



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

HELCOM Fish Correspondence Group concerning a draft document on BAT/BEP descriptions for sustainable aquaculture in the Baltic Sea region (CG Aquaculture)

CG AQUACULTURE 3-2020

Online meeting, 25-26 June 2020

Document title	Provisional Annotated Agenda
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Category	DEC
Agenda Item	2 – Adoption of the Agenda
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Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	Outcome of HOD 57-2019, paragraph 4.70 (Fish work plan task no. 11)

With reference to the outcome of HOD 57-2019 (paragraph 4.70) and in accordance with the [HELCOM COVID-19 policy](#), the third Meeting of the HELCOM Fish Correspondence Group concerning a draft document on BAT/BEP descriptions for sustainable aquaculture in the Baltic Sea region (CG AQUACULTURE 3-2020), will be held as an online meeting via Zoom on 25-26 June 2020.

The Meeting will start at **10:00 EET on 25 June 2020** and is expected to end by **16:00 EET on 26 June 2020**.

Documents for the Meeting will be made available on the [CG AQUACULTURE 3-2020](#) meeting site on 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](#).

Those Meeting participants that wish to provide their contributions for the Meeting are requested to submit meeting documents using the online [document template](#) to Professional Secretary Markus Helavuori (markus.helavuori@helcom.fi) at the latest **by 3 June 2020**. Documents containing comments to the basic documents as well as information documents shall be received by the Secretariat no later than seven days before the opening of the Meeting, i.e. **by 18 June 2020**.

Participants are kindly invited to register to the Meeting by answering the [Participation Survey](#) **by 18 June at the latest**.

Provisional Annotated Agenda

Agenda Item 1 Election of Chair

The Meeting is invited to elect a Chair for the Meeting.

Agenda Item 2 Adoption of the Agenda

This Provisional Annotated Agenda has been prepared by the Secretariat based on the outcomes of the CG AQUACULTURE 2-2018, FISH 9-2019 and HOD 55-2018 meetings.

The Meeting is invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda as contained in document 2-1.

Agenda Item 3 Matters arising from HELCOM work of relevance of the group

The Meeting is invited to take note of the draft revised Terms of Reference as well as revised work plan for 2019-2020 of CG Aquaculture (document 3-1), as adopted by HOD 55-2018.

The Meeting is invited to take note and discuss as appropriate the outcomes of recent HELCOM meetings of relevance for CG Aquaculture (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the latest information regarding updating the Baltic Sea Action Plan by 2021.

The Meeting is invited to note that, following discussion held by CG AQUACULTURE 2-2018 and HOD 55-2018, FISH 9-2019 agreed that HELCOM Recommendation 25/4 on *Measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from fresh water and marine fish farming*, as well as its reporting requirements, are still valid and applicable and encouraged the Contracting Parties to provide reports in accordance with Recommendation 25/4.

Agenda Item 4 Latest information on aquaculture techniques and BAT/BEP

The Meeting is invited to note that the Work Plan of CG Aquaculture includes the task to compile the latest information on environmental and economic performance of various aquaculture techniques for different types of production, possibly contributing to the BAT/BEP descriptions.

The Contracting Parties are consequently invited to provide information on environmental and economic performance of various aquaculture techniques for different types of production, possibly contributing to the BAT/BEP descriptions submitted to the Secretariat as information documents **by 18 June 2020** at the latest.

Agenda Item 5 Aquaculture BAT/BEP definitions

The Meeting is invited to note that the Work Plan of CG Aquaculture includes the task to complete a concise compilation of existing BAT and BEP definitions applied in the Contracting Parties or otherwise relevant for the Baltic Sea region.

The Meeting is invited to recall that a compilation of national aquaculture BAT/BEP definitions was considered by CG AQUACULTURE 2-2018, and that the Meeting agreed that the compilation would be finalized by November 2018. The Meeting is invited to note that contributions from most Contracting Parties is still missing and further to take action as appropriate (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to recall the BAT and BEP definitions set out in Annex II of the [1992 Helsinki Convention](#).

Agenda Item 6

Developing BAT/BEP under HELCOM Recommendation 37/3

The Meeting is invited to note that the Work Plan of CG Aquaculture includes the task to jointly develop BAT/BEP descriptions for the aquaculture operators, relevant for both existing and new, sea-based aquaculture and land-based aquaculture with a potential impact on the Baltic Sea.

The Meeting is invited to recall that CG AQUACULTURE 2-2018 agreed that the BAT/BEP description should be initiated by the thematic leads (Germany for nutrient input, Estonia for monitoring of aquaculture operations).

Lead country Germany is invited to report on work undertaken since CG AQUACULTURE 2-2018 on BAT/BEP for nutrients and hazardous substances and present a first draft concept of BAT/BEP for consideration by the meeting.

As thematic lead, Estonia is invited to contribute with input on matters related to monitoring of impacts from aquaculture operations. All Contracting Parties are invited to prepare expert inputs on relevant topics (e.g. BAT/BEP for litter and non-indigenous species) and to notify the Secretariat in advance about contributions.

The Meeting is invited to agree on a way forward and detailed schedule for the finalization of the of BAT/BEP descriptions.

Agenda Item 7

Terms of Reference and Work Plan

Lead Countries for CG Aquaculture

The Meeting is invited to recall that at CG AQUACULTURE 2-2018 Germany and Finland offered to co-lead the overall work of the Correspondence Group and Estonia offered to take lead on matters related to monitoring of impacts from aquaculture operations and Germany on matters related to nutrient input from aquaculture.

CG AQUACULTURE 2-2018 recognized the importance of dedication and commitment from all Contracting Parties, in addition to the Lead Countries, in order to realistically be able to make progress on this extensive work. Therefore, the meeting encouraged more Contracting Parties and Observers to consider taking leadership for some of the other themes identified in [document 5-2](#) by Germany.

The Contracting Parties are invited to consider leading the themes identified in [document 5-2](#) of CG AQUACULTURE 2-2018, that are still missing a lead.

Future work of CG Aquaculture

The Meeting is invited to consider the need for continuation of the work beyond 2020, taking into account the delay in developing BAT/BEP definitions, techniques and practices applicable in the Baltic Sea region and to prepare a proposal for continuation based on the current work plan and Terms of reference (document 3-1) of the group, as necessary.

The Meeting is invited to note that the Work Plan of CG Aquaculture further contains the following tasks for year 2020 relevant to this Agenda Item: following completion of BAT/BEP descriptions, develop an appropriate reporting format for demonstrating compliance with Recommendation 37/3; review and update Recommendation 37/3 as necessary and to identify possible research and development needs and knowledge gaps, with a view to improving the BAT and BEP descriptions for the Baltic region.

The Meeting is invited to agree on a way forward and a time plan for finalization of these actions.

The Meeting is invited to update the Terms of Reference and Work Plan of CG Aquaculture, as appropriate.

Agenda Item 8 Any other business

The Meeting is invited to review, and update as needed, the list of CG Aquaculture contacts and observes (to be circulated at the meeting).

Contracting Parties and Observer organizations are invited to inform of any new, or changed, nominations to the Secretariat (petra.kaaria@helcom.fi).

The Contracting Parties and Observers are invited to present any other business of relevance for CG Aquaculture.

Agenda Item 9 Outcome of the Meeting

A draft Outcome with main decisions will be prepared by the Secretariat for consideration and approval by the Meeting.