



## Outcome of the Twelfth Meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area (HELCOM PRESSURE 12-2020)

### Content

Introduction .....	2
Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda.....	2
Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from other HELCOM work .....	2
Agenda Item 3 Nutrient loads to the Baltic Sea ecosystem .....	2
Agenda Item 4 Development of the regional framework for internal nutrients reserves measurements .....	6
Agenda Item 5 Nutrient recycling strategy.....	7
Agenda Item 6 Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan and associated activities .....	8
Agenda Item 7 Marine litter .....	11
Agenda Item 8 Underwater noise .....	13
Agenda Item 9 Physical damage to the sea floor .....	14
Agenda Item 10 Hazardous substances.....	15
Agenda Item 11 Any other business.....	16
Agenda Item 12 Future work and meetings.....	16
Agenda Item 13 Outcome of the Meeting.....	17
Annex 1 List of participants .....	18
Annex 2. Rephrasing of HELCOM actions .....	21

# Outcome of the Twelfth Meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area (HELCOM PRESSURE 12-2020)

## Introduction

0.1 In accordance with the decisions by PRESSURE 11-2019 (Outcome, Paragraph 13.1) and HOD 57-2019 (Outcome, Paragraph 4.19), the Twelfth Meeting of the HELCOM Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area (PRESSURE 12-2020) was held online, on 21-24 April 2020.

0.2 All Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention attended the Meeting. Observers from Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB), Baltic Farmers' Forum on Environment (BFFE), the Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP), European Federation of National Associations of Water and Wastewater Services (EurEau), John Nurminen Foundation, KIMO International, Race for the Baltic and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) as well as invited guest from Baltic Nest Institute (BNI) and the Data Consultant EMEP MSC-W also attended the Meeting. The List of Participants is contained in **Annex 1**.

0.3 The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Lars Sonesten, Chair of the Pressure Group. Mr. Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky, assisted by Ms. Marta Ruiz and Ms. Susanna Kaasinen, from the HELCOM Secretariat acted as secretary of the Meeting.

0.4 The Chair of the Helsinki Commission, Ms. Saara Bäck welcomed the participants to the meeting.

## Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

Documents: 1-1, 1-1-Rev.1, 1-2

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

1.2 The Meeting took note that due to current circumstances countries faced difficulties with proper consideration of some documents on marine litter and also document 6-7.

## Agenda Item 2 Matters arising from other HELCOM work

Documents: 2-1

2.1 The Meeting took note of the extracts from the outcomes of meetings of relevance to the work of Pressure Working Group (document 2-1).

2.2 The Meeting took note that information on the work of the sub-groups EN-Marine litter, EN-Noise, CG PHARMA, EN DREDS, MINUTS and RedCore DG as well as PLC-7 and ACTION projects are considered under relevant agenda items. Also, issues related to the SOM Platform and the Outcome of SOM Platform 3-2020 meeting are presented in document 6-8.

2.3 The Meeting noted that, in relation with the issue regarding harmonization of the methods to assess background nutrient losses, raised by Russia at HOD 57-2019, Germany is leading work on the matter and invites Russia to inform the HELCOM PLC group if they have any ongoing or planned work.

## Agenda Item 3 Nutrient loads to the Baltic Sea ecosystem

Documents: 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-6-Rev.1, 3-7, 3-8, 3-9, 3-10, 3-11

3.1 The Meeting took note of the notes of the HELCOM Workshop on the update of national nutrient input ceilings held 20 April 2020 online (document 3-11).

3.2 The Meeting welcomed the notes and highlighted the importance of formulating the request to the Maritime group regarding the inputs of nitrogen by ship traffic. The Meeting took note that Germany will provide some comments to the notes and invited the Secretariat to revise the document accordingly.

- 3.3 The Meeting considered the draft policy message on progress towards nutrient input ceilings 2017 and took note of the supplementary paper containing tables and graphs to illustrate the assessment results (document 3-4).
- 3.4 The Meeting welcomed the assessment and highly valued the work done by PLC-7 implementation group. The Meeting also pointed out some improvements which the document requires before submission to HOD 58-2020. The Meeting requested PLC-7 implementation group and the Secretariat to improve the language and the tables of the document making them more reader friendly; integrate a paragraph prominently highlighting the NIC update process as well as include extra reductions in the tables illustrating progress based on countries' decision on application of extra reductions. The Meeting highlighted the need to assure that the policy message indicates the sub-basin where the extra reduction originates from to avoid double accounting.
- 3.5 The Meeting took note that Estonia has a concern regarding the apparent lack of connection between the reduction targets agreed by HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2013 and the current assessment towards nutrient input ceilings. Estonia emphasised the need to ensure the legal continuity of commitments taken in MM 2013 as it is essential to demonstrate that we are still pursuing the same MM 2013 targets.
- 3.6 The Meeting in principle endorsed the policy message for submission to HOD 58-2020 for final approval.
- 3.7 The Meeting agreed on the procedure to decide on application of extra reduction as follows: the proposal to apply extra reduction will be circulated by RedCore DG to CPs **by 1 May 2020**. The Contracting Parties will confirm the use of extra reduction **by 8 May 2020** to the Secretariat (dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi).
- 3.8 The Meeting took note of the reasons to changes in data on atmospheric deposition of nitrogen (document 3-3) and endorsed the publication of the document on the HELCOM website as supplementary material for PLC-7 project deliverables.
- 3.9 The Meeting took note of some minor technical editions which have to be taken into account before publication of document 3-3 and invited Contracting Parties to provide comments to EMEP MSC-W.
- 3.10 The Meeting in principle approved the final version of the project report for HELCOM ENIREC II project (Estimation of Nitrogen Deposition reduction by 2030) (document 3-1) and concluded that the project tasks have been accomplished and the project report is recommended for publication as HELCOM BSEP.
- 3.11 The Meeting thanked EMEP for the work done. The Meeting highlighted that ship emission reduction scenarios and assumptions concerning reduction of emissions by Great Britain after exiting the EU require additional consideration.
- 3.12 The Meeting agreed that a paragraph on validation of ship emission reduction scenario will be added to the final report and that Germany will supply a draft of the paragraph to EMEP (michael.gauss@met.no).
- 3.13 The Meeting also requested the Secretariat to circulate the report to the Maritime group after its endorsement to evaluate the validity of the used ship emission reduction scenarios.
- 3.14 The Meeting took note that computation of the specific input from the UK was not in the project work tasks as the reduction of airborne input from all EU member states was aggregated. Anyway, the contribution of the UK emissions to the total deposition of nitrogen on the Baltic Sea can be estimated based on the routine EMEP reporting to HELCOM and included in the report.
- 3.15 The Meeting invited EMEP to make the requested updates to the report and circulate it for CPs before **1 May 2020**. The Meeting agreed that the updated version of the report will be tacitly endorsed for publication **by 8 May 2020**. All remaining comments will be provided to the Secretariat (dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi) **by 8 May 2020**.
- 3.16 The Meeting took note that OSPAR would like to make use of the ENIREC II project data. The Meeting agreed that the data can be provided to OSPAR after endorsement of the project report by 8 May 2020.

3.17 The Meeting also proposed to investigate methods to visualize the ENIRED II project data on the HELCOM Map & data service. EMEP will provide all available data and the Secretariat will consider how the data could be visualised. The Meeting took note that ENIRED II project data are currently not available in a very user-friendly format and that substantial work may be required on OSPAR's / HELCOM's side to process the data and to visualize them in the desired format.

3.18 The Meeting discussed the provisional values for updated nutrient input ceilings (document 3-6-Rev.1, 3-6-Att.1 and **Presentations 1 and 2**).

3.19 The Meeting thanked RedCore DG and PLC group for the development of a transparent and efficient system of compiling and processing of nutrient input data. The Meeting also thanked Mr. Bo Gustafsson and Mr. Lars M. Svendsen for their contribution to HELCOM work on development of the nutrient input reduction scheme.

3.20 The Meeting clarified that the NICs, which are currently used, originate from the reduction targets approved by MM 2013 and are available in the background document to MD 2013. The updated NICs are calculated utilizing the same allocation principles, with the only exception being the inclusion of expected reduction of atmospheric nitrogen deposition from North Sea shipping from implementation of NECA, and maximum allowable inputs but using updated data on airborne and transboundary inputs in the reference period (1997-2003).

3.21 The Meeting took note of the proposal by Sweden that the NIC transboundary rivers table should include a column indicating the receiving basin for each river in order to clarify the link between overall NICS and the transboundary river contributions.

3.22 The Meeting took note of the proposal by Russia to use net NIC (including NIC for Neva) as target values for national input reduction obligations for the Gulf of Finland, due to the fact that modelled natural background constitutes the main part of the Neva input and the reduction requirements are below the natural background.

3.23 The Meeting in general agreed on the proposed values as provisional targets for the management objective “minimize input of nutrients from human activities” of the updated BSAP.

3.24 The Meeting agreed on the additional time for consideration of the updated NICs **by 8 May 2020** and invited CPs to provide conclusions to Mr. Bo Gustafsson (bo.gustafsson@su.se) and the Secretariat ([dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi](mailto:dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi)) by this date.

3.25 The Meeting also took note of the request from Germany and Sweden that the updated provisional values are made available as soon as possible for planning national programmes of measures for MSFD/WFD and also for the SOM analysis.

3.26 The Meeting invited RedCore DG to make an evaluation of the achieved reduction against the updated provisional NICs **by 29 May 2020**. The evaluation will include assessment of progress towards net updated NICs and NICs for entire transboundary rivers but not involve assessment of national shares of transboundary rivers as it requires a new full statistical analysis of the data.

3.27 The Meeting considered the proposal to update the text of the HELCOM nutrient input reduction scheme (document 3-7).

3.28 The Meeting provided the following general comments on the document:

- the anticipated reductions in airborne deposition from non-Contracting Parties and from shipping need updating based on the ENIRED II results;
- the target year for undertaking measures should be further clarified and, perhaps, no dates set for achieving GES;
- the term of GES also requires clarification e.g. where it means good environmental status in terms of input of nutrients and where it refers to eutrophication status of the marine environment;
- reformulate or clarify the phrase “regionally harmonized models of input from unmonitored areas”;

- avoid misinterpretation that being below the ceiling gives permit to increase input.

3.29 The Meeting took note that Germany proposed to incorporate the whole text of the nutrient input reduction scheme in the BSAP and integrate in the text recommendation of the ACTION WS2: “to identify and address the gap between WFD and BSAP targets”.

3.30 The Meeting took note that Russia requests to remove input ceiling for Neva from the tables and incorporate it in the net national ceiling for the Gulf of Finland.

3.31 The Meeting took note that CCB and WWF consider the year 2027 as already quite late for undertaking measures, and to postpone it even to 2030 is also not acceptable. WWF also considers that it is important to refer to both MAI and GES.

3.32 The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties to provide comments on the document **by 8 May 2020** to the Secretariat ([Dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi](mailto:Dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi)) and RedCore DG to make an updated draft for HOD 58-2020 based on the comments. The Meeting suggested to ask for further guidance from the HODs on how the nutrient reduction scheme should be incorporated to the updated BSAP.

3.33 The Meeting considered the proposal for the extended content of the PLC-7 thematic report on effectiveness of measures (document 3-5) and agreed on the content of the PLC-7 thematic report on effectiveness of measures as proposed in document 3-5. The Meeting encouraged Contracting Parties to provide further ideas how to elaborate the content **by 15 May 2020** to Finland ([antti.raike@ymparisto.fi](mailto:antti.raike@ymparisto.fi)) with copy to the Secretariat ([dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi](mailto:dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi)).

3.34 The Meeting took note of the evaluation of the potential reduction of nutrient input from waste water treatment plants (document 3-2) and endorsed the publication of the document on the HELCOM website.

3.35 The Meeting took note of the comment by Russia that due to aggregation of the data on point sources reported to PLC-7 project, the input reduction potential for point sources in Russia might be overestimated. Russia requested to include this as a footnote in the final publication.

3.36 The Meeting pointed out that the assessment reflects current status of the data on point sources and retentions that countries report to the HELCOM Water PLC database. The result of the report could be also utilized to identify ways to improve HELCOM data reporting.

3.37 The Meeting took note that the results of the evaluation produced within the frame of the ACTION project will be integrated in the PLC-7 report on effectiveness of measures and agreed to provide recommendations on the improvement of the assessment of potential reduction of point sources assessment in the PLC-7 thematic report. The Meeting encouraged Contracting Parties to provide feedback **by 15 May 2020** to Finland ([antti.raike@ymparisto.fi](mailto:antti.raike@ymparisto.fi)) with copy to the Secretariat ([dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi](mailto:dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi)).

3.38 The Meeting recalled that an analysis of the sufficiency of the EU Water Framework Directive targets for individual rivers basins to achieve the BSAP goals is conducted as part of the HELCOM ACTION project and that the first results were presented to PRESSURE 11-2020 and also to PLC-7 9-2019 meeting and the HELCOM Workshop with river basin management authorities in September 2019. The draft results were sent for comments to Pressure group in January 2020 and comments were received from Germany and Poland.

3.39 The Meeting took note of the information on the current state of the report (**Presentation 3**).

3.40 The Meeting took note of the discrepancy between targets set for WFD and BSAP and that WFD targets may not be sufficient to fulfil BSAP reduction targets, as well as discussed the reasons of the mismatch between these two policies.

3.41 The Meeting took note that several countries face the situation that the reduction requirements for individual rivers to achieve BSAP goals might be very close or even below modelled natural background losses for some catchment areas, meaning that achieving NICs may be challenging.

