

STATEMENT

Nord Stream AG Will Participate in the Baltic Sea Action Summit in Helsinki

Zug, 3 February 2010. Nord Stream will participate in the Baltic Sea Action Summit organized in Helsinki on 10 February 2010. The Summit brings together heads of state and heads of government of countries in the Baltic Sea region, private enterprises and non-governmental organizations. At the Summit, Nord Stream will present its firm commitment to the preservation of the Baltic Sea, along with other participants.

Nord Stream will share the extensive knowledge which it has gathered for the purposes of preparing and submitting the relevant documentation in pursuit of corresponding permits for the construction and operation of the natural gas pipelines concerning the Baltic Sea, to be utilised for further Baltic Sea research and preservation work through a new Fund. The objective is to increase the existing knowledge regarding the state of the Baltic Sea and its preservation. More detailed information about this commitment will be made public on Wednesday 10 February.

The Baltic Sea Action Summit (BSAS) is a joint initiative of the President of Finland, the Finnish Prime Minister and the Baltic Sea Action Group (BSAG). The objective of the process is to join the resources of public, private and third-party actors for the benefit of the Baltic Sea.

Data subject to legal restrictions by the laws of the Baltic Sea countries will be excluded from the Fund's data bank. Nord Stream will liaise with national authorities on this question.

For further information, please contact:

Irina Vasilyeva, Communications Manager Nord Stream AG
Mobile: +41 79 239 53 39

Email: press@nord-stream.com

Notes to editors

Nord Stream is a natural gas pipeline that will link Russia and the European Union through the Baltic Sea. The European Union's annual natural gas imports in the year 2007 were approximately 312 billion cubic metres (bcm) and are projected to increase to 516 bcm by the year 2030. This means that by 2030, the EU's annual import needs will have increased by about 200 bcm (Source: IEA, World Energy Outlook, 2009). Nord Stream will meet about 25 percent of this additional gas import requirement by connecting the European gas pipeline network to some of the world's largest gas reserves. The project will be an important contribution to long-term security of supply and a milestone of the energy partnership between the European Union and Russia.

Nord Stream AG plans to have the first of two parallel pipelines operational in 2011. Each line is approximately 1,220 kilometres long, providing a transport capacity of some 27.5 bcm per year. Full capacity of about 55 bcm per year will be reached in the second phase, when the second line goes on stream. This is enough to supply more than 26 million European households.

Nord Stream AG is an international joint venture established for the planning, construction and subsequent operation of the new offshore gas pipeline across the Baltic Sea. Russian OAO Gazprom holds a 51 percent stake in the joint venture. The German companies BASF/Wintershall Holding AG and E.ON Ruhrgas AG hold 20 percent each, and the Dutch gas infrastructure company N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie has a 9 percent stake.

As a cross-border project, Nord Stream is subject to international conventions and national legislation in each of the countries through which it passes. It has invested 100 million euros in environmental studies and planning and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was completed along the whole pipeline route. This is a detailed study of environmental aspects in a trans-boundary context. The process is governed by international law (Espoo Convention) and by national legislation in the countries concerned.

Baltic Sea Action Group (BSAG) is a part of the Foundation for a Living Baltic Sea. BSAG works in an agile manner to rescue the Baltic Sea with carefully chosen projects. Constructive cooperation with different authorities and the private sector is based on researchers' and experts' opinions. Work complies and implements the Baltic Sea Action Plan issued by HELCOM (The Helsinki Commission). Targets include adverse effects caused by agriculture, maritime activities and hazardous substances.

In February 2010, BSAG organizes a **Baltic Sea Action Summit (BSAS)** together with the Finnish President Tarja Halonen and the Prime Minister Matti Vanhanen. Among the invitees are heads of states from all the Baltic Sea countries as well as the salient actors of the business community and the civil society. All Summit participants will make their own concrete commitment to action. Commitments are already being made and the process will continue after the Summit. For more information on the foundation visit www.bsag.fi and on the Baltic Sea Action Summit visit www.bsas.fi.