HELSINKI COMMISSION
Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

NATURE CONSERVATION AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT GROUP
(HELCOM HABITAT)

Minutes of the Third Meeting

Gdynia, Poland
29 January - 1 February 2002

HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002
12/2
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MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF
THE NATURE CONSERVATION AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT GROUP
(HELCOM HABITAT)

Introduction

0.1 The Third Meeting of the Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone Management Group (HELCOM HABITAT) was held in Gdynia, Poland from 29 January to 1 February 2002 according to the decisions by HELCOM HABITAT 2/2001 (HELCOM HABITAT 2/2001, 12/2, Paragraphs 10.2 and 10.3 (LDs 33-34)) and by HELCOM HOD 6/2001 (HELCOM HOD 6/2001, Minutes of the Meeting, Paragraph 3.23 (LDs 19-20)).

0.2 The Meeting was attended by the Delegations from Denmark, Estonia, European Commission, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden, and Observers from ASCOBANS, BirdLife International, EUCC - The Coastal Union, International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), VASAB 2010, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), and by the invited quests, the Project Manager of the HELCOM Project Group on Seals, of Alleco Ltd., of the Baltic Marine Biologists (BMB) and of the HEL Marine Station. The Executive Secretary of the Commission, Mr. Mieczyław S. Ostojski, and the Professional Secretary of HELCOM PITF, Mr. Claus Hagebro attended the Meeting, as well.

The List of Participants is attached as Annex 1 to these Minutes.

0.3 The Terms of Reference for HELCOM HABITAT (cf. HELCOM HOD 3/2000, Minutes of the Meeting, Paragraph 2.1) is attached as Annex 2 to these Minutes.

0.4 The Chairman of HELCOM HABITAT, Mr. Henning von Nordheim opened the Third Meeting of HELCOM HABITAT and welcomed the participants to the Meeting.

0.5 The participants were also welcomed by Ms. Ewa Włodarczyk, Ministry of the Environment, Polish Secretariat for the Helsinki Convention.

0.6 The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting on the preparation of HELCOM EXTRA 2003 and wished the participants a successful meeting.

0.7 Mr. Henning von Nordheim, Germany, acted as Chairman of the Meeting. Mr. Juha-Markku Leppänen, the Professional Secretary of the Commission, assisted by Ms. Mervi Lehto and Mr. Håkan Blomberg acted as Secretary of the Meeting.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

Documents: HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002, 1/1, 1/2

1.1 (LD 1) The Meeting adopted the Agenda for the Meeting as contained in Annex 3 to these Minutes.
1.2 (LD 2) The Meeting **decided** to establish three sessional drafting groups in the course of the Meeting:

- Drafting Group No. 1 for Agenda Item 4 dealing with the Status of Conservation and Management of Seal Populations in the Baltic Sea including a possible revision of the HELCOM Recommendation 9/1 on the protection of seals with Mr. Henning von Nordheim, Germany, as Chairman and Ms. Penina Blankett, Finland, as rapporteur;
- Drafting Group No. 2 for Agenda Item 5 for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) with Ms. Ewa Wlodarczyk, Poland, as Chairlady and Ms. Monika Stankiewicz, Poland, as rapporteur;
- Drafting Group No. 3 for Bird Monitoring for Agenda Item 4 with Mr. Dieter Boedeker, Germany, as Chairman.

**Agenda Item 2 Information by the Secretariat**

Documents: HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002, 2/1, INF.1, INF.2, INF.2/Rev.2, INF.3, INF.4, INF.8

2.1 The Secretariat presented document 2/1, "Timetable for the reporting of implementation of HELCOM Recommendations under HELCOM HABITAT" and informed that the reporting forms will be available in DPS for downloading.

2.2 (LD 3) The Meeting **decided** to follow the reporting schedule when reporting of the implementation of the HELCOM Recommendation under HELCOM HABITAT as contained in document 2/1 as follows:

- Contracting Parties should compile the national implementation reports and provide them to the Lead Countries with a copy to the Secretariat by the end of June 2002.
- Lead Countries should review and assess the national reports and submit the evaluation reports to the Secretariat by the end of September 2002.

2.3 (LD 4) The Meeting **requested** the Lead Countries to send a reminding letter with the contact information to the Contracting Parties requesting their contribution, by using the adjusted reporting formats, to the implementation report.

2.4 The Meeting **took note** of documents INF.3 and INF.8, Minutes from the Sixth Meeting of HELCOM Heads of Delegation and Draft List of Decisions from the Seventh Meeting of HELCOM Heads of Delegation, respectively and INF.4, Minutes of the Third Meeting of HELCOM MONAS.

2.5 (LD 5) The Meeting **requested** the Lead Countries to notice and to follow the decision of HELCOM HOD 6/2001 on the role of the Lead Country as contained in Annex 4 to these Minutes.

2.6 The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting on the decision of HELCOM HOD 7/2002 (LD 36) advising the Contracting Parties which had not updated their national information on the state of the art on ICZM to submit the missing information to HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002.

2.7 Estonia and Lithuania informed the Meeting that the updated information for the state of the art of ICZM will be provided within two weeks after HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002.
2.8 The Chairman informed the Meeting on the outline of the Seminar prior HELCOM 23. The Seminar will take place 5 March 2002 with two topics:
- Measures aimed at the prevention of pollution from agriculture in the Baltic Sea Region - coordination of activities under HELCOM, Baltic 21 and the GEF Baltic Sea Regional Project;

Agenda Item 3 Information by the Contracting Parties and Observer Organizations


3.1 Finland orally informed the Meeting on the preparation of the Finnish Programme for the Protection of the Baltic Sea. The main goal is the improvement of the ecological state of the Baltic Sea including the protection of biological diversity. The Council of State is supposed to make its decision on this Programme in spring 2002.

3.2 Finland orally informed the Meeting also on the establishment of seven seal sanctuaries along the Finnish coast out of which four are situated in the Gulf of Finland and the additional areas in the Gulf of Bothnia. All areas are also mainly included in the NATURA 2000 network and some of these sites are also assigned or are to be assigned to HELCOM as Baltic Sea Protected Areas (BSPAs). The general regulations for the seal sanctuaries include prohibition of hunting, restricted admittance, restrictions for fishing (trawling and fishing gear not dangerous for seals are allowed).

3.3 Finland further informed the Meeting on the harbour porpoise campaign launched in spring 2001. The Ministry of the Environment together with some other institutions and several NGOs published an informative brochure on harbour porpoise in Finnish and in Swedish with contact addresses for submission of information on sightings, strandings and by-catches of harbour porpoises. The campaign has resulted in 2-3 new sightings in 2001 and also in information on old by-catches.

3.4 Germany orally informed the Meeting that Germany is facing an essentially revised federal nature conservation act with important legal and practical implications for the national and international marine nature conservation work as follows:
- The German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation will be given the task to designate and manage a system of marine NATURA 2000 sites in the German EEZ of the Baltic Sea and the North Sea, as well either in the fulfilment of the EU-Birds Directive or the Habitats Directive.
- The German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation will also be given a task to contribute to the planning process of site identification for offshore wind-farms in the German EEZ of the Baltic- and North Sea (at the moment the Agency in charge of the final approvals and decisions is confronted with applications for roughly 1000 single wind mills).
- The paragraph on legal biotope protection now includes more marine biotopes, such as "sublittoral makrophyte stands" and "gravel and shell bottoms". This can also be seen as a fulfilment of specific obligations arising from HELCOM Recommendation 21/4.

3.5 This information by Germany was given under the reservation that the new act has until today not passed the final parliamentary discussion.

3.6 VASAB 2010 orally informed the Meeting on its recent activities related to spatial development action programme approved in 2001 and about its cooperation with the Baltic Agenda 21 on measures for better integration of Baltic Agenda 21 sectors (including
maritime and land transport sectors) and on monitoring the progress in achieving sustainable
development with the help of spatial planning.

3.7 BMB orally informed the Meeting on the Baltic Sea Science Congress held in
Stockholm, in November 2001. The topics also included biodiversity, nature conservation and
Baltic Sea habitats. The Chairman of the Group welcomed the scientific input of BMB to
HELCOM HABITAT in the future.

3.8 WWF orally informed the Meeting on the newly launched European Fishery
Campaign. The campaign coincides with this year's review by the European Unions of its
Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). WWF is calling for a new CFP to contain clear and
measurable commitments to eliminate over-capacity in the EU fishing fleet within the next ten
years; to reform subsidies to ensure they support sustainable fishing; endure fair and
sustainable fisheries access agreements that respect the needs of local people and are in line
with international agreements; and protect the marine environment, its habitats and species from
the negative effects of fishing activities.

3.9 The Meeting took note of document INF.13, "Principles of a new BMVEL
fisheries policy" presented by Germany.

Agenda Item 4 Nature conservation and biodiversity

Documents: HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002, 4/1, 4/2, 4/3, 4/4, 4/5, 4/6, 4/6/Rev.1, 4/7, 4/8, 4/9,
4/10, 4/10/Rev.1, INF.7, INF.10, INF.11, INF.12, INF.14, W.P.1/4

4.1 Germany presented document 4/2, "Application of NATURA 2000 in the
Marine Environment" and summed up the outcome of the Workshop and informed the Meeting
that copies of the printed version of the report can be obtained from Germany on request.

4.2 The European Commission pointed out that the outcome of the seminar has
influenced the selection process of marine NATURA 2000 sites.

4.3 The Chairman informed the Meeting that the U.K. considers to arrange a
follow-up workshop in spring 2002, and the Meeting expressed its wish to receive information
of the outcome to the next meeting of HELCOM HABITAT.

4.4 The Secretariat introduced document 4/3, "Tackling alien species - proposed
workshop under the GEF Baltic Sea Regional Project".

4.5 The Meeting supported the proposed aims of the joint workshop and
emphasized that information on all ongoing activities concerning alien species should be used
when conducting the workshop in order to avoid duplication of work.

4.6 (LD 6) The Meeting requested the Secretariat to inform the Contracting Parties on
the progress concerning the planning of the workshop.

4.7 The Meeting invited HELCOM MONAS to consider possibilities to include
ballast water monitoring into the future HELCOM monitoring activities.

4.8 The Meeting took note of the oral information by the Secretariat on the
progress made by the NEMO Project and invited the project to report on the progress to
HELCOM HABITAT and to inform to which extent its species list has been peer reviewed.
4.9 In this connection the Meeting invited the Secretariat to contact the Project Manager of the NEMO Project in order to receive the final report of the HELCOM Project on Data Base on Alien Species.

4.10 The Meeting took note of document 4/7, "Status Report of the HELCOM Baltic Sturgeon Project" introduced by the Chairman who informed the Meeting that the final report of the Project will be prepared after the concluding workshop in spring 2002 in Germany, which will also take into account information on the genetic status of Baltic common sturgeon.

4.11 Sweden introduced document INF. 12, "Implementation of the Salmon action plan".

4.12 Meeting noted the success of the activities taken by IBSFC and HELCOM resulting in an increasing production of wild Baltic salmon. The Meeting also expressed interest in participating in the further implementation of the IBSFC Salmon Action Plan. The Meeting invited the joint IBSFC/HELCOM Seminar of Fishery issues, which will be held on 20-21 February 2002, to consider possible further joint actions for the further protection and improvement of the wild salmon populations.

4.13 The Meeting considered document 4/9, Project proposal “Development of a Baltic waterbird monitoring strategy, including the production of an implementation manual and identification of indicator species, submitted by BirdLife International, and established a intersessional Drafting Group to deal with the matter with Mr. Dieter Boedeker, Germany, as Chairman and Mr. Ole Norden Andersen, Denmark, Mr. Sauli Härkönen, Finland, and Mr. Henrik Skov, BirdLife International, as members. Mr. Boedeker reported orally about the outcome of the drafting group.

4.14 The Meeting agreed on the necessity for a common bird monitoring in the Baltic Sea area, and to start respective activities immediately, but as a first step to concentrate on a pilot project. Therefore, the Meeting asked BirdLife International to rewrite the project proposal accordingly. The pilot project should concentrate mainly on bullet point 1 of paragraph 7 (Expected Results) of the original proposal given with document 4/9 and on conclusions and necessary further steps for a follow-up project.

4.15 (LD 7) The Meeting accepted, with the reservation that no financial implications for the Contracting Parties arise, the revised Project Proposal as contained in Annex 5 to these Minutes, and requested the Chairman of HELCOM HABITAT and the Secretariat to clarify whether money from the HELCOM budget can be raised already in 2002, which would allow the pilot project to start this year, and also requested BirdLife International to report to HELCOM HABITAT 4/2003.

4.16 (LD 8) In case the project financial requests can be covered by the HELCOM budget 2002/2003, the Meeting requested the Executive Secretary to send the Project Proposal to the Heads of Delegation for their adoption.

4.17 BirdLife International confirmed its willingness to write a project proposal for a follow-up project within the GEF-BSRP with appropriate assistance from the Secretariat.

4.18 The Project Manager, Mr. Palle Uhd Jepsen, presented document 4/1, "Conservation and Management of Seal Populations in the Baltic - Action plan for the implementation of the HELCOM Project on Seals".

4.19 The Meeting considered the Report in general and expressed its gratitude to the HELCOM Project Group on Seals as well as to the Project Manager on the comprehensive
work and requested the Drafting Group 1 to use the information contained in the report and to consider a revision of the HELCOM Recommendation 9/1.

4.20 Finland presented document 4/4, "Draft revised HELCOM Recommendation 9/1" and document 4/5, "Draft implementation reporting form for HELCOM Recommendation on Protection of Seals in the Baltic Sea" (to be applied for a possible revised HELCOM Recommendation 9/1). The Meeting requested the Drafting Group 1 to use the information when considering the possible revision of the HELCOM Recommendation 9/1 and take into account of the peculiarities of the different regions of the Baltic Sea in the revised implementation reporting form.

4.21 The Meeting took note of the critical comments submitted by Germany regarding several points in the report of the HELCOM Project Group on Seals as given in doc INF.10, of the critical comments by WWF concerning the report and concerning the draft revised HELCOM Recommendation 9/1, as given in document 4/6/Rev.1 and the critical comments by CCB on the report and the draft revised HELCOM Recommendation on Seals, as given in document 4/8. The Meeting also took note of document INF. 11, "HELCOM and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's decision to allow taking of grey seals", and requested the Drafting Group 1 to discuss the information.

4.22 The Meeting took note of document INF.7/Item 4, "Letter to European Commission on measures to protect seals" sent by the Executive Secretary of the Commission.

4.23 The European Commission informed the Meeting about the ongoing discussions within EC to financially compensate the damages caused by seals on fishing gear and catch and on possibilities to support fishermen when buying "seal proof fishing gear". The letter is not yet answered because the decision on a respective request from the Finnish Government is not completed. The representative of EC stressed the following:

- The utilisation of EU-Structural funds to pay for the substitution of current fishing devices by new gear which is "seal-proof" and shows better selectivity with less impact on non-target species, is already clarified and accepted by the European Commission following a request from Finnish authorities (provided that certain conditions are met, mainly that this expenses could be covered just once).
- However, as for the utilisation of national financial aids for the damages caused by the seals, the final decision is not taken. The legal complexities need to be further considered.

4.24 The Executive Secretary emphasised the fact that the decisions by HELCOM Groups to be forwarded to the HELCOM HODs for adoption should be made in consensus.

4.25 (LD 9) The Meeting discussed and adopted the outcome of the Drafting Group 1, as contained in Annex 6 to these Minutes.


4.27 (LD 11) The Meeting agreed on the following proposals of the Drafting Group 1, with study reservation by Finland:

- to compile a report of HELCOM HABITAT on the conflicts between seals conservation and fisheries interests, which could be accepted by all the Contracting Parties andObservers by using the Seal Project Group report as basis and, which could be submitted through HELCOM HODs to the Commission;
• the title was agreed to be “HELCOM Status Report on the conservation of seal populations in the Baltic Sea - Including proposals for reducing the conflicts between fisheries interests and seal conservation”;
• to substitute the word “taking” by “protective hunting” or “licensed protective hunting” (but in keeping the definition used in the Seals Project Group’s report) where ever appropriate.

4.28 (LD 12) The Meeting requested Finland to consider possibilities to lift the study reservation on these issues and to inform the Executive Secretary of the Commission within two months.

4.29 (LD 13) The Meeting decided, in case Finland is able to lift the study reservation, to start the procedure to compile the report of HELCOM HABITAT on the conflicts between seals conservation and fisheries interests with an adjusted time schedule as described in Annex 6 to these Minutes.

4.30 (LD 14) The Meeting further decided to start also the redrafting of the HELCOM Recommendation 9/1 in case Finland is able to lift the study reservation.

4.31 The Chairman introduced document INF.14 "Joint IBSFC/HELCOM Seminar on Fisheries Issues and Environmental Protection."

4.32 Ms. Ewa Wlodarczyk, Poland, informed the Meeting that the seminar will be held in the building of the Sea Fisheries Institute in Gdynia, Poland, from 20 to 21 February 2002. The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties and the NGOs to actively attend the seminar.

4.33 (LD 15) The Meeting considered document 4/10/Rev.1 “Revised Draft Revised Reporting Form for HELCOM Recommendation 19/2 on Protection and Improvement of the Wild Salmon (Salmo salar L.) Populations in the Baltic Sea Area” and approved the reporting form as contained in Annex 7 to these Minutes.

Agenda Item 5 Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)


5.1 The representative of the EUCC presented document 5/2, “Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Baltic States - State of the Art Report” and informed the Meeting that the peer review has been done by six Contracting Parties.

5.2 The Meeting was very pleased about the work done by EUCC in compiling the document.

5.3 The Meeting requested the Drafting Group 2 to consider the report and propose appropriate actions.

5.4 The representative of EUCC presented document 5/1, “Project proposal: Common Visions and Principles of ICZM for the nine riparian countries around the Baltic Sea” and the Meeting requested the Drafting Group 2 to consider also the project proposal.

5.5 (LD 16) The Meeting adopted the outcome of the Drafting Group 2, as contained in Annex 8 to these Minutes.

