



## Outcome of the Intersessional meeting of the joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 21A-2021)

### Table of Contents

Introduction .....	2
Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda .....	2
Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from other HELCOM and VASAB work .....	2
Agenda Item 3 Draft of the MSP Roadmap.....	2
Agenda Item 4 MSPs coherence .....	3
Agenda Item 5 Any other business .....	3
Agenda Item 6 Outcome of the Meeting .....	3
Annex 1 List of Participants .....	4

## Outcome of the Intersessional meeting of the joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 21A-2021)

### Introduction

0.1 The Intersessional Meeting of the joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 21A-2021) was held on Wednesday 3 February 2021. Due to COVID-19 circumstances the Meeting took place online.

0.2 The Meeting was attended by representatives of all Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention and VASAB members except from Lithuania. HELCOM observers were represented by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), The Coastal & Marine Union (EUCC) and the World WideFund for Nature (WWF). The Meeting was also attended by invited guests from the EU MSP Assistance Mechanism and the Finnish Environment Institute. The list of Participants is contained in **Annex 1**.

0.3 The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Joacim Johannesson, co-Chair of the Working Group, Sweden; and Mr. Kai Trümppler, vice co-Chair of the Working Group, Germany.

0.4 The Co-Chairs opened the Meeting and welcomed the participants.

0.5 Mr. Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky, Professional Secretary of HELCOM, assisted by Mr. Florent Nicolas, HELCOM Secretariat, acted as Secretaries of the Meeting.

### **Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda**

1.1 The Meeting adopted the Agenda elaborated by the HELCOM and VASAB Secretariats and based on the [Outcome](#) of HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 21-2020 (cf. para 3.30).

### **Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from other HELCOM and VASAB work**

2.1 The Meeting took note of the information on the recent VASAB work as described in the [document 2.1](#). The update of the VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region will be commenced, therefore the Working Group in its future Meetings will be introduced with intended LTP-update process, as well as invited to contribute to it.

2.2 The Meeting took note of the information from the HELCOM Secretariat on the progress in the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) update and the setup of further work towards the approval of the actions by HOD 60-2021 in June 2021.

2.3 The Meeting took note that Germany is concerned about one action proposed for the biodiversity segment of the updated BSAP which has spatial implication and invites to discuss it at a HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG meeting. The Meeting in general highlighted the importance of following the BSAP update process.

### **Agenda Item 3 Draft of the MSP Roadmap**

3.1 The Meeting took note of the information on the progress achieved by the drafting group for Regional MSP Roadmap (cf. [document 3-1](#)) and that the aim of this meeting is to finalize the draft Roadmap for submission to HELCOM 42-2021 (17 March 2021) and VASAB CSPD/BSR (6-7 May 2021).

3.2 The Meeting scrutinized the draft of the Regional MSP Roadmap by going through each objective and action.

3.3 The Meeting discussed the use of sub-headers in the roadmap and agreed that they might be of help for better arrangements of actions under some objectives but not relevant for others. The Meeting

requested the HELCOM Secretariat to proofread the document and correct the numbering of actions before the submission to HELCOM 42-2021 and VASAB CSPD/BSR.

3.4 The Meeting agreed that clarifications from Russia on the last part of the action 3.3 containing reference to the EU Biodiversity strategy will be sent to the HELCOM Secretariat (florent.nicolas@helcom.fi) by 20 February 2021.

3.5 The Meeting discussed the topic of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in the Roadmap and highlighted the needs of working with experts on SEA framework. The Meeting agreed that the Working Group should cooperate with relevant experts to work on this topic to involve necessary expertise.

3.6 The Meeting agreed to make a reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the objective 4 of the draft Roadmap.

3.7 The Meeting took note of the information that spatial data on climate change impacts on the Baltic Sea ecosystems will likely not be made available by HOLAS III. Nonetheless, the Meeting concluded that to some extent such maps might be available through other regional and national initiatives.

3.8 The Meeting took note of the initial proposal of the Roadmap follow-up (cf. [document 3-2](#)) and that the themes presented in the interim assessment are provisional.

3.9 The Meeting discussed the structure of the Roadmap follow-up and agreed with the proposed step by step approach. The Meeting also discussed that the years mentioned in the document mean that the actions of the follow-up would be ready by these times. The Meeting agreed that the interim assessment will be performed in 2024-2025 which better fit to the schedule of the Working Group (i.e. workplan, etc.).

3.10 The Meeting agreed that the draft Roadmap can be submitted to HELCOM 42-2021 and VASAB CSPD/BSR as given in the [Attachment 1](#) of this Outcome.

#### **Agenda Item 4      MSPs coherence**

4.1 The Meeting took note of the information on the draft report of the cross-border coherence task force (cf. [document 4-1](#)).

4.2 The Meeting discussed that identifying dynamic components that are relevant at a cross-border scale, such as fish stocks or sea ice, would be valuable examples of the needs of cross-border coherence.

4.3 The Meeting discussed the nature of this final document and the Meeting agreed that it would be a supporting tool such as a checklist to evaluate cross-border coherence. A practical checklist should be very simple to make it easily usable by the countries.

