



Meeting of the Natural Resources and Environment Committee of the Baltic Assembly

1–2 February 2024, Tallinn (Estonia)
Conference Hall of the Riigikogu

Preliminary programme (30/01/2024)

Friday, 2 February

09:00–10:00 **Internal meeting of the Natural Resources and Environment Committee**

10:00–11:30 **Biodiversity, species protection, and wild animal welfare in the Baltics**

- Long-term plan of the Baltic States to protect wild animals and reverse the degradation of ecosystems
- 3B cooperation to implement the EU Birds and Habitats Directives
- Marking animals for wildlife research and management in the Baltic States
- Cooperation to reverse the decline in bird species in the region
- Preventing and minimising the effects of invasive alien species
- Supporting sustainable farming and forest management practices to protect animal biodiversity

*Chaired by the Chair of the Committee **Mr Romualdas Vaitkus***

Introductory report on the Baltic Sea Animal Rehabilitation Centre

- **Dr Žilvinas Kleiva**, Chief Veterinarian-Deputy Director of the Lithuanian Sea Museum

Governmental positions of the Baltic States

- **Ms Iona Mendziņa**, Deputy Director of the Environmental Protection Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Latvia
- **Mr Andis Purs**, Head of the Forest Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Latvia
- **Ms Lina Čaplikaitė-Denisovienė**, Senior Advisor of the Nature Protection Policy Group, Ministry of Environment, Lithuania
- **Mr Hanno Zingel**, Adviser at the Biodiversity Protection Department, Ministry of Climate, Estonia

International experience

- **Mr Ola Elvestuen**, Vice Chair of the Committee on a Sustainable Nordic Region, Nordic Council

Debates

Conclusions for the BA recommendations



11:30–13:00

Welfare of domestic animals in the Baltic States: finding joint solutions to common challenges

- Animal welfare and protection policy in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia
- Gaps in ensuring the welfare of animals in the Baltic States
- Guidance, training and development programmes to jointly support producers in animal welfare and environmental aspects of farming
- Reducing the use of antibiotics in food-producing animals
- Strengthening the cooperation on African swine fever and bird flu prevention and control in the Baltic States

*Chaired by the Chair of the Committee **Mr Romualdas Vaitkus***

Introductory report on domestic animal protection in the region

- **Prof. David Arney**, Member of the Baltic Animal Welfare Network, Professor at the Estonian University of Life Sciences

Governmental positions of the Baltic States

- **Mr Māris Balodis**, Director General at the Food and Veterinary Service, Latvia
- **Mr Vaidotas Kiudulas**, Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) at the State Food and Veterinary Service, Lithuania
- **Ms Kadri Kabel**, Animal Health and Welfare Adviser at the Food Safety Department, Ministry of Regional Affairs and Agriculture, Estonia

Debates

Conclusions for the BA recommendations

13:30–15:00

Intensifying efforts towards circular economy in the Baltic States: harmonising approaches and encouraging joint recycling projects

- Financially sustainable recycling solution for collected textiles in the Baltic States
- Harmonized approach of the Baltic States for reusing and repairing products and using them again in the regional market
- Elimination of practices that allow the region to be used as a dumping ground for waste
- Finding a solution for packaging returns in the Baltic States

*Chaired by the Chair of the Committee **Mr Romualdas Vaitkus***

Report on the results of the PACKGDEPO Project

- **Ms Laurina Šinkejeva**, Adviser at the Circular Economy Department, Ministry of Climate, Estonia

Governmental positions of the Baltic States

- **Ms Virginija Vingrienė**, Chief Specialist of the Waste Policy Group, Ministry of Environment, Lithuania
- **Ms Sandija Sņikere**, Head of the Waste Management Division, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Latvia
- **Ms Laurina Šinkejeva**, Adviser at the Circular Economy Department, Ministry of Climate, Estonia

Debates
Conclusions for the BA recommendations

15:00–15:20 **Internal meeting for the conclusions by the members of the Natural Resources and Environment Committee**

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