- 3.42 The Meeting reiterated that identification of natural background is currently a challenge and that methodology to identify natural backgrounds should be further developed and harmonized across the region.
- 3.43 The Meeting took note that the report on sufficiency of the EU Water Framework Directive targets for individual rivers basins to achieve the BSAP goals will be finalized and circulated to Pressure group for commenting **by 15 May 2020**. The Meeting agreed that the feedback will be provided **by 29 May 2020** to Estonia (urmas.lips@taltech.ee) with copy to Secretariat (dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi).
- 3.44 The Meeting took note of the recommendations from HELCOM ACTION workshop 4.2 - BSAP and MSFD measures to abate eutrophication held on 12-13 February 2020 in Gothenburg, Sweden (document 3-9).
- 3.45 The Meeting took note of the approved PLC-8 project proposal (document 3-8) and invited the Contracting Parties to initiate national activities to provide required data in time for timely delivery of the project products.
- 3.46 The Meeting took note that Sweden intends to support participation of BNI in the project and lead thematic report on HS (task 2.5).
- 3.47 The Meeting took note that Finland will lead PLC-8 project tasks 2.4 and 3.2.
- 3.48 The Meeting agreed that PLC-8 kick-off meeting will take place back-to-back with PLC-7 12-2020 in Berlin 7-10 September 2020. Remaining tasks of PLC-7 project will be then taken over by PLC-8.
- 3.49 The Meeting took note that Denmark will lead implementation of tasks 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 4.1 and 4.2 of the PLC-8 project.
- 3.50 The Meeting nominated Mr. Lars M. Svendsen (Denmark) as Project Manager and highly valued his role as Project Manager in implementation of previous HELCOM pollution load compilations.
- 3.51 The Meeting took note that the MAI CART OPER project has been finalized and that the project's final report will be ready by **1 May 2020**. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to circulate the final report for approval by the group via correspondence. The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties to review the report **by 13 May 2020** and inform the Secretariat (dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi) of the acceptance of the project results.
- 3.52 The Meeting took note of the proposal by FEAP on the subdivision of Danish Straits to two sub-basins (document 3-10).
- 3.53 The Meeting stated that there is currently no management need to revise subdivision of the Baltic Sea. It would also require establishment of MAI for the new subdivision, which would be a major effort, and might lead to the need for a revision of MAI's in neighbouring basins.
- 3.54 The Meeting also took note of the information on a project that will be launched in Germany to conclude on the state of eutrophication parameters and sufficiency of the reduction requirements for the Danish Straits. First results of the study are expected by the end of 2021.

#### **Agenda Item 4      Development of the regional framework for internal nutrients reserves measurements**

Documents: 4-1

- 4.1 The Meeting took note of the draft recommendation on management of internal nutrient reserves that has been further developed by the *ad hoc* Group MINUTS in accordance with the guidance given by PRESSURE 11-2019 (document 4-1) and the key open issues.
- 4.2 The Meeting took note that the applicability of the precautionary principle to sea-based measures is ambiguous as it requires Contracting Parties to proceed with measures despite incomplete knowledge to improve the status of the Baltic Sea, but also to act with caution when intervening in the marine environment.

- 4.3 The Meeting expressed the opinion that the HELCOM risk assessment framework should not be interpreted solely as preventing further exploration of opportunities for sustainable measures to reduce internal nutrient load in the Baltic Sea.
- 4.4 The Meeting took note that HELCOM's role in the consideration of sea-based measures requires further clarification. For small-scale measures without transboundary effects, the MINUTS group proposed that the focus would be on guiding national permitting procedure and an effective knowledge exchange while large-scale measures with likely transboundary effects require adequate risk mitigation procedures in addition.
- 4.5 The Meeting further pointed out that in relation to small-scale project, HELCOM's role should be limited to accumulating and sharing of information on the results of their application.
- 4.6 The Meeting took note that the possible mechanisms for incorporation of the proposed risk mitigation procedure in national permitting systems and the role of HELCOM and the relevant HELCOM Working Group in this process requires clarification.
- 4.7 The Meeting expressed a range of views on HELCOM's role in risk assessment procedures for measures in open sea with significant transboundary effects ("large-scale measures") pointing out: the need for involvement of the procedures under the Espoo Convention; that views of HELCOM Contracting Parties can be noted in national permitting procedures; and difficulties to integrate HELCOM processes and national permitting systems. The Meeting recalled that some of the proposals for the HELCOM risk assessment framework are based on the assessment framework of ocean fertilization under the London protocol. The Meeting also took note of the view that the MINUTS group would benefit on further expertise on risk assessment and that it would be beneficial if another HELCOM expert groups could provide input on the issue.
- 4.8 The Meeting also proposed to consider listing some of the main specific measures to manage nutrient reserves in one of the documents constituting the risk assessment framework, noting that the list cannot be comprehensive due to constant technological development. Estonia asked if there are any such projects already ongoing or in a preparation phase as they could be used as an example for that listing.
- 4.9 The Meeting welcomed the progress achieved by the MINUTS group but concluded that the submitted documents require further development and encouraged the group to continue the work.
- 4.10 The Meeting invited the Pressure group to send comments on the draft Guideline for the management of internal nutrient reserves in the Baltic Sea region to the Secretariat ([dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi](mailto:dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi)) **by 5 May 2020**. The Meeting also invited Contracting Parties that are currently not participating in the MINUTS group to join the group.
- 4.11 The Meeting mandated the MINUTS group to prepare a progress report to HOD 58-2020.

## **Agenda Item 5 Nutrient recycling strategy**

Documents: 5-1

- 5.1 The Meeting recalled that HOD 56-2019 endorsed the vision and objectives for the Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy and that as a next step to find measures to meet the objectives of the strategy, HELCOM Workshop on nutrient recycling measures was organized on 5-6 February 2020 in Helsinki, Finland.
- 5.2 The Meeting took note of the notes from the HELCOM Workshop on nutrient recycling measures and the list of potential nutrient recycling measures that was the result of the workshop (document 5-1, Presentation 4).
- 5.3 The Meeting took note of the views by German experts regarding the notes of the workshop highlighting that Germany has advanced legislation regarding nutrient recycling from sewage sludge and could therefore also be considered as a model area; when utilizing sewage sludge based fertilizers the risk of spreading hazardous substances needs to be addressed; that safe nutrient recycling from sewage sludge

remains an end-of-pipe solution; and that EU law such as the recent Fertilizer Regulation should be taken into account when considering policy coherence.

5.4 The Meeting took note of the procedure of prioritization of the measures agreed by the Agri group that is leading the elaboration of the strategy in cooperation with Pressure group.

5.5 The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties to coordinate nationally with the Agri group contacts nomination of two national experts (one expert on agriculture and one expert on wastewater management) that could take part in prioritization of the measures via correspondence and inform the Secretariat ([susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi](mailto:susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi)) **by 30 April 2020**.

5.6 The Meeting discussed the initial draft of the contents of the strategy.

5.7 The Meeting took note of the opinion of Germany that recycling of nutrients from the eutrophicated water to land should not be included in the nutrient recycling strategy and that clarification is needed on how the strategy will be included in the updated BSAP and how parallel processes such as addressing nutrient recycling in the revision of Annex III of the Helsinki Convention are considered.

5.8 The Meeting agreed to invite also interested Observer organizations to nominate experts to prioritize the measures.

5.9 The Meeting pointed out that measures proposed for the BSAP update might overlap with measures suggested for the nutrient recycling strategy which has to be considered in the prioritization.

#### **Agenda Item 6 Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan and associated activities**

Documents: 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4-Rev.1, 6-5, 6-6, 6-6-Rev.1, 6-7, 6-8, 6-9

6.1 The Meeting took note of the accomplished and upcoming activities of the BSAP update (document 6-1) and noted that the BSAP UP workshops planned for May 2020 have been postponed to August-September 2020 due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions.

6.2 The Meeting took note of the recommendation by Germany that the workshop on hazardous substances and marine litter should be carefully planned to allow thorough consideration of both topics, preferably in a way that one day would be dedicated to HS and the other to ML.

6.3 The Meeting took note of the considerations and agreements so far on the outline, content and style of the updated BSAP as well as the provisional agreement on the structure and objectives for the updated BSAP (document 6-2).

6.4 The Meeting requested to establish a procedure to consider preliminary activity-pressure linkages (Annex 1 to the document 6-2) and provide input to proposed mapping of activities vs. segments of BSAP.

