

# HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group 13th Meeting Riga, Latvia, 24-25 November 2016



# OUTCOME OF THE 13TH MEETING OF THE HELCOM-VASAB MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING WORKING GROUP (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 13-2016)

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# OUTCOME OF THE 13TH MEETING OF THE HELCOM-VASAB MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING WORKING GROUP (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 13-2016)

#### Introduction

- 0.1 The 13th Meeting of the joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 13-2016) was held on 24-25 November 2016 in Riga, Latvia.
- O.2 The Meeting was attended by representatives of all Contracting Parties/Member States, except for Belarus and Norway. The Meeting was also attended by the Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB) and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) as Observers and Finnish Environment Institute, Bates College, s.Pro sustainable projects and Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde (IOW) as invited guests. The List of Participants is contained in **Annex 1**.
- 0.3 The Meeting was chaired by the Co-chairs of the Working Group, Mr. Andrzej Cieslak, Poland, and Ms. Anita Mäkinen, Finland.
- 0.4 Mr. Talis Linkaits, Head of the VASAB Secretariat, welcomed the participants to the Meeting.
- 0.5 Ms. Monika Stankiewicz, Executive Secretary of HELCOM, welcomed the participants to the Meeting.
- 0.6 The HELCOM Secretariat acted as Secretary of the Meeting.

#### Agenda Item 1

#### Adoption of the Agenda

Documents: 1-1, 1-1-Rev.1, 1-2

1.1 The Meeting <u>adopted</u> the Agenda (document 1-1-Rev.1) elaborated by the HELCOM and VASAB Secretariats in consultation with the Chairs.

## Agenda Item 2

#### Matters arising from other HELCOM and VASAB meetings

Documents: 2-1, 2-2

- 2.1 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the information by the VASAB Secretariat on the recent involvement of VASAB in different regional and European events.
- 2.2 The Meeting took note of the information by the HELCOM Secretariat on ongoing activities in the HELCOM framework and upcoming HELCOM meetings and other relevant meetings as presented in document 2-1. The Meeting also took note of the information that the EU has taken over the Chairmanship of HELCOM for the period July 2016 June 2018 (chairmanship priorities are available at HELCOM website).
- 2.3 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the information by the HELCOM Secretariat on the status of implementation of the HELCOM commitments related to MSP as presented in document 2-2 and available from the HELCOM explorer.

#### Agenda Item 3

#### Regional coordination and policy follow-up

Documents: 3-1

3.1 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the information by the EU regarding recent developments related to the MSP Directive affairs such as transposition into the national legislation, EU MSP platform, ongoing projects financed by the EU, three further projects will be kicked off soon, developing a study on international aspects of MSP. IOC UNESCO joint conference will be organized regarding ocean governance.

- 3.2 The Meeting <u>took note</u> that the events related to the ocean governance will take place next spring.
- 3.3 The Meeting took note of the following information on national MSP developments:
  - Denmark: MSP legislation setting the framework for MSP is in place and MSP process is under development.
  - <u>Estonia</u>: Two pilot areas MSP have been recently finalized. Estonia is currently developing a model of financial implication of different use of the sea. Estonia will share the experience on that in future.
  - <u>Finland</u>: National legislation in MSP came into force in October 2016. Regional councils will draft three MSPs. The Ministry of the Environment is providing general guidance and is in charge of cooperation with neighbouring countries. Finland also clarified that Åland island has own responsibility in elaboration of the MSP legislation.
  - Germany: Transposition of the EU Directive into national law: An amendment of the Federal Spatial Planning Law has passed the federal Cabinet and the legislative procedure is foreseen to be completed soon. Update of the State Development Programme Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: The former State Development Programme Mecklenburg-Vorpommern of 2005 has been updated and the new programme came into force in June 2016. Same as the former State Development Programme also the new programme covers both land and sea, i.e. MSP for the territorial waters of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern is included. The foreseen lifetime of the programme is about 10 years
  - Latvia: Latvia has notified the transposition of MSP Directive with existing regulations. Those are spatial planning law (2011) and secondary legislation on elaboration of MSP (2012). These legal acts are more detailed than requirements in the MSP Directive. The national MSP in Latvia is still in elaboration phase. Recently a study of existing regulations concerning the use of sea was performed in order to better integrate MSP in existing legal framework. The MSP will be once again discussed with stakeholders and it is foreseen to be adopted by the government by mid-2017.
  - <u>Lithuania:</u> In June 2015 the MSP document was adopted by the Parliament. The document is prepared and adopted as a part of national comprehensive plan which now integrates both land and sea territories. The EU Directive has been already transposed into national legislation.
  - Poland: MSP legislation is already in place and the work on Polish MSP has begun. In November 2016 took place the first international meeting regarding possible content and direction of development of the Polish plan. Representatives from all BSR countries were invited (except Norway). The irst draft of the plan should be ready up to end of the second quarter of 2017. The second international meeting, where the above mentioned draft will be presented is planned for the fourth quarter of 2017.
  - <u>Sweden:</u> The first yearly draft Swedish MSPs have been developed and will be published on the 1st of December 2016 on the website of SwAM. They will be discussed with stakeholders during spring 2017. MSP is high priority in the Swedish chairmanship in VASAB.
  - Russia: The national legislation in MSP has been under development. The sequence of the legal acts to be adopted has been identified. According to that, the MSP legal act will follow the Federal law on state management of maritime activity which will identify the responsible authority. The Federal law on state management of maritime activity is currently in the Parliament.
- 3.4 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the updates of National MSP Contact points for the purpose of transboundary consultation and joint planning as presented in document 3-1.
- 3.5 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the recent developments and activities related to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) and Horizontal Action (HA) Spatial Planning for which HELCOM and VASAB act as the Horizontal Action Coordinators (HACs) and the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG acts as the Steering Committee concerning the MSP part.

