



## Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Twelfth Meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area

PRESSURE 12-2020

Online, 21-24 April 2020

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<b>Document title</b>	Outcomes of recent HELCOM meetings of relevance for the Pressure Working Group
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### Background

This document contains extracts from the following HELCOM meetings of relevance for the Pressure Working Group:

- 57th Meeting of the Heads of Delegation (HOD 57-2019), Helsinki, 10-11 December 2019
- 41st Meeting of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM 41-2020), Helsinki, 4-5 March 2020
- Ninth Meeting of the Group on Sustainable Agricultural Practices (AGRI 9-2020), online, 30-31 March 2020

Since PRESSURE 11-2019 expert and project groups reporting to PRESSURE met several times: EN DREDS, RedCore DG, MINUTS, EN Noise, PLC-7, ACTION. Outcomes of the groups work are submitted as separate documents. Also, the third meeting of SOM Platform took place at the last week of May. Progress of the SOM analysis is given in the document 6-8 which also contains the link to the outcome of the last meeting.

### Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.

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## Information on the outcomes of recent HELCOM meetings

### HOD 57-2019

#### **Agenda Item 3 Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan**

3.1 The Meeting took note of the ongoing work to implement the Strategic Plan and Work Plan for the BSAP update (document 3-1).

3.2 The Meeting agreed on the proposals from HELCOM Working Groups on actions to be considered as accomplished or that are proposed to be omitted from future implementation and follow-up, as contained in section 2 of document 3-1.

3.3 The Meeting welcomed the proposals from PRESSURE 11-2019 on how to follow-up on the Ministerial Declaration 2018, as contained in section 3.3.1 of document 3-1, and encouraged the Group to work further on the implementation of activities that can be completed by end of 2020.

3.4 The Meeting took note of the ongoing work by HELCOM Working Groups to review existing HELCOM actions (section 4, document 3-1). The Meeting made the following comments to guide the further review and tentative rephrasing of existing actions and follow-up of the HELCOM 2018 Ministerial Declaration:

- formulate actions as concretely as possible;
- propose target years for the implementation of actions;
- consider merging of actions and proposing actions to be left out if not found relevant.

3.5 For the update of the BSAP in general, the Meeting underlined the importance of proposing a limited number of focused and readily conveyable actions of political interest.

3.6 The Meeting recalled that proposals on new actions for the updated BSAP will be available by end of 2019 through the call for synopses that has been extended to HELCOM subsidiary bodies, HELCOM observers and international projects, and that the spring meetings of Working Groups will review the proposals.

3.7 The Meeting took note of the reporting on implementation of HELCOM Recommendations (document 3-10 and 3-10-Rev.1). The Meeting recalled that the reporting will be used as an input to the SOM analysis.

3.8 The Meeting pointed out the need for further work to further clarify why there are difficulties in implementing some of the Recommendations. The Meeting suggested that a short summary on the implementation of Recommendations could be presented to the high-level segment in HELCOM 41-2020.

(...)

3.10 The Meeting took note of the update of the HELCOM Explorer, supported its further development as outlined in Annex 2 of document 3-2, and agreed to include the recently reported HELCOM Recommendations in the updated HELCOM Explorer.

3.11 The Meeting proposed that the implementation gaps, both for recommendations, the current BSAP and Ministerial Declarations, should be further analysed by HELCOM Working Groups.

(...)

3.13 The Meeting recalled the agreement to convene thematic BSAP UP workshops in spring 2020 to discuss and evaluate the outcome of different ongoing activities that are contributing to the BSAP update, including the ongoing review of existing HELCOM actions by Working Groups, the first results of the SOM analysis, and the proposals on new actions. The workshops are aimed at making initial proposals on new actions for the updated BSAP. *(dates for the workshops are given in the document 6-4).*

(...)

3.17 The Meeting discussed the SOM approach in general and the importance of considering how the results could be used to support the BSAP update. The Meeting noted that the data and information that will be used in the analysis will be validated by HELCOM Working Groups and the results will in a first step be discussed at the 3rd Meeting of the SOM Platform. The Meeting agreed to consider the results of the SOM analysis and use them as guidance in the update of the BSAP and that the SOM approach should also be given special attention at HOD 58-2020.

