



**BALTIC SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (BSHC)
CALL FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE IHO COUNCIL SEAT**

References:

- A. [IHO CL 27/2022](#) dated 29 June 2022 - *Call for Member States to declare in which Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC) they wish to be counted for the purpose of determining the number of seats allocated to each RHC in the IHO Council.*
- B. [IHO CL 43/2022](#) Rev1 dated 07 November 2022 - *Notice of the distribution of regionally-based seats on the IHO Council*
- C. [The Statues of the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission](#) - Annex A, *Procedure for The selection of Member States by the BSHC for the IHO Council*
- D. [BSHC Circular Letter 2/2022](#) - *Extraordinary Decision: Temporarily Suspend all BSHC-related Activities with the Russian Federation*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The IHO Secretary-General has called Member States with multiple Regional Commission membership to declare in which commission they wish to be counted in the Council seat selection process (see reference A).
2. The Secretary-General has informed that **one** Council seat is allocated to the BSHC. The letter also include the information on which Member States are eligible to occupy the Council seat from BSHC (see reference B).
3. The selection procedures for Member as representative of the IHO Council are laid down in The Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission statues - Annex A (see reference C).
4. The Baltic Sea MSs of the European Union have unanimously come to the conclusion that collaboration with the Russian Federation is considered no longer technically possible under the current situation in Ukraine and have decided to temporarily suspend all of BSHC-related activities with the Russian Federation (see reference D).
5. According to reference B and D, the following BSHC Member States are eligible to occupy the allocated seat:

Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Poland and Sweden



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HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION**



6. As a Chair of the BSHC, I would like to start the BSHC actions on the Council seat selection process. Therefore I kindly ask eligible Member States (listed above) to indicate if they wish to be considered as candidates for the selection by providing their reply **no later than 6 January 2023** by email (rainer.mustaniemi@traficom.fi) using a formal letter including signature.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Mustaniemi".

Rainer Mustaniemi

Chair of the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission