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Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
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Background

The 17th Meeting of the joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 17-2018) will be held in Riga, Latvia, on 14-15 November 2018, upon invitation by the Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia and upon the joint invitation by HELCOM and VASAB.

The HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 17-2018 will be opened on **Wednesday, 14 November 2018 at 14:00** in the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (Peldu iela 25, Riga) and is expected to end on **Thursday, 15 November at 16:00**. The Meeting will be chaired jointly by the Working Group Co-Chairs Mr. Joacim Johannesson, Sweden, and Ms. Katarzyna Krzywda, Poland.

The Meeting will discuss evaluation of the progress in implementation of the regional MSP roadmap, coordination and follow-up of regional policy, facilitation of the ecosystem-based approach in MSP. Specifically the Meeting will be focused on organization of the work to update BSAP, revision of the HELCOM Recommendation on coastal management, implementation of the timetable for future cooperation on Green Infrastructure/Blue Corridors in MSP and other tasks from the work plan of the group.

Documents for the Meeting will be made available on the [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 17-2018 Meeting Site](#) in the HELCOM Meeting Portal. Please note that you need to be a registered user with relevant rights to access the *restricted* meeting documents. Instructions for the use of the Meeting Portal are available on the [HELCOM website](#). Participants of the Meeting are kindly requested to register to the Meeting by answering the [Participation Survey](#) not later than **by 7 November 2018**.

The Meeting will be chaired jointly by the Working Group Co-Chairs Mr. Joacim Johannesson, Sweden, and Ms. Katarzyna Krzywda, Poland.

Annotations to the Provisional Agenda

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

The Provisional Agenda (document 1-1-Rev.1) and Annotations to the Provisional Agenda (document 1-2) have been prepared on the basis of the Outcome of the Sixteenth Meeting of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG as well as consultations with the Co-Chairs of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG and the HELCOM and VASAB Secretariats. The Meeting is invited to adopt the Agenda.

Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from other HELCOM and VASAB work

The Meeting will be informed on matters within HELCOM and VASAB of relevance to the Group, including past and upcoming meetings.

Agenda Item 3 Regional coordination and policy follow-up

The Countries will be invited to update new national MSP developments. The countries will be invited to share information on spatial plans and projects with transnational impact (as mentioned in the Outcome of 15-2017, para 3.12).

The Countries will be invited to check and update the list of national MSP focal points for transboundary consultation and joint planning in the Baltic Sea Region countries.

HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) will updated by 2021 and the Secretariat will introduce a draft work plan to update the BSAP. The Meeting will be invited to discuss the work plan and comment on it. The Meeting will also be invited to to discuss how the role of MSP to protect the Baltic Sea environment could be reflected in the updated BSAP.

Poland will introduce a draft of revised HELCOM Recommendation 24/10 'Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Management of Human Activities in the Baltic Sae Area' and comments received from countries. The Meeting will be invited to consider the draft and agree on the final draft for circulation to HELCOM State&Conservation group and further submission to HELCOM meeting for approval.

Germany will present (there will be no document submitted) the first draft of national offshore site development plan. The presentation will cover at least following aspects: What is the purpose of the plan? How does it fit to the German planning system? What is the content of the plan? The Meeting will be invite to take note of the information and reflect on it.

BalticLINES Project will present the decentralized data platform "BASEMAPS", which illustrates innovative approach to spatial data management. The Meeting will be invited to take note of the preliminary project results and discuss the use of the innovative approach to the data management for information support of the MSP process in the region.

The Chair of the MSP DATA expert group will present the Development of the transboundary MSP output data specifications and progress in drafting of a Guidelines document. The Meeting will be invited to discuss the achieved progress and provide guidance regarding further elaboration of the guidelines.

The EU MSP Platform is currently preparing a study on cross-border consultation for the European Commission. Representative of the EU MSP Platform will present a draft of the study, considering HELCOM-VASAB Guidelines on Transboundary Consultations and addressing practical application of the guidelines as well as additional key principles identified as a result of analysis of cross-border consultation experiences throughout the Europe. The Meeting will be invited to take note of the draft study and provide feedback on the draft.

The VASAB Secretariat will present the PanBaltic Scope project, to follow-up of the principles, guidelines and road map, etc., progress and expected results.

The Meeting is invited to discuss the cooperation with other HELCOM groups: MSP-related issues in Maritime, State & Conservation, SAFE NAV and Pressure groups. The Meeting will be invite to discuss practical ways of cooperation with other HELCOM group and identify specific themes of relevance.

Agenda Item 4 Building up future common regional MSP framework

The Secretariat and all Contracting Parties are invited to share information on recent development of the regional MSP framework, meetings, workshops and other events.

The Meeting is invited to discuss the future development of the common regional MSP framework and the contribution of PanBaltic Scope project. The Meeting is invited to have a general discussion on the future adjustment of the regional MSP framework, its reflection in the BSAP update, and planning of the interactive workshop on MSP roadmap.

Agenda Item 5 Ecosystem-based approach in MSP

All Contracting Parties are invited to discuss the implementation of the timetable for future cooperation on Green Infrastructure/Blue Corridors in MSP and marine environmental management led by Sweden.

Latvia and Germany will give information on the upcoming workshop on green infrastructure to be held in December. The Meeting will be invited to provide feedback and contribute to the provisional programme of the workshop.

The Secretariat will present aspects related to cumulative impact assessment of the final version of the 'State of the Baltic Sea' report.

- Cumulative Impact Assessment – HELCOM Baltic Sea Impact Index (BSII). The report on “HELCOM Baltic Sea Impact Index and its use in Maritime Spatial Planning” will be submitted as a document to the Meeting. The Meeting is invited to take note of the report.
- Seabed damage caused by Human activities in 'State of the Baltic Sea' report. Relevant outcomes from the report are extracted as an attachment document and a document including further information is submitted to the Meeting. The Meeting is invited to discuss the role of MSP in reduction of seabed damage to the environment caused by human activities.
- The work on cumulative impacts is taken forward in the PanBaltic Scope project. A document presenting the aim of the work and the current state of art of Pan Baltic Scope regarding cumulative impacts assessment will be submitted. The Meeting is invited to take note of the plans and discuss how the activities can support the work of the group.

The Secretariat will present the work on Climate change and its reflection in MSP to strengthen the resilience of the Baltic Sea in the face of climate change impacts.

Agenda Item 6 MSP-related projects and events

The Meeting is invited to take note of information on activities under the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) in relation to Horizontal Action (HA) Spatial Planning for which HELCOM and VASAB act as the Horizontal Action Coordinators and the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG acts as the Steering Committee concerning the MSP part and act as appropriate.



Information on a new INTERREG project platform application will be presented by VASAB Secretariat. The Meeting will be invited to provide feedback on a concept of the project application.

Follow-up of regional projects, presentation of progress: Baltic LINes project is approaching its final stage. The Meeting will be invited consider the state of the project and to reflect on the use of its results in the regional MSP work.

Agenda Item 7 Any other business

The Meeting might wish to consider any other matters raised by the HELCOM and VASAB members and Observers at the Meeting.

Agenda Item 8 Outcome of the Meeting

A draft Outcome of the Meeting will be prepared at the end of the Meeting and presented for consideration and adoption.