



OUTCOME OF THE 15TH MEETING OF THE MARITIME WORKING GROUP (MARITIME 15-2015)

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OUTCOME OF THE 15TH MEETING OF THE MARITIME WORKING GROUP (MARITIME 15-2015)

Introduction

0.1 The 15th Meeting of the HELCOM Maritime Working Group (MARITIME 15-2015) was held on 23-25 November 2015 in Klaipeda, Lithuania, in accordance with the decision of HELCOM MARITIME 14-2014 and HOD 47-2014.

0.2 The Meeting was attended by Delegations from all the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention, and by Observers from Baltic Ports Organization (BPO), European Community Shipowners' Association (ECSA), Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), and WWF. Ms. Gitte Mondrup and Ms. Ditte Folke Henriksen, Coordinators for PA Ship and PA Safe of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region as well as Ms. Helén Jansson from Zero Vision Tool participated as invited guests. The List of Participants is contained in **Annex 1**.

0.3 Mr. Vytautas Grubliauskas, Mayor of Klaipeda, opened the Meeting and welcomed the participants to Klaipeda.

0.4 The Meeting was chaired by the Chair of HELCOM MARITIME, Ms. Anna Petersson, Sweden. Mr. Jorma Kämäräinen, Finland, and Ms. Natalia Kutaeva, Russia, the Vice-Chairs of HELCOM MARITIME, acted as Vice-Chairs of the Meeting. Mr. Hermann Backer, Professional Secretary, acted as secretary of the Meeting assisted by Ms. Teija-Liisa Lehtinen, Professional Assistant.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

Documents: 1-1, 1-1-Rev.1

1.1 The Meeting adopted the Agenda as contained in document 1-1-Rev.1.

Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from HELCOM meetings

Documents: 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-3-Add.1, 2-4, 2-5

2.1 The Meeting took note of the outcomes of meetings within the framework of HELCOM held in the intersessional period (document 2-5), and discussed issues of relevance to HELCOM MARITIME under relevant Agenda Items.

HELCOM and HELCOM HOD

2.2 The Meeting took note of the decisions on issues related to the Maritime Group (document 2-5) of:

- HOD 47-2014 (Helsinki, Finland, 9-10 December 2014): i.a. NECA Roadmap, MARPOL VI and Helsinki Convention, Green technology & Alternative fuels, Rec. 25/7 winter navigation, MARPOL IV sewage Special Area;
- HELCOM 36-2015 (Helsinki, Finland, 3-4 March 2015): i.a. Rec. 25/7 winter navigation (adoption of revised Rec.), Ballast Water including target species, MARPOL IV sewage Special Area;
- HOD 48-2015 (Tallinn, Estonia, 10-11 June 2015): i.a. Marine litter, Underwater Noise Roadmap, Ballast Water (adoption of revisions to the HELCOM/OSPAR A-4 JHP) including target species (initial list).

2.3 The Meeting took note that HELCOM HOD 48-2015 considered a proposal for a work plan on preparing a roadmap to building a knowledge base on underwater noise and requested the roadmap to be presented to Pressure, Maritime and State&Conservation Groups with a view of endorsing it at the HOD 49-2015 meeting in December 2015.

2.4 The Meeting considered the draft Regional Baltic Underwater Noise Roadmap (document 2-2) and provided the following comments/feedback, to be forwarded to HOD 49-2015:

- Russia expressed the view that the roadmap should specify explicitly, which other fields of human activity beyond shipping are relevant for noise and that point 4.2 should be excluded as it is premature to propose actions.
- ECSA shared the concern by Russia and referred to the work by the IMO on underwater noise from shipping.

2.5 The Meeting considered and discussed the implementation status of ministerial commitments and other information included in the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan follow-up (Maritime Segment) (document 2-4).

2.6 The Meeting took note that some Contracting Parties needed more time to go through the material and requested the Contracting Parties to submit comments to document 2-4 on Follow-up of HELCOM agreements on Maritime to the Secretariat (hermanni.backer@helcom.fi) latest by **3 December 2015** for further submission to HOD 49-2015.

2.7 The Meeting took note that the 49th Meeting of the HELCOM Heads of Delegation (HOD 49-2015) will be held in Helsinki, Finland, 10-11 December 2015.

HELCOM SAFE-NAV

2.8 The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the Fifth and Sixth Meetings of the HELCOM Group of Experts on Safety of Navigation (SAFE NAV 5-2014, Copenhagen, Denmark, 3 December 2014 and SAFE NAV 6-2015, Gothenburg, Sweden, 1 October 2015), and specifically that a key focus of these last two meetings was to develop information material on Under Keel Clearance in the Baltic Sea, which has been submitted to this Meeting (c.f. documents 9-1, 10-1).

2.9 The Meeting took note that the next meeting of SAFE NAV will be held on 29 September 2016 hosted by Denmark.

HELCOM AIS EWG

2.10 The Meeting took note of the outcome of the 26th Meeting of the Expert Working Group for Mutual Exchange and Deliveries of AIS & Data (AIS EWG 26-2015), Gdynia, Poland, 19-20 May 2015.

2.11 The Meeting took note that AIS EWG 27-2016 will be held in the second half of May 2016 in Russia.

2.12 The Meeting took note of the HELCOM Secretariat activities on AIS data processing, e.g. within the [Baltic SCOPE](#) project (documents 2-3 and 2-3-Add.1).

HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST

2.13 The Meeting took note of the information by Mr. Henrik Ramstedt, Co-Chair of HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST, on the outcomes of the Fifth Meeting of the Joint HELCOM-OSPAR Task Group on Ballast Water Management Convention Exemptions (HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST 5-2014), Madrid, Spain, 1-2 December 2014 and HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST 6-2015, Gdansk, Poland, 16-17 September 2015.

2.14 The Meeting took note that during these Meetings the TG has carried out a major revision of the A-4 Joint Harmonized Procedure and the HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST will consider further revisions to the joint A-4 procedure at its next meeting to be held early summer 2016 or 14-15 September 2016 hosted by a OSPAR Contracting Party.

2.15 The Meeting recalled that the TG has a one year mandate and that the draft Terms of Reference of HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST for 2015-2016 (document 2-1) have already been approved by OSPAR.

2.16 The Meeting endorsed the TG BALLAST ToR in document 2-1 for adoption by HELCOM HOD 49-2015, with the change that to the footnote 1 in paragraph 7e the following sentence should be added in italics: "HELCOM MARITIME 15-2015 was of the opinion that this footnote should be deleted".

2.17 The Meeting agreed to approve HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST ToR for the next phase (2016-2017) by correspondence /by a written procedure during spring 2016.

HELCOM RESPONSE

2.18 The Meeting took note of the information by Mr. Ojars Gerke, Vice-Chair of HELCOM RESPONSE, on the outcomes of RESPONSE 19-2014 (Tallinn, Estonia, 25-27 November 2014) and RESPONSE 20-2015 (Brussels, Belgium, 1-3 June 2015) meetings, especially discussions on Places of Refuge, STS transfers, SeaTrackWeb model, work on minimum recommended sub-regional response capacity led by Finland, POLREP message exchanges on incidents in the Baltic (implementation of new HELCOM Recommendation 36/3 adopted by HELCOM 36-2015) (c.f. document 2-5).

