

# Provisional agreement HOD 55-2018

## VISION:

A healthy Baltic Sea environment, with diverse biological components functioning in balance, resulting in good environmental/ecological status and supporting a wide range of sustainable human economic and social activities

## GOALS:

Baltic Sea unaffected by eutrophication

Baltic Sea undisturbed by hazardous substances

Environmentally friendly maritime activities

Favourable status of Baltic Sea biodiversity

## Tentative new structure:

### GOALS:

Baltic Sea unaffected by eutrophication

Baltic Sea undisturbed by hazardous substances and marine litter

Environmentally friendly ~~maritime~~ sea-based activities

Favourable status of Baltic Sea biodiversity

New objectives for  
- Litter

New objectives for  
- Underwater noise  
- Loss and disturbance to the seabed

# Eutrophication; input from land-based activities

## Goal addressed:

- Baltic Sea unaffected by Eutrophication

## Pressures addressed:

- Input of nutrients and organic matter

## Cross-references with other segments:

- Reaching the objectives for eutrophication is a necessity to meet the goal of a 'Favourable conservation status of biodiversity'.
- Reaching the goal and objectives for sea-based activities is a requirement for reaching the goal for eutrophication.

## Tentative activities addressed by HELCOM actions:

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Urban land uses (e.g. stormwater)
- Waste treatment and disposal (including waste water treatment)
- Aquaculture, land-based

# General

- Segment on eutrophication, and hazardous substances and litter: focus on input from land-based activities
- Cross-reference between segments required since eutrophication, hazardous substances and litter also originate from sea-based activities
- Longer list of pressures under the sea-based segment
- Maritime Spatial Planning linked to segment on sea-based activities
- Segment on Biodiversity focused on conservation and protection activities, including Marine Protected areas

# Eutrophication, input from land-based activities

*Introduction: A few paragraphs on current status of eutrophication based on results from State of the Baltic Sea report*

## Goals and objectives

The overall goal of HELCOM is to have a **Baltic Sea unaffected by eutrophication** which is characterized by the following **ecological objectives**:

- Concentrations of nutrients close to natural levels
- Clear water
- Natural level of algal blooms
- Natural distribution and occurrence of plants and animals
- Natural oxygen levels

The achievement of ecological objectives is **assessed** every X years by use of HELCOM **status core indicators** on eutrophication as outlined in Annex Y, and as further developed and agreed in HELCOM.

To reach the goal of a Baltic Sea unaffected by eutrophication the **management objective** is **minimum input of nutrients** from all human activities.

This management objective is operationalized by the HELCOM targets **Maximum Allowable Inputs of nutrients** and **National targets for nitrogen and phosphorus inputs** expressed as nutrient input ceilings for each country by sub-basin  
*[include targets, e.g. in a table]*

The reduction of nutrient inputs to the sub-basins of the Baltic Sea is **evaluated** every X years by use of the **HELCOM core indicator on input of nutrients**.

Progress towards national targets for input of nutrients is **evaluated** every X years by use of the **HELCOM follow-up system for the nutrient reduction scheme**.

*[tentatively additional management objectives]*

## Actions to reach the goal and objectives

We will ensure **sustainable agriculture, aquaculture and forestry practices in the Baltic Sea region**, in line with SDG target 2.4 to ensure by 2030 'Resilient agricultural practices that help maintain ecosystems'.

To this end we ADOPT the Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy and AGREE to implement it by 20XX.

WE AGREE to implement the following nutrient recycling measures

- XXXX by

We will ensure **improved water quality through an effective waste water treatment**.

WE FIRMLY COMMIT to the full implementation HELCOM Recommendation 28E/5 on municipal wastewater treatment as a matter of urgency.

- YYYY by

The **implementation** of agreements will be **followed-up** every X years/in 20XX.

*[tentatively additional action areas, examples in Annex 2]*

## Links to SDGs and Helsinki Convention

The steps taken to reduce nutrient inputs to the Baltic Sea will jointly **contribute to the implementation of SDG 14.1**, *'By 2025, Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution'* and **Annex II and III of the Helsinki Convention**.

## Supporting actions

To **support the implementation of actions** related to land-based input of nutrients

WE AGREE to enhance the monitoring of input of nutrients through:

- XXXX by

WE AGREE to developed guidelines on...by XXX...

WE FURTHERMORE PROMOTE further research on...

- XXX

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