dictionary The Scandinavian languages may resemble each other, but it's not always so easy to know what different herbs, fish and vegetables are called in the different languages. The Nordic food glossary can help you to translate words into the various Nordic languages, as well as English. You can also find different recipes. See here:

<http://nordicfoodglossary.org/>

News from the Lithuanian administration

Irina Jakovleva, at the Fisheries Regulation Division, Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, informs there has been a departmental reorganization and they are now called Fisheries Service. Fisheries Director Algirdas Rusakevicius has retired, but we don't yet know who his successor is.

Two Press releases from the Danish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries

1. From 30.03.2010 Support for traceability in the fisheries sector.

According to the press release it should be possible to see where the fish you buy at the fish shop has been caught. So 30 million DKK ((4 million Euros) is being allocated to developing traceability in fisheries and aquaculture. It will be possible to apply for funding for activities which increase documentation and traceability. The initiative is not completely new, but builds on existing measures to improve traceability. But with the new money available it will be possible to apply for funding for the following activities:

Sustainable fishing methods and sustainable fisheries management

- Certification, traceability and documentation
- Advice-giving
- Aquaculture
- Marketing campaigns

Applications will run from 15th April to 1st June 2010. The scheme is co-financed by the European Fisheries Fund, and the overall aim is to create a framework for getting the most out of the Danish fisheries and aquaculture sectors, making use of the resources, whilst at the same time taking into account sustainability and regional development.

See press release here:

<http://www.fvm.dk/Nyhedsvisning.aspx?ID=18486&PID=167232&year=2010&NewsID=6018>

2. From 07.04.2010 Kattegat – fishing days, selectivity and the topless German

According to this press release the Danish food minister Henrik Høegh will contact the Commission to try and prevent Danish fishermen from losing further fishing days in the Kattegat. Denmark is also working on a management plan for the fish stocks in the Kattegat, and this should also help lessen the reduction of fishing days.

The cod stocks in this area have been falling, and as part of the EU's management plan - the aim of which is to rebuild the cod stocks – the Danish Kattegat fishermen stand to lose 25% of the so-called kilowatt days which they can use to fish. In 2008 Denmark and Sweden joined forces to protect the cod stocks by closing selected areas in the Kattegat and the Øresund. Henrik Høegh will contact the Commission and refer to these closed areas as initiatives which should give back Denmark fishing days which they otherwise would have lost. He feels that Danish fishermen should be given recognition for the extra effort they have made with the closed areas in the Kattegat. In the course of the next few months the minister will put forward a plan for managing fish and Norway lobster in the Kattegat. One part of the plan will be to reward those fishermen who use specific gear types and selective gears by giving them smaller reductions in fishing days. Until now Danish fishermen have been allowed to fish in parts of the closed areas in the Kattegat if they use selective gears which do not catch cod. It has been permitted to fish with two gear types, but fishermen are calling for a gear which can protect the cod stocks in the areas, but at the same time can catch Norway lobster and sole. So the ministry has now given the approval to a new gear type called the "topless German." This new selective gear can help to guarantee kilowatt days for the Kattegat fishermen in the years to come. Read the press release here:

<http://www.fvm.dk/Default.aspx?ID=18486&PID=165776&NewsID=6022>

If you want to know more contact Mr Ole Poulsen, Head of international affairs at the ministry.

+45 3392 3563

Also from the Danish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries a report on ITQs in Denmark

Mogens Schou, Adviser to the minister, has sent us a detailed report which features in the journal Samudra (a journal which comes out three times a year and is an international collective in support of fishworkers) and

goes into detail on the development of the ITQ system in Denmark, and gives information of the Catch Quota Management system being developed and tried out. Read it here:

[http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Newsletter/Weeks%2013-](http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Newsletter/Weeks%2013-14/Article%20on%20ITQs%20in%20Denmark.pdf)

[14/Article%20on%20ITQs%20in%20Denmark.pdf](http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Newsletter/Weeks%2013-14/Article%20on%20ITQs%20in%20Denmark.pdf)

The European Association of Fisheries Economists workshop: "Optimising Value Chains in Fisheries".

1-2 June 2010

University of Helsinki, Finland

The workshop will investigate how fisheries profitability can be improved through better organisation and better marketing. The following topics will be covered:

- EU Common Market Organisation,
- labelling,
- price formation,
- fish market segmentation,
- substitution at the fish market,
- vertical collaboration in the supply chain,
- globalisation, and
- market integration.

The workshop's target audience will be academic researchers, industry representatives, NGOs and policy makers (national & EU level). By analysing the entire fish produce value chain the workshop should be of interest for producers, processors, marketers, policy makers, and fisheries managers. The workshop will be organised around 5 keynote speeches from the European Commission ("*Market mechanisms in reforming the CFP*"), the Fishing industry, Academia (Professor Franck Asche from Norway), and the Retailing and Processing sectors (Mr Alex Olsen from Espersen A/S. Denmark). See here : http://www.bsrac.org/mod_inc/?p=itemModule&id=1456&kind=4&pageld=1227

THE POLISH PORTS HANDBOOK 2010

Maritime Economy & Industry Guide

NEW EDITION

Polish maritime industry guide:

- Contact details of around 1,000 Polish maritime companies,
- detailed descriptions of all Polish ports, (statistical data, port facilities, charges),
- information on port regulations, radio communication, maritime emergency,
- short overview of Polish shipyards and service stations,
- Polish inland waterways and ports.

Price: 45 EUR (including delivery fee). Order here:

<http://maritime.com.pl/zamow/dzialy.php?idd=7&sidd=11&lang=en>

Have you heard of Øresund Food?

They unite research, business and authority within the food value-chain. They coordinate and participate in several multidisciplinary projects within food, pharma, ICT and environment. See here:

<http://www.oresund.org/food>



They announce a new pilot course.

Together with our partners in the Baltfood project, Øresund Food has the opportunity offer a free e-learning course, "Healthy to go". The course will be hosted by the University of Applied Science in Lübeck, were you also will receive your certificate from. Each country in the Baltfood project (Denmark, Finland, Lithuania, northern Germany, Poland and Sweden) has the possibility to register up to 15 interested course participants until the 23rd of April. So, hurry up and register now!

To attend the course please write your name, company and e-mail address to Nils-Olof Jönsson at Øresund Food on: nils-olof.jonsson@oresund.org.

Healthy to go - Increasing market success with convenience food

Are you working in a small or medium sized company in the food industry? Are you intending to offer healthy products "to go" in future?

If so, we have good news for you: The first international e-learning course focussing the subject "healthy food to go" is online!

Objective of this course is to support the process from the idea to the implementation of healthy convenience products in your enterprise. In a practical and demonstrative way you get an introduction to the world of raw material, ingredients and products that compose healthy food. You learn the consequences of healthy and unhealthy nutrition.

The introduction of healthy products to your company requires a well-organized innovation process. The course shows the importance and the phases of such process in a varied and interesting way. Objective is to introduce you to the transfer of the innovation process to your company. Various case studies assist you in consolidating vested knowledge.

The course is offered to participants coming from across the Baltic Sea Region. Thus, you have the opportunity to change perspectives and problems in the subject with colleagues from other countries, establishing international professional contacts.

Read more here:

<http://www.oresund.org/food/events/current-event-archive/be-the-first-to-participate-in-our-new-pilot-course!>