



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries

FISH 12-2020

Online, 11-12 November 2020

Document title	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda
Code	1-2
Category	CMNT
Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
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The Twelfth Meeting of HELCOM Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries (FISH 12-2020) will be organized as an online meeting on 11-12 November 2020.

The Meeting will start at 9:00 CET/10:00 EET on Wednesday, 11 November and is expected to terminate by 16:00 CET/17:00 EET on Thursday, 12 November 2020.

Documents and registration

The Secretariat kindly requests the Contracting Parties and Observers to observe the deadlines for submission of documents to a HELCOM meeting. The basic documents and documents requiring action or a decision by the Meeting should be submitted in electronic form to Professional Secretary, Mr. Markus Helavuori (markus.helavuori@helcom.fi) **by 20 October 2020**. Bulky documents should include abstracts embodying the essence of the proposals and action requested from the meeting. Documents containing comments to the basic documents as well as information documents should be provided to the Secretariat **by 4 November 2020**. The Secretariat has prepared [a document template](#) and recommends using the template when submitting documents to the Secretariat.

The participants are kindly requested to register to the Meeting by answering the [Participation Survey](#) on the HELCOM Meeting Portal by **4 November 2020 at the latest**. Please note that you need to be a registered user with relevant rights to access the restricted meeting documents and to register to the meeting. [Instructions](#) for the use of the Meeting Portal are available on the HELCOM website. An invitation to participate online through Zoom will be sent to registered participants.

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 11-2020 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 58-2020 (9-10 June 2020) and use the information as appropriate (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the 14th Meeting of HELCOM Expert Group on Marine mammals (EG MAMA 14-2020) (document to be submitted).

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

The Meeting is invited to take note of the updated Work Plan for the update of the BSAP, endorsed by HOD 58-2020 (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to take note that HOD 58-2020 agreed on the year 2030 as the target year for implementing the BSAP. With regard to the target year for achieving good environmental status for the Baltic Sea, the meeting further agreed to include in the updated BSAP a reference to the 2007 BSAP and the HELCOM assessments.

Drafting of the updated BSAP

The Meeting is invited to take note of the detailed plan for drafting of the updated BSAP and the preliminary timetable (document to be submitted). The Meeting is invited to review the relevant segment specific preamble texts and provide comments as appropriate (document to be submitted). In doing so, the Meeting is invited to take into account the outcomes of STATE & CONSERVATION 13-2020 and MARITIME 20-2020 who are invited to endorse the preambles for the Biodiversity and Sea-based activities segments respectively, for submission to GEAR 22-2020 (9-11 November 2020). The Meeting is invited to note that all segment specific preambles will be submitted to HOD 59-2020 for review and that the drafting will continue in the DG BSAP in spring 2021. Due to the timing of GEAR 22-2020 in relation to FISH 12-2020, comments provided by FISH 12-2020 will therefore be submitted for consideration by HOD 59-2020 and the DG BSAP.

The Meeting is invited to consider the first draft of an Annex of the updated BSAP related to the Fish Group and agree on how to take the work forward in order to ensure that the work is finalized prior to HOD 60-2021 (document to be submitted).

Guidance and validation of work under the SOM Platform

Progress on analysing sufficiency of measures

Following the request by HELCOM 41-2020 that the results on the analysis of sufficiency of measures (SOM) are presented for consideration by HELCOM Working Groups, the Meeting is invited to consider and comment on the results of the analysis of sufficiency of measures (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the validation of input data to the SOM analysis.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the progress of the cost-effectiveness analysis (document to be submitted).

Actions to be included in the updated BSAP

Finalizing existing actions

The Meeting is invited to note that HOD 58-2020 agreed in principle on the rephrased and concretized existing HELCOM actions to be transferred to the updated BSAP with the understanding that further drafting will take place based on comments made at that Meeting. HOD 58-2020 invited DG BSAP and HELCOM Working Groups to continue work on those actions where the need for further work has been identified.

The Meeting is invited to finalize the remaining open actions, in line with what has been agreed by HOD 58-2020 and endorse them for submission to HOD 59-2020 for provisional agreement (document to be submitted).