3.18 The Meeting noted that some countries are sceptical of the survey-based approach that is used to assess effectiveness of measures and to evaluate how pressure reductions can be linked to improvements in the state of the environments. The Meeting noted that the comments from national experts received at workshops and meetings in autumn 2019 have been considered by the Secretariat and HELCOM ACTION project and that the surveys have been revised accordingly.

3.19 The Meeting took note of the view of Germany that the aim to quantify the different steps in the SOM approach may not be feasible for all cases and that a more pragmatic approach would have been preferred.

3.20 The Meeting considered the proposed revisions to the goals on the BSAP segments on sea-based activities and biodiversity (document 3-3) and provisionally agreed to formulate them as 'Environmentally sustainable sea-based activities' and 'Baltic Sea ecosystem is healthy and resilient'. The Meeting furthermore provisionally agreed to replace the term 'undisturbed' in the goal on hazardous substance and litter to 'unaffected' to better harmonize with the goal on eutrophication.

3.21 The Meeting considered the proposed revisions to existing HELCOM objectives, new ecological and management objectives, and outstanding issues identified by GEAR 21E-2019 as contained in document 3-3 Add.1.

(...)

3.25 The Meeting agreed in principle on the revised and proposed new ecological and management objectives as part of the provisional framework for the update of the BSAP (Annex 2), while keeping it open for adjustments to individual objectives or proposals on additional objectives as found relevant in the further BSAP update process.

(...)

3.26 In considering the goal of a Baltic Sea unaffected by hazardous substances and litter, the Meeting discussed the relevance of submerged hazardous objects, including warfare materials like chemical weapon, munition and wrecks, which may affect the environment and other activities in the Baltic Sea. In this context, the Meeting noted the view by Poland that the updated BSAP should include actions addressing this problem and the position of Russia that the above-stated matters on chemical weapons and munitions are under umbrella of the other international conventions.

3.27 The Meeting considered document 3-5 on how to draft the updated BSAP (**Presentation 1**). The Meeting supported in general that the updated BSAP should be a relatively short and easy to read document. The Meeting furthermore supported the proposal on the style of writing, including having a layered preamble with segment-specific introductory text.

- 3.28 The Meeting agreed to write the operative sections on each segment in a more straightforward way, as outlined in document 3-5, and to include more detailed information on actions as supplementary information to the main BSAP document. The Meeting noted that at this stage it may however be difficult to identify the Working Groups that will implement the actions as proposed in document 3-5.
- 3.29 The Meeting supported differentiating actions to improve the Baltic Sea from activities that support the implementation of such actions, however noting that it may not always be clear how such a differentiation should be made and that it will be necessary to consider this from case to case.
- 3.30 The Meeting discussed how Regional Action Plans on specific topics, i.e. litter and noise, could be linked to the updated BSAP. The Meeting agreed that these RAPs should remain as separate documents and that the updated BSAP should include strategic decisions and central points from the RAPs and they could be adopted in the revised RAP on marine litter and the new RAP on underwater noise, which is under development. The Meeting underlined that the follow-up of the RAPs should also be established when they are adopted.
- 3.31 The Meeting discussed how to draft the updated BSAP, with the aim of having a first full draft available at HOD in December 2020 and noted that proposals on the formulation of actions will be provided by the HELCOM Working Groups, based on ongoing activities to review existing actions and proposals on new actions to be considered in spring 2020 and further worked on at autumn meetings in 2020.
- 3.32 The Meeting requested the Secretariat to prepare a first drafts of the pre-amble and the introductory text for the respective segment with regards to state of the environment. The Meeting agreed that lead countries should be identified for development of each segment of the BSAP update and that the Secretariat will support the drafting of these segments.
- 3.33 The Meeting agreed that Contracting Parties should inform the Secretariat ([ullali.zweifel@helcom.fi](mailto:ullali.zweifel@helcom.fi)) **by 15 January 2020** of their willingness to take lead of the work on BSAP segments or otherwise contribute to the development of specific segments. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to prepare an outline of how the updated BSAP will be structured to facilitate the drafting process. An online drafting meeting, initiated by the Secretariat, could be held in March/April 2020.
- 3.34 The Meeting considered the document by Sweden on a dedicated financing mechanism for the updated BSAP (document 3-8). The Meeting welcomed the proposal, recognised that financing of implementation of the BSAP in general and possible financing mechanisms will require further consideration both nationally and in HELCOM. The Meeting supported that the issue should be further considered in the BSAP update process, and was of the view that a mapping of existing international financing tools and mechanisms would be useful. NEFCO informed the Meeting that the current BSAP fund, which it manages together with the Nordic Investment Bank, is currently undergoing an external evaluation, providing an opportunity to build on lessons learned. It was also explained that one of the benefits with such funds is the possibility of public and private co-financing.
- 3.35 The Meeting took note of the proposal to update the HELCOM nutrient input reduction scheme (document 3-6).
- 3.36 The Meeting in general supported the proposed approach to update the scheme and integration of the national input ceilings, including input ceilings for transboundary rivers and national shares within transboundary basins but the Meeting also took note of the study reservation on the proposal placed by Estonia and Lithuania.
- 3.37 The Meeting acknowledged that the proposed values for national input ceilings are of preliminary character and will be further specified based on the most recent available scientific data.

