*Swedish Board of Agriculture
 551 82 Jönköping*

*Sweden*

 *2020-06-03*

Dear EU4Ocean Platform facilitators,

As project owner and contact person of the BeUBio project (the result of the Baltic Leadership Program – Bioeconomy Youth) I would like to apply for the BeUBio partner group to become a **founding member of the EU4Ocean Platform**. With this letter of intent I provide further motivation and information to support this application.

The BeUBio partner group have representatives from universities, research institutes, authorities and organisations in Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. BeUBio aims to promote youth involvement across the Baltic Sea Region for transition to a bio-based economy, and create synergies with other actors and initiatives addressing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. This includes both blue and green bioeconomy.

A platform for youth involvement will be established to bring young people together with politicians and decision makers in companies and create synergies with other actors and initiatives enabling youth participation in the development of a circular bioeconomy within the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) and other relevant frameworks.

The project owner is the Swedish Board of agriculture and the project coordinator is the Nordic Council of Ministers office in Lithuania. The other project partners are:

* Nordregio, Sweden
* The region of Kalmar County, Sweden
* JAMK University of Applied Sciences, Finland
* South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences, XAMK, Finland
* Estonian University of Life Sciences, Centre of Bioeconomy, Estonia
* Vidzeme Planning Region, Latvia

TheBeUBio partner group would be of added value to the EU4Ocean Platform because the Baltic Sea is our connecting link for all and thus the sustainability of our Sea Basin is crucial. Developing the blue and the green bioeconomy with concern for the sustainability is therefore our core mission. There is also expertise in marine knowledge in the group where for instance the project owner is Policy Area Coordinator for Bioeconomy Fishery and Aquaculture within the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, EUSBSR*.*

I confirm that the applicantBeUBio partner group and the experts representing this organization, agree to comply with the EU4Ocean coalition guiding principles. As a member of the EU4Ocean Platform, theBeUBio partner group would proactively contribute to EU4Ocean Platform and Working Group activities. This would include nominating a minimum of 1-2 representatives who will specifically contribute to EU4Ocean Platform activities, including active contribution to EU4Ocean Working Groups.

I also confirm that the BeUBio partner group will cover any expenses associated with expert representative contributions to the EU4Ocean Platform *[e.g. travel and subsistence, staff time].*

Yours sincerely,

e-signature

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