Proposed new actions

The Meeting is invited to consider the outcome of the HELCOM BSAP UP workshop on biodiversity, including extraction of species and spatial measures, for the consideration of proposed new actions (BSAP UP WS-BIO), held on 31 August – 2 September 2020 and the outcome of the BSAP UP Workshop on maritime activities, including underwater noise, non-indigenous species and response actions (BSAP UP WS-SEA) held 2-4 September (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to further elaborate and endorse for submission to HOD 59-2020 possible new actions based on the outcome of the BSAP UP workshop.

The Meeting is invited to identify possible gaps in the set of measures for the updated BSAP and propose measures to fill the gaps, as well as agree on a process for assessing the proposed measures in a similar manner to those submitted through the synopses.

The Meeting is invited to take note that further work on the proposed new actions will take place in DG BSAP and HOD meetings, in line with the BSAP updated workplan.

HELCOM Explorer

The Meeting is invited to take note that the reporting on the implementation status of the national actions will take place via nominated national contact points in autumn 2020.

The Meeting is invited to report on the status of the joint actions of relevance for the Fish Group (document to be submitted).

HELCOM Science Agenda

The Meeting is invited to take note of the activities of the Science Agenda TG and progress on developing the HELCOM Science Agenda.

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.

The Contracting Parties are invited to inform on recent activities within BALTFISH.

The Meeting is invited to note that HOD 58-2020 welcomed the increased cooperation between HELCOM and BALTFISH, noted the engagement by BSAC in the update process of the BSAP and recognized that details of the further cooperation between HELCOM and BALTFISH are also addressed by existing as well as proposed new BSAP actions.

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

Recalling the discussion at FISH 11-2020, BSAC is invited to inform the Meeting on ongoing work regarding ecosystem-based fisheries management.

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

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the third meeting of HELCOM Fish Correspondence Group concerning a draft document on BAT/BEP descriptions for sustainable aquaculture in the Baltic Sea region (CG AQUACULTURE 3-2020), held on 25-26 June 2020.

The Meeting is invited to approve the Terms of Reference and Work Plan of CG Aquaculture as set out in Annex 3 of the Outcome of CG Aquaculture 3-2020.

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 recall that FISH 11-2020 agreed to revisit matters related to the *Roadmap on fisheries data in order to assess incidental bycatches and fisheries impact on benthic biotopes in the Baltic Sea* (adopted by HELCOM 41-2020) at FISH 12-2020, to prepare first report on implementation to HELCOM HOD 59-2020.

The Meeting is invited to consider the matter and report to HOD 59-2020 as appropriate.

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

The Meeting is invited to note that due to COVID-19, the RETROUT project (*Development, promotion and sustainable management of the Baltic Sea Region as a coastal fishing tourism destination; 2017-2020*) co-funded by Interreg, with HELCOM involvement as a project partner, has been prolonged until end of March 2021 (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the minutes for the HELCOM-led WP4 session of the yearly partnership meeting (October 2020) of the RETROUT project (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).

Meeting participants are invited to share any other information on recent activities related to migratory fish.

Agenda Item 8 Interactions between fisheries and marine ecosystems

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information on how the issue on harbour porpoise by-catch has progressed within BALTFISH and to consider the need for complementary work on the matter within the HELCOM framework.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the [ICES special request advice](#) on an EU request on emergency measures to prevent bycatch of common dolphin and Baltic Proper harbour porpoise.

Agenda Item 9 Work on indicator development

HELCOM indicators

The Meeting is invited to take note of work related to the future work on HELCOM indicators and progress being made, and the preparations for a regional workshop to support the status assessment of commercial fish towards the Third Holistic Assessment of the Baltic Sea (HOLAS III). The Meeting is invited to support the workshop by providing relevant expert nominations, in cooperation with their national State and Conservation contacts (document to be submitted).

Agenda Item 10 Future work

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 11 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.kaaria@helcom.fi).

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

Agenda Item 12 Outcome of the Meeting

The Meeting will be provided with a draft Outcome 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.