6.5 The Meeting took note of the progress of the SOM analysis and the input data for nutrients, hazardous substances, marine litter, benthic habitats and underwater noise (document 6-8, **Presentation 5**).

6.6 The Meeting discussed how localization of measures is accounted in the SOM model as well as how sources and measures outside the BS region are addressed in the analysis. Participants also raised questions on the use of the compiled data taking into account various types of data, their uncertainty and other limitation related e.g. time periods the data refer to.

6.7 The Meeting noted that Germany would like to provide an example for eutrophication on how different data products and information from PLC7, ACTION project and ENIRED II could be combined for the SOM analysis and requested the Secretariat to arrange the process.

6.8 The Meeting took note that only validation of input data will be done by the group in the period from the end of June till the end of September. The Meeting recommended that the data validation would not be arranged in the summer period when most experts are not available. The group recommended that aggregated data would be submitted for validation, but not individual responses of experts. The Meeting

- took note of the view by Denmark that external expertise might be involved in the validation to avoid the situation when experts are invited to validate their own responses.
- 6.9 The Meeting took note that the SOM model and utilization of the data in the model will be approved by the Gear group, while the SOM Platform will provide guidance on how to present the results as part of the background material for BSAP update. The results of the analysis will be presented at PRESSURE 13-2020.
- 6.10 The Meeting considered the “Baltic Shadow Plan: For the future of the Baltic Sea. NGO’s key asks for the revised BSAP” by CCB and WWF (document 6-7).
- 6.11 The Meeting took note of the urge by WWF to address areas with nutrient surpluses, particularly in the agricultural sector.
- 6.12 The Meeting welcomed the contribution by NGOs to the update of the BSAP and agreed that the proposals are to be thoroughly analysed and used to fill gaps in the measures proposed via synopsis. The Meeting also recognized that the Shadow Plan contains good new measures and invited CCB and WWF to provide corresponding synopsis based on the request of Contracting Parties, if it has not yet been done.
- 6.13 The Meeting recalled that the actions agreed in the BSAP and the subsequent Ministerial Meetings of 2010 and 2013 that are not accomplished by 2021 will be included also in the updated BSAP unless they have been decided by HELCOM HOD as outdated and that the Pressure group has agreed on the actions that need rephrasing before transfer to the updated BSAP and the lead countries for rephrasing.
- 6.14 The Meeting scrutinized the suggestions for rephrasing of actions (document 6-6-Rev.1).
- 6.15 The Meeting agreed that to avoid double work, some of the actions will be considered with the update of the nutrient input reduction scheme (NRS) and requested the Secretariat to clarify this in the revised document.
- 6.16 The Meeting took note of the comment by Denmark that there should be a common approach on dealing with implementation of international conventions, such as the Minamata Convention, in the updated BSAP, e.g. including their implementation as part of the preamble.
- 6.17 The Meeting discussed that issues of regional importance could be highlighted also in the BSAP although they are covered by international conventions but agreed to ask for guidance from HOD 58-2020 on whether actions related to mercury should be included in the BSAP although they are mostly covered by the Minamata Convention.
- 6.18 The Meeting took note that the Agri group discussed 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” and will make a proposal for an action targeting ammonia emissions from agriculture with the lead by Germany and Sweden.
- 6.19 The Meeting requested the Secretariat to check the document for consistent formulation of “contaminants of emerging concern”.
- 6.20 The Meeting took note that concerning prohibition of dental amalgam, Finland would need a long-term implementation period and consideration of exemptions in situations when no mercury-free alternatives are available.
- 6.21 The Meeting took note that the name of “Strategic Approach on International Chemicals Management High Ambition Alliance (SAICM HAA)” will likely to be changed to “Sound management of chemicals and waste”, which should be taken into account in the rephrasing.
- 6.22 The Meeting took note of the view by Denmark that all target years for actions should still remain in brackets.
- 6.23 The Meeting invited the Pressure group to send comments on the open issues **by 8 May 2020** to the Secretariat ([Dmitry.frank-kamnetsky@helcom.fi](mailto:Dmitry.frank-kamnetsky@helcom.fi); [susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi](mailto:susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi)).

- 6.24 The Meeting agreed on the tentative formulations for actions to be included in the updated BSAP (**Annex 2**).
- 6.25 The Meeting agreed to organize a dedicated online meeting to agree on the tentative rephrasing of the actions that have not yet been agreed on **14 May 2020** at 9 CET/10 EET.
- 6.26 The Meeting recalled that to support the selection of new measures and actions for the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan, an invitation to submit synopses on potential new HELCOM actions was put forward in spring 2019 to the Contracting Parties, HELCOM subsidiary bodies, international projects and HELCOM Observers.
- 6.27 The Meeting took note of the synopses relevant for the Pressure group and the common guidance for making a technical review (6-4-Rev.1).
- 6.28 The Meeting took note that the Agri group is making the review for the agriculture-related synopses and agreed to focus on reviewing the synopses related to other topics. However, the Meeting also expressed a wish to consider the results of the reviewing of agriculture related measures.
- 6.29 The Meeting took note that some of the synopses relevant for the Pressure group are also being reviewed by the Maritime and Fish groups (document 6-9, 6-9-Att.1) and thus, can be considered when the result of consideration by those groups will be available. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to inform the group of the results of the consideration.
- 6.30 The Meeting requested the Secretariat to check the lists of synopses, functionality of the template and prefill possible fields of the template before circulation to the group for reviewing.
- 6.31 The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties to make the technical review by utilizing the template provided by the Secretariat and send the replies to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) **by 29 May 2020**. The Meeting agreed to organize dedicated online meeting to finalize the task 10.00-13.00 EET on **11 June 2020**.
- 6.32 The Meeting agreed to consider via correspondence the proposal made at the 2020 HELCOM Stakeholder Conference for a new management objective in the updated BSAP to include zero tolerance for discharges of any pollutants from ports to the current objective zero discharges from offshore platforms noting that the Maritime group did not support the proposal but invited the Pressure Working Group to also consider it (document 6-9). The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties to send their position to the proposal to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) **by 29 May 2020**.
- 6.33 The Meeting considered the actions of relevance to the Pressure group, proposed at the 2020 Stakeholder Conference (document 6-3).
- 6.34 The Meeting agreed to provide new synopses to fill identified gaps **by 8 May 2020** to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) to make them available for reviewing.
- 6.35 The Meeting took note of the view by Denmark that a process is lacking for new synopses submitted after spring meetings in WGs, and it is important that all submitted synopses will be going through same technical review.
- 6.36 The Meeting took note of the status of reporting on HELCOM Recommendations under Pressure group adopted before 2007 (document 6-5, 6-5-Att.1). The Meeting acknowledged that the reporting will also be used for revision of the HELCOM framework under the group' mandate.
- 6.37 The Meeting agreed to complete reporting on HELCOM Recommendations under Pressure group adopted before 2007 **by 29 May 2020** supplying information to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi).
- 6.38 The Meeting agreed that the definition of "on-going" can be ambiguously interpreted and invited the Secretariat to propose definition of this category for different types of measures.
- 6.39 The Meeting took note that the report on implementation of WP2 of the ACTION project which includes assessment of impact on benthic communities of such activities as dredging and handling of dredged material at sea will be circulated to the group before **1 May 2020**. The Meeting agreed to consider the report

---

via correspondence **by 29 of May 2020** and provide feedback to the Secretariat ([susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi](mailto:susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi)).

