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| <b>Document title</b>  | Progress of work and revised work plan for the BSAP update |
| <b>Code</b>            | 2-1  |
| <b>Category</b>        | DEC  |
| <b>Agenda Item</b>     | 2- Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan                    |
| <b>Submission date</b> | 27.05.2019   |
| <b>Submitted by</b>    | Executive Secretary  |
| <b>Reference</b>       |  |

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## Background

HOD 55-2018 approved of the work plan for the update of the BSAP (para 3.39) noting that it will be updated by the Secretariat when additional agreements regarding the BSAP update are made.

This document includes information on the progress made on the BSAP update and Annex 1 includes a revised version of the work plan that takes into consideration recent developments such as the planned work under the *ad hoc* HELCOM SOM Platform. Attachment 1 to this document includes a version of the work plan with tracked changes for those who wish to follow the revisions.

Proposals from Working Group meetings related to the BSAP update that request an approval by HOD are also included in this document while outcome of intermediate character is reported in the outcome of the respective meeting.

## Action requested

The Meeting is invited to

- take note of the information and endorse the updated work plan as included in **Annex 1**,
- agree on the proposals from FISH- 9 2019 on the not yet accomplished HELCOM actions as outlined in **Annex 2**; A1.1. for joint actions, A1.2 for updated information on implementation of national actions,
- agree on the proposals from AGRI 7-2019 on the not yet accomplished HELCOM actions as outlined in **Annex 3**.

## Implementation of the strategic plan for the BSAP update

HELCOM working Groups initiated the implementation of the strategic plan for the BSAP update already in autumn 2018 and have continued to implement the work plan, agreed at HOD 55-2018, at spring meetings in 2019. According to the strategic plan, the BSAP update is still in the 'formulation phase' which is focused on evaluating the status of implementing the current BSAP and adjusting the BSAP structure (Figure 1). This work will continue throughout 2019 while the work is now also moving into the 'creating the content phase' which includes the analyses of sufficiency of existing measures to support identifying the need for new HELCOM actions. In 2020 the 'Renaissance phase' will be initiated which is the main phase for proposing new actions for the updated BSAP. The ongoing work is well in accordance with the strategic plans with some adjustment as outlined in the revised work plan (Annex 1).

### Three phases of the BSAP update

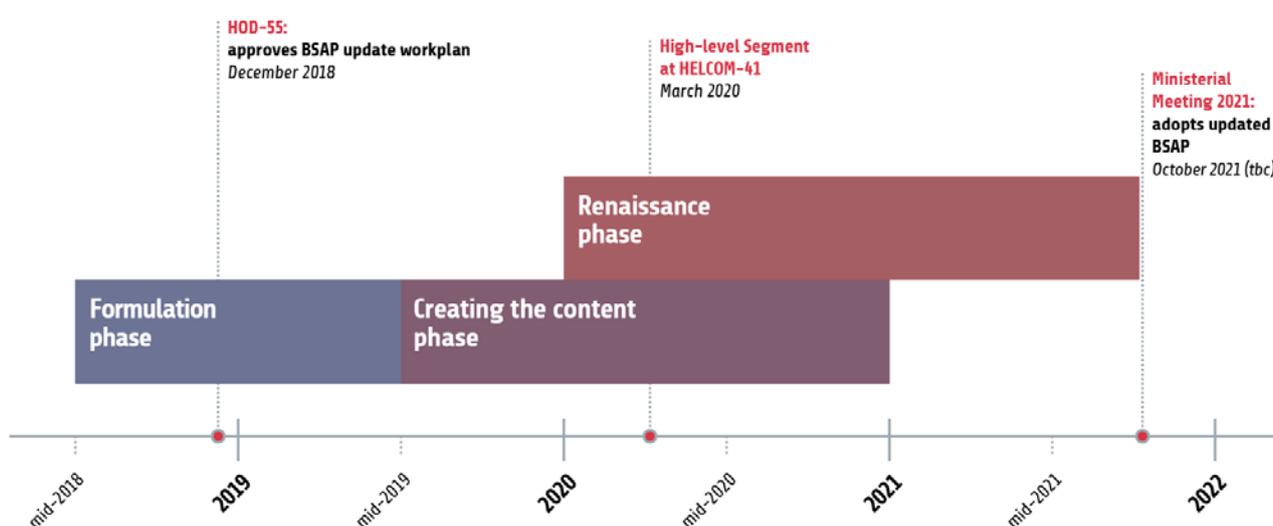


Figure 1. The three phases of the BSAP update according to the Strategic plan for the BSAP update, agreed at HOD 54-2018.

### 1) Progress on the work plan for the BSAP update

Activity 1:1. Discussion on reasons for not yet accomplishing BSAP actions (autumn 2018- mid 2020)

The review of existing HELCOM actions that are not fully implemented yet started at the autumn meetings of Working Groups in 2018 and has continued in 2019. With regard to the outcome of FISH 9-2019, which was held in January, and AGRI 7-2019 held in March this year, HOD is invited to agree on the proposals made with regard to not yet implemented HELCOM actions (Annex 2 and Annex 3). It can be noted that this corresponds to similar approvals made at HOD 55-2018 for meetings held in autumn 2018.

The activity has been extended to mid-2020 to also consider the tentative need to rephrase actions that may not be implemented by 2021 and thus will be transferred to the updated BSAP. This could include smaller changes such as adding a new target year for the action, but also more substantial changes to align the formulation of an action with recent developments in HELCOM.

The outcome of initial discussions is found in the Outcome of the respective Working Group meeting (documents 3-1 - Agenda item 3, 3.2 – Agenda item 2, 3-3 - Agenda item DS, 3-8 - Agenda item 8J, 3.10 - Agenda item 5) and for the Pressure Working Group also as the outcome of an intersessional online

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meeting held 21 May 2019 ([PRESSURE 10a-2019](#)). For remaining Working Groups these discussions will continue at upcoming meetings in 2019.

#### Activity 1:2. Preparing information for the Ministerial Meeting 2021 (spring 2019 - end 2020)

This activity entails the update and improvement of the data base and associated visualisation of status of implementation of HELCOM actions through the HELCOM Explorer. The Secretariat has started to prepare a plan for the revision of the data model behind the HELCOM Explorer which will also increase the possibility of visualization and extraction of customized information. The proposed outward content and visualization through the updated HELCOM Explorer will be presented to HOD in December 2019. As indicated in the work plan, Contracting Parties will be requested to report on the status of national actions in 2020 and the updated HELCOM Explorer will be finalized by end of 2020.

#### Activity 1:2. BSAP update Work Plan Overview (autumn 2018 – HOD 55-2018)

The first version of the work plan was adopted by HOD 55-2018. Annex 1 to this document includes an updated of the work plan based on development since the previous HOD meeting.

#### Activity 2:2. Adjustment to the overall structure of BSAP (autumn 2018 – early 2020)

HOD 55-2018 made a provisional agreement on the overarching structure of the updated BSAP, i.e. on the segments and goals of the updated BSAP and under which segments that new objectives on marine litter, underwater noise, and loss and disturbance to the seabed will be associated. The new objectives are currently being discussed and developed by HELCOM Working Groups.

