



Document title	MSP-related topics in the work of SAFE NAV, MARITIME and FISH Groups
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Background

HELCOM HOD 54-2018 emphasized the need of closer communication and cooperation between HELCOM groups. Maritime Spatial Planning is an example of cross-sectoral activity incorporating information from various knowledge spheres and sectors of economic activities. HELCOM-VASAB MSP group regularly indicates the need in close cooperation with other HELCOM work groups aiming at full utilization of the group's expertise in the work towards goals set by the Regional Baltic Maritime Spatial Planning Roadmap (2013-2020).

Meetings of HELCOM SAFE NAV, MARITIME and FISH WGs have taken place since the last MSP WG meeting in May 2018. Large amount of cross-cutting issues were considered at the meetings. Some of them found reflection in the updated work plan of the Maritime group for 2018-2020.

The document contains extraction of the outcomes of these meetings concerning MSP-related issues. It also contains an extract from the draft of Maritime group's work plan.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of and reflect on the outcomes of the meetings with regard to accounting them for MSP work.

MSP-related topics in the work of SAFE NAV, MARITIME and FISH Groups

Outcome of SAFE NAV 9-2018 (7 September 2018)

7.1 The Meeting took note of the Baltic LINes project findings with regard to coherent planning of ship corridors in Maritime Spatial Planning (document 7-1) and encouraged the Contracting Parties and Observers to provide comments, as necessary at HELCOM MARITIME 18-2018.

Outcome of MARITIME 18-2018 (25-27 September 2018)

HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG

2.22 The Meeting took note of the information submitted by Germany on Baltic the LINes project - Coherent planning of ship corridors in MSP (document 2-4, **presentation 2**). The Meeting took note that there are three deliverables at their final stage of drafting which present the results from project meetings, expert interviews and stakeholder consultation and which are open for commenting: (i) identification of planning mismatches and their origins in the Baltic Sea; (ii) assessment of national approaches in MSP and (iii) suggestion of a step-wise approach for the planning of ship corridors in MSP.

2.23 The Meeting took note that Russia actively participates in the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG. However, there are no federal laws in place on MSP, the responsible party on this matter is the Russian Federation Ministry of Economic Development.

2.24 The Meeting took note of the views by Finland that MSP should be coherent across borders, which is also the main reasoning behind the EU Directive on MSP. Finland welcomed the outputs of the Baltic LINes project, especially the three deliverables provided and emphasized the importance of making them available to the relevant authorities in all Baltic Sea countries.

Draft Work Plan for the HELCOM Maritime Working Group 2018-2020 (Annex 6)

ACTION	INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES/ RESPONSIBLE	RESULTS/TIME FRAME
Contribute to HELCOM Maritime Spatial Planning work with maritime input	HELCOM - VASAB MSP WG HELCOM Secretariat HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous

Outcome of FISH 8-2018 (23-24 May 2018)

Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from HELCOM work of relevance of the group

2.13 The Meeting took note of document 2-9 containing information regional maritime spatial planning (MSP) work related to fish and fisheries, in particular work of recent sessions of the HELCOM VASAB MSP WG.

2.14 The Meeting noted that document 2-8, containing a proposal for practical cooperation between HELCOM Fish group and the HELCOM-VASAB MSP working group, was submitted after the established deadline as it was based on the outcome of HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 16-2018 held from 8 to 9 May 2018, and agreed to discuss it.

2.15 The Meeting expressed unanimous support for the proposal for cooperation between the HELCOM Fish group and the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG in principle. However, it was agreed that a more detailed consideration about the exact means of cooperation, as well as possible resource implications, should take place at a later stage.

2.16 In addition, the Meeting noted comments that it would be useful to share information about how national cooperation regarding fisheries and MSP work is organized in the different Contracting Parties

and that the cooperation should focus on creating added value while duplication of efforts should be avoided.

2.17 The Meeting noted the comment by Denmark that much effort is put into producing relevant fish data layers for the MSP process. Data sources are VMS, AIS, logbook data etc.

2.18 The Meeting considered the indicative timetable for cooperation between HELCOM/VASAB MSP WG, HELCOM S&C WG and the Pan Baltic Scope project, and expressed interest in the “Joint workshop on sharing results of projects / national experiences on concepts such as Green Infrastructure to link MSP and MPAs / EBA at Pan Baltic Scope, HELCOM/VASAB MSP WG and HELCOM State and Conservation”, planned for December 2018.

2.19 In this regard, the Meeting expressed willingness to contribute to the development of the agenda for the workshop and instructed the Secretariat to contact Latvia, leading this activity within the Pan Baltic Scope project, to aim at circulating the draft agenda for the workshop to the Fish group contacts for possible input.

2.20 The Meeting also invited the Contracting Parties and observers to attend the workshop in December 2018.

2.21 In the spirit of cooperation with regard to MSP matters, the Meeting agreed to invite a chair of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG to attend the next Meeting of the Fish group.

2.22 The Meeting noted information provided by Sweden regarding the international consultation on a maritime spatial plan in Sweden which will take place 15 June-15 September 2018. Information about the consultation on the plan will be posted on this SWAM website on 1 June. As part of the international consultation Sweden will invite planning authorities from neighbouring countries to a meeting on 19 June 2018 at the World Maritime University in Malmö, Sweden. Participants interested in attending the meeting were encouraged to contact their national MSP authorities in their respective countries. Sweden also agreed to provide further information upon request, to those interested in the meeting.

Agenda Item 3 Closer regional cooperation on Fisheries & Environment

3.5 The Meeting recalled that FISH 7-2017 had agreed to task the Secretariat to on a regular basis share information on HELCOM Fish work plans, provisional agendas of meetings, outcome documents including main recommendations and decisions, with the BALTFISH Chair and had suggested further that fisheries and MSP-related information, considered within the Contracting Parties or the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG should be included.

3.8 The Meeting took note of the second meeting of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Sustainable Development Goals (document 3-2), as presented by the Secretariat. Experiences from the Baltic Sea region regarding cross-sectorial cooperation in maritime spatial planning and maritime activities were presented at the event by the Secretariat.