### **Agenda Item 7 Marine litter**

Documents: 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, 7-5, 7-6, 7-7, 7-8, 7-8-Rev.1, 7-9, 7-10, 7-11, 7-12

7.1 The Meeting took note of the ongoing European and global processes with regard to marine litter since PRESSURE 11-2019, which may contribute to the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (document 7-10).

7.2 The Meeting took note of the updated HELCOM Recommendation on storm water management (Rec. 23-5) and considered the Danish proposals to amend actions 12, 14, 15 and 16 (document 7-2).

7.3 The Meeting welcomed the draft and took note of proposals to further advance the document, in particular:

- to address environmentally friendly practices to manage street cleaning snow to prevent releasing of litter in the marine environment;
- to include ponds and wetlands as measures to prevent microliter to enter marine environment.

7.4 The Meeting invited Finland and CCB respectively to provide concrete proposals on the text to be included in the draft Recommendation to reflect the above-mentioned issues.

7.5 The Meeting took note that Germany and Russia have obtained experts' review of the draft Recommendation and that the reviews will be provided in written to the Secretariat. The Meeting agreed that written proposals to update the draft Recommendation will be supplied to the Secretariat by **29 May 2020** ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi)) and requested the Secretariat to further elaborate the draft based on these proposals. The Meeting further agreed that the updated draft will be scrutinised at the Workshop proposed to be arranged back-to-back with PRESSURE 13-2020 and that PRESSURE 13-2020 will consider the draft, taking into account the recommendations by the workshop with the intention to submit the document to HOD 59-2020 for endorsement.

7.6 The Meeting took note of information on the best practices to reduce inputs of cuttings of nets and cord to the marine environment (document 7-9).

7.7 The Meeting considered the suggested way forward for the proposed new actions to address abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) (document 7-5).

7.8 The Meeting took note that Poland currently does not have sufficient resources to take the actions proposed in the document.

7.9 The Meeting took note of the information by the Secretariat that WWF Poland has contacted the Secretariat to indicate their willingness to be involved in the further development of the proposed actions.

7.10 The Meeting recalled the existence of the outcome of the regional questionnaire to compile information on national activities regarding abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) ([document 3-3](#) to PRESSURE 10-2019) which provides an overview of the topic of ALDFG in the Baltic Sea.

7.11 The Meeting in general supported the proposed actions and agreed to invite countries to provide comments to the way forward on the proposed new actions by **15 of May 2020** to the Secretariat ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi)).

- 7.12 The Meeting proposed to include this theme in the agenda of the workshop proposed to be held in autumn 2020 back-to-back with PRESSURE 13-2020.
- 7.13 The Meeting agreed on the four actions to be prioritized to reduce releases of expanded and extruded polystyrene (EPS and XPS) to the environment as agreed by WS RAP ML 4-2019 (document 7-7) and thanked Denmark, leading implementation of the action, for the work done.
- 7.14 The Meeting discussed HELCOM tools to address the proposed actions. The Meeting agreed to invite countries to consider their national position in relation to the work towards including relevant actions on EPS/XPS in a revised RAP ML or to work towards a HELCOM recommendation including relevant actions on EPS, and inform Denmark (Ms. Lone Munk Söderberg, [lomu@mfvm.dk](mailto:lomu@mfvm.dk) ) and the Secretariat ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi) ) by **15 May 2020** accordingly.
- 7.15 The Meeting took note of a policy brief on disposal of End of Life Boats (ELB) (document 7-8, 7-8-Rev.1) and welcomed the work conducted by Finland.
- 7.16 The Meeting took note of the clarification that the goal of the document is to raise awareness of the problem and develop a regional approach to tackle the growing problem of disposal of End of Life Boats.
- 7.17 The Meeting discussed further steps to develop a regional approach to address the disposal of ELB in the Baltic Sea and agreed that as the first step a consensus on the HELCOM policy message regarding the issue has to be achieved.
- 7.18 The Meeting invited countries to express national positions in relation to the message contained in the Policy Brief by **15 May 2020** and inform Finland (Ms. Laura Saijonmaa, [laura.saijonmaa@ym.fi](mailto:laura.saijonmaa@ym.fi)) and the Secretariat ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi)) accordingly. In their position, countries are invited to specify and substantiate points of disagreement and provide concrete formulations of alternative solution to include in the policy brief.
- 7.19 The Meeting further agreed to submit the policy brief to HOD 58-2020 for approval, if a common position is achieved. If consensus is not reached, further work will be needed, and discussion will continue at PRESSURE 13-2020.
- 7.20 The Meeting took note of the analysis of the degree of the marine environment pollution by wastes flowing down the rivers to the sea, including sanitary waste (document 7-11).
- 7.21 The Meeting considered how the original full report (document 7-11, Attachment 1) based on previous data could be properly updated and took note of the following views:
- Sweden: the document needs to consider how HELCOM countries being EU members are implementing the EU Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive;
  - CCB: the document is based on 2016 data, which could benefit from data available in the recently published IUCN report "[The marine plastic footprint](#)". CCB is also willing to share raising awareness material for the use of HELCOM countries.
  - Germany: there was a discussion in OSPAR EIHA (1) 2020, held this week, to continue working on litter riverine inputs in the years to come and to include an according operational objective in the upcoming new Northeast-Atlantic Strategy, thus it may be relevant to join forces on this topic.
- 7.22 The Meeting agreed to focus further work on the report on the magnitude of sanitary waste in the region and suitable measures for prevention and reduction to consider revision of the scope of this action as part of the update of the RAP ML.
- 7.23 The Meeting agreed to invite countries to provide input to the report by **12 June 2020** to the Secretariat ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi)). The Meeting further agreed to invite the Secretariat to communicate with Poland for further work on this action, including communication on the matter of harmonised

monitoring of riverine inputs in general with river basin management authorities (document 7-11, Attachment 2).

7.24 The Meeting took note of the progress of the bilateral Estonian-Latvian project on deposit refund systems (document 7-12).

7.25 The Meeting took note of the information from the Secretariat on the state of action related to landfills, under the leadership of Estonia, which may eventually pose a risk to the marine environment and that there had been no reviews of information on that landfills supplied.

7.26 The Meeting took note that Poland has collected information on landfills and needs some time to process it before reporting. The Meeting reiterated the request to provide information and requested the Secretariat to circulate the invitation to the group. Meanwhile, the Meeting agreed that the action is not accomplished yet.

7.27 The Meeting agreed that RAP ML action RS9 on dolly rope can be considered accomplished since dolly ropes are not used in the Baltic Sea (document 7-6).

7.28 The Meeting took note that the RAP ML follow-up table will be used as background information to evaluate the implementation of the RAP ML (document 7-3).

7.29 The Meeting agreed that the RAP ML follow-up table will be updated via correspondence after PRESSURE 12-2020. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to update the table with the input from this Meeting and invited countries to provide input on their latest activities by **14 August 2020** to the Secretariat ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi)), when the table will be made available on the HELCOM website.

7.30 The Meeting discussed the update of the HELCOM RAP ML in 2021 (document 7-4). The Meeting agreed in principle to update the Action Plan pending study reservation by Denmark to be clarified by **8 May 2020** and informing the Secretariat ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi)).

