INVITATION

The BALTIC SEA FORUM is pleased to invite you to the panel discussion titled "The Baltic Sea – Ecological and Economic" with the lead partners of our EU-INTERREG projects on Friday, the 7th of December 2012 from 12:00 to 14:30 at the Representative Office of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce in St. Petersburg (Business Center "Petrowski Fort", 8th floor, Finlandskij Prospekt 4 A, 194044 St. Petersburg).

Speakers at this panel discussion will include Sten Björk, Project Leader, Port of Trelleborg, Ms Agneta Nilsson, Controller EU project/Communication Manager and Sebastian Doderer, Project Leader HAFEN HAMBURG Marketing e.V., among others.

One task of the Baltic Sea Forum is to coordinate the Political Committee for the "Clean Baltic Sea Shipping" and "Amber Coast Logistic" projects. The motto: “Sustainable maritime protection is best attained through the economic efficiency of the seas”. With this in mind, we would like to stimulate discourse between representatives of the Clean Baltic Sea Shipping (CBSS) and Amber Coast Logistic (ACL) projects and representatives from political and economic fields, as well as discuss this important topic with representatives from Russia.

The Amber Coast Logistic project aims to establish multimodal trans-shipment centres in the Amber Coast region and its natural hinterland, the Baltic States, Russia, Belarus and the Ukraine. The work package titled “Flow of goods and institutional aspects” will explore the influence of laws and directives on transport organisations and transport flow, among other topics. An action plan for the promotion of multimodal transport hubs will be designed in the work package titled “Sustainable and efficient shipping strategies and multimodal transport chains”.

The goal of the CBSS project is best described in the Helsinki Commission’s (HELCOM) cover letter with their project proposal about the protection of the Baltic Sea: HELCOM expresses its support for the Clean Baltic Sea Shipping project, which was approved in the third appeal of the EU’s Baltic Sea Program 2007-2013. The main goal of the Clean Baltic Sea Shipping project is the reduction of air pollution caused by ships in the Baltic Sea and port cities. As a result, this project should provide solutions that pave the way for environmentally friendly shipping in the most endangered ecosystems of the Baltic Sea.

The BALTIC SEA FORUM and its partner would like to offer you the opportunity to learn about maritime topics regarding the EU strategy and the EU Integrated Maritime Policy, and to discuss important questions with representatives of the Port of Trelleborg and the BSF.

Maritime safety, environmental and climate protection in maritime transport, education and training, as well as research, development and innovation (Cluster of Excellence) with regard to sea shipping, ports, shipbuilding and maritime technology are all overlapping topics of great concern in these sectors. These issues are crucial for maritime sustainability when it comes to shipyards and ports, just as much as for ship financiers, shipbuilders and shipowners.

This event will be carried out in cooperation with the Representative Office of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce in St. Petersburg, which we would like to heartily thank for its support of this event. We kindly ask you to send your answer to us using the enclosed reply form by 25 November 2012.

With best regards,

[Signature]

Kurt Bodewig
Federal Minister a.D.
Chairman of the Board, Baltic Sea Forum e.V.