



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Group for the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach

GEAR 21-2019

Helsinki, Finland, 6-8 November 2019

Document title	Preparation of a joint documentation on measures
Code	3-1
Category	CMT
Agenda Item	3- Regionally coordinated implementation of MSFD
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Submitted by	Drafting Group MSFD
Reference	

Background

GEAR 20-2019 agreed that the Drafting Group (DG) MSFD should discuss the preparation for joint documentation in support of Contracting Parties' MSFD Art. 13 reporting on programme of measures.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the state of discussion and agree on next steps.

Preparation of a joint documentation on measures

In support of the first MSFD Programme of Measures due for reporting by EU Member States in March 2016, HELCOM EU Member States developed the “Joint documentation of regional coordination of Programmes of Measures in the Baltic Sea area”:
<http://www.helcom.fi/Documents/Baltic%20sea%20action%20plan/JointDocRegionalPoM.pdf>

The table of content of the Joint Documentation (JD 2016) is at the Annex. The focus of the JD 2016 was on

- the interaction of the Baltic Sea Action Plan and national MSFD Programmes of Measures
- a summary of the regional coordination process including transboundary consultations
- a summary of the HELCOM acquis supporting reaching the MSFD objective
- additional opportunities for regional coordination of measures (by theme)

For each theme (additional opportunities for regional coordination of measures), the JD 2016 used

- a fact file type of table format which compiled state-of-play from state, pressure, target, acquis and further actions to be considered
- in the Annex a fact file type of table format which elaborated on the “further action to be considered”
- in the Annex a table with types of measures which were, at the time, under planning in MS for their national Programmes of Measures.

At its online meeting on 9 October 2019, the Drafting Group exchanged views on approaches for the next Joint Documentation. As the results of the SOM and BSAP-UP processes will only be seen early in 2020, the Drafting Group recommended to start detailed discussions on the structure and contents of the Joint Documentation at GEAR 22-2020.

For an initial and informal orientation debate, the following questions are proposed:

- How has JD 2016 been used by Member States?
- Which direction should the JD 2022 take?
- Would JD 2022 be an update / adjustment of JD 2016 or are rather a new structure/contents required?
- Which parts of the JD 2016 could be reused?
- What contribution can be expected from SOM/ACTION and BSAP-UP for the JD 2022?

Annex: Table of contents of the Joint Documentation 2016

Summary

1. Protecting the Baltic Sea marine ecosystems
2. Regional coordination
 - 2.1 Implementation of the MSFD
 - 2.2 National programmes of measures
 - 2.3 Transboundary consultations
3. The HELCOM acquis
4. Coordination of programmes of measures
 - 4.1 Inputs of nutrients and organic matter
 - 4.2 Inputs of synthetic and non-synthetic contaminants and systematic and/or intentional releases of substances
 - 4.3 Accidental pollution from maritime activities
 - 4.4 Spatial protection measures
 - 4.5 Conservation, restoration and/or reintroduction of species and biotopes/habitats
 - 4.6 Physical loss and damage of seabed habitats
 - 4.7 Selective extraction and incidental by-catch of species
 - 4.8 Introduction of non-indigenous species
 - 4.9 Input of litter
 - 4.10 Inputs of energy including underwater noise
5. Summary conclusions and next steps

Abbreviations

Glossary

Annex 1 Overview of planned measures under consideration in HELCOM Contracting Parties (by themes 4.1-4.10)

Annex 2 Draft proposal for table on threatened species and biotopes

Annex 3 Further actions to be considered

- 4.1.1 Assess the role of [internal nutrient reserves] [accumulated nutrients] [stored nutrients] in the Baltic and potential management measures
- 4.1.2 Intensifying HELCOM work to reduce airborne transboundary nitrogen input from outside of HELCOM area, in particular the Gothenburg Protocol
- 4.2.1 Micropollutants in effluents from wastewater treatment plants
- 4.3.1 Regional risk assessment tool for ships
- 4.4.1 Coordination of management measures of pressures and impacts on MPAs, in particular for adjacent transnational MPAs
- 4.4.2 How to consider MPAs in Maritime Spatial Planning and vice versa?
- 4.4.3 Develop joint tools/approach for assessing effectiveness of spatial protection measures for individual sites as well as network level
- 4.5.1 Activities to support conservation of Baltic Sea species and biotopes/habitats categorized as threatened according to the HELCOM Red List
- 4.6.1 Development of joint principles for defining environmental targets for seabed habitats

- 4.7.1 Adjustment or utilization of EU data collection frameworks to retrieve data for assessments and the development of management measures related to by-catch of species
- 4.7.2 Testing alternative fishing gears/fishing techniques to minimize incidental catch through joint project/projects
- 4.8.1 Regional monitoring programmes on non-indigenous species in the Baltic Sea
- 4.9.1 Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (coordinated implementation)
- 4.10.1 Regional Baltic Underwater Noise Roadmap 2015-2017