



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries

FISH 10-2019

Copenhagen, Denmark, 25-26 June 2019

Document title	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda
Code	1-2
Category	CMNT
Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
Submission date	06.05.2019
Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	

The Tenth Meeting of HELCOM Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries (FISH 10-2019) will be held on 25-26 June 2019 at the premises of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Asiatisk Plads 2, 1448 Copenhagen), in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The Meeting will start at 10:00 on 25 June and is expected to terminate by 17:00 on 26 June 2019.

Documents and registration

Documents for the Meeting will be made available on the [FISH 10-2019](#) 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 in electronic format to Professional Secretary Markus Helavuori (markus.helavuori@helcom.fi) **at the latest by 3 June 2019**. Information documents and documents containing comments to the basic documents shall be received by the Secretariat not later than seven days before the opening of the Meeting, i.e. **18 June 2019**.

Participants are kindly requested to register to the Meetings by answering the [Participation Survey](#) on the HELCOM Meeting Portal by **18 June 2019 at the latest**.

Annotations to the Provisional Agenda

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

These Annotations to the Provisional Agenda have been prepared based on the outcome of the FISH 9-2019 meeting and consultations between the Chair and the Secretariat.

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

The Meeting is invited to note that as a general rule and mindful of the limited time available, pure information documents will no longer be introduced at the Meeting but will be taken as read. Comments of particular interest related to such documents may, however, be considered by the Meeting. Participants are therefore invited to familiarize themselves with all submitted documents prior to the Meeting.

Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from HELCOM work of relevance of the group

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of HELCOM 40-2019 (6-7 March 2019) and HOD 56-2019 (18-19 June 2019) and use the information as appropriate (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcomes of recent HELCOM meetings of relevance for Fish.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the Outcome HELCOM FISH-PRO III 1-2019 and the work plan for FISH-PRO III 2019-2023 (document to be submitted later).

Agenda Item 3 Implementation and update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan

The Meeting will be invited to consider and contribute to the work on updating the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP). The Meeting is invited to take note that HOD 55-2018 requested that future Working Group meetings will provide a separate report or annex to summarize discussions and activities related to the update of the BSAP.

The Meeting is invited to take note of and, if needed, provide clarifications and updates on the technical and procedural aspects of the reporting of Fish related HELCOM Recommendations, as well as take note of preliminary analyses of the implementation (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to discuss and agree on existing HELCOM actions to be considered for further development and uptake in the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan and consider how to concretize the actions. In the case that the task is not completed, the Meeting is invited to consider and agree on how to arrange further work, e.g. by Contracting Parties taking the lead to develop the actions further, or by convening online meetings to finalize the task by the next meeting of the Group.

Progress on analyzing sufficiency of measures

The Meeting is invited to take note that the HELCOM ACTION project, co-funded by the EU, will run in 2019-2020, aiming to carry out analyses on sufficiency of measures to reach HELCOM goals and objectives, in order to support the selection of new and strengthened HELCOM actions for the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP). The Meeting is invited to take note that the kick-off meeting of the ACTION project took place 25-27 February 2019 and to take note that the kick-off meeting of the ad hoc HELCOM Platform on sufficiency of measures (SOM Platform 1-2019) took place 28 February - 1 March 2019, both in Helsinki, Finland (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to provide feed-back to the plans for Fish related activities of the ACTION project and the SOM Platform.

Agenda Item 4 Regional cooperation on fisheries and environment

Cooperation between HELCOM and BALTFISH

The Meeting is invited to take note of the notes from the meeting between HELCOM and BALTFISH on closer cooperation between management of fisheries and marine environment, held in Tallinn, Estonia on 29 January 2019 (document to be submitted later).

The Secretariat will inform the Meeting on recent information sharing and cooperation between HELCOM and BALTFISH.

The Meeting will be informed on recent activities within the BALTFISH.

Cooperation with the BSAC sub-group on ecosystem-based fisheries management

BSAC is invited to inform the Meeting on ongoing work regarding ecosystem-based fisheries management.

FISH 6-2017 agreed to establish cooperation with the BSAC sub-group on ecosystem-based fisheries management, regarding the development and trials of alternative fishing gears or fishing techniques in the Baltic Sea. FISH 9-2019 further agreed to publish it on the HELCOM Meeting Portal in a dedicated work space following revision by Poland and Germany, where it can be kept continuously up to date by the Contracting Parties and observers. The Meeting is invited to take note of the latest developments in this regard.

Cooperation with other organizations

The Meeting is invited to share information on regional, EU and international (FAO, CBD, other regions) developments for closer regional cooperation between organisations in the fields of fisheries and the marine environment.

The Meeting is invited to take note that the planning for a joint OSPAR-HELCOM bycatch indicator workshop is progressing (to be further presented under Agenda Item 9).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the resolution of the sectional session "Fisheries, aquaculture and conservation of fish stocks", which was moderated by HELCOM, of the XX International Environmental Forum "Baltic Sea Day" held in St. Petersburg, Russia, on 21 March 2019.

Agenda Item 5 BAT/BEP for sustainable aquaculture

Lead countries are invited to inform the Meeting on the ongoing work regarding the development of BAT/BEP for sustainable aquaculture.

