

**OUTCOME OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE JOINT HELCOM/OSPAR TASK GROUP ON
BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT CONVENTION EXEMPTIONS
(HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST)**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	2
Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda	2
Agenda Item 2 Feedback from Relevant Bodies, including HELCOM, OSPAR and IMO MEPC	2
Agenda Item 3 Updates to the Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Harmonised Procedure on the Granting of BMW Convention Exemptions.....	4
Agenda Item 4 Port Sampling	5
Agenda Item 5 On-line decision support tool	6
Agenda Item 6 Target Species.....	6
Agenda Item 7 Open Issues.....	7
Agenda Item 8 Any other business	7
Agenda Item 9 Work plan and future meetings	8
Agenda Item 10 Outcome of the Meeting	8
Annex 1 List of Participants	9
Annex 2 List of Documents	11
Annex 3 Joint HELCOM/OSPAR TG Ballast Water Work Plan (17 September 2015).....	12
Annex 4 Contact addresses of Joint HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST.....	13
Annex 5 Official Contact Points for BWMC A-4 Exemptions (Missing information to be added).....	17
Annex 6 New introductory overview chapter to the JHP	19
Annex 7 Current status of amendments to the Joint Harmonised Procedure (JHP).....	20

OUTCOME OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE JOINT HELCOM/OSPAR TASK GROUP ON BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT CONVENTION EXEMPTIONS (HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST)

Introduction

0.1 The Eighth Meeting of the Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Task Group on Ballast Water Management Convention Exemptions was held on 16-17 November 2017 in Helsinki, Finland.

0.2 The Meeting was attended by Delegations from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain and Sweden and by Observers from the European Community Shipowners' Association (ECSA). The List of participants is contained in **Annex 1** and the list of documents in **Annex 2**.

0.3 Mr Ville-Veikko Intovuori, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants to Helsinki. He noted that they had some responsibility of the entry into force of the Convention and therefore they were happy to host the meeting.

0.4 The Meeting was co-chaired by Ms. Susanne Heitmüller, Germany, and Mr. Henrik Ramstedt, Sweden.

0.5 Mr. John Mouat, OSPAR Deputy Secretary, Mr. Hermanni Backer, HELCOM Professional Secretary and Ms. Marta Ruiz, HELCOM Secretariat, acted as Secretaries of the Meeting.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

Documents: 1-1, 1-2

1.1 The Meeting adopted the Agenda as contained in document 1-1 and 1-2.

1.2 The Meeting noted the late documents and accepted them for discussion.

1.3 The Meeting noted the long-term perspective of the upcoming work ahead of the TG as presented by the Co-Chairs (**Presentation 1**). The need to prioritise different issues was emphasised, also in relation to the work to be conducted as part of the COMPLETE project and the HELCOM MARITIME WG. In relation to the COMPLETE project, related Task Group actions were target species (TS) selection criteria, risk assessment (RA) tool and overall risk assessment (new chapter 7). In relation to HELCOM MARITIME WG the Meeting noted the action to development of early warning system. Based on the questionnaire in relation to Joint Harmonised Procedure revisions, the following issues were also to be prioritised:

- overview chapter,
- discussion of amendments and changes to the Port Survey Protocol,
- clarification with respect to the RA scheme,
- identifying possible content of a new chapter 7 (including pathogens, aspects of the same risk area concept, etc.), and
- the issue of pathogens.

1.4 Priorities for next meeting would be among others the withdrawal of exemptions which needed further consideration in the Intersessional period. The Co-Chairs will circulate a questionnaire on remaining issues early next year.

Agenda Item 2 Feedback from Relevant Bodies, including HELCOM, OSPAR and IMO MEPC

Documents: 2-1

2.1 The Meeting took note of the entry into force of the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention, 2004 on 8 September 2017.

2.2 The Meeting took note of the information regarding the outcome of the last MEPC meeting (MEPC 71) held 3-7 July 2017 in London, as provided by the Co-Chair Mr Henrik Ramstedt (**Presentation 2**). The most important issues discussed were:

- The agreement on implementation schedule of the D-2 Standards which are to be fully implemented by 2024.
- Guidelines for RA under regulation A-4 (G7) were amended to include the Same Risk Area concept.
- [BWM. 2/Circ. 63](#) on the Application of the Convention to ships operating in sea areas where ballast water exchange is not possible: those ships should not be required to meet D-2 standards.
- [IMO GISIS](#) – includes a new ballast water module on reporting to IMO required by the BWMC. Information to be reported is:
 - Exemptions granted to ships under regulation A-4;
 - Ballast water exchange areas designated under regulation B-4.2;
 - Additional measures under regulation C-1; and
 - Warnings concerning ballast water uptake in certain areas and related flag State measures under regulation C-2.

2.3 The Meeting noted the information provided by the Co-Chair on the Outcome of the MARITIME 16-2017 together with its follow-up. The Meeting noted that Maritime asked the Co-Chairs to consider whether the Terms of Reference of the ad hoc Correspondence Group on Ballast Water Management (CG Ballast) included points that could fit into the work of the TG BALLAST (Annex 3 of the [Outcome of MARITIME 16-2016](#)).

2.4 The Meeting discussed if the tasks to generate a list of surveyed ports by 2018 and the early warning system as included in the ToR of the CG Ballast would be two issues to be taken on board by the TG BALLAST.

2.5 The Meeting agreed to consider these two points, discuss them by correspondence and agree whether to take them on board at the next meeting.

2.6 The Meeting noted the information provided by OSPAR on the EIHA Committee and the COBAM Expert group on Non-Indigenous Species (NIS). OSPAR had adopted an indicator on Trends in New Records of Non-Indigenous Species Introduced by Human Activities as part of its Intermediate Assessment 2017. The data flows for the indicator would be discussed by ICG-COBAM in December to ensure that the data was available for future assessments.

2.7 The Meeting took 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 cooperation between OSPAR and HELCOM on ballast water issues would be highlighted in the ministerial declaration as an example of inter-regional cooperation.

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

2.9 The Meeting noted that experts responsible for the NIS indicator are requested to respond to the following questions as soon as possible as outlined in document 2-1 by informing the Secretariat (owen.rowe@helcom.fi and joni.kaitaranta@helcom.fi).

2.10 The Meeting noted that the HELCOM Secretariat will provide an official data call for the planned update, where the format of the data to be provided will be specified.

2.11 The Meeting noted that Denmark is not in the position to reply to such a data call due to time constraints.

2.12 The Meeting noted the relevance of increasing cooperation on the development of NIS indicator between HELCOM and OSPAR and encouraged such cooperation.

2.13 The Meeting agreed that it is not foreseen that the update of the NIS indicator update will take place with the involvement of HELCOM/OSPAR TG Ballast as it requires different expertise and is not covered by the Terms of Reference of the Group. The Group suggested that another HELCOM group is given the task to update the Baltic NIS indicator.

Agenda Item 3 Updates to the Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Harmonised Procedure on the Granting of BMW Convention Exemptions

Document: 3-1 Re. 1, 3-2, 3-3

3.1 The Meeting considered a note from the Co-Chairs on the revision and review needs of the JHP as contained in document 3-3.

3.2 The Meeting took note of the Polish comments to the revision of the JHP, as further explained in **Presentation 3**, as a basis for considering the comments outlined in document 3-2, which was the outcome of the questionnaire sent to Contracting Parties on JHP revisions.