5.6 Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, and Sweden expressed the need to include changes in document 5/2. Regarding the Russian part of the Report, EUCC offered to try to establish a contact with an appropriate party in order to update the existing information.
5.7 Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, and Sweden agreed to submit their national comments to EUCC by 28 February 2002.

5.8 (LD 17) The Meeting requested EUCC to provide the updated document 5/2 to the Contracting Parties for their approval by 30 April 2002.

5.9 (LD 18) The Meeting requested the Contracting Parties to submit their final approval to EUCC by 30 June 2002.

5.10 (LD 19) The Meeting discussed document 5/1/Rev.2 and accepted the Project Proposal by EUCC for the HELCOM ICZM Project as contained in Annex 9 to these Minutes and requested the Executive Secretary to send it to the HELCOM HODS for adoption.

5.11 (LD 20) The Meeting decided that Ms. Beate Jansson, Germany, Mr. Toomas Kokokvin, Estonia, Mr. Kjell Grip, Sweden and Mr. Lennart Gladh, WWF, will be members of the Project Team of the HELCOM ICZM Project.

5.12 Estonia and WWF will confirm the participation of Mr. Toomas Kokovkin and Mr. Lennart Gladh, respectively, and Finland as well as Denmark will clarify their participation in the Project Team by 21 February 2002 to EUCC to Mr. Pickaver and to the Secretariat.

5.13 The Meeting emphasized that no additional money, except from that indicated in the project proposal, is available for the Project or Project Team nor for the HELCOM ICZM Project from the current HELCOM budget.

5.14 Sweden offered to the Meeting to organise and host a workshop on ICZM from 30 September to 2 October 2002. The task of the workshop should include consideration of the first achievements and deliveries of the HELCOM ICZM Project.

5.15 EUCC informed the Meeting about its willingness to assist Sweden in the preparation of the workshop on ICZM.

5.16 The Meeting took note of the document 5/3 "Current status in the MLW areas" and thanked WWF of the well done work.

5.17 Document 5/4, “Information on the status of the project COASTPLAN – Spatial Planning for Integrated Development of Coastal Zones” was presented by the Secretariat of the Polish Committee for VASAB 2010 and INTERREG Programmes.

5.18 (LD 21) The Meeting expressed its interest for the Project, but decided that HELCOM for the time being should not be a full member of the COASTPLAN. Nevertheless, Sweden and Germany raised their interest to comment on the document, and the representative of VASAB 2010 pointed out that comments can still be submitted to the VASAB 2010 Secretariat.

5.19 The Meeting asked EUCC and the Project Team for the HELCOM ICZM Project, with the understanding that no additional funding is requested from the Contracting Parties, to take actively part in possible planning workshops and the follow-up of COASTPLAN.

5.20 (LD 22) The Meeting considered document 5/5 and approved the reporting form for HELCOM Recommendation 21/3 on sustainable and environmentally friendly tourism in the coastal zones of the Baltic Sea as contained in Annex 10 to these Minutes.

5.21 The Meeting took note of the information given by the Secretariat in document INF.5, "Outcome of HELCOM EXTRA 2001 and HELCOM SEA 4/2001 of relevance for HELCOM HABITAT; Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSA)".
5.22 The Meeting expressed its interest in actions to investigate the benefits from designating parts of the Baltic Sea Area as Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) and expected that HELCOM HABITAT is kept informed and is given the opportunity to contribute to the process via HELCOM SEA.

5.23 The Meeting invited Contracting Parties and Observers to indicate which BSPAs or other ecologically most valuable areas might be sensitive to maritime traffic and should be considered in the PSSA -discussion, and to present the information and proposals to HELCOM HABITAT 4/2003 in order to formulate a clear proposal for HELCOM SEA.

5.24 The Meeting took note of the information by WWF given in document INF.6, "NGO Declaration on sustainable maritime transport - Adopted at the second conference on Sustainable Transport Solutions in the Baltic Sea Area" and encouraged the NGOs to present their views concerning PSSA to HELCOM SEA.

5.25 Germany orally informed the Meeting about the outcome of the Planning Conference of an offshore windfarm project "Arkonabecken Südost", which was held in Stralsund in 25 October 2001.

5.26 German Federal States and local authorities as well as NOGs and representatives from neighbouring countries (Denmark, Poland, Sweden) and HELCOM were invited to the planning conference. Main topics of the conference "Arkonabecken Südost" were:
- The conflict between the planned offshore windfarm and other users (military, fishery and shipping) and
- The fact that the windfarm would be in close neighbourhood to an Important Bird Area (IBA).

5.27 The Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH) is the responsible agency for issuing permissions for offshore windfarms in the German EEZ and it informed HELCOM HABITAT on the status of applications in the Baltic.

5.28 For seven applications, proceedings are under way, and in three of them planning conferences were already held. The other applications are at an early stage. For the time being, only pilot areas with a maximum of 80 wind turbines per each area are treated in the application procedure.

5.29 BSH expects that no permission for an offshore windfarm in the German EEZ of the Baltic Sea will be given in 2002.

5.30 Denmark and Germany, Lead Country and Co-Lead Country, respectively, were not able to present a draft form for inquiry on windmill establishments to the Meeting due to the timing of HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002, but they indicated to submit it to HABITAT 4/2003 or to the ICZM Workshop, if requested by the organizers.

**Agenda Item 6 New assessment reports and working practices**

Documents: HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002, 6/1, 6/2, INF.9

6.1 Sweden presented a survey of answers regarding indicators/monitoring in coastal and marine environment, as compiled in document 6/2 and noted that e.g. the mapping of biotopes and knowledge of species and habitats are inadequate in several countries causing difficulties in identifying biodiversity indicators.
6.2 The Meeting discussed the indicator concept in presentation of information on status of biodiversity and nature conservation and was of the opinion that definitions for the nature conservation and biodiversity indicators should be elaborated.

6.3 (LD 23) Sweden volunteered to act as Lead Country in developing indicators for biodiversity and nature conservation. The Meeting requested Denmark and Russia to urgently submit the missing answers to the questionnaire to the Lead Country Sweden.

6.4 The Meeting took note of document INF. 9, "A list of questions regarding elaboration of indicators and monitoring in the coastal and marine environment" provided by Estonia, and asked Sweden to use the information in the future work.

6.5 (LD 24) The Meeting requested Sweden to contact EEA, ICES, OSPAR and NGOs for comments and advice as well as seek for cooperation with BMB. For future coordination of the work Sweden will also request additional comments on the concept of biodiversity indicators.

6.6 Based on the request from the Danish Forest and Nature Agency, ICES has produced an overview on national plans concerning the management of biodiversity (www.ices.dk/committe/acme/finalversion.doc). This overview also contains some general considerations how to develop action plans on biodiversity. The report could be used in the work of HELCOM.

6.7 The representative of Alleco Ltd. introduced its proposal for an international project to complete the comprehensive classification of the Baltic Sea marine habitats, as given in document 6/1.

6.8 The Meeting expressed its interest in the project and welcomed the proposal of ICES that the proposed HABITAT classification system should be presented to the ICES Working Group on Marine Habitat Mapping for their evaluation.

6.9 The Meeting was of the opinion that no overlapping classification system should be developed and encouraged the Contracting Parties to participate in the work of the ICES Habitat classification group.

6.10 Germany informed the Meeting to be a member of the ICES WG on Marine Habitat Mapping. The Meeting requested Germany to represent HELCOM HABITAT in the ICES WG, to keep HELCOM HABITAT informed on the progress made and to look after that the existing HELCOM classification system will be taken into account in that work of the ICES WG on Marine Habitat Mapping.

Agenda Item 7 Revision of the Work Programme

Documents: HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002, 7/1, 7/1/Rev.1

7.1 The Meeting considered document 7/1/Rev.1, "Working Programme of the Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone", elaborated by the Secretariat.

7.2 (LD 25) The Meeting decided not to revise the priority activities of HELCOM HABITAT, and approved the Working Programme of HELCOM HABITAT for 2003-2005 as contained in Annex 11 to these Minutes.

Agenda Item 8 Cooperation with international organizations

Documents: HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002, 8/1, 8/2
8.1 ICES introduced document 8/2, "Extract of the reports of the Advisory Committee on Marine Environment (ACME) 2001 and Advisory Committee on Ecosystems (ACE) 2001" containing information on introduction and transfers of marine organisms, issues related to mariculture, effects of extraction of marine sand and gravel on marine ecosystems, marine habitat classification and mapping, and biodiversity issues.

8.2 ICES informed the Meeting that the complete reports are available for downloading at the ICES website.

8.3 The Meeting welcomed the valuable information provided by ICES.

8.4 Germany has represented HELCOM habitat to EUNIS and has contributed to the work, but a reference to HELCOM is missing on the EUNIS website.

8.5 (LD 26) The Meeting requested EEA to see to that the appropriate reference to HELCOM is added on the EUNIS website.

8.6 Sweden informed the Meeting that a project supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers has finalised a compilation on threatened and characteristic marine biotopes in the Nordic countries, but the report is available only in Swedish.

8.7 (LD 27) The Meeting requested Sweden to provide the Secretariat with the report for submission to the Contact Addresses of HELCOM HABITAT.

