

COUNCIL OF THE BALTIC SEA STATES
BOX 2010
103 11 STOCKHOLM
SWEDEN

DATE: 2013-04-26

Independent Auditor's report for the Council of the Baltic Sea States

Report on the Financial Statements

The Swedish National Audit Office (the Swedish NAO) have audited the financial statements of the Council of the Baltic Sea States for 2012, dated 2013-03-25.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act in Sweden (SFS 1995:1554), practice statement BFNAR 2009:1 issued by the Swedish Accounting Standards Board and other decisions for the Council. Management is also responsible for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

The Swedish NAO's responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. The Swedish NAO conducted its audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that the Swedish NAO comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements as well as whether management administration is in agreement with relevant directives and particular governmental decisions. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and

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the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

The Swedish NAO believes that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for the audit opinion.

Opinion

In the Swedish NAO's opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Council of the Baltic Sea States as at December 31, 2012, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Annual Accounts Act in Sweden (SFS 1995:1554), practice statement BFNAR 2009:1 issued by the Swedish Accounting Standards Board and other decisions for the Council.

Stefan Andersson, Auditor in charge, has decided in this matter. Anna Pira, Audit manager, has presented the matter.

Stefan Andersson

Anna Pira