3.3 The Meeting discussed the main points raised and agreed as follows:

- number of sampling sites per port and their selection: the port survey stipulates three sampling sites per port area is the *minimum* required. The number of port areas per port depends on the size of the port as well as on the activities held in the port,
- inconsistencies between Table 1 and the text should be corrected regarding fouling plates,
- maps of underwater habitat: the wording is to be amended to clarify that it is to serve the purpose of selection sampling sites,
- sediment fraction identification should not be mandatory and it is perhaps better not mention it at all,
- additional physical parameters could be measured, however this is not needed for the purpose of the protocol,
- data sheets for appendix should be reviewed,
- pathogens: they are to be analysed as part of the port survey protocol, although only in the summer. However, pathogens are not to be included in the target species list. Further considerations on the methodology to analyse them could be considered by the COMPLETE project,
- “Quality assured” is subject to the decision of the national administration and does not always mean having accreditation for the parameters to be analysed.

3.4 The Meeting noted that shipowners in Finland are planning to apply for exemptions in addition to installing ballast water treatment systems on board, as a contingency measure. For Finnish –flagged ships, such installations will likely start in 2021.

3.5 The Meeting took note that based on the input received as part of the spring 2017 request for JHP revision, the Co-Chairs have prepared an introductory overview chapter to the JHP (document 3-1). The Meeting considered the proposal and agreed on the text as contained in document 3-1 Rev. 1 and **Annex 6**.

3.6 The Meeting considered the reworking of the risk assessment schematic based on the input by Spain ([document 3-2](#), HELCOM/OSAPR TG BALLAST 7-2017) and agreed to keep the current version of the scheme.

3.7 The Meeting agreed on the proposal by Germany to change the wording “medium risk” to “uncertain risk”.

3.8 The Meeting agreed to clarify in the algorithm of the model that the question on “target species equally common in both ports” refers to the presence of the same target species in both ports.

3.9 The Meeting considered how to provide further guidance on undertaking a final risk assessment. The Meeting agreed to develop a new chapter (Chapter 7) on the final risk assessment including the aspects in document 3-1 and considering how to use data other than that collected in JHP port surveys. It was agreed that the COMPLETE project could provide input to this chapter in terms of specifying: additional criteria that could be taken into account, identify how further sources of information/data could be considered and to give further guidance on additional aspects for this final evaluation. This should include looking again into the results of former related research projects in the OSPAR and HELCOM area (NSBWO and ALIENS projects), which already form partly the basis for the current JHP.

3.10 The Meeting agreed to maintain a record of proposed changes to the JHP in an Annex to ease the foreseen revisions in 2020-21 and drafted the first version as included in **Annex 7**.

Agenda Item 4 Port Sampling

Document 4-1, 4-2

4.1 The Meeting noted the information on the sampling protocol for monitoring of non-indigenous species in selected Danish harbours (document 4-1, **Presentation 4**). The monitoring project funded via EMFF used a broad range of methods, both conventional sampling method and sampling of water for subsequent analyses of eDNA for a total of 20 species on the Danish non-indigenous target species list. Data will be submitted to TG Ballast in 2018 after the report is published.

4.2 The Meeting noted the e-DNA barcoding method applied by Sweden in plankton and benthos samples (**Presentation 5**). Preliminary results are available according to which 77% of the samples could be identified at species level, compared to the traditional method, which enabled the identification of 62% of non-indigenous species. The best eDNA identification results were achieved for the plankton species, which makes it an appropriate methodology for early warning. Initial conclusions indicate that more species are identified with the traditional level, whereas DNA based methods enable the identification of more non-indigenous species. The methodology seems to be less efficient in crustacean identification.

4.3 The Meeting noted the information by Sweden that it is envisaged to test rapid assessment in ports of Lysekil and Nynäshamn as well as Bullandö and Nynäshamn marinas.

4.4 The Meeting took note that Sweden has added artificial reefs to their extended rapid assessment (eRAS) methodology.

4.5 The Meeting took note that the Swedish NIS monitoring approach is not to only look at trends in hotspots but also to optimize the monitoring to focus on finding new introduction areas.

