



Document title	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda
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Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
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Annotations to the Provisional Agenda

Introduction

The Intersessional Meeting of the HELCOM Maritime Working Group (HELCOM MARITIME 20A-2021) will be **opened on Thursday, 15 April 2021, at 10:00 EET (9:00 CET)** and it is expected to **close on Friday, 16 April 2021 by 16:00 EET (15:00 CET)**. The Meeting, to be held online, will be chaired by the Chair of HELCOM MARITIME, Ms. Susanne Heitmüller.

Meeting documents for MARITIME 20A-2021 will be submitted by the Secretariat via the HELCOM [Meeting Portal](#). The Secretariat has prepared a document template, also available in the Meeting Portal, and recommends using the template when submitting documents to the Secretariat. The Secretariat kindly requests the Contracting Parties and Observer Organizations to observe the deadlines for submission of documents to MARITIME 20A-2021. Basic documents and documents requiring action or a decision by the Meeting should be submitted in electronic form to the Professional Secretary, Mr. Markus Helavuori (markus.helavuori@helcom.fi) by **25 March 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 submitted to the Secretariat by **8 April 2021**.

The participants are kindly invited to [sign up](#) to the HELCOM Meeting Portal at their earliest convenience, if not already done. Please find here [instructions](#) for signing up as a *first time user* of the Meeting Portal. Once you have signed up, the Secretariat will grant you separate permission to access the restricted meeting document library on the [MARITIME 20A-2021 Meeting Site](#). After sign up, the participants are kindly requested to [sign in](#) and [register](#) to the Meeting by answering the online meeting registration ("[Participation Survey](#)") not later than **8 April 2021**.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

These Annotations to the Provisional Agenda have been prepared based on the outcome of the MARITIME 20-2020.

The Meeting is invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda as contained in document 1-1.

Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from HELCOM meetings

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcomes of meetings within the framework of HELCOM held in the intersessional period, and to discuss issues of relevance to HELCOM MARITIME under the relevant Agenda Items (document to be submitted at a later stage).

Decisions at HELCOM annual meeting and HODs

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the 59th Meeting of the Heads of Delegation ([HOD 59-2020](#)), held from 7 to 8 December 2020.

HELCOM Science Agenda Task Group

The Meeting is invited to take note of the Notes from the Fifth online meeting of the HELCOM Science Agenda Task Group, held on 13 October 2020 ([Science Agenda TG 5-2020](#)) and the Sixth online meeting of the HELCOM Science Agenda Task Group ([Science Agenda TG 6-2020](#)), held on 14 December 2020.

Agenda Item 3 Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan

The Meeting is invited to recall that MARITIME 20-2020 considered the content and structure of the draft Annex for the sea-based activities segment of the updated BSAP ([document 3-8](#)). The meeting supported the structure and provided comments and observations. The Meeting is further invited to recall that MARITIME 20-2020 discussed the way forward to finalize the BSAP Annex prior to HOD 60-2021 and agreed to invite the Secretariat to develop a more complete draft, including also new proposed actions in addition to the existing actions set out in [document 3-8](#) of MARITIME 20-2020. The meeting further agreed that the new draft should be circulated for comments in early 2021 and that this intersessional Meeting of the Maritime Working Group should be organized to finalize the work to enable submission of the Annex to HOD 60-2021 for approval ([Outcome of MARITIME 20-2020](#), para. 3.35-3.36).

The Meeting is invited to take note that HOD 59-2020 took note of and discussed the proposal for the structure of the annexes ([document 5-8](#) and [Presentation 3](#)) and the comments on the structure by the Working Groups. The meeting also discussed a proposal on not including any annexes in the updated BSAP but instead transferring the information on the rationale and the target years to the segments to further describe the actions ([document 5-14](#)), as well as a proposal to include the supporting actions in the annexes and only include the measures with a direct effect to the segments ([document 5-13](#)). The meeting acknowledged the close link between the information collected for the annexes and the HELCOM Explorer. The meeting noted that information on the activities and pressures related to the actions and the implementing Working Groups is also needed for the Explorer and should be collected. The meeting agreed on the following process for further work:

- The Working Groups are to collect the information for the annexes as outlined in [document 5-8](#) in spring 2021.
- HELCOM 42-2021 is to continue discussion on where to place the information when the next version of the draft updated BSAP is available. ([Outcome of HOD 59-2020](#), para. 5.59-5.62).

Based on the input by HOD 59-2020, the Meeting is invited to consider a more complete draft Annex for the sea-based activities segment of the updated BSAP (document to be submitted).

Agenda Item 4 Any other business

The Meeting is invited to consider any other matters raised by the delegations and observers at the Meeting.

Agenda Item 5 Future work and meetings

The Meeting is invited to agree on the dates for MARITIME 21-2021, which was agreed by MARITIME 20-2020 to be hosted by Sweden, noting that due to the uncertainties stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the unknown IMO meeting schedule, it was premature to decide on the exact dates for the meeting at that stage.

Agenda Item 6 Outcome of the Meeting

The Meeting will be provided with draft Outcome of the Meeting for adoption. The final Outcome, incorporating corrections by the Meeting, will be prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Meeting and made available in the HELCOM Meeting Portal.