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<b>Document title</b>	Draft specified timeline for work planned under the HOLAS III Assessment Phase
<b>Code</b>	5-3
<b>Category</b>	DEC
<b>Agenda Item</b>	5 – Activities of relevant HELCOM projects or processes
<b>Submission date</b>	3.4.2020
<b>Submitted by</b>	Secretariat
<b>Reference</b>	

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## Background

In line with the plan preliminary plan and provisional timeline for the assessment phase of HOLAS III, approved at HELCOM 41-2020, a more detailed timeline for the work has been prepared. The timeline presented in this document outlines the work on a week by week schedule, including initial proposals for agreements and approval. The planning for HOLAS III needs to be done within the framework delineated by the BSAP and in accordance with the needs of the Contracting Parties with respect to other international commitments. This places some limitations on how dynamic the HOLAS III process can be and necessitates that some trade-offs be considered early in the process. It also sets hard deadlines which need to be met in order to optimize the added value and to make full use of the HOLAS III work. Efforts have been made to take these considerations into account when developing the provisional plan contained in this document. To the extent possible the timeline strives to have assessment results and supporting material in place for approval to make them available also for national consultation and reporting purposes

Following consultation with representative experts whom have expressed strong concern regarding possible difficulty in reporting 2021 data, as well as with the contracting party identified as having the most stringent timeline requirements regarding national consultation, the timeline in this document takes into account the need to extend the data reporting as far into 2022 as possible to accommodate the inclusion of 2021 data in the assessments where ever possible. Where possible extended approval periods of the results and products have also been implemented, to allow contracting parties extra time for national review of products prior to approval. At the request of Denmark at HELCOM 41-2020, the approval of the indicator report content has been unlinked from the approval of the thematic assessment content and proposed to take place prior to the approval process of the thematic assessments.

The intention is for the timeline to support regional and national planning of the work needed to produce the next State of the Baltic Sea report, to facilitate shared understanding and planning of approval processes, mandates and when and how to involve relevant experts or HELCOM groups in the assessment process, while still acknowledging that the plan is a living document and that changes might occur as the process is further refined.

## Action requested

The Meeting is invited to consider, provide input and endorse the elaborated timeline for the HOLAS III assessment process, as prepared by the Secretariat, noting that it will also be submitted for review and input to STATE&CONSERVATION 12-2020.

## Draft specified timeline for work planned under the HOLAS III Assessment Phase

The timeline presented in this document outlines the work planned under the assessment phase of HOLAS III on a week by week schedule. Task work strands (e.g. data collection, assessments or production of material) are separated from action work strands (approval processes). Approval processes include both the review period and proposed approval. Review periods are a minimum of three weeks prior to the relevant meeting, but wherever considered warranted and possible the review periods have been extended to allow Contracting Parties more time for national review.

Year	Week number	Task/action														Calendar events		
		Data collection	Approval of data	Evaluation of indicators	Approval of indicator	Indicator report writing	Indicator report approval	Analysis of BSP/BSII & ESA	Integrated assessments	Thematic assessment	Approval of thematic	Summary report	Approval of summary	Summary report approval	Layout (all products)		Website	Publication (all products)
2021	49																	HOD
2021	50																	
2021	51																	Christmas
2021	52																	Christmas
2022	1																	Christmas
2022	2																	
2022	3																	
2022	4																	
2022	5																	
2022	6																	
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2022	12																	
2022	13																	
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2022	16																	
2022	17																	
2022	18																	S&C
2022	19																	
2022	20																	GEAR
2022	21																	
2022	22																	
2022	23																	HOD
2022	24																	
2022	25																	

Year	Week number	Task/action														Calendar events		
		Data collection	Approval of data	Evaluation of indicators	Approval of indicator	Indicator report writing	Indicator report approval	Analysis of BSP/BSII & ESA	Integrated assessments	Thematic assessment	Approval of thematic	Summary report	Approval of summary	Summary report approval	Layout (all products)		Website	Publication (all products)
2022	26																	
2022	27																	Summer holiday
2022	28																	Summer holiday
2022	29																	Summer holiday
2022	30																	Summer holiday
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2022	40																	
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2022	44																	
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2022	47																	
2022	48																	
2022	49																	HOD
2022	50																	
2022	51																	Christmas
2022	52																	Christmas
2023	1																	Christmas
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2023	6																	
2023	7																	
2023	8																	
2023	9																	HELCOM 44-2023
2023	10																	
2023	11																	
2023	12																	

Year	Week number	Task/action														Calendar events		
		Data collection	Approval of data	Evaluation of indicators	Approval of indicator	Indicator report writing	Indicator report approval	Analysis of BSP/BSII & ESA	Integrated assessments	Thematic assessment	Approval of thematic	Summary report	Approval of summary	Summary report approval	Layout (all products)		Website	Publication (all products)
2023	13																	
2023	14																	
2023	15																	
2023	16																	
2023	17																	
2023	18																	
2023	19																	S&C
2023	20																	GEAR
2023	21																	
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2023	23																	
2023	24																	HOD
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2023	48																	
2023	49																	
2023	50																	HOD