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| Document title | Reporting on implementation of HELCOM Recommendations |
| Code | 2-7 |
| Category | INF |
| Agenda Item | 2 - Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan |
| Submission date | 11.06.2019 |
| Submitted by | Executive Secretary |
| Reference | Outcome of HOD 55-2018, paragraphs 3.8-3.10, Annex 2 |

Background

HOD 55-2018 Meeting agreed on the list of HELCOM Recommendations to be reported to support the BSAP update. The HODs further mandated the Secretariat to arrange for the reporting and noted that it will be initiated in January-February 2019 and that the reporting period will be six weeks to cater for discussion of the results by the Working Group meetings in spring 2019.

The Contracting Parties reported on Recommendations under Pressure, State & Conservation, Response and Maritime Working Groups and Fish Group. The reporting was discussed at PRESSURE 10-2019, STATE & CONSERVATION 10-2019 and RESPONSE 26-2019 Meetings and it will be discussed at FISH 10-2019 (25-26 June) and MARITIME 19-2019 (24-26 September) Meetings.

The reporting is not yet complete by all countries in all groups and some answers are still pending clarifications. Countries are encouraged to send the missing reporting and clarifications to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) by August 2019 at the latest. The information will be used as an input in the analyses of sufficiency of measures to support the BSAP update (see document 2-3).

The attached document contains a summary of the reporting of HELCOM Recommendations under Pressure, State & Conservation and Response Working Groups. All reporting including references for accomplished recommended actions are included in the attached Excel files (document 2-7-Att.1, Att.2 and Att.3).

The Countries were invited to answer if each recommended action in the Recommendations were accomplished or not (yes, no, not applicable, no information). Paragraphs recommending regional actions were not included in the reporting. Also, actions regarding monitoring and actions that were not considered concrete enough to follow-up were left out of the reporting template.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to

- take note of the reporting aimed for use in the sufficiency of measures analysis as part of the BSAP update;
- note that Heads of Delegation will be requested to approve the results of the reporting intersessionally when the reporting is completed.

Overview of reporting on HELCOM Recommendations under the Pressure Working Group

Recommendations adopted before 2007

PRESSURE 9-2018 identified those HELCOM Recommendations adopted after 2007 that are relevant to the group's mandate and will be reported to support the BSAP update. The suggestion by Pressure Working Group was agreed by HOD 55-2018 and the reporting was launched in the beginning of 2019.

For the Recommendations adopted before 2007, the Group suggested to check these Recommendations against BREF and another EU legislation. Russia reported the results of the evaluation of the Recommendations against national legal requirements in the end of May 2019. The evaluation revealed that recently enacted technical regulations in Russia (Best available techniques Reference documents) are almost equivalent to the EU requirements for corresponding industries. Thus, the reporting requirements for Russia, with minor exceptions, are the same as for the EU member states.

PRESSURE 10-2019 proposed to report on the implementation of Recommendations adopted before 2007 as indicated in [Annex 2 of Outcome of PRESSURE 10-2019](#) by 6 September 2019.

PRESSURE 10-2019 acknowledged the importance of following up on the Recommendations to track the progress and supported that recommendations older than 2007 under the Pressure Group should be considered for thorough review and tentative revision.

Recommendations adopted after 2007

HOD 55-2018 Meeting agreed that the following recommendations under Pressure Working group will be reported by the Contracting Parties to support the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan:

- 19/1, Marine Sediment Extraction in the Baltic Sea Area
- 28E/5, Municipal wastewater treatment
- 28E/6, On-site wastewater treatment of single-family homes, small businesses and settlements up to 300 Person Equivalents (P.E.)
- 28E/7, Measures aimed at the substitution of polyphosphates (phosphorus) in detergents
- 28E/8, Environmentally friendly practices for the reduction and prevention of emissions of dioxins and other hazardous substances from small-scale combustion
- 29/1, Reduction of Emissions from Crematoria
- 31E/1, Implementing HELCOM's objective for hazardous substances
- 31E/2, Batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators containing mercury, cadmium or lead
- 31E/3, Cadmium in fertilizers
- 31E/4, Proper handling of waste/landfilling

Answers were received from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden.

PRESSURE 10-2019 took note of the outcome of reporting, noting that the current implementation has been reported by all countries. The Meeting agreed on the evaluation of implementation of the HELCOM Recommendations, noting that coherence check of the collected information had not been completed by the Secretariat yet due to the time constrains. Since PRESSURE 10-2019, the Secretariat has checked the references and received answers for most of the issues that required clarification. The remaining issues

requiring clarification are discussed below. There are still some missing references for recommended actions that have been reported accomplished.

The implementation of the Recommendations by country is included in Annex 1 and all answers and additional information reported by the countries are included in the Excel table in document [2-7-Att.1](#).

19/1 Marine Sediment Extraction in the Baltic Sea Area

Six countries reported that the Recommendation is fully implemented.

28E/5 Municipal wastewater treatment

Five countries reported that the Recommendation is fully implemented. Some countries had implemented the requirements for nitrogen removal but not the requirements for phosphorus removal and/or BOD.

28E/6 On-site wastewater treatment of single-family homes, small businesses and settlements up to 300 Person Equivalent (P.E.)

Five countries reported that the recommendation is fully implemented while the implementation is ongoing in four countries.

28E/7 Measures aimed at the substitution of polyphosphates (phosphorus) in detergents

Eight countries had implemented the Recommendation since it is implemented in the EU countries by the EU Regulation No 259/2012.

28E/8 Environmentally friendly practices for the reduction and prevention of emissions of dioxins and other hazardous substances from small-scale combustion

Four countries reported that the Recommendation is fully implemented. However, the action “Contracting Parties to develop in 2008 specific efficiency requirements and emission limit values for small scale combustion appliances” was interpreted differently by the countries. Some countries have emission limit values but not for dioxin although the Recommendation is targeted for the reduction and prevention of emissions of dioxins. This action is also one of the national actions that is included in the BSAP follow-up system. PRESSURE 10a-2019 agreed that this action should be discussed at PRESSURE 11-2019.

29/1 Reduction of Emissions from Crematoria

Three countries reported that the Recommendation is implemented.

31E/1 Implementing HELCOM’s objective for hazardous substances

Seven countries answered that the Recommendation is implemented, and one country reported that in principle the Recommendation is implemented but there is an ongoing process to update the guidance.

31E/2 Batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators containing mercury, cadmium or lead

The Recommendation was otherwise well-implemented in eight countries except for the action “Substantially limit or ban maritime transportation of waste batteries and accumulators” which was only implemented in one country.

31E/3 Cadmium in fertilizers

Limit values for cadmium in fertilizers had been set in seven countries.

31E/4 Proper handling of waste/landfilling

Five countries reported that the Recommendation is fully implemented while in four countries the implementation of some actions was still ongoing.

Summary of implementation status

Overall, none of the Recommendations was reported fully implemented by all nine countries. Recommendation 28E/7 “Measures aimed at the substitution of polyphosphates (phosphorus) in detergents” was reported implemented by eight countries and Recommendation 31E/1 “Implementing HELCOM’s objective for hazardous substances” is in principle implemented by eight countries but one country reported it as ongoing work to update the national guidance. Also, Recommendation 31E/2 “Batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators containing mercury, cadmium or lead” is quite well implemented except for the action “Substantially limit or ban maritime transportation of waste batteries and accumulators”.

