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This note has been prepared by the Secretariat.

## HELCOM Note to First version of the 'State of the Baltic Sea' report, June 2017 - to be updated by June 2018

This report contains the first results of the 'State of the Baltic Sea report', presenting the assessment of status, pressures and impacts on the Baltic Sea marine environment as well social and economic analysis of the use of marine waters and costs of degradation. The report has been prepared by HELCOM during 2015-2017, and covers the period 2011-2015.

By June 2018, the report will be further updated and a finalized version of the report will be published in June 2018. In that process a number of revisions and improvement are planned including addition of new and complementary data, in particular for the year 2016, extending the assessment period to 2011-2016.

During the preparation of the report, a number of additions and improvement to the report have also been identified as desired by the Contracting Parties, HELCOM working groups and experts, but have not been feasible to fully implement and accommodate in this first version of the report. The identified remaining issues have been specified and noted (e.g. a non-exhaustive list of additional improvement at HOD 52-2017 based on the input by State and Conservation 6-2017 and Gear 16-2017). In the updated report, HELCOM also aims to include a chapter on the conclusions and a future outlook, based on an analysis of the first results and on considerations within HELCOM, in particular in association to the upcoming HELCOM Ministerial Meeting on 6 March 2018.

HELCOM is carrying out a regional consultation of the first version of the 'State of the Baltic Sea' report, encouraging international and intergovernmental organizations to give feedback on the report. The report is also available for use by the HELCOM countries in national consultation. The comments received through the regional consultation will be considered concomitant with the updating of the report or material thereof.