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<b>Document title</b>	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda
<b>Code</b>	1-2
<b>Category</b>	CMNT
<b>Agenda Item</b>	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
<b>Submission date</b>	7.10.2020
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<b>Reference</b>	

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## Background

The HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 21-2020 will be opened on **Thursday, 12 November 2020 at 10:00 EET (09:00 CET)** is expected to end on **Friday 13 November 2020 at 16:00 EET (15:00 CET)**. Considering the recent developments on COVID-19, the Meeting will be held online.

The Meeting will be focused on drafting of the new Regional MSP Roadmap and the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan. Among other questions the Meeting will consider the progress of the Task Force on criteria for MSP coherence, initial proposals for the revision of the Ecosystem-based approach Guideline with input from the Pan Baltic Scope Project, development of the regional framework for MSP related data and coordination of Horizontal Action Spatial Planning of the EUSBSR.

Documents for the Meeting will be made available on the [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 21-2020 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 6 November 2020**. The link to the online Meeting will be sent at a later stage to the registered participants.

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 14 October 2020** and information documents **by 28 October 2020**. The document template is available on [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 21-2020 Meeting Site](#).

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

## Annotations to the Provisional Agenda

### **Agenda item 1                      Adoption of the Agenda**

The Provisional Agenda (document 1-1) and Annotations to the Provisional Agenda (document 1-2) have been prepared based on the [Outcome](#) of the Twentieth 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, especially, the outcomes of the 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the HELCOM Heads of Delegation (HOD 58-2020) and of the 83<sup>rd</sup> and 84<sup>th</sup> meetings of the VASAB Committee on Spatial Planning and Development of the Baltic Sea Region.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information and take it into account in the Working Group's work.

### **Agenda item 3                      Development of the regional MSP framework**

#### **Presentation of Pan Baltic Scope recommendations and outputs of the Baltic RIM project.**

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information on the recommendations from the Pan Baltic Scope project (document to be submitted by Sweden). Pan Baltic Scope formulated recommendations that can be useful to planners, authorities, policymakers and others dealing with maritime spatial planning. Three of the recommendations are of especially high relevance for the HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group. Six others are targeted at the working group.

Baltic RIM project is the project aimed to integrate management of the cultural heritage in and at the Baltic Sea into maritime spatial planning. The Meeting will be invited to take note of the presentation on the major finding of the project.

#### **Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan**

The Meeting will be invited to take note of the updated Work Plan for the update of the BSAP endorsed by HOD 58-2020 and other decisions related to this work (document will be submitted by HELCOM Secretariat).

#### *Sufficiency of measures analysis (SOM)*

Sufficiency of measures (SOM) analysis, carried out by the HELCOM ACTION project and the HELCOM SOM Platform, supports the update of the BSAP by assessing what kind of improvements in environmental state and pressures can be achieved with existing measures by 2030-2035, and whether these are sufficient to achieve good environmental status (GES) in the Baltic Sea. The methodology for the SOM analysis has been developed by the ACTION project with guidance from the SOM Platform, and endorsed by GEAR 22-2020.

The results of the SOM analysis will be presented for consideration to the Working Groups in autumn 2020. First results of the SOM analysis were presented at the BSAP UP workshops organized in August and September 2020. Several changes and additions to the first version of the results have already been identified through consultations with SOM topic teams and BSAP UP workshops, and additional changes may be suggested by the SOM Platform 4-2020 meeting and process of validating the input data by Working Groups and Expert Networks. These changes will not be reflected yet in the results of the SOM analysis presented in the meeting document, and thus they are not the final results of the analysis. Final versions of the results are expected to be provided late October.

The Meeting will be invited to consider and comment on the results of the analysis of sufficiency of measures to achieve the BSAP goals under the mandate of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group (document will be submitted by the ACTION project and HELCOM Secretariat).

#### *Drafting of the updated BSAP*

The Meeting will be invited to take note of the detailed plan for drafting of the updated BSAP and the preliminary timetable (document will be submitted by the Secretariat).

HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20-2020 suggested a text for the general preamble of the updated BSAP reflecting the role of MSP in the achieving of the BSAP goals. According to the detailed plan for drafting the updated BSAP this general overarching preamble is to be drafted by DG BSAP and HELCOM GEAR group in November. The intention is to make the first draft of the updated BSAP available for consideration of HELCOM HOD 59-2020 in December. The Meeting will be invited to consider and comment on the MSP related text in a draft BSAP, in case the draft is available in due time. Alternatively, HELCOM-VASAB MSP group will be invited to consider the draft intersessionally.

#### **Actions related to MSP for the updated BSAP**

##### *Existing actions (measures)*

HOD 58-2020 agreed in principle on the rephrased and concretized existing HELCOM actions to be transferred to the updated BSAP with the understanding that further drafting based on the written comments will take place at a later stage. The Meeting will be invited to take note of the existing actions that have been in principle agreed to be transferred to the updated BSAP (document to be submitted by the Secretariat).

##### *New actions (measures)*

To support the selection of new measures and actions for the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan, an invitation to submit synopses on potential new HELCOM actions was put forward in spring 2019 to the Contracting Parties, HELCOM subsidiary bodies, international projects and HELCOM Observers. As a first step, the HELCOM Working Groups conducted a technical review on the proposals for new actions, and as a second step, they were evaluated at the HELCOM BSAP UP workshops. The evaluation of the new actions in the workshops focused on the effectiveness of the measures and whether or not the actions are supported for the updated BSAP.

The measures related to MSP were discussed during the BSAP UP workshop on biodiversity, including extraction of species and spatial measures HELCOM BSAP UP WS-BIO 2020. The Meeting will be invited to consider the outcome of the HELCOM BSAP UP WS-BIO 2020, held from 31 August 2020 to 2 September 2020.

The Meeting will be invited to review new actions recommended by the BSAP UP workshops and submitted at later stages and endorse them for submission to HOD 59-2020, taking into account possible gaps which could remain in the whole sets of the existing and newly proposed measures (document including the existing actions and proposals for new actions will be submitted by the Secretariat).

Concerning remaining possible gaps, the Meeting will be invited to propose measures to fill the gaps at the Meeting and agree on a procedure of their intersessional evaluation. Alternatively, the Meeting might agree on establishing of addition process for submission and evaluation of measures to fill the gaps.

#### **HELCOM Explorer**

The web-based tool to follow the implementation of HELCOM actions up, the HELCOM Explorer, was launched in 2016 to inform the general public on the implementation of HELCOM actions. The HELCOM Explorer currently includes actions from the Baltic Sea Action Plan and Ministerial Declarations of 2010 and

2013, but as part of the update of the Explorer, actions from Recommendations and Ministerial Declaration 2018 will be added.

To support the preparations of the Ministerial Meeting 2021, reporting on the implementation of existing HELCOM actions is to be organized in autumn 2020. HOD 58-2020 agreed that the reporting on the implementation status of the existing national actions will take place via nominated national contact points and that the Working Groups will report on the implementation of the joint actions in the autumn meetings.

The Meeting is invited to consider the progress made and agree on the implementation status of joint actions of relevance for HELCOM-VASAP MSP Group (document with reporting format will be submitted by the Secretariat).

#### **First draft of the new MSP Roadmap**

The HELCOM Secretariat will present the work of the MSP Roadmap Drafting Group as well as the draft preamble and objectives. The Meeting is invited to discuss the draft and agree on the further steps needed to prepare the draft version for presenting to HOD 59-2020 (December 2020).

#### **Ecologically important sea areas in the Finnish national MSP process**

The meeting is invited to take note of the analysis and presentation of ecologically important areas in Finland's marine areas and how this analysis is utilized in the MSP process (document to be submitted by Finland).