2.19 The Meeting took note that currently there is no common regional method for calculating adequate response capacity in the four defined sub-regions (Gulf of Bothnia, Gulf of Finland, Baltic Proper and western Baltic) but that correspondence work under HELCOM RESPONSE is working on this issue in order to be able to revise Recommendation 28E/12 on strengthening sub-regional cooperation in response field. The issue of adequate response capacity in Baltic Sea sub-regions should be elaborated further, i.a. in order to justify additional investments to Baltic response capacity, also from EMSA.

2.20 The Meeting took note that in order to get clarity to the preferred regional channels for HELCOM POLREP message exchange on incidents in the Baltic Sea the participation of all Contracting Parties in the work of the HELCOM RESPONSE sub-group TG POLREP would be essential.

2.21 The Meeting took note that the next meeting of the RESPONSE Group will take place 15-17 March 2016 in Stockholm, Sweden.

HELCOM-VASAB MSP

2.22 The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the Tenth and Eleventh Meetings of the Joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group (HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 10-2015, Gothenburg, Sweden, 29-30 January 2015 and HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 11-2015, Riga, Latvia, 30 September – 1 October 2015).

Agenda Item 3 Ballast water

Documents: 3-1, 3-1-Add.1, 3-2, 3-2-WP.1, 3-3, 3-4

BWM Convention ratification progress

3.1 The Meeting took note of the following information on the national progress in ratification of the IMO Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention:

- Estonia will likely ratify IMO BWMC during 2016
- The Finnish government has submitted draft national legislation on IMO BWMC for consideration by the Parliament last week.
- Latvia is considering ratification and is discussing uncertainties around exemptions and exceptions with ports and national shipping industry.
- Lithuania will consider ratifying in 2016 after the completion of a study on national implications.
- Poland considers to ratify in 2016 and has recently completed a study on the ratification.

3.2 The Meeting took note of the final report of the HELCOM MARITIME *ad hoc* Correspondence Group on Ballast Water Management (CG BALLAST) (document 3-2), thanked Finland and the Coordinator Anita Mäkinen for the intersessional efforts and good results within CG BALLAST and decided to re-establish an *ad hoc* Correspondence Group on Ballast Water Management.

3.3 The Meeting took note of the questionnaire and the initial list of the remaining actions needed for a Regional Baltic Sea plan for harmonized implementation and ratification for the 2004 IMO Ballast Water Management Convention (BWMC) (c.f. document 3-3).

3.4 The Meeting took note of the summary of the answers to the short questionnaire on the ratification and implementation status of the IMO BWMC (2004) among the HELCOM Contracting Parties (c.f. document 3-4).

3.5 The Meeting established a drafting group which produced draft Terms of Reference of the follow-up HELCOM MARITIME Correspondence Group on ballast water (3-2-WP.1), the main tasks being drafting of a mechanism for revising the A-4 target species list and finalizing the regional Baltic Sea implementation plan for BWMC.

3.6 The Meeting approved the Terms of Reference of HELCOM MARITIME CG BALLAST as included in **Annex 2**.

3.7 The Meeting agreed that the draft outcome of the CG concerning procedure for revising the target species list should be circulated also to the HELCOM State and Conservation Group before submission to MARITIME 16-2016.

Ballast water exchange guidance

3.8 The Meeting took note that an interim report of the *ad hoc* Correspondence Group on Ballast Water Management (CG BALLAST) was submitted to HOD 48-2015, and that the *ad hoc* Correspondence Group has come to an agreement on the interpretation of the IMO Resolution A.1088(28) and accordingly, no additional measures are needed in the Baltic Sea area before the D-2 regulations will be enforced and there is no need to establish ballast water exchange areas in the Baltic Sea (see also document 3-2).

3.9 The Meeting recalled the IMO Voluntary Guidances (BWM.2 Cir. 14 2008, BWM.2 Cir. 22 2009 & BWM.2 Cir. 39 2012) on Ballast Water exchange developed, i.a. within HELCOM MARITIME.

Regionally harmonized A-4 exemptions and related risk assessments

3.10 The Meeting took note that HELCOM HOD 48-2015 and OSPAR 2015 endorsed the revisions of the HELCOM-OSPAR Joint Harmonized Procedure for BWMC A-4 exemptions (including the port sampling protocol) based on a proposal and drafting by TG BALLAST 5-2014 (document 3-1).

3.11 The Meeting took note that the revisions reflect, i.a. field experiences with the port sampling procedure during 2012-2014 trials in ports in the Baltic Sea (several ports in Finland, Estonia, Poland, Latvia and Sweden) and the region North-East Atlantic (Rotterdam and Las Palmas). The revisions aim to make the JHP more easy and cost-efficient to apply.

3.12 The Meeting took note that the port sampling protocol has been submitted to the HELCOM STATE&CONSERVATION 3-2015 Meeting in order to enable JHP port sampling to be covered by HELCOM environmental monitoring programme in the future. Lithuania and Germany are leading the overall work on alien species monitoring within STATE&CONSERVATION, will report to the next meeting 11-15 April 2016 and have been requested by STATE & CONSERVATION to cooperate closely with TG BALLAST.

3.13 The Meeting took note that a revised list of Baltic Sea target species drafted intersessionally within the BALSAM project and the *ad hoc* Correspondence Group (CG BALLAST) (document 3-1-Add.1) was submitted to HOD 48-2015 and has since been uploaded to the joint HELCOM-OSPAR A-4 exemption website/tool.

3.14 The Meeting took note that a HELCOM Workshop on target species and their criteria (Tallinn, Estonia, 26 August 2015) discussed further proposals for revisions from Estonia and Lithuania, which were submitted to TG BALLAST 6-2015 and will be considered during the next meeting of the TG (c.f. document 2-5).

3.15 The Meeting took note of the comment by ECSA pointing out the few possibilities achieving low risk using the decision tool for exemptions on ballast water.

3.16 The Meeting took note that the JHP risk assessment provides a recommendation for national decision making on exemptions.

3.17 The Meeting noted that Estonia needs to consider further the documents submitted under this Agenda point.

Agenda Item 4 Airborne emissions from ships and related measures

Documents: 4-1, 4-2, 4-2-WP.1, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6, 6-2

Airborne emissions from ships - general

4.1 The Meeting considered the report on emissions from Baltic Sea shipping in 2014 (document 4-4), thanked Finland for the valuable information, noted that 2015 emissions will be studied in detail, i.a. for SECA effects. The material will be published as Baltic Sea Environment Fact Sheet on the HELCOM website.

4.2 The Meeting noted that it would be interesting to compare the emissions from Baltic Sea shipping with other modes of transport in the Baltic Sea region.

4.3 The Meeting took note of the information by the Secretariat that the HELCOM nutrient pollution Country Allocated Reduction Target (CART) follow-up system, including airborne pollution from ships is under development and will be shared with the Maritime Group when available.

Alternative Fuels and Green Technology

4.4 The Meeting took note of the work by the sub-group under the Maritime Working Group to enhance the co-operation between the public and private stakeholders in the framework of the “Green Technology and Alternative Fuels Platform for Shipping”, including the results of the replies to the questionnaire on Public & Private Cooperation for Sustainable Baltic Sea Shipping (document 4-3).

4.5 The Meeting agreed that the Terms of Reference of the sub-group should be interpreted so that also those industry and NGO actors which are not official HELCOM observers can be members of the sub-group, as public-private partnerships are central for the tasks of the sub-group.

4.6 The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties and industry stakeholders/NGOs to nominate focal point(s) to this sub-group.

4.7 The Meeting recommended that the sub-group Lead Countries (Finland and Sweden) consider the results from the questionnaire together with information from the Zero Vision Tool and other corresponding outcomes, and based on those, identify main obstacles hindering the development of the green shipping and alternative fuels deployment in the Baltic Sea in the respect of Vessel technology, Infrastructure, Finance, R&D and Regulation.