3.38 The Meeting requested that the proposed values as well as methodology for their calculation are to be further discussed at the expert level and approved organizing of the thematic workshop on the proposed nutrient input ceilings on 20 April 2020 back-to-back with PRESSURE 12-2020.

3.39 The Meeting discussed further use of the text of the document 3-8 and concluded that the text is to be further elaborated by the Pressure working group in line with the overall drafting of the updated BSAP with subsequent incorporation to the final BSAP document (cf. para 3.28).

3.40 The Meeting took note of the specific comments by Sweden:

- to change text “we commit to not increasing nutrient input or to even” to “we commit to not increasing nutrient input until MAI and GES have been reached”;
- to remove brackets from the text “annual for MAI and every 2 years for input ceilings”.

3.41 The Meeting took note of the information by the EU about the on-going freshwater and marine waters modelling work from the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre in cooperation with different institutes around the Baltic Sea (“Blue2”) and interest in cooperation with the PLC Project Implementation Group.

3.42 The Meeting considered the note regarding matters of competency in the context of the BSAP update (document 3-7) and agreed that a preambular paragraph similar to the one in the 2007 BSAP beginning with “WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO...”, should be included in the updated BSAP, but updated to cover all Contracting Parties as well as other obligations and responsibilities in addition to EU legislation. The Meeting noted that the exact wording still needs further refinement and it was consequently agreed that the matter should be revisited at a later stage when the drafting of the updated BSAP has commenced.

3.43 The Meeting took note of the preliminary results of the survey on knowledge and research needs to initiate the development of a HELCOM science agenda (document 3-9) and of the start-up meeting of the science agenda Task Group, which will take place on 17 December 2019.

#### **Agenda Item 4 Matters arising from the HELCOM Groups**

(..)

Pressure working group

4.14 The Meeting took note of the Outcome of the Eleventh Meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area (PRESSURE 11-2019) held on 23-25 October 2019 in Brussels, Belgium (document 4-9). The Meeting was preceded by two workshops on 22 October 2019, i.e. the fourth HELCOM workshop on implementation of RAP ML (WS RAP ML 4-2019) and the HELCOM Workshop on the analysis of sufficiency of measures for hazardous substances.

4.15 The Meeting supported organizing of a joint meeting with the OSPAR Intersessional Correspondence Group on Underwater Noise (ICG-Noise) in coordination with EU Technical Group on Underwater Noise (TG Noise) to advance underwater noise indicators in connection with the Ocean Noise Conference to be held on 25-29 May 2020 in Barcelona, Spain.

4.16 The Meeting agreed to continue cooperation with the European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme (EMEP) on estimation of airborne inputs of N and selected hazardous substances in the next three-year cycle.

4.17 The Meeting supported the development of a strategic regional policy document on hazardous substances, pointing out the need of extensive involvement of all Contracting Parties in the work on the document.