To support a decision on the structure, tentative activities and pressures to be addressed under the respective segment have been outlined by the Secretariat and discussed by GEAR 20-2019. Document 2-4 includes the further elaboration on the 'BSAP structure' and a proposed outline for a BSAP segment.

HELCOM Working Groups have initiated proposals on new ecological and management objectives as contained in [Working Paper DS-WP1](#) from Pressure 10-2019 and [Working Paper 8J-WP1](#) from State & Conservation 10-2019. Guidance to further development of the objectives was provided by GEAR 10-2019 ([Outcome, Annex 5](#)). The discussions will continue at Working Group meetings in autumn 2019, including meetings of FISH 10-2019 and MARITIME 19-2019.

#### Activity 2:3. Status of implementation of the current measures and agreements (autumn 2018-mid-2019)

HOD 55-2018 agreed on the reporting of a sub-set of HELCOM Recommendations to support the BSAP update. The reporting of Recommendations completed so far is presented in a separate document with regard to recommendations under the Pressure, State and Conservation, and the Response Working Group (document to be submitted at a later stage). Further quality checks will take place at FISH 10 2019, MARITIME 19-2019.

#### Activity 2:4. Review of the current BSAP (early 2019- end 2019)

HELCOM Working Groups have initiated the review of actions from the HELCOM Ministerial Declaration 2018 and also looked into the possibility to re-address actions that were previously labelled as 'too general' to be included in the follow-up system of HELCOM actions. If the actions are evaluated as relevant for inclusion in the updated BSAP, the Working Groups will propose more concrete targets, e.g. to specify end

products or by when the actions should be implemented. Actions from this list that are not implemented by 2021 could be transferred to the updated BSAP.

#### Activity 2:5. Analysing sufficiency of measures to reach HELCOM objectives and targets

HELCOM SOM Platform held its kick-off meeting 27-28 February 2019 and developed a time-table for the planned analyses (work plan, Annex 1). The organization of the work for the SOM Platform has been further outlined and will be implemented as presented in document 2-2. Document 2-3 presents the approach for the SOM analyses for endorsement by HOD 56-2019. The next meeting of the HELCOM SOM Platform is planned for 16-17 September 2019.

#### Activity 2:6. Proposing new actions and improvement of the existing actions (end 2019- end 2020)

While this activity has not started yet there is an agreed format for the synopses on potential new actions and measures for the updated BSAP. HELCOM 40-2019 agreed that such synopses can be submitted by Contracting Parties, HELCOM subsidiary bodies, international projects, Observers. Such synopses will be prepared by end of 2019. The HELCOM ACTION project will also contribute to proposals on new HELCOM actions.

## 2) Linkages between activities to support the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan

Figure 2 illustrates how the activities outlined in the strategic plan, together with more specific activities under the SOM Platform are contributing to the decision on the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan.

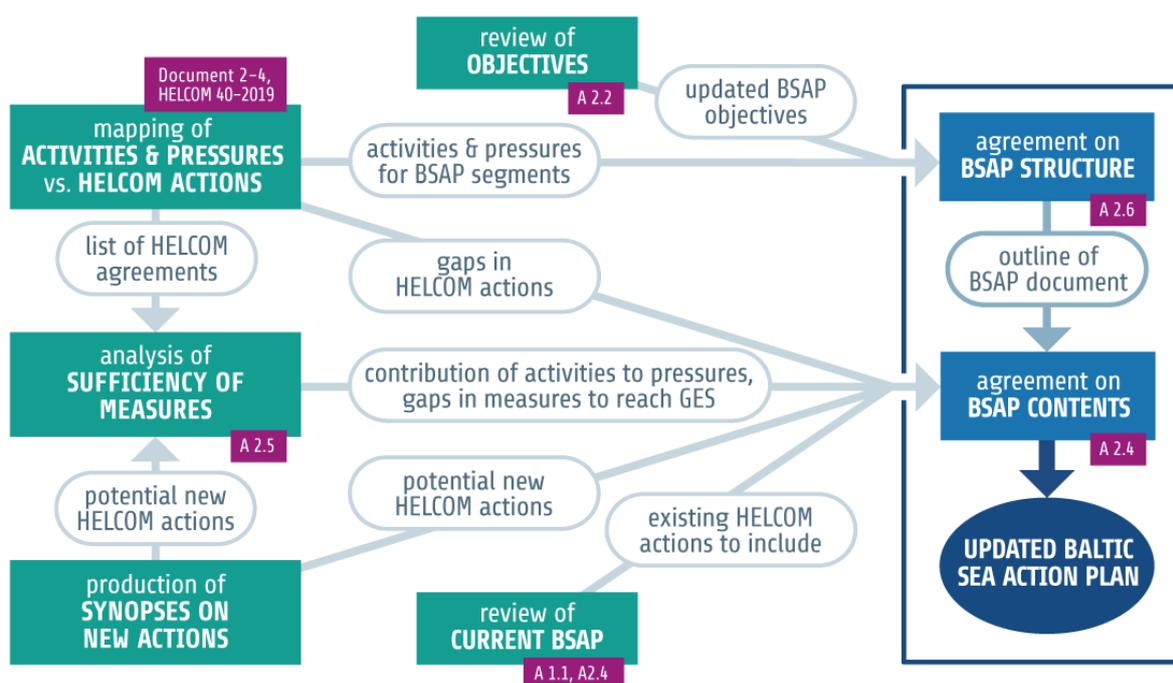


Figure 2. Ongoing activities that contributes directly to the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan.

#### Agreement on BSAP structure

The agreement on the structure of the updated BSAP is supported by the ongoing activity by HELCOM Working Groups to review, revise and propose new ecological objectives and management objectives. The agreement is furthermore supported by the mapping of activity and pressures that would be linked to the different segments updated BSAP as presented in document 2-4 of this Meeting.

### Agreement on the content of the updated BSAP

The activities and pressures of main concern is furthermore mapped against existing HELCOM agreements and actions. This work will contribute to identifying qualitative gaps in HELCOM actions, i.e. to identify areas of work where HELCOM is currently less active. A progress report on this mapping was presented to HELCOM 40-2019 ([HELCOM 40-2019, document 2-4](#)). The work will furthermore contribute to preparing a list of HELCOM actions and measures that will be used as an input to the analyses of sufficiency of measures.

The analyses of sufficiency of measures (SOM) will contribute to identifying gaps in measures to reach good environmental status. This analysis includes not only HELCOM actions but also relevant measures to improve the Baltic Sea environment agreed also under other policies. One step of the SOM work is to estimate the relative contribution of different activities to specific pressures. This analysis will indicate which activities that are of main concern in the Baltic Sea region and will in itself provide support for identifying how new actions and measures are best directed to improve the environmental status.

The planned synopses on potential new HELCOM actions and measures will contribute directly to the proposal on new HELCOM actions and will also provide input to the SOM analyses. Once new actions have been selected, tentatively in spring 2020, the SOM analyses will be re-run to include the new actions and thereby provide an estimate on how far they can contribute to reach good status.

