



27 January 2020

To: HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG nominated representatives  
Observers of HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG  
cc: HELCOM Heads of Delegation  
Contact Addresses of VASAB CSPD/BSR  
Contact Addresses of HELCOM State & Conservation group and Maritime group  
Observers of HELCOM State & Conservation group and Maritime group

Dear Colleagues,

We have the pleasure to invite the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention and VASAB Member Countries as well as the Observer organizations to the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20-2020). The Meeting will be held in Warsaw, Poland, on 1-2 April 2020, upon the invitation by the Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation of Poland and upon the joint invitation by HELCOM and VASAB.

The HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20-2020 will be opened on **Wednesday, 1 April 2020 at 9:00** in the premises of the Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation of Poland (Nowy Świat 6/12 Street, Warsaw) and is expected to end on **Thursday, 2 April 2020 at 16:00**. The Meeting will be jointly chaired by the Working Group Co-Chairs Mr. Joacim Johannesson, Sweden, and Ms. Katarzyna Krzywda, Poland. More information regarding the meeting room will be communicated to the meeting participants at a later stage.

The Meeting will be focused on discussing the update the Regional MSP Roadmap; the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan update as well as regular updates about intergovernmental cooperation and follow up progress in the regional MSP framework. Specifically, the Meeting will be informed of the progress of the Task Force on criteria for MSP coherence, the identification of important sea areas in the MSP process of Finland and initial proposals for the scope of the Ecosystem-based approach Guideline with input from the Pan Baltic Scope Project. Information on data for MSP will also be part of the agenda.

We also want to inform you that the Project Platform Capacity4MSP will organize a partners meeting on 30 March 2020 at the same venue. A meeting of the planners will also be held at the same venue on 31 March 2020 from 9:00 to 17:30. VASAB and the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management will send later more information about these meetings.

Documents for the Meeting will be made available on the [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20-2020 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 23 March 2020**.

In accordance with the agreement by HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 6-2013 (Outcome, paragraph 1.2), the Contracting Parties/Member Countries as well as Observers are requested to submit substantial documents requiring a decision or action to the Secretariats ([dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi](mailto:dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi), [florent.nicolas@helcom.fi](mailto:florent.nicolas@helcom.fi) and [info@vasab.org](mailto:info@vasab.org)) **by 28 February 2020** and information documents **by 16 March 2020**. Practical information, including document template are available on the [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20-2020 Meeting Site](#).

Yours sincerely,

Rüdiger Stempel  
HELCOM Executive Secretary

Alda Nikodemusa  
VASAB Head of Secretariat