There is still potential to reduce nutrient inputs and inputs of hazardous substances to the Baltic Sea by full implementation of the HELCOM Recommendations under Pressure Working Group.

Overview of reporting on HELCOM Recommendations under the State & Conservation Working group

HOD 55-2018 Meeting agreed that the following recommendations under State & Conservation Working group will be reported by the Contracting Parties to support the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan.

- 15/1 R, Protection of the coastal strip
- 17/2, Protection of Harbour Porpoise in the Baltic Sea Area
- 27/28, Conservation of seals in the Baltic Sea Area
- 34-E/1, Safeguarding important bird habitats and migration routes in the Baltic Sea from negative effects of wind and wave energy production at sea
- 35/1, System of coastal and marine Baltic Sea protected areas (HELCOM MPAs)
- 37/2, Conservation of Baltic Sea species categorized as threatened according to the 2013 HELCOM red list
- 24/10 Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Management of Human activities in the Baltic Sea Area
- 40/1 Conservation and Protection of Marine and Coastal Biotopes, Habitats and Biotope Complexes Categorized as Threatened According to the HELCOM Red Lists

Reporting on the Recommendations 40/1 and 24/10, which were revised by HELCOM 40-2019 Meeting, started later and is still ongoing by most countries.

Reporting on the implementation of Recommendation 16/3 "Preservation of Natural Coastal Dynamics" is also ongoing in the group.

Answers were received from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden. However, the reporting is still not complete from all these countries. Also, the validation of the references for actions that were reported accomplished is partly still ongoing.

STATE & CONSERVATION 10-2019 took note of the state of the reporting and noted the following feedback on the reporting exercises: the possibility to choose the option 'Partially implemented' would be beneficial, as well as allowing for reporting on individual species groups under the recommendations related to red listing.

The implementation of the Recommendations by country is included in Annex 1 and all answers and additional information reported by the countries are included in the Excel table in document 2-7-Att.2.

15/1-R Protection of the Coastal Strip

The Recommendation has been quite well implemented by the eight countries that reported on it. However, there were some different interpretations for the action "to establish a zone of at least 3 kilometres landwards from the mean water line should be established as a coastal planning zone and thus some of the references are still under validation process". Also, clarifications were made and are ongoing on whether the generally protected coastal strip established outside urban areas and existing settlements extends at least 100 to 300 meters from the mean water line landwards and seawards.

17/2 Protection of Harbour Porpoise in the Baltic Sea Area

Since harbour porpoise occurs mainly in the Kattegat and the southern parts of the Baltic Sea, the countries in the east and north of Baltic Sea mostly reported that the recommended actions are not applicable or

have not been implemented. Out of the four countries which found the Recommendation fully applicable for their conditions one country reported that the Recommendation is fully implemented and three countries reported that at least the action “give highest priority to avoiding by-catches of harbour porpoises, particularly following the recommendations of ASCOBANS and the ASCOBANS Jastarnia Plan, in order to achieve the ecological objective of the Baltic Sea Action Plan” has not yet been accomplished.

27/28 Conservation of seals in the Baltic Sea Area

One country reported that the Recommendation is fully implemented.

All the questions in the reporting were split to cover the three different seal species: grey seal, harbour seal and ringed seal. All questions were not applicable to all countries due to the geographical distribution of the different seal species populations in the Baltic Sea area.

There were different interpretations on what is to be considered sufficient for the action “to develop and to apply where possible non-lethal mitigation measures for seals to reduce bycatch and damage to fishing gear, as well as to support and coordinate the development of efficient mitigation measures” to be considered implemented.

34E/1 Safeguarding important bird habitats and migration routes in the Baltic Sea from negative effects of wind and wave energy production at sea

One country reported that the Recommendation is fully implemented. Especially action “Enable appropriate planning of the use of marine space that incorporates conservation need of seabirds in the Baltic-wide context thus contributing to reaching their favourable conservation status” was still ongoing in many countries.

35/1 System of coastal and marine Baltic Sea protected areas (HELCOM MPAs)

None of the countries reported that the Recommendation is fully implemented.

Especially, the action “harmonise the designation of neighbouring HELCOM MPAs in transboundary marine areas, and where appropriate to join forces between neighbouring states when setting up management plans or measures for such HELCOM MPAs” is poorly implemented. Only one out of seven countries reported that the action has been accomplished.

37/2 Conservation of Baltic Sea species categorized as threatened according to the 2013 HELCOM red list

None of the five countries reported that the Recommendation is fully implemented. None of the countries had implemented action “Identify and/or map areas of ecological significance, such as migration corridors for individual or groups of HELCOM threatened species, based on the available data and possible new data, also in order to support maritime spatial planning based on the ecosystem approach.”

24/10 Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Management of Human activities in the Baltic Sea Area

Only four countries have completed the reporting and none of them had fully implemented the Recommendation.

40-1 Conservation and Protection of Marine and Coastal Biotopes, Habitats and Biotope Complexes Categorized as Threatened According to the HELCOM Red Lists

Only four countries have completed the reporting and none of them had fully implemented the Recommendation.

Overview of reporting on HELCOM Recommendations under the Response Working Group

HOD 55-2018 Meeting agreed that the following recommendations under the Response Working group suggested by the Secretariat will be reported by the Contracting Parties to support the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan:

- 17/12 Measures to Abate Pollution by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Grounding, Collision, Sinking of a Ship or other Maritime Casualty
- 19/17 Measures in order to Combat Pollution from Offshore Units
- 22/2 Restricted use of Chemical agents and other Non-chemical means in oil Combatting Operations on the Baltic Sea Area
- 28E/12 Strengthening of sub-regional co-operation in response field
- 31/1 Development of national ability to respond to spillages of oil and other harmful substances
- 31E/5 Mutual plan for places of refuge in the Baltic Sea area
- 33/3 Reporting on incidents involving harmful substances and emergency dumping
- 34E/4 Airborne surveillance with remote sensing equipment in the Baltic Sea Area
- 36/3 Marine pollution incident reporting and requests for assistance between Contracting Parties in the Baltic Sea area

Answers were received from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Poland and Sweden. The validation of the references for recommended actions that have been reported accomplished is partly still ongoing.

RESPONSE 26-2019 discussed the possibility to implement remaining actions in Recommendations related to the Response Working Group by 2021. The Meeting agreed that Contracting Parties should submit updated reports on the implementation of Recommendations for consideration by each Meeting of the Response Working Group until the BSAP has been updated. The Meeting agreed that the Excel attachment should be used as the template and agreed that all Response related Recommendations could be included in the template. In addition, the Meeting agreed that the template should also clarify which national authority is responsible for the implementation of each Recommendation, as they are not all solely under the responsibility of response authorities in all Contracting Parties.

RESPONSE 26-2019 also revisited the matter of reviewing and revising the valid HELCOM Recommendations under the group's mandate and agreed on some of the lead countries and expert groups to lead the revision work.

The implementation of the Recommendations by country is included in Annex 3 and all answers and additional information reported by the countries are included in the Excel table in document 2-7 Att.3.