Meeting participants are invited to share information on recent activities relevant to the development of sustainable aquaculture in the Baltic Sea as well as the BAT/BEP for sustainable aquaculture.

Agenda Item 6 HELCOM data interests

The Meeting is invited to note that HELCOM 40-2019 requested that the Roadmap on collection of fisheries data in order to assess incidental bycatches and fisheries impact on benthic biotopes in the Baltic Sea be finalized by FISH 10-2019.

The Meeting is invited to consider the progress made intersessionally by EG Fishdata and finalize the Roadmap for approval by HOD 57-2019 (document to be submitted later).

Agenda Item 7 Salmon and sea trout including HELCOM Recommendation 32-33/1

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of partnership mid-term meeting for the RETROUT (*Development, promotion and sustainable management of the Baltic Sea Region as a coastal fishing tourism destination*) project (2017-2020) co-funded by Interreg, with HELCOM involvement as a project partner, held in Gdansk, Poland, on 8-9 May 2019 (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is further invited to take note of the other recent and upcoming activities of the RETROUT project work package 4 ('Assessment of status and management of sea trout rivers and stocks') lead by HELCOM, with considerable focus on river restoration activities and assessment of sea trout river and stock status (document to be submitted later).

Agenda Item 8 Interactions between fisheries and marine ecosystems

The Meeting is invited to recall that FISH 8-2018 welcomed the organization of a workshop on seal-fisheries interactions and emphasized that the workshop could provide an opportunity to discuss solutions, recognizing the different point of views on the topic and welcomed the willingness by several Contracting Parties and observers to contribute to the preparation and take active part in the workshop.

Denmark has kindly offered to host the workshop on 27 June 2019 in Copenhagen, and the Meeting will be invited to take note of its agenda.

The Meeting is invited to note that the Fourth Workshop on implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (WS RAP ML 4-2019) will be organized on 22 October 2019, where one of the topics to be discussed is abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG). Contacts and observers of the Fish Group will be invited and are encouraged to attend, recognizing that the Workshop will, *inter alia*, consider the development of a regional approach to addressing ALDFG.

Agenda Item 9 Work on indicator development

HELCOM indicators

The Meeting is invited to take note of the Outcome of the first HELCOM indicator workshop (INDICATOR WS 1-2019), which will take place 14-15 May 2019 back-to-back with GEAR 20-2019 in Berlin, Germany. The Workshop is part of the HELCOM future work on indicators, as endorsed by HOD 54-2018 ([Outcome paragraph 4.25](#), [document 4-5](#)) and subsequently developed with the guidance of GEAR and the HELCOM Indicator core group (GEAR 19-2019 Outcome paragraph 4.8). The workshop will focus on reviewing the HELCOM indicator catalogue with four major outcomes expected: A review of priorities and overall aims; Steps towards an indicator management document; A plan for the realization and themes of the second HELCOM indicator workshop; Development of the content for a document to HOD 56-2019.

HELCOM-OSPAR by-catch workshop

The Meeting is invited to take note of the draft Terms of Reference for a joint OSPAR-HELCOM workshop on indicators for incidental bycatch, which have been developed by the HELCOM and OSPAR Secretariats, taking into consideration input provided by, e.g. STATE & CONSERVATION 9-2018, GEAR 19-2018, CG FISHDATA 3-2018, FISH 9-2019 as well as OSPAR ICG-COBAM and a number of lead experts from the Baltic and North Sea countries and interested observer organizations. The workshop will take place 3-5 September 2019 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Agenda Item 10 Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs

The Meeting is invited to recall that FISH 6-2017 elected Ms. Marianne Goffeng Raakil, Sweden, as Chair of the HELCOM Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries (Fish) for 2017-2019. The Meeting further elected Ms. Katarzyna Kaminska, Poland, as Vice-Chair for the same period.

The Meeting is invited to elect/re-elect the Chair and Vice-Chair of HELCOM FISH for the next two-year period (2020-2021).

Agenda Item 11 Future work

The Meeting is invited to consider and update a revised Work Plan for the Fish Group 2020-2021, and to consider how the Fish Group should prioritize its work, particularly in the light of the update of the BSAP, including possible monitoring and evaluation of progress (document to be submitted later).

The Contracting Parties are invited to consider hosting the next meeting of the Fish Group.

The Meeting is invited to agree on the place and time of the next meeting of the Fish Group.

Agenda Item 12 Any other business

Recalling that HELCOM 40-2019 agreed to develop a HELCOM science agenda concomitantly with the update of the BSAP, the Meeting is invited to consider a survey on HELCOM knowledge and research needs and take action as appropriate (document 12-1).

The Meeting is invited to review, and update as needed, the list of Fish contacts and observes (document to be submitted later). The Contracting Parties and Observer organizations are invited to inform of any new, or changed, nominations to the Secretariat (teija-liisa.lehtinen@helcom.fi).

The Contracting Parties and Observers are invited to present any other business of relevance for the HELCOM Fish Group.

Agenda Item 13 Outcome of the Meeting

The Meeting will be provided with a draft Outcome of the Meeting for adoption. The final Outcome, incorporating corrections by the Meeting, will be prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Meeting and made available in the HELCOM Meeting Portal.

Meeting participants will be asked for permission of sharing their contact details in the Meeting Outcome in the form of a list of participants.