3.6 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the ongoing pre-selection of seed money project proposals under Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme.

#### Agenda Item 4

#### **Ecosystem-based approach in MSP**

Documents: 4-1, 4-2

- 4.1 The Meeting <u>took note</u> that the Guideline for implementation of ecosystem-based approach in MSP was adopted by the 72nd meeting of VASAB CSPD/BSR without prejudice to the national legislation on MSP taking into account its non-binding nature and approved by HELCOM HOD 50-2016.
- 4.2 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the information on the workshop on application of ecosystem approach organized by the Baltic SCOPE project and its Task Force on the ecosystem approach, on 24 November 2016 in the second MSP Forum as presented by Sweden.
- 4.3 The Meeting took note of the information on the development of "green infrastructure" concept for the purpose of MSP in Sweden (document 4-2, **Presentation 1**). The Meeting highly appreciated the presented concept and noted that the concept is mainly based on biodiversity. Sweden clarified that the ambition had been to include both connectivity and biodiversity but the connectivity part needed further development.
- 4.4 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the information by Germany on the ongoing project related to, among other issues, the connectivity and identification of the priority areas for nature conservation. Germany indicated that the tasks are quite similar but just bear different names and invited Sweden to be in contact on the project level to continue a dialogue.
- 4.5 The Meeting took note of the remark by Estonia that the developed concept as well as the Symphony tool might be of relevance to other countries and could be elaborated in other projects. The Meeting agreed that the development of the concept of green infrastructure on a regional level might be considered for inclusion into the group working plan.
- 4.6 The Meeting <u>took note</u> that the Co-chair of HELCOM State &Conservation WG approached the Co-chairs of HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG regarding possible steps and cooperation between the groups on MPA and MSPs. The Meeting <u>thanked</u> the Co-Chair of S&C group for the initiative and <u>invited</u> the Chair together with the HELCOM Secretariat to develop the suggestion further based on comments by the Contracting Parties/member states to be provided by **15 January 2017**.
- 4.7 The Meeting took note of the information on social and economic analysis (ESA) for MSP as presented by Ms. Soile Oinonen, Finland (document 4-1, **Presentation 2**). The Meeting <u>pointed out</u> a longer-term timeframe needed for the ESA development work. The Meeting <u>found</u> it relevant to exchange information on national approaches and work on ESA as social and economic aspects are required to be taken into account in MSP by the existing legislation.
- 4.8 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the information by Sweden that MSP plans should include ESA but the methodological aspects are still under discussion and <u>welcomed</u> work which might lead to fruitful results in future. The Meeting also <u>noted</u> the view of the EU Commission welcoming further developments of the ESA and its integration into the MSPs.
- 4.9 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the position by Lithuania that the ESA should be performed in accordance with the legal frame work.