17/12 Measures to Abate Pollution by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Grounding, Collision, Sinking of a Ship or other Maritime Casualty

The Recommendation has been well implemented by the six countries except for the actions "to study possibilities of amending the list of substances annexed to the 1973 Protocol relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Pollution by Substances other than Oil (INTERVENTION PROTOCOL, 1973) by inclusion of other harmful substances, such as nutrients, which give coastal states the right to intervene in sea areas particularly sensitive to any kind of pollution" and "to study proposals concerning the amendment of MARPOL 73/78 by a new annex related to solid harmful substances" for which most countries had no information available.

19/17 Measures in order to Combat Pollution from Offshore Units

The Recommendation has been implemented by four countries for the parts that were deemed applicable. One country answered that neither of the actions are applicable.

22/2 Restricted use of Chemical agents and other Non-chemical means in oil Combatting Operations on the Baltic Sea Area

The Recommendation has been fully implemented by four countries.

28E/12 Strengthening of sub-regional co-operation in response field

The six countries that have reported had varied level of implementation of the Recommendation.

31/1 Development of national ability to respond to spillages of oil and other harmful substances

None of the six countries answered that the Recommendation is fully implemented, and no country answered that they have accomplished action "to use their best endeavours in research and development activities to develop suitable techniques or methods to recover such sunken chemicals from the sea bottom if they have a long retention time without dissolving tendencies".

31E/5 Mutual plan for places of refuge in the Baltic Sea area

None of the six countries answered that the Recommendation is fully implemented.

33/3 Reporting on incidents involving harmful substances and emergency dumping

The Recommendation is well implemented by the six countries.

34E/4 Airborne surveillance with remote sensing equipment in the Baltic Sea Area

Four countries reported that the Recommendation is implemented except for the action "if especially mentioned in the clearance: dropping an oil sampling buoy from the aircraft or interviewing master of a ship suspected of discharging". Also, there was a comment that the question on the implementation of the action could be split into two since it deals with two separate issues.

36/3 Marine pollution incident reporting and requests for assistance between Contracting Parties in the Baltic Sea area

The Recommendation is implemented by all six countries that reported.

Annex 1. Implementation of HELCOM Recommendations under Pressure Working Group adopted after 2007

19/1 Marine Sediment Extraction in the Baltic Sea Area

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| to carry out all sediment extractions according to the attached Guidelines | On-going | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| To carry out an "Environmental Impact Assessment" prior to the extraction permit | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| that extraction permits for "Sensitive Areas" shall be granted only following the restrictions as defined by the attached Guidelines | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| that the "Extraction Practice" shall cause a minimum environmental impact and allow the regeneration of marine and coastal ecosystems | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| That "Environmental Monitoring" shall be carried out as a component of any sediment extraction | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No information | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

28E/5 Municipal wastewater treatment

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Urban (municipal) wastewater deriving from households (domestic wastewater) or industrial enterprises should be collected and treated before being discharged into waterbodies; by-passes may only be used in emergency cases | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going, 20.32 % | Yes | On-going | Yes |
| Limit values for substances harmful to the receiving waters which cannot be treated in the municipal wastewater treatment plants or which are harmful to the sewerage systems or the processes of the treatment plant should be established separately for industry and other relevant sectors discharging indirectly based on the BAT and BEP. | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Domestic sewage or wastewater of similar type which is collected in a central sewerage system and treated in wastewater treatment plants, with a load of 300 - 2 000 person equivalents, should be treated according to the requirements Rec.28E/5 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | On-going, 76.74% | No | On-going | Yes |
| Domestic sewage or wastewater of similar type which is collected in a central sewerage system and treated in wastewater treatment plants, with a load of 2,000 – 10,000 person equivalents, should be treated according to the requirements Rec.28E/5 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | On-going, 89.19% | No | On-going | Yes |
| Domestic sewage or wastewater of similar type which is collected in a central sewerage system and treated in wastewater treatment plants, with a load of 10,001 – 100,000 person equivalents, should be treated according to the requirements Rec.28E/5 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | On-going, 68.18% | No | - | Yes |
| Domestic sewage or wastewater of similar type which is collected in a central sewerage system and treated in wastewater treatment plants, with a load of 100,000 – 200,000 person equivalents, should be treated according to the requirements Rec.28E/5 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | No | On-going | Yes |
| Domestic sewage or wastewater of similar type which is collected in a central sewerage system and treated in wastewater treatment plants, with a load of more than 200,000 person equivalents, should be treated according to the requirements Rec.28E/5 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | No | On-going | Yes |

28E/6 On-site wastewater treatment of single family homes, small businesses and settlements up to 300 Person Equivalents (P.E.)

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|----------|-----|----------|-----|-----|----------|----------|
| Wastewaters from single family homes, small businesses and settlements should be treated so that emissions per capita to the environment comply the requirements Rec.28E/6 | Yes | Yes | On-going | Yes | On-going | Yes | Yes | On-going | On-going |

28E/7 Measures aimed at the substitution of polyphosphates (phosphorus) in detergents

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|-----|
| The introduction of a maximum limit for total phosphorus content in laundry detergents with a hurdle of 0.2% to 0.5% of phosphorus by weight | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | Yes |

28E/8 Environmentally friendly practices for the reduction and prevention of emissions of dioxins and other hazardous substances from small-scale combustion

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| Ensure the introduction of the use of an increasing number of low-emission combustion appliances | Yes | No information | On-going | Yes | No | On-going | Yes | No information | Yes |
| Public awareness should be enhanced by developing guidelines and arranging information campaigns for households and small enterprises | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | On-going | Yes | No information | Yes |
| Contracting Parties develop in 2008 specific efficiency requirements and emission limit values for small scale combustion appliances | Yes | No | No | Yes | No | No | Yes | On-going | Yes |

29/1 Reduction of Emissions from Crematoria

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Emissions to air and discharges to water from crematoria with a capacity exceeding 500 cremations/year comply with the requirements Rec. 29/1 | Yes | On-going | On-going | On-going | No | Yes | No information | On-going | Yes |

31E/1 Implementing HELCOM's objective for hazardous substances

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| National legislation of the CPs takes into account the principle and methodologies of the Strategy to implement HELCOM objective for hazardous substance. | On-going | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | Yes |

31E/2 Batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators containing mercury, cadmium or lead

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Take measures to ban placing on the market of all batteries or accumulators and, in particular, portable batteries or accumulators according to the criteria of Rec. 31E/2 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | Yes |
| Ensure that legislation regulating labelling and collection of waste batteries and accumulators comply with existing European Community, international standards and Rec. 31E/2 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | Yes |
| Adopt measures to all processes guaranteeing that efficiency of recycling processes complies with the Rec. 31E/2. | Not applicable | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | Yes |
| Take measures to ban storage of separately collected batteries and accumulators containing cadmium or lead in landfills or underground storage and no thermal treatment (incineration) before dismantling of waste batteries and accumulators on material parts should be allowed. | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No information | Yes |
| Take measures to ensure that all materials and substances recovered from waste batteries and accumulators shall go first under recycling processes in general to the levels stipulated in para 3 above. If the recycling processes are not economically or environmentally feasible for some materials and substances from waste batterie and accumulators, they should be recovered or environmentally sound disposed off. | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | Yes | No information | Yes |
| Substantially limit or ban maritime transportation of waste batteries and accumulators | No information | - | No | No information | No | No | No | No information | Yes |
| Adopt measures for achieving high collection rates at least 25% in 2012 and 45% in 2016 for portable batteries and accumulators | Yes | Yes, collection rate 31.67% in 2017 | Yes, collection rate targets achieved in 2017 | Yes, collection rate targets achieved | Yes | Yes | Yes, collection rate 65,74% in 2017 | On-going | Yes |