The three activities mentioned above will provide supporting information for the agreement on new HELCOM actions for the updated BSAP. In addition, the ongoing work by HELCOM Working Groups to review the existing BSAP will identify a set of actions that will be transferred from the current to the updated BSAP, e.g. actions that are not fully implemented by 2021. The information will together provide the background material to agree on the content for the updated BSAP.

### 3) Milestones for consideration by Heads of Delegation

Figure 3 outlines when the output from HELCOM Working Groups will be considered by HELCOM Heads of Delegation and by when central decisions are planned. This includes inter alia a final proposal on segments and objectives of the updated BSAP by end of 2019, a full draft of the updated BSAP prepared by end of 2020, and the adoption of the BSAP by the Ministerial Meeting in 2021, tentatively in October. In 2021 further deliberations by Heads of Delegation on the updated BSAP are anticipated while no activities by HELCOM Working Groups have so far been scheduled in 2021.

**BSAP update timeline**

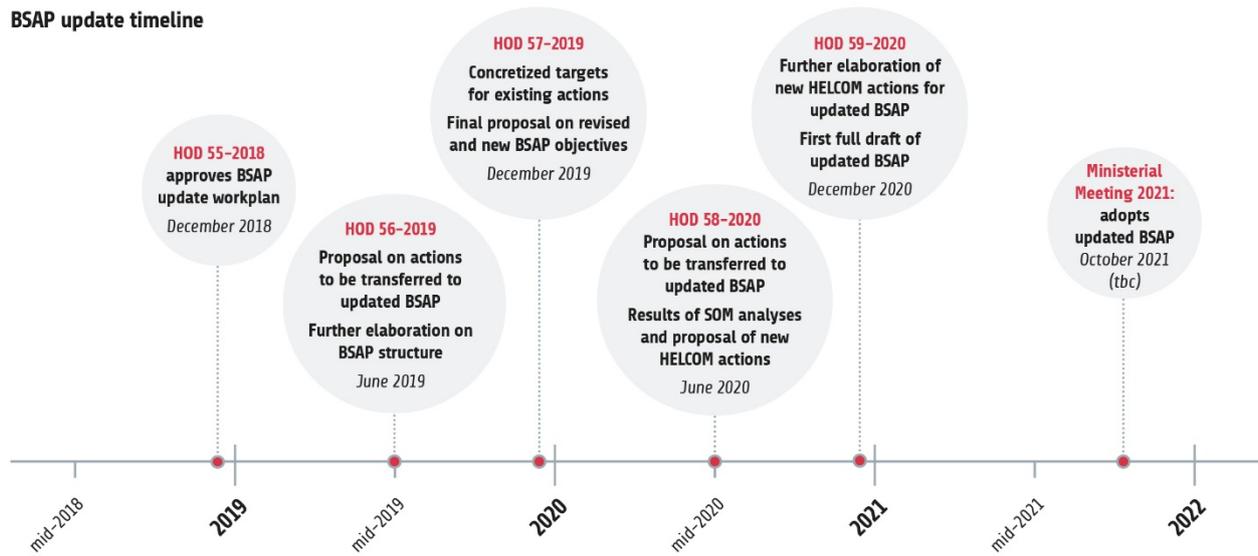


Figure 3. Milestones for consideration and decisions by Heads of Delegation.

## Annex 1. Updated work plan for the BSAP update

Submitted to HOD 56-2019. Significant changes since the work plan approved at HOD 55-2018 are indicated by *Add HOD 56-2019*. Already completed tasks are marked with a diagonal strike-out. A tracked change version is available as Attachment 1.

### Background

The Strategic plan for the BSAP update identifies the phases and activities in the BSAP update and the main responsible bodies. The Work plan for the BSAP update as contained in this document clarifies the timing and more detailed steps of activities from the Strategic Plan.

The work plan will be updated by the Secretariat as more agreements come in to place, e.g. timing workshop, timing of reporting by Contracting Parties, agreement on approaches etc.

The titles of activities refer to adopted activities of the Strategic plan for the BSAP update.

'Tasks' are short version of tasks adopted through Strategic plan for the BSAP update – for full text, see the Strategic plan.

'SOM Platform' refers to an ad hoc interdisciplinary platform on analyses of sufficiency of measures, as agreed by HOD 55-2018. This group would replace the 'Task Force' as agreed by HELCOM 39-2018 ([Outcome of HELCOM 39-2018](#), para 2.6).

Strike-out text denotes steps that have already been considered.

Tables at end of the work plan provides a timeline for involvement of HELCOM groups.

### Work plan

#### I. Strengthening the implementation of the BSAP by 2021

##### Activity 1:1. Discussion on reasons for not yet accomplishing BSAP actions (autumn 2018 - mid 2020)

| 2018 |    | 2019      |    |    |    | 2020 |    |    |    | 2021 |
|------|----|-----------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|
| 3Q   | 4Q | 1Q        | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   |
| /    | /  | As needed |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |

**Tasks according to the Strategic plan:** The working groups are requested to identify the reasons for lagging behind with the implementation of BSAP. For joint actions forward planning or stock taking to be carried out with the aim of accomplishing of the actions by 2021. The discussion aims at supporting the strengthening of efforts to implement BSAP by 2021 and beyond.

*Add HOD 56-2019:* The task has been extended to mid-2020 to also cover the need of rephrasing of actions that tentatively will be transferred to the updated BSAP. Such rephrasing may concern addition of a new target year but also more substantial rewrites to be in line with recent developments in HELCOM. The spring meetings of Working Groups 2019 have initiated this task. The aim is to have concrete proposal on tentatively rephrased actions ready for presentation at HOD in June 2020.

Autumn 2018

## Secretariat:

- Prepare compilation of not accomplished HELCOM actions for each WG autumn/spring\* meeting 2018 (\*end of full meeting cycle of HELCOM WGs is March 2019).

## Working Groups:

- Identify if some additional joint actions can be assessed as accomplished.
- Discuss if all 'not accomplished' actions are still valid. If actions are found redundant or no longer relevant they could be proposed for deletion.
- Propose how valid joint actions not yet accomplished can be fulfilled (e.g. type of process such as project or lead country approach, type of product e.g. guideline, assessment report etc., and proposed timeline – as a matter of priority by 2021 but otherwise as proposed by the WG).
- Initial discussion on reasons for not achieving national actions and what would be the most important national actions to achieve for improving the state of the Baltic Sea by 2021.

## HOD 55-2018:

- Consider compilation of proposals from autumn 2018 WG meetings.

Spring 2019

## Working Groups:

- Remaining Working Groups (Fish, Agri) to complete the request.
- Categorize actions not accomplished yet to identify need of rephrasing in case of transfer to the updated BSAP.

## HOD June 2019:

- Consider compilation of proposals on the implementation of existing actions from remaining WGs.

Autumn 2019

## Working Groups:

- Initiate rephrasing of existing actions as relevant

Spring 2020

## Working Groups:

- Proposal to HOD on actions to be transferred to updated BSAP

## HOD June 2020:

- Proposal on tentatively rephrasing of actions to be transferred to the updated BSAP

**Activity 1.2. Preparing information for the Ministerial Meeting 2021 (spring 2019 - end 2020)**

| 2018 |    | 2019 |    |    |    | 2020 |    |    |    | 2021 |
|------|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|
| 3Q   | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   |
|      |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |

**Tasks according to the Strategic plan:** Technical update of the HELCOM Explorer and organizing the reporting by CPs in 2020.