7.31 The Meeting supported a thorough evaluation of the RAP ML implementation as the first step of the update process (e.g. why work on some actions has not been initiated, whether this is due to lack of relevance or resources) and the use of the upcoming BSAP UP workshop on hazardous substances and litter as well as the proposed workshop on implementation of the RAP ML to discuss the evaluation and also consider new measures proposed for inclusion to the updated RAP ML and the BSAP update.

7.32 The Meeting was of the view that the update of the RAP ML needs participation of all HELCOM countries, and that further discussion is needed in relation to resources needs for the drafting process. The Meeting was informed that EN-Litter still lacks a chair.

7.33 The Meeting agreed on the provisional themes for the workshop to be: the evaluation of the implementation of the RAP ML and its revision, the revision of HELCOM Recommendation 23/5, the way forward on the proposed measures to address ALDFG (document 7-5 to this Meeting) and waste management related actions (actions RL1-RL3 in the RAP ML).

## **Agenda Item 8 Underwater noise**

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

8.1 The Meeting considered the revised draft Regional Action Plan on Underwater Noise (document 8-3, **Presentation 6**).

8.2 The Meeting took note of the clarification by the Chair of EN-Noise that introduction of regulatory limits and mitigation measures is hampered by lack of agreed scientifically sound threshold values for underwater noise, but the knowledge base is rapidly developing, and the values are foreseen to be established soon.

- 8.3 The Meeting noted that effectiveness of measures is currently difficult to evaluate but this is to be considered in future work as well as that NGOs urge to consider concrete measures to mitigate underwater noise.
- 8.4 The Meeting agreed that the draft Action Plan has been significantly improved and expressed gratitude to the Chair of EN-Noise as well as the EN-Noise for the work conducted. The Meeting also pointed out that it still requires some improvements before submission to HOD 58-2020 for final endorsement. The Meeting agreed that proposals for amendments will be provided by **4 May 2020** to the Secretariat ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi)) and that the document will be finalized for submission to HOD 58-2020 by EN-Noise.
- 8.5 The Meeting took note of the proposal by Poland to include in the Regional Action Plan on Underwater Noise under point 2.4 “Regional actions involving third parties” action related to communication with NATO and development of international guidelines for the removal and detonation of ammunition. It is foreseen that a detailed proposal is provided by Polish national representatives at the upcoming State and Conservation meeting to be held on 11-15 May 2020.
- 8.6 The Meeting took note of data reporting to the impulsive noise registry in the HELCOM region (document 8-1).
- 8.7 The Meeting also took note of the clarification that the survey implies reporting of the data availability but not the data itself.
- 8.8 The Meeting requested the Secretariat to circulate the questionnaire contained in document 8-1 to EN-Noise and Pressure contacts and Observers. The Meeting agreed to provide responds on the survey by **29 May 2020** to the Secretariat ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi)).
- 8.9 The Meeting took note that the continuous Underwater Noise database hosted at ICES is now operational and ready for the first data submissions (document 8-4).
- 8.10 The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties to nominate at least one contact person per country responsible for data loading and inform the Secretariat accordingly ([marta.ruiz@helcom.fi](mailto:marta.ruiz@helcom.fi)) **by 8 May 2020**.
- 8.11 The Meeting took note of the information on implementing the Work Plan for future work on HELCOM indicators on underwater noise (document 8-2).

## **Agenda Item 9 Physical damage to the sea floor**

Documents: 9-2, 9-2

- 9.1 The Meeting recalled that the updated Recommendation 36/2 and Guidelines for Management of Dredged Material at Sea, adopted by HELCOM 41-2020, stipulates consolidated reporting to London Protocol on the depositing of dredged material at sea and identifies the reporting procedure.
- 9.2 The Meeting took note of the consolidated report on depositing of dredged material (document 9-1) and approved its submission to LC/LP pending correction of Lithuanian data.
- 9.3 The Meeting took note of the report on the Depositing of dredged material in the Baltic Sea in 2018 (document 9-2) and endorsed it for publication as a Baltic Sea Environmental Fact Sheet pending correction of Danish and Lithuanian data.
- 9.4 The Meeting took note that there are errata in the figure 38 for Danish data and that Danish experts will contact the Secretariat to correct the data.
- 9.5 The Meeting also took note that Lithuania has been reporting wet weight instead of dry weight which also should be corrected utilizing related conversion coefficients **by 15 May 2020** in cooperation with the Secretariat ([Juuso.haapaniemi@helcom.fi](mailto:Juuso.haapaniemi@helcom.fi)).

**Agenda Item 10      Hazardous substances**

Documents: 10-1, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4, 10-5, 10-6

10.1      The Meeting agreed that the Draft report on micropollutants prepared with support of BSR water project platform and CW PHARMA project will be considered via correspondence during the summer break. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to circulate the document **by 29 May 2020** for reviewing and invited Contracting Parties and Observers to supply comments by **18 September 2020** to the Secretariat (Dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi; jana.wolf@helcom.fi).

10.2      The Meeting considered the report “PFOS and other PFASs in the Baltic Sea” (document 10-2) and reports on diclofenac, dioxins and PBDE in the Baltic Sea (document 10-3) and discussed their publication in HELCOM series of Baltic Sea Environmental Proceedings (BSEP)).

10.3      The Meeting welcomed the contribution by Stockholm University, thanked them for the great work done and in general supported publication of the documents in the HELCOM BSEPs.

10.4      The Meeting highlighted that the report on PFAS is almost ready for publication while the others, e.g. on diclofenac, requires some further advancement and corrections. The Meeting recommended to publish the reports separately.

10.5      The Meeting also took note of the clarification that the reports will be used in the SOM analysis as a reference for validation of the modelling results.

10.6      The Meeting agreed to review the reports and invited CPs to supply their comments **by 8 May 2020** to the Secretariat (Dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi). After the commenting, the documents will be submitted to HODs 58-2020 for approval of their publication in HELCOM Baltic Sea Environmental Proceedings.

10.7      The Meeting considered the outline of the PLC- thematic report on hazardous substances (document 10-6) and invited the Pressure group to send written recommendations for further substances to be taken into account to Sweden (lars.sonesten@slu.se) with copy to the Secretariat (Dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi).

10.8      The Meeting considered the suggested content of a regional strategic policy document on hazardous substances (document 10-4) and welcomed the proposal.

10.9      The Meeting specifically pointed out the importance of the work to assist countries which are EU member states, in implementation of related descriptors of MSFD and identification of HELCOM specific role in protection of the marine environment. The Meeting also emphasized the importance of the report to identify target substances for monitoring and assessment as well to propose new approaches such as non-target screening. Also, the document is to reflect possible mechanisms to follow the use of various chemicals in industry and consumer products and propose potential instruments for that.

10.10      The Meeting also took note that PA Hazards would like to emphasize that the importance of relation with EUSBSR PA Hazards should be taken up in the document with an indication how cooperation could be further designed for the future for mutual added value, especially in the work with new emerging environmental issues like pharmaceuticals in the environment (PIE), incl. antibiotic resistance and PFAS.

10.11      The Meeting proposed to consider also including radioactive substances in the policy document.

10.12      The Meeting proposed to identify national contact points to support the work and invited countries to nominate national contact points **by 8 May 2020** and also provide comments on the proposed content of the document to the Secretariat (Dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi).

10.13      The Meeting took note of the SAICM High Ambition Alliance and the importance of enhanced work on chemicals and waste management (document 10-1) and discussed possible benefits that the membership of the alliance could bring to HELCOM’s work.

