



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Joint session of CORESET II and EUTRO-OPER
Operationalization of HELCOM core indicators (CORESET II)
Making the HELCOM eutrophication assessment
operational (EUTRO-OPER)

Document title	Provisional Annotated Agenda
Code	1-2
Category	CMNT
Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the agenda
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Submitted by	Secretariat

Background

HELCOM STATE 1-2014 noted that some of the core indicators under development are of relevance when making both biodiversity and eutrophication assessments. Specifically it was noted by the meeting that “(4.8) the request that CORESET II and EUTRO-OPER projects need to cooperate stronger on macrophyte and macrozoobenthos indicators for the remaining time of the projects.”

The joint session will start on **Wednesday 11 February 2015 at 9:00** and is expected to end by **Wednesday 11 February 2015 by 13:00**.

The main aim of the meeting is to discuss the principles of dealing with indicators of relevance to several descriptors/objectives and to specifically consider the applicability of core indicators currently under development. The meeting will consider if the indicators as they are now being developed, are functional for both biodiversity and eutrophication assessment purposes, e.g. consider if a macrophyte indicator being developed for biodiversity purposes also provides an accurate response to eutrophication and could thus also be used in such an assessment.

Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

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

Item 2 Reviewing indicators potentially relevant to the biodiversity and eutrophication assessments

The Meeting is invited to discuss and agree on the relevance of the presently developed indicators to both biodiversity- and eutrophication assessments, considering especially the following questions :

- Is the currently developed indicator still relevant for assessments in several descriptors in practice? If not should it be, and how could this be ensured?
- Is the indicator applicable in coastal/open sea waters?
- If national indicators have been used for assessments previously, have any attempts been made to harmonize such indicators on a regional scale? If not, should this option be investigated further?

a) Benthic indicators

Overview of the Benthic indicators used or developed by HELCOM that are potentially relevant to both biodiversity and eutrophication assessment.

BSAP objective	Primary MSFD criteria/indicator	Secondary MSFD criteria/indicator	Indicator name	Indicator status	Indicator type	Project
NPA, TBC	1.5.	6.2, 5.3.1	Lower depth distribution limit of macrophyte species	pre-core	status	CORESET II
OL	5.3.2		Oxygen debt below halocline	core	status	EUTRO-OPER
NPV	5.3.	1.7.	Biomass ratio of opportunistic and perennial macroalgae	candidate	status	CORESET II
MCL	6.1.		Cumulative impact on benthic biotopes	pre-core	pressure	CORESET II
TBC	6.2.	1.6. , 5.3	State of the soft-bottom macrofauna communities	core	status	CORESET II
TBC	5.3		Benthic diversity indicator	-	status	EUTRO PRO
OL	5.3.2		Coastal oxygen conditions	candidate	status	EUTRO-OPER

b) Pelagic indicators

Overview of the pelagic indicators used or developed by HELCOM that are potentially relevant to both biodiversity and eutrophication assessment.

BSAP objective	Primary MSFD criteria/indicator	Secondary MSFD criteria/indicator	Indicator name	Indicator status	Indicator type	Project
TBC (VP, MCL)	4.3.	5.2. (?)1.6., 4.1.	Ratio of diatoms and dinoflagellates	candidate	status	CORESET II
NPA, VP	4.3.	4.1.	Seasonal succession of functional phytoplankton groups	candidate	status	CORESET II
NPA	4.3.	1.6, 1.7	Phytoplankton species assemblage clusters based on environmental factors	candidate	status	CORESET II
AB	5.2.1	1.6	Chlorophyll- <i>a</i> , spring bloom intensity	candidate	status	EUTRO-OPER
AB	5.2.4		Cyanobacterial surface accumulations	candidate	status	EUTRO-OPER
OL	5.3.2		Oxygen consumption	candidate	status	EUTRO-OPER

Item 4 Outcome of the session

The draft memo of the Meeting will be presented. The final memo will be annexed to the outcomes of the CORESET II and EUTRO-OPER meeting outcomes and will be made available through the HELCOM Meeting Portal.