



**BALTIC SEA
HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION**



**SWEDISH MARITIME
ADMINISTRATION**

To: All BSHC Members,
IHO Secretariat

Norrköping, 19 May 2021

Subject: 26th Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission Conference - Stockholm, Sweden

Dear IHO Director Abri Kampfer and All BSHC Members,

Sweden as the host country and I as the Chair of the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission are pleased to invite you to the 26th BSHC Conference in Stockholm, Sweden. The situation with restrictions, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, makes everything very complicated to predict, but hoping that the situation has improved in September and all of us by then have been fully vaccinated and that regional travelling by then is possible, we still plan for a face-to-face meeting. Given the unpredictable situation the Swedish Maritime Administration (SMA) in cooperation with the conference center will in addition prepare for a hybrid solution, so those of you being able to travel to Stockholm could do so and others unable to travel could participate virtually. Attached you will find a few documents to familiarize with the SMA offer and to fill in required documents. The final decision on whether or not to arrange a face-to-face meeting with hybrid possibilities or arrange BSHC 26 as a VTC only will be taken 17 August the latest.

The venue will be at the Hotel Scandic Anglais, Stockholm, Sweden. Please see the logistic information, attached as Annex 1. Delegates can make a hotel reservation directly with the hotel. The number of rooms are limited. Block of rooms will be held until **21 August 2021**. Delegates are kindly invited to return the filled-in conference registration form attached as Annex 2, before this date.

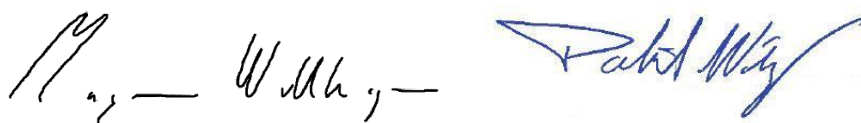
On Tuesday **21 September 2021**, starting 17:00 there will be a guided tour and dinner at the Vasa museum, Stockholm. The Vasa ship capsized and sank in Stockholm 1628. After 333 years on the sea bed the mighty warship was salvaged. Today Vasa is the world's best preserved 17th century ship and the most visited museum in Scandinavia. Meeting point will be at the reception at the Vasa museum. From Hotel Scandic Anglais it is a beautiful walk (approximately 2 km) to the Vasa museum passing one of Stockholm's waterfronts. If you prefer walking, we will gather in the reception at Hotel Scandic Anglais and leave from there **16:15**.

The Conference itself commences on Wednesday **22 September 2021**, 09:00 and is scheduled to close on Thursday **23 September 2021**, approx. 15:00. A full programme is attached as Annex 3.

You are also kindly invited to propose agenda items for BSHC 26. A draft ver 1.0 BSHC26 Agenda is attached as BSHC26_A3_Agenda. When sending proposals for additional agenda items, please indicate the title and briefly describe the subject (unless self-explanatory) or remove from the draft ver 1.0 as well. Furthermore, to speed up evaluation of Minutes and Actions of the last Conference I kindly ask you to confirm execution of actions. An updated version is attached as BSHC26_A4.2_updated_BSHC25_Final_List_of_Actions.

Please send your proposals on new agenda items, by e-mail to Magnus Wallhagen (magnus.wallhagen@sjofartsverket.se) with a copy to Evelina Andersson (evelina.andersson@sjofartsverket.se), by **30 June 2021** the latest. We will produce a draft agenda based on your proposals, which I plan to circulate by 8 July 2021 the latest. Following this, full explanatory notes and national reports should be e-mailed by **18 August 2021** the latest so they can be made available at the IHO website well in advance before the Conference.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in Stockholm for a productive and enjoyable meeting.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The first signature on the left is 'Magnus Wallhagen' and the second signature on the right is 'Patrik Wiberg'.

Magnus Wallhagen, BSHC Chair and

Patrik Wiberg, National Hydrographer of Sweden