



## Outcome of the Second Meeting of the Hazardous substances and litter segment team for drafting the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan

(DG BSAP HZ 2-2021)

### Introduction

0.1 The Second Meeting of the Hazardous substances and litter segment team for drafting the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan (DG BSAP HZ 2-2021) was held online on 19 January 2021.

0.2 All the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention, except for Finland, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, attended the Meeting, as well as Observers from CCB and WWF. The List of Participants is contained in **Annex 1**.

0.3 The Meeting was moderated by Mr. Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky, Professional Secretary. Mr. Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky and Ms. Susanna Kaasinen, Associate Professional Secretary, from the HELCOM Secretariat acted as the secretaries of the Meeting.

### Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

1.1 The Meeting adopted the Agenda of the Meeting as contained in document 1-1.

### Agenda Item 2 Actions in the updated BSAP

2.1 The Meeting took note of the draft actions to be considered for the Hazardous substances and litter segment of the updated BSAP (document 2-1).

2.2 The Meeting took note of the guidance provided by HOD 59-2020 as presented in document 2-2.

2.3 The Meeting considered and developed further the actions, as included in the separate Excel attachment to this Outcome, based on the guidance from HOD 59-2020 and comments received in the review processes in 2020. The Meeting agreed that the formulation of some of the actions is already satisfactory (coloured green in the Excel attachment) and agreed that the next meeting will focus on the actions that need further work (coloured yellow) noting, however, that DG BSAP 5-2021 and HELCOM 42-2021 might give additional guidance for drafting all the actions relevant for DG BSAP HZ. Regarding the actions on marine litter, the Meeting agreed that a number of actions proposed for the BSAP can be included in the updated Regional Action Plan on Marine litter (see comments in column E).

2.4 The Meeting proposed topics for additional actions that could be included as strategic actions on marine litter in the BSAP (actions HLN21-HLN27 in the Excel attachment).

2.5 The Meeting agreed to come back to the formulation and possible overlap of the existing actions on hazardous substances in the next meeting of DG BSAP HZ after the intersessional work and invited the Secretariat to identify the possible overlapping actions for the next meeting of the Segment Team.

2.6 The Meeting agreed on the intersessional work as follows:

- DK and SE will elaborate a proposal for action HLN07 by **15 February 2021**;

- DE, DK, SE and Secretariat will work on the strategic actions for marine litter **by 1 February 2021**;
- Secretariat will make a proposal on streamlining the actions related to pharmaceuticals to the next meeting of the Segment Team.

2.7 The Meeting took note of the general reservation on all actions by Denmark due to ongoing national coordination.

2.8 The Meeting took note of the clarification that while the synopses contain useful background information for new actions, they will not be part of the updated BSAP. The Meeting acknowledged that in many cases the original proposal from the synopsis has changed substantially in the course of the drafting.

2.9 The Meeting pointed out that clarification for many actions is needed. The Meeting took note that additional information for all actions, including rationale, potential effect and implementing entity, will be collected by the Working Groups and this information will be tentatively included as annexes to the BSAP. The Meeting also took note that HELCOM 42-2021 is to continue discussion on where to place the additional information on the actions when the next version of the draft updated BSAP is available.

2.10 The Meeting took note that the further developed actions will be presented for review at DG BSAP and for provisional agreement at HELCOM 42-2021 (and possible subsequent intersessional HOD meeting), as they become available, and that the actions will be drafted further by DG BSAP Segment Teams and DG BSAP based on guidance by HELCOM 42-2020 (**Presentation 1**). The Meeting also took note that the final approval of the actions will take place at HOD 60-2021.

### **Agenda Item 3 Segment introduction**

3.1 The Meeting took note of the segment introduction revised by the Secretariat based on the guidance by HOD 59-2020 (document 3-1).

3.2 The Meeting took note of the description of the desired state including structuring of the actions and thanked Sweden and Germany for the valuable contribution to the team's work (document 3-2).

3.3 The Meeting took note of the comments by Sweden and the proposal for the outline of the segment (document 3-3).

3.4 The Meeting took note of following comments by Denmark on documents 3-2 and 3-3:

- The proposed structure in document 3-2 seems logical and the proposed description of the desired state can be supported.
- The proposal to divide the actions under the management objectives could be difficult to implement for the actions related to marine litter. It could be better if all management objectives are presented together.
- The proposed division of the actions under themes should be further considered.
- The proposal for including the tables in document 3-3 should be further considered since they now contain too much information and are not visually appealing. Denmark prefers to include additional information in annexes and only action's code and title in the BSAP.
- Denmark is open to considering a division of the actions to measures and supporting actions.
- It is not necessary to link the SDGs to individual actions since it takes a lot of space. An overall reference to SDGs is preferable.

3.5 The Meeting took note of the comment by CCB on document 3-1 to mention not only the new chemicals with unknown toxic effects but also the new chemicals with known toxic effects and to mention offshore units.

3.6 The Meeting invited the members of the Segment Team to send written comments to the introduction to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) **by 21 January 2021**. The Meeting took note that Denmark and EU have already sent written comments.

3.7 The Meeting invited the Secretariat to make a new version of the introduction by merging documents 3-1 and 3-2 and taking into account the written comments and submit it to DG BSAP 5-2021 for consideration.

3.8 The Meeting took note that the further developed drafts will be presented for review by DG BSAP and guidance by HELCOM 42-2021 and that the segment introductions will be drafted further by DG BSAP Segment Teams and DG BSAP based on guidance by HELCOM 42-2021. The Meeting also took note that the final approval of the introductions will take place at HOD 60-2021.

3.9 The Meeting took note of the proposal to develop quantitative targets for marine litter, that HOD 59-2020 tasked EN-marine litter to consider the possibility to develop the targets and that the discussion will be launched at the next meeting of the EN-marine litter in February 2021 (document 3-4).

#### **Agenda Item 4      Next steps**

4.1 The Meeting agreed that the meeting of DG BSAP HZ will be held after HELCOM 42-2021 in the end of March or beginning of April and invited the Secretariat to make a doodle poll to schedule the date.

#### **Agenda Item 5      Any other business**

5.1 The Meeting did not discuss any other business.

#### **Agenda Item 6      Outcome of the Meeting**

6.1 The draft outcome was prepared by the Secretariat and adopted via correspondence.

## Annex 1. List of participants

Name	Representing	Name of organization	Email
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