8.8 The Professional Secretary introduced document 8/1 containing draft requests to ICES from HELCOM to ICES for 2003.

8.9 (LD 28) The Meeting accepted the proposed draft requests of HELCOM HABITAT as attached in Annex 12 to these Minutes.

Agenda Item 9 Election of the Chairmen of HELCOM HABITAT

Documents: no documents submitted

9.1 (LD 29) The Meeting considered a new Chairman for the Group and re-elected Mr. Henning von Nordheim, Germany as Chairman for HELCOM HABITAT for the next one-year period. Due to the increasing work load at his agency in Germany, Mr. Henning von Nordheim has expressed his wish to continue just for one more year, including the meeting of HELCOM HABITAT 4/2003.

9.2 (LD 30) The Meeting elected Mr. Jan Ekebom, Finland, as First Vice-Chairman and Ms. Ewa Włodarczyk, Poland, as Second Vice-Chairman of HELCOM HABITAT for the next two-year period.

Agenda Item 10 Other business

Documents: HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002, 10/1, 10/2

10.1 The List of Contact Addresses and Observers of HELCOM HABITAT, as contained in document 10/1, was submitted to the Meeting for corrections and amendments.

10.2 (LD 31) The Meeting took note of document and recalled the role of the Contact Persons in their respective countries. The updated List of Contact Addresses is attached as Annex 13 to these Minutes.
10.3 (LD 32) The Secretariat introduced document 10/2, "HELCOM Document Publishing System (HELCOM DPS)", and explained the functioning of the HELCOM DPS as well as the plans for DPS's further development. The role of the national contact persons was emphasized in the distribution of documents to relevant persons in each country. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to take into account all comments raised by the Contracting Parties for the further improvement of the DPS.

10.4 The Meeting expressed its gratitude to the European Commission for providing funding to the development of the HELCOM DPS.

10.5 The Secretariat presented briefly the newly launched HELCOM website.

10.6 BMB informed the Meeting on its consideration to establish a science oriented working group on the Baltic Sea Habitats, and invited those who would like to have additional information to contact the President of BMB, Mr. Hans Kautsky, Sweden.

10.7 Sweden informed the Meeting on a literature review of the impacts of offshore wind power on fauna and flora, published by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency with English summary.

Agenda Item 11 Next Meetings

11.1 The Contracting Parties were invited to consider hosting the future meeting of HELCOM HABITAT. Finland offered to investigate the possibility to host the Fourth Meeting of HELCOM HABITAT from 12 to 16 May 2003. The Meeting welcomed the offer and invited Finland to confirm the offer latest at HELCOM HOD 8/2002 to be held in 19-20 August 2002 in Riga, Latvia.

Agenda Item 12 List of Decisions

12.1 (LD 33) The Meeting adopted the List of Decisions of HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002 as contained in document HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002, 12/1, and decided that the Minutes of the Meeting including the list of decisions should be submitted in due time by the Professional Secretary in consultation with the Chairman of the Meeting.
### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE NATURE CONSERVATION AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT GROUP

Chapeau

Terms of Reference for the Subsidiary Bodies of the Helsinki Commission and PITF

The Subsidiary Bodies of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) are as follows:

- The Monitoring and Assessment Group (HELCOM MONAS)
- The Land-based Pollution Group (HELCOM LAND)
- The Sea-based Pollution Group (HELCOM SEA)
- The Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone Management Group (HELCOM HABITAT)
- The Strategy Group (HELCOM STRATEGY)

In addition to the work carried out within the HELCOM Subsidiary Bodies, work is carried out within the framework of the Programme Implementation Task Force (HELCOM PITF).

Below can be found a list of general requirements applying to all HELCOM Subsidiary Bodies as well as PITF when carrying out their work (re. I) and lists of the most relevant organizations and institutions with which the work of the HELCOM Subsidiary Bodies is connected (re. II).

I List of general requirements to be taken into account by the HELCOM Subsidiary Bodies and PITF when carrying out their work

The HELCOM Subsidiary Bodies and PITF shall:

a) take into consideration relevant EU legislation when elaborating new HELCOM Recommendations and make inputs to the appropriate EU bodies with a view to contributing to EU legislation;

b) co-operate and co-ordinate their work, when deemed necessary, with other HELCOM Subsidiary Bodies and PITF;

c) advise on any other matter remitted to them by the meetings of Heads of Delegation or the Helsinki Commission; and

d) report to the meetings of the Helsinki Commission or Heads of Delegation on their activities in accordance with their annual work plan and submit their reports to other HELCOM Subsidiary Bodies and PITF for information and, as appropriate, for comments.
Furthermore, the HELCOM Subsidiary Bodies

e) can propose to the meetings of Heads of Delegation the establishment of sub-groups and temporary groups for the consideration of matters related to their mandates;

f) can propose to the meetings of Heads of Delegation the establishment of projects within their mandate and in accordance with the Guidelines adopted by the Helsinki Commission; and

g) can cooperate, when authorized by the meetings of Heads of Delegation or by the Helsinki Commission, with competent international bodies on matters related to their mandates.

II Lists of the most relevant organizations and institutions with which the work of the HELCOM Subsidiary Bodies is connected

**HELCOM MONAS**

International governmental organizations
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- Oslo and Paris Commissions (OSPAR)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-Range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (CLRTAP/EMEP)

Non-governmental organizations
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF International)
- Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB)

**HELCOM HABITAT**

International governmental organizations
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- Oslo and Paris Commissions (OSPAR)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC)
- Secretariat for the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Secretariat for the Convention on Wetlands (RAMSAR)
- The European Union for Coastal Conservation (EUCC)

Non-governmental organizations
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF International)
- Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB)

**HELCOM LAND**

International governmental organizations
- Oslo and Paris Commissions (OSPAR)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Secretariat for the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
- Baltic Agenda 21(Baltic 21)
Non-governmental organizations
- European Chlor-Alkali Industry (EURO CHLOR)
- European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC)
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF International)
- Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB)

**HELCOM SEA**

International governmental organizations
- The International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- The Secretariat for the Agreement for cooperation in dealing with pollution of the North Sea by oil and other harmful substances, 1983 (Bonn Agreement)
- The Secretariat for the Scandinavian agreement between Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden for cooperation in dealing with pollution of the sea by oil and other harmful substances, 1993 (Copenhagen Agreement)
- Secretariats of UNEP’s Regional Seas’ Programmes

Non-governmental organizations
- The Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO)
- The Baltic Ports Organization (BPO)
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF International)
TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR
THE NATURE CONSERVATION AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT GROUP
(HELCOM HABITAT)
(Ref. HELCOM HABITAT 1/2000, 13/2, Annex 2)

A. The duties of the Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone Management Group are:
   a) to deal with matters related to nature protection and biodiversity conservation as well as restoration of ecosystems and marine and coastal zone management, and in particular:
      i) to advise the Commission in discharging its duties under Article 20 of the Helsinki Convention, adopted at the Diplomatic Conference on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, Helsinki, 9 April 1992, especially in relation to Articles 3, 7, 15, 16 and 24 of the Convention, with due regard to the decisions of HELCOM EXTRA 99 concerning reorganization of the work of HELCOM;
      ii) to continuously review and observe the situation at national and overall level with respect to nature conservation and biodiversity, exploitation, trends and damages in marine and coastal areas;
      iii) to review, develop and promote the implementation of principles and goals for biodiversity protection and sustainable use of natural resources as well as integrated planning and management of marine areas and coastal zones, and to review existing legislation and other instruments designed for achieving these goals;
      iv) to identify gaps and deficits in marine and coastal research related to restoration of natural processes and to nature protection / biodiversity conservation;
   b) to advise the Commission on how to improve existing biological monitoring programmes of HELCOM to serve aspects of nature conservation and biodiversity.

B. To fulfil these duties the Group will:
   a) prepare strategies, guidelines and measures for the conservation and protection of coastal and marine species, e.g. by:
      i) compilation of comprehensive "Red Lists" of species of fauna and flora for the Baltic marine and coastal areas;
      ii) initiation of measures for the urgent protection of highly endangered species;
   b) prepare strategies, guidelines and measures for the conservation and protection of coastal and marine habitats and biotopes, e.g. by:
      i) general legal protection of threatened habitats and biotopes;
      ii) further development of the system of "Baltic Sea Protected Areas" (BSPAs) and promotion of monitoring and research in these areas;
      iii) periodically reviewing the "Red Lists" of marine and coastal biotopes;
      iv) mapping of biotopes, e.g. wetlands;
   c) provide and promote the application of strategies and guidelines for integrated marine and coastal zone management (ICZM), i.e. for the sustainable use of natural resources, for the relevant national legislation and for spatial planning, e.g. by:
      i) encouraging the development and implementation of integrated approaches for the spatial planning of coastal and marine areas, taking into account nature conservation and biodiversity;
ii) promoting the application of the ecosystem approach, and the sustainable use of natural resources in coastal and marine areas;

iii) exchanging experiences of the Contracting Parties in marine and coastal zone planning and management, e.g. for offshore BSPAs, coastal lagoons, wetlands;

d) **evaluate** possible negative effects of human activities on the marine and coastal ecosystems and to identify their driving forces;

e) **enhance** the maintenance and restoration of natural coastal dynamic processes and natural nutrient removal potentials.
Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Information by the Secretariat