Autumn 2019

## Secretariat:

- Prepare a proposal for an overall update of the information in the BSAP follow-up system (HELCOM Explorer) and how to organize the reporting by CPs on national actions.

Autumn 2019

## GEAR:

- Review the proposed update to the BSAP follow-up system e.g. taking into account similar work CPs might have undertaken on national level.

## HOD Dec 2019:

- Agreement on update of the BSAP follow-up system, including on presentation of results.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Agreement on the scope of the reporting by Contracting Parties to the BSAP follow-up system (reporting to take place in 4Q of 2020).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><u>Spring 2020</u></p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prepare reporting forms for the BSAP follow-up on national actions.</li> <li>○ Implement technical solutions for update of the BSAP follow-up system (Jan-Sept).</li> </ul> <p>HOD June 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Preview of the reporting forms to the BSAP follow-up system.</li> </ul> |
| <p><u>Autumn 2020</u></p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Organize the reporting of the BSAP follow-up on national actions.</li> </ul> <p>Contracting Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reporting on the implementation of HELCOM national actions to the BSAP follow-up system (Oct-Dec 2020).</li> </ul>   |

## II. Mandate to update the BSAP

### Activity 2:1. BSAP update Work Plan Overview (autumn 2018 – HOD 55-2018)

| 2018 |    | 2019 |    |    |    | 2020 |    |    |    | 2021 |
|------|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|
| 3Q   | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   |
|      |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |

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| <p><b>Tasks according to the Strategic plan:</b> Development and agreement on the first version of this document.</p>   |
| <p><u>Autumn 2018</u></p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prepare work plan proposal by first WG meeting in autumn 2018: the work plan preparation will be advancing with time, leading to a first full draft at the GEAR meeting, which is just before HOD 55-2018, and utilizing input from WGs.</li> </ul> <p>Workings Groups (MARITIME 18-2018, PRESSURE 9 -2018, STATE&amp;CONSERVATION 9-2018, and GEAR 19-2018):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review draft proposal prepared by the Secretariat, and consider how to best arrange the work requested by the Working Group (e.g. through sessions during ordinary WGs meetings, workshops, intersessional activities etc.).</li> <li>○ Propose EGs and networks to be engaged in the work.</li> </ul> <p>HOD 55-2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Work plan proposal for agreement</li> </ul> |

**Activity 2.2. Adjustment to the overall structure of BSAP (autumn 2018 – early 2020)**

| 2018 |    | 2019 |    |    |    | 2020 |    |    |    | 2021 |
|------|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|
| 3Q   | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   |
|      |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |

**Tasks according to the Strategic plan:** a) create a nested system of the BSAP strategic goals and objectives mapped against the SDGs and other policy goals and objectives, b) reviewing the existing HELCOM ecological objectives and proposing possible amendments, to be carried out via working/expert groups, c) proposing new ecological objectives for marine litter, underwater noise and seabed damage and disturbance, to be carried out via working/expert groups, and d) identifying other possible additional issues of relevance to the overall BSAP structure.

Autumn 2018

## Secretariat:

- Prepare document with potential alignment/gaps of current BSAP structure with SDG goals, Aichi targets and MSFD descriptors.

## GEAR 19-2018:

- Provide feedback on a proposal on new BSAP segments and goals (and possible revision of existing ones).
- Guidance for Working Groups on possible new ecological objectives i.e. the narrative description of desired state (e.g. clear water) (level of detail, relation to other policies).

## HOD 55-2018:

- Proposal on new overarching structure (level of segments and goals) for agreement.

Spring 2019

## Working Groups:

- Intersessional preparatory step for the review of ecological objectives at spring meetings 2019
- Review and potentially propose revised and new ecological objectives at spring meetings 2019.

## GEAR 20-2019:

- Provide feedback on a proposal new BSAP structure based on mapping of activities and pressure to be considered under the segment

## HOD June 2019:

- Draft proposals on revised and new ecological objectives.
- Further consideration of structure of the updated BSAP

Autumn 2019

## Working Groups:

- Further elaboration of revised and new ecological objectives

## HOD Dec 2019:

- Endorsement of overall structure, including ecological objectives, of BSAP UP.

March 2020 (HELCOM Meeting)

- Adoption of overall structure of BSAP update at HELCOM 2020 (at High-level Segment of HELCOM).
- Stakeholder conference.

**Activity 2.3. Status of implementation of the current measures and agreements (autumn 2018 - mid-2019)**

| 2018 |    | 2019 |    |    |    | 2020 |    |    |    | 2021 |
|------|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|
| 3Q   | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   |
|      |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |

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| <p><b>Tasks according to the Strategic plan:</b> a) identifying HELCOM agreements, not covered by the current BSAP follow-up system, for which additional reporting by CPs will be needed, b) organizing additional reporting by CPs on main agreements - focusing on measures - not covered by the current BSAP follow up; [tentatively early 2019]; c) proposing a collection of information on other (than HELCOM) existing measures in the countries and their level of implementation-</p>  |
| <p><u>Autumn 2018</u></p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Make list/proposal of recommendations or other commitments, (e.g. part of the Convention) that could be reported by Contracting Parties to support the assessment of implementation of HELCOM agreements. Focus is primarily on recommendations related to measures.</li> <li>○ Arrange for reporting by Contracting Parties on recommendations and other relevant HELCOM commitments.</li> </ul> <p>Workings Groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identify other HELCOM commitments that could be relevant to support the assessment of HELCOM agreements, e.g. recommendations or part of the Convention. Meeting to agree on how the follow-up of the recommendation should be carried out e.g. questions, reporting forms, based on proposal by Secretariat.</li> </ul> |
| <p><u>Spring 2019 1Q</u></p> <p>Contracting Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reporting on recommendations and main agreements [via Working Groups or national contact point to be agreed]</li> </ul> <p>SOM Platform (first meeting):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identif how to collect other existing measures in the countries (other than HELCOM commitments) to support analysis of sufficiency of measures</li> </ul> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Arrange for collection and search of additional information on measures (other than HELCOM commitments)</li> </ul>  |
| <p><u>Spring 2019 2Q</u></p> <p>Working Groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consider the reports by Contracting Parties on main agreements/recommendations not covered by the current BSAP follow up as identified and agreed at autumn meeting 2018.</li> </ul> <p>Contracting Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review the collected information on other existing measures in the countries.</li> </ul> <p>HOD June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Results from additional reporting on HELCOM commitments (e.g. recommendations) endorsed</li> </ul>  |

**Activity 2:4. Review of the current BSAP (early- end 2019)**

| 2018 |    | 2019 |    |    |    | 2020 |    |    |    | 2021 |
|------|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|
| 3Q   | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   |
|      |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |

**Tasks according to the Strategic plan:** As agreed in the BSAP update guidance (HELCOM 39-2018), the actions that do not have measurable and clear targets will be identified, with the aim to develop them into a more specific actions or set of actions for the updated BSAP. The most recent 2018 Ministerial commitments will be integrated into the work.

*Add HOD 56-2019:* This task has been extended to end of 2019.