- 4.18 The Meeting took note of and in general supported the proposal by Denmark to consider a more extensive list of hazardous substances in the HELCOM Pollution Load Compilation work or propose another instrument to make data on inputs of hazardous substances to the Baltic Sea available for the HELCOM community.
- 4.19 The Meeting agreed to convene the next meeting of the Pressure working group (PRESSURE 12-2020) on 21-24 April 2020 in Finland, including a back-to-back workshop on nutrient input ceilings (NIC) on 20 April 2020 and tentatively PRESSURE 13-2020 on the week 12-16 October 2020 in Sweden.
- 4.20 The Meeting took note of the outcome of the workshop with river basin management authorities (RBMA) held on 18-20 September 2019 in Riga, Latvia (document 4-8) and thanked Latvia for hosting the workshop.
- 4.21 The Meeting considered and supported organizing regular meetings with representatives of the river basin authorities with the main aim to consolidate effort to reduce input of nutrients and achieve the BSAP target but also to address other issues related to land-based sources of impact on the Baltic Sea.
- 4.22 The Meeting took note of the proposal by Russia to launch a HELCOM project to harmonize methodologies to estimate natural background losses. Russia also proposed to identify contact points from national river basin management authorities and transboundary river basin commissions as well as representatives of upstream countries to be involved in the continuous dialog with HELCOM expert groups on implementation of the BSAP goals. Russia also informed that dedicated round table will be organized in the Baltic Sea Say (BSD) XXI.
- 4.23 The Meeting further considered tools for involvement of upstream non-HELCOM countries into the joint effort to reduce nutrient load on the Baltic Sea taking note of study reservation by Sweden on final decision regarding the exact mechanism to involve representatives of upstream countries to HELCOM work.
- 4.24 The Meeting considered the report on HELCOM core indicator on inputs of nutrients for the period 1995-2017 (document 4-11) and approved its publication pending the study reservation by Estonia with expected clarification in three weeks' time but not later than the second week of January 2020.
- 4.25 The Meeting agreed on the proposed timeframe for the PLC-8 project (document 4-10) and further agreed to change the deadline for periodic PLC water data reporting and deadlines for the following assessment work and related deliverables.
- 4.26 The Meeting requested the Secretariat to prepare a PLC-8 project proposal specifying project deliverables, working methods and deadlines and to submit the proposal to HELCOM 41-2020 for approval.
- 4.27 The Meeting considered the draft revised HELCOM Recommendation 36/2 and HELCOM Guidelines on management of dredged material at sea (document 4-12), took note of the proposal by Germany to update some paragraphs in the proposed draft as given in the document 4-12-Rev.1 and agreed to submit it to HELCOM 41-2020 for adoption reflecting opinions of all DREDS experts on the cover page.
- 4.28 The Meeting noted of the position of WWF that there is a number of contaminants in the Baltic Sea bottom sediments which are not consider in the HELCOM Guidelines on management of dredged material at sea and that these contaminants might be considered in future revision.
- 4.29 The Meeting considered and in general supported the draft HELCOM Regional Action Plan on Underwater Noise (document 4-17).
- 4.30 The Meeting also took note of specific comments by the Contracting Parties on the document such as:

- Finland proposed to further develop wording in action 2 “habitats and biologically sensitive areas and periods in the Baltic Sea”;
- Sweden proposed to pay attention to the issues related to bottom habitats and noise sensitive periods for those habitats and to consider their integration into the document;
- Russia expressed concern regarding the paragraph 24 in action 2.4 and proposed the clarification rewording as follows “establish a discussion with IMO about possible actions related to the use of noise reducing technologies and operating practices for ships in the Baltic, based on the outcome of HELCOM Maritime meetings”.

4.31 The Meeting in general was of the opinion that the Action Plan should be more ambitious, and action oriented, and further work is to be done in close cooperation EN-Noise and Maritime working group also noting the agreement for how to address RAPs in the updated BSAP based on document 3-5, cf. para 3.30.

4.32 The Meeting took note of the joint positions of WWF and CCB welcoming in general the development of the Action Plan but pointing out that there are ad hoc measures that could be put in place already now, such as ship speed reduction in certain areas. Setting a Baltic wide threshold value on impulsive noise is also needed, as well as implementing a regional network real-time on monitoring stations to raise awareness on underwater noise and determination of sources and consequently set up efficient measures.

## HELCOM 41-2020

### Agenda Item 4 Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan

4.1 The Meeting agreed on the set of HELCOM objectives for the updated BSAP as included in **Annex 3**, taking note that there may be need for adjustments to individual objectives or proposals on additional objectives as found relevant in the further BSAP update process.