#### Agenda Item 5

#### Planning future work and a new Work Plan

Documents: 5-1, 5-2, 5-3

5.1 The Meeting <u>recalled</u> the coordinated process to consider a future work plan on Maritime Spatial Planning in the Baltic Sea as presented in document 5-2.

- 5.2 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the decisions by VASAB and HELCOM on the prolongation of the mandate of the group as presented in document 5-1. VASAB CSPD/BSR prolonged the mandate until the end of 2019 as HELCOM HOD prioritized to prolong the mandate up to 2021.
- 5.3 The Meeting <u>considered</u> the request by HELCOM HOD to update the Terms of Reference of the group. The Meeting <u>agreed</u> that the mandate stands as it reads now as it seems to be valid. However, there are some references that could be updated. The Meeting <u>requested</u> both Secretariats to make the needed technical changes by **15 December 2016**.
- 5.4 The Meeting took note of the identified MSP topics as presented in document 5-3.
- 5.5 The Meeting <u>elaborated</u> and <u>agreed</u> that the new work plan could be exposed for three years and could be revisited and further expanded afterwards. The Meeting <u>requested</u> the Secretariats to make editorial adjustment of the agreed document without substantial changes (by **29 November 2016**) and submit it for approval to HELCOM HOD and VASAB CSPD/BSR.
- 5.6 The Meeting took note of the progress towards achieving the main tasks of the Baltic Sea Region MSP Data Expert Sub-Group including the outcomes of the third and fourth meetings of the Baltic Sea Region MSP Data Expert Sub-Group held on 12 April 2016 and 13 June 2016, presented by the Chair of MSP data Sub-Group. The next meeting of the group will be held in Warsaw on 15 December 2016.
- 5.7 The Meeting <u>agreed</u> to prolong the mandate of the MSP Data Expert Sub-Group for the next 3 years. The Meeting agreed to review the ToR for the subgroup at the next Meeting, if it would be needed.
- 5.8 The Meeting <u>took note</u> that the EU funded "HASPS 2" project supports the MSP Data Expert Sub-Group.
- 5.9 The Meeting <u>agreed</u> that the next meeting of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 14-2017) will take place in the second week of May 2017 and <u>welcomed</u> the offer by Sweden to host the Meeting in Stockholm.
- 5.10 The Meeting <u>welcomed</u> the invitation by Poland to host the 15th meeting of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG in Gdansk in the end of 2017.
- 5.11 The Meeting <u>discussed</u> the working method of the group and agreed on the following:
  - to organize at each meeting an exchange of practical experience in MSP based on presentations by the countries possibly including cross border issues; Germany offered to present recent results of planning in Mecklenburg Western Pomerania;
  - the group should more utilize means of intersessional work to which allocation of national resources should be improved;
  - to encourage the Contracting Parties to consider offering a leadership in intersessional activities to support implementation of the work plan.

#### Agenda Item 6 MSP related projects and events

Documents: 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-3-Rev.1, 6-4

- 6.1 The Meeting <u>recalled</u> the existing procedure for granting flagship status and support letters as presented in document 6-1.
- The Meeting took note of the new procedure of Interreg Baltic Sea Region Seed Money proposal pre-selection as informed by the VASAB Secretariat. In total five seed money proposals were received for the pre-selection (three MSP-related and two for land-based spatial planning). The Co-chairs and Vice-Co-chairs of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG will jointly make the pre-selection for MSP and ICM-related seed money project ideas. Members of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG will be informed of the pre-selection results.
- 6.3 The Meeting took note of the information on the activities within the Baltic LINes project by Germany as presented in document 6-2. The Meeting acknowledged that the project had moved from the

starting phase to the implementation. The Meeting <u>invited</u> BalticLINes to present progress at the next meetings of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG.