3. Information by the Contacting Parties and Observer Organizations

4. Nature conservation and biodiversity

5. Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)

6. New assessment reports and working practices

7. Revision of the Work Programme

8. Cooperation with international organizations

9. Election of the Chairmen of HELCOM HABITAT

10. Other business

11. Next Meetings

12. List of Decisions
Role of the Lead Country

Lead Country for a certain HELCOM Recommendation or a specific HELCOM issue should:

1. initiate and co-ordinate in cooperation with the Secretariat activities, including projects relevant to the implementation of the HELCOM Recommendation(s) and specific issues fitting into the Working Programme of the respective HELCOM group;

2. review and assess national reports on the implementation of the relevant HELCOM Recommendation and prepare evaluation reports;

3. establish a network of contact persons within the Contracting Parties in order to be kept informed about the ongoing developments in its field of responsibility and to improve the exchange of information between the Contracting Parties;

4. arrange in cooperation with the Secretariat meetings/workshops as appropriate, to address, e.g., important issues and strategies;

5. keep the Secretariat informed about measures/initiatives taken. The Secretariat should communicate the information to the Contracting Parties and to appropriate HELCOM Group(s) and HELCOM PITF;

6. prepare relevant document(s) for the meetings of the appropriate HELCOM Group(s) and HELCOM PITF;

7. where appropriate, initiate the harmonization of HELCOM Recommendations and reporting formats with EU Directives and OSPAR Decisions and Recommendations.
Project Proposal: Development of a Baltic waterbird monitoring strategy, - Pilot Phase: evaluation of available data and conclusion on necessary follow-up activities
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Title of Project
Development of a Baltic waterbird monitoring strategy, - Pilot Phase: evaluation of available data and conclusion on necessary follow-up activities.

2. Project Manager
Henrik Skov, Ornis Consult A/S, Denmark

3. Proposing Party
HELCOM HABITAT

4. The body supervising the project
HELCOM HABITAT

5. Target and activities
The long-term objective of the proposed project is to provide information for HELCOM to assess the status of waterbirds, Special Protection Areas according to the EC-Bird Directive (SPAs), globally Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and BSPAs.

The immediate objective is to carry out a pilot project to test the statistical power of available data on selected breeding and non-breeding species of waterbirds, to identify major gaps in available data, conclude on necessary further developments and evaluate potential sources of funding to cover extra costs imposed on the contracting parties for implementing the monitoring strategy. This information should be reported to the HELCOM HABITAT 4. The pilot project will be carried out without costs for the contracting parties.

Based on the conclusions of the pilot project a project proposal should be developed covering the production of the monitoring strategy and manual, organisation of a monitoring workshop, testing of the monitoring strategy and identification of indicator species. With the aim to receive support for these activities from the GEF BSP project BirdLife International in liaison with the HELCOM Secretariat will develop a draft proposal, which shall be presented at the HELCOM HABITAT 4 for discussion.

6. Requirements for HELCOM
HELCOM HABITAT will discuss the evaluation and proposal for further activities in relation to bird monitoring. Wetlands International will participate in the steering group of the project. BirdLife International will act as lead-party responsible for carrying out the pilot project and preparing the draft proposal to the GEF BSP project.

The expertise required is knowledge of ongoing national and international waterbird monitoring programmes, knowledge of waterbird distribution in the Baltic Sea at various times of the year, knowledge of links between the marine environment, management of human activities and waterbirds in the Baltic Sea and knowledge of data analyses and management relevant for the evaluation of time series data.

7. Expected results
The following documents will be produced:

- Review of the ongoing monitoring schemes in the Baltic Sea and establishment of contact persons/institutions, including statistical evaluation of the power of available data;

- Report on the minimum requirements for a low-budget Baltic waterbird monitoring scheme;

- Overview of incremental costs of the continuous operation (e.g. data processing and analysis) of the monitoring scheme, and evaluation of potential sources of funding.
A Baltic waterbird monitoring scheme has been a long-standing goal for HELCOM as reflected by meetings in HELCOM EC-NATURE during 1998-1999 and in HELCOM HABITAT during 2000-2001. At the request of HELCOM EC 9/98 preparatory work has been undertaken by Denmark in co-operation with BirdLife International, yet it has not been possible to find the financial support necessary for evaluating existing activities and writing up a monitoring strategy. Updated information on the status of waterbird populations in the Baltic is essential to assess the well-being of waterbirds in the Baltic Sea and determine the effectiveness of management initiatives as for instance Baltic Sea Protected Areas. In addition, a beached bird survey programme is an important means for assessing the effectiveness of measures to reduce surface pollution in the Baltic Sea.

9. Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time (man months)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pilot phase</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review of existing monitoring schemes</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of available data and conclusions regarding follow-up activities</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*) Exact breakdown of the timetable depends on the conclusion of the Pilot Project.

10. Budget

Pilot Project 14.400 EUR

11. Additional requests

On the request of the Secretariat the project shall also include a strategy for monitoring of marine oil pollution in the Baltic Sea by the use of beached birds surveys.

12. Procedure of nomination of the Project team members

There will be no other team members than the project manager.

13. Signature of the Project Manager

14. Opinion of the Chairman of the relevant body

15. Opinion of the Executive Secretary


(Reference is to be given to the relevant Minutes of the Heads of Delegation's Meeting)

_____ to establish  _____ not to establish
Outcome from the Drafting Group No. 1 on Status of Conservation and Management of Seal Populations in the Baltic Sea
Drafting Group No. 1 on Status of Conservation and Management of Seal Populations in the Baltic Sea

The Drafting Group 1 was attended by members from all Contracting Parties except for Russia. Observers from ASCOBANS, EUCC, ICES, WWF and the Executive Secretary of the Commission also attended the Drafting Group. The Group was chaired by the Chairman of HELCOM HABITAT, Mr. Henning von Nordheim, Germany. Ms. Penina Blankett, Finland (Lead Country on seals) acted as rapporteur.

The Drafting Group decided to consider the final report of the HELCOM Project on Seals and the Lead Country’s draft revised version of HELCOM Recommendation 9/1 separately.

Following an extensive discussion Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Sweden were in favour of adopting the final Seal Project Group report as such as an HELCOM HABITAT report to be submitted to the Helsinki Commission. EUCC and ASCOBANS did not comment. CCB had sent a written statement and did specify several points it does not agree on the final Seal Project Group report. Germany, Poland and WWF were in favour of and Denmark could also agree on taking note of and using the report of the HELCOM Project Group on Seals as a basic document to produce by incorporating necessary amendments and comments an HELCOM HABITAT report on the conflicting seal issue, which could be acceptable for all the Contracting Parties and Observer Organizations, and which could be submitted through HELCOM HODs to the Commission. The representative of EC stated that EC is of the opinion that the conflicting views should be minimised as much as possible before a possible redrafting of the HELCOM Recommendation 9/1 could lead to acceptable results. Germany, Poland and WWF stressed that the final HELCOM HABITAT report on the seals/fisheries conflict should be based on the report of the HELCOM Project Group on Seals, but should put more emphasis on non-lethal conflict mitigation measures and should reflect the critical comments received by HELCOM HABITAT. Licensed protective hunting of seals should be expressed as an exceptional ultimate measure in case all other measures have proved to fail. This view was not shared by all Member of the Drafting Group.

The European Commission repeated its position that constructing and applying seal-proof fishing gear for fishermen could be financially supported through EU-structural fonds. Further, the delegate of EC indicated that there is still a discussion going on in EC if, and to what extent member states could pay compensation for damages of seals on fishing gear and catch. EC offered to clarify its position on this to the Secretariat within approx. six (6) weeks.

After further extensive discussion, two of the Contracting Parties proposed that the Chairman of HELCOM HABITAT should compile the report of HELCOM HABITAT on the seal/fisheries conflict according to the following schedule, and all members except for Finland agreed to it (Finland posed a study reservation on this proposal).

1. The Drafting Group agreed to compile a final report of HELCOM HABITAT on the conflicts between seals conservation and fisheries interests, which could be accepted by all the Contracting Parties and Observers by using the Seal Project Group report as basis; therefore it was agreed:

- The precise comments of the Contact Persons and Observers of HELCOM HABITAT to the Seal Project Group’s final report should be sent to the Chairman of HELCOM HABITAT and to the HELCOM Secretariat by end of March 2002.
- The HELCOM Secretariat should then submit these comments to the Contact Persons and Observers of HELCOM HABITAT.
• The Seal Project Group’s final report should simultaneously be sent for scientific peer review to ICES only for checking scientific issues, but not for commenting policy matters touched in this report.

• The Chairman of HELCOM HABITAT will compile the first version of the HELCOM HABITAT report based on the comments received and send it again to the Contracting Parties and Observer Organizations of HELCOM HABITAT by 15 September 2002 for possible further necessary revision.

• Comments to this first version should be submitted to the Chairman of HELCOM HABITAT latest by 15 November 2002. These additional comments should be minimized as much as possible and be given in “the spirit of compromise” among the Contracting Parties and Observers.

• The Chairman will then produce the second version (which might also include indication of individual and conflicting views on certain issues) and submit it to HELCOM HABITAT 4/2003 in due time to enable a thorough consideration before the Meeting.