10.14      The Meeting took note that OSPAR is considering participation in the SAICM and pointed out the importance of RSCs’ presence in the organization.

- 10.15 The Meeting supported HELCOM' participation in SAICM and requested the Secretariat with support by Sweden to prepare corresponding document for HOD 58-2020.
- 10.16 The Meeting took note of the proposal for the development of regular wide-scope screening of hazardous substances (document 10-5) and discussed the initiative.
- 10.17 The Meeting considered the proposal as a useful initiative and in general expressed support of it, pointing out the importance of cooperation with OSPAR which is currently planning similar activity.
- 10.18 The Meeting considered that broadening the scope of the screening including land-based sources and pathways of contaminants might bring additional valuable information on the pollutants of emerging concern and existing loads on the marine environment from these dominating sources. On the other hand, the Meeting expressed concern that this will require additional funds and that this needs thorough consideration.
- 10.19 The Meeting pointed out that it is very important to align resources allocated in the countries for screening work and coordinate the work to receive compatible results from all countries.
- 10.20 The Meeting also acknowledged that there might be differences between contamination of North Sea and Baltic Sea but coordinated screening campaign would help to identify and proof these differences and also reveal common challenges.
- 10.21 The Meeting also took note of the information on the report prepared by SLU on screening of chemicals in the catchment area of Mälaren (Sweden).
- 10.22 The Meeting agreed that the issue requires extensive national consultations and invited countries to provide answers to the questions listed on the cover note of the document 10-5 **by 29 May 2020** to the Secretariat (owen.rowe@helcom.fi).

#### **Agenda Item 11 Any other business**

Documents: 11-1

- 11.1 The Meeting welcomed Ms. Anna Hernberg on her new position of coordinator of EUSBSR PA Nutri.
- 11.2 The Meeting took note of the information that the Annual Forum for the EU Strategy for the Baltic Region has been moved to take place from 19th to 20th of October 2020 in Turku, Finland. Workshop proposals were submitted earlier in the spring and they should be confirmed in the coming few weeks. PA Nutri is also gathering stands for the networking village.
- 11.3 The Meeting further took note that PA Nutri actions have been submitted to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Region strategy update process early this year. Actions are closely linked to BSAP objectives and strive for joint development and implementation of concrete measures with visible impacts.
- 11.4 The Meeting invited the delegations to check and update the Contacts of Pressure Working Group (document 11-1) and inform the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) of any changes.
- 11.5 The Meeting took note that due to the outbreak of COVID-19, the Baltic Sea Day has been postponed to 16-18 September 2020.

#### **Agenda Item 12 Future work and meetings**

Documents: none

- 12.1 The Meeting welcomed the offer to arrange PRESSURE 13-2020 and the 5th Workshop on RAP ML in Finland 13-16 October 2020 and 12 October 2020 respectively. The Meeting invited Finland to confirm the invitation to the Secretariat as soon as possible
- 12.2 The Meeting also agreed that PRESSURE 14-2021 will tentatively be on the week from 12 to 16 April 2021 and welcomed the offer by Sweden to host it.

**Agenda Item 13      Outcome of the Meeting**

Documents: 13-1

13.1            The Meeting adopted the draft Outcome of the Meeting (document 13-1).

13.2            The Outcome of the Meeting was finalized by the Secretariat in cooperation with the Chair and made available in the HELCOM Meeting Portal together with all documents and presentations given during the Meeting.

## Annex 1 List of participants

Name	Representing	Organization	Email address
<b>Lars Sonesten</b>	Chair	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Lars.Sonesten@slu.se
<b>Nathia Brandtberg</b>	Denmark	Ministry of Environment and Food	nathb@mfvm.dk
<b>Anne Munch Christensen</b>	Denmark	Ministry of Environment and Food	anmch@mfvm.dk
<b>Lasse Tor Nielsen</b>	Denmark	Ministry of Environment and Food	latni@mfvm.dk
<b>Lars M. Svendsen</b>	Denmark	DCE Danish Centre for Environment and Energy, Aarhus University	lms@dce.au.dk
<b>Jakob Tougaard</b>	Denmark	Aarhus University	jat@bios.au.dk
<b>Urmas Lips</b>	Estonia	Tallinn University of Technology	urmas.lips@taltech.ee
<b>Rene Reisner</b>	Estonia	Ministry of the Environment	rene.reisner@envir.ee
<b>Raul Ilisson</b>	Estonia	Ministry of the Environment	raul.ilisson@envir.ee
<b>Maud Casier</b>	European Union	European Commission, DG Environment	Maud.CASIER@ec.europa.eu
<b>Laura Saijonmaa</b>	Finland	Ministry of the Environment	laura.saijonmaa@ym.fi
<b>Ari Kangas</b>	Finland	Ministry of the Environment	ari.kangas@ym.fi
<b>Anna Hernberg</b>	Finland	Ministry of the Environment	anna.hernberg@ym.fi
<b>Vilja Klemola</b>	Finland	Ministry of the Environment	vilja.klemola@ym.fi
<b>Marja-Liisa Tapio-Biström</b>	Finland	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	marja-liisa.tapio-bistrom@mmm.fi
<b>Mikael Wennström</b>	Finland	Government of Åland	mikael.wennstrom@regeringen.ax
<b>Sanna Suikkanen</b>	Finland	Finnish Environment Institute	sanna.suikkanen@ymparisto.fi
<b>Antti Räike</b>	Finland	Finnish Environment Institute	antti.raike@ymparisto.fi
<b>Emmi Vähä</b>	Finland	Finnish Environment Institute	emmi.vaha@ymparisto.fi
<b>Hanna Haaksi</b>	Finland	Keep the Archipelago Tidy	hanna.haaksi@pssry.fi
<b>Clemens Engelke</b>	Germany	State Agency for Environment, Nature Conservation and Geology, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	clemens.engelke@lung.mv-regierung.de
<b>Wera Leujak</b>	Germany	German Environment Agency	wera.leujak@web.de
<b>Ulrike Pirntke</b>	Germany	German Environment Agency	ulrike.pirntke@uba.de
<b>Carina Juretzek</b>	Germany	Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency	carina.juretzek@bsh.de
<b>Dorothee Adam</b>	Germany	Ministry of Energy, Agriculture, the Environment, Nature and Digitalization	dorothee.adam@melund.landsh.de