4.2 The Meeting agreed that the term ‘marine life’, if included in the final set of objectives, requires a definition since it is not obvious what type of biological components that are embraced by the term.

4.3 The Meeting took note of the progress on the analysis of sufficiency of measures (SOM) as presented in document 4-2 and the upcoming activities of the HELCOM SOM Platform. The Meeting requested that the results are presented for consideration by HELCOM Working Groups and noted that this is already planned to take place in spring 2020 (cf. document 4-2, section 2). The Meeting further requested that the results, including uncertainties, are presented for consideration at HOD 58-2020.

4.4 The Meeting agreed on the proposal for further development of the HELCOM Science Agenda as proposed by the Science Agenda Task Group (document 4-3), requesting the Science Agenda TG to consider the following in the upcoming work:

- prioritize topics more stringently;
- consider addressing climate change as a main topic, and scenarios of ecosystem change in light of climate change;
- keep focus on applied knowledge needs, including the development of new and effective measures;
- clarify the link to the BANOS CSA process;

- consider indicating short and long-term science needs;
- clarify how the science agenda can be implemented and which external processes can support the implementation;
- ensure that knowledge needs for the whole region are addressed.

4.5 The representatives of CCB and WWF introduced their paper entitled “The Baltic Shadow Plan: For the future of the Baltic Sea. NGO’s key asks for the revised BSAP” (document 4-4). The Meeting thanked CCB and WWF for the shadow plan and agreed to put the document forward to the HELCOM Working Groups for further consideration in the light of the BSAP update.

4.6 The high-level representatives took note of the comment by BFFE that concerning “banning of new industrial animal farms” the term “industrial farm” needs to be defined. BFFE further pointed out that new productivity enhancing technology is often resource efficient and has volumes which can be utilized for e.g. modern energy options like biogas.

#### **Agenda Item 5 Matters arising from the subsidiary bodies**

(..)

5.5 The Meeting considered the revised HELCOM Recommendation 36/2 and HELCOM Guidelines on Management of Dredged Material at Sea (document 5-9) and adopted the revised Recommendation as contained in document 5-9 Rev.1 containing editorial changes by Germany.

(...)

5.7 The Meeting noted that due to the inclusion of the HELCOM Monitoring guidelines for marine litter on beaches to the HELCOM Monitoring Manual, the Guidelines in HELCOM Recommendation 29/2 can be considered redundant. The Meeting therefore decided that HELCOM Recommendation 29/2, currently including the Guidelines on sampling and reporting of marine litter found on beaches, can be superseded by HELCOM Recommendation 36/1 on the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP ML) (document 5-5).

(...)

5.9 The Meeting further expressed support for the work undertaken by HELCOM working groups to review valid HELCOM Recommendations in order to ensure that they are up-to-date and remain relevant.

(...)

5.12 The Meeting considered and approved the draft PLC-8 Project proposal containing a description of tasks, deliverables, budget and project timeframe based on the agreed reference year and deadlines for the delivery of different PLC products (document 5-3 and Annex 8).

5.13 The Meeting asked for clarification on whether analyzing of fresh water and wastewater samples will be included in the intercalibration work as it was performed in the in PLC-7 project and utilize existing data flows to produce project deliverables as much as possible to avoid double reporting. The Meeting also recommended to consider reduction of number of physical meetings by utilizing online tools.

5.14 The Meeting also took note that some countries are considering taking leadership of particular work strands and thematic reports and will further inform about their position by HOD 58-2020.

5.15 The Meeting approved, in principle, the Outline and provisional timeline of preparatory work processes to support the third State of the Baltic Sea report (document 5-11), noting that changes might occur as the process is further refined and invited the Contracting Parties to provide comments to the Secretariat (jannica.haldin@helcom.fi) by 26 March 2020.

5.16 The Meeting took note of the proposed provisional timeline and preliminary plan for the HOLAS III assessment (document 5-12). The Meeting took note of comments by Denmark and Germany

regarding the detailed timeline and planning of the approval processes under the HOLAS III assessment as well as concerns expressed by Denmark and Poland regarding the reporting timelines of 2021 data.

