



## **Baltic Sea Forum 2009**

### **Conference: Sustainable Fishery - from Theory to Practice**

It is our pleasure to invite you to the Baltic Sea Forum 2009 at the Marine Centre in Simrishamn, Sweden, on 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October. The title and topic of the conference is “Sustainable Fishery – from Theory to Practice”. A draft programme is attached.

The conference is a joint initiative by Swedish, Polish and Lithuanian fishermen, who have come together for the sake of a sustainable future for the Baltic Sea fishery. The main aim of the conference is to put fishermen from all around the Baltic Sea at the centre of attention – and (expect) action! By giving these colleagues an opportunity to meet, exchange experiences and discuss common problems and future solutions, the ambition is to move from theory to practice.

One of the goals of the conference is to find and elaborate ideas on cross-Baltic cooperation possibilities and develop concrete projects that will contribute to the development of a sustainable Baltic Sea fishery. A preparatory meeting was held with Swedish, Polish and Lithuanian fishermen and representatives in Klaipeda on 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August, to plan for this meeting and set the agenda. This time, fishermen from all the countries around the Baltic Sea are welcome to join.

The conference in itself serves as a vital precondition for the success of future cooperative measures and activities. By getting to know each other and learning about the conditions of the colleagues on the “other side” of the Baltic a common base of knowledge and understanding is created, which will favour future common projects. Also, further conferences and discussion fora with the actors involved are necessary to keep the dialogue vibrant and to create constructive settings where new ideas can be born.

The Baltic Sea is a prioritised issue and one of the main themes of the Swedish Presidency of the European Union, which supports our conference. The conference is also supported by the Baltic Sea Unit at the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

The idea of holding this conference has been welcomed by several parties, from the local level to the governmental, including the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, the Swedish Ministry of Agriculture and the Baltic Sea Regional Advisory Council.

Please confirm your attendance at the conference **no later than October 9<sup>th</sup>** to [benita.kvant@simrishamn.se](mailto:benita.kvant@simrishamn.se) or +46-414-81 92 02.

Hotel rooms are reserved at Hotel Svea. The price per room is 1.090 SEK incl. breakfast. Please contact the hotel at phone number +46-414-41 17 20 or by e-mail

[receptionen@hotellsvea.se](mailto:receptionen@hotellsvea.se). For more hotel options, please contact the Tourist Centre in Simrishamn at phone number +46-414-81 98 00 or by e-mail [turistbyra@simrishamn.se](mailto:turistbyra@simrishamn.se).

If you have any questions regarding the conference, please do not hesitate to contact Vesa Tschernij, Conference Coordinator, ([iconex@co.inet.fi](mailto:iconex@co.inet.fi) or +358-40-767 13 23) or Madeleine Lundin at the Marine Centre ([madeleine.lundin@simrishamn.se](mailto:madeleine.lundin@simrishamn.se) or +46-414-81 91 24).

Kind regards,

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CEO Municipality of Simrishamn

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