

# TORs/ROPs for the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC) Strategic Correspondence Group

## 1. Objective

The BSHC recognizes the need to analyse the Commission's work with regard to the revised IHO strategic plan, as approved at the IHO 2<sup>nd</sup> Assembly 2020. At the 26<sup>th</sup> BSHC Conference, in September 2021, it was decided to establish a Strategic Correspondence Group (BS-SCG) for this purpose.

## 2. Authority

The BS-SCG is a subsidiary body of the BSHC. The work and results of the Correspondence Group are subject to BSHC monitoring and approval.

## 3. Terms of reference

The BS-SCG shall, originating from the aims of the Commission, stated in Article 2 in the BSHC Statutes:

- draft a strategic plan for BSHC, using the IHO Strategic Plan and its Goals and Targets as a foundation,
- consider to perform a gap analysis as proposed by the IHO Council 4 (C4/39) and take results from other RHCs gap analyses into account,
- consider to suggest any measurements of the SPIs allocated to the RHC in accordance with the IHO IRCC 13 (IRCC 13/06) action,
- consider regional aspects, including stakeholders' need of hydrographic data, within the Baltic Sea, and incorporate them into BSHC's strategic work,
- propose how the strategy should take form; as an amended Article 2, as an added annex to the Statutes or as a separate document.

Furthermore, the BS-SCG shall:

- suggest updates to the BSICCWG ToR, in accordance with the decisions taken at BSHC 26 (List of Actions 18, 21 and 22), and
- suggest updates to the BSMSIWG ToR, in accordance with the decisions taken at BSHC 26 (List of Actions 19), and
- suggest updates to the CDWG ToR, in accordance with the decisions taken at BSHC 26 (List of Actions 20), and
- if deemed appropriate, suggest any other updates of affected BSHC WG's ToR.

## 4. Rules of Procedures

- All BSHC Members and Associate Members are encouraged to participate in the BS-SCG.
- The BS-SCG shall be chaired by the Member State elected at the 26<sup>th</sup> BSHC Conference.
- The BS-SCG should reach out to the subsidiary BSHC WGs for their contributions to the strategic plan for the BSHC.
- Decisions shall generally be made by consensus. If votes are required, all Member States represented (including associate and other members) have one vote each.
- The BS-SCG shall conduct its work mainly by correspondence through VTCs and e-mails.
- Physical meetings may be arranged if found necessary for the progression of the work.

- The BS-SCG shall report back, and make proposals to, the BSHC 27<sup>th</sup> Conference in September 2022. The BSHC 27<sup>th</sup> Conference shall decide whether the BS-SCG should be terminated or continue its work according to an updated work program.