



Document title	Supporting documents
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Agenda Item	5 – Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan
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Reference	

Background

A number of supporting documents are to be adopted alongside the updated BSAP to support its implementation, e.g. roadmaps, topic-specific action plans, strategies. Documents that are adopted alongside the updated BSAP will remain as separate documents and not be merged with the main BSAP document. Such documents will provide concrete support for implementing and achieving the overall visions and objectives of the updated BSAP. These supporting documents complement the BSAP document by offering the possibility to:

- allow for a higher level of specificity in outlining the planned work, setting targets and timelines etc. for a given topic;
- provide a more dynamic format for implementation, as they can be amended and updated as deemed necessary throughout the BSAP period;
- allow for continuity of work as some types of supporting documents, e.g. HELCOM Recommendations, are not timebound.

However, the updated BSAP should include strategic decisions and central points from the supporting documents and the follow-up of the supporting documents should also be established when a given document is adopted.

In addition to the HELCOM documents adopted alongside the updated BSAP, there is also additional material that can be published as background information for the BSAP update process.

The attached document contains a list of the supporting documents that are expected to be adopted along with the updated BSAP as well as a list of other material that can be published as background information for the BSAP update process.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of and comment on the list of supporting documents that are expected to be adopted alongside the BSAP as well as information on the possible other background documents.

Supporting documents and background material for the updated BSAP

A number of supporting documents are to be adopted alongside the updated BSAP to support its implementation, e.g. roadmaps, topic specific action plans, strategies. Documents that are adopted along with the updated BSAP will remain as separate documents and not be merged with the main BSAP document. Such documents will provide concrete support for implementing and achieving the overall visions and objectives of the updated BSAP. In addition, other material that can be published as background material for the BSAP update.

Supporting documents

Climate change fact sheet

The HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2018 emphasized the need to further strengthen the scientific understanding of the impacts of climate change together with multiple other stressors on the Baltic Sea marine environment and agreed that HELCOM should take action to bridge this knowledge to policy and practice. The HELCOM-Baltic Earth Expert Network on Climate Change (EN CLIME) is preparing a Climate Change Fact Sheet, which will contain concise information on climate change effects on 32 parameters. Since climate change will be a cross-cutting issue in the updated BSAP, the Climate Change Fact Sheet could be adopted as a supporting document for the updated BSAP.

HELCOM Regional Action Plan on Underwater Noise

The HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2018 agreed to develop an action plan on underwater noise preferably by 2021. The draft action plan is submitted to HOD 59-2020 as a separate document and it could be adopted alongside the updated BSAP.

Updated HELCOM Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter

To follow up on the commitments made at the HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2018, the Marine Litter Action Plan is currently under review. The aim is to adopt the updated RAP ML as supporting document for the updated BSAP.

The Regional MSP Roadmap 2021-2027

The Regional MSP Roadmap 2021-2027 is currently under preparation.

HELCOM Science Agenda

HELCOM 40-2019 agreed to develop a HELCOM Science Agenda, concomitantly with the update of the BSAP. The Science Agenda is to outline existing and foreseen HELCOM regional knowledge and science needs and will serve the development of activities in HELCOM and to inform external funding mechanisms on the research needs of HELCOM. The draft Agenda is submitted to HOD 59-2020 as a separate document for provisional approval and the aim is to adopt it together with the updated BSAP.

Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy

The HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2018 agreed to elaborate a Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy by 2020 and include possible nutrient recycling measures in the updated BSAP. The first draft of the Strategy is submitted to HOD 59-2020 as a separate document. Due to the close linkage to the updated BSAP, it is proposed that the Strategy would be adopted alongside the BSAP.

Revised Annex III part II of the Helsinki Convention

The HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2013 agreed to review Annex III part II of the Helsinki Convention. The proposal for the revision is submitted to HOD 59-2020 as a separate document. The revised annex could be adopted at the Ministerial Meeting 2021.

Background documents

In addition to the HELCOM documents adopted alongside the updated BSAP, there is also additional material that can be published as background information for the BSAP update process.

Implementation of the 2007-2021 BSAP

The HELCOM Contracting Parties are reporting on the implementation of the existing national actions and the Working Groups on the implementation of joint actions in autumn 2020. A report on the implementation of the current BSAP, similar to the one produced for the Ministerial Meeting 2018 ([link](#)) but in a more concise format, could be produced by the Secretariat to support the discussion in the Ministerial Meeting 2021.

SOM reports

The sufficiency of measures (SOM) analysis, carried out by the HELCOM ACTION project and the HELCOM SOM Platform, supports the update of the BSAP by assessing what kind of improvements in environmental state and pressures can be achieved with existing measures by 2030-2035, and whether these are sufficient to achieve good environmental status in the Baltic Sea. The outputs of the SOM analysis include a methodology report, a main report summarizing the results, and nine topic-specific reports. The separate document on the SOM reports have

BSAP update process

A summary of the BSAP update process could be published in online format, e.g. story map or timeline. The summary could be produced by the Secretariat based on the work plan for the BSAP update. It could be used to answer to the information requests by stakeholders on how the BSAP update process was conducted and also to document the process in an easy-to-read format for future HELCOM purposes.