

# **Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission**

Seventh Meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area

PRESSURE 7-2017

Vilnius, Lithuania, 24-26 October 2017

**Document title** Information on the status of Kattegat

Code 5-3 Category INF

**Agenda Item** 5 - Assessment of input of nutrients and selected hazardous substances

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Reference

# Background

The document submitted by FEAP contains the reply of the Danish Minister of Environment and Food on a Parliamentary question on the state of environment of the marine sea (Kattegat) including eutrophication matters.

# Action requested

The Meeting is invited to <u>take note</u> of the information.

# Information document from FEAP

FEAP likes to point the Meeting's attention to the Danish Minister of Environment and Food's reply on a Parliamentary question on the state of environment of the marine sea (Kattegat):

# The question – no 870 on 22.06.17 from Member of Parliament (Folketinget) Maria Reumert Gjerding from Enhedslisten:

"The minister is asked to explain why the environmental impact of additional pollution that fish farms in Kattegat will cause is disregarded as the sea area is not in good environmental condition."

#### The answer on 07.09.17 from Minister of Environment and Food Esben Lunde Larsen:

"In some areas, it will take a long time for the marine environment to reach good environmental condition, even though human impacts have already been reduced. This applies inter alia to eutrophication. Therefore, there may be a situation where there has been a sufficient reduction of emissions of nutrients without it being reflected in the current environmental state. Thus many years may elapse before a balance between the discharge of nutrients to an area and the environmental state of that area elapse. Denmark has currently reduced the nutrient discharge to the Kattegat so much that it will not prevent good environmental status in the long run.

I can also refer to my reply to consultation questions...."

The Meeting will note that the fact that the environmental condition of a marine area has not reached "Good Environmental Standard", does not imply that there should be established further reduction of the discharge of nutrients. It only implies that "thing takes time".

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