2. The Drafting Group, except for Finland, agreed to title the HELCOM HABITAT report to be produced as “HELCOM Status Report on the conservation of seal populations in the Baltic Sea - Including proposals for reducing the conflicts between fisheries interests and seal conservation.” Again with the exception of Finland it was also agreed to substitute the word “taking” by a more specific explanation “protective hunting” or “licensed protective hunting” (but in keeping the definition used in the Seals Project Group’s report) where ever appropriate.

3. The Drafting Group did not consider document 4/4, Draft Revised HELCOM Recommendation 9/1 and document 4/5, Draft Implementation Reporting Form for HELCOM Recommendation on Protection of Seals in the Baltic Sea in more detail because the majority of the Drafting Group Members was of the opinion that the conflicting views on the final HELCOM HABITAT report of the seal issue have to be clarified first before a successful revision of HELCOM Recommendation 9/1 could lead to satisfying results.

Therefore Finland was invited to reconsider the proposals made under points 1 and 2 and to inform the Executive Secretary of the Commission within two months if Finland can lift the study reservation on this issue.
Reporting Form for HELCOM Recommendation 19/2 on Protection and Improvement of the Wild Salmon (*Salmo salar L.*) Populations in the Baltic Sea Area
**REPORTING FORM FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 19/2 ON PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE WILD SALMON (Salmo salar L.) POPULATIONS IN THE BALTIC SEA AREA**

**Lead Country: Latvia and Sweden**

**A. General Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of party</th>
<th>Period covered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1999-2001</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/Institution of report compiler</th>
<th>Date of report</th>
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<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IBSFC Salmon Action Plan reporting format provided to IBSFC</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**B. Specific information**

1. Conditions in wild salmon rivers/potential wild salmon rivers

   In which salmon rivers have measured been carried out to improve environmental conditions/facilitating future natural reproduction of salmon. (show on a map)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of river a:</th>
<th>Name of river b:</th>
<th>Name of river c:</th>
<th>Name of river d:</th>
<th>Name of river e:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved water quality</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved water quantity</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration of spawning areas</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removal of migration obstacles</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments/Remarks:
2. Have any new, permanent or temporary, mechanical obstacles been built that can prevent salmon migration in rivers? (indicate on a map)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of river</th>
<th>Name of place/co-ordinates:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Type of construction obstacles**

Not relevant  ☐

Comments/Remarks:

3. Indicate areas (using geographical WGS84 co-ordinates) where a moratorium/time and area closures on commercial and/or recreational fishing of wild salmon have been established. Indicate the time period over which this moratorium/these time and area closures are valid. (indicate on a map)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of area:</th>
<th>Closure time:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not relevant  ☐

Comments/Remarks:
4. List all projects conducted in your country dealing with causes and effects of M74. Indicate which of these have been conducted in co-operation with ICES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>University/Institute</th>
<th>ICES involved</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Comments/Remarks:

5. List all releases of reared salmon and indicate the scientific basis for these releases. (indicate on a map)

Name of river/coastal area:

Background information is contained in the IBSFC/HELCOM report “Baltic Salmon Rivers”.

6. Have you approached IBSFC concerning management measures for wild salmon? If so, indicate when and which measures.

Contact with IBSFC  Yes  No  

When?

If yes, measures proposed:
The legal bases for the implementation of the recommendation

Comments/Remarks:

Additional Comments/Remarks: Non-implemented issues should be described and proposals for technical improvements and financial needs should be addressed
Outcome from the Drafting Group No. 2 on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
Drafting Group No. 2 on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)

The Drafting Group 2 consisted of the delegates from Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden, EUCC, WWF and VASAB 2010.

The Drafting Group set the following goals to be dealt with during the session:
1) to consider the updating of the ICZM in the Baltic States State-of-the-Art Report,
2) to specify the expected results, as in point 6 of the project proposal submitted by EUCC,
3) to establish the mode of work for the project realization.

Ad. 1.
The following Contracting Parties expressed a need to include some changes in the Report: Sweden, Lithuania and Poland. Estonia declared to supply the official comments to the Report. Regarding the Russian part of the Report, Mr. Pickaver offered to try to establish a contact with an appropriate party in order to update the existing information.

Timetable for the Report updating process:
- a submission of national comments to Mr. Pickaver - end of February 2002,
- a draft version of the updated Report, including Introduction, Conclusions and Summary available for approval - end of April 2002,
- final comments to be submitted to Mr. Pickaver - end of June 2002,
- a final report will be drawn up by 15 August 2002 for further submission to the ICZM Workshop in Sweden and to HELCOM HABITAT 4/2003.

Ad. 2.
The Drafting Group considered the geographical area, i.e. the extent of marine area, which the project would cover. The group shortly discussed the possible problems associated with the inclusion of EEZs in the project. It was pointed out that the inclusion of the whole Baltic Sea would be a challenging and novel approach.

The majority expressed the opinion that the entire Baltic Sea area should be included. Finland was not in a position to state whether it can support this approach.

The Drafting Group also discussed whether the biodiversity conservation should determine the scope of the project. The opinions on the issue were split, with some members of the group giving a preference to biodiversity conservation, some to taking into account the development in the offshore areas, e.g. construction of windmill parks, and some members holding an opinion that a balanced approach should be applied.

The Drafting Group proposed the following content of the project:
- common vision of ICZM in the Baltic Region,
- list of principles,
- common approach to achieve the set goals,
- strategies to achieve the set goals,
- different examples of ICZM implementation,
- possible draft formulation of a HELCOM recommendation on ICZM.

At this point, the Drafting Group stated that the document elaborated in the project should serve as a framework for the nine riparian countries to further work on ICZM issues. Mr. Pickaver specified that the relevant EU documents will be considered during the elaboration of the document. The Contracting Parties proposed to include the outcomes of
other ICZM projects conducted in the Baltic Sea Region where appropriate.

Ad. 3.
Mr. Pickaver suggested a following mode of work for the project:

- the establishment of a small Project Team of the ICZM experts (ca. 5 persons) who would supply the input to the ongoing work, e.g. feedback information, ideas and expertise, during the realization of the project. The exchange of information between the Project Manager and the Project Team would take place through e-mail and phone conversations.

The Drafting Group suggested not to restrict the information flow to the contact group, but to also allow other comments to be presented to the Project Manager for his consideration. The Drafting Group raised the question whether it is possible to obtain the required expertise without incurring additional costs.

Sweden informed the Drafting Group about a planned workshop on ICZM and in this respect about a possibility to then evaluate the preliminary results of the ongoing project, if such results are available at the time. The tentative date for the workshop was proposed for September 2002.

The Drafting Group decided to discuss the nominations to the Project Tema during the plenary session of HELCOM HABITAT 31 January 2002.
Project proposal: The Development of a Common Approach to Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) within the nine riparian countries around the Baltic Sea
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Title of Project

The Development of a Common Approach to Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) within the nine riparian countries around the Baltic Sea

2. Project Manager

Dr Alan Pickaver, EUCC – The Coastal Union

3. Proposing Party

HELCOM HABITAT

4. The Body Supervising the Project

HELCOM HABITAT

5. Target and Activities

i) Based on the document “Background for Coastal Planning and Management in the Baltic Sea Region”, presented at HELCOM HABITAT 2/2001 and subsequently finalised in October 2001, the Project Manager will develop an overall, common approach together with appropriate strategies and a possible draft HELCOM recommendation for future ICZM in the Baltic region. The document will focus on the Baltic Sea and take into consideration the work of current HELCOM groups and their work.

ii) Discussions begun in the Second Meeting of HELCOM HABITAT (minutes 7.15, 7.16) concerning an overall approach for ICZM will be continued in the Third Meeting of HELCOM HABITAT (HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002) at which time the State-of-the-Art Report on ICZM will be presented and discussed.

A small Project Team will be set up during Habitat 3 (January, 2002) to determine which elements they would wish to see in such a common approach. Furthermore, illustrative examples will be used to develop strategies towards implementation and sustainability of ICZM projects. A possible draft HELCOM recommendation will be drawn up.

It is anticipated that the project manager will communicate the interim findings of the working group to a larger group constituting HELCOM HABITAT periodically during the course of the project.

The Project Manager will give a progress report to a workshop to be hosted by Sweden in September 2002.

iii) The document, which is targeted to support the HELCOM HABITAT Group, will be presented in draft form, to the Fourth Meeting of HELCOM HABITAT (HELCOM HABITAT 4/2003) for further discussion. It will form the necessary overarching guidelines and context for the future development of ICZM in the Baltic Region.

iv) The expertise required is knowledge of ICZM and the ability to communicate with ICZM experts and search for appropriate information to be included in the Common Approach document.
v) The document was requested already by the second meeting of HELCOM HABITAT held in Sigulda, Latvia, 21 – 25 May, 2001 (HELCOM HABITAT 2/2001, para.12/2, Minute 7.18 LD23).

vi) EUCC will assist in the preparation of the workshop hosted by Sweden in September 2002.

6. Expected Results

A document giving a Common Approach of ICZM, a list of adherent principles and appropriate strategies and a possible draft HELCOM recommendation towards reaching that vision for the nine HELCOM riparian countries.

