



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

First Meeting of the Drafting Group for the Updated Baltic
Sea Action Plan

DG BSAP 1-2020

Online, 18 June 2020

Document title	Terms of Reference for DG BSAP
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Reference	

Background

The attached document includes the Terms of Reference for DG BSAP approved by the HELCOM Heads of Delegation via correspondence.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the Terms of Reference for DG BSAP.

Terms of Reference of the Drafting Group for the Updated Baltic Sea Action Plan (DG BSAP)

2020-2021

Background

The update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan was initiated in 2018 and will be finalized with the adoption of the updated BSAP in 2021. As agreed in the Work Plan for BSAP update, the update process has included various activities carried out by the HELCOM Heads of Delegation, Working Groups, SOM Platform and the Secretariat to build the basis for the drafting of the new Plan. The Drafting Group for the Updated Baltic Sea Action Plan will support the Heads of Delegations in the final stage of the process which is the drafting of the updated BSAP and function as a platform to support the political negotiations associated with the approval of the final text of the 2021 Baltic Sea Action Plan (activity 2.7 in the Work Plan).

Tasks and working mode

The drafting group has the following tasks:

Autumn 2020

- Draft the first version of the overarching preamble for the updated BSAP;
- Reflect on the level of detail to be included in, and the format of, the operative sections of the updated BSAP;
- Develop a proposed structure for the segment on horizontal actions, which is to be divided by subheadings representing the various identified horizontal topics (including actions on socio-economics, general monitoring and assessment relates actions, climate change etc.);
- Give input to the segment preambles as well as the description of current and desired state in the operative sections, as needed.

Spring 2021

- Draft further the preambles and operative sections based on guidance from HOD 59-2020;
- Consider and make suggestions on appropriate target years for individual actions, using the proposal from the WGs as a basis.

The primary working mode of the drafting group is via online meetings and a dedicated HELCOM Workspace. The drafting group will meet when needed. COVID 19 measures permitting, face-to-face meetings can be arranged when necessary.

The drafting group will report to the Heads of Delegation.

Members of DG BSAP

The members of the Drafting Group represent the strategic/political level within HELCOM.

The drafting group will consist of nominated representatives of the Contracting Parties. As the drafting group functions as a platform to support the political negotiations, at least one of the nominated national representatives should be mandated to negotiate on the content of the updated BSAP on behalf of the

relevant Contracting Party. The drafting group is open also for HELCOM Observers. The Chairs of the HELCOM Working Groups are encouraged to take part in the work of the group.