4.8 The Meeting agreed to arrange during 2016 a face-to-face event/ session of the sub-group on Green Technology and Alternative Fuels which could focus on the obstacles [as identified by the Lead Countries].

4.9 The Meeting took note of the comment by Estonia that bio-fuel development is carried out by the industry and is not an issue for intergovernmental co-operation.

SECA

4.10 The Meeting considered the report on the work of the HELCOM Correspondence Group concerning enforcement of the new limits for SO_x emissions entering into force in the Baltic Sea from 1 January 2015 (CG SECA), including preliminary results regarding scrubbing technology and associated legislation (i.a. national practices regarding releases of scrubber water) (document 4-2).

4.11 The Meeting thanked Sweden and the Coordinator Nariné Svensson for the intersessional efforts and good results within CG SECA.

4.12 The Meeting approved the revised Terms of Reference of CG SECA as contained in **Annex 3** and welcomed the offer by Sweden (Nariné Svensson, narine.svensson@transportstyrelsen.se) to continue co-ordinating the CG.

4.13 The Meeting provided following comments concerning final remarks and conclusions of the document 4-2 (page 11) with regard to harmonization of the enforcement measures:

- the EU Member States and the EU Commission are planning to submit draft guidelines for on board sampling and the verification of the sulphur content of the fuel oil used on board ships to the IMO PPR 3 Meeting (c.f. point a);
- common understanding and clear rules regarding wash water discharge from EGCS in general and the use of open loop scrubbers in ports/coastal waters in particular (c.f. point e) is under discussion at the ESSF Sub-Group on Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems;
- when the current guidelines of Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (Resolution MEPC. 259(68)) will be updated, the new guidelines will apply to new EGCS only and not retroactively according to the normal IMO practice;
- measures to be undertaken by the competent authorities in case of malfunction of cleaning technologies (such as EGCS) have also been discussed at the ESSF Sub-gGoup on EGCS and there are plans to discuss this issue further at IMO;
- fines for infringements could be considered as part of the work on revising HELCOM Recommendation 19/14;
- remote sensing should be considered only as an indicative tool to enable risk based approach to fuel sampling;
- ECSA pointed out the unfair treatment from charging ships for sulphur inspections in some countries;
- in principle coastal states have the right to impose stricter national regulations but these will likely be stricter limits, not bans on entire technologies.
- WWF encouraged the Maritime working group to aim for regulations or incentives to stop or minimise discharges of scrubber residues to the sea.

4.14 The Meeting took note of the ECSA request to Baltic Sea States to define a clear and long-term position in regard to scrubber wash water (document 6-2) and of the CLIA Paper on Operation of Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) in Open Loop Mode in EU Waters (document 4-5). The Meeting took further note that according to ECSA and CLIA the usage of open loop scrubbers complying with IMO EGC guidelines is allowed. If any restrictions are to be imposed the key content is that the Contracting Parties should not punish early movers who have already installed open loop scrubbers.

4.15 The Chair summarized the discussion with the following points:

- several delegations are seeking more knowledge on the environmental effects caused by discharges of scrubber wash water and initiatives like the recent ESSF project on wash water sampling may shed more light on the issue;
- even though it is legally possible to impose local regulations, harmonized application is preferable in the region;
- a number of delegations stated that in case restrictions on the use of open loop scrubbers will be introduced these should not be applied to existing installations.

NECA

4.16 The Meeting recalled that a technical meeting to discuss the roadmap for the North Sea NECA and Baltic Sea NECA was held on 30 June 2015, in Helsinki, Finland and took note of the Minutes of the technical meeting (document 4-6).

4.17 Following a proposal by the North Sea countries, the Meeting considered and discussed the roadmap for designating a NO_x emission control area (NECA) in the Baltic Sea in parallel with the North Sea, including the date of submission of the parallel applications to the IMO and the date of compliance for new ships in both NECAs, based on document 4-1 submitted by Denmark.

4.18 The Meeting agreed that

- there is a general agreement of the necessity to designate NECA and effectuate Tier III requirements in the Baltic Sea in parallel with North Sea NECA;
- the effective date in the proposed roadmap should be adjusted to 1 January 2021;
- a synchronized submission and process for the Baltic and North Sea NECA applications is strongly recommended;
- a meeting between the North Sea and Baltic Sea countries during spring 2016 to discuss the elements of Tier III technology, experiences within the North American ECAs and the NECA applications could be considered;
- decisions on how to proceed with the NECA issue and with the draft roadmap agreed by the Meeting should be taken by the upcoming HELCOM HOD/Helsinki Commission meetings.

4.19 The Meeting took note that Finland, for the reason that internal national discussion has not been finalized, could not agree on the proposed dates of the NECA roadmap.

Agenda Item 5 Sewage discharges from ships and port reception facilities

Documents: 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4

MARPOL Annex IV Special Area process

5.1 The Meeting took note of the oral information by Ms. Nariné Svensson, Coordinator of the Correspondence Group concerning effective dates of the Special Area requirements under Annex IV of MARPOL, i.e. that two reports of the CG had been submitted – the first one to HOD 47-2014 and the second one to HELCOM 36-2015. The proposed dates for the special area requirements have been agreed to be 1 June 2019 for new ships and 1 June 2021 for existing ships.

5.2 The Meeting recalled that an agreement regarding joint notification of the adequacy of port reception facilities for sewage by all Baltic Sea countries to IMO MEPC 68 was not reached at HELCOM 36-2015, that eight of the nine Contracting Parties submitted such notifications to MEPC 68 and that MEPC 68 confirmed that it had agreed on the definition of the applicable area and on the sufficiency of the received notifications of that area, whereas the legal implications would be further considered at MEPC 69, following submission of proposals for amendments to MARPOL Annex IV.

Developments in on-board sewage treatment technology

5.3 The Meeting took note of the following information and experience on on-board sewage treatment equipment meeting the MARPOL Annex IV Special Area standards:

- Finland and Norway informed at MEPC in 2014 that manufacturers in these countries (SCANSHIP and EVAC) have certified equipment which meets nutrient reduction requirements for MARPOL Special Areas;
- EU informed that more manufacturers than the two mentioned by Finland deliver equipment meeting the requirements;
- Russia called for more information on sewage treatment equipment which enables compliance
- CLIA highlighted that Annex IV Special Area compliant treatment facilities are considered by the industry as an exception to the general rule of compliance by delivery to PRFs.

Port reception

5.4 The Meeting took note of the updated edition of the HELCOM Overview on Baltic Sea Sewage Port Reception Facilities 2014 released in March 2015 (document 5-1) and provided suggestions for future editions of the PRF overview as follows:

- for the year 2015 it could be sufficient to have a shorter update sheet instead of the whole updated edition of the HELCOM overview on sewage PRF;
- an up-to-date and even more complete picture of the facilities in ports would be helpful;
- it would be useful to cover ferries, not only cruise ships in the future.

- 5.5 The Meeting took note of the information by CLIA on a comparative study on landside and shipboard sewage (document 5-3).
- 5.6 The Meeting took note of the study by NIRAS Sweden AB concerning quality of sewage from passenger ships (document 5-4).
- 5.7 The Meeting took note that these studies come to the same general conclusion: that sewage from ships is more or less similar to sewage from on-land sources except that it is more concentrated.

Work within the PRF Cooperation Platform

- 5.8 The Meeting considered the implementation of the work plan of the HELCOM Cooperation Platform on Port Reception Facilities (PRF) (document 5-2) and decided that updating of the work plan be made by correspondence with the first round of revisions from the Contracting Parties to be sent to the Secretariat by the deadline of **3 December 2015** (hermanni.backer@helcom.fi).
- 5.9 The Meeting took note of the information by Germany that a workshop is being considered to be arranged in 2016 regarding new developments of PRF and that co-funding (organizing) of the workshop would be appreciated.
- 5.10 The Meeting took note of the information by Finland about a stakeholder meeting to be organized in cooperation with CLIA on sewage in late March 2016 in Finland.
- 5.11 The Meeting took note that BPO plans to organize a technical meeting on sewage PRF and would be open for collaboration.
- 5.12 The Meeting took note of the view of CLIA, supported by ECSA, that an important topic for further work would be how to handle cases of exceptional discharges when sewage PRFs are not available for one reason or another, despite promised.
- 5.13 The meeting took note of the view of CLIA that adequacy is to be judged based upon individual ports and passenger ships that call them.

Agenda Item 6 **Other ship-generated wastes and port reception facilities (including marine litter)**

Documents: 6-1

- 6.1 The Meeting took note of the newly adopted [HELCOM Recommendation 36/1](#) on Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP ML), as well as of the Annex with regional actions and voluntary national actions as part of the Recommendation, endorsed by HOD 48-2015 (document 6-1), especially section 2.2. "Regional actions addressing sea-based sources of marine litter", addressing shipping related waste (RS1-3) and waste delivery in ports/marinas (RS4).
- 6.2 The Meeting took note of the information by the European Union on the revision of Directive 2000/59/EC on port reception facilities and the related evaluation study carried out during 2014-2015, presented by Mr. Maik Schmahl (**Presentation 1**).
- 6.3 The Meeting took note of the view by ECSA that more ships in regular traffic need to receive exemptions from the mandatory requirement on delivery of waste.
- 6.4 The Meeting commented port reception and the implementation of the "no-special-fee" system in the Baltic Sea as follows:
- reception of sulphur EGCS waste and ballast water sediments reception is an increasingly important topic;
 - proper on-shore handling of garbage should be ensured in order not to waste the hard work on-board around waste separation;
 - short regular ferry routes might be allowed to arrange their own waste handling.

6.5 The Meeting took note of the ongoing IMO work around a list of non-hazardous bulk ship cargo materials and invited the Contracting Parties to contribute to this important work.

Agenda Item 7 Anti-fouling systems

Documents: 7-1

7.1 The Meeting took note of the preliminary results from an environment friendly cleaning system to remove biofouling organisms from underwater ship hull surfaces (document 7-1), submitted by Finland.

7.2 The Meeting took note of the following information on anti-fouling systems relevant to the Baltic Sea area:

- Sweden has no general prohibitions in place but municipalities can have their own rules;
- Denmark has no mandatory regulations on biofouling, but recommends the use of the IMO Guidelines of 2011 (MEPC 207 (62)).

7.3 The Meeting requested the interested Contracting Parties to submit information on any new issues regarding anti-fouling to the next MARITIME meeting in order to clarify whether there is a need for a new HELCOM Recommendation on this issue.

Agenda Item 8 Detection, investigation and prosecution of offenders of anti-pollution regulations

Documents: 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4

8.1 The Meeting took note of the HELCOM report on illegal discharges observed during aerial surveillance in 2014 (document 8-2), including the current low level of oil spills but recent observations of spills of other substances than oil, presented by Secretariat (**Presentation 2**).

8.2 The Meeting took note of the report of the Bonn Agreement Seminar on Remote Sensing, Legal Regulation and Initiating Proceedings (document 8-1), and specifically the recommendations for the Bonn Agreement on considering the possibility to designate the North Sea as a MARPOL Annex II Special Area due to the increase in spills of other substances than oil.

8.3 The Meeting took note that the EMSA CleanSeaNet images are an important element in regional surveillance.

8.4 The Meeting considered the draft revised version of HELCOM Recommendation 19/14 “A harmonized system of fines in case a ship violates anti-pollution regulations” submitted by Denmark (document 8-3).

8.5 The Meeting was of the opinion that this HELCOM Recommendation is a very useful document, exact levels of fines for the revision should be considered further, minor offences and cases like non-availability/malfunction of PRF facilities could be reflected upon and that MARPOL Annex VI should be considered to be added to the list of violations.

8.6 The Meeting took note that some Contracting Parties rely mainly on criminal sanctions, which limits a practical application of harmonized level of administrative fines.

8.7 The Meeting established a Correspondence Group which will work further with the revised Recommendation 19/14 and will report to the next meeting of the Maritime Group (ToR contained in document 8-3-WP.1, attached as **Annex 4**) and welcomed the offer by Denmark (Sille Juhl Prang, sipra@nst.dk) to co-ordinate the CG.

8.8 The Meeting took note of the work of the Correspondence Group on Ship-to-Ship and Bunkering Transfer Operations established by MARITIME 14-2014 and considered the revision of HELCOM

Recommendation 28/3 on bunkering operations and ship-to-ship cargo transfer of oils in the Baltic Sea Area (c.f. document 8-4).

8.9 The Meeting took note that a questionnaire had been developed by the coordinator of the Correspondence Group to clarify among the Baltic Sea actors, what are the needed amendments to HELCOM Recommendation 28/3 on bunkering and STS operations and work on a revised Recommendation.

8.10 The Meeting further took note that replies to the questionnaire have been received from Denmark, Finland, Germany and Lithuania. The remaining Contracting Parties were encouraged to submit their replies as soon as possible, preferably by **3 December 2015**.

8.11 The Meeting re-established the Correspondence Group to continue the revision of HELCOM Recommendation 28/3 after the Meeting, with updated Terms of Reference (document 8-4-WP.1), attached as **Annex 5**, and welcomed the offer by Finland to co-ordinate the CG (co-ordinator to be defined).

Agenda Item 9 Safety of navigation and related matters

Documents: 9-1, 9-2, 9-3, 9-4, 9-5, 9-5-Rev.1, 9-6

Accidents in the Baltic Sea

9.1 The Meeting took note that the HELCOM report on shipping accidents during 2014 in the Baltic Sea region will be completed intersessionally and has not been submitted to the MARITIME 15-2015 Meeting.

9.2 The Meeting took note of the proposal for a tool for regular Baltic Sea-wide risk assessments on ship traffic (document 9-4).

9.3 The Meeting took note that HELCOM RESPONSE 20-2015 welcomed the idea to start preparations for a joint project application by the Regional Seas Conventions Secretariats and key partners on such a joint open-access risk assessment tool to the call for prevention and preparedness next year as well as that the proposal for developing a regional risk assessment tool for ships is also included in the process of drafting HELCOM GEAR programme of joint measures to be presented at HOD 49-2015.

9.4 The Meeting supported the initiative for such a risk assessment tool, with the view of raising the idea of the proposal at HOD 49-2015.

Under Keel Clearance

9.5 The Meeting took note of the information directed for mariners on under keel clearance (UKC) (document 9-1) and endorsed the proposal to publish the UKC information material as a separate section in the "safety of navigation" chapter of the Clean Seas Guide (c.f. document 10-1-Rev.2) and took note that SAFE NAV requested the Contracting Parties to develop the material further in other global fora.

9.6 The Meeting took note of the information by Finland that IHO in its recent meeting has decided to form a project group led by Australia on UKC and route planning on ECDIS platforms.

Re-surveys

9.7 The Meeting took note of the updated information by Sweden on the FAMOS project—Finalising Surveys for the Baltic Motorways of the Sea (document 9-6).

9.8 The Meeting took note of the information on the status report of HELCOM-BSHC Baltic Sea Re-survey Scheme (document 9-5-Rev.1), presented by Mr. Seppo Mäkinen, Finnish Transport Agency (**Presentation 3**) and thanked the BSHC for the good progress on re-surveys in the Baltic Sea during the recent years.

9.9 The Meeting endorsed the presented future actions and encouraged the member states to support re-survey project proposals such as the FAMOS follow-up in order to meet the Re-Survey Scheme timetables agreed by the 2013 HELCOM Copenhagen Ministerial Meeting.

E-navigation

- 9.10 The Meeting took note of the following information by the EU in the field of e-navigation:
- the implementation of the National Single Windows (NSW) required by the reporting formalities directive 2010/65/EU in June 2015;
 - the launching of the work to harmonize the Cargo eManifest by the Commission services: the Commission will start with the development of an enhanced NSW prototype in cooperation with EMSA;
 - the Norwegian initiative in IMO of a project on the Single Window that the Commission fully supports.

Ice navigation

- 9.11 The Meeting took note that HELCOM 36-2015 adopted the revised [HELCOM Recommendation 25/7](#) on Safety of Winter Navigation in the Baltic Sea area, with the new Annex on Approximate correspondence between Ice Classes.
- 9.12 The Meeting considered the proposed amendments to the Annex on Approximate correspondence between Ice Classes of the Finnish-Swedish Ice Class Rules (Baltic Ice Classes) and the Ice Classes of other Classification Societies of the Attachment of HELCOM Recommendation 25/7 (document 9-3).
- 9.13 The Meeting agreed on the proposed amendments to HELCOM Recommendation 25/7 and decided that the draft revised Recommendation can be submitted to HELCOM 37-2016 for adoption.

Dredging

- 9.14 The Meeting took note that HELCOM 36-2015 adopted [HELCOM Recommendation 36/2](#) on Management of Dredged Material (superseding HELCOM Recommendation 13/1) as well as adopted the revised [HELCOM Guidelines for Management of Dredged Material at Sea](#).

Submerged hazardous objects

- 9.15 The Meeting took note of the information on the HELCOM SUBMERGED Assessment (document 9-2), a thematic assessment on environmental risks of hazardous submerged objects covering contaminated wrecks, lost or dumped dangerous goods (e.g. containers), chemical munitions and other objects.

Agenda Item 10 **HELCOM publications, implementation and reporting**

Documents: 10-1, 10-1-Rev.1, 10-1-Rev.2, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4

- 10.1 The Meeting took note of the status of the drafting of the HELCOM Assessment on Maritime Activities in the Baltic Sea region to be completed by 2016 (document 10-2), presented by Professional Secretary Hermanni Backer (**Presentation 4**), and the idea of a HELCOM project on Maritime Assessment submitted to HELCOM HOD 49-2015.
- 10.2 The Meeting considered and endorsed the plans to circulate the first draft of the assessment intersessionally to HELCOM Maritime and other relevant groups' contacts in May 2016 and that after intersessional consultations the draft will be submitted for endorsement to MARITIME 16-2016 and approval for publishing to HELCOM HOD by the end of 2016, with the release of the final layout version in early 2017.
- 10.3 The Meeting took note that the assessment needs some support from the Contracting Parties in terms of checking data compiled by the Secretariat and submissions of datasets which are not possible to compile from publicly available sources and that the Secretariat plans to send out a targeted data request for this purpose to Maritime and other relevant groups' contacts by the end of January 2016.
- 10.4 The Meeting took note that the Secretariat has started building an online tool to visualize AIS data as part of the maritime assessment.

10.5 The Meeting took note that the Assessment publication aims to cover maritime activities and their environmental effects but also document positive long-term trends such as the significant decrease in illegal oil spills in the Baltic Sea 1989-2015.

10.6 The Meeting considered an updated version of the HELCOM Clean Seas Guide (document 10-1-Rev.2), and took note that comments have been submitted by Latvia (document 10-4) and that Finland will provide comments after the Meeting.

10.7 The Meeting requested the Contracting Parties to provide any additional comments in written form to the Secretariat by **3 December 2016**, with the view of submitting a further revised version of the Clean Seas Guide for approval by HOD 49-2015 or HELCOM 37-2016.

10.8 The Meeting took note of the currently valid HELCOM Recommendations and the ongoing long-term process to update them as well as of the open call to submit proposals for prioritized revisions, and proposals for obsolete MARITIME and RESPONSE related Recommendations, based on document 10-3.

10.9 The Meeting agreed on the following plan for updating of HELCOM Recommendations in the field of Maritime and Response Working Groups:

- The Contracting Parties should submit to the Secretariat proposals regarding deletion of obsolete and revision of partly obsolete Recommendations as well as suggestions for merging Recommendations dealing with the same topic by the end of February 2016;
- The Contracting Parties are encouraged to work on and submit concrete revision proposals (track changes) on any HELCOM MARITIME related Recommendation to the MARITIME 16-2016 meeting and in this case inform the Secretariat before embarking to the task to avoid double work;
- The Secretariat will compile material, provide revision proposals according to possibilities by MARITIME 16-2016.

10.10 The Meeting took note of the publishing of the HELCOM Activities report 2014 ([BSEP No. 146](#)).

Agenda Item 11 Activities within other organizations and initiatives

Documents: 11-1, 11-1-Rev.1, 11-2, 11-3, 11-4

EU activities

11.1 The Meeting took note of the information presented by Mr. Maik Schmahl, European Commission, on EU developments within the ESSF Sub-groups on LNG and EGCS (**Presentation 5**).

11.2 The Meeting took note of the information by the EU on the [BONUS call 2015: Blue Baltic](#), opening on 9 November 2015, with the deadline of 10 March 2016. There is a minimum budget of 30 million EUR and maximum funding available per project is up to 3 million EUR. Projects will start in January 2017 at the earliest with each project running for a maximum of three years.

11.3 The Meeting took note of the information on the updated Action Plan of the Policy Area on Maritime Safety and Security (PA Safe) of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, presented by Ms. Gitte Mondrup, Policy Area Coordinator (**Presentation 6**).

11.4 The Meeting took note of the information on the Policy Area on Clean Shipping (PA Ship) of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, presented by Ms. Ditte Folke Henriksen, Assistant Policy Area Coordinator (**Presentation 7**) and that the Steering Group meeting of PA Ship will be held back-to-back with MARITIME 15-2015 on 26 November 2015 in Klaipeda.

Boat recycling and disposal

11.5 The Meeting took note of the EBA Position Statement on End of Life [recreational] Boats (document 11-1-Rev.1).

11.6 The Meeting took note of the information on a Swedish nationwide recycling system for end of life [recreational] boats (document 11-2).

11.7 The Meeting highlighted the importance of the issue of recreational boat recycling and disposal and that it should be considered further either regionally or in other fora.

11.8 The Meeting took note of the information by WWF on Principles for a Sustainable Blue Economy in the Baltic Sea Region (document 11-3), presented by Mr. Mattias Rust (**Presentation 8**) and encouraged the Contracting Parties to answer to the short survey about “All Hands on Deck”.

11.9 The Meeting considered a preliminary list of HELCOM and other meetings in 2015-2016 of relevance to HELCOM MARITIME (document 11-4) and requested the Contracting Parties to provide updates to the list to the Secretariat **by 3 December 2015**.

Agenda Item 12 Any other business

Documents: 12-1

12.1 The Meeting took note of the list of contact addresses and observers of HELCOM MARITIME (document 12-1) and updated it as contained in **Annex 6**.

12.2 The Meeting took note of the information by Russia on NOWPAP MERRAC expert meeting focusing on oiled wildlife response, held in Vladivostok, Russia on 20-22 October 2015 and that HELCOM Secretariat participation was appreciated and that the Baltic Sea has been highlighted by the Russian Federation as a good example in the NOWPAP cooperation.

Agenda Item 13 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Documents:

13.1 The Meeting re-elected Ms. Anna Petersson, Sweden, as the Chair and re-elected Mr. Jorma Kämäräinen, Finland, and Ms. Natalia Kutaeva, Russia, as the Vice-Chairs of HELCOM MARITIME for the next two-year period (2016-2017).

Agenda Item 14 Future work and meetings

Documents: 14-1

14.1 The Meeting discussed the future work of HELCOM MARITIME in the light of developments since MARITIME 14-2014, and considered the Work Plan for HELCOM MARITIME 2014-2016 (document 14-1).

14.2 The Meeting updated the Work Plan (14-1-Rev.1) as contained in **Annex 7**.

14.3 The Meeting decided that the next HELCOM MARITIME meeting (MARITIME 16-2016) will be held during the week 5-9 September 2016 and thanked Estonia for their offer to host the meeting.

14.4 The Meeting agreed that the deadline for submission of Annotations to the Provisional Agenda for MARITIME 16-2016 as well as for documents requiring decisions should be set to be earlier than according to the established procedure, to be set by Secretariat in consultation with the Chair. Based on preliminary consultations after the Meeting this submission date will be 15 June 2016.

14.5 The Meeting thanked Lithuania for hosting the HELCOM MARITIME 15-2015 meeting as well as for the great hospitality and the excellent facilities.

Agenda Item 15 Outcome of the Meeting

Documents: 15-1

15.1 The Meeting adopted the draft Outcome of the Meeting. The final Outcome, incorporating corrections by the Meeting, will be prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Meeting and made available in the HELCOM Meeting Portal.

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Annex 2 Terms of Reference for the Correspondence Group on Ballast Water Management (CG BALLAST)

- 1) Elaborate a mechanism or procedure to continuously revise and update the target species list (as outlined in document HELCOM MARITIME 15-2015, 3-1-Add.1) and consider related responsibilities.
- 2) Finalize the regional Baltic Sea implementation plan for the Ballast Water Management Convention based on document HELCOM MARITIME 15-2015, 3-3, taking into account the outcome of the “Summary of the Answers to the Short Questionnaire on the Ratification and Implementation Status of the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention (2004) among the HELCOM Member States” (as provided in document HELCOM MARITIME 15-2015, 3-4, Annex 2), avoiding pre-empting ongoing discussions at IMO MEPC or PPR concerning issues related to the Ballast Water Management Convention, 2004.
- 3) Submit a final report to HELCOM MARITIME 16-2016 and, if necessary, submit an interim report to the HELCOM HOD meeting [June 2016].

Annex 3 Terms of Reference for the Correspondence Group concerning enforcement of the new limits for SO_x emissions entering into force in the Baltic Sea from 1 January 2015 (CG SECA)

According to the decision of HELCOM MARITIME 15-2015 the Group's ToR have been amended. In line with the revised ToR the Correspondence Group is instructed to carry out in-depth work in 2015-2016 in order to:

1. Carry out general information exchange regarding implementation of MARPOL Annex VI SECA regulations;
2. Provide input to a joint HELCOM enforcement actions based on systematic evaluations and the objective of achieving efficient and cost effective enforcement within the SO_x Emission Control Area (SECA), including:
 - considering follow-up of observed non-compliances - i.e. by notifying the next port through port state control (PSC) or other means of contact;
 - samplings of fuels;
 - considering possible joint, cost effective aerial surveillance or surveillance by ground based monitoring facilities including common standards;
3. In order to ensure a harmonized application, exchange views on the use of exhaust gas cleaning technology and consider:
 - environmental impacts and relevant regulations (international, European, regional, national or local) related to the discharge of wash water from Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) into the Baltic Sea (international/territorial waters), estuaries and ports;
 - management of waste generated by EGCS related legislation and other issues, e.g. composition of waste, port reception facilities, application of no-special-fee system, etc.;
 - a possible need for additional amendments of the IMO Guidelines adopted by MEPC.259(68) "2015 Guidelines for Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems" (approval of EGCS, wash water criteria, other) and the IMO Resolution MEPC. 219(63) 2012 "Guidelines for the implementation of MARPOL Annex V";
4. Streamline the work closely with the activities already going on in the IMO, the European Commission (including ESSF and its sub-groups), in Paris MoU and other relevant activities ;
5. Follow activities and developments at international level in the field of enforcement measures in other SO_x ECA areas (North Sea, North America ECA);
6. Consider a possible revision of 1990 Helsinki Convention Annex IV concerning inclusion of a reference to MARPOL Annex VI particularly related to SECA.

In terms of working procedures the Correspondence Group:

- was established for the period 2015-2016;
- will report to meetings of the HELCOM Maritime Working Group;
- will be led by Sweden;
- will be open to HELCOM Contracting Parties and Observers;
- as far as possible, will work via correspondence, but convene if need arises.

Annex 4 Terms of Reference for the Correspondence Group on updating HELCOM Recommendation 19/14 (CG FINES)

The Correspondence Group should

1. Update the HELCOM Recommendation 19/14 on a harmonized system of fines in case a ship violates anti-pollution regulations on the base of the draft revised Recommendation in document 8-3 submitted to HELCOM Maritime 15-2015;
 - i. noting that the Recommendation only concerns offences subject to administrative fines¹
 - ii. discuss and propose common levels of fines and criteria for the included offences
 - iii. consider adding violations of MARPOL VI to the Recommendation
 - iv. further consider any other appropriate amendments to the Recommendation;
2. Submit a draft of the revised Recommendation 19/14 to HELCOM Maritime 16-2016.

¹ Section I, paragraph 2 of the HELCOM Recommendation 19/14 on a harmonized system of fines in case a ship violates anti-pollution regulations.

Annex 5 Terms of Reference for the Correspondence Group to revise HELCOM Recommendation 28/3 on “Guidelines on bunkering operations and ship to ship cargo transfer of oils, subject to Annex I of MARPOL 73/78, in the Baltic Sea Area” (CG STS)

The Correspondence Group should

- 1) Taking into account amendments by resolution MEPC.186(59) to MARPOL Annex I, i.e. a new chapter 8 regulating prevention of pollution during transfer of oil cargo between two oil tankers and consequential amendments to the Supplement to the IOPP Certificate, Form B, wherein it is indicated that ship has a ship-to-ship (STS) operations plan;
 - a. taking also into account the results from the questionnaire Finland made and reported to MARITIME 14-2014 in document 8-2 concerning the STS activities in the territorial waters and EEZ of the Contracting Parties and their national regulations;
 - b. further taking into account the revised and merged industry guidance on ship-to-ship transfer operations, i.e. Ship To Ship Transfer Guide for Petroleum, Chemicals and Liquefied Gases prepared by the Chemical Distribution Institute, the International Chamber of Shipping, the Oil Companies International Maritime Forum and the Society of International Gas Tanker and Terminal Operators;
 - c. additionally taking into account that bunkering operations and STS operations by the shipping industry and by (several) signatories to the HELCOM are considered as separate operations with quite differing characteristics, for which reason they should be handled in two separate sections in the revised HELCOM Recommendation 28/3: Section A for STS and Section B for bunkering;
 - d. consider if bunkering of alternative fuels such as LNG and biofuels as well as ship to ship transfer of chemical substances should be included in the revised HELCOM Recommendation 28/3, and if decided not to be included, recommend an appropriate way forward regarding these fuel types and substances;
 - e. revise HELCOM Recommendation 28/3 on bunkering operations and ship-to-ship cargo transfer of oils in the Baltic Sea Area;
 - f. consider existing legislation on bunkering and STS-operations related to all relevant fuels and liquid cargos.
- 2) Submit the report to MARITIME 16-2016.

Annex 6 Contact addresses of the HELCOM Maritime Working Group

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Annex 7 Work Plan for the HELCOM Maritime Working Group 2014-2016

ACTION	INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES/RESPONSIBLE	RESULTS/TIME FRAME
Measures and actions enhancing maritime safety		
Propose additional safety measures, including routeing measures	HELCOM MARITIME	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME Meetings of HELCOM SAFE NAV
Follow-up implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 34E/2 on e-navigation	HELCOM SAFE NAV HELCOM AIS EWG	Continuous
Maintain and update the “HELCOM Transit Guide for the Baltic Sea” – chart and web page version	Lead countries: - chart – Germany - web page version - Denmark	Continuous
Contribute to HELCOM Maritime Spatial Planning work with maritime input	HELCOM - VASAB MSP WG HELCOM Secretariat HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous
Follow-up, contribute to and utilize the results of various risk assessments of shipping accidents in the Baltic Sea	In co-operation with HELCOM RESPONSE	Meetings of HELCOM SAFE NAV
Continue the development of AIS Application Specific Messages and promote their use in the Baltic Sea	HELCOM AIS EWG Lead countries: Finland and Sweden	Continuous
Co-operate with the Monitoring Working Group of BSHC to speed-up hydrographic re-surveys and support other hydrographic activities and follow-up the implementation of the Revised re-survey scheme and its time schedules agreed during the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting	Contracting Parties HELCOM MARITIME	Revised re-survey scheme agreed during the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting
Co-operate with Baltic Icebreaking Management to further improve the safety of navigation in ice conditions	Contracting Parties	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME
Implement actions to facilitate use of ECDIS in the Baltic Sea	HELCOM MARITIME	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME
Implement HELCOM Recommendation 31E/5 on Mutual Plan for Places of Refuge	Contracting Parties In co-operation with HELCOM RESPONSE	

Consideration of the ways to further reduce emissions and discharges from shipping		
Follow-up the designation of the Baltic Sea as a Special Area under Annex IV of MARPOL 73/78 sewage discharges from passenger ships	HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous
Follow-up new developments regarding availability of technology to treat sewage to Special Area standards	HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous
A joint submission of HELCOM Contracting Parties to IMO to establish the Baltic Sea NOx emission control area	HELCOM Heads of Delegation to make a final decision	Roadmap on Baltic NECA
Investigate and consider introduction of economic incentives for reducing emissions from ships, which are not covered by Annex VI tier III	Contracting Parties	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME
Investigate and consider alternative fuels and green technology for shipping, including following up improvements in Tier III technologies	HELCOM MARITIME HELCOM MARITIME sub-group on alternative fuels and green technology Joint platform on alternative fuels and green technology for shipping, together with CBSS	HELCOM MARITIME Event organised by HELCOM MARITIME sub-group on alternative fuels and green technology
Follow-up implementation of more stringent limits of SOx emissions that will come into force in 2015	HELCOM MARITIME HELCOM Correspondence Group SECA	Report to HELCOM MARITIME 16-2016
Assessment whether there is room/need for other HELCOM measures to address emissions from shipping	HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous
Port Reception Facilities including full and harmonized implementation of the Baltic Strategy		
Solve open issues included in the 2013 HELCOM Guidance on operational and technical aspects of delivery of sewage to PRF	HELCOM MARITIME Members of the PRF Cooperation Platform	Continuous Meetings of the PRF Cooperation Platform (event 2016 in cooperation with other actors)
Identify further gaps in availability of PRF for ship-generated wastes, mandatory delivery of waste and the application of the "no-special-fee" system, and propose measures to fill in these gaps	Contracting Parties Finland as lead for HELCOM work on "no-special fee" system	
Identify gaps and upgrade PRF for sewage in the Baltic Sea region (cf. 2010 HELCOM Roadmap for upgrading sewage PRF and 2014 HELCOM overview on sewage PRF)	Contracting Parties	Continuous

Regional implementation of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments		
Development of implementation plan identifying further Ballast Water related actions needed in the Baltic Sea region enabling harmonized implementation and ratification of the BWMC and full implementation of the 2007 HELCOM BWM roadmap	HELCOM MARITIME Correspondence Group on Ballast Water Management led by Finland	HELCOM MARITIME 16-2016
Implementing a harmonized BWMC A-4 exemption system in the Baltic Sea	HELCOM MARITIME in co-operation with OSPAR HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST Draft procedure for updating the A-4 target species list Baltic Sea to be circulated to HELCOM STATE	Continuous
Co-operation to ensure enforcement of regulations and detection, investigation and successful convictions of offenders of anti-pollution regulations		
Co-operate with the Paris MoU and EMSA, e.g. to obtain statistics on PSC from the EMSA databases THETIS and THETIS-S	Secretariat	Provide interim results and discuss at HELCOM MARITIME 16-2016
Apply for advisor status of HELCOM to Paris MoU on Port State Control	HELCOM MARITIME	As agreed at the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting
Consider use of AIS in monitoring non-compliant ships	HELCOM AIS EWG	HELCOM AIS EWG Meetings
Play a proactive role in communicating "unexpected" factors according to Directive 2009/16/EC to the PSC authorities, e.g. based on information on non-compliant ships detected in the Baltic Sea, to prompt additional inspections	Contracting Parties In co-operation with HELCOM AIS EWG re. non-compliant ships	Continuous
Collection and analyses of the statistics on ships' movements in the Baltic and on environmental impact of shipping/experience exchange		
Monitor emissions from ships in the Baltic Sea Area	Lead country: Finland	Annual reports on emissions to HELCOM MARITIME meetings
Collect and compile information on shipping accidents in the Baltic Sea	Secretariat/ Contracting Parties	Annual HELCOM report on shipping accidents
Analyse and use annual HELCOM reports on illegal discharges observed during aerial surveillance	In co-operation with HELCOM RESPONSE	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME
Uphold, maintain and further develop the HELCOM AIS System	HELCOM AIS EWG	Continuous
Analyse AIS based information on the shipping in the Baltic	Contracting Parties Secretariat	Continuous
Regulating access to AIS information according to HELCOM Recommendation 33/1	HELCOM AIS EWG national contact points HELCOM Secretariat	Continuous

HELCOM Assessment on Maritime Activities	HELCOM MARITIME HELCOM Secretariat	By 2016, as agreed at the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting
Produce thematic assessments and GES relevant indicators related to Maritime activities to support work of HELCOM GEAR & STATE	HELCOM MARITIME HELCOM Secretariat	Continuous
Information to mariners		
Update and disseminate the revised "HELCOM Clean Seas Guide"	Secretariat	Update when needed Next updated version to be released spring 2016
Other tasks stemming from implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (Maritime Activities segment)		
Further address marine litter, including the problem of "ghost fishing"	KIMO, Contracting Parties	According to the Baltic Sea Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter agreed by 2015
Consider noise from shipping and its environmental effects in light of the developments at the international level in IMO	HELCOM MARITIME	By 2016, as agreed at the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting
Exchange information about offshore activities	HELCOM MARITIME HELCOM RESPONSE	Continuous
Consider an assessment of pleasure craft activities in the Baltic Sea region including, i.a. environmental impacts and risks of accidents	EBA, Contracting Parties	
Consider joint proposals to IMO on clean and safe shipping in the Baltic Sea	HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous

List of Documents

Name	Category	Submitted by	Date
1-1 Preliminary Annotated Agenda.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	04.08.15
1-1-Rev1 Preliminary Annotated Agenda.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	20.11.15
2-1 Draft Terms of Reference for HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST for 2015-2016.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	15.09.15
2-2 Draft Regional Baltic Underwater Noise Roadmap.pdf	CMNT	Secretariat	22.10.15
2-3 Baltic SCOPE project.pdf	INF	Secretariat	22.10.15
2-3-Add1 Baltic SCOPE project.pdf	INF	Secretariat	03.11.15
2-4 Follow-up of HELCOM agreements on Maritime.pdf	CMNT	Secretariat	10.11.15
2-5 Information on the outcomes of recent HELCOM meetings.pdf	INF	Secretariat	17.11.15
3-1 HELCOM-OSPAR Joint Harmonized Procedure for BWMC A-4 exemptions.pdf	INF	Secretariat	15.09.15
3-1-Add1 List of Target Species currently in use in the HELCOM area.pdf	INF	Secretariat	22.10.15
3-2 Final Report of HELCOM MARITIME ad hoc CG BALLAST.pdf	DEC	Finland	02.11.15
3-2-WP1 Draft Terms of Reference for Correspondence Group on Ballast Water Management.pdf	DEC	Drafting Group	24.11.15
3-3 A regional Baltic Sea implementation plan for BWMC.pdf	DEC	Chair of CG on Ballast Water Management	02.11.15
3-4 Summary of Answers to Questionnaire on Ratification and Implementation Status of IMO BWMC among HELCOM Member States.pdf	INF	Chair of CG on Ballast Water Management	16.11.15
4-1 Draft roadmap for the Baltic Sea and the North Sea NECAs.pdf	DEC	Denmark	28.09.15
4-2 Report from HELCOM CG SECA.pdf	DEC	Sweden	29.10.15
4-2-WP1 Draft revised Terms of Reference for the Correspondence Group on SECA.pdf	DEC	Drafting Group	24.11.15
4-3 Report on Questionnaire to support Green technology and alternative fuels.pdf	DEC	Finland	01.11.15
4-4 Emissions from Baltic Sea shipping in 2014.pdf	INF	Finland	16.11.15
4-5 Operation of EGCS in Open Loop Mode in EU Waters.pdf	INF	CLIA	16.11.15
4-6 Minutes from Technical meeting on the Roadmap for North Sea NECA and Baltic Sea NECA.pdf	INF	Finland	16.11.15
5-1 HELCOM Overview 2014 on Baltic Sea Sewage PRF.pdf	INF	Secretariat	22.10.15
5-2 Work plan of HELCOM Cooperation Platform on PRF.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	22.10.15
5-3 Comparative study on landside and shipboard sewage CLIA.pdf	INF	CLIA	22.10.15
5-4 Quality of sewage from passenger ships.pdf	INF	Sweden	29.10.15
6-1 HELCOM Recommendation 36-1 Regional Action Plan Marine Litter.pdf	INF	Secretariat	09.10.15
6-2 ECSA request to Baltic States for long term position in regard of scrubber washwater.pdf	DEC	ECSA	30.10.15
7-1 Preliminary Results - Cleaning System to remove biofouling organisms from underwater ship hull surfaces.pdf	INF	Finland	16.11.15
8-1 Report of Bonn Agreement Seminar on Remote Sensing, Legal Regulation and Initiating Proceedings.pdf	INF	Secretariat	15.09.15

8-2 Annual report on discharges observed during aerial surveillance in the Baltic Sea 2014.pdf	INF	Secretariat	30.09.15
8-3 Draft revised HELCOM Recommendation 19-14.pdf	DEC	Denmark	30.10.15
8-3-WP1 Draft Terms of Reference for the Correspondence Group on updating of HELCOM Recommendation 19-14.pdf	DEC	Drafting Group	24.11.15
8-4 Revision of HELCOM Recommendation 28-3.pdf	DEC	Coordinator of Correspondence Group	01.11.15
8-4-WP1 Draft revised Terms of Reference for the Correspondence Group on Ship-to-Ship and Bunkering Transfer Operations.pdf	DEC	Drafting Group	24.11.15
9-1 Information on ships safe under keel clearance in the Baltic Sea.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	22.10.15
9-2 Information on HELCOM SUBMERGED Assessment.pdf	INF	Secretariat	22.10.15
9-3 Proposals for amendments to HELCOM Recommendation 25-7.pdf	DEC	Finland	29.10.15
9-4 Proposal for a tool for regular Baltic Sea-wide risk assessments on ship traffic.pdf	INF	Secretariat	16.11.15
9-5-Rev1 Status Report of HELCOM-BSHC Baltic Sea Re-survey Scheme.pdf	INF	Finland	18.11.15
9-6 FAMOS - Finalising Surveys for the Baltic Motorways of the Sea.pdf	INF	Sweden	24.11.15
10-1 Clean Seas Guide 2016.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	03.11.15
10-1-Rev1 Clean Seas Guide 2016.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	11.11.15
10-1-Rev2 Clean Seas Guide 2016.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	22.11.15
10-2 Status update on HELCOM Assessment on Maritime Activities 2016.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	06.11.15
10-3 Updating of HELCOM Recommendations.pdf	INF	Secretariat	10.11.15
10-4 Comments by Latvia to Clean Seas Guide 2016.pdf	CMNT	Latvia	20.11.15
11-1-Rev1 EBA Position Statement regarding End of Life Boats.pdf	INF	EBA	16.11.15
11-2 Swedish nationwide recycling system for end of life boats.pdf	INF	Sweden	29.10.15
11-3 Sustainable Blue Economy in the Baltic Sea Region.pdf	INF	WWF	09.11.15
11-4 Preliminary list of HELCOM and other meetings.pdf	INF	Secretariat	16.11.15
12-1 Contact addresses and Observers of HELCOM MARITIME.pdf	CMNT	Secretariat	15.09.15
14-1 Work Plan for HELCOM MARITIME 2014-2016.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	22.10.15
14-1-Rev 1 Work Plan for HELCOM MARITIME 2014-2016.pdf	DEC	Secretariat	25.11.15

List of Presentations

No.	Title	Presented by
1.	Information on the revision of the Directive 2000-59-EC on port reception facilities	Maik Schmahl
2.	HELCOM Annual report on discharges observed during aerial surveillance in the Baltic Sea 2014	Hermann Backer
3.	BSHC Re-Survey progress report and EU CEF project FAMOS	Seppo Mäkinen
4.	HELCOM Assessment on Maritime Activities in the Baltic Sea 2016	Hermann Backer
5.	Principles for a Sustainable Blue Economy	Mattias Rust
6.	Developments within the ESSF Sub-groups on LNG and EGCS	Maik Schmahl
7.	Policy Area on Maritime Safety and Security (PA Safe)	Gitte Mondrup
8.	Policy Area on Clean Shipping (PA Ship)	Ditte Folke Henriksen