
Document title	Provisional Annotated Agenda
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Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
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Submitted by	The Chairs and the Secretariats
Reference	

Provisional Annotated Agenda

The Meeting will start at 10:00 on Thursday 16 November 2017 and it is expected to close by 12:00 (on Friday 17 November 2017). The Meeting will take place in Helsinki, Finland, at the premises of the Finnish Environment Institute (meeting room Tervapääsky) at Mechelininkatu 34a, FI-00251, Helsinki.

Meeting documents for TG BALLAST 8-2017 will be submitted by the Secretariats via the HELCOM [Meeting Portal](#). The Secretariats have prepared a document template and recommends using the template when submitting documents to the Secretariats. The Secretariats kindly requests the Contracting Parties and Observer Organizations to observe a two weeks deadline for submission of documents to TG BALLAST 8-2017. Documents should be submitted in electronic form to the HELCOM Professional Secretary, Mr. Hermanni Backer (hermanni.backer@helcom.fi) or the OSPAR Deputy Secretary Mr. John Mouat (john.mouat@ospar.org) by **2 November 2017**. Documents should include abstracts embodying the essence of the proposals and action requested from the Meeting.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Meeting is invited to adopt the provisional Agenda (document 1-1, 1-2) developed by the Secretariats in consultation with the Co-chairs.

2. Feedback from Relevant Bodies

The Meeting is invited to take note of the entry into force of the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention, 2004 on 8 September 2017.

The Meeting is requested to share and consider any other developments at IMO relevant for the Meeting.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcomes of relevant OSPAR or HELCOM meetings during the intersessional period.

The Meeting is invited to take note of information on the preparations for HELCOM Ministerial Meeting to be organised 6 March 2018 in Brussels hosted by the EU Chairmanship of HELCOM.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the timeline and deadlines associated with NIS indicator and HOLAS II updates in the HELCOM area (document 2-1).

3. Updates to the Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Harmonised Procedure (JHP) on the Granting of BMW Convention Exemptions

The Meeting is requested to consider and discuss the results of the questionnaires on JHP revision needs circulated by the Chairs during the intersessional period, including concrete revision proposals and a way forward to be submitted by the Chairs (document to be submitted at a later stage).

The Meeting is invited to propose and discuss any other amendments to the harmonised A-4 procedure.

4. Port Sampling

The Meeting is invited to inform on alien species sampling in North East Atlantic or Baltic ports during 2017 or any such activities planned for 2018.

TG BALLAST 7-2016 discussed the inclusion of the pathogens sampling in the monitoring methods, recalled that it is included in the BWMC as well as bathing water legislation and agreed to come back to the issue during the intersessional work and at the next meeting ([Outcome of TG BALLAST 7-2016](#), para. 4.5). The Meeting is invited to discuss and agree on this issue.

5. On-line decision support tool

The Meeting is invited to take note of the July 2017 release of an updated version of the online JHP decision support tool (<http://jointbwmexemptions.org>) with modernised interface, incorporating separate HELCOM and OSPAR target species lists and general improvements to usability.

6. Target Species

The Meeting is invited to consider the current target species lists for the HELCOM and OSPAR areas.

7. Open Issues

The Meeting is invited to discuss issues in the Task Group TOR's that are not covered by the Joint Harmonised Procedure.

The meeting is invited to consider and discuss further details on the Same Risk Area Concept based on input by Denmark (c.f. Outcome HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST 7-2016 §7.7).

8. Any other business

The Meeting is invited to take note of developments in implementing the COMPLETE Project (Completing management options in the Baltic Sea Region to reduce risk of invasive species introduction by shipping, autumn 2017-2020,) with HELCOM involvement as a project partner together with institutions from Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden.

The Meetings is invited to take note of any updates on other ongoing relevant research projects.

The Meeting is invited to take note of any other business.

9. Work plan and future meetings

The Meeting is invited to note that the ToR for the Task Group for the period 2017-2020 have been approved by HELCOM and OSPAR respective Working Groups.

The Meeting is invited to update the work plan of the Task Group, based on a draft by the Secretariats to be presented at the Meeting.

The Meeting is invited to update the contact list for both HELCOM and OSPAR (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to propose and agree on the place and date of the next Meeting.

10. Outcome of the meeting

Outcome of the Meeting will be presented and adopted by the Meeting.