

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

Eighth Meeting

Helsinki, Finland, 16-17 November 2017

Document title	Note from Co-Chairs on the revision and review needs of the JHP
Code	3-3
Category	CMNT
Agenda Item	3 - Updates to the Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Harmonised Procedure (JHP) on the Granting of BMW Convention Exemptions
Submission date	20.10.2017
Submitted by	Co-Chairs
Reference	

Background

This document includes a note from Co-Chairs on the revision and review needs of the JHP.

Action required

The Meeting is invited to consider the note from the Co-Chairs.

Note from Co-Chairs on the revision and review needs of the JHP

Dear members of the JTG Ballast,

This letter has the purpose to give some explanations on the status of the revision and review process of the JHP with a view to prepare for the next meeting of the JTG Ballast in Helsinki, Finland, from 16.-17. November 2017.

At its last meeting, the HELCOM/OSPAR JTG Ballast agreed that the co-chairs will circulate a questionnaire on JHP revision needs in January 2017 incorporating i.a. input at the meeting documented in paragraph 3.3 of the Outcome document of HELCOM/OSPAR TG Ballast 7-2016, and based on that draft a revision proposal for the next meeting. (see Agenda Item 3, para.3.4 of the Outcome of HELCOM/OSPAR TG Ballast 7-2016).

Accordingly, the Co-Chairs circulated a questionnaire and received answers from Denmark, Germany, Norway, Poland and The Netherlands.

Based on this input, the Co-Chairs have prepared an introductory overview chapter to the JHP and compiled the answers in one document plus annexes.

Further, in light of the responses we received, we propose to prioritize some of the issues under discussions:

1. Amendments and changes to the Port Survey Protocol as first step and basis for the JHP (Annex 2)
2. Clarifications with respect to the Risk assessment scheme as core of the Risk Assessment Tool
3. Identifying the possible content of a New Chapter 7 based on the input received so far, including e.g. pathogens, same risk areas concept

The issue of pathogens sampling in the monitoring and how to include it in the overall risk assessment should be considered in the context of all the above mentioned issues.

Proposals of shortening the text etc. seem to be editorial work that does not need be prioritized at this moment in time.

Finally, we would like to highlight that the COMPLETE Project was accepted and that we can expect valuable results from that work.

We will present to you the different work packages which are relevant to our JHP revision process and would like to discuss them with you in more detail.

With the entry into force of the BWM Convention on 8 September 2017, the transitional period, which allows for a flexible and practicable implementation, applies. We therefore should use this period of time to gain experiences and lessons learnt to improve the JHP, as appropriate.

We are looking forward to meeting you soon in Helsinki!

Kind regards,

Henrik Ramstedt and Susanne Heitmüller