4.4 The Meeting discussed that in terms of structure of the document, the checklist could be separated from the introduction. The Meeting also discussed that the introduction could be shorter.

4.5 The Meeting agreed that the task force will continue to work on this report.

#### **Agenda Item 5      Any other business**

5.1 The Meeting warmly thanked the co-Chair of the group Katarzyna Krzywda for her personal contribution to the development of the cooperation on MSP in the Baltic Sea region and strengthening of the Working Group and wished her all success at her new position.

#### **Agenda Item 6      Outcome of the Meeting**

6.1 The Meeting adopted the Outcome.

## Annex 1 List of Participants

Representing	Name	Organization	E-mail address
<b>Chair</b>	Joacim Johannesson	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	<a href="mailto:joacim.johannesson@havochvatten.se">joacim.johannesson@havochvatten.se</a>
<b>Vice co-Chair</b>	Kai Trümpfer	Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH)	<a href="mailto:kai.truempler@bsh.de">kai.truempler@bsh.de</a>
<b>Contracting Parties</b>			
<b>Denmark</b>	Anders Boe-Hansen	Danish Maritime Authority	<a href="mailto:abh@dma.dk">abh@dma.dk</a>
Denmark	Liv Lindhardt Frandsen	Danish Maritime Authority	<a href="mailto:lifra@dma.dk">lifra@dma.dk</a>
<b>Estonia</b>	Triin Lepland	Estonian Ministry of Finance	<a href="mailto:triin.lepland@fin.ee">triin.lepland@fin.ee</a>
<b>European Union</b>	Guido Schwarz	European Commission, DG Mare	<a href="mailto:guido.schwarz@ec.europa.eu">guido.schwarz@ec.europa.eu</a>
<b>Finland</b>	Penina Blankett	Ministry of the Environment	<a href="mailto:penina.blankett@ym.fi">penina.blankett@ym.fi</a>
<b>Germany</b>	Gerold Janssen	Federal Agency of Nature Conservation	<a href="mailto:g.janssen@ioer.de">g.janssen@ioer.de</a>
Germany	Bettina Käppeler	Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH)	<a href="mailto:bettina.kaeppler@bsh.de">bettina.kaeppler@bsh.de</a>
Germany	Marius Werner	Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde	<a href="mailto:m.werner@ioer.de">m.werner@ioer.de</a>
<b>Poland</b>	Natalia Zajac	Ministry of Infrastructure	<a href="mailto:natalia.zajac@mi.gov.pl">natalia.zajac@mi.gov.pl</a>
Poland	Joanna Adamowicz	General Directorate for Environmental Protection	<a href="mailto:joanna.adamowicz@gdos.gov.pl">joanna.adamowicz@gdos.gov.pl</a>
<b>Sweden</b>	Jan Schmidtbauer Crona	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	<a href="mailto:jan.schmidtbauer.crona@havochvatten.se">jan.schmidtbauer.crona@havochvatten.se</a>
<b>Russia</b>	Andrey Lappo	Institute of Maritime Spatial Planning Ermak Northwest, Saint-Petersburg	<a href="mailto:a.lappo@mail.ru">a.lappo@mail.ru</a>
Russia	Larisa Danilova	Institute of Maritime Spatial Planning Ermak Northwest, Saint-Petersburg	<a href="mailto:lorhend@mail.ru">lorhend@mail.ru</a>
<b>Observers</b>			
<b>International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)</b>	Julie Kellner	ICES	<a href="mailto:julie.kellner@ices.dk">julie.kellner@ices.dk</a>
<b>The Coastal Union Germany (EUCC)</b>	Franziska Stoll	EUCC	<a href="mailto:stoll@eucc-d.de">stoll@eucc-d.de</a>
<b>World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)</b>	Valerie de Liedekerke de Pailhe	WWF Sweden	<a href="mailto:valerie.deliedekerke@wwf.se">valerie.deliedekerke@wwf.se</a>
<b>Invited guests</b>			
<b>EU MSP Assistance Mechanism</b>	Kristina Veidemane	Baltic Environmental Forum	<a href="mailto:kristina.veidemanef@bef.lv">kristina.veidemanef@bef.lv</a>

---

Representing	Name	Organization	E-mail address
Finland	Riku Varjopuro	Finnish Environment Institute	<a href="mailto:riku.varjopuro@syke.fi">riku.varjopuro@syke.fi</a>
<b>HELCOM Secretariat</b>			
HELCOM	Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky	HELCOM Secretariat	<a href="mailto:dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi">dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi</a>
HELCOM	Florent Nicolas	HELCOM Secretariat	<a href="mailto:florent.nicolas@helcom.fi">florent.nicolas@helcom.fi</a>
<b>VASAB Secretariat</b>			
VASAB	Alda Nikodemusa	VASAB Secretariat	<a href="mailto:alda.nikodemusa@vasab.org">alda.nikodemusa@vasab.org</a>
VASAB	Elina Veidemane	VASAB Secretariat	<a href="mailto:elina.veidemane@vasab.org">elina.veidemane@vasab.org</a>
VASAB	Liene Gaujeniete	VASAB Secretariat	<a href="mailto:liene.gaujeniete@vasab.org">liene.gaujeniete@vasab.org</a>