#### **Initial proposals for the scope of the EBA Guideline update**

An initial proposal for the scope of the EBA Guideline update based on the input from the results of the Pan Baltic Scope project will be presented by Sweden, based on the content from the project's "EBA toolbox activity". A document was submitted to HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20-2020 by Sweden, but its consideration was postponed due COVID-19 and the use of an online Meeting. The Meeting is now invited to discuss these initial proposals by Sweden. The Meeting is also invited to agree on the scope and on the timeframe of the updating process in line with the Group's work plan.

#### **Progress of the Task Force on criteria for MSP coherence**

The HELCOM Secretariat will present the progress of the Task Force on criteria for MSP coherence. The Meeting is invited to consider the suggestion for a common definition and criteria for coherent MSP plans as prepared by the Task Force on MSP Coherence (document to be submitted by HELCOM Secretariat) and exchange views on the way to integrate the proposed criteria in the regional MSP framework. The Meeting is invited to provide guidance for Task Force on the development of the criteria and tools for their operationalization as a part of regional MSP framework.

#### **Development of the HELCOM science agenda**

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information on the HELCOM science agenda (document to be submitted by HELCOM Secretariat).

#### **Agenda item 4                      Information and data for MSP.**

The Meeting is invited to take note of the latest proposals of the BSR MSP Data ESG (information to be submitted by the Chair of BSR MSP Data ESG) and provide guidance for the Expert Group work in 2021. The Expert Group is planning to arrange two meetings in 2021 focused on the output data – how to upload the national MSPs as well as discussing the application of the Data guidelines. The aim is also to draft a discussion paper on further work with input data utilizing BASEMAPS and summarizing long-term needs for its development. This discussion paper will serve as a starting point of the input data discussion in the spring 2021 meeting. The Meeting is invited to take note of the end of the mandate of the ESG by the end of 2021.

### **Agenda item 5 Intergovernmental cooperation and follow up progress in regional MSP.**

The Countries will be invited to inform the Meeting on new national MSP developments. Estonia might be interested to present a brief information on international MSP consultations (ongoing until 18th November 2020). The countries will also 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 Secretariats and all Contracting Parties are invited to share information on recent development of the regional MSP framework, meetings, workshops and other events to update the regional calendar of MSP-related processes and meetings, as well as update of MSP country fiches.

The Meeting will be invited to take note of the Finland's final draft of the MSP plan and how the participatory analysis of future maritime scenarios 2050, the analysis of ecologically and biologically significant areas and the multi-criteria modelling of wind turbine location were utilized in the MSP process in Finland.

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.

The Meeting will be invited to discuss the outcome and format of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Capacity4MSP Planning Forum that was held in the previous day 11 November 2020.

The Contracting Parties are also invited to share national experience on the accounting of climate change impacts in MSP and discuss information needs in relation to the impact of changing climate parameters.

### **Agenda item 6 Coordination of Horizontal Action Spatial Planning and MSP related projects and events.**

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information on recent developments and activities related to the update of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) Action Plan and Horizontal Action (HA) Spatial Planning): the revised Action Plan has been approved by the National Coordinators Group, the forthcoming new rules of Operations and Work Plan of the Policy Area (PA) Spatial Planning as it is to be renamed, prolongation of HASPS3 project. (a document to be submitted by VASAB Secretariat).



The meeting is invited to take note of the recent Political Declaration by Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan (BEMIP) and to comment a plan to establish a BEMIP offshore working group. (a document to be submitted by HELCOM Secretariat).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information (presented by VASAB Secretariat) on the status of the Capacity4MSP project and its contribution to the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG (i.e. support to the elaboration of the new MSP Roadmap, aligning planning forums, meetings and workshops with the Working Group).

The Meeting will be informed about the project application "eMSP" that was submitted for the EU EASME call for a new MSP project to the North and Baltic Seas.

The SUBMARINER Network will present the finalised MUSES project and new Horizon 2020 project UNITED on multi-use in European sea-basins.

The Meeting will be informed on the last developments of MSPglobal, an initiative co-financed by the European Commission's European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (information presented by the HELCOM Secretariat).

The meeting is invited to take note of the multi-criteria modelling study for finding optimal locations for wind farms in the Finnish marine areas (document to be presented by Finland).

**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.