31E/3 Cadmium in fertilizers

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|-----|----------|-----|
| Setting a limit value for Cd content in fertilizer with P content > 1 %, applied in the Baltic Sea catchment area | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | Yes | On-going | Yes |

31E/4 Proper handling of waste/landfilling

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|----------|
| Existing landfills not fulfilling the criteria of proper landfilling practices required for obtaining a permit should be closed, or restored in accordance with the national legislation | Not applicable | Yes | On-going | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | Yes |
| Landfilling practices including acceptance of waste at landfills should comply with the requirements of the Rec. 31E/4 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| The environmental risk of already closed landfills should be assessed and pollution prevention measures should be implemented. | On-going | Yes | On-going | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No information | On-going |

Annex 2. Implementation of HELCOM Recommendations under State & Conservation WG

15/1-R Protection of the Coastal Strip

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|-----|-----|---------|----|----------|
| That the Contracting Parties take all appropriate measures to ensure the protection of biodiversity and nature (biology and geology) as well as recreational values of the coastal strip; | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| that a generally protected coastal strip therefore be established outside urban areas and existing settlements, the width of which shall be determined by the nature and landscape values of the coast, extending at least 100 to 300 meters from the mean water line landwards and seawards; | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Ongoing | | Yes |
| that in this protected coastal strip: - activities which would permanently change the nature and landscape such as extraction of soil and minerals, construction of buildings (except for buildings necessary for existing farming or fishing and saunas in connection with existing buildings), marinas, roads, camping grounds etc. not be allowed except when proved to be in overwhelming public interest including responsibilities of public administration with regard to coastal and flood protection and when it is proved that no less sensitive site can be found; - intensive forestry and intensive farming including drainage be restricted;" | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| that exceptions can be made from the provisions in points b) and c) by a land use plan approved and sanctioned by a competent authority; | No | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| that a zone of at least 3 kilometres landwards from the mean water line should be established as a coastal planning zone where major building development and other major permanent changes in nature and landscape be preceded by an appropriate land use plan, and/or an environmental impact assessment, | Yes | Yes | No | Not applicable | Yes | Yes | No | | On-going |

17/2 Protection of Harbour Porpoise in the Baltic Sea Area

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| give highest priority to avoiding by-catches of harbour porpoises, particularly following the recommendations of ASCOBANS and the ASCOBANS Jastarnia Plan, in order to achieve the ecological objective of the Baltic Sea Action Plan: "By 2015 by-catch of harbour porpoise, seals, water birds and non-target fish species has been significantly reduced with the aim to reach by-catch rates close to zero"; | Yes | Not applicable | No | On-going | No | | On-going | | On-going |
| take action in close co-operation with ASCOBANS and ICES, for collection and analysis of additional data on population distribution and abundance, stock densities, behavior and threats such as by-catch mortality, underwater noise, pollutant levels, ship strikes, changes in foodbase, epizooties, climate changes, marine installations and construction; | Yes | Not applicable | Yes | Yes | Not applicable | | Yes | | Yes |
| consider the establishment of marine protected areas for harbour porpoises within the framework of the Baltic Sea Protected Areas (BSPAs), when documented information is available that an area hosts harbour porpoises; | Yes | Not applicable | Not applicable | On-going | Not applicable | | Yes | | Yes |

27/28 Conservation of seals in the Baltic Sea Area

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| to apply the General Management Principles and Management Units as defined above, and in conformity with these principles develop and implement National Management Plans which will be the main management instruments to ensure that the favourable conservation status of the species is attained or maintained. <i>National management plans developed for grey seals</i> | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | On-going | | On-going | | Yes |
| <i>National management plans developed for harbour seals</i> | Yes | Not applicable | Not applicable | No | Not applicable | | No | | Yes |
| <i>National management plans developed for ringed seals</i> | Not applicable | Yes | Yes | Not applicable | On-going | | No | | No |
| <i>National management plans implemented for grey seals</i> | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No | | Not applicable | | Yes |
| <i>National management plans implemented for harbour seals</i> | Yes | Not applicable | Not applicable | No | Not applicable | | Not applicable | | Yes |
| <i>National management plans implemented for ringed seals</i> | Not applicable | Yes | Yes | No | No | | Not applicable | | No |
| -for populations between the Limit Reference Level (the Safe Biological Level) and the Precautionary Approach Level, licenses for anthropogenic removals can only be issued if in the population a significant positive long-term growth rate can be observed, and if licenses for anthropogenic removals are issued, special care has to be taken so that the positive long-term growth rate is not jeopardized; <i>Quotas for grey seals</i> | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No | | No | | Yes |
| <i>Quotas for harbour seals</i> | No | Not applicable | Not applicable | No | Not applicable | | Not applicable | | Yes |
| <i>Quotas for ringed seals</i> | Not applicable | No (strictly protected) | Yes | No | No | | Not applicable | | Yes |

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| to take effective measures for all populations in order to prevent illegal killing, and to reduce incidental bycatches to a minimum level and if possible to a level close to zero; <i>Measures to prevent illegal killing of grey seals</i> | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| <i>Measures to prevent illegal killing of harbour seals</i> | Yes | Not applicable | Not applicable | On-going | Not applicable | | Yes | | Yes |
| <i>Measures to prevent illegal killing of ringed seals</i> | Yes | Yes | Yes | Not applicable | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| <i>Measures to prevent by-catch of grey seals</i> | No | Yes | On-going | On-going | No | | No | | On-going |
| <i>Measures to prevent by-catch of harbour seals</i> | No | Not applicable | Not applicable | No | Not applicable | | No | | On-going |
| <i>Measures to prevent by-catch of ringed seals</i> | Not applicable | Yes | On-going | Not applicable | No | | No | | On-going |
| to carry out respective monitoring programmes as indicated above; <i>grey seals</i> | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | | Yes | | Yes |
| <i>Monitoring programmes for harbour seals</i> | Yes | Not applicable | Not applicable | No | Not applicable | | No | | Yes |
| <i>Monitoring programmes for ringed seals</i> | Not applicable | Yes | Yes | | No | | No | | Yes |
| to develop non-lethal mitigation measures for seals to reduce bycatch and damage to fishing gear | On-going | Yes | On-going | On-going | No | | On-going | | Yes |
| to apply where possible non-lethal mitigation measures for seals to reduce bycatch and damage to fishing gear | On-going | Not applicable | On-going | No | No | | No | | No |
| to support and coordinate the development of efficient mitigation measures; | Yes | Yes | On-going | On-going | No | | No | | No |

