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Annotations to the Provisional Agenda

Introduction

The 18th Meeting of the HELCOM Maritime Working Group will be **opened on Tuesday, 25 September 2018, at 10:00** and it is expected to **close on Thursday, 27 September 2018 by 14:00**. The Meeting will take place in Hamburg, Germany, at the premises of the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (address: Bernhard-Nocht-Str. 78, D-20359 Hamburg). The Meeting will be chaired by the Chair of HELCOM MARITIME, Ms. Anna Petersson.

Meeting documents for MARITIME 18-2018 will be submitted by the Secretariat via the HELCOM [Meeting Portal](#). The Secretariat has prepared a document template, also available in the Meeting Portal, and recommends using the template when submitting documents to the Secretariat. The Secretariat kindly requests the Contracting Parties and Observer Organizations to observe the deadlines for submission of documents to MARITIME 18-2018. Basic documents and documents requiring action or a decision by the Meeting should be submitted in electronic form to the Professional Secretary, Mr. Markus Helavuori (markus.helavuori@helcom.fi) by **27 August 2018**. Bulky documents should include abstracts embodying the essence of the proposals and action requested from the Meeting. Documents containing comments to the basic documents as well as information documents should be submitted to the Secretariat by **18 September 2018**.

The participants are kindly invited to [sign up](#) to the HELCOM Meeting Portal at their earliest convenience, if not already done. Please find here [instructions](#) for signing up as a *first time user* of the Meeting Portal. Once you have signed up, the Secretariat will grant you separate permission to access the restricted meeting document library on the [MARITIME 18-2018 Meeting Site](#). After sign up, the participants are kindly requested to [sign in](#) and [register](#) to the Meeting by answering the online meeting registration ("[Participation Survey](#)") not later than **18 September 2018**.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

The Annotations to the Provisional Agenda has been prepared on the basis of the following documents:

- a) Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Maritime Group (MARITIME 17-2017);
- b) Minutes of the 39th Meeting of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM 39-2018) and the 54th Meeting of the HELCOM Heads of Delegation (HOD 54-2018);
- c) Input from working groups and initiatives related to HELCOM MARITIME;

and consultations between the Secretariat and the Chair, Ms. Anna Petersson, and the Vice-Chairs, Mr. Jorma Kämäräinen and Ms. Natalia Kutaeva, of the HELCOM Maritime Group.

The Meeting is invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda as contained in document 1-1.

Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from HELCOM meetings

The Meeting is invited to take note that Finland has taken over the chairmanship of HELCOM, starting 1 July 2018 for the two-year period.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcomes of meetings within the framework of HELCOM held in the intersessional period, and to discuss issues of relevance to HELCOM MARITIME under the relevant Agenda Items (documents to be submitted at a later stage).

HELCOM Brussels Ministerial Meeting 2018

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the [HELCOM Brussels Ministerial Meeting 2018](#), held on 6 March 2018 in Brussels.

Decisions at HELCOM annual meeting and HODs

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the 39th Meeting of the Helsinki Commission ([HELCOM 39-2018](#)), which took place on 5 March 2018, back-to-back with the HELCOM Brussels Ministerial Meeting 2018.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the 53rd Meeting of the Heads of Delegation ([HOD 53-2017](#)), held from 12 to 13 December 2017 and the outcome of the 54th Meeting of the Heads of Delegation ([HOD 54-2018](#)), held from 14 to 15 June 2018.

HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan

The Meeting is invited to take note of the renewed Roadmap of HELCOM activities on ecosystem approach.

The Meeting is invited to take note that the report “Implementation of the Baltic Sea Action Plan 2018 – Three years left to reach good environmental status” (published in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings), and in particular the status of the implementation of regional and national actions related to the work of the Maritime group, and initiate discussions on how the remaining actions could be implemented by 2021.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the strategic plan for the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan approved by HOD 54-2018 and note the discussion at HOD 54-2018 concerning the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan being a priority for the HELCOM working groups, and that the update of the BSAP will be based on the existing expertise in the HELCOM working structure according to the mandates of the working groups and will be overseen by the Heads of Delegation. The Meeting is invited to note that the updated BSAP should include actions necessary to achieve the HELCOM strategic goal of “Maritime activities carried out in an environmentally friendly way”. The Meeting is invited to consider the request by HOD 54-2018 to the HELCOM groups to plan their work accordingly, including any putting in place of needed additional arrangements, e.g. correspondence work and possible additional workshops (c.f. Outcome of HOD 54-2018, paragraphs 3.9-3.12). In this respect, the Meeting is invited to also consider the timeline for the work and decide as appropriate.

HELCOM SAFE-NAV

The Ninth Meeting of the HELCOM Group of Experts on Safety of Navigation (SAFE NAV 9-2018) will be held on 7 September 2018 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

HELCOM AIS EWG

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the 29th Meeting of the HELCOM Expert Working Group for Mutual Exchange and Deliveries of AIS & Data ([AIS EWG 29-2018](#)), held from 12 to 13 June 2018 in Tallinn, Estonia.

HELCOM GREEN TEAM

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the Second Meeting of the HELCOM Sub-group on Green Technology and Alternative Fuels for Shipping ([GREEN TEAM 2-2018](#)), held on 17 May 2018 in Turku, Finland.

HELCOM CP PRF

The Meeting is invited to take note of the current status of work of the HELCOM Cooperation Platform on Special Area According to MARPOL Annex IV (CP PRF).

HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the Eighth Meeting of the Joint HELCOM-OSPAR Task Group on Ballast Water Management Convention Exemptions ([HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST 8-2017](#)), held on 16-17 November 2017 in Helsinki, Finland. HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST 9-2018 will be held from 13 to 14 December in Sweden.

HELCOM RESPONSE

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the 24th Meeting of the HELCOM Response Working Group ([RESPONSE 24-2018](#)), held from 10 to 12 April 2018 in Klaipeda, Lithuania. RESPONSE 25-2018 will be held on 14-16 November 2018 in Rostock-Warnemünde, Germany.

HELCOM SUBMERGED

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the Sixth Meeting of the HELCOM Expert Group on environmental risks of hazardous submerged objects ([SUBMERGED 6-2018](#)) held in Berlin, Germany, 4 May 2018. SUBMERGED 7-2018 will be held on 12 November 2018 in Rostock-Warnemünde, Germany.

HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the 15th Meeting of the Joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group ([HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 15-2017](#)), held from 7 to 8 November 2017 in Warsaw, Poland and the outcome of [HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 16-2018](#), held from 8 to 9 May 2018 in Helsinki, Finland.

The Meeting is invited to consider information to be provided by the BalticLINES project, as requested by HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 15-2017.

Agenda Item 3 Ballast water and biofouling

Ratification and implementation of BWM Convention

The Meeting is invited to recall that the *ad hoc* Correspondence Group on Ballast Water Management (CG BALLAST) was discontinued at MARITIME 17-2017 since its tasks could be partly covered by the COMPLETE project and HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST. The Meeting is invited to consider whether there is a need to re-establish the CG BALLAST (c.f. Outcome of MARITIME 17-2017, paragraphs 3.7-3.8).

Regionally harmonised A-4 exemptions and related risk assessments

The Meeting is invited to share and discuss other issues related to regionally harmonised A-4 exemptions and related risk assessments.

Other BWM related activities

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information on the status of the project “Completing management options in the Baltic Sea Region to reduce risk of invasive species introduction by shipping ([COMPLETE](#)), 2017-2020” (document to be submitted).

The Contracting Parties are invited to inform on any other activities to facilitate the implementation of the BWM Convention.

Biofouling

The Meeting is invited to recall that Heads of Delegation agreed that HELCOM should become a strategic partner to the GEF/UNDP/IMO GloFouling Partnerships project and to support the initiative based on the COMPLETE project and other available resources and material including the core indicator on non-indigenous species (c.f. Outcome of HOD 53-2017, paragraphs 3.25-3.26).

Agenda Item 4 Airborne emissions from ships and related measures

Airborne emissions from ships

Finland is invited to submit information on 2017 airborne emissions from shipping in the Baltic Sea.

The Meeting is invited to consider and discuss observed changes in airborne emissions from shipping.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information on the status of the project “Environmental impact of low sulphur ship fuel: measurements and modelling strategies ([EnviSuM](#)), 2016-2018”.

Alternative Fuels and Green Technology

The Meeting is invited to approve the establishment of the GREEN TEAM reporting mechanism and method based on the traffic light idea as set out in Annex 3 of the Outcome of GREEN TEAM 2-2018.

The Contracting Parties and Observers are invited to share information on the use of alternative fuels (including electric engines) on board ferries or other vessels in the Baltic Sea as well as any other relevant developments in the use of alternative fuels for ships in the Baltic Sea region, including the development of port infrastructure.

Other activities related to airborne emissions

The Contracting Parties and Observers are invited to inform on any other activities related to airborne emissions.

Agenda Item 5 Sewage discharges from ships and port reception facilities

Work within the PRF Cooperation Platform and port reception

The Meeting is invited to consider a proposal for the Work Plan for 2018-2020 of the Cooperation Platform on the Special Area According to MARPOL Annex IV.

The Meeting is invited to recall that HOD 53-2017 highlighted that the PRF information in the IMO online database (GISIS) is outdated for many Baltic Sea ports and requested all Contracting Parties to check and update the contents based on the updated HELCOM PRF Overview and other relevant information (c.f. Outcome of HOD 53-2017, paragraph 3.31).

The Meeting is invited to recall that HOD 53-2017 approved submission of the updated PRF Overview publication to IMO MEPC 73 as an information document, incorporating further updates from Contracting Parties (c.f. Outcome of HOD 53-2017, paragraph 3.32).

Germany is invited to present the final draft of the Best Practice Guidance for the handling of waste water in ports.

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

Overall PRF developments

The Meeting is invited to share updates related to the revision of the Port Reception Facilities Directive (2000/59/EC).

The Meeting is invited to share updates on the implementation of the "no-special-fee" system in the Baltic Sea including national, or sub-national, interpretations in practical applications.

Bulk cargo including fertilizers

The Meeting is invited to recall that MARITIME 17-2017 considered fertilizer cargo handling on the basis of the "Draft report on potential sources of nutrient inputs: Baltic Sea ports handling fertilizers" submitted by CCB and agreed that there is a need for more information on the issue and this information should be collected by an official data request/questionnaire from the HELCOM Secretariat. Following the decision of HELCOM MARITIME 17-2017 (c.f. Outcome paragraphs 6.10-6.17) CCB, together with the Secretariat and Sweden, developed an online questionnaire on fertilizer cargo handling in the Baltic Sea ports, which was also distributed to Contracting Parties for comments and proposals before finalization. Responses to the questionnaire completed by 10 August 2018 will be analyzed and compiled by the Secretariat and the results will subsequently be submitted to HELCOM MARITIME 18-2018 for further consideration (document to be submitted at a later stage).

Marine Litter and MARPOL Annex V

The Meeting is invited to consider possible contribution to the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter, in particular with regard to the following actions:

- RS2 on the development of best practice in relation to inspections for MARPOL Annex V, including harmonized management of data;
- RS 3 on further work on implementation and harmonization of the no-special-fee system in Baltic Sea ports, addressing gaps in existing regulations, enforcement and practices concerning shipping, PRF auditing to assess adequacy of garbage collection and fair waste burden sharing between ports; and
- RS4 on the implementation of the ISO standard (ISO 201070:2013) in relation to PRF.

Other activities related to other ship-generated wastes

The Contracting Parties and Observers are invited to inform on any activities related to other ship-generated wastes.

Agenda Item 7 Anti-fouling systems

The Meeting is invited to note that PRESSURE 8-2018 discussed the possible update of the HELCOM Recommendation 20/4 on *Antifouling paints containing organotin compounds* and welcomed the offer of Finland to intersessionally prepare an initial suggestion to update the Recommendation for consideration by PRESSURE 9-2018 (10-12 October 2018) in order to initiate the update procedure in cooperation with the Maritime Group. The Meeting is invited to discuss the matter and take action as appropriate.

The Contracting Parties are invited to submit information on any new issues regarding anti-fouling systems.

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

The Meeting is invited to recall that MARITIME 17-2017 decided to discontinue the Correspondence Group on updating of HELCOM Recommendation 19/14 on *A harmonized system of fines in case a ship violates anti-pollution regulations* (CG FINES) and agreed to return to the issue of revising Recommendation 19/14 in the future if needed (c.f. Outcome of MARITIME 17-2017, paragraph 8.1).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the annual HELCOM report on discharges observed during aerial surveillance in the Baltic Sea 2016-2017.

Agenda Item 9 Safety of navigation and related matters

Baltic Sea accident data

The Meeting is invited to consider and approve the HELCOM report on shipping accidents during 2016-2017 in the Baltic Sea region, to be submitted by the Secretariat at a later stage.

Re-surveys

The Meeting is invited to share information regarding re-surveys in the Baltic Sea, e.g. information provided by the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC).

E-navigation

The Meeting is invited to take note that HELCOM 39-2018 adopted the amended [HELCOM Recommendation 34E/2 on Further testing and development of the concept of exchange of voyage plans as well as other e-navigation solutions to enhance safety of navigation and protection of the marine environment in the Baltic Sea Region](#).

HELCOM AIS data

The Meeting is invited to take note that AIS EWG 29-2018, as part of the revision of Recommendation 33/1 (see agenda item 10 below), agreed that all HELCOM AIS data received from national servers (including AIS class B data which is mainly related to small vessels) should be shared when a request to access HELCOM AIS data is approved. The Secretariat is considering the possible conflicts of this agreement with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR, (EU) 2016/679) and will report on the matter for consideration and action as appropriate by the Meeting.

Agenda Item 10 HELCOM publications, implementation and reporting

HELCOM Maritime Assessment 2018

The Meeting is invited to take note of the HELCOM Assessment on Maritime Activities in the Baltic Sea region, published as [Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 152](#).

Baltic Sea Clean Shipping Guide 2017

The Meeting is invited to take note of the revised [2017 edition of the Baltic Sea Clean Shipping Guide](#).

State of the Baltic Sea report

The Meeting is invited to take note of the finalization of the second holistic assessment of the state of the Baltic Sea, approved by HOD 54-2018 (to be published on the website: <http://stateofthebalticsea.helcom.fi/>).

HELCOM Recommendations

The Meeting is invited to consider and endorse the draft revised HELCOM Recommendation 28E/13 "Introducing Economic Incentives as a Complement to Existing Regulations to Reduce Emissions from Ships" as agreed by GREEN TEAM 2-2018 (c.f. Outcome of GREEN TEAM 2-2018, paragraph 3.12 and Annex 2) (document to be submitted at a later stage).

The Meeting is invited to take note that GREEN TEAM 2-2018 discussed possible revision of HELCOM Recommendation 28/3 "Guidelines on Bunkering Operations and Ship to Ship Cargo Transfer" and agreed that interested parties should work jointly intersessionally and submit proposals on the matter to GREEN TEAM 3-2019 (c.f. Outcome of GREEN TEAM 2—2018, paragraphs 9.4-9.7).

The Meeting is invited to consider and endorse the draft revised HELCOM Recommendation 33/1 "Unified interpretation in relation to access to and use of HELCOM AIS data" as agreed by AIS EWG 29-2018 (c.f. Outcome of AIS EWG 29-2018, paragraph 4.6 and Annex 4) (document to be submitted at a later stage).

Latvia is invited to inform about the process on revision of HELCOM Recommendation 23/1 "Notification of ship's wastes" (c.f. Outcome of MARITIME 17-2017, paragraph 10.9).

Agenda Item 11 Activities within other organizations and initiatives

Global processes

The Meeting is invited to discuss any other matters related to discussions in international fora such as IMO, IHO and IALA.

EU & EUSBSR activities

The European Commission is invited to inform on EU activities and co-operation within the field of clean shipping including work within the ESSF.

The coordinators of EUSBSR Policy Areas Ship & Safe are invited to present an update of recent and upcoming activities.

Leisure boating

The Meeting is invited to inform on any recent developments on leisure boat recycling and disposal.

Other issues

The Meeting is invited to consider and update a preliminary list of HELCOM and other meetings in 2018-2019 of relevance to HELCOM MARITIME (document to be submitted at a later stage).

Agenda Item 12 Any other business

List of Contacts

The Delegations and Observers are invited to update the list of contact addresses and observers of HELCOM MARITIME (document 12-1).

Underwater noise

The Meeting is invited to take note that HOD 54-2018 agreed on HELCOM input to the process of establishing environmental targets for underwater noise (c.f. Outcome of HOD 54-2018, paragraph 4.30).

The Meeting is invited to consider proposals regarding future work on underwater noise.

Other issues

The Meeting might wish to consider any other matters raised by the delegations and observers at the Meeting.

Agenda Item 13 Future work and meetings

The Meeting is invited to consider and update the Work Plan for HELCOM MARITIME 2018-2019 (document to be submitted at a later stage).

The EU is invited to confirm their offer to host MARITIME 19-2019 at EMSA, Lisbon on 24-26 September 2019. The Meeting is also invited to consider the date and venue of MARITIME 20-2020.

Agenda Item 14 Outcome of the Meeting

The Meeting will be provided with draft Outcome of the Meeting for adoption. 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.