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| Document title | A proposal for HELCOM Project on Maritime Assessment |
| Code | 4-23 |
| Category | DEC |
| Agenda Item | 4 – Matters arising from the HELCOM Groups |
| Submission date | 20.11.2015 |
| Submitted by | Executive Secretary |
| Reference | |

Background

The Contracting Parties agreed as part of the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration to comprehensively assess the status, environmental risks and opportunities of maritime activities in the Baltic Sea region within HELCOM by 2016. HELCOM MARITIME 13-2013 considered and approved the work plan and the outline in general for a HELCOM Assessment on Maritime Activities with some additional suggestions. HELCOM RESPONSE 18-2014 took note of the outline and highlighted that it would be useful to provide information on response related matters including oil and chemical transportations.

However, due to lack of funding the Secretariat has not been in the position to start developing the assessment in the originally agreed timeframe in 2014. In 2015 background work could start with the help of related analyses of ship traffic data based on the HELCOM AIS network. These developments have enabled to start the development of the maritime assessment but successful completion by 2016 requires additional resources in the form of a project.

Action required

The Meeting is invited to

- consider approving the attached project proposal for a HELCOM project on Maritime Assessment
- take note of the outline of the Maritime Assessment included as **Attachment 1**.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (PROJECT NO. XX)**[Draft] HELCOM project on the assessment of maritime activities in the Baltic Sea****1. Title of Project: Assessment of Maritime Activities in the Baltic Sea****2. Project Chair:****Project coordinator: Maritime Professional Secretary****3. Proposing Party:**

Contracting Party: _____

Commission: _____

Subsidiary body: _____

Heads of Delegation: _____

Executive Secretary: X _____

4. The body supervising the Project: HELCOM MARITIME**5. Background, targets and activities**

a) Background

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A revised outline with some indicative content of the maritime assessment, based on the original 2013-2014 input and other more recent developments, can be found as **Attachment 1**.

The aim is a concise document relying mainly on figures and maps, less on text. Possible publishing format is online pdf with a summary brochure in printed form. In addition, an online data visualisation tool as part of the assessment could be considered for exploring statistics generated from the AIS dataset.

Maritime Assessment will provide input to HOLAS II, including with regard to information on human activities at sea.

b) Targets for the MARAS project

The project will enable supporting the production of the HELCOM Maritime Assessment 2016 via contracting experts as well as production of a summary brochure of the main contents.

The specific expertise and issues where project support is needed will be selected according to need but likely include traffic statistics, shipping accidents, submerged hazardous objects, interactive online visualisation of compiled data as well as lay-out and printing costs of a summary/brochure.

The HELCOM Maritime Assessment 2016 will include the following tangible products which will be supported according to the emerging needs during 2016:

1. Assessment datasets

The maritime assessment will rely heavily on statistics, figures and maps and less on text. A key source of this information is the AIS data on ship movements collected in the region during 2005-2015. Due to this, one of the most work-intensive part of the assessment will be on compilation of reliable datasets.

2. Assessment main publication

The main assessment document will cover all maritime activities and uses of the sea. The main focus will be on the developments during the period 2005-15.

3. Assessment executive summary/brochure

In addition to the main assessment document the aim is to produce a summary publication which will be printed. This publication will try to crystallise the messages emerging from the main document in easily understandable format.

4. Assessment online dimension

The assessment will be based on comprehensive datasets which would benefit from interactive visualization and display.

c) Activities and outline of work

During spring 2016 the project will focus on compiling the needed datasets and writing initial drafts, during summer-early autumn the focus will be on writing and adjusting the draft with comments from the Contracting Parties.

A mature draft is aimed to be submitted for the MARITIME meeting to take place in autumn 2016 and, after possible intersessional work and consultations, to HOD December 2016 for final publishing approval. The publication will be finalised and lay-outed after the HOD in December 2016 and thus be available during early spring 2017.

d) Project management

The project will be managed and implemented by the Secretariat. The Maritime Professional Secretary will coordinate implementation.

6. Expected results

According to targets.

7. Consistency with HELCOM priorities

X yes ___ no

8. Timetable

The project will be carried during the period January 2016-January 2017.

9. Budget

Budget is tentative and depending on employment arrangements i.e. project employment at the HELCOM Secretariat or engagement of experts.

9.1. Total cost:

45.000 Euro

9.2. Costs divided per financial year (Euro):

| | 15/16 | 16/17 | Total cost |
|--|-------|-------|--------------|
| Experts&interactive visualization | 20000 | 20000 | 40000 |
| Lay out& print of summary extract publication | 0 | 5000 | 5000 |
| Total cost | 20000 | 25000 | 45000 |

9.3. Sources of financing divided per financial year (Euro):

Financing to be provided from the HELCOM budget.

10. Additional requests (manpower, equipment, facilities, etc.)

10.1 From the Contracting Parties

All Contracting Parties are requested to provide and check data, review assessment publication according to their possibilities

10.2 From the Secretariat

Parts of the work fall under the regular mandate of the Secretariat.

11. Organization of Project

The HELCOM Maritime and RESPONSE Group Contacts and Observers will be the main contact lists for project implementation and consultation. The FISH Group will be consulted regarding Aquaculture and Fisheries.

Project Coordinator will be MARITIME Professional Secretary (as part of regular duties)

HELCOM Risk Assessment Procedure is to be observed.

12. Signature of the Project Coordinator

[tbc]

13. Opinion of the Chairs of the relevant body

[tbc]

14. Opinion of the Executive Secretary

Executive Secretary supports the project

15. Decision of the Heads of Delegation

Attachment 1: Outline of HELCOM Maritime Assessment