34E/1 Safeguarding important bird habitats and migration routes in the Baltic Sea from negative effects of wind and wave energy production at sea

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
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| CPs to map migration routes and staging areas of birds in the Baltic Sea Area and to enhance research and monitoring to improve the understanding of the impacts of wind energy facilities on bird in the Baltic Sea | On-going | | Yes | Yes | No | | No | | On-going |
| Apply the precautionary principle by undertaking measures to avoid or minimize negative effects of wind energy facilities on birds in the Baltic Sea | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| Enable appropriate planning of the use of marine space that incorporates conservation need of seabirds in the Baltic-wide context thus contributing to reaching their favourable conservation status | Yes | Yes | On-going | Yes | On-going | | On-going | | On-going |
| Support development and use of nature friendly wind energy technology to minimize collision risk and other negative impacts on birds and intensify the research | No | No | Yes | Yes | No | | On-going | | On-going |
| Avoid that wind energy facilities and wave energy installations are sited in areas important for birds, and that the loss of off-shore staging habitats will be halted | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | On-going |
| Avoid that wind energy facilities are situated within major migrating routes of birds | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | No |
| Ensure that plans for offshore wind energy development and individual wind energy facilities will be established only following strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment, respectively, where cumulative regional Baltic Sea scale and sub-basin scale impacts and benefits of the different development options to birds have been thoroughly assessed | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| Include into construction and operating permissions the obligation for the operator to carry out adequate monitoring of impacts on birds during the operation phase | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Not applicable | | Yes | | No |

35/1 System of coastal and marine Baltic Sea protected areas (HELCOM MPAs)

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
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| review whether new coastal and marine areas justify being selected as HELCOM MPAs, and to designate new sites as HELCOM MPAs where ecologically meaningful, especially in offshore area beyond territorial waters; | Yes | Yes | Yes | On-going | No | | No | | Yes |
| ensure that HELCOM MPAs inter alia provide specific protection to those species, habitats, biotopes and biotope complexes included in the HELCOM Red Lists, as agreed in the HELCOM 2013 Copenhagen Ministerial Declaration, by considering these in the site selection procedure as well as in site management (for example by specific conservation and restoration measures including restoration of degraded ecosystems); | On-going | No | On-going | On-going | Yes | | On-going | | Yes |
| encourage Contracting Parties which are also EU Member States to designate when feasible all appropriate Natura 2000 sites as HELCOM MPAs, and to consider all Natura 2000 sites as well as other marine protected areas when evaluating the network of marine protected areas; | Yes | No | Yes | On-going | Yes | | Yes | | No |
| encourage Contracting Parties which are also OSPAR Contracting Parties to designate, when appropriate, OSPAR MPAs as HELCOM MPAs in order to harmonize the networks where the conventions geographical scope overlap; | Yes | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | | | | Yes |
| manage HELCOM MPAs effectively and to develop and apply by 2015 management plans or measures for all existing HELCOM MPAs, and to establish management plan or measures for every new MPA within five years after its designation, as agreed in the HELCOM 2013 Copenhagen Ministerial Declaration; | Yes | No | On-going | No | Yes | | No | | No |
| harmonise the designation of neighbouring HELCOM MPAs in transboundary marine areas, and where appropriate to join forces between neighbouring | No | No | No | No | No | | Yes | | No |

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| states when setting up management plans or measures for such HELCOM MPAs; | | | | | | | | | |
| assess the effectiveness of the management plans or measures of HELCOM MPAs by conducting monitoring, and where feasible scientific research programmes, which are directly connected to the conservation interests of HELCOM MPAs, including the placement of monitoring stations inside the MPAs (for those Contracting Parties which are also EU Member States this monitoring may be linked to the monitoring related to the implementation of relevant EU legislation); | Yes | No | No | Yes | Yes | | No | | Yes |
| include HELCOM MPAs as areas of particular ecological significance in coastal and maritime spatial planning processes and incorporate their management provisions in spatial plans and Integrated Marine and Coastal Management Strategies, respectively; | Yes | Yes | On-going | On-going | Yes | | On-going | | Yes |
| apply the newest IUCN categorisation system when describing the HELCOM MPAs in order to allow for global comparisons of regional networks; | No | No | On-going | On-going | No | | No | | No |
| perform identification, designation and legal protection of HELCOM MPAs according to HELCOMs criteria and guidelines and base all management plans or measures on relevant HELCOM publications such as "Planning and management of Baltic Sea Protected Areas: guidelines and tools" (BSEP 105). For EU Member States the respective EU requirements and guidelines are regarded as adequate for designating and managing HELCOM MPAs; | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | No |
| continuously report the most recent numerical and descriptive data on HELCOM MPAs to HELCOMs data systems (HELCOM MPA database, GIS based map and data service); | No | No | On-going | Yes | Yes | | On-going | | No |

37/2 Conservation of Baltic Sea species categorized as threatened according to the 2013 HELCOM red list

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
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| Determine which additional activities are needed to mitigate the identified pressures and/or impacts | On-going | No | On-going | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | On-going |
| support the development or amendment of conservation-, recovery- and/or action plans for HELCOM threatened species. Where appropriate, the development could be carried out in cooperation with neighbouring countries or relevant organizations, | No | No | On-going | Yes | On-going | | Yes | | On-going |
| Aim to implement such plans as soon as possible, and by 2021 at the latest. | No information | No | On-going | Yes | Not applicable | | On-going | | On-going |
| Consider the possibility to introduce and/or update national legislation or, if more appropriate, choose different kinds of instruments (such as incentives, administrative actions or negotiated agreements), to provide for effective protection of relevant HELCOM threatened species in all their life stages in the Baltic Sea sub-regions where they are threatened. | On-going | No | On-going | Yes | No | | No | | Yes |
| Consider including HELCOM list of threatened species in EIA procedures in order to mitigate or limit pressures or impacts inflicted on threatened species with the aim to: | No | Yes | On-going | Yes | No | | Yes | | Yes |
| Receive and share knowledge about the occurrence of such species, | No information | Yes | Yes | Yes | Not applicable | | On-going | | Yes |
| Get a documentation of the human induced pressures and/or impacts, | No information | Yes | Yes | Yes | Not applicable | | Yes | | No information |
| Be in a position to decide on appropriate measures to avoid or limit and mitigate the relevant pressures and/or impacts, | No | Yes | Yes | No | Not applicable | | Yes | | Not applicable |
| Receive reliable data for the restriction or prohibition of activities which may significantly | No | Yes | No | No | Not applicable | | Yes | | Not applicable |

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| affect, destroy or damage populations or habitats of HELCOM threatened species. | | | | | | | | | |
| Consider whether any sites justify selection as new or expanded MPAs for the conservation of HELCOM threatened species such as sites of particular ecological significance for their different life stages (e.g. habitats of sessile species, feeding grounds, moulting/haul-out sites, nursery and resting areas), with the aim to improve connectivity between populations and key areas along migration routes. | On-going | Yes | On-going | Not applicable | No | | On-going | | Yes |
| Identify and/or map areas of ecological significance, such as migration corridors for individual or groups of HELCOM threatened species, based on the available data and possible new data, also in order to support maritime spatial planning based on the ecosystem approach. | No | On-going | On-going | On-going | On-going | | No | | On-going |
| Support and, if necessary, take measures to reduce transboundary pressures and/or impacts on HELCOM threatened migrating species which are moving across national borders including such pressures and/or impacts on species not occurring within the waters where the pressures and/or impacts originate from. | No information | No information | Yes | No | No | | No | | No information |

