



12 July 2019

To: HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG nominated representatives  
Observers of HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG

cc: HELCOM Heads of Delegation  
Contact Addresses of VASAB CSPD/BSR  
Contact Addresses of HELCOM State & Conservation group and Maritime group  
Observers of HELCOM State & Conservation group and Maritime group

Dear Madam/Sir,

We have the pleasure to invite the HELCOM Contracting Parties and VASAB Member Countries as well as the Observer organizations to the 19th Meeting of the joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 19-2019). The Meeting will be held in St Petersburg, Russia, on 28-29 October 2019, upon the invitation by SC "Mineral", national coordinator of HELCOM activities in the NW region of Russian, acting on behalf the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation and upon the joint invitation by HELCOM and VASAB.

The HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 19-2019 will be opened on **Monday, 28 October 2019 at 12:00** in hotel "Park Inn by Radisson Pribaltiyskaya Hotel and Congress Centre" (14 Korablestroiteley str., St. Petersburg) and is expected to end on **Tuesday, 29 October 2019 at 16:00**. The Meeting will be chaired jointly by the Working Group Co-Chairs Mr. Joacim Johannesson, Sweden, and Ms. Katarzyna Krzywda, Poland.

The Meeting will be focussed on the discussion on proposals to advance regional MSP framework based on the outcomes of the recent assessment, requirements to ensure coherence of MSP in the region, reflection of MSP in the updated BSAP as well as the update of the group's working plan expiring this year.

The meeting will be held in the frame of **the XVIII Annual Strategic Planning Leaders Forum of the regions and cities of Russia** and participants are invited to attend the Forum events.

Documents for the Meeting will be made available on the [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 19-2019 Meeting Site](#) in the HELCOM Meeting Portal. Please note that you need to be a registered user with relevant rights to access the *restricted* meeting documents. Instructions for the use of the Meeting Portal are available on the [HELCOM website](#). Participants of the Meeting are kindly requested to register to the Meeting by answering the [Participation Survey](#) not later than **by 19 October 2019**.

In accordance with the agreement by HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 6-2013 (Outcome, paragraph 1.2), the Contracting Parties/Member Countries as well as Observers are requested to submit substantial documents requiring a decision or action to the Secretariats ([dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi](mailto:dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi), [florent.nicolas@helcom.fi](mailto:florent.nicolas@helcom.fi) and [info@vasab.org](mailto:info@vasab.org)) **by 30 September 2019** and information documents **by 14 October 2019**. Practical information, including information regarding visa support and document template are available on the [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 19-2019 Meeting Site](#).

Yours sincerely,

Monika Stankiewicz  
HELCOM Executive Secretary

Alda Nikodemusa  
VASAB Head of Secretariat