

Please note that after sending out the attached original invitation the workshop has been moved to online format.



6 April 2020

To: Contacts and Observers of HELCOM PRESSURE  
Contacts of HELCOM SOM Platform

Cc: HELCOM Heads of Delegation  
Observers of HELCOM  
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM STATE & CONSERVATION  
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM GEAR  
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM AGRI  
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM-VASAB MSP  
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM FISH  
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM MARITIME  
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM RESPONSE

**Re. Invitation to the HELCOM BSAP UP workshop on hazardous substances and litter for the consideration of proposed new actions (HELCOM BSAP UP WS-HZ 2020), 24 – 25 August 2020, Helsinki, Finland**

Dear Colleagues,

With reference to the Outcome of the 57th Meeting of the HELCOM Heads of Delegation (HOD 57-2019, paragraph 3.14), I have the pleasure to invite the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention and Observer Organizations to the HELCOM BSAP UP workshop for the consideration of proposed new actions for hazardous substances and litter (HELCOM BSAP UP WS-HZ 2020) that will take place at the premises of the HELCOM Secretariat, (Katajanokanlaituri 6b) Helsinki, Finland.

The workshop will be **opened on Monday 24 August at 10.00** and is expected to **end on Tuesday 25 August at 16.00**.

Note that the workshop is held back to back with the BSAP UP workshop on Eutrophication, taking place 26 – 27 August 2020, also at the HELCOM Secretariat. Due to the COVID-19 related travel restrictions the organization of the BSAP UP workshops has been moved from the originally planned May 2020 to autumn 2020. Please see Annex 1 for the overall timetable of the workshops.

The workshop is convened to evaluate proposed new actions for the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP). Key background information to the workshop will be the results of the analysis of sufficiency of measures (SOM analysis) that is carried out to support the BSAP update and the synopses on new actions for the updated BSAP that have been submitted to HELCOM. At the workshop commonly agreed criteria will be applied to support the evaluation. Experts on measures to control the release of hazardous substances and litter to the environment are encouraged to participate as well as national representatives of HELCOM Working Group PRESSURE. In addition, countries are invited to consider nominating experts working with the national programmes of measures. Conclusions from the Workshop will be submitted to relevant HELCOM Working Groups for consideration.

Information for the Workshop will be made available in the HELCOM Meeting Portal on the HELCOM BSAP UP HZ-WZ 2020 [Meeting site](#) (please see the [instructions](#) for *signing up* and *signing in*). Participants are kindly requested to *register to the Workshop* by answering the [Participation Survey](#) not later than **17 August 2020**.

Yours sincerely,

Rüdiger Stempel  
Executive Secretary

### **Annex 1. Overall timetable for the BSAP UP workshops**

- Hazardous substance and litter: August 24<sup>th</sup>– 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Eutrophication: August 26<sup>th</sup>– 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Biodiversity, loss and disturbance to the seabed, extraction of species (including by-catch, hunting), spatial measures (MPA, MSP): 31<sup>st</sup>– Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> (lunchtime), 2020
- Maritime activities, underwater noise, non-indigenous species, response actions: Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> (afternoon) – Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020