24/10 Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Management of Human activities in the Baltic Sea Area

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
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| to develop maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management measures which ensures the implementation of the principles for integrated management of human activities, and are coordinated with regional marine management strategies. | On-going | On-going | Yes | | | | On-going | | |
| to develop maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management measures which ensures the implementation of the principles for integrated management of human activities, and are coordinated with regional marine management strategies. | No | No | Yes | | | | Yes | | |
| to develop maritime spatial plans in accordance with the Baltic Sea Broad-scale Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) Principles and utilizing the Guideline for the Implementation of Ecosystem-based Approach in Maritime Spatial Planning and Guidelines on Transboundary Consultations, Public Participation and Co-operation | On-going | On-going | Yes | | | | On-going | | |
| a) to identify laws and regulations of relevance for the use and protection of marine areas and the authorities responsible for their implementation (governmental, sub-national or municipal sector officials); | On-going | Yes | Yes | | | | Yes | | |
| a) to identify laws and regulations of relevance for the use and protection of marine areas and the authorities responsible for their implementation (governmental, sub-national or municipal sector officials); | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | | Yes | | |
| b) to use existing knowledge of stakeholders with interests concerning the use and protection of coastal and marine areas; | On-going | On-going | Yes | | | | Yes | | |
| c) to use existing knowledge of interacting and/or conflicting interests, obligations and activities of private and public stakeholders. Additional investigation can for example be carried out following the DPSIR concept; | On-going | Yes | Yes | | | | Yes | | |
| d) to develop criteria, standards and guidelines that are needed for integrated management of human activities taking into account cross-sectoral approach, as well as development of practical and applicable ways to share responsibility for plan management, implementation and enforcement; | On-going | No information | Yes | | | | Yes | | |

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| d) to develop criteria, standards and guidelines that are needed for integrated management of human activities taking into account cross-sectoral approach, as well as development of practical and applicable ways to share responsibility for plan management, implementation and enforcement; | On-going | Not applicable | On-going | | | | Yes | | |
| e) to use existing knowledge of the major planning and management issues for human activities in marine and coastal areas, and strive to align them, taking into account experiences and requirements from maritime spatial planning processes and the establishment of the HELCOM marine protected areas (HELCOM MPAs) network and management of MPAs; | On-going | Yes | On-going | | | | On-going | | |
| f) to identify data gaps and gaps in knowledge that may impede planning and management of human activities in coastal zones and marine areas, e.g. lack of spatial data on marine and coastal biodiversity (distribution of habitats and species) and natural resources, as well as problems connected with access to data (data availability and restrictions in use, e.g. copyright). | On-going | Yes | No | | | | Yes | | |
| g) to set up and carry out a scheme to fill in the identified data and knowledge gaps, e.g. by inventories and mapping of biodiversity (e.g. habitats and species) and resources, analysis of existing data or sharing experiences between authorities and stakeholders; | On-going | Yes | Not applicable | | | | On-going | | |
| h) to improve assessments of the status of biodiversity and of impacts of human activities on the marine and coastal environment; in support of the evaluation of favourable conservation status under the EU Habitats Directive and of good environmental status (GES) for marine waters as defined in the EU Marine Strategy Framework directive; | On-going | On-going | Yes | | | | Yes | | |
| i) to manage human activities in coastal and marine areas in such a way that marine resources are used sustainably and natural values of the environment are preserved by reducing user conflicts and adverse impacts of human activities and by addressing the tasks in a to h, in particular in the course of developing and implementing national maritime spatial plans and link to relevant programs of measures for coastal, and marine waters. | On-going | On-going | On-going | | | | On-going | | |

40-1 Conservation and Protection of Marine and Coastal Biotopes, Habitats and Biotope Complexes Categorized as Threatened According to the HELCOM Red Lists

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
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| 1) to protect and conserve threatened marine and coastal biotopes, habitats or biotope complexes, hereafter termed threatened biotopes, habitats and biotopes complexes, in particular those being defined as 'Critically Endangered', 'Endangered' or 'Vulnerable' in the 2013 HELCOM Red List (BSEP No. 138), those coastal biotopes that were identified in the individual states as 'Heavily Endangered' or 'Immediately Threatened' by 'loss of area' in the 1998 HELCOM Red List (BSEP No. 75) and those defined in subsequent revisions of these Red Lists, and which are relevant to their waters. | | No | Yes | | | | On-going | | No |
| 2) to include in or update their national legislation with provisions that provide protection for specific threatened marine and coastal biotopes, habitats or biotope complexes or if considered more appropriate, choose different kinds of existing legal and other instruments to provide similar protection such as incentives, administrative actions or negotiated agreements, | | Yes | Yes | | | | Yes | | Yes |
| 3) that those activities that may significantly affect, destroy or damage such threatened biotopes, habitats or biotope complexes should be prohibited or limited. Therefore, in such cases when new plans and projects may significantly affect the threatened biotopes, habitats or biotope complexes, they should be evaluated in an EIA or similar procedure, in accordance with national legislation, and hereby be mapped by the applicant if such maps do not already exist for the planning area, | | Yes | Yes | | | | Yes | | Yes |
| 4) that derogations from such prohibitions shall only be granted for activities of significant public interest or when the negative impacts can be remedied by appropriate mitigation or compensation measures for the benefit of nature conservation, | | Yes | On-going | | | | Yes | | Yes |
| 5) that threatened biotopes, habitats and biotope complexes, if feasible, be identified and mapped preferably by using the HELCOM HUB classification system for underwater biotopes and appropriate classification systems for coastal biotopes such as the HELCOM classification system in BSEP No. 75 in order to support general management of human activities and maritime spatial planning based on the ecosystem approach, | | No information | Yes | | | | On-going | | On-going |

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| 6) to make an inventory of existing and planned national and regional conservation-, recovery- and/or action plans as well as other relevant programmes and measures for the protection of threatened underwater biotopes, habitats and biotope complexes, | State & Conservation is already collecting this information but countries were welcomed to submit updated information. | | | | | | | | |
| 7) to review by 2018 the effectiveness of conservation-, recovery- or action plans or related activities with main focus on the cause of changes and the effect of activities, and based on these: | | No | No | | | | No | | On-going |
| 7.1. determine what, if any, additional activities are needed to mitigate the identified pressures and/or impacts and develop or amend conservation-, recovery- and/or action plans for HELCOM threatened biotopes, habitats or biotope complexes. Where appropriate, the development could be carried out in cooperation with neighboring countries and/or relevant organizations, | | On-going | On-going | | | | No | | On-going |
| 7.2. aim to implement such plans or activities as soon as possible, and by 2021 at the latest, | | On-going | On-going | | | | On-going | | On-going |
| 8) to consider whether any sites justify selection as new or expanded MPAs for the conservation of HELCOM threatened marine biotopes, habitats or biotope complexes, | | On-going | Yes | | | | On-going | | Yes |
| 10) to monitor, as far as possible, the range, spatial coverage as well as structure and function of HELCOM threatened marine biotopes, habitats or biotope complexes and the pressures and/or impacts that cause threats to them, and to improve the exchange of respective data with HELCOM and other international and national bodies in order to create synergies, | | No | On-going | | | | No | | On-going |
| 10) to monitor , as far as possible, the range, spatial coverage as well as structure and function of HELCOM threatened marine biotopes, habitats or biotope complexes and the pressures and/or impacts that cause threats to them , and to improve the exchange of respective data with HELCOM and other international and national bodies in order to create synergies, | | Yes | On-going | | | | No | | On-going |

