



## Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries

FISH 11-2020

Gothenburg, Sweden, 11-12 March 2020

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<b>Document title</b>	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda
<b>Code</b>	1-2
<b>Category</b>	CMNT
<b>Agenda Item</b>	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
<b>Submission date</b>	12.2.2020
<b>Submitted by</b>	Secretariat

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The Eleventh Meeting of HELCOM Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries (FISH 11-2020) will be held on 11-12 March 2020 at the premises of Hotel Riverton (Stora Badhusgatan 26, 411 21), in Gothenburg, Sweden.

The Meeting will start at 10:00 on 11 March and is expected to terminate by 17:00 on 12 March 2020.

### *Documents and registration*

Documents for the Meeting will be made available on the [FISH 11-2020](#) 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](mailto:markus.helavuori@helcom.fi)) **at the latest by 18 February 2020**. 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. **4 March 2020**.

Participants are kindly requested to register to the Meetings by answering the [Participation Survey](#) on the HELCOM Meeting Portal by **24 February 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 10-2019 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 for the group

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of HOD 57-2019 (10-11 December 2019) and use the information as appropriate (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to take note that HOD 57-2019 (outcome paragraph 4.70) approved the Work Plan for the HELCOM Fish Group for 2020-2021.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcomes of HELCOM FISH-PRO III 2-2020 (11-13 February 2020) and FISH-M 7-2020 (10 March 2020) (documents to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of SOM-FISH WS 1-2019 (document to be submitted later) and consider it further under Agenda Item 3.

The Meeting is invited to note that the HELCOM Guidelines for coastal fish monitoring, endorsed by STATE&CONSERVATION 10-2019, are published and available on [HELCOM web pages](#).

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

The Meeting is invited to consider and contribute to the work on updating the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP), taking into account the Work Plan for the update of the BSAP.

The Meeting is invited to continue the work on rephrasing of existing BSAP actions and follow-up of the HELCOM Ministerial Declarations, taking into account the Outcome of HOD 57-2019 (document 3-1), FISH 10-2019, SOM-FISH WS 1-2019 and FISH-M 7-2020 (documents to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to note that HOD 57-2019 agreed on the proposals from HELCOM Working Groups on actions to be considered as accomplished or that are proposed to be omitted from future implementation and follow-up, as contained in section 2 of HOD 57-2019 document 3-1 (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to undertake a technical review of proposals on new actions for the updated BSAP under the mandate of the Fish Group (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the progress in the revision of existing HELCOM objectives and development of new ecological and management objectives (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to note that the 2020 HELCOM Stakeholder Conference “For a sustainable Baltic Sea: The Baltic Sea Action Plan beyond 2021” will be held in Helsinki on 3 March 2020. The Conference will focus on the Baltic Sea Action Plan and is organized back to back with HELCOM 41-2020 (4-5 March 2020).

#### *Progress on analyzing sufficiency of measures*

The Meeting is invited to recall that the HELCOM ACTION project, co-funded by the EU, is running from 2019 to 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

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Plan (BSAP). The Meeting is invited to take note of the progress made within the ACTION Project and the ad hoc HELCOM Platform on sufficiency of measures (SOM Platform) and provide input as appropriate.

The ACTION project held its partner meeting on 6-7 February 2020. Work packages 1 (by-catch) and 2 (impacts on seabed habitats) are progressing with their final deliverables. Initial data collected related to by-catch has been analysed and provisional rates of by-catch calculated, with a final report on high risk areas for by-catch under preparation. Scenarios for displacing fishing effort from peripheral areas to reduce the spatial impact of benthic impacting fishing gears, while maintain catch quotas and evaluating economic consequences have also been run. Final reports for both topics will be available for the autumn 2020.

#### Agenda Item 4 Regional cooperation on fisheries and environment

##### *Cooperation between HELCOM and BALTFISH*

The Secretariat will inform the Meeting on recent information sharing and cooperation between HELCOM and BALTFISH. The Meeting is invited to discuss information of particular interest, that should be shared with BALTFISH.

Contracting Parties are invited to inform on recent activities within 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.

The Meeting is invited to recall that FISH 10-2019 took note of the questionnaire on alternative fishing gears and fishing techniques as published in a dedicated [Workspace](#) on the HELCOM Meeting Portal. The Meeting is invited to note that the Secretariat has added introductory text and a disclaimer, based on the Outcome of FISH 10-2019. The Meeting is invited to encourage Contracting Parties and observers to continuously keep the questionnaire up to date on the dedicated Workspace.

##### *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.

#### 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 HOD 57-2019 approved the draft Roadmap on fisheries data in order to assess incidental bycatches and fisheries impact on benthic biotopes in the Baltic Sea as set out in document 4-18-Rev.1 and agreed to submit it to HELCOM 41-2020 for adoption. The Meeting is invited to note that HOD 57-2019 further agreed that initial follow up on the implementation of the Roadmap should be reported to HOD 59-2020.

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

The Meeting is invited to take note of the minutes for the HELCOM-led WP4 session of the yearly partnership meeting (Stockholm, 23-25 October) 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 (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 take note of the outcome of HELCOM Workshop on Seal-Fisheries Interactions (SFI WS 1-2019) that was organized in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 27 June 2019.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the Fourth Workshop on implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (WS RAP ML 4-2019), organized in Brussels, Belgium on 22 October 2019.

### Agenda Item 9 Work on indicator development

#### *HELCOM indicators*

The Meeting is invited to take note of the Outcome of the second HELCOM indicator workshop (INDICATOR WS 2-2019), which took place on 16-18 October 2019 in Copenhagen, Denmark. 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). Information from the workshop is summarized in GEAR 21-2019 [Document 5-7 Future work on HELCOM Indicators - Workplans per topic and Workshop output](#) and HOD 57 2019 ([Outcomes paragraph 4.51](#)) approved the work outlined in Step 5 of the future work on HELCOM indicators process, in line with the agreed prioritization and plans outlined under each topic, as set out in [Document 4-20 Future work on HELCOM Indicators](#) (see links included in document – for example for [Work plan for Fish](#)).

#### *HELCOM-OSPAR by-catch workshop*

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome from the joint OSPAR-HELCOM workshop on incidental bycatch (WS 1-2019), organized on 3-5 September 2019 in Copenhagen, Denmark (document to be submitted).

### Agenda Item 10 Future work

The Meeting is invited to note that HOD 57-2019 approved the Work Plan for the Fish Group 2020-2021.

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

The Meeting is invited to review, and update as needed, the list of Fish contacts and observers (document to be submitted later). The Contracting Parties and Observer organizations are invited to inform of any new, or changed, nominations to the Secretariat ([petra.kaarja@helcom.fi](mailto:petra.kaarja@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.