4.6 The Meeting took note that Poland was interested in using eDNA, highlighted the possibilities for e.g. *Marezzelleria* species and invited Sweden to consider cooperation in sampling the Nynäshamn and Gdansk ports which are connected with a regular line.

4.7 The Meeting noted the information by Spain on the port sampling activities to be conducted in the near future (document 4-2). Following pilot port in Las Palmas in 2014, 2015 and 2016, which has become environmental monitoring task annually, ten major ports have planned for extensive campaigns.

4.8 The Meeting noted the information by Spain that there is an ongoing INTERREG project, to test mobile purification plants that can be installed both on land and on board. Ports of Las Palmas, Gijon, Vigo and Brest are involved in the project.

4.9 The Meeting took note on port sampling from Finland in Hamina Kotka, Sköldvik, Turku, Naantali and Kokkola. There were plans to survey ten more ports but after the information of the postponement of the D2 standard application dates and after checking IOPP validity dates with the

result that earliest renewal date is in 2021, Finland decided to postpone the activities for at least two years.

4.10 The Meeting took note that Poland will carry out sampling in Gdansk, Gdynia, Szczecin and Swinoujscie in 2018 and plans to include port surveys to the national environmental monitoring activities, which needs an implementation in national laws.

4.11 The Meeting took note that Latvia has carried out monitoring in Riga, Ventspils and Liepaja ports according to the protocol and final results will be recommendations. There are plans to make a project to compare the results of port sampling with the results of regular HELCOM monitoring stations at sea in front of the ports of Riga, Ventspils and Liepaja. Plankton results were very similar but the results of benthic organisms were different.

4.12 The Meeting took note that Germany sampled port of Hamburg and port of Kiel in 2017 and the rest of the ports with eRAS which are done annually. Next year 2018 two OSPAR ports will be sampled, Jade –Weser and Cuxhaven. This will be done for exemption purposes as well as to identify if Hamburg is a NIS hotspot in Germany. The work includes modelling and DNA identification. More results will be available in two years.

4.13 The Meeting noted the information by Estonia that it is planned to conduct sampling in the ports of Paldiski, Muuga, Tallinn and Sillamäe.

Agenda Item 5 On-line decision support tool

Document 5-1

5.1 The Meeting took 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 (document 5-1).

5.2 The Meeting welcomed that the Secretariats are in the process of uploading JHP data from the port of Lysekil (Sweden) to the online decision support tool.

5.3 The Meeting reviewed and discussed the Phase 2 upgrades (c.f. document 5-1) and highlighted any other desirable upgrades to the tool that would improve its functionality.

5.4 The Meeting recalled that the COMPLETE project funded application includes work by the Secretariat on the online decision support tool (c.f. paragraph 8.1).

5.5 The Meeting took note of the comments from Finland on the usability:

- The model assumes unidirectional movement of ballast waters. In case de-ballasting is carried out in both ports the RA has to be currently carried out twice –one in each direction.
- Terminology could be clarified in the tool and JHP in general as G7 uses “donor ports” and “recipient ports” which could be used instead of current.
- It would be good to get two lists of target species, one for each port (with difference highlighted) when getting the result of the RA run.

5.6 The Meeting agreed to implement the second phase improvements (document 5-1) as far as reasonable in further work.

5.7 The Meeting agreed that when the questionnaire is sent by the Chairs on JHP revision needs early next year a question on desirable improvements to the JHP tool will be included to guide further work, including within COMPLETE.

Agenda Item 6 Target Species

No documents

6.1 The Meeting noted the information on the HELCOM Correspondence Group on TS as provided by Finland (**Presentation 6**). The discussion has occurred through correspondence, and focussed on:

- Pathogens: *Vibrio cholerae* and *Escherichia coli* should be added to the list.
- Certain already widely spread species in the Baltic Sea should be deleted from the list e.g. *Cercopagis pengoi*.
- *Marenzelleria neglecta*, cannot be on species level in the list as these polychaetes will be identified in port samplings on genus level (including all *Marenzelleria* species in the Baltic: *M. neglecta*, *M. arctia*, *M. viridis*).

