



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Sixth Baltic Sea Pollution Load Compilation
Helsinki, Finland, 2-4 June 2014

PLC-6 6-2014

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The sixth meeting of the Sixth Baltic Sea Pollution Load Compilation (PLC-6) project group (PLC-6 6-2014) which will be held on 2-4 June 2014 at the premises of HELCOM Secretariat at Katajanokanlaituri 6 B, 00160 Helsinki, Finland.

The Meeting will start at **10:00 on Monday, 2 June 2014** and is expected to terminate by **16:00 on Wednesday, 4 June 2014**.

The main purpose of the Meeting is to finalize chapters 3, 4 and 5 of the PLC-6 guidelines, as well as the Annexes. The draft annexes on reporting formats need to be discussed in order to clarify any open issues that need to be resolved before finalizing the PLUS database.

Participants are kindly requested to register to the Meeting by responding to the [Participation Survey](#) for the Meeting **not later than 26 May 2014**.

Documents for the Meeting, which are restricted until after the Meeting has ended, will be made available via the new HELCOM Meeting Portal, in the [PLC-6 6-2014](#) Meeting Site. Instructions for the use of the new Meeting Portal are available on the [HELCOM website](#).

Provisional Annotated Agenda

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

The Meeting is invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda.

Agenda Item 2 Information from the Project Manager, Secretariat and Contracting Parties

The Project Manager will summarize on progress of the PLC-6 project, including the status of the road map and outcomes from relevant HELCOM meetings and workshops held since the last PLC-6 project meeting (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to take note of the publication of that a corrected version of the final report of the [PLC-6 intercalibration activity](#) on the PLC-6 project webpage on the HELCOM website. The report was corrected due to that some results from one laboratory not having been included in the original report.

The Meeting is invited to note that the results of the questionnaire on the monitored parameters, monitoring frequency, sampling and monitoring methodology by Contracting Parties in rivers and at point sources can be downloaded as an Excel file via the [PLC-6 project webpage](#). The information has been referred to in the monitoring templates on inputs of nutrients and contaminants to the Baltic Sea, which are being compiled by the HELCOM MORE project for revision of HELCOM monitoring programmes, and hence also supports those Contracting Parties that are also EU members in their MSFD reporting requirements.

The Contracting Parties are invited to inform on their PLC monitoring and assessment activities for PLC-6 in 2014.

Russia is invited to inform about progress with implementation of assessment of nutrient loads to the Baltic Sea being carried out under the BASE project.

Agenda Item 3 Status of PLC data

The PLC Data Manager is requested to present an overview of the status of 2011 and 2012 reporting with the view of having a complete data set for the use of Core Indicator and follow up on HELCOM nutrient reduction scheme. The Meeting is invited to consider the status report, bearing in mind the following schedule for reporting and compiling PLC data agreed on at LOAD 7-2014 (paragraph 4.5 of the outcome of LOAD 7-2014):

- Contracting Parties report PLC (including transboundary) data according to the [HELCOM Recommendation 26/2](#) (by 31.10.) and information on retention by 31.12.
- Data manager reports on missing data at the latest by 16.11 to the Secretariat with a view to keep HELCOM HODs updated on the state of national reporting and again by 15.12.
- Data manager has 3 months for initial follow-up, reminding on missing reporting etc. until 31.01.
- Data manager has 2 month for QA and follow-up and make PLC-dataset by 31.03.
- Load Core Group/indicator preparation group has 1. 5 months to assess data, fill in data gaps, follow-up on suspicious data, and obtain approval by Contracting Parties (to be completed by 16.05.).
- LOAD core group reports on status on data completeness and QA to the Secretariat by the end of May to keep HELCOM HODs updated on the state of preparation of input indicator
- Flow-normalization and trends analysis to be done by mid-June

- Draft indicator/follow-up report CART should be ready by early September

Agenda Item 4 Elaboration of PLC-6 Guidelines

The meeting of PLC-6 5-2014 updated the PLC-6 guidelines chapters 1, 2, and part of chapter 3. Chapters 6 and 7 were in principle finalized. At the meeting the following division of tasks was agreed on for further elaboration of the guidelines:

- Bo Gustafsson (BNI), Seppo Knuutila (Finland), Lars M. Svendsen (Denmark) and Svajunas Plunge (Lithuania) offered to elaborate a section on transboundary loads and to at the same time review chapter 3 on nutrient retention and riverine source apportionment.
- Lars Sonesten (Sweden) and Lars M. Svendsen (Denmark) offered to work on the contents of chapter 4 on source oriented approach.
- Pekka Kotilainen (Data Manager) offered to make a first draft of chapter 5 on periodic reporting.

Contracting Parties are invited to provide a short description (in writing) about the methods they intend to use to quantify retention and source apportionment in PLC-6, including possible links to national websites/documentation with more detailed methodology. This input should be submitted to the Project Manager Mr. Lars M. Svendsen (lms@dmu.dk) and the Secretariat (minna.pyhala@helcom.fi), **by 27 May 2014**.

LOAD 7-2014 felt that there is a need to make an overview of the main transboundary rivers that should be addressed for the follow-up of CART, including information about the status of availability of data on inputs and retention. The PLC-5.5 project has already compiled some information on transboundary loads (document to be submitted later). The Meeting is invited to elaborate a table on the main transboundary rivers, including also information on the status of available data.

The Meeting is invited to consider the latest version of the draft PLC-6 guidelines which has been updated based on comments by HELCOM PLC-6 5-2014 (document to be submitted later) and to finalize chapters 3, 4 and 5.

The Meeting is invited to consider and discuss maps of PLC monitored and unmonitored areas, updated using latest available GIS datasets provided by Contracting Parties as well as comments provided by PLC-6 5-2014 (document to be submitted later).

The Meeting is invited to discuss how and where heavy metals (mandatory parameters) should be included in the PLC-6 guidelines, and to follow up the invitation from MONAS 20/2014 that it would be useful if the PLC-6 project could make an estimate of the financial consequences of changes in the PLC-6 monitoring.

The HELCOM Agriculture/Environmental Forum (cf. HELCOM LOAD 6/2013 document 2/1) discussed the challenge with different scales of available data and assessments (e.g. there often is a mismatch in local, regional and national collection and assessment of data, which leads to uncertainties for assessment of diffuse loads used for various purposes, due to unavailability of local scale information often replaced by modelling). HELCOM LOAD 6/2013 was of the opinion that this challenge should be somehow addressed in the PLC-6 guidelines. The Meeting is invited to discuss and reflect this issue of scale in the guidelines.

The Data Manager is invited to provide revised data reporting formats, which take into account the new PLC data model (document to be submitted later). The Meeting is invited to consider and discuss the revised reporting formats.

The Meeting is invited to bear in mind the OSPAR RID guidelines (document to be submitted later) when updating the guidelines.

Agenda Item 5 Future work

The Meeting is invited to review the list of project contacts (document 5/1) and to update it as necessary.

The Meeting is invited to discuss further work, division of workload, deadlines and the arrangement and tasks of the seventh project group meeting. The Meeting is also invited to consider any adjustments to the roadmap of implementation of the PLC-6 project (cf. document 2-1).

Agenda Item 6 Any other business

The Meeting is invited review the monitoring templates on waterborne inputs used under the MORE project for elaborating a monitoring manual (document to be submitted), in accordance with the outcome of MONAS 20/2014 (cf. paragraph 4.9).

The Project Manager, as member of OSPAR RID Data Task Group (DTG), will inform the Meeting about progress with modernizing the OSPAR RID database on pollution inputs.

The Meeting is invited to discuss any other business.

Agenda Item 7 Closing of the Meeting

The Secretariat will prepare draft decisions of the meeting for consideration and approval by the Meeting.