- 6.4 The Meeting took note of the information on the activities within the Baltic SCOPE project (Towards coherence and cross-border solutions in Baltic Sea Maritime Spatial Plans) by Sweden as presented in document 6-4. The Meeting appreciated the work done by the project and agreed to consider the recommendation by the project on the next meetings in order to promote the use of the project results.
- 6.5 The Meeting took note of the presentation by Ms. Anne Luttmann, Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde (IOW), on the BONUS BaltSpace project (Towards Sustainable Governance of the Baltic Marine Space (document 6-3-Rev.1, **Presentation 3**).
- the outcomes of the Forum and its contribution into the development of MSP in Europe. The Meeting congratulated the VASAB Secretariat and Baltic SCOPE project for the excellent organization of the event and thanked all the contributors. The Meeting expressed the opinion that the results of the project could be used for spreading professional knowledge and to be used for future ministerial conferences.
- 6.7 The Meeting <u>discussed</u> the opportunity to participate in the second international conference on Maritime Spatial Planning organised by the European Commission (DG MARE) in cooperation with UNESCO-IOC and how to assure visibility of the progress achieved in the Baltic Sea at the conference. The Meeting <u>invited</u> the Co-chairs and Vice-Co-chairs of the group to consider a possibility to attend the conference.
- 6.8 The Meeting took note of reflections on the 7<sup>th</sup> Strategy Forum of the EUSBSR presented by Sweden. The Meeting invited participants to provide the ideas on the workshops for the next Forum to the VASAB Secretariat by mid-January 2017.

### Agenda Item 7 Any other business

Documents: 7-1, 7-1-Rev.1

- 7.1 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the updates to the country fiches, <u>noting</u> also that country fiches for all Baltic Sea countries are now available on the <u>HELCOM</u> and <u>VASAB</u> web pages.
- 7.2 The Meeting <u>noted</u> that there was an overlapping between the HELCOM-VASAB country fiches and the information maintained by the EU MSP Support Mechanism (MSP Platform). The Meeting <u>noted further</u> that there was a formal agreement between members of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP working group, while there was no such formal requirement regarding the information maintained by the support mechanism.
- 7.3 The Meeting <u>checked</u> and <u>updated</u> the list of nominated experts for the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG (document 7-1-Rev.1) as contained in **Annex 2**.
- 7.4 The Meeting thanked VASAB for the excellent arrangements of the Meeting.

# Agenda Item 8 Election of chairs

- 8.1 The Meeting <u>nominated</u> Ms. Katarzyna Krzywda, Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation, Poland to act as VASAB Co-chair and Mr. Joacim Johannesson, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, Sweden to act as HELCOM Co-chair for the 3 year period 2017-2019.
- 8.2 The Meeting <u>agreed</u> that the Chair of the MSP Data Sub-group will be elected at the upcoming meeting of the Group in Warsaw.
- 8.3 The Meeting <u>agreed</u> that the Vice-Co-chairs will be elected at the next meeting.
- 8.4 The Meeting <u>thanked</u> Ms. Anita Mäkinen, Finland and Mr. Andrzej Cieslak, Poland for the many years devoted to the HELCOM-VASAB MSP group, priceless contribution to its content and excellent chairing during all that time.

## Agenda Item 9

## **Outcome of the Meeting**

Documents: 9-1

- 9.1 The Meeting <u>adopted</u> the draft Outcome of the Meeting as contained in document 9-1.
- 9.2 The Outcome of the Meeting has been finalized by the HELCOM Secretariat and made available in the <u>HELCOM Meeting Portal</u> as well as on the <u>VASAB website</u>, together with meeting documents and the presentations considered during the Meeting.

