



Document title	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda
Code	1-2
Category	CMNT
Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
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Submitted by	Executive Secretary
Reference	

The 43rd Meeting of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM 43-2022) will be held on 3-4 March 2022. In light of the COVID-19 situation the Meeting will be held as an online meeting.

The Meeting will be opened on **Thursday, 3 March at 9:00 CET/10:00 EET** and is expected to terminate on **Friday, 4 March by 15:00 CET/16:00 EET**.

The Meeting will be chaired by the Chair of the Helsinki Commission, Ms. Lilian Busse, Germany.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

The Meeting is invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda (document 1-1).

Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from the subsidiary bodies

The Meeting is invited to adopt the

- revised HELCOM Recommendation 12/7 on special cooperation in case of a chemical tanker accident in the Baltic Sea (document to be submitted);
- revised HELCOM Recommendation 33/1 on the unified interpretation in relation to access to and use of HELCOM AIS Data (document to be submitted);
- revised HELCOM Recommendations 37-38/1 on the waterborne pollution input assessment (PLC-water) (document to be submitted)
- revised HELCOM Recommendation 37-38/2 on monitoring of airborne pollution input (document to be submitted);
- draft HELCOM Recommendation on reduction of releases of expanded and extruded polystyrene to the Baltic Sea (document to be submitted);

The Meeting is invited to take note of and consider the outcome of the 14th Meeting of the HELCOM Group on Ecosystem-based Sustainable Fisheries (FISH 14-2021) held online on 23-24 February 2022 (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to take note of progress of work of the HELCOM subsidiary bodies, as well as expert and correspondence groups during 2021 (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the status of the ongoing HELCOM projects and external projects with HELCOM involvement (document to be submitted).

Agenda Item 3 Implementation of the 2021 Baltic Sea Action Plan

The Meeting is invited to recall the discussion on the implementation of the 2021 HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) at HOD 61-2021, continue to discuss based on the technical document prepared by the Secretariat (document to be submitted) and provide guidance for the HELCOM Working Groups to plan their future work.

The Meeting is invited to consider the outcome of the second Meeting of Chairpersons of HELCOM and HELCOM main groups, specifically on the BSAP implementation, held online on 25 January 2022, (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to discuss the role of the BSAP fund in the implementation of the BSAP.

Agenda Item 4 HELCOM global outreach including voluntary commitments to UN Ocean Conference 2022

The Meeting is invited to recall that High-level representatives of the Baltic Sea countries and the EU met on 4 March 2020 on the occasion of the 41st Meeting of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM 41-2020) to discuss HELCOM's contributions and outreach on global ocean matters, including its voluntary commitments to the 2020 UN Ocean Conference. The UN Ocean Conference 2020 was postponed due to COVID-19 and is now slated for 27 June to July 1 July 2022. The Meeting is invited to take note that some of the planned HELCOM voluntary commitments to the UN Ocean Conference 2020 have already been accomplished and to agree on possible new voluntary commitments to the UN Ocean Conference 2022 (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to take note of status and progress of ongoing processes with regard to the development of, and data reporting for, the UN SDG 14 indicators and the role of HELCOM in this process (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to consider and adopt the recommended common understanding, future actions, and next steps on Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) in the Baltic Sea as prepared by the Workshop on OECMs in the Baltic Sea Area, held on 1-3 February 2022 and co-hosted by the HELCOM Secretariat, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Commission on Protected Areas of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN WCPA) (document to be submitted).

Agenda Item 5 Activities of the Commission during 2021 and contributions to the work of the Helsinki Commission

The Executive Secretary will give a statement in accordance with the decision by the Commission (HELCOM 4/17, Paragraph 2.4) on the work of the Secretariat including his comments and evaluation of the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. The Meeting will be invited to take note of the statement.

The Meeting is invited to take note of and approve the HELCOM Annual Report for the year 2021 (document to be submitted), as per rule 11.4 of the Rules of Procedure.

The Contracting Parties, Observer Governments and Observer Organizations are invited to give their statements, if so wished, under this Agenda Item. If possible, the statements should be received by the Secretariat in written form in advance of the Meeting. The oral statements should not last longer than 3-5 minutes and should concentrate on concrete contributions to the work of the Commission.

Agenda Item 6 Accounts 2020-2021, budget 2022–2023 and other institutional and organizational matters of the Commission

The Meeting is invited to take note of the explanatory memorandum on the accounts of the Helsinki Commission for the financial period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, to adopt the Audit Report by the State Audit

Office of Finland together with the Financial Statement and to discharge the accountables from responsibility in respect of the implementation of the budget 2020-2021 (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to consider and adopt the budget for the financial period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 and the draft budget estimate for 2023-2024 (documents to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to consider the applications for observer status to HELCOM of the Baltic Salmon Fund and the Northern Dimension Partnership on Transportation and Logistics (NDPTL) and to decide as appropriate (documents to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to decide on the reappointment of Mr. Rüdiger Stempel as Executive Secretary for a three-year period, commencing on 1 August 2022, in accordance with Rule 9.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Helsinki Commission and Rule 3.1 of the Staff Regulations for HELCOM Professional Staff.

The Meeting is invited to take note of information concerning the outgoing (Germany) and incoming (Latvia) chairmanship of HELCOM.

Agenda Item 7 Any other business

The Meeting is invited to take note of the provisional programme for the XXII International Environmental Forum “Baltic Sea Day” to be held as a hybrid meeting on 22-23 March 2022 and reflect on the relevance of the proposed themes to the regional agenda.

The Meeting might wish to discuss any other matters under this Agenda Item.

Agenda Item 8 Next meeting(s) of the Commission

The Meeting is invited to recall that HELCOM 42-2021 decided to arrange the meeting of the Helsinki Commission in 2023 (HELCOM 44-2023) on 15-16 March 2023 and take note that a preliminary reservation has been made at Botta in Helsinki Finland, for these dates.

The Meeting is invited to decide on the dates of the next meetings of the Commission.

Agenda Item 9 Outcome of the Meeting

A draft outcome of the Meeting, reflecting decisions made, will be prepared and presented for consideration and adoption before the closing of the Meeting.