7. Consistency with HELCOM priorities

ICZM is included as Goal 3 and Point 1 of the Working Programme of HELCOM HABITAT 2000-2002.

8. Timetable

Initial discussions begun in the Second meeting of HELCOM HABITAT will be continued in HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002. A draft report will be written during 2002 following subsequent contact with the Project Team. A draft will be presented to a workshop in Sweden in September 2002 and the final draft, including a possible HELCOM recommendation will be presented to HELCOM HABITAT 4/2003 for discussion and subsequent finalisation.

9. Budget

9.1 Total costs: €15,300 (= 30 days work by the project manager €450/day + travel to HELCOM HABITAT 3, 4 + communication costs).

9.2 2002: €10,800

9.3 2003: € 4,500


10. Additional requests

10.1 HELCOM HABITAT 2/2001 invited EUCC to send in a formal project application to HELCOM in accordance with the HELCOM Guidelines for project application. On request of HELCOM HABITAT the project shall also result in a project proposal for “common visions and principles” of ICM (minute 7.18).

10.2 A group of 4-5 selected ICZM specialists will be required to help with the development of the document and cooperate with the Project Manager.

11. Procedure of Nomination of the Project Team Members

A small Project Team of experts will be established during HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002.
12. Signature of the Project Manager

   Alan Pickaver

13. Opinion of the Chairman of HELCOM HABITAT

14. Opinion of the Executive Secretary

15. Decision of the Heads of Delegation
Reporting Form for HELCOM Recommendation 21/3 on Sustainable and Environmentally Friendly Tourism in the Coastal Zones of the Baltic Sea Area
REPORTING FORM FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 21/3 ON SUSTAINABLE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TOURISM IN THE COASTAL ZONES OF THE BALTIC SEA AREA

Lead Country: Latvia

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Contracting Party</th>
<th>Period covered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/Institution of report compiler</th>
<th>Date of report</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Specific information

1. Does in your country exist any national Strategy or Programme for Sustainable Tourism development?

2. Which paragraphs of the HELCOM Guidelines for Sustainable and Environmentally Friendly Tourism in the Coastal Zones of the Baltic Sea Area have been integrated into the national Strategy or Programme?

3. Which large-scale tourist projects* have been preceded by special spatial planning processes? (indicate on a map and specify in figures)

4. Which large-scale tourist projects* have been incorporated into an integrated coastal zone management plan? (indicate on a map and specify in figures)

* reporting country refers to national criteria/classification of tourist projects
5. What Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) or similar procedures have been carried out concerning tourism infrastructure and tourism operations?

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

6. In what way has your country cooperated with others in order to harmonize transboundary tourist activities? Please, specify: state level, local authorities, private sector and NGOs

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

7. In what way have the National Authorities informed the tourist sector including the private sector and NGOs dealing with sustainable tourism about the HELCOM Recommendation?

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

The legal bases for the implementation of the recommendation

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

Additional Comments/Remarks: Non-implemented issues should be described and proposals for technical improvements and financial needs should be addressed

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________
Working Programme of the Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone Management Group (HELCOM HABITAT) for 2003-2005
HELCOM EXTRA 99 decided that the priority areas of HELCOM are the following:

- Eutrophication, (especially the contribution of agriculture);
- Hazardous substances;
- Relevant issues from the land transport sector;
- Relevant issues from the maritime transport sector, including implementation of the Baltic Strategy;
- Environmental impacts of fishery management and practices;
- Protection and conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity;
- Harmonization of HELCOM Recommendations with EU directives, while safeguarding adequacy for specific Baltic Sea requirements and the provision of necessary input to the formulation of EU and other international legislation; and
- Implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Environment Action Programme and HELCOM Recommendations

Programme Component 7. Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone Management

The main aim of this component is to facilitate and assist in the development and implementation of plans, strategies/programmes for conservation, protection, restoration and the sustainable use of marine natural resources in the Baltic Sea, including coastal lagoons and wetlands, and to assist in the integration of biodiversity into national decision-making procedures. In this respect, this component should work closely to relevant directives and objectives of other international organizations such as EU and international conventions, such as the International Convention on Biological Diversity. Further, this component addresses integrated planning and management of coastal zones.

The goals of Component 7 are as follows:

- Goal 1: To conserve natural habitats and biological diversity and to protect ecological processes of the Baltic Sea Area.
- Goal 2: To promote ecosystem approaches for the sustainable use and management of coastal and marine natural resources.
- Goal 3: To promote the development of Coastal Zone Management Plans as instruments of resource management for environmentally sustainable development in coastal and marine areas.

The activities to reach the goals are as follows:

- Keep the Red List of coastal and marine biotopes and threatened species as well as the list of Baltic Sea Protected Areas updated and under review.
- Prepare strategies, guidelines and measures for the conservation and protection of the valuable coastal and marine areas, biotopes, habitats and species of the Baltic Sea Area.
- Develop guidelines and as appropriate recommendations for ecosystem-oriented approaches to the management of marine natural resources.
- Identify management priorities and support preparation and implementation of management plans for coastal areas, coastal lagoons and wetlands.
- Review the existing instruments and experiences of programmes for Integrated Coastal Zone Management and carry out the ongoing project on Management plans for coastal lagoons and wetlands.
### Working Programme for HELCOM HABITAT for 2003-2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation Lead Party</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
<th>Financing/ HELCOM Budget</th>
<th>Milestones / Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 1: To conserve natural habitats and biological diversity and to protect ecological processes of the Baltic Sea Area</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare strategies, guidelines and measures for the conservation and protection of coastal and marine species</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compilation of comprehensive &quot;Red Lists&quot; of species of fauna and flora for the Baltic marine and coastal areas and promotion of monitoring and research connected with listed species</td>
<td>Continuous activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rec. 9/1, Finland Rec. 17/2, Poland Rec. 19/2, Sweden</td>
<td>Initiation of measures for the protection of highly endangered and threatened species</td>
<td>Continuous activity</td>
<td>Report of the Sturgeon Project in summer 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rec. 17/2, Poland</td>
<td>Co-operate in a joint project on protection of harbour porpoises together with ASCOBANS, ICES, WWF, IBSFC</td>
<td>Ongoing activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluate possible negative effects of human activities on the marine and coastal ecosystems and to identify their driving forces</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rec. 15/1, Finland Rec. 17/3, Poland Rec. 19/1, Germany Rec. 21/3, Latvia</td>
<td>Evaluation of environmental impacts of human activities in coastal and marine areas.</td>
<td>Continuous activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prepare strategies and guidelines and promote measures for the conservation and protection of coastal and marine habitats and biotopes also taking into account the co-operative linkages developed together with the Convention Biological Diversity, CBD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rec. 21/4, Germany</td>
<td>Promote and encourage the legal protection of threatened habitats and biotopes</td>
<td>Continuous activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rec. 15/5, Sweden</td>
<td>Continuously follow up the implementation of and review the system of &quot;Baltic Sea Protected Areas&quot; (BSPAs) and promote biological monitoring and research in these areas</td>
<td>Continuous activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation Lead Party</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Time frame</td>
<td>Financing/ HELCOM Budget</td>
<td>Milestones / Other</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICES</td>
<td>Prepare an overview of biotope mapping techniques used in the Baltic Sea countries and seek possibilities for co-operation in joint habitat classification and mapping projects and encourage mapping of coastal and marine biotopes</td>
<td>Ongoing activity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cooperation with ICES Working Group on habitat classification and mapping and EUNIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance the maintenance and restoration of natural coastal dynamic processes and natural nutrient removal potentials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rec. 16/3, Denmark</td>
<td>Further the implementation of Recommendation 16/3 by the Contracting Parties</td>
<td>Ongoing activity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Harmonize the reporting requirements within HELCOM as well as with EU/EEA and OSPAR</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracting Parties with assistance by the Secretariat</td>
<td>Within the cooperative framework of the Inter-Regional Forum (IRF) develop a joint work plan together with EU/EEA involving co-operation connected with habitats, species and nature conservation areas.</td>
<td>Ongoing activity</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmonization of HELCOM Recommendations on in the nature conservation and integrated marine and coastal zone management with relevant EU Directives as appropriate</td>
<td>Carry out a comparison and harmonize with relevant existing and upcoming EU Directives</td>
<td>Ongoing activity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Report of the outcome of the comparison in 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate ongoing projects</td>
<td>Initialise new projects and follow up and use the result of the projects and propose relevant actions.</td>
<td>Continuous activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracting Parties and Observers</td>
<td>The Project on Seals, follow-up</td>
<td>2002-</td>
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<td>Project Manager, Project Group</td>
<td>The Sturgeon Project</td>
<td>2002</td>
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<td>Project Report in summer 2002</td>
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<td>Project Manager, Project Group</td>
<td>Database on Alien Species, follow-up</td>
<td>2002-</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 2: To promote ecosystem approaches for the sustainable use and management of coastal and marine natural resources.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Develop guidelines and as appropriate recommendations for ecosystem approaches to the sustainable use and management of coastal and marine natural resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recommendation</td>
<td>Lead Party</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Time frame</td>
<td>Financing/ HELCOM Budget</td>
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<td>Promoting the application of an ecosystem approach to sustainable use of natural resources in coastal and marine areas</td>
<td>Ongoing activity</td>
<td>Joint IBSFC/HELCOM Seminar in 2002</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Development of a draft concept on matters related to sustainable fisheries taking into account the responsibilities of the Fishery Commission, IBSFC</td>
<td>Ongoing activity</td>
<td>Joint IBSFC/HELCOM Seminar in 2002</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Goal 3: To promote the development of Coastal Zone Management Plans as instruments of resource management for environmentally sustainable development in coastal and marine areas**