# Annex 1 List of Participants

| Representing               | Name                            | Organization   | E-mail address                         |  |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Chair                      | Andrzej Cieslak                 | Maritime Office in Gdynia  | cieslak@umgdy.gov.pl                   |  |
| Chair                      | Anita Mäkinen                   | Finnish Transport Safety Agency  | anita.makinen@trafi.fi                 |  |
| <b>Contracting Parties</b> | Contracting Parties             |  |  |  |
| Denmark                    | Peter Dam                       | Danish Maritime Authority  | ped@dma.dk                             |  |
| Estonia                    | Anni Konsap                     | Estonian Ministry of Finance   | anni.konsap@fin.ee                     |  |
| Estonia                    | Tiit Oidjärv                    | Estonian Ministry of Finance   | tiit.oidjarv@fin.ee                    |  |
| European Union             | Marie Colombier                 | European Commission DG MARE  | marie.colombier@ec.europa.eu           |  |
| Finland                    | Tiina Tihlman                   | Ministry of the Environment  | tiina.tihlman@ym.fi                    |  |
| Germany                    | Bettina Käppeler                | Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency   | bettina.kaeppeler@bsh.de               |  |
| Germany                    | Carla Kuhmann                   | Federal Agency of Nature Conservation  | carla.kuhmann@bfn.de                   |  |
| Germany                    | Holger Janßen                   | Ministry of Energy, Infrastructure and Digitalization Mecklenburg-Vorpommern     | holger.janssen@em.mv-regierung.de      |  |
| Germany                    | Kai Trümpler                    | Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH)                                   | kai.truempler@bsh.de                   |  |
| Germany                    | Matthias Steitz                 | Federal Ministry for the Environment   | matthias.steitz@bmub.bund.de           |  |
| Latvia                     | Baiba Zasa                      | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development                    | baiba.zasa@varam.gov.lv                |  |
| Latvia                     | Kristīne Kedo                   | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development                    | kristine.kedo@varam.gov.lv             |  |
| Lithuania                  | Aleksandras Gordevicius         | Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania                             | aleksandras.gordevicius@am.lt          |  |
| Poland                     | Jacek Zaucha                    | MIG  | jacek.zaucha@im.gda.pl                 |  |
| Poland                     | Kamil Rybka                     | Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation                               | kamil.rybka@mgm.gov.pl                 |  |
| Poland                     | Katarzyna Krzywda               | Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation                               | katarzyna.krzywda@mgm.gov.pl           |  |
| Russia                     | Andrei Lappo                    | Scientific and Research Institute of Maritime Spatial Planning "Ermak Northwest" | a.lappo@mail.ru                        |  |
| Russia                     | Larisa Valentinovna<br>Danilova | Scientific and Research Institute of Maritime Spatial Planning "Ermak Northwest" | I.danilova@ermaknw.ru, lorhend@mail.ru |  |
| Sweden                     | Ida Reuterswärd                 | Ministry of Environment and Energy   | ida.reutersward@regeringskansliet.se   |  |
| Sweden                     | Jan Schmidtbauer Crona          | Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management                                   | jan.schmidtbauer.crona@havochvatten.se |  |
| Sweden                     | Thomas Johansson                | Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management                                   | thomas.johansson@havochvatten.se       |  |
| Observers                  |                                 |  |  |  |
| Observer                   | Peeter Vissak                   | Coalition Clean Baltic - CCB   | peeter@roheline.ee                     |  |
| Observer                   | Jochen Lamp                     | WWF  | Jochen.Lamp@wwf.de                     |  |

| Invited guests     |                         |  |                                   |  |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Invited guest      | Anne Luttmann           | Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde (IOW) | anne.luttmann@io-warnemuende.de   |  |
| Invited guest      | Antje Ross              | s.Pro - sustainable projects                               | ar@sustainable-projects.eu        |  |
| Invited guest      | Aslaug Asgeirsdottir    | Bates College  | aasgeirs@bates.edu                |  |
| Invited guest      | Soile Oinonen           | Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)                       | soile.m.oinonen@ymparisto.fi      |  |
| HELCOM Secretariat |                         |  |                                   |  |
| HELCOM             | Monika Stankiewicz      | HELCOM Secretariat   | monika.stankiewicz@helcom.fi      |  |
| HELCOM             | Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky | HELCOM Secretariat   | dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi |  |
| HELCOM             | Leena Laamanen          | HELCOM Secretariat   | leena.laamanen@helcom.fi          |  |
| VASAB Secretariat  |                         |  |                                   |  |
| VASAB              | Tālis Linkaits          | VASAB Secretariat  | talis.linkaits@vasab.org          |  |
| VASAB              | Alda Nikodemusa         | VASAB Secretariat  | alda.nikodemusa@vasab.org         |  |
| VASAB              | Jana Patmalniece        | VASAB Secretariat  | jana.patmalniece@vasab.org        |  |
| VASAB              | Elīna Veidemane         | VASAB Secretariat  | elina.veidemane@vasab.org         |  |

# Annex 2 Contact addresses of HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG

# Contact addresses of HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG in the Contracting Parties/Member Countries

