



Document title	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda
Code	1-2
Category	CMNT
Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
Submission date	30.04.2019
Submitted by	Executive Secretary
Reference	Outcome of HOD 55-2018

The 56th Meeting of the Heads of Delegation will be held at the premises of the HELCOM Secretariat (Katajanokanlaituri 6 B) in Helsinki, Finland.

The Meeting will start on Tuesday, 18 June 2019 at 10.00 o'clock and will terminate on Wednesday, 19 June by 15.00 o'clock.

The Meeting will be opened by the Chair of the Helsinki Commission.

Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

The Meeting is invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda as contained in document 1-1.

Item 2 Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan

The Meeting is invited to take note of the progress on the BSAP update work plans and the adjustments made to the work plan based on the outcome of the kick-off meeting of the HELCOM SOM Platform (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to approve the approach to analyses of sufficiency of measures (SOM) (document to be submitted later) and to take note of the initial plans for topics to be covered under the SOM Platform (c.f. [GEAR 20-2019, document 5-7](#)).

The Meeting is invited to discuss further the segments and goals and the disposition of the Baltic Sea Action Plan and to take note of the work initiated by HELCOM Working Groups to review existing ecological objectives and to develop new ecological and management objectives (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to approve the reporting on HELCOM Recommendations completed so far by HELCOM Working Groups (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to discuss a target year for the updated BSAP.

HELCOM 40-2019 approved the proposal to develop a HELCOM science agenda, concomitantly with the update of the BSAP. The Meeting will be informed of the plan for developing a HELCOM science agenda and the work undertaken by the time of the Meeting.

The Meeting is invited to further consider HELCOM voluntary commitments to the next UN Ocean Conference in June 2020.

The Meeting is invited to consider and agree on the topics for the High-Level segment of HELCOM 41-2020 (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to discuss a suitable topic(s) for the HELCOM Stakeholder Conference to be organized on 3 March 2020 back-to-back with HELCOM 41-2020.

Item 3 Matters arising from the HELCOM Groups

As mandated by HELCOM 40-2019, the Meeting is invited to consider and adopt the revised HELCOM Recommendation 28E/13 on Introducing Economic Incentives as a Complement to Existing Regulations to Reduce Emissions from Ships.

The Meeting is invited to take note and consider the outcomes of the following Working Group meetings that have been held or will be held by the time of HOD 56-2019:

- Seventh Meeting of the HELCOM Group on Sustainable Agricultural Practices (AGRI 7-2019), 19-20 March 2019, St. Petersburg, Russia and a dedicated Meeting of the HELCOM Group on Sustainable Agricultural Practices (AGRI 7a-2019), 4 April 2019, online (document 3-1);
- 18th Meeting of the joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 18-2019), 27-28 March 2019, Hamburg, Germany (document 3-2);
- Tenth Meeting of the HELCOM Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area (PRESSURE 10-2019), 9-12 April 2019, Tallinn, Estonia (document 3-3);
- Tenth Meeting of the HELCOM Working Group on the State of the Environment and Nature Conservation (State & Conservation 10-2019), 6-10 May 2019, Hamina, Finland;
- 20th Meeting of the HELCOM Group for the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach (GEAR 20-2019), 15-17 May 2019, Berlin, Germany;
- 26th Meeting of the HELCOM Response Working Group (RESPONSE 26-2019), 3-5 June 2019, Warsaw, Poland.

The Meeting is invited to consider and endorse the draft vision and objectives for Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy (document to be submitted later).

Revision of the Annex III part 2 of the Helsinki Convention is one of the key tasks of the Work Plan of the Agri group. The principles and scope of the revision were agreed by HOD 53-2017. HOD 54-2018 decided to discuss a first draft of the revised Annex III part 2 in summer 2019. The Meeting is invited to discuss the progress report on the revision and a first draft of the revised Annex III part 2 and provide guidance for further revision work (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to approve principle 8 to be used for the reallocation of extra reductions of nutrient input to basins with missing reductions for the assessment of CART as agreed by PRESSURE 10-2019 (document 3-4).

The Meeting is invited to consider and support the proposed approach to the advancement of the HELCOM nutrient reduction scheme and its follow-up as elaborated on by PRESSURE 10-2019 (document to be submitted later).

PRESSURE 10-2019 considered the information on Hot Spot No. 67, Kaliningrad Wastewater Treatment Plant and on Hot Spot No. 69, the former pulp and paper mill "Cepruss", and decided to propose to HOD 56-2019 to delete the hot spots from the HELCOM hot spot list. The Meeting is invited to consider the proposals for the deletion of the hot spots and decide as appropriate (document to be submitted later).

Item 4 HELCOM institutional and organisational matters

HELCOM 40-2019 recognized that HELCOM budget has been in freeze since the financial year 2012-2013, including the HQ contribution, while at the same time inflation has resulted in increased costs of the operations of the HELCOM Secretariat and services provided to HELCOM. The meeting acknowledged the need to address this issue in a step-wise manner in the HELCOM budget and that there should be a longer-term budget framework developed.

HELCOM 40-2019 took note of the information by Finland that Finland initiated discussion with the Secretariat regarding the headquarter contribution in order to come up with a solution prior to HOD 56-2019.

As mandated by HELCOM 40-2019, the Meeting is invited to further discuss and decide on the budget proposal for the financial year 2020-2021 and a long-term budget framework, to be developed by the Secretariat based on the background document presented at HELCOM 40-2019 and taking into account the comments from the Contracting Parties (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to consider the draft vacancy announcement and timetable for the recruitment of a new Professional Secretary for the Pressure and Agri groups and the Maritime Spatial Planning working group (document to be submitted later) and decide as appropriate.

Item 5 Any other business

A list providing information on forthcoming meetings within HELCOM and other forums will be submitted to the Meeting.

The Contracting Parties and Observers might wish to discuss any other issues under this Agenda Item.

Item 6 Next meeting(s)

HOD 55-2018 decided on the dates for HOD 57-2019 tentatively for 10-11 December 2019. The Meeting is invited to confirm the date for HOD 57-2019 and set a tentative date for HOD 58-2020.

Item 7 Outcome of the Meeting

With reference to Rule 11.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Helsinki Commission, the Outcome of the Meeting, reflecting decisions taken will be prepared at the end of the Meeting and presented for consideration and adoption.