Annex 3. Implementation of HELCOM Recommendations under Response Working group

17/12 Measures to Abate Pollution by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Grounding, Collision, Sinking of a Ship or other Maritime Casualty

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
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| ratify the International Convention on Salvage, 1989, in order to establish a modern legal regime concerning efficient and timely salvage operations to maintain the safety of the vessels, to protect other property in danger and the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| ratify the Protocol of 1992 to amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969 (CLC PROT 1992) and the Protocol of 1992 to amend the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971 (FUND PROT 1992), in order to ensure compensation for responding to oil pollution incidents in the exclusive economic zones or equivalent areas of the Contracting Parties | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| i) to cooperate within the International Maritime Organization (IMO): | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. to study possibilities of amending the list of substances annexed to the 1973 Protocol relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Pollution by Substances other than Oil (INTERVENTION PROTOCOL, 1973) by inclusion of other harmful substances, such as nutrients, which give coastal states the right to intervene in sea areas particularly sensitive to any kind of pollution; | | No information | Yes | | No | | No information | | No information |
| 3. to study proposals concerning the amendment of MARPOL 73/78 by a new annex related to solid harmful substances; | | No information | No | | No | | No information | | No information |
| in cases of grounding, collision, sinking of a ship or other maritime casualty, to take appropriate action | | | | | | | | | |

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| <p>on the basis of international law in their exclusive economic zones or equivalent areas, or in response regions in accordance with Regulation 7 of Annex VI to the Convention, to:</p> | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>1. remove the bunker fuel oil, other oils and any other harmful substance carried as a cargo on board which may cause or are likely to cause immediate or delayed hazards to the marine environment, coastlines of the Contracting Parties or their related interests;</p> | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| <p>2. carry out salvage of a ship and removal of a wreck whenever she may pose a danger to the safety of navigation and to the marine environment</p> | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |

19/17 Measures in order to Combat Pollution from Offshore Units

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
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| ensure that each of the offshore units shall be furnished with the Pollution Emergency Plan, developed in accordance with the principles outlined in the Recommendation... | Yes | Yes | Not applicable | | Yes | | On-going | | Yes |
| continuously exchange information through the Helsinki Commission on the location and nature of all planned or accomplished offshore activities and on the nature and amounts of discharges as well as on contingency measures that are undertaken, and also to inform: a) other Contracting Parties with borders to the sea area where offshore activities take place about the contingency measures taken for combatting pollution of the sea, in due time before the offshore activities are started up; and b) the Combatting Committee about the approved measures on the conditions required for each separate offshore unit, as well as on other detailed information, which may be essential for a joint response to pollution incidents. | Yes | Not applicable | Not applicable | | Not applicable | | Yes | | Not applicable |

22/2 Restricted use of Chemical agents and other Non-chemical means in oil Combatting Operations on the Baltic Sea Area

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
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| when in individual cases authorizing the use of chemical agents the appropriate national authority should ensure the use of chemical agents with optimised efficiency and acceptable affects to the marine environment (net environmental benefit) | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Not applicable |
| when the national authority considers whether to authorize the use of chemical agents at open sea it should make careful use of the IMO Guidelines on Oil Spill Dispersant Application | Yes | Yes | No | | No | | Yes | | Yes |
| ensure that - sinking agents are not used at all; and - absorbents are used only when sufficient recovery devices ensure the timely removal of the absorbed oil from the sea surface | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |

28E/12 Strengthening of sub-regional co-operation in response field

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| take necessary steps to assess the risk of oil and chemical pollution and on that basis review emergency and response resources on a sub-regional basis in order to ensure that: | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | On-going | | Yes |
| 1. there are sufficient emergency resources in the area to provide adequate emergency towing, fire-fighting and lightering capacity to a ship in need of assistance within a reasonable period of time; | No | Yes | On-going | | Yes | | On-going | | Yes |
| 2. there are sufficient response resources/capacity to ensure effective collection of pollutants in case of a "medium-size" pollution incident or to control large-scale pollution incidents until the assisting forces arrive on the scene; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | On-going | | Yes | | Yes |
| 3. there is adequate response capacity to enable effective shoreline response | No | Yes | Yes | | On-going | | On-going | | Not applicable |
| draw up bilateral or multilateral agreements and/or response plans for major risk areas and/or dangerous objects located in the vicinity of their borders and where co-ordinated efforts are needed to ensure adequate response to pollution incidents | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| cooperate by carrying out joint surveillance operations and/or flights by one Contracting State over the responsibility area of the other Contracting State(s) in order to ensure that the minimum HELCOM requirements on aerial surveillance are fulfilled | No information | Yes | Yes | | No | | No information | | Yes |
| the Contracting States endeavour to do their best in order to ensure that a ship in need of assistance would be accommodated in the most appropriate place of refuge without undue delay | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| integrate shoreline response into national contingency plans, and cooperate by conducting trainings and organising exchange programmes to ensure swift and adequate response capacity and to develop best practices | Yes | On-going | Yes | | No | | On-going | | Yes |

31/1 Development of national ability to respond to spillages of oil and other harmful substances

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------|----------|----|-----|----|----------------|----|-----|
| in establishing national contingency plans, aim at developing the ability of their combating services, | | | | | | | | | |
| a) to deal with spillages of oil and other harmful substances at sea so as to enable them: | | | | | | | | | |
| (i) to keep a readiness permitting the first response unit to start from its base within two hours after having been alerted; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| (ii) to reach within six hours from start any place of a spillage that may occur in the response region of the respective country; | No | On-going | On-going | | Yes | | On-going | | Yes |
| (iii) to ensure well organized adequate and substantial response actions on the site of the spill as soon as possible, normally within a time not exceeding 12 hours, | No | On-going | Yes | | Yes | | On-going | | Yes |
| b) to respond to major oil spillages | | | | | | | | | |
| (i) within a period of time normally not exceeding two days of combating the pollution with mechanical pick-up devices at sea; if dispersants are used it should be applied in accordance with HELCOM Recommendation 22/2, taking into account a time limit for efficient use of dispersants; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| (ii) to make available sufficient and suitable storage capacity for disposal of recovered or lightered oil within 24 hours after having received precise information on the outflow quantity, | Yes | Yes | On-going | | No | | No information | | Yes |
| c) to respond to spillages of harmful substances other than oil with suitable countermeasures: | | | | | | | | | |
| (i) to consider hereby the provisions in Volume 2 of the HELCOM Manual on Cooperation in Response to Marine Pollution within the framework of the Helsinki Convention; | Yes | On-going | No | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| (ii) to make the necessary efforts within national abilities or sub-regional cooperation agreements to | No | On-going | Yes | | Yes | | On-going | | Yes |

