



Ympäristöministeriö
Miljöministeriet
Ministry of the Environment

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Response to the notification of the national Swedish Marine Spatial Plans for the Gulf of Bothnia, the Baltic Sea and the Skagerrak/Kattegat

Finland has received a notification from Sweden concerning the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Swedish Marine Spatial Plans for the Gulf of Bothnia, the Baltic Sea and the Skagerrak/Kattegat. Finland has the possibility to participate in the assessment procedures in accordance with Article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the UN/ECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and with Article 7 of the Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment (2001/42/EC). It is mentioned in the notification letter that the notification is informal and is done in an early and non-mandatory phase of the planning process.

The Ministry of the Environment would like to inform Sweden that Finland does wish to participate in the planning procedures for the Swedish Marine Spatial Plans of the Gulf of Bothnia, the Baltic Sea and the Skagerrak/Kattegat and the related Strategic Environmental Assessments.

In accordance with Article 10 (4) of the Protocol Finland would like to agree with Sweden on detailed arrangements to ensure that the public concerned and the authorities in Finland are informed and given an opportunity to forward their opinion on the draft plans and the environmental reports within a reasonable time frame. Regarding the timeframe The Ministry of the Environment can confirm that proposed timeframe of 12 weeks will be sufficient.

The Ministry of the Environment would like to state that it is vital that especially the different cross-border and transboundary planning issues related e.g. to transport, infrastructure, commercial fishing and nature protection and related environmental impacts are considered in the environmental assessment procedures.

Director General
on behalf of the Permanent Secretary



Helena Säteri

Ministerial Adviser



Lasse Tallskog

For information
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