

Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Task Group on Ballast Water Management Convention Exemptions  
Ninth Meeting  
Gothenburg, Sweden, 13-14 December 2018

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<b>Document title</b>	Provisional Annotated Agenda
<b>Code</b>	1-2
<b>Category</b>	DEC
<b>Agenda Item</b>	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
<b>Submission date</b>	06.11.2018
<b>Submitted by</b>	The Chairs and the Secretariats
<b>Reference</b>	

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### Provisional Annotated Agenda

The Meeting will start at 10:00 on Thursday 13 December 2018 and it is expected to close by 12:00 on Friday 14 December 2018. The Meeting will take place in Gothenburg, Sweden, at Hotel Riverton, Stora Badhusgatan 26, Gothenburg.

Meeting documents for TG BALLAST 9-2018 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 9-2018. Documents should be submitted in electronic form to the HELCOM Professional Secretary, Mr. Markus Helavuori ([Markus.Helavuori@helcom.fi](mailto:Markus.Helavuori@helcom.fi)) or the OSPAR Deputy Secretary Mr. Philip Stamp ([Philip.Stamp@ospar.org](mailto:Philip.Stamp@ospar.org)) by **29 November 2018**. 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) developed by the Secretariats in consultation with the Co-Chairs.

#### 2. Feedback from Relevant Bodies

The Meeting is invited to take note that Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have ratified the BWM Convention since the last meeting, and that Poland's ratification process is ongoing, with an aim to ratify late in 2018 or early 2019.

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, in particular HELCOM MARITIME 18-2018 (document to be submitted).

The Meeting is invited to take note of information on the outcomes of the HELCOM Ministerial Meeting held on 6 March 2018 in Brussels.

The Meeting is invited to recall that the HELCOM Heads of Delegation (HOD 53-2017) agreed that HELCOM should become a strategic partner to the GEF/UNDP/IMO GloFouling Partnerships project and to support the initiative based on the COMPLETE project and other available resources and material including the core indicator on non-indigenous species.

#### 3. Updates to the Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Harmonized Procedure (JHP) on the Granting of BWM Convention Exemptions

The Meeting is requested to consider and discuss the results of the questionnaires on remaining JHP revision needs circulated by the Co-Chairs during the intersessional period; including concrete revision

proposals and a way forward to be submitted by the Co-Chairs (document to be submitted at a later stage).

The Meeting is invited to take note and discuss any relevant output of the COMPLETE project in this context (document to be submitted later).

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

#### **4. Port Sampling**

Participants are invited to inform on sampling activities in North East Atlantic or Baltic Sea ports during 2018 or any such activities planned for 2019. Denmark may wish to inform on the results of their monitoring project on selected Danish harbours ([Outcome of TG BALLATS 8-2017](#), para. 4.1).

The Meeting is invited to inform on any updates on this issue.

#### **5. On-line decision support tool**

The Meeting is invited to consider a proposal for the improvement of the online JHP decision support tool to be conducted in the frame of the COMPLETE project (document to be submitted later).

#### **6. Target Species**

The Meeting is invited to inform on any updates on this issue.

The Meeting is invited to discuss cooperation on updating the target species lists between HELCOM and OSPAR.

#### **7. Open Issues**

The Meeting is invited to discuss issues in the Task Group [Terms of Reference](#) that are not covered by the Joint Harmonized Procedure.

Denmark and Sweden may wish to inform on the results of the jointly conducted project 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 ([Outcome of HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST 8-2017](#), para. 7.1).

Denmark may wish to inform on the outcome of the project workshop on biological modelling held in May 2018.

#### **8. Any other business**

OSPAR EIHA 2018 agreed that the issue of hull fouling should be provisionally added to the terms of reference of the HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST, subject to agreement by HELCOM Maritime, and that the Netherlands should present a document on this issue to the next TG BALLAST meeting, if the change to the ToR was agreed. Subsequently, HELCOM MARITIME 18-2018 considered the proposal to add hull fouling of recreational vessels to the ToR. While some support was expressed to the proposal, concern was also raised by the meeting due to the limited timeline (2017-2020) and scope of the current ToR, and the possible need to enhance the ToR more than just including biofouling of recreational vessels. Following discussion, the meeting agreed that the matter should be considered further at TG BALLAST 9-2018 before the matter could be submitted to HELCOM HOD 56-2019 for approval. The meeting further encouraged submission of documents on the matter to TG BALLAST 9-2018 under "Any other business".

The Meeting is invited to consider and discuss further details on biofouling of recreational vessels based on input by the Netherlands.

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 may wish to consider any other matters raised by the delegations and observers at the Meeting.

**9. Work plan and future meetings**

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**

The Meeting will be provided with draft Outcome of the Meeting for adoption.