

AGENDA

33rd Meeting of the International Steering Committee for the Policy Area on Maritime Safety and Security of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region – Formal part

October 28 2025, 15.00 – 17.00 CEST

Sopot, Poland

1. Welcome Words and Tour de Table

PAC Ulf Siwe opened the meeting at 15:00 on behalf chair Annabel Keerd (delayed travel)

- Tour de Table

2. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes from the Last Meeting **15.10-15.15**

- Agenda approved
- Minutes from the last meeting approved

3. Words from the Chair

Ulf Siwe briefed on Estonian Priorities (under the EUSBSR Presidency)

- **Update of the Action Plan**, with the objective of effectively finalising the process. Goal is to ensure a **smooth start of the implementation phase** immediately following the approval of the updated Action Plan, which will support the achievement of the Strategy's three overall objectives: "Save the Sea", "Connect the Region" and "Increase Prosperity".
- Particular emphasis will be placed on **resilience and sustainability**.
- **Strengthened cooperation across Policy Areas** is a critical factor in supporting these objectives.
- Ensuring **increased Ukrainian involvement in relevant actions** and projects remains a key priority.
- The Presidency also places strong emphasis on **effective governance** and the **external communication** of the Strategy.

PAC was affirmative with strengthening the cooperation across Policy Areas, giving examples of the cooperation with PA Ship, PA Transport, PA Energy, and all other relevant Policy Areas for PA Safe work.

Increased Ukrainian involvement through the PA work.

4. Activities of the Policy Area Coordinators

PAC Seppo Mäkinen briefed on activities since May Steering Group meeting and planned activities for 2026 first half.

Attended:

- EU SBSR Estonian Presidency kick-off 11.9.2025 in Tallinn, EE (Action plan work)
- MARISEC chemical spill conference 16.-17.9.2025 in Kotka, FI
- PA Ship Operational group on-line meeting on 15.10.2025
- PA Ship formal Steering Group on-line meeting on 20.10.2025

Organized:

- One-to-one meetings with Steering Group members from DE, DK, LT and SE
- PA Safe Operational Advisory Group meeting on-line 16.10.2025
- Steering Group meeting on-site, Sopot 28.10.2025

Work on

- PA Safe Action Plan
- Adding the EU-funded projects BRISK II, NELSON, OPTIMISM and WINMOS IV to the list of PA Safe supported projects.
- Update of HELCOM Recommendation 34E/2 on e-Navigation.

PAC activities first half 2026

- PACs and National Coordinators meeting
- Sustainable Flow final conference, early April
- PA Energy, PA Safe, PA Ship and PA Transport common workshop with ports, 21.4.2026 Hamburg, DE
- European Maritime Day, 21.-22.5.2026
- Sjöfartens Dag, 21.5.2025
- Annual Forum 2026 8.-10.6.2026 Tallinn, EE
- Macro-regional and Sea-basin days, early July, Brussels, BE
- Project Idea workshops

5. EUSBSR Action plan update – PA Safe

PAC: Ulf Siwe, Swedish Maritime Administration

- Ulf Siwe briefed on the path and steps. SG approval is needed.
- Send out within October, deadline on 31.10.2025
- Juha-Matti on exemptions: "...when conducting ice-breaking". Re-formulated.
- Climate-friendly regulatory exceptions for icebreaking operations in the Baltic Sea in line with the FuelEU Maritime Regulation. To push environmentally friendly operations..
- **DECISION:** To approve the Action Plan with the suggested update.
- Petri Koistinen briefed on the EU REGIO 4 strategies
- good discussion.

6. Presentation of projects

Project summaries

PAC Ulf Siwe

- Ulf Siwe presented the ongoing projects and the "new" projects. Seppo Mäkinen complemented more detail on few projects.
- Other Macro Regional Strategy do not work on Maritime Safety to this extent. However, Sea-basin strategies (under DG MARE) have similar issues.
- Discussion on project financing and private sector attendance.

BREAK 16:05 -16.20

- Annabel Keers and Teemo Toomsalu arrived

7. Policy Suggestions and other input from the Operational Group

PAC: Ulf Siwe & Seppo Mäkinen

- Seppo Mäkinen briefed on outcome of Operational Advisory Group TEAMS seminar on 16.10.2025 focusing on maritime safety. Ulf Siwe complemented.
- It was noted that PA Safe projects also help maritime security authorities (e.g. member states Coast Guard and Navy) in the Baltic Sea.
- Teemo Toomsalu, EE: EU regulation on shipping vessels' insurance is under planning.

8. 1-2-1 meetings

PACs have conducted one-to-one meetings so far with new SG members, DE, DK, LT, SE.

- Good discussion and comments feedback has been received. DE, good discussion and feedback.
- **DECISION:** 1-2-1 discussions will be held with all member countries during first half of 2026.

9. Any other business, Next meeting & Conclusion

Chair

- A short work meeting looking at the approved action plan, on-line only. Minimum staff working document (EU level), NC shortened. Timeslot tentative week4 / 2026, if seen risks of changes to the Action Plan. If not, then TEAMS work meeting in March 2026.
- Annual Forum 2026 at the Kultuur Katalyst, Tallinn, Estonia. SG meeting on site 8.6.2026 at Ministry of Climate in Tallinn or other venue.
- Petri Koistinen briefed on the possibility to have Norway join EU SBSR work.

The meeting was closed at 17:00