

REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Polish Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy

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Latvian Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development

Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania

Swedish Ministry of Rural affairs and Infrastructure

Finnish Ministry of the Environment

German Federal Ministry for Housing, Urban Development and Building, Division S III 2

VASAB Declaration

Dear members of the VASAB Committee on Spatial Planning and Development of the Baltic Sea Region,

Responding to the altered security situation in the Baltic Sea Region and beyond, during the Estonian VASAB chairmanship, VASAB Committee has collectively worked on the concept of spatial/territorial resilience. As the current chairing country, we emphasise that as natural and manmade hazards are becoming more evident, VASAB collaboration needs to bring spatial and territorial aspects of resilience and preparedness into the focus of its activities.

To formalise VASAB's commitment we hereby forward the VASAB Ministerial Tallinn Declaration on Spatial Resilience (please see attached) for ministerial approval in written procedure. We ask Committee members to carry out the necessary procedures in your countries and respond by June 27, 2025.

Estonia remains committed to contributing to VASAB collaboration to support the implementation of the principles described in the declaration.

With best regards, *(signed digitally)*

Ivan Sergejev Deputy Secretary General for Spatial Planning