6.2 The Meeting noted that updating of Target Species list will be one of the aims of the COMPLETE project.

6.3 The Meeting noted that OSPAR would consider the update of its target species list through its expert group on Non-Indigenous Species.

Agenda Item 7 Open Issues

Document: 7-1

7.1 The Meeting took note of the update on the activities in connection with the development of the Same Risk Area concept as provided by Denmark (document 7-1, **Presentation 7**). There is an on-going project conducted jointly by Denmark and Sweden on the modelling of dispersal of target species (defined based on the different target species lists available) that may be used for decision support in delineating a Same Risk Area in the Kattegat area. Results of the project are foreseen to be available in July 2018.

7.2 The Meeting noted the information from Denmark that a project workshop on biological modeling is envisaged in 3-4 or 7-8 (tentatively) May 2018. Countries are invited to contact Mr. Ulrik Berggreen (ucb@mst.dk), Denmark, for further information on participating in the workshop and on preferred dates.

7.3 The Meeting noted the The Netherlands were also planning a joint project together with Belgium on the same risk area in the southern North Sea.

Agenda Item 8 Any other business

Documents: 8-1, 8-2

8.1 The Meeting took note of the 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 and Sweden (document 8-1, **Presentation 8**).

8.2 The Meeting noted the needed input from the HELCOM/OSPAR TG Ballast to the activities of the project, especially in relation to the TS selection criteria and RA under the Joint Harmonised Procedure (JHP) and further development of the RA tool.

8.3 The Meeting noted that the timeline of the COMPLETE project is in line with the envisaged revision of the JHP, and that the project outputs will benefit also the OSPAR area.

8.4 The Meeting noted the other aspects of the project including the work on biofouling. Several Contracting Parties highlighted the relevance of the IMO GloFouling project and welcomed that COMPLETE aimed to collaborate with this project.

8.5 The Meeting noted the views by The Netherlands on the risk of bio fouling both from commercial and leisure vessels. They suggested that this was something that TG-Ballast could look at.

8.6 The Meeting agreed that Germany would feed back the issues discussed in relation to the COMPLETE project to their next project meeting and that a future joint session or back-to-back meeting with COMPLETE and TG BALLAST would be a good way to enable a more direct contact between the two.

8.7 The Meetings took note of the information on North Sea Ballast Water Exchange Area as contained in document 8-2.

8.8 The Meeting discussed the terms of application of the North Sea Ballast Water Exchange Area for ships on voyages between the North Sea and the Baltic Sea with the aim to clarify the application and ensuring a harmonized approach regarding voyages between the Baltic and the North Sea and in the other direction.

8.9 The Meeting took note that Finland, Germany and Sweden interpret the North Sea ballast water exchange area to apply only for intra North Sea exchange and not for voyages between North Sea and the Baltic.

8.10 The Meeting took note of the information from Denmark that there is ongoing discussion whether traffic within windpower farms could be considered as falling under the “same location” concept (**Presentation 9**).

Agenda Item 9 Work plan and future meetings

Documents: 9-1

9.1 The Meeting noted that the Terms of Reference for HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST for the period 2017-2020 have been approved by HELCOM and OSPAR respective Working Groups.

9.2 The Meeting agreed on the amended work plan of the Task Group, based on a draft by the Secretariats presented at the Meeting as contained in **Annex 3**.

9.3 The Meeting updated the contact list for both HELCOM and OSPAR (document 9-1) as contained in **Annex 4**.

9.4 The Meeting updated the Official Contact Points for BWMC A-4 Exemptions for both HELCOM and OSPAR as contained in **Annex 5**.

9.5 The Meeting agreed that the next meeting will be held tentatively in 14-15 November 2018, and requested the OSPAR Secretariat to inquire interest in hosting the meeting.