Spring meeting 2019

Working Groups:

- Review HELCOM actions where targets were previously evaluated as too general to follow up and propose measurable targets for those actions found relevant for possible uptake in the BSAP update – to be concluded at autumn meetings 2019 (see 2.6).
- Agree on how to propose actions and define targets for MD 2018 commitments; this could take place intersessionally e.g. through proposal by Lead countries – to be concluded at autumn meetings 2019 (see 2.6).

**Activity 2:5. Analysing sufficiency of measures to reach HELCOM objectives and targets (2019-mid-2020)**

| 2018 |    | 2019 |    |    |    | 2020 |    |    |    | 2021 |
|------|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|
| 3Q   | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   |
|      |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |

**Tasks according to the Strategic plan:** The guidance document on the BSAP update (cf. document 2-6/REV, HELCOM 39-2018) states HELCOM will carry out an analysis of sufficiency of measures to reach HELCOM objectives and targets, to support selection of new actions. In order to estimate whether current actions (HELCOM actions and measures implemented under other policies) are sufficient to reach good status, information on the impact of the actions is required. This is particularly relevant for those actions aimed at reducing pressures to a level that is consistent with good environmental status. The activity will involve substantial work and will be organized topic by topic. In addition to identifying tentative gaps in measures the activity will also identify knowledge and data needs for effective implementation of measures. This work is to be based on newest scientific findings and knowledge, including from BONUS projects and related to climate change.

*Add HOD 56-2019:* Time-table and steps for work under the SOM Platform has been updated as proposed by HELCOM SOM Platform 1-2019.

**Planning:** Main responsible for planning the work: GEAR 19-2018. Additional working arrangement might be necessary to carry out the task e.g. via the thematic workshops and jointly with the working groups. Such an additional working arrangement proposed is a new interdisciplinary platform on sufficiency of measures (SOM Platform). The HELCOM ACTION project (pending the final approval as of 13.11.2018) will carry out analysis of sufficiency of measures for a number of topics.

Autumn 2018

Secretariat:

- Come up with initial proposal for areas for synthesis of existing knowledge and for sufficiency of measures; liaison with experts/lead countries to be appointed for work of the SOM Platform.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Estimate expert and resource needs for sufficiency of measures analyses.</li> </ul> <p>GEAR 19-2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Propose focal areas for synthesis of existing knowledge to support the analysis of sufficiency of measures and identification of potential new measures (priority areas).</li> <li>○ Propose focal areas for analyses of sufficiency of measures (priority areas).</li> <li>○ Consider the experts needs for sufficiency of measures analyses and development of business-as-usual (BAU) scenarios.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Analyses:</b> To estimate whether current actions (HELCOM actions and measures implemented under other policies) are sufficient to reach good status. The activity will be organized topic by topic as outlined in the organization of work for SOM analyses, HOD 56-2019, document 2.2).</p>  |
| <p>Secretariat: Support, e.g. arrangement of SOM Platform meetings, HELCOM thematic workshops</p>  |
| <p><u>Spring 2019 1Q</u></p> <p>SOM Platform (first meeting – February 2019):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plan for how to structure syntheses of existing knowledge to support the BSAP update.</li> <li>○ Plan for regional analysis of sufficiency of measures and development of BAU scenarios according to priority areas agreed by HOD. Plans for the assessment of effectiveness of measures by OSPAR to be considered.</li> <li>○ Work on syntheses started (to be carried out by appointed experts/lead country by end of 2019).</li> </ul> <p>Contracting Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Assignment of resources, identification of lead countries and appointment of experts to carry out syntheses and analyses - by early 2019.</li> </ul> |
| <p><u>Autumn 2019</u></p> <p>SOM Platform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Second meeting 16-17 September 2019</li> <li>○ Prepare regional “business as usual” scenario.</li> <li>○ Analysis of sufficiency of measures initiated by lead countries and Topic teams under the SOM Platform and by partners of the ACTION project</li> </ul> <p>Workings Groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Validation of input to the SOM analyses, contribution to expert based evaluations</li> <li>○ Initiate review of ongoing work on synopses</li> </ul>  |
| <p><u>Spring 2020</u></p> <p>SOM Platform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ BAU scenario ready in early 2020 (March at the latest)</li> <li>○ Prepare material for meetings/workshops to discuss results of BAU and proposals on new measures from synopses.</li> </ul>  |

**Activity 2:6. Proposing new actions and improvement of the existing actions (end 2019- end 2020)**

| 2018 |    | 2019 |    |    |    | 2020 |    |    |    | 2021 |
|------|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|
| 3Q   | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q   |
|      |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |

**Tasks according to the Strategic plan:** The analysis of sufficiency of measures will be utilized for identifying gaps between the current measures and the measures needed to reach GES. Proposals for new measures and actions will emerge via the regular work of HELCOM and its WGs and as an outcome of some of the other activities within this strategic plan, in particular the assessment of the sufficiency of measures. A full draft of the updated BSAP to be available last quarter 2020.

**Comment:** Proposal on new measures is expected to be put forward at various meetings and thematic workshops during the course of the BSAP update process, including also from stakeholders. Climate change will be considered in the analyses leading up to proposed measures. The Secretariat will compile and distribute the proposals to HELCOM meetings. It is expected that knowledge needs for effective implementation of measures will be identified throughout the work and will also be part of proposed new HELCOM actions.

*Add HOD 56-2019: Expansion on how the process to consider results of SOM analyses and proposals on new actions for the updated BSAP will take place based on outcome of HELCOM SOM Platform 1-2019. Further elaboration and proposal for this step will take place at second meeting of the SOM Platform.*

#### Autumn 2019

##### Working Groups:

- Prepare proposals on uptake of HELCOM actions in the updated BSAP that were previously evaluated as too general to follow up and on measurable targets for those actions.
- Prepare proposals of actions and measurable targets to follow-up on the MD 2018 commitments and open discussion on potential new measures.

##### HOD Dec 2019:

- Based on outcome Activity 1:1, 2:3, 2:4 and 2:6 of previous WG meetings, consider proposals on:
  - not yet implemented existing HELCOM actions to be considered for uptake in the updated BSAP,
  - actions and measurable targets for MD 2018 commitments (draft proposals).

#### Spring 2020

##### SOM Platform:

- Prepare material for HELCOM meetings/workshops on new actions based on analyses of sufficiency of measures, the submission of synopses on potential new HELCOM actions, proposals from ACTION projects, proposals based on reviewing the list of measures implemented in the countries.

##### Working Groups:

- At dedicated meetings/workshops, develop and consider proposals on new measures and actions based on results of analyses of sufficiency of measures and potential new measures and actions (e.g. based on existing reports or synopses prepared)
- Make initial proposals to HOD on new actions and measures for the updated BSAP

##### HOD June 2020:

- Discuss initial results from analyses of sufficiency of measures and proposals from Working Groups and agree on topics for which new HELCOM actions are needed.

#### Autumn 2020

##### SOM Platform:

- Re-run analyses of sufficiency of measures including proposed new HELCOM actions
- Prepare analyses of cost-effectiveness of potential new HELCOM actions

##### Working Groups:

- Further elaboration of possible actions, including an evaluation of effect of proposed new measures (at WG meetings or HELCOM workshops to be decided).

