



23 January 2017

To: Contacts of HOLAS II Core team
cc: State and Conservation Contacts and Observers
Gear Contacts and Observers
Pressure Contacts and Observers

Re. HELCOM SPICE Workshop on biodiversity assessment (HELCOM SPICE Biodiv WS 1-2017)

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the HELCOM SPICE Workshop to support the assessment of biodiversity under the HOLAS II project (project to develop the second HELCOM holistic assessment of ecosystem health of the Baltic Sea).

The aim of the workshop is to review, verify and summarize the results of the integrated assessment of biodiversity to be presented in the 'State of the Baltic Sea' report, which will be made available in June 2017.

The Workshop will be held from **9:30 to 18:00 on Wednesday 15 March 2017** at the premises of the HELCOM Secretariat, Katajanokanlaituri 6B, Helsinki, Finland. A draft Provisional Agenda is enclosed to this letter.

The Workshop is aimed at nationally nominated experts and management representatives of HELCOM Contracting Parties. Please inform on the nominations by email to ullali.zweifel@helcom.fi and lena.bergstrom@helcom.fi.

Participants are kindly requested to **register by 1 March 2017** by answering the [Participation Survey](#) on the [Workshop meeting site](#). Please observe that first time participants will need to sign up to the [HELCOM Meeting Portal](#) in order to get access to the Participation Survey and the meeting site. Further instructions for first time Meeting Portal users are found [here](#).

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ulla Li Zweifel".

Ulla Li Zweifel
Professional Secretary