Promote the application of strategies and guidelines for integrated marine and coastal zone management for environmentally sustainable use of natural resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EUCC and the Project Group</th>
<th>Prepare Draft Guidelines/Recommendation for integrated marine and coastal zone management in the Baltic Sea Area taking into account existing guidelines and to prepare HELCOM common approach for ICZM</th>
<th>Ongoing activity</th>
<th>15 300</th>
<th>Project Report in 2002</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WWF</td>
<td>Integrate the former PITF/MLW work on Management of coastal lagoons and wetlands into the work of the new Group</td>
<td>Ongoing activity</td>
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<td>Annual Report to HELCOM HABITAT</td>
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<tr>
<td>BirdLife, Project Group</td>
<td>Co-operation with WWF, EUCC, VASAB 2010 and Baltic 21 on coastal zone management and planning in the Baltic Sea Area</td>
<td>Ongoing activity</td>
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</table>
Draft Requests from HELCOM to ICES for 2003
CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

Request to ICES for 2003 by HELCOM MONAS 3/2001

1. To coordinate quality assurance activities on biological and chemical measurements in the Baltic marine area according to the Attachment and report routinely on planned and ongoing ICES inter-comparison exercises, and to provide a full report on the results;

Based on the ICES Council Resolutions in 1994 and the related decision by HELCOM in 1995, joint ICES/HELCOM Steering Groups on Quality Assurance of Chemical Measurements in the Baltic Sea (meaning the Baltic marine area) and on Quality Assurance of Biological Measurements in the Baltic Sea (meaning the Baltic marine area) have been established. ICES is requested to continue to coordinate the work on behalf of HELCOM.

Request to ICES for 2003 by HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002

2. To evaluate every third year the populations of seals and harbour porpoise in the Baltic marine area, including the size of the populations, distribution, migration, reproductive capacity, effects of contaminants and health status, and additional mortality owing to interactions with commercial fisheries (by-catch, intentional killing). The evaluation is based on annual submission of data to ICES from ICES member states.

In HELCOM Recommendation 9/1 concerning protection of seals in the Baltic Sea (meaning marine area) (adopted in 1988) the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention are, inter alia, recommended through their national instruments to ban all hunting of grey seals (Halichoerus grypus), ringed seals (Pusa hispida) and harbour seals (Phoca vitulina) in the Baltic marine area. In order to safeguard the survival of these species, the ban shall be maintained until a natural health condition and a normal reproductive rate can scientifically be shown.

The Recommendation, furthermore, invites ICES "continuously to assess the condition of the seal populations of the Baltic Sea (meaning the Baltic marine area), on the basis of new evidence presented by the Contracting Parties and other relevant information." A seal assessment is especially needed due to conflicts between seals and fisheries in the Northern parts of the Baltic Sea and a strong pressure in some Contracting Parties to start seal hunting. Furthermore, a scientific statement is needed on the safe size with respect to genetically sound sustainability of the different populations of the different seal species of the Baltic.

In HELCOM Recommendation 17/2 concerning protection of harbour porpoise in the Baltic Sea the Contracting Parties are recommended to give highest priority to avoid by-catches of harbour porpoise.

The Recommendation, furthermore, recommends the Contracting Parties to take action in close co-operation with ICES, for the collection and analysis of additional data on population distribution and abundance, stock identities and threats such as pollutant levels, by-catch mortality, disturbance by shipping (e.g. under water noise).

Moreover, a scientific statement is needed, also in the future, with respect to the status and recruitment of harbour porpoises in the Baltic marine area.
SPECIAL ISSUES

A specific data request from HELCOM MONAS 3/2001 to ICES to 2002

Based on the outcome of HELCOM MONAS 3/2001 concerning matters connected to new reporting requirements and working practices, nutrients and chlorophyll-a were recognized as essential eutrophication indicators.

3. As ICES has all the HELCOM hydrographic and hydrochemical data, HELCOM MONAS 3/2001 requests ICES in co-operation with Denmark to develop indicators on:

* Surface (0 - 10 m) concentrations of NO$_3$ + NO$_2$ and PO$_4$ in winter (means of, January - February, January - March in the Gulf of Finland, December - March in the Gulf of Bothnia) from representative stations (selected by the Contracting Parties within the 6 basins, also coastal and/or hot spot stations), and present the results as time series plots;

* Surface (0 - 10 m) in summer (July - August) mean chlorophyll concentration from the same representative stations;

HELCOM MONAS 3/2001 requests ICES to apply the most relevant statistical trend analysing method to these time series, and to present the outcome of the work at the autumn HELCOM MONAS meeting in 2002

4. HELCOM MONAS 3/2001 requests ICES in co-operation with Denmark and Sweden to develop relevant Baltic Sea bottom oxygen indicator(s).

Request to ICES for 2003 by HELCOM HABITAT 3/2002

In connection with the standing request HELCOM HABITAT T3/2002 additionally requests the following.

From HELCOM's point of view biotope mapping could be a useful instrument for collecting information on biotopes and habitats of Baltic Sea. There is, however, a need to co-ordinate and, as appropriate to harmonize the methods used for biotope in mapping the different Baltic Sea countries.

5. Following the request by the Second Meeting of the Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone Management Group (HELCOM HABITAT 2/2001) with reference to the final Minutes of the Meeting the HABITAT Group requested ICES to include the Baltic Sea in its work on a marine habitat classification and mapping system generally accepted and covering the whole Baltic Sea area. The EONIS classification system should be taken into consideration as well as other ongoing projects in the region such as the CHARM project on “Characterization of the Baltic Sea Ecosystem Dynamics and function of coastal types”, which is connected with the EU Water Framework Directive.

Programme for estimation of the abundance of mammals

6. In connection with the standing request HELCOM HABITAT additionally requests a monitoring programme for estimation of the abundance of seal and other mammal populations.

There is a need to develop a monitoring programme for improved estimation of marine mammal species abundance. Countries use different methods for estimation of number of individual mammals. Therefore surveys of different species should be standardized and synchronised in all commonly accepted methods for monitoring of species abundance.
### List of Contact Addresses of the Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone Management Group

#### CHAIRMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chairman/Co-Chairman</th>
<th>Organisation/Department</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone/Fax/Email</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Annex 13

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List of Contact Addresses of the Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone Management Group

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Fax: +46-8-6981 662</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>S-106 48 Stockholm</td>
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Observer Organizations of HELCOM HABITAT

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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
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<th>Phone/Fax/Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>ASCOBANS</td>
<td>ASCOBANS Secretariat, United Nations Premises, Martin-Luther-King Str. 8, D-53175 Bonn</td>
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<tr>
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HELSINKI COMMISSION - Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission  
Nature Conservation and Coastal Zone Management Group (HELCOM HABITAT)

Observer Organizations of HELCOM HABITAT

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List of Documents

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<td>Provisional Agenda</td>
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**Information documents**

| INF.1 | 25 January 2002 | Provisional List of Participants                                      | Secretariat   |
| INF.2 | 29 January 2002 | Provisional List of Documents                                          | Secretariat   |
| INF.2/Rev.1 | 31 January 2002 | List of Documents                                                       | Secretariat   |
| INF.4/Item 2 | 28 November 2001 | Minutes of the Third Meeting of HELCOM Monitoring and Assessment Group (HELCOM MONAS 3/2001, 13/2) | Secretariat   |
| INF.5/Item 5 | 3 January 2002 | Outcome of HELCOM EXTRA 2001 and HELCOM SEA 4/2001 of relevance for HELCOM HABITAT; Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (BSSA) | Secretariat   |
| INF.6/Item 5 | 15 January 2002 | NGO Declaration on sustainable maritime transport - Adopted at the second conference on Sustainable Transport Solutions in the Baltic Sea Area | WWF-Sweden    |
| INF.7/Item 4 | 29 January 2002 | Letter to the European Commission on measures to protect seals          | Secretariat   |
| INF.9/Item 6 | 29 January 2002 | A list of questions regarding elaboration of indicators and monitoring in the coastal and marine environment | Estonia       |
| INF.10/Item 4 | 29 January 2002 | Comments to the “Status Report” of the HELCOM Project on seals for HELCOM-HABITAT 3 | Germany       |
| INF.11/Item 4 | 29 January 2002 | HELCOM and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's decision      | Sweden        |
| INF.12/Item 4 | 29 January 2002 | Implementation of the Salmon action plan                                | Sweden        |
| INF.13/Item 3 | 29 January 2002 | Principles of a new BMVEL fisheries policy                             | Germany       |
| INF.14/Item 4 | 30 January 2002 | Joint IBSFC/HELCOM Seminar on Fisheries Issues and Environmental Protection | Secretariat   |
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