



22 August 2017

To:

HELCOM State and Conservation Contacts and Observers
HELCOM intersessional network on Benthic Experts
HELCOM intersessional network on Eutrophication
HELCOM Zooplankton Expert Group
HELCOM Phytoplankton Expert Group

Cc:

HELCOM GEAR Contacts and Observers
HELCOM HOLAS core team
HELCOM Pressure Contacts and Observers
ICES, OSPAR, IOC, Barcelona Convention, Black Sea Convention, EU JRC

Re. HELCOM SPICE Workshop on Theme 4: Cumulative Impacts and Maximum Allowable Pressures on Habitats (HELCOM SPICE CIM WS 1-2017) Helsinki, Finland, 27-28 September 2017

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the HELCOM SPICE Workshop on Cumulative Impacts and Maximum allowable pressures on Habitats (HELCOM SPICE CIM WS 1-2017). The purpose of the workshop is to discuss the results achieved so far under Theme 4 of the SPICE project, to further develop the method for assessing the extent of lost and disturbed underwater habitats, as well as advance the work on the approach to define threshold values allowing for assessment of environmental status. More specifically the workshop will:

- Work on the definition of threshold values for benthic habitats, adapted to the different characteristics within each region or subregion.
- Define current possibilities and future development needs for setting threshold value of environmental status for the assessment of pelagic and benthic habitats with a focus on *a common approaches to the establishment of national targets*.

The Workshop will be held from **09:00h on Wednesday 27 September 2017 to 17:00 on Thursday 28 September** at the premises of the HELCOM Secretariat, Katajanokanlaituri 6 B, Helsinki, Finland.

The Workshop is aimed at nationally nominated experts and management representatives of HELCOM Contracting Parties. Please inform on the nominations by email to janne-markus.rintala@helcom.fi.

Participants are kindly requested to **register by 13 September 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,

Jannica Haldin
Professional Secretary