



19 February 2021

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

cc: HELCOM Heads of Delegation
HELCOM Chairs and vice-Chairs
Contact Addresses of HELCOM State & Conservation group and Maritime group
Observers of HELCOM State & Conservation group and Maritime group

Dear Colleagues,

We have the pleasure to invite the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention and VASAB Member Countries as well as the Observer organizations to the 22nd Meeting of the joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 22-2021). Considering the developments on COVID-19, the Meeting will be held online, on **20-21 April 2021**, upon this joint invitation by HELCOM and VASAB.

HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 22-2021 will be opened on **Tuesday 20 April 2021** at **10:00 EEST** (09:00 CEST) and is expected to end **Wednesday 21 April 2021** at **16:00 EEST** (15:00 CEST).

The Meeting will be focused on the finalizing of the new Regional MSP Roadmap in connection with the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) as well as the update process of the VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region (LTP). Among other questions the Meeting will also consider the development of the regional framework for MSP including a proposal on criteria for MSP coherence, the linkage between climate change and MSP, data related to MSP and the coordination of the EURSBSR Policy Area on Spatial Planning.

Documents for the Meeting will be made available on the [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 22-2021 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 Friday 16 April 2021**. As the Meeting will be held online, technical information will be only communicated to the registered participants at a later stage.

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, florent.nicolas@helcom.fi and info@vasab.org) **by 22 March 2021** and information documents **by 5 April 2021**. The document template to submit a meeting document is available on [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 22-2021 Meeting Site](#).

Yours sincerely,

Rüdiger Stempel
HELCOM Executive Secretary

Alda Nikodemusa
VASAB Head of Secretariat