<b>Baiba Zasa</b>	Latvia	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia	baiba.zasa@varam.gov.lv
<b>Ilga Kokorite</b>	Latvia	Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre	ilga.kokorite@lvgmc.lv
<b>Aldona Margeriene</b>	Lithuania	Environmental Protection Agency	aldona.margeriene@aaa.am.lt
<b>Damian Bojanowski</b>	Poland	State Water Holding Polish Waters	damian.bojanowski@wody.gov.pl
<b>Elżbieta Balcerowska</b>	Poland	Ministry of Development	elzbieta.balcerowska@mpit.gov.pl
<b>Andrzej Podscianski</b>	Poland	Ministry of Agriculture	andrzej.podscianski@minrol.gov.pl
<b>Anna Klisowska</b>	Poland	Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation	anna.klisowska@mgm.gov.pl
<b>Agata Święcka</b>	Poland	Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation	agata.swiecka@mgm.gov.pl
<b>Piotr Piórkowski</b>	Poland	Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation	piotr.piorkowski@mgm.gov.pl
<b>Magdalena Dawidowicz</b>	Poland	Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation	magdalena.dawidowicz@mgm.gov.pl
<b>Joanna Milwicz vel Delach</b>	Poland	Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation	joanna.milwicz@mgm.gov.pl
<b>Paulina Bodurka</b>	Poland	Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation	Paulina.Bodurka@mgm.gov.pl
<b>Maria Pogojeva</b>	Russia	State Oceanographic Institute	pogojeva_maria@mail.ru
<b>Natalia Oblomkova</b>	Russia	Institute for Engineering and Environmental Problems in Agricultural Production – branch of Federal State Budgetary Scientific Institution “Federal Scientific Agroengineering Center VIM” (IEEP – branch of FSBSI FSAC VIM)	oblomkova@helcom.ru
<b>Svetlana Tochanskaya</b>	Russia	Saint-Petersburg State Company "Mineral"	svetlana@helcom.ru
<b>Johanna Eriksson</b>	Sweden	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	johanna.eriksson@havochvatten.se
<b>Philip Axe</b>	Sweden	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	philip.axe@havochvatten.se
<b>Lars Åkesson</b>	Sweden	Swedish Agency for Water and Marine Management	lars.akesson@havochvatten.se
<b>Josephine Rubia Johansson</b>	Sweden	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	josephine.rubiajohansson@havochvatten.se
<b>Kerstin Varenus</b>	Sweden	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	kerstin.varenus@havochvatten.se

<b>Cecilia Jörgensen</b>	Sweden	Environment Protection Agency	cecilia.jorgensen@naturvardsverket.se
<b>Henrik Appelgren</b>	Sweden	Environment Protection Agency	henrik.appelgren@naturvardsverket.se
<b>Bo Gustafsson</b>	Invited guest	Baltic Nest Institute	bo.gustafsson@su.se
<b>Michael Gauss</b>	Invited guest	Norwegian Meteorological Institute	michael.gauss@met.no
<b>Mikhail Durkin</b>	HELCOM Observer	Coalition Clean Baltic	mikhail.durkin@ccb.se
<b>Torben Wallach</b>	HELCOM Observer	Federation of European Aquaculture Producers	tw@musholm.com
<b>Peter Wiwen-Nilsson</b>	HELCOM Observer	Race For The Baltic	peter@raceforthebaltic.com
<b>Lisbeth Jess Plesner</b>	HELCOM Observer	Federation of European Aquaculture Producers	lisbeth@danskakvakultur.dk
<b>Paula Lindell</b>	HELCOM Observer	European Federation of National Associations of Water Services	paula.lindell@hsy.fi
<b>KJell Ivarsson</b>	HELCOM Observer	Baltic Farmers' Forum on Environment	kjell.ivarsson@lrf.se
<b>Marjukka Porvari</b>	HELCOM Observer	John Nurminen Foundation	marjukka.porvari@jnffoundation.fi
<b>Sylwia Migdał</b>	HELCOM Observer	WWF Poland	smigdal@wwf.pl
<b>Aleksei Lotman</b>	HELCOM Observer	WWF/Estonian Fund for Nature	alexlotman@gmail.com
<b>Arabelle Bentley</b>	HELCOM Observer	KIMO International	info@kimointernational.org
<b>Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky</b>	HELCOM Secretariat	HELCOM Secretariat	dmitry.frank-kamenetsky@helcom.fi
<b>Marta Ruiz</b>	HELCOM Secretariat	HELCOM Secretariat	marta.ruiz@helcom.fi
<b>Susanna Kaasinen</b>	HELCOM Secretariat	HELCOM Secretariat	susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi
<b>Kaisa Riiko</b>	HELCOM Secretariat	HELCOM Secretariat	kaisa.riiko@helcom.fi
<b>Emma Undeman</b>	HELCOM Secretariat	HELCOM Secretariat / Stockholm University Baltic Sea Centre	emma.undeman@su.se
<b>Heini Ahtiainen</b>	HELCOM Secretariat	HELCOM Secretariat	heini.ahtiainen@helcom.fi
<b>Luke Dodd</b>	HELCOM Secretariat	HELCOM Secretariat	luke.dodd@helcom.fi
<b>Juuso Haapaniemi</b>	HELCOM Secretariat	HELCOM Secretariat	juuso.haapaniemi@helcom.fi

## Annex 2. Rephrasing of HELCOM actions

### Rephrasing of existing actions

The tentative rephrasing of actions highlighted in yellow has been agreed by PRESSURE 12-2020.

Theme: Eutrophication

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019, PRESSURE 11a-2020 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
<p>Initiate joint activities to address transboundary nutrient inputs from non-Contracting Parties according to the HELCOM nutrient reduction scheme</p> <p>Origin: MD 2013 Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (3/9 countries)</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 2</b> Specification of possible joint activities could be added</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> To use “river basin management authorities” instead of “river basins” in the text.</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b> Use the text from the updated nutrient reduction scheme. Update the text of NRS with the proposal to address transboundary inputs.</p>	<p><b>Lead: PLC and Red Core DG</b> <i>Establish continuous cooperation within river basin management authorities to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>encourage-ensure that river-basin management authorities to integrate HELCOM environmental targets to the river basin management plans incorporate HELCOM environmental targets;</i></li> <li><i>address transboundary waterborne nutrient inputs from non-Contracting Parties according to the HELCOM nutrient reduction scheme.</i></li> </ul>	
<p>Progress towards reaching of country-wise allocated nutrient reduction targets (CARTs) to diminish nutrient inputs to the Baltic Sea to the maximum allowable level: <b>Phosphorus</b></p> <p>Origin BSAP Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Not accomplished</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 2</b> Adjust the wording based on the 2018 Ministerial Meeting re. ceilings</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> To utilize the text in the already drafted nutrient reduction scheme from RedCore 27-2019 meeting.</p> <p>To be reformulated more like an action.</p> <p>Deadline needed, discussion at PRESSURE 12</p>	<p><b>Lead: RedCore</b> <b>Formulation discussed at PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> <i>achieve or remain below national nutrient input ceilings (NIC) for each sub-basin, integrating waterborne and transboundary inputs, to reduce nutrient inputs to the Baltic Sea.</i></p> <p><b>New formulation:</b> <i>to take all possible actions by 20XX to achieve national nutrient input targets expressed as net nutrient input ceilings for each sub-basin-by 20XX.</i></p>	

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019, PRESSURE 11a-2020 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
	<p><i>Draft text on the updated nutrient reduction scheme from the RedCore 27-2019:</i></p> <p>WE AGREE to take all possible actions to achieve national nutrient input targets expressed as net nutrient input ceilings for each sub-basin by 20XX. WE ALSO AGREE that national net input ceilings are maximum allowable inputs of nutrients integrating waterborne (direct coastal point sources and discharges from rivers), airborne (atmospheric deposition from a country or a group of countries) and transboundary (input via rivers through another country) inputs.</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b></p> <p>Will be further advanced together with NRS</p> <p>Keep all target years in brackets</p>	<p>Propose target year!</p>	
<p>Progress towards reaching of country-wise allocated nutrient reduction targets (CARTs) to diminish nutrient inputs to the Baltic Sea to the maximum allowable level: <b>Nitrogen</b></p> <p>Origin: BSAP Implementation; <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (1/9 countries)</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 2</b> Adjust