

RESOLUTION

On the Development of Marine Tourism in the Baltic States

The Baltic Assembly,

recognising that tourism is one of the biggest and most rapidly developing branches of economy, which has an important role in the popularisation of national culture and propagation of the ideas of nature protection;

taking into account that marine tourism is a significant and promising part of tourism and that the location of our countries in the Baltic Sea region enables us to successfully realise the potential arising from consistent development of marine tourism;

proceeding from the main positions of the Tourism Round Table of May 5, 2000, of the Economic and Social Affairs Committee, Environment and Energy Committee, and Communications and Informatics Committee of the Baltic Assembly and from those of the Marine Tourism Conference of October 5, 2001,

calls on the Baltic Council of Ministers to:

- **organise**, in the first six months of 2002, mapping of the common problems in marine tourism and substantial exchange of information for raising the mutual awareness of the development programmes regulating marine tourism and launch a discussion on working out a joint strategy for Baltic marine tourism;
- **provide**, in the national programmes of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania on the development of tourism, solutions to the problems of marine tourism, paying special attention to the development of a network of small ports, with the involvement of international sources of financing where possible;
- **apply for** launching, with the aid of the European Union, a new European Union Programme for the development of small ports, marine tourism and coastal areas of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and other candidate countries around the Baltic Sea.

Tallinn, December 15, 2001