5.17 The Meeting took note of the clarification by the Secretariat that efforts have been made to extend the timeline for reporting 2021 data, that the Secretariat is in contact with ICES regarding shifting timelines for data reporting for 2022, however, it is likely that limited data for 2021 will be included in the assessment. A screening of dataflows as well as possible consequences of inclusion of a data poor year (2021) for the various assessments will be done as part of the DataFlow project.

5.18 The Meeting 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 (jannica.haldin@helcom.fi) by 19 March 2020.

## AGRI 9-2020

### Agenda Item 3 Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan

(...)

3.11 The Meeting took note that Pressure group suggested that the action “Address the need for additional measures within transportation, combustion and agriculture (as the three major sources of atmospheric emissions of nitrogen these sectors) with the aim to ensure a Baltic-wide application of uniform standards” could be rephrased by the Agri group considering the ongoing discussion on mitigating ammonia emissions from agriculture and the revision of Recommendation 24-3. The Meeting invited Germany and Sweden to elaborate the formulation for an action to mitigate ammonia emissions from agriculture in coordination with national Pressure group representatives and provide it to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) by end of April 2020.

(...)

3.14 The Meeting took note of the synopses related to agriculture and the guidance for making a technical review of the synopses (document 3-5).

3.15 The Meeting took note that Sweden will submit additional synopses by 3 April 2020 to the Secretariat.

3.16 The Meeting agreed to use the proposed MS Excel spreadsheet as a template to provide input to the review of the measures. The Meeting recommended to elaborate the Excel table further integrating drop down menus in the fields where it's applicable. The Meeting proposed also coding actions to use for further considerations.

3.17 The Meeting requested the Secretariat to circulate the template integrating latest suggestions by Sweden and proposed technical modification of the Excel template by 9 April 2020.

3.18 The Meeting encouraged to involve national experts in the technical review of the proposed measures to assure best expertise is available for their consideration.

3.19 The Meeting took note that the replies should be nationally coordinated and only one filled in template per country provided.

3.20 The Meeting agreed to supply replies utilizing the agreed template to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) by 28 May 2020.

3.21 The Meeting further requested the Secretariat to make a compilation of the replies and discuss them in an online meeting in June 2020.

3.22 The Meeting took note of the outcome of the HELCOM Stakeholder Conference and considered the actions of relevance to Agri group proposed at the Conference.

3.23 The Meeting took note of the concern that the proposals of the Stakeholder Conference might be set aside from consideration as those proposals do not provide more information than just titles,

which is not enough for technical reviewing. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to encourage stakeholders that proposed the measure that scored the highest rank in the prioritization in the conference to submit a full synopsis.

### **Agenda Item 6 Nutrient recycling**

6.1 The Meeting took note of the Notes from the HELCOM workshop on nutrient recycling measures held on 5-6 February 2020 in Helsinki, Finland and of the list of measures that was the result of the workshop (document 6-1).

6.2 The Meeting requested the Secretariat to make a proposal of the measures that would be most suitable for HELCOM.

6.3 The Meeting agreed that the aim is to find under each objective of the strategy a measure that could be included in the updated BSAP.

6.4 The Meeting pointed out that some measures might be already implemented in some countries, which might influence the prioritization of measures by experts from these countries.

6.5 The Meeting agreed that a general guidance for prioritization of measures is to be given.

6.6 The Meeting discussed criteria for prioritization of measures. As general guidance, the Meeting suggested that the measures should be considered from the point of view of relevance to achieve objectives, but the approach is to be pragmatic. It is difficult to expect proper analysis of cost-efficiency of measures, but economic and technical feasibility is to be taken into account. Nominated experts should be in the position to consider measures from the point of view of agriculture as the major consumer of recycled nutrients. The experts in wastewater management sector are also to be involved.

6.7 The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties to nominate one expert on agriculture and one expert on wastewater management and coordinate the nomination nationally with the Agri and Pressure group representatives.

6.8 The Meeting agreed on the following timetable

- Proposal of the measures most suitable for HELCOM by the Secretariat by 30 April 2020
- Nomination of national experts to Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) by 30 April 2020
- Prioritization of measures by experts by 29 May 2020
- Drafting group meeting to discuss and agree on the prioritized measures in June 2020

6.9 The Meeting requested the Secretariat to launch a doodle poll to identify the date for the drafting group meeting.

6.10 The Meeting took note of the first draft of the contents of the strategy.