##### HOD Dec 2020:

- Further consideration of measures (first complete draft of the updated BSAP presented).

**Timetable for Tasks at Working Group meetings**

| Task   | Activity | 2018<br>3Q | 2018<br>4Q | 2019<br>1Q | 2019<br>2Q | 2019<br>3Q  | 2019<br>4Q | 2020<br>1Q | 2020<br>2Q | 2020<br>3Q | 2020<br>4Q | 2021<br>1Q |
|--|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Propose how existing joint actions can be accomplished   | 1:1      |            |            | As needed  |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Discuss reasons for not achieving current BSAP commitments   | 1:1      |            |            | As needed  |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Propose rephrasing of existing HELCOM actions in case not implemented by 2021                                      | 1:1      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Review draft work plan for BSAP update   | 2:1      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Preparatory step for the review of ecological objectives   | 2:2      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Propose revised and new ecological objectives  | 2:2      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Further elaboration of revised and new ecological objectives   | 2:2      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Identify additional HELCOM commitments to be reported (e.g. recommendations)                                       | 2:3      |            |            | As needed  |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Consider reporting on additional HELCOM commitments as per above [via WGs or national contact points to be agreed] | 2:3      |            |            |            |            | As needed * |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Review HELCOM actions previously assigned as “too general”   | 2:4      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Agree on how to propose actions and define targets for MD 2018 commitments   | 2:4      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Guidance and review of synopses on potential new HELCOM actions  | 2:5      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Guidance and review of analyses of sufficiency of measures by SOM Platform   | 2:5      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Propose measurable targets for relevant existing HELCOM actions previously assigned as “too general”               | 2:6      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Prepare proposals on actions and targets for MD 2018 commitments   | 2:6      |            |            |            |            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |

|   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Continued elaboration of possible new actions<br>[possibly through workshops] | 2:6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

\*e.g. Maritime 19-2019, 23-26 September.

### Timetable for Tasks at GEAR meetings

| Task   | Activity | 2018<br>3Q | 2018<br>4Q | 2019<br>1Q | 2019<br>2Q | 2019<br>3Q | 2019<br>4Q | 2020<br>1Q | 2020<br>2Q | 2020<br>3Q | 2020<br>4Q | 2021<br>1Q |
|--|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Review of updated BSAP follow-update system  | 1:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Review draft work plan for BSAP update   | 2:1      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Feed-back on overarching structure (segments and goals) for BSAP UP  | 2:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Plan for analyses of sufficiency of measures, including propose focal areas for synthesis of existing knowledge, propose focal areas for analyses of sufficiency of measures (priorities), consider expert needs | 2:5      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Guidance and review of analyses of sufficiency of measures   | 2:5      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Consider proposals on new actions under the mandate of GEAR  | 2:6      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |

**Timetable for Tasks of the SOM Platform (as of HELCOM SOM Platform 1-2019)**

| YEAR   | 2019   |  |  |  | 2020  |                                    |                         |              |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Indicative steps   | Q1   | Q2   | Q3   | Q4   | Q1  | Q2                                 | Q3                      | Q4           |
| Approach   | ACTION/<br>SOM proposal<br>2nd version end of<br>March | GEAR agreement<br>15-17 May 2019                   |  |  |   |                                    |                         |              |
| Collation of data and information<br>input to analyses                         |  | SOM Platform/<br>ACTION<br>End of June             |  |  |   |                                    |                         |              |
| Synopses on potential new measures   |  | Lead countries,<br>international<br>projects, NGOs | Lead countries,<br>international<br>projects, NGOs | Lead countries,<br>international<br>projects, NGOs |   |                                    |                         |              |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting SOM Platform   |  |  | 16-17 September<br>2019                            |  |   |                                    |                         |              |
| Expert-based input to SOM analyses.<br>review of synopses                      |  |  | WGs, EGs,<br>(SOM Platform,<br>ACTION project)     | WGs, EGs<br>(SOM Platform,<br>ACTION project)      |   |                                    |                         |              |
| Running BAU on existing measures   |  |  |  | SOM Platform/<br>ACTION                            | SOM Platform/<br>ACTION                     |                                    |                         |              |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> SOM Platform meeting   |  |  |  |  | March 2020<br>(joint meeting<br>ACTION WP6) |                                    |                         |              |
| Thematic workshops, to discuss<br>results and propose potential new<br>actions |  |  |  |  |   | WGs, EGs, experts<br>May/June 2019 |                         |              |
| Assess status with potential new<br>HELCOM actions                             |  |  |  |  |   |                                    | SOM Platform/<br>ACTION |              |
| Cost-effectiveness analyses  |  |  |  |  |   |                                    | SOM Platform/<br>ACTION |              |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> SOM Platform meeting   |  |  |  |  |   |                                    | September 2020          |              |
| Continued elaboration and<br>endorsement of new/strengthened<br>HELCOM actions |  |  |  |  |   |                                    | WGs                     | WGs          |
| [Benefits of the BSAP as a whole]  |  |  |  |  |   |                                    | SOM Platform            | SOM Platform |

**Timetable for reviews and decisions at HOD meetings**

| Task  | Activity | 2018<br>3Q | 2018<br>4Q | 2019<br>1Q | 2019<br>2Q | 2019<br>3Q | 2019<br>4Q | 2020<br>1Q | 2020<br>2Q | 2020<br>3Q | 2020<br>4Q | 2021<br>1Q |
|---|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Proposals from WGs on how to achieve current BSAP   | 1:1      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Proposal on tentatively rephrasing of actions to be transferred to the updated BSAP   | 1:1      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Agreement on update of the BSAP follow-up system, including presentation of results, agreement on the scope of the reporting by CPs                       | 1:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Preview of the reporting forms the reporting to the BSAP follow-up system to be carried out by CPs end of 2020  | 1:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Agreement on workplan for BSAP update   | 2:1      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Consider overarching structure (segments and goals) for BSAP UP   | 2:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Draft proposal on revised and new ecological objectives   | 2:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Endorse structure for BSAP UP (segments, goals and objectives)  | 2:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Endorse results on reporting of additional commitments (e.g. recommendations) reported via WGs  | 2:3      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Discuss initial results from analyses of sufficiency of measures; agree on topics for which new HELCOM actions are needed                                 | 2:5      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Agreement on measurable targets for existing relevant HELCOM actions and consider first proposal for new actions and targets for commitments from MD 2018 | 2:6      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Review of further developed list of actions   | 2:6      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Agreement on new HELCOM actions   | 2:6      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |

**Time-table for preparation of documents to HELCOM meetings (Secretariat)**

| Task  | Activity | 2018<br>3Q | 2018<br>4Q | 2019<br>1Q | 2019<br>2Q | 2019<br>3Q | 2019<br>4Q | 2020<br>1Q | 2020<br>2Q | 2020<br>3Q | 2020<br>4Q | 2021<br>1Q |
|---|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Prepare for WGs to discuss implementation of current BSAP                                   | 1:1      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Prepare proposal for update of HELCOM Explorer  | 1:2      |            |            |            | ongoing    |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Developing report forms reporting   | 1:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Technical update of HELCOM Explorer   | 1:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Organizing reporting and updating the Explorer  | 1:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Prepare work plan for BSAP update   | 2:1      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Prepare background document for how BSAP can be aligned with SDGs, Aichi targets and MSFD   | 2:2      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Prepare list/proposal of HELCOM recommendations (or other HELCOM agreements) to be reported | 2:3      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Prepare reporting forms for HELCOM recommendations as per above                             | 2:3      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Support analyses of sufficiency of measures   | 2:5      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Prepare list of proposals on actions for BSAP UP  | 2:6      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |

## Annex 2. Outcome from Fish 9-2019 with regard to implementation of not yet implemented actions under the Fish Group.

- Changes that are referred to as already 'agreed' by Fish 9-2019 are within the remit of the Working Group., i.e. the assessment of implementation of joint actions, how to arrange work to take the actions forward.
- HOD 56-2019 is invited to agree on the proposals highlighted in yellow under A1.1 related to joint actions.
- Contracting Parties are invited to agree on the updated information on implementation of national actions as outlined under A1.2.

