

Best Practices for ensuring high quality recommendations and their delivery in due time



BSAC

Baltic Sea Advisory Council



Inter AC 8th November 2019, Brussels

This is the BSAC

41 members

The General Assembly

30 members

The Executive Committee

Management Team

ExCom chair, Vice chair,
Honorary chair, WG
chairs + Secretariat

Demersal Working Group

They each have their own
chairs and no fixed
membership

Pelagic Working Group

**Working Group on
Ecosystem Based
Management**

Secretariat

- BSAC set up in 2006.
- Adopted a set of statutes AND rules of procedure for the BSAC.
- Have already 5 times made amendments to the statutes and rules of procedure.
 - A set of amendments proposed at November 2018 Extraordinary General Assembly – not adopted.

Hard to keep making
make separate
amendments
Agreed on a full
revision needed >>>>
Focus Group



New Rules of Procedure What's new?

Shorter, simpler + easier to read

The required 2/3 quorum for decisions in ExCom replaced by simple majority

For Gen Ass and ExCom written mandates can be included in the majority decisions

E mail decisions by ExCom need a maximum of 20 days

A fast track procedure is for the ExCom chair AND vice chair to coordinate

WG chairs can be elected for no more than three terms of three years



**New Rules
of
procedure
What's
new
cont'd?**

Secretariat sets a deadline for requests for interpreting

Secretariat will strive to provide web conference link at meetings

A personal data policy made clear on the BSAC website

Reference to EU Baltic Member States or to BALTFISH where relevant

One reference only at the start to EU legislation governing the ACs

Still elect the ExCom chair from within the General Assembly



The Decision taking

Consensus is *STILL* the goal for the Executive Committee and the General Assembly

But if that can't be achieved:

For General Assembly, we take a simple majority vote (including written mandates)

For ExCom we take a simple majority vote (including written mandates)

Dissenting opinions are recorded in the reports and recommendations



The rules of procedure are supported by:

- A clear set of Working Group procedures from 2016 – these feed into the ExCom work and decision-making process
- Terms of reference for its Management Team adopted 2019
- A set of Best Practices adopted 2019 – not rules, but a “perfect world” scenario



Esben Sverdrup-Jensen, BSAC Executive Committee chair

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