



CPMR

BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

STATUTES

Charter adopted by the General Assembly in Bornholm 16 June 2000

Article 1: Preamble

This charter sets out the internal regulations of the Baltic Sea Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe. It is a text for which the Organisational Charter of the CPMR makes provision and it is in conformity with the provisions of the latter. In the event of differences of interpretation, the provisions of the CPMR Organisational Charter shall take precedence over those of the internal regulations. The Baltic Sea Commission is established with the aim of promoting democracy, exchanges, co-operation and solidarity between the coastal zones and islands of the Baltic Sea including the Regions of the non-European Union Countries.

Article 2 : Objectives

The Baltic Sea Commission is established to further partnership between Regional authorities, i.e. regional popularly elected or in other way approved by regional public whatever possible according to the individual country's legislation, around the Baltic Sea and to manage the challenges and opportunities presented by the Baltic Sea. Through dialogue and formal partnership it will seek to promote common interests, especially in relations to the institutions to the European Union, national governments and the Baltic Sea organisation.

Article 3: Constitution

The Baltic Sea Commission brings together the Presidents, who may delegate their own representative, appointed by the Regional Authorities immediately below the level of the Central Government which border the Baltic Sea i.e. regions and islands which have a coastline vis à vis the Baltic Sea. Members should be elected members from the above mentioned regions which represents a regional authority. Organisations concerned by the work of the Baltic Sea Commission may participate as/ Observers/Associate Organisations. Only the Member Regions may vote. However, only the Member Regions belonging to the European Union may vote on resolutions concerning the internal functioning of the Single Market.

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CONFERENCE OF PERIPHERAL MARITIME REGIONS OF EUROPE – BALTIC SEA COMMISSION

Executive Secretary *Jaakko Mikkola*, Telephone +358-5-230 8936, E-mail: jaakko.mikkola@kymenlaakso.fi
Assistant *Pia Hurttä*, Telephone +358-5-230 8912, E-mail: pia.hurttä@kymenlaakso.fi
Secretariat: P.O. Box 35, FIN-48601 KARHULA, FINLAND. Fax +358-5-230 8910
Visiting address: Karhulantie 36 B, Karhula KOTKA

Article 4: The election of the President and of the Executive Committee

The Baltic Sea Commission will be organised through the institutions of

- an annual General Assembly,
- a President and one Vice-President,
- an Executive Committee.

A General Assembly of all Member Regions will be held once a year, or more frequently if required.

The elections of the President and the Executive Committee will take place every 2nd year, following the procedure outlined below:

- General Assembly shall elect a President, Vice-President and an Executive Committee.
- The Executive Secretary of the commission asks the Assembly if there are any nominations to the post of President of the Baltic Sea Commission. Each nomination must be seconded by a region other than the region represented by the nominee. The President of the Baltic Sea Committee will be the president /political leader of their respective authority.
- Once the nominations are known, a vote by show of hands will be taken. However, if any of the regions so request, the vote will be by secret ballot. If there is more than one candidate, the vote will also be by secret ballot. The candidate having obtained an absolute majority of the votes of the delegates present will be declared elected.
- Then the election of the Executive Committee takes place. Each member country shall appoint one representative and one substitute representative. A Vice-President shall be elected, who must be on a different nationality than the President. In case of absence of the President during the period of his mandate, the Vice-President assumes his functions.

Article 5: The Executive Secretary

The Baltic Sea Commission has an Executive Secretary whose responsibility is to ensure the day-to day organisation of its work and implementation of its decisions. On the recommendation of the Executive Committee the General Assembly shall nominate the Executive Secretary. His mandate is renewed every 2 years. The Executive Secretary of the Baltic Sea Commission assists the President in his task and acts under his authority.

Article 6: Financing

The activities of the Baltic Sea Commission will be supported by the CPMR budget. If necessary the General Assembly will create a specific budget for the Baltic Sea Commission, supported through annual subscription payable by each Member Authority. On a proposal from the Executive Secretary to the annual General Assembly and monitored at meetings of the Executive Committee.

Article 7: Amendments to the charter

Amendments to the Baltic Sea Commission charter can only be made by the General Assembly and will normally be based on the recommendations of the Executive Committee.