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| recover floating chemicals (floaters) with a reasonable retention time using adequate mechanical pick-up devices at sea normally not exceeding 2 days of combating at sea; | | | | | | | | | |
| (iii) to use their best endeavours in research and development activities to develop suitable techniques or methods to recover such sunken chemicals from the sea bottom if they have a long retention time without dissolving tendencies, | No | No | No | | No | | On-going | | On-going |
| d) should continue with the development and improvement of the combating services, in accordance to the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan and taking into account: | | | | | | | | | |
| (i) relevant factors such as the length and configuration of the coastline, safe haven harbour approaches, vulnerable ecological areas, probability of adverse weather conditions, ice, etc.; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | No | | Yes | | Yes |
| (ii) that this capability should be considered in connection with the national salvage and lightering capacity; and | Yes | Yes | No | | No | | Yes | | Yes |

31E/5 Mutual plan for places of refuge in the Baltic Sea area

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
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| co-operate when providing a place of refuge for a ship in need of assistance in order to avoid unnecessary risk for the ship and the environment | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| designate preferably one and maximum two competent authorities which have the power to take independent decisions concerning the accommodation of ships in need of assistance in order to facilitate rapid actions within this mutual plan for places of refuge | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| ensure that upon request by one Contracting State (Requesting Party) a neighboring Contracting State (Requested Party) will consider accommodating a ship in need of assistance in its waters even if an incident involving such a ship started outside its response zone. | Yes | Yes | Yes | | No | | Yes | | No information |
| the information as included in HELCOM Response Manual should be exchanged between the Requesting Party and the Requested Party | No | Yes | Not applicable | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| exchange information on designated places of refuge, including their location, e.g. to be made available within sub-regional co-operation | Yes | Yes | No | | Yes | | Yes | | No |
| take the necessary steps to make the Mutual Plan for Places of Refuge operational and implemented within/through sub-regional agreements on joint response to pollution at sea | No | No | No | | No | | Yes | | No |
| who have not yet done so, to ratify as soon as possible: '-the 2003 Protocol establishing the International Oil Pollution Compensation Supplementary Fund (Fund Protocol 2003); '-the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage 2002 (Bunker Oil Convention); '-the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in | Yes | On-going | Yes | | On-going | | On-going | | Yes |

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| Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 1996 (HNS Convention) and its Protocol; '-the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims (LLMC Protocol 96); '-the Nairobi Convention on Removal of Wrecks, 2007; and to denunciate the International Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims 1976 (LLMC 76) | | | | | | | | | |
| make a reservation under LLMC Protocol 96 as to he claims in respect of raising, removal and destruction of a sunken, stranded, wrecked or abandoned ship as well as to the claims in respect of removal, destruction and rendering harmless of the cargo of the ship so as higher liability limits than in LLMC Protocol 96 could be imposed on a shipowner in respect of these claims | Yes | Yes | No | | No | | Yes | | Yes |
| in advance bilaterally discuss ways of fair sharing of the operation costs by state authorities in a place of refuge situation not met by the international compensation regime and without prejudice to Polluter Pays Principle | No | No information | No | | No | | No information | | No |
| follow the guidelines attached to this Recommendation when executing powers of the coastal states with regard to ships in need of assistance | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |

33/3 Reporting on incidents involving harmful substances and emergency dumping

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| shall instruct ships flying the flag of the Contracting Parties to apply IMO Resolution A.851(20) concerning General Principles for Ship Reporting Systems and Ship Reporting Requirements, Including Guidelines for Reporting Incidents Involving Dangerous Goods, Harmful Substances and/or Marine Pollutants, | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| IMO Resolution A.851(20) shall be applied as far as practicable in cases of emergency dumping | | Yes | No information | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| for the purpose of notification and consultation on incidents referred to in Article 13 and Regulation 1, Paragraph 2. a) of Annex VII of the 1992 Helsinki Convention, the Governments of the Contracting Parties shall apply the POLREP BALTIC system in case of a need of preventing, reducing and controlling pollution | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |

34E/4 Airborne surveillance with remote sensing equipment in the Baltic Sea Area

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| take further action to | | | | | | | | | |
| a) intensify their endeavour to cover by individual/and joint action the whole of the Baltic Sea Area with regular and efficient airborne surveillance; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | No | | Yes | | Yes |
| b) allow the environmental surveillance flights to be conducted in the manner described in HELCOM Response Manual within their sea areas; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| c) allow other nationality surveillance aircraft, on request by the national contact point defined in HELCOM Response Manual or within the terms of an annual clearance, to conduct environmental surveillance flights and use the instruments needed for observing and documenting discharges; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| d) develop and improve the existing remote sensing systems so that they can function efficiently also at night and in bad weather conditions; and | Yes | Yes | Yes | | No | | Yes | | Yes |
| e) improve the possibility to use the information given by the surveillance as evidence to court for the prosecution of offenders of oil discharge regulations, | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Not applicable | | Yes | | Yes |
| ensure the Baltic Sea wide collaboration in environmental surveillance flights by granting an annual diplomatic clearance for the foreign environmental surveillance aircraft listed in HELCOM Response Manual and, as specified by the terms of such clearance, permitting the following actions in the permit-giving country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and territorial waters: | Yes | Yes | Yes | | No | | On-going | | Yes |
| a) carry out routine environmental surveillance flights with a minimum possible or no prior notification; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Not applicable | | Yes | | Yes |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------|-----|--|----------------|--|----------|--|-----|
| b) use the instruments needed for observing and documenting discharges according to HELCOM Response Manual; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Not applicable | | Yes | | Yes |
| c) document discharges in a manner defined in HELCOM Response Manual; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Not applicable | | Yes | | Yes |
| d) on the request of the permit-giving country's national contact point, defined in HELCOM Response manual: allow environmental surveillance aircraft already airborne to enter the airspace of the permit-giving country for the purpose of collecting evidence of a suspected red-handed polluter or to support response operations; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | On-going | | Yes |
| e) land in the permit-giving country's territory; | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Not applicable | | Yes | | Yes |
| f) if especially mentioned in the clearance: dropping an oil sampling buoy from the aircraft or interviewing master of a ship suspected of discharging | No | No information | No | | Not applicable | | Yes | | No |

36/3 Marine pollution incident reporting and requests for assistance between Contracting Parties in the Baltic Sea area

| Recommended action | DK | EE | FI | DE | LV | LT | PL | RU | SE |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| formal POLREP BALTIC messages warning (POLWARN) and informing (POLINF) on an incident, requesting and rendering assistance (POLFAC), as well as acknowledging the receipt of such messages, shall be handled by the National Contact Point as defined in the HELCOM Response Manual Volume I, | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| POLREP BALTIC messages, containing the information defined in the HELCOM Response manual Volume I Chapter 3, should be submitted using SafeSeaNet and Marine Pollution CECIS, respectively, or other available communication means to ensure communication between all Contracting Parties on an equal basis, | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| urgent official or informal contacts may be made through any available communication means. Any matter of importance for joint efforts should be confirmed as soon as possible by formal POLREP BALTIC messages | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |