



Document title	Outcomes of recent HOD and HELCOM meetings
Code	2-1
Category	INF
Agenda Item	2 – Matters arising from HELCOM meeting
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Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	

Background

The 57th Meeting of the Heads of Delegation was held in Helsinki, Finland, on 10-11 December 2019. The 41st Meeting of the Helsinki Commission was held in Helsinki, Finland, on 4-5 March 2020. The outcomes of the meetings are available in HELCOM Meeting Portal.

HOD 57-2019, *inter alia*:

- took note of the Terms of Reference of a Correspondence Group on BSAP update set up under the Maritime working group.
- approved the revised Terms of Reference for HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST for 2020-2024, noting that they are still pending approval by OSPAR.
- took note of the updated Work Plan of GREEN TEAM for 2020-2021.
- approved the proposal to revoke HELCOM Recommendation 23/1 on Notification of ship's wastes.
- considered and approved the revised HELCOM Recommendation 23/3 on enhancing the use of pilots in route T and the Sound and agreed to submit it for adoption by HELCOM 41-2020.
- considered the draft HELCOM Recommendation on Deep-Sea Pilotage in the Baltic Sea, corrected an error related to Polish contact details, approved the draft Recommendation and agreed to submit it for adoption by HELCOM 41-2020.
- congratulated Ms. Susanne Heitmüller, Germany, for being elected as Chair and Ms. Natalia Kutaeva, Russia, and Mr. Jorma Kämäräinen, Finland, for being re-elected as Vice-Chairs of the Maritime working group for the next two-year period (2020-2021).

HELCOM 41-2020, *inter alia*:

- considered the Draft HELCOM Recommendation on Deep-Sea Pilotage in the Baltic Sea already approved by HOD 57-2019 and adopted it as HELCOM Recommendation 41/1.
- considered the draft revised HELCOM Recommendation 23/3 on Enhancing the use of pilots in route T and the Sound and adopted the revised Recommendation as HELCOM Recommendation 41/2, superseding the current HELCOM Recommendation 23/3.
- decided to withdraw HELCOM Recommendation 24/7 "Further development and use of drift forecasting for oils and other harmful substances in the Baltic" as well as the associated Guidelines for the implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 24/7, as its provisions have been fulfilled.

- approved, in principle, the Outline and provisional timeline of preparatory work processes to support the third State of the Baltic Sea report, noting that changes might occur as the process is further refined and invited the Contracting Parties to provide comments to the Secretariat by 26 March 2020.
- in principle approved the proposed provisional timeline and preliminary plan for the HOLAS III assessment, noting that a more specific timeline will be prepared and that changes might occur as the process is further refined and invited the Contracting Parties to provide comments to the Secretariat by 19 March 2020.
- took note of the outcome of the first HELCOM Chairpersons meeting, which took place on 2 March 2020, and considered the need for face-to-face meetings of the chairpersons of HELCOM main groups, namely Gear, Maritime, Pressure, State and Conservation, Response, Agri, Fish and HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group, in the future. The Meeting recognized the usefulness of organizing such meetings, but also agreed that consideration should be given to having specific tasks on the agenda to resolve, as well as the possibilities of conducting the meetings online. The Meeting endorsed in principle the organization of such meetings on an annual basis and, if needed, more often, depending on the needs as determined by the Secretariat in consultation with the Working Group Chairs.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcomes of [HOD 57-2019](#) and [HELCOM 41-2020](#) and use the information as appropriate.