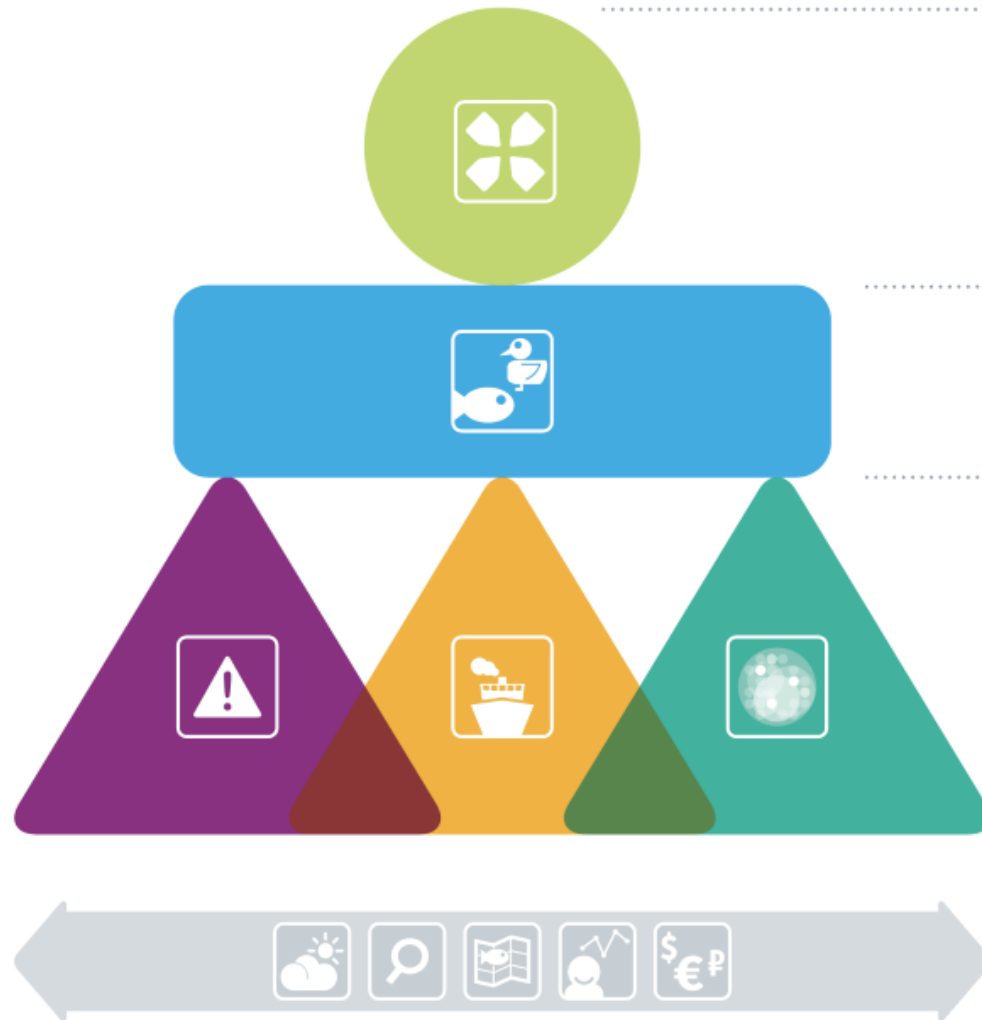



First draft of the updated BSAP




Vision and goals for the updated BSAP






Vision

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

Goal

-  Baltic Sea **ecosystem** is healthy and resilient

Goals

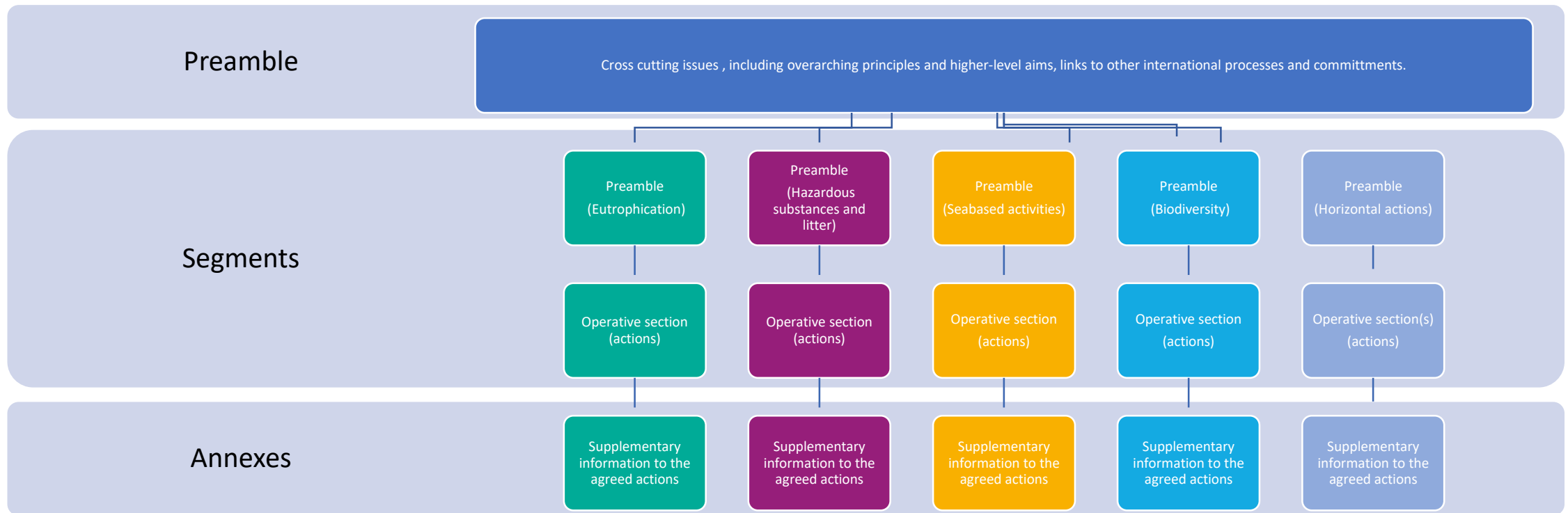
-  Baltic Sea unaffected by **hazardous substances and litter**
-  Environmentally sustainable **sea-based activities**
-  Baltic Sea unaffected by **eutrophication**

Horizontal actions segment

Climate change, monitoring, maritime spatial planning, economic and social analysis, and financing



Structure of updated BSAP



Timeline, tasks and work process for 2021



Preliminary timeline and division of tasks for drafting

BSAP Section	2020							2021		
	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January-May	June	October
BSAP Preamble	BSAP Drafting Group, assisted by Secretariat					GEAR 23-2020	HOD 59-2020, comments	BSAP Drafting Group and Secretariat	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption
Segment preamble	Secretariat				WG meetings	Secretariat/GEAR 23-2020, DG BSAP segment teams	HOD 59-2020, comments	BSAP Drafting Group and Secretariat	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption
Operative section: current state	Secretariat				WG meetings	Secretariat/GEAR 23-2020, DG BSAP segment teams	HOD 59-2020, comments	BSAP Drafting Group and Secretariat	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption
Operative section: desired state	Secretariat				WG meetings	Secretariat/GEAR 23-2020, DG BSAP segment teams	HOD 59-2020, comments	BSAP Drafting Group and Secretariat	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption
Operative section actions	HOD 58-2020	Working Groups, assisted by Secretariat					HOD 59-2020, comments	BSAP Drafting Group and Secretariat	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption
Annex Segment supplementary information	HOD 58-2020	Working Groups, assisted by Secretariat					HOD 59-2020, comments	Working Groups, assisted by Secretariat	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption



BSAP Section	2021						
	January	February	March	April	May	June	October
BSAP Preamble and introduction		DG BSAP: Draft further based on guidance by HOD	HELCOM 42-2021: Review and give further guidance	(DG BSAP: Review based on guidance by HELCOM 42-2021) (HOD intersessional: Review and give further guidance)	(DG BSAP: Review based on guidance by HOD intersessional) (HOD intersessional: Review and give further guidance) (DG BSAP: Final review)	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption
Segment introductions and description of current and desired state	DG BSAP segment teams: Review and draft further based on guidance by HOD	DG BSAP: Overall review of all introductions Draft further the horizontal actions introductions based on guidance by HOD	HELCOM 42-2021: Review and give further guidance (DG BSAP segment teams: Draft further based on guidance by HELCOM 42)	(DG BSAP: Overall review of all introductions Draft further the horizontal actions introductions based on guidance by HELCOM 42-2021) (HOD intersessional: Review and give further guidance) (DG BSAP segment teams: Draft further based on guidance by HOD intersessional)	(DG BSAP: Overall review based on guidance by HOD intersessional) (HOD intersessional: Review and give further guidance) (DG BSAP: Final review)	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption
Operative section actions	DG BSAP segment teams: Rephrase or merge, if needed, based on comments by WGs, CPs and guidance by HOD	DG BSAP: Overall review of actions Rephrase or merge, if needed, based on comments by WGs, CPs and guidance by HOD the actions under horizontal actions segment	HELCOM 42-2021: Agree on actions as far as possible and give guidance for further drafting (DG BSAP segment teams: Draft further based on guidance by HELCOM 42)	(DG BSAP: Overall review of actions Draft further the actions under horizontal actions segment based on guidance by HELCOM 42) (HOD intersessional: Agree on actions as far as possible and give guidance for further drafting) (DG BSAP segment teams: Draft further based on guidance by HOD intersessional)	(DG BSAP: Overall review) (HOD intersessional: Agree on actions as far as possible) (DG BSAP: Final review)	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption
Annex Segment supplementary information	Working Groups, assisted by Secretariat	Working Groups, assisted by Secretariat	Working Groups, assisted by Secretariat	Working Groups, assisted by Secretariat	Working Groups, assisted by Secretariat	HOD 60-2021, approval	Ministerial Meeting 2021, adoption

Content of the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan

Presented by section and segment



Overarching preamble and introduction

Process of further work: to be further considered and developed in DG BSAP in spring 2021 based on guidance from HOD 59-2020, presented for review at HELCOM 42-2021, final approval at HOD 60-2021.

Overarching preamble

- Should the preamble include a paragraph on climate change mitigation and on recognizing the socio-economic benefits of implementing the measures and actions?

Introduction

- Is the content of the introduction fit for purpose, and if not, what is missing/needs to be changed?
- Is the planned content to explain the follow-up of the BSAP suitable, and if not, what else should be considered? Should information on the number and timing of reporting intervals for follow-up be included? If so, what should these be (e.g. 2025 and 2030 or 2023, 2025, 2027 and 2030)?



Segment introductions + description of current/desired state

Eutrophication, hz and litter, sea-based activities, biodiversity

Process of further work: to be further considered and developed in the respective DG BSAP Segment Teams in spring 2021 based on guidance from HOD 59-2020 and comments received in the review processes in 2020, presented for overall review by DG BSAP and guidance at HELCOM 42-2021, final approval at HOD 60-2021.

1. General guidance

- How much background information, and of what type, should the segment introductions contain?
- Could all the topics listed in the guidance as bullet points only be included as a text box or visualization to shorten the text? Could there be other text boxes to explain terminology, e.g. MAI and NIC, or even a glossary of terms?
- Should all the segment introductions have the same sub-headings?
- Can the length of the introductions vary across segments?
- Should there be more focus on strategic statements and if so, of what type and how should they be developed?
- Is the chapter on the current state placed correctly as the start of the operative section or should it rather be included in the segment introductory background text?



Segment introductions + description of current/desired state

Eutrophication, hz and litter, sea-based activities, biodiversity

2. Specific guidance and comments

- Is there specific guidance or comments to the four segment introductions?



Segment introductions

Horizontal actions

Process of further work: to be further considered and developed in DG BSAP in spring 2021 based on guidance from HOD 59-2020 and comments received in the review processes in 2020, presented for guidance at HELCOM 42-2021, final approval at HOD 60-2021.

- Are all relevant topics included under the horizontal actions segment or should additional topics such as hot spots be added?
- Is the name of the horizontal actions segment sufficiently explanatory or should it be changed, or alternatively better defined in the introduction?
- Are the introductions of appropriate length and content?



Operative Section Actions

Process of further work: actions (new actions and existing actions) are to be further considered and developed in DG BSAP and the respective DG BSAP Segment Teams in spring 2021 based on guidance from HOD 59-2020 and comments received in the review processes in 2020.

The work will focus on finalising formulations for the actions, merging actions (where needed) and establishing target years for the actions and their components.

In order to spread the workload actions will be presented for consideration in DG BSAP followed by agreement in principle at HELCOM 42-2021 and proposed intersessional HOD 59A-2021 and final HOD 60-2021.



Operative sections: Guidance for actions related to the CBD process

- Consider how to take the work forward for actions that are related to the CBD processes and provide guidance for further drafting;

Existing action related to CBD process

- Biodiversity
 - Theme: *Spatial conservation measures*
 - Action: *BE02, BE03, BE04*
- Horizontal actions
 - Theme: *Economic and social analysis*
 - Actions: *HAE19, HAE20*



Operative sections: Proposed new actions

- **Implication of agreement in principle:** the content of the action can be agreed to be included in the updated BSAP but there might still be need for reformulation.
- **Aim of agreement in principle:** to ensure that, given the large number of actions, the time and effort of the experts in the DG BSAP and the respective segment teams is prioritised to improve and formulate actions which have support, thus ensuring efficient resource allocation.



Operative sections

New actions

- The Meeting is invited to support the endorsement of actions by WGs as the basis for further drafting in the DG BSAP segment teams.
- If gaps are identified in the drafting process by DG BSAP segment teams, the actions that were not endorsed could be considered to fill in these gaps.

Rephrased and concretized existing actions

- The Meeting is invited to support the proposals for rephrased and concretized existing actions presented for HOD 59-2020 as the basis for further drafting in the DG BSAP segment teams.



Operative Sections: Actions

Process of further work: EITHER The Secretariat will make, to the extent possible, a proposal for redrafting of actions based on the comments received through the review process in 2020 prior to the segment team meetings OR segment teams in early 2021 will redraft based on given comments. Actions will be presented for review at DG BSAP and for provisional approval at HELCOM 42-2021 and proposed HOD 59A-2021 as they become available, and final approval at HOD 60-2021.

Comments to the Excel can still be sent to the Secretariat by 10 December 2020.

General guidance

- How should proposals for amendments to approved existing actions and redrafting of the provisionally approved new actions, as well as merging of new proposals with existing actions, where overlap has been identified, be arranged prior to the next segment team meetings?
- Could new proposals for actions, where gaps are identified through the finalization process, still be submitted after HOD in December 2020?



Proposals by Sweden (doc 5-13)

- **Gather actions of more strategic or aspirational character in the pre-amble or the beginning of the presentation of actions under the operative sections.** To adopt the RAP on underwater noise would be an example of a strategic decision. There are also several proposed actions that cannot be assessed in terms of achievement that could rather be lifted as aspirations. For example, proposals to cooperate with international initiatives could be more suitable to lift in preambular text than in the list of actions.
- **Avoid duplication with already existing agreements.** It has been agreed that HELCOM Recommendations will be part of the HELCOM follow-up system. We note that the proposed rewrites of existing actions and new actions some time overlap to large degree with paragraphs of HELCOM Recommendations. This could create a parallel and incoherent follow-up system since new targets and deadlines are provided in the BSAP. In such cases it is proposed that the updated BSAP includes a commitment to update the relevant Recommendations.
- **Explore options for giving actions with a direct effect on the environment higher attention than supporting actions:**
 - to place supporting actions in the annexes, or
 - place supporting actions to be implemented jointly as part of the Working Groups work plans. Especially for concretizations of existing agreements, as long as the link between concretization and original is clearly present.
- For any of these options to be acceptable we need to ensure mechanisms for follow up and reporting, so that the actions are not lost. Including these concretisations in explorer (updating the original) will ensure that there is a follow up, work allocation, and deadlines.
- **Consider the possibility of aggregating actions in separate decision documents.** This is already the case of the RAP underwater noise, Roadmap on MSP etc. It could be explored to do the same for e.g. actions related to hazardous substances as part of the Swedish proposal to "Develop an action plan for hazardous substances". Another topic with many proposal on separate actions is benthic habitats. It has been proposed to "Create and implement an action plan/toolbox for restoration of habitats". It could be considered to expand such action plan to also include actions related to monitoring and mapping of seabed habitats.



Annexes

- While there seems to be general support for collating the type of information presented in the draft Annexes, the views on how this information should be used and presented varies.
- Current proposals:
 - Segment specific annexes, providing context and supporting information for the implementation and the follow up of the actions under each segment, will be included in the BSAP (original proposal). In addition, using the same process, information needed for the HELCOM Explorer can be collated.
 - A subset of the information should be included for each action directly in the Operative sections. No Annexes should be included in the BSAP.
 - All Annex information should be removed from the BSAP and instead be presented as a supporting document in the form of an implementation plan.
 - The Annex should be included as part of the BSAP however supporting actions needed to implement a measures should be moved from the BSAP to the Annex and presented only there.



Annexes

- **Process for further work:** WGs will continue work to fill in the Annexes in spring 2021, focusing on those actions under their respective mandate and those where provisional approval has been achieved. Final adjustment to the Annexes based on work on the actions is DG BSAP may be needed. Final approval in HOD 60-2021.

General guidance

- Does the proposed content of the annexes provide the relevant information to guide future assessment of implementation and provide context for the actions?
- If agreement on how to present the information cannot be reached at this stage, can HOD support that the work on compiling the information continues under the WGs, and the issue of how to present/use the information can be revisited at a later stage?

Theme	Topic	Action	Type of Action	Target year	Rationale	Potential effect	Implemented by WG/EG	National/joint	Indicator for achievement

Agreement on further work

To finalise the update of the BSAP in spring 2021



Next steps: guidance

- To provide additional guidance to DG BSAP and the segment teams, the Secretariat will update the guidance document (4-11 from HOD 58-2020) based on the agreements of HOD 59-2020 by xx and send it to HODs for intersessional approval via correspondence by xx



Next steps: Overarching preamble and introduction

- Additional comments on the overarching preamble and introduction can be submitted to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) **by 11 January 2021**.
- The overarching preamble and the introduction will be further considered and developed by DG BSAP in spring 2021, based on the guidance from HOD 59-2020 and comments received in the review processes in 2020.
- Further developed drafts will be presented for guidance by HELCOM 42-2021.
- (HOD intersessional and additional DG BSAP segment team and DG BSAP meetings if needed)
- Final approval will take place at HOD 60-2021.



Next steps: segment introductions

- additional comments to the segment introductions of the segments on eutrophication, hazardous substances and litter, sea-based activities, and biodiversity can be submitted to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) by **10 December 2020**.
- the introductions will be further considered and developed in the respective DG BSAP Segment Teams in spring 2021, based on the guidance from HOD 59-2020 and comments received in the review processes in 2020. Special focus in the Segment Teams should be on identifying strategic decisions.
- Further developed drafts will be presented for review by DG BSAP and guidance by HELCOM 42-2021.
- (HOD intersessional and additional DG BSAP segment team and DG BSAP meetings if needed)
- Final approval of the introductions will take place at HOD 60-2021.



Next steps: horizontal actions segment

- Additional comments on the horizontal actions segment can be submitted to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) **by 11 January 2021**.
- The horizontal actions segment will be further considered and developed by DG BSAP in spring 2021, based on the guidance from HOD 59-2020 and comments received in the review processes in 2020.
- Further developed drafts will be presented for guidance by HELCOM 42-2021.
- (HOD intersessional and additional DG BSAP segment team and DG BSAP meetings if needed)
- Final approval will take place at HOD 60-2021.



Next steps: actions

- Comments to the new actions can be submitted to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) using the template and guidance provided as document 5-8-Att.1 by **10 December 2020**
- The Secretariat will, to the extent possible, redraft proposal for actions based on the comments received from Contracting Parties and through the review process in 2020, prior to the segment team meetings in early 2021.
- All actions will then be further considered and developed in the respective DG BSAP Segment Teams in spring 2021, based on the guidance from HOD 59-2020 and comments received in the review processes in 2020.
- Further developed actions will be presented for review at DG BSAP and for provisional agreement at HELCOM 42-2021 and the proposed HOD 59A-2021, as they become available, and final approval at HOD 60-2021.



Next steps: Annexes

- The information relevant for the annexes will be collected by the Working Groups in spring 2021
- Final approval will take place at HOD 60-2021.

