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<b>Document title</b>	Extract from HOD 50-2016 outcome regarding GES boundaries for hazardous substances
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<b>Category</b>	INF
<b>Agenda Item</b>	Information on the outcome of HOD 50-2016 concerning proposed GES boundaries
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<b>Submitted by</b>	Secretariat
<b>Reference</b>	

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## Background

The HELCOM HOD 50-2016 meeting, held 15-16 June, discussed the proposed new GES boundaries for 'Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) and dioxins and furans', 'Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) and their metabolites' and 'TBT and imposex' and the proposed revision of GES boundaries for Cd and Pb in offshore assessment units.

HOD 50-2016 agreed to the to the proposed GES boundaries pending the following study reservations:

- a general study reservation by Germany;
- a study reservation by Poland on the GES boundaries for Cd and Pb in offshore assessment units;
- a study reservation by Sweden on the use of the proposed GES boundaries for Cd and Pb in offshore assessment units under Descriptor 8;
- a study reservation by Denmark on proposed GES boundaries that are not environmental quality standards derived from EU directives or nationally agreed environmental quality standards.

HOD 50-2016 recognized the need to reach clarity regarding the use of indicators in HOLAS II and urged the Contracting Parties with study reservations to clarify their position as soon as possible, further noting that the HELCOM Expert network on hazardous substances will convene an online meeting 28 June 2018, 9-12 CET and that this offers a good opportunity to discuss the open issues on these indicators.

## Action required

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome and discuss any emerging issues.