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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: Draft Council Conclusions on the inclusion of Norway in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
- *Approval*

1. In its letter of 20 March 2026, the President of the National Coordinators Group of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region requested the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the EU to launch the procedure in the Council for the inclusion of Norway in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUBSR)¹.
2. Draft Council conclusions on the inclusion of Norway in the EUBSR were examined at the meeting of the Working Party on Structural Measures and Outermost Regions of 21 April

¹ WK 5257/2026.

2026². Delegations agreed to the draft Council conclusions as set out in the Annex to this note.

3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is asked to advise the Council to approve these Council conclusions as set out in Annex to this note.

² WK 5258/2026.

Draft

Council Conclusions on the inclusion of Norway in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

1. RECALLING the conclusions of the European Council of 29-30 October 2009¹, which adopted the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) and endorsed the Council conclusions² on the subject based on the Commission's Communication of 10 June 2009³;
2. CONSIDERING the consensus reached by means of a silent procedure on 28 November 2025 by the representatives of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden with regard to the application for full membership put forward by Norway;
3. CONSIDERING the letter of 20 March 2026 from the President of the National Coordinators Group of the EU Strategy to the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the EU asking it to launch the procedure in the Council for the inclusion of Norway in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region;
 - A. WELCOMES and ACCEPTS the request put forward by the countries participating in the National Coordinators Group of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region to include Norway in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region;
 - B. INVITES the Commission to take the necessary steps to include Norway in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and to submit an accordingly amended Strategy to the Council.

¹ 15265/1/09 REV 1.

² 15018/09.

³ 11308/09.