9.6 The Meeting thanked Finland for the excellent hosting.

Agenda Item 10 Outcome of the Meeting

Documents: 10-1

10.1 The Meeting adopted the draft outcome (document 10-1). The full outcome of the Meeting including Annexes will be finalised by the Secretariats in consultation with the Chair, and will then be made available in the HELCOM Meeting Portal and OSPAR website.

Annex 1 List of Participants

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Annex 2 List of Documents

HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST 7-2016	Date dd.mm.yy	Title	Submitted by
1-1	30.6.2017	Provisional Agenda	HELCOM and OSPAR Secretariats
1-2	25.9.2017	Provisional Annotated Agenda	The Chairs and the Secretariats
2-1	25.9.2017	Timeline and deadlines associated with NIS indicator and HOLAS II updates	HELCOM Secretariat
3-1	20.10.2017	Proposal for a new introductory overview chapter to the JHP	Co-Chairs
3-1 Rev. 1	17.11.2017	Proposal for a new introductory overview chapter to the JHP	Co-Chairs
3-2	20.10.2017	Responses to revision and review request on JHP revision needs	Co-Chairs
3-3	20.10.2017	Note from Co-Chairs on the revision and review needs of the JHP	Co-Chairs
3-3 Rev. 1	26.10.2017	Note from Co-Chairs on the revision and review needs of the JHP	Co-Chairs
4-1	20.10.2017	Sampling protocol for monitoring of non-indigenous species in selected Danish harbours	Denmark
4-2	16.11.2017	Port surveys in Spain	Spain
5-1	26.10.2017	Redevelopment of the Online Decision Support Tool	HELCOM and OSPAR Secretariats
7-1	7.11.2017	Projects on Same Risk Area in Denmark - Status November 2017	Denmark
8-1	20.10.2017	COMPLETE – a new Interreg Project in the Baltic Sea region (01.10.2017-30.09.2020)	HELCOM Secretariat
8-2	10.11.2017	North Sea Ballast Water Exchange Area	Sweden
9-1	12.10.2017	Contact addresses of Joint HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST	HELCOM and OSPAR Secretariats

Annex 3 Joint HELCOM/OSPAR TG Ballast Water Work Plan (17 September 2015)

WP	Actions from TOR	Activity	Timing	Task leader
1	Meeting organisation	Arrange meetings and documentation	TG BALLAST 9 November 2018	OSPAR Secretariat and HELCOM Secretariat
2	Overall revision	Carry out overall revision of the JHP including [e.g. burden sharing options and withdrawals.]	Further input by TG BALLAST 9 First formal revision proposal by TG BALLAST 10-2019	Intersessional correspondence work under lead of Co-Chairs
3	Port surveys	Port Survey Testing in the Baltic	Continuous	National Initiatives
4	Port surveys	Port Survey Testing in the North East Atlantic	Continuous	National Initiatives
5	Port surveys	Consider potential synergies with MSFD monitoring	Continuous	TG BALLAST and other HELCOM/OSPAR groups
6	Target Species	Review of HELCOM target species List	Continuous	HELCOM Maritime sub-group on Baltic A-4 target species list (Maiju Lehtiniemi)
7	Target Species	Review of OSPAR target species List	Continuous	OSPAR NIS Expert Group (Paul Stebbing)
8	Data storage and decision support tools	Update online decision support tool	Continuous. Larger revisions according to COMPLETE timeplan.	HELCOM/OSPAR Secretariats
9	Outstanding issues	Elaboration of same risk area concept including outcomes of pilot projects	TG BALLAST 9 2018	Belgium, Denmark, The Netherlands and Sweden
10	Terms of reference	Proposal for Terms of Reference for 2021-	By TG BALLAST 2020	Secretariats

Annex 4 Contact addresses of Joint HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST

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Annex 6 New introductory overview chapter to the JHP

Overview

The “Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Procedure for the Contracting Parties of OSPAR and HELCOM on the granting of exemptions under the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship’s Ballast Water and Sediments, Regulation A-4” (BWM) is based on the Guidelines for Risk Assessment under Regulation A-4 of the BWM Convention (G7) and was agreed by HELCOM and OSPAR Contracting Parties in 2013/15.

