Nord Stream AG has left the governing bodies of BaltCF and OSTSEESTIFTUNG

BaltCF and its national counterpart OSTSEESTIFTUNG, founded in 2014 and 2011 respectively, will continue their work without involvement by Nord Stream AG, effective immediately. Nord Stream has reacted to the demands made by WWF Germany, BUND (Friends of the Earth Germany) and NABU (German section of Birdlife International) and their representatives have resigned from the governing bodies of the two foundations. Until now, Nord Stream delegated one representative each to the Boards of Trustees of the two foundations as well as to the Board of Directors of BaltCF. The governing bodies of both foundations are thus now made up exclusively of representatives of environmental NGOs.

Back when the first Nord Stream pipeline was built, the environmental organizations filed a lawsuit against the project to achieve a better compensation for the ecological damages done by the construction and operation of the pipeline.

Because the government permit for the pipeline construction mandated only insufficient compensation measures, the NGOs coerced Nord Stream into agreeing to an out-of-court settlement that foresaw additional measures, inter alia the erection of the two foundations. Since then, BaltCF and OSTSEESTIFTUNG have implemented numerous environmental conservation projects in the entire Baltic Sea Region. BaltCF has provided roughly 5.3 million euros for such projects since it was established in 2014.

The involved NGOs agree that the successful work of the two foundations is to be continued. There is no reason to stop the compensation of the environmental damage caused by the first Nord Stream pipeline. After the resignation of the Nord Stream representatives, the governing bodies will convene on short notice in order to adapt the foundations’ work to the new circumstances.

Rostock, 9 March 2022