| Representing          | Name                    | Organization   | Email address                          |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Co-chair              | Andrzej Cieslak         | Maritime Office in Gdynia  | cieslak@umgdy.gov.pl                   |
| Co-chair              | Anita Mäkinen           | Finnish Transport Safety Agency (TraFi)  | anita.makinen@trafi.fi                 |
| Denmark               | Suzanne Dael            | Danish Maritime Authority  | SSD@dma.dk                             |
| Estonia               | Anni Konsap             | Estonian Ministry of Finance   | anni.konsap@fin.ee                     |
| Estonia               | Agnes Pilv              | Ministry of the Environment  | agnes.pilv@envir.ee                    |
| European Union        | Marie Colombier         | European Commission  | marie.colombier@ec.europa.eu           |
|                       |                         | Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries                                 |  |
| European Union        | Odd Godal               | European Commission  | odd.godal@ec.europa.eu                 |
|                       |                         | Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy                                      |  |
| European Union        | Marijana Mance          | European Commission  | marijana.mance@ec.europa.eu            |
|                       |                         | Directorate-General for Environment  |  |
| Finland               | Penina Blankett         | Ministry of the Environment  | penina.blankett@ym.fi                  |
| Finland               | Tiina Tihlman           | Ministry of the Environment  | tiina.tihlman@ym.fi                    |
| Germany               | Wulf Hülsmann           | Federal Environment Agency   | wulf.huelsmann@uba.de                  |
| Germany               | Carla Kuhmann           | Federal Agency for Nature Conservation   | carla.kuhmann@bfn.de                   |
| Germany               | Matthias Steitz         | Federal Ministry for the Environment   | matthias.steitz@bmub.bund.de           |
| Germany/Vice-co-chair | Kai Trümpler            | Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH)   | kai.truempler@bsh.de                   |
| Germany               | Petra Schmidt-Kaden     | Ministry of Energy, Infrastructure and Digitalization                                  | Petra.schmidt-kaden@em.mv-regierung.de |
| Germany               | Elisabeth Wessel        | Federal Ministry for the Environment   | elisabeth.wessel@bmub.bund.de          |
| Latvia                | Kristīne Kedo           | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development                          | kristine.kedo@varam.gov.lv             |
| Latvia                | Ingūna Urtāne           | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development                          | inguna.urtane@varam.gov.lv             |
| Latvia                | Baiba Zasa              | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development                          | baiba.zasa@varam.gov.lv                |
| Lithuania             | Aleksandras Gordevičius | Ministry of Environment  | aleksandras.gordevicius@am.lt          |
| Poland                | Katarzyna Krzywda       | Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation                                     | katarzyna.krzywda@mgm.gov.pl           |
| Poland                | Joanna Adamowicz        | General Directorate of the Environmental Protection                                    | joanna.adamowicz@gdos.gov.pl           |
| Poland                | Kamil Rybka             | Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation                                     | kamil.rybka@mgm.gov.pl                 |
| Russia                | Boris V. Chubarenko     | Atlantic Branch of P.P.Shirshov Institute of Oceanology of Russian Academy of Sciences | chuboris@mail.ru                       |
| Russia                | Larisa Danilova         | Institute of Maritime Spatial Planning Ermak Northwest, Saint-Petersburg               | lorhend@mail.ru, laradanilva@yandex.ru |

| Russia               | Irina Karelina     | ICSER "Leontief Centre"  | karelina@leontief.spb.su             |
|----------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Russia               | Andrey D. Lappo    | Institute of Maritime Spatial Planning Ermak Northwest, Saint-Petersburg | a.lappo@mail.ru                      |
| Russia               | Nikolay L. Plink   | Russian State Hydrometeorological University                             | plink@rshu.ru                        |
| Sweden               | Ida Reuterswärd    | Ministry of Environment and Energy                                       | ida.reutersward@regeringskansliet.se |
| Sweden/Vice-co-chair | Joacim Johannesson | Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM)                    | joacim.johannesson@havochvatten.se   |

# Contact addresses of HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG in the Observer organizations

| Representing                                     | Name              | Organization                                     | Email address             |
|--|-------------------|--|---------------------------|
| BirdLife International                           | Alec Taylor       | BirdLife International                           | alec.taylor@rspb.org.uk   |
| Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB)                     | Mikhail Durkin    | Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB)                     | mikhail.durkin@ccb.se     |
| European Network of Freshwater Research          | Mona Olsson Öberg | IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute     | mona.olsson.oberg@ivl.se  |
| Organizations (EURAQUA)                          |                   |  |                           |
| The Coastal and Marine Union (EUCC)              | Holger Janßen     | The Coastal and Marine Union (EUCC)              | holger.janssen@eucc-d.de  |
| International Council for the Exploration of the | Sebastian Valanko | International Council for the Exploration of the | sebastian.valanko@ices.dk |
| Sea (ICES)                                       |                   | Sea (ICES)                                       |                           |
| World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF)                 | Metta Wiese       | WWF Sweden                                       | metta.wiese@wwf.se        |