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<b>Document title</b>	Progress related to future work on HELCOM Indicators
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<b>Agenda Item</b>	9 – Work on indicator development
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## Background

Work on HELCOM indicators, in line with the Future work on HELCOM indicators approved at HELCOM HOD 54-2018 ([Outcomes paragraph 4.25](#), [document 4-5](#)), has been progressing, and this document provides a brief update on progress to date.

The first HELCOM indicator workshop (HELCOM Indicator WS 1-2019), held in Berlin on 14-15 May 2019, and considered the HELCOM indicator-policy matching and the aims sections of collated indicator topic summaries (including ones for by-catch and fish) prepared in advance of the workshop. These documents are available at the [workshop meeting site](#). The workshop focused on two major aspects, establishing a preliminary identification of priority areas/topics for future work and the short-/longer-term aim with each assessment area by revising the 'aims' sections of each topic summary. The progress so far, including the revised 'aims' sections, the HELCOM indicator-policy match, the preliminary identification of priority areas/topics, and a plan (Terms of Reference and topics for discussion) for a second HELCOM Indicator workshop (provisionally set for 16-18 October 2019) have been submitted to HOD 56-2019 for their comments and endorsement.

Preliminary proposals on priority aspects emanating from the first HELCOM indicator workshop (HELCOM Indicator WS 1-2019) include developing an operational by-catch assessment in time for the Third holistic assessment of the Baltic Sea (HOLAS III), further development of coastal fish indicators by HOLAS III, developing practical solution to commercial fish indicators, and develop an assessment approach suitable in the short- (HOLAS III) and longer-term perspective for seafloor integrity and benthic habitats.

Please note that this is simply a brief introduction and not a complete list of identified topics, with a larger number of topics identified, and linkages between, under the Baltic Sea Action Plan segments of biodiversity, eutrophication and pollution (Hazardous Substances).

Further information in preparation for the second HELCOM Indicator workshop will be sent out in due course once the process has been approved.

## Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of this information.