



16 December 2020

To: Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention
Heads of Delegation to the Helsinki Commission
Observers of HELCOM

cc: Chair of HELCOM
Chairs of the HELCOM Groups

Re. [Invitation to the 42nd Meeting of the Helsinki Commission, online meeting, 17-18 March 2021](#)

Madam/Sir,

With reference to the decision by the Helsinki Commission at its regular meeting in 2020 (Outcome of HELCOM 41-2020, Paragraph 9.2), I have the honour to invite the Contracting Parties and the Observer Organizations to send their representatives to the 42nd Meeting of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission, to be held from 17 to 18 March 2021. In light of the COVID-19 situation the Meeting will be held as an online meeting.

The Meeting will be opened on **Wednesday, 17 March at 9:00 CET/10:00 EET** and it is expected to terminate on **Thursday, 18 March by 16:00 CET/17:00 EET**.

Enclosed please find the Provisional Agenda (1-1) of HELCOM 42-2021. Documents for the Meeting will be made available in the [HELCOM Meeting Portal](#). Please note that you need to be a registered user with relevant rights to access the restricted meeting document library on the HELCOM 42-2021 [Meeting Site](#). Please find here [instructions for signing up as a first-time user](#) of the Meeting Portal. The participants are kindly requested to register to the Meeting by answering the [Participation Survey](#) not later than **by 10 March 2021**. An invitation to participate online through Zoom will be sent to registered participants.

Please note that according to Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Helsinki Commission **basic documents and documents requiring action or a decision** by the Meeting should be submitted in electronic form to the Secretariat (laura.meski@helcom.fi) **by 24 February 2021**. 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 10 March 2021**.

Yours sincerely,

Rüdiger Stempel
Executive Secretary