



Document title	Conservation of harbour porpoise and offshore windfarms planning
Code	5-2
Category	CMNT
Agenda Item	5 - Intergovernmental cooperation and follow up progress in regional MSP
Submission date	15.10.2021
Submitted by	HELCOM Secretariat
Reference	Outcome of EG MAMA 14-2021

Background

The HELCOM Expert Group on Marine Mammals (EG MAMA) consists of marine mammal experts, scientists, and managers from the Contracting Parties around the Baltic Sea. Representatives of hunting associations as well as the fisheries sector are observers to this Expert Group and are invited to the meetings in order to improve dialogue related to protection and management of marine mammals. EG MAMA is under the STATE & CONSERVATION Group.

The 14th meeting of the HELCOM Expert Group on Marine Mammals (EG MAMA 14-2020) was held on 22-24 September 2020. The Meeting discussed the importance of cooperation between countries with regard to the presented planning of wind farms in the direct vicinity of MPAs, and how to ensure that the needs of harbour porpoise are accounted for in planning.

EG MAMA 14-2020 also supported the suggestion to take up the issues in spatial conservation of harbour porpoises and the planning of windfarms with the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG ([Outcome](#), paras 4.13 & 4.14).

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to share national experience on how the spatial aspect of the conservation of harbour porpoise is taken into account when planning offshore wind farms.