The JHP procedure aims to ensure that exemptions are granted in a coherent manner that that does not impair or damage the environment, human health, property or resources. The background is further elaborated in Section 1 Introduction. Main users of this procedure include ship-owners, port state administrators and relevant experts and researchers.

According to the JHP procedure, exemptions from ballast water management requirements can be issued to a ship on voyages between specified ports or locations for a maximum of five years. A Port State may grant such an exemption if the risk is acceptable low, based on results of a risk assessment (section 5, Risk Assessment).

It is the responsibility of the ship owner/operator to apply for exemptions to the Port State(s) directly. Contact information of the designated administration of the Contracting Parties is provided in Annex 6.

The minimum data and information required for an application, and to undertake a risk assessment, includes data on environmental conditions and on non-indigenous species (section 2, Port Survey Protocol), species of concern (section 3, Target Species) and shipping information as set out in the appendix of G7 (section 7, Administrative Procedures).

If sufficient data is not available for the ports of interest, the applicant is responsible for carrying out port surveys to collect data. Information on the application process can be found in the Decision Support Tool (section 6, Decision Support Tool).

It should be noted that the use of the risk assessment algorithm of the Decision Support Tool serves only as a first step to aid regionally harmonized decision making. The administrations may also give consideration to the specific conditions of each case (e.g. additional information on non-indigenous species, species specifics (dispersal capacity, habitats), connectivity between ports (e.g. distance separated, currents), ships operation and mitigation measures (e.g. volume of ballast water, position of discharge and uptake).

Exemptions are envisaged when ships will be required to meet the D-2 standard of the Ballast Water Management Convention. Ship owners/operators that consider to apply are urged to contact the relevant Port State administrations well in advance (years) before the exemption is needed, for consultation and to make certain to get a decision in due time. If an exemption is not granted, the ship owner/operator must ensure to have enough time to secure that the ship is in compliance with the D-2 standard, e.g. by installation of a type approved ballast water management system.

The Ballast Water Management Convention entered into force on 8 September 2017. In the initial transitional period (2017-24, section 1.16 (i) and Annex 1) the Procedure is to be implemented in a flexible and practicable way in order to gain experience and to enable further development and improvements. The transitional period will end by 2024 when the D-2 ballast water standard applies in full according to regulation B-3 of the BWMC.

Annex 7 Current status of amendments to the Joint Harmonised Procedure (JHP)

Chapter	Previously	Status
Executive Summary	New chapter	Agreed at TG-Ballast 2017, Outcome, Annex 6
1 Introduction	Chapter 1	Agreed by HELCOM HOD 48-2015 and OSPAR Agreement 2015-01
2 Port Survey Protocol	Chapter 2	Agreed by HELCOM HOD 48-2015 and OSPAR Agreement 2015-01
3 Target Species Identification	Chapter 3	Agreed by TG–Ballast 2016, Outcome, Annex 3
4 Data Storage	Chapter 4	Agreed by HELCOM HOD 48-2015 and OSPAR Agreement 2015-01
5 Risk Assessment	Chapter 5	Agreed by HELCOM HOD 48-2015 and OSPAR Agreement 2015-01
6 Decision Support Tool	Chapter 6	Agreed by HELCOM HOD 48-2015 and OSPAR Agreement 2015-01
7 Final Risk Assessment	New Chapter	To be discussed at TG – Ballast 2018
8 Administrative Procedure	Chapter 7	Agreed by HELCOM HOD 48-2015 and OSPAR Agreement 2015-01