### A1.1 Not yet implemented joint actions under the Fish Group

| Action (origin)  | Reflections and proposed process  |
|--|---|
| <p>Further development and implementation of common practices for breeding, rearing and releasing salmon and sea trout as reintroductions in potential salmonid rivers (MD 2013)</p> <p>Current status: not accomplished</p> | <p>Still a relevant HELCOM action; important for consideration of genetic affects and spreading of parasites and deceases.</p> <p>Sweden informed that a national strategy will be updated shortly that can contribute to the work. There are also guidelines developed within NASCO (North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization) that could inform the process. ICES WGPDMO (Working Group on Pathology and Diseases of Marine Organisms) could also give advice.</p> <p>The Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>agreed</u> to take the action forward through the FISH-M, e.g. through organizing a dedicated workshop.</li> <li>- <u>proposed</u> to aim for development of common guidelines rather than common practices since the latter term can cover a broad range of issues that are necessarily essential for the activities.</li> </ul>         |
| <p>Further development and implementation of comparable methodology for data collection (salmon and sea trout) through surveys, especially on recreational fisheries (MD 2013)</p> <p>Current status: not accomplished</p>   | <p>The Meeting <u>noted</u> that there are several activities established under DCF that address this topic and furthermore that HELCOM FISH-M and the RETROUT project have discussed methodological issues regarding seatrout. Harmonization of methodology also takes place in ICES WGBAST (Assessment Working Group on Baltic Salmon and Trout).</p> <p>If was furthermore underlined that development of such methodology would be resources demanding. National data collection is however still not harmonized so it is relevant that comparable methodology for data collection is developed. The Meeting <u>agreed</u> that it would be useful to receive information on whether FISH PRO also considers this to be an issue or whether the action is still considered to be valid and if there are any suggestions on further steps to be taken (Outcome paragraph 2.4).</p> |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <p>The Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>agreed</u> to change the status of accomplishment to partly accomplished</li> <li>- <u>proposed to change the formulation of the HELCOM action; HELCOM is proposed to signal the need for data harmonization development, e.g. by establishing guiding principles, but not to develop the methodology as such.</u></li> </ul>   |
| <p>Further development and implementation of recommendations for riverine and estuarine management and conservation measures, such as fish ways for up and down migration, restoration and protection of spawning grounds, concerning fisheries within rivers and estuaries (MD 2013)</p> <p>Current status: Not accomplished</p> | <p>The RETROUT project will collate information on the effect of restoration measures for seatrout in the Baltic Sea region including, e.g. for spawning sites, fish ways. The Meeting further <u>noted</u> that FISH-M 4-2017 addressed a number of cases and best practices for river restoration.</p> <p>The Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>agreed</u> to change the status of accomplishment to partly accomplished</li> <li>- <u>proposed to update HELCOM Recommendation 32/33-1 by adding guidelines on restoration measures, taking into account conclusions from FISH-M 4-2017 and the RETROUT project. The Secretariat will draft a first proposal. When such guidelines are in place the action can be considered as accomplished.</u></li> <li>- <u>noted</u> that the action is originally related to salmon</li> </ul>  |
| <p>The further development and testing of the HELCOM generic decision-support tool to map possible negative impacts of specific gear types on threatened or declining species and habitats, and which helps to develop and/or recommend measures to address these (MD 2013)</p> <p>Current status: partly accomplished</p>        | <p>The HELCOM BalticBOOST project developed a tool to evaluate impacts of fishing gear on benthic communities but the specific tool that is referred to in the action (the 'HELCOM generic tool') has not been further developed. The Meeting <u>did not find it relevant</u> to continue working on the existing tool but found it relevant to share experience and compile information from different existing sources regarding the impacts of different gear types on species and habitats.</p> <p>The Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>proposed to delete the action in its current formulation but to keep the topic on the work plan of the Fish Group.</u></li> <li>- <u>agreed</u> to convene a dedicated session on how far countries have come in implementing fisheries management measures in MPAs, how such measures are linked to other processes such as MSP, HOLAS, MSFD implementation and how information on impacts of fishing gear is used for management.</li> </ul> |
| <p>Development and implementation of effective monitoring for by-caught birds and mammals (BSAP)</p>  | <p>The HELCOM roadmap on collection of fisheries data is under way. It was however noted that implementation of such monitoring may not be in place by 2021.</p>  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>Current status: not accomplished</p>  | <p>The Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>agreed</u> to change the status of accomplishment to partly accomplished.</li> <li>- <u>proposed</u> as a first step to finalize the roadmap on collection of fisheries data.</li> <li>- <u>agreed</u> to change the wording to the supporting information in column F of the excel-file to: "...is not considered as sufficient data for assessments of by-catch"</li> </ul>  |
| <p>Development and implementation of effective reporting systems for by-caught birds and mammals (BSAP)</p> <p>Current status: partly accomplished</p>               | <p>Reporting on by-catch takes place by EU MS to the EC and is further submitted to ICES. The reporting is however done in different ways by the countries and there is a need to further develop existing reporting systems. If a fit for purpose reporting system to support HELCOM work (e.g. indicator assessment) is in place it is however not necessary for HELCOM to set up a separate reporting system.</p> <p>The Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>agreed</u> to specify what the reported data should be used for within HELCOM.</li> <li>- <u>proposed</u> to change the wording of the action to "Further development of existing reporting systems".</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Development and implementation of fisheries management measures for fisheries inside marine protected areas (BSAP)</p> <p>Current status: partly accomplished</p> | <p>A relevant HELCOM action where several countries mentioned their implementation of such measures. The Meeting <u>was however of the view</u> that it is not suitable to assess the action in terms of being accomplished or not. It was furthermore proposed to label the action as 'national'. The Meeting <u>noted</u> that BALTFISH will also consider management measures in MPAs in the Baltic Sea.</p> <p>The Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>agreed</u> to consider the action as "national" and to request countries to report on the implementation of fisheries management measures in MPAs. The Secretariat will explore if it is suitable to use the HELCOM MPA database for this reporting purpose. Since the action is not suitable for assessing the level of accomplishment this should be indicated in the follow-up system with a link to relevant source of information.</li> </ul> |

#### A1.2 Not yet implemented national actions under the Fish Group

The Meeting discussed the progress on national actions that have not yet been implemented by all Contracting Parties (Attachment 1 to document 3-1, Tab 'National actions'). The Meeting was of the view that all the listed actions are still valid.

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With regard to the action '*Continue the efforts underway and enhance co-ordination of measures within the Baltic Sea as well as with other European countries, for the conservation of eel stocks, in line with national eel management plans*' the Meeting acknowledged that further coordination of measures in the Baltic Sea region is essential and proposed that this should be considered as a joint action to be followed-up regularly by the Fish Group. The Meeting also noted that BALTFISH will organize a workshop on eel in spring 2019.

The Meeting noted that several national actions are related to the improvement of size/age ranges of commercial fish species while at present there are no indicators for evaluating these characteristics. The Meeting recognized that the matter may need further consideration at a later stage.

The meeting noted the following information on the implementation of national actions from Contracting Parties:

- Sweden: A national management plan on salmon as well as sea trout was developed in 2016 and is under implementation. Targets for salmon rivers exist and concerning trout conservation limits exist for rivers on the west coast of Sweden and are under development for the east coast. Progress has been made in implementing the national programme for eel recovery and work to classify eel rivers is being initiated.
- Poland: Development of management plans for salmon and sea trout is ongoing. Classification and inventory of rivers with European eel has started.
- Denmark: With regard to management plans for sea trout, there are national measures to limit recreational fisheries on sea trout, but to have long-term management plans for commercial sea trout fisheries is not relevant for Denmark since there is very limited commercial fishing on sea trout. Denmark therefore proposed that the action should be considered as not applicable for Denmark. With regard to eel, Denmark has e.g. reduced gear, more than required by the eel regulation.
- Finland: Finland has adopted national strategies for salmon and sea trout and a strategy for the migratory fish species. Regional strategies for sea trout are close to being finalized during 2019. A priority for the present Government has been the recovery and re-establishment of migratory fish population in inland rivers and in rivers with inflow to the sea. New resources have been allocated to these activities. Finland has been implementing the national eel management plan and has implemented fishing ban during certain months beyond the EU requirements.

## Annex 3. Outcome from AGRI 9-2019 with regard to implementation of not yet implemented actions and actions previously deemed too general for follow-up under the Agri Group

### Accomplishment of agreed actions

The Meeting suggested to make the following clarifications and specifications regarding the joint and national actions related to the Agri group.

HOD 56-2019 is invited to agree on:

- the proposals highlighted in yellow to remove of some actions from the follow-up system due to the justification provided;
- the proposed clarifications highlighted in yellow for the criteria to follow-up the national actions in 2020.

HOD 56-2019 is invited to take note of the initial suggestions highlighted in green to transfer actions to the updated BSAP.

### Joint actions

| Action   | Suggested procedure, clarification or criteria   |
|--|--|
| Establishment of a list of hot spots concerning animal farms for intensive rearing of cattle, poultry and pigs not in compliance with part 2, Annex III of the Helsinki Convention | <p>The group reiterated the suggestion by AGRI 4-2017 to exclude this action from the follow-up due to the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-following up individual farms throughout the region is too resource demanding;</li> <li>-criteria for identification of the hot spots have not been set;</li> <li>-Part 2 of Annex III is currently under revision. However, the group suggested to consider inclusion of action to the updated BSAP in modified form with a new focus. The modified action could take into account that for the EU countries the Industrial Emissions Directive sets requirements for large pig and poultry farms but does not include cattle farms.</li> </ul> |
| Review and update part II of Annex III of the Helsinki Convention, in order to better serve the purposes of reaching good environmental status (GES)                               | The revision is ongoing and thus this action is still partly accomplished  |
| Develop guidelines/recommendation on the use of standards for nutrient content in manure   | The development of the recommendation is ongoing and thus this action is still partly accomplished   |

### National actions

| Action   | Suggested procedure, clarification or criteria  |
|--|---|
| Measures to bring all installations for the intensive rearing of cattle, poultry and pigs as well as other | The group suggested to remove this action from the follow up to avoid double reporting since the action |

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| agricultural activities in compliance with part 2, Annex III of the Helsinki Convention (and thus remove all agricultural hot spots from the JCP list   | is overlapping with two other actions regarding implementation of Annex III part II and removing hot spots.   |
| Apply as a minimum the updated EU's BREF document and Conclusions on BAT for intensive rearing of poultry and pigs, especially for the facilities located within areas critical to nutrient losses            | EU BREF has been released and Russia has introduced legislation on BAT. <b>In the reporting, it should be taken into account that the action does not refer only to areas critical to nitrogen losses but also phosphorus.</b>  |
| Revised palette of measures for reducing phosphorus and nitrogen losses from agriculture. Optional agro-environmental measures to be implemented through corresponding international and national instruments | The group has made a compilation of the implementation of palette of measures and discussed it in AGRI 5-2017 and AGRI 6-2018. The compilation can be used for reporting. <b>The revision of the palette of measures could be considered as an action to the updated BSAP.</b>  |
| Establish national guidelines or standards for nutrient content in manure with the view to fully utilize nutrient content of manure in fertilization practices and to avoid overfertilization                 | The group suggested that the Manure Standards project will make an overview on the implementation of this action for consideration by AGRI 8-2019. <b>The group acknowledged that it is even more important to implement the standards than to establish them and suggested that implementing the standards could be an action to updated BSAP.</b> |
| Aim for elimination of remaining [agriculture] Hot Spots under the HELCOM JCP   | There is an established procedure in place to report on this action to Pressure WG. Agri group could provide support in evaluating suggestions to remove agricultural hot spots.  |
| Implement and enforce the provisions of part 2 of Annex III "Prevention of pollution from agriculture" of the 1992 Helsinki Convention  | <b>The Meeting suggested to clarify that all the regulations and items in the Annex need to be implemented and should be reflected individually in the reporting in 2020.</b> The Meeting clarified also that the reporting is likely to be done on the current annex since the revision is still ongoing.  |
| Enhance the recycling of phosphorus (especially in agriculture and wastewater treatment) and to promote development of appropriate methodology  | <b>The following criterion for accomplishment of this action was suggested: existing national strategy or other national policy setting a target for P recycling and a target year to achieve it. Targets could include substitution of mineral fertilizers or use of P from waste water sector etc.</b>  |
| Agreement on national level on measures to reduce nutrient surplus in fertilization practices to reach nutrient balanced fertilization  | <p><b>The following criterion for accomplishment of this action was suggested: existing national policies setting targets to reduce nutrient surpluses and/or nutrient losses, possibly with link to water quality.</b></p> <p><b>The Meeting suggested to reformulate the action to the updated BSAP to focus on reducing nutrient losses.</b></p> |

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| <p>Promote and advance towards applying annual nutrient accounting at farm level, taking into account soil and climate conditions, in areas critical to nutrient losses as a first step and with an aim to apply it region-wise</p> | <p>The following criteria for accomplishment of this action were suggested: existing national guidelines on nutrient accounting (fertilization planning and/or nutrient balances) of both nitrogen and phosphorus as a minimum (as more advanced systems might be also established)</p> |
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