



10 September 2019

To: HELCOM Heads of Delegation
HELCOM Observers
HELCOM GEAR Contacts and Observers
HELCOM State and Conservation Contacts and Observers
HELCOM PRESSURE Contacts and Observers
HELCOM FISH Contacts and Observers
Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the HELCOM Groups

CC: Identified HELCOM Expert Groups

Re. 2nd HELCOM Indicator Workshop (HELCOM Indicator WS 2-2019), Copenhagen, Denmark, 16-18 October 2019.

Dear Madam/Sir,

With reference to the outcome of HOD 56-2019 ([Paragraph 3.79](#)), and subsequent developments, I have the pleasure to invite you to the 2nd HELCOM Indicator Workshop (HELCOM Indicator WS 2-2019), which will be held on 16-18 October 2019 in Copenhagen, Denmark, at CPH Conference, Tietgensgade 65, 1704 København, Copenhagen. The hosts have also informed that they aim to provide suitable facilities for online participation.

The Workshop will **start on Wednesday, 16 October at 9:00** and will **terminate on Friday 18 October 2019 by 15:00**.

This workshop is targeted towards HELCOM Working Group that commonly deal with indicator work, as well as relevant experts to cover the topics open for discussion. In addition to addressing the HELCOM Working Groups identified here, this invitation is also copied to identified HELCOM Expert Groups so that persons previously contacted and involved in earlier development work are aware of the next step. The Workshop is open to nominations of Experts Group and Working Group members and coordination of participation is expected nationally.

The Workshop builds on the policy-based assessment of the HELCOM indicator catalogue, carried out at the 1st HELCOM Indicator Workshop, where topics and areas of preliminary priority for further development from a dominantly policy perspective were highlighted. This second workshop aims to bring together policy priorities with technical expertise on the identified topics, to ensure practical development and policy needs are aligned and can be formed into practical and concrete steps forward. Thus, a major aim of this Workshop is to establish common ground and an overview of what could be expected from the HELCOM indicators by the Third Holistic Assessment of the Baltic Sea Ecosystem (HOLAS III), and beyond. More specifically, the expected outcomes include agreement on priority areas for consolidation and further development, including identification of shorter- (by HOLAS III) and longer-term (after HOLAS III) aims, and where possible defined approaches for achieving those aims. This will be accompanied by an initial scoping on what an assessment by HOLAS III could look like (to help frame the discussions, noting that this issue is an ongoing process within the GEAR Working Group) and how to address cross-theme aspects, such as linkages between eutrophication and biodiversity or hazardous substances and biodiversity. Preliminary priority areas and a provisional structure for the workshop were set out in the draft Terms of Reference for the Workshop, approved at HOD 56-2019 ([Paragraph 3.79](#), [Document 3-20 Annex 3](#)).

Documents for consideration at the Workshop, with a clear indication of actions proposed by the Contracting Parties, should be sent in electronic form via e-mail to the Secretariat (owen.rowe@helcom.fi). The Secretariat has prepared a document template (available in the Meeting Portal) and would like to encourage the Contracting Parties to use the template when submitting documents to the Secretariat.

Participants of the Meeting are requested to register to the Meeting by answering the [Meeting Participation Survey](#), **no later than Wednesday 9 October**. Please indicate whether you are planning to attend the meeting physically or online.

Documents for the Meeting, which are restricted until the end of the Meeting, will be made available via the HELCOM Meeting Portal on the HELCOM Indicator WS 2-2019 [Meeting Site's Document folder](#). Instructions for the use of the Meeting Portal are available on the [HELCOM Website](#).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jannica Haldin', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jannica Haldin
Professional Secretary