

## **The Baltic Sea Declaration**

### **High wind, low waves – A favourable place for offshore wind power**

**The Baltic Sea is a new promising market for offshore wind energy in Europe. It has the potential to be the central energy hub for North-Eastern Europe. Offshore wind energy can help to further diversify the energy portfolio of the Baltic Sea Region, will contribute substantially to the cost-efficient achievement of the objectives of the Energy Union as well as increase security of power supplies in the region and help to combat climate change.**

Regional cooperation in spatial planning, grid development, capacity planning and support schemes is a key instrument for the development of a well-functioning internal energy market and cross-border infrastructures. From the cooperation between the Baltic Sea countries – Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden the following declaration has been developed to accelerate the use of offshore wind power in the Baltic Sea. The objectives of the declaration fit into the existing political structures of the Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan (BEMIP).

#### **Declaration:**

- 1. The conditions in the Baltic Sea are ideal for an cost-effective exploitation of offshore wind resources:**
  - 1.1 Favourable climate conditions for offshore wind: strong and stable winds, low waves, and shallow waters.
  - 1.2 Close distances to shore & easy accessibility to potential offshore wind farms.
  - 1.3 Baltic Sea region provides opportunities for usage of turbines meant for less harsh conditions in offshore applications.
  - 1.4 Offshore wind energy combined with hydropower and interconnectors can provide intensive baseload in the Baltic Sea region.
  
- 2. Benefits to the economy of the Baltic Sea countries:**
  - 2.1 The development of offshore wind power in the Baltic Sea offers economic growth for the region and for the supply chain, such as turbine and substructure manufacturers, O&M service providers; ship companies, ports, and other logistic enterprises.
  - 2.2 The development of the offshore wind industry in the Baltic Sea region creates high-value jobs.
  - 2.3 Offshore wind energy in the Baltic Sea region contributes to cost-reductions and the further success of the industry in Europe.



**3. A legal framework is needed for the wide utilisation of offshore wind in the Baltic Sea:**

- 3.1 Stable and long-term national plans for offshore wind are needed to create an attractive market for project developers and investors.
- 3.2 National vision and shared offshore wind power volumes for the region should be defined.
- 3.3 Cross-border renewables cooperation between countries creates cost savings in renewable energy subsidies, more competition and policy & knowledge transfer. Therefore common offshore wind power projects between Member States should be encouraged to facilitate better functioning of the internal electricity market.
- 3.4 Market design reforms are needed to tackle market imperfections like overcapacity of carbon intensive installations and barriers for renewables.

**4. Need for further interconnection in the Baltic Sea region:**

- 4.1 The further integration of the Baltic States into the European market enhance energy-security. The Baltic States need to be further interconnected to the continental system (UTCE) and the Nordic system.
- 4.2 The coordination and planning of grid projects beyond national borders is needed to increase interconnection and the development of offshore wind in the Baltic Sea region. To create higher synergies and lower cost meshed grid and hybrid projects should be explored where appropriate and where it does not hinder the development of offshore power. Hybrid projects should allow the free flow of electricity across borders, lessons from previous projects should be taken into account.
- 4.3 A higher level of interconnection and further market integration leads to long term environmental and economic benefits in the Baltic Sea region.

**5. Spatial planning should find areas to develop offshore wind power efficiently.**

- 5.1 The Baltic Sea enjoys broad economic activities from cargo- and gas transport, through fishing, O&G exploration, natural protection areas as well as areas of historic protection where cooperation with offshore wind power should be encouraged.
- 5.2 As the sea usage is divided by traditional users like the protection of natural- and heritage areas and economic activities like shipping and fishing, a priority must set in spatial planning to find also areas for offshore wind power and grid development related to it.
- 5.3 In order to have transparent clear timing and one procedure joint agreed efforts are made to remove any existing and possible obstacles in spatial planning on the Baltic Sea water use for energy production and transmission.

**The tasks to achieve the goals mentioned above are listed in the Annex 1.**



**Baltic Sea**  
Offshore Wind Forum

**The Baltic Sea Declaration has been approved on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June, 2017 by the following members of the Baltic Sea Offshore Wind Forum:**

Danish Wind Industry Association (DWIA)	Jan Hylleberg
Estonian Wind Power Association (EWPA)	Martin Kruus
Finnish Wind Power Association (FWPA)	Anni Mikkonen
German Offshore Wind Energy Foundation (SOW)	Andreas Wagner
Latvian Wind Energy Association (VEA)	Paulis Barons
Lithuanian Wind Power Association (LWPA)	Aistis Radavičius
Polish Wind Energy Association (PWEA)	Janusz Gajowiecki
Swedish Wind Energy Association (SWEA)	Charlotte Unger Larson

This declaration and its Annex shall enter into force on the date when the last approval of the association listed above has been received.

## **Annex 1**

### **The Baltic Sea Declaration**

The tasks to achieve the goals mentioned in the Baltic Sea Declaration:

TASK 1: Analyse how the condition benefits of the Baltic Sea turn into cost benefits of offshore wind power.

TASK 2: Map the supply-chain of offshore wind power in the Baltic Sea countries and analyse the socioeconomic value of it.

TASK 3: Jointly support the European Commission in creating the legal framework according to the approach described in the Baltic Sea Declaration.

TASK 4: Represent clear interest in the grid development plans in the Baltic Sea area and related EU projects.

TASK 5: Represent clear interest in joint spatial planning in the Baltic Sea area.

Task 6: Update the assessment on the potential of the Baltic Sea offshore wind power.

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