

Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Task Group on Ballast Water Management Convention Exemptions

Eighth Meeting

Helsinki, Finland, 16-17 November 2017

Document title	Timeline and deadlines associated with NIS indicator and HOLAS II updates
Code	2-1
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Submitted by	The Secretariat
Reference	

Background

The [HOLAS II State of the Baltic Sea report \(first version\)](#) was released in June 2017 and incorporates extensive datasets and analysis in the form of HELCOM core indicators, with the subsequent integration of these individual indicators into a thematic and overall holistic assessment. The process to update the State of the Baltic Sea report and its underlying data has been initiated and the deadlines for the Non-indigenous species indicator (and how the indicator and HOLAS II processes align) are presented in the following document.

The update process should involve the addition of data from 2016 (i.e. expanding the temporal focus of the State of the Baltic Sea report by a further year) and the consequent updating of the indicator document texts (and relevant State of the Baltic Sea report chapters). The information and relevant deadlines are presented in the document below, and is the same information that was circulated to indicator lead and co-lead representatives as well as co-chairs of TG BALLAST on September 1st 2017.

Action required

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information and ensure these deadlines are met.

The experts responsible for this indicator are requested to respond to the following questions **as soon as possible** by informing the Secretariat (owen.rowe@helcom.fi and joni.kaitaranta@helcom.fi):

1. Please clarify how countries have been required to report data, if AquaNIS is used as the main data source for the indicator, and if a specific data call for 2016 data has been issued?
2. Is it foreseen that this indicator update will take place with the involvement of HELCOM/OSPAR TG Ballast?
3. Can the HELCOM Secretariat assist with any aspects of the planned update, for example by issuing a formal data call for 2016?

Timeline and deadlines associated with NIS indicator and HOLAS II updates

HELCOM core indicator update deadlines – 2017/2018

HELCOM is informing all indicator leads and/or co-leads, and expert network (EN) leads and/or co-leads of the upcoming deadlines and responsibilities related to the update of HELCOM indicators. In the table below an outline of the ongoing processes with regard to data reporting, indicator updates and the update of the HOLAS II report is given.

You are kindly requested to take note of the information, in particular the two indicator deadlines highlighted in green (December 1st 2017 and April 6th 2018), and take the required action in conjunction between indicator experts and relevant HELCOM expert networks to meet these deadlines.

INDICATORS	HOLAS II update related
Data reporting deadline – September 1 st 2017.	
Update of indicator evaluations – Deadline December 1st 2017.	
Indicator document update – Deadline April 6th 2018.	National approval of data and indicator evaluation – Deadline February 23th 2018.
	Integrated assessment – Deadline March 2nd 2018.
	Workshops if needed (tbc) – March 26-28 (tbc).
All documents and supporting documents submitted to HELCOM State and Conservation – HELCOM – Deadline April 23rd 2018.	

Indicators of relevance:

Trends in arrival of non-indigenous species.

NOTE for information: for the new 2018 round, updated indicator and assessment results have to be calculated using the new 2018 version of the assessment units. Some monitoring stations may be located in different sub-basins and areas of sub-basins and may not be the same as was used for the 1st version of HOLAS II due to updated assessment units.

Please inform me of your plans to carry out the required work to update the relevant indicator(s) and on behalf of the HELCOM Secretariat I will provide whatever support I can to facilitate the process and meeting of the deadlines - Owen Rowe, Project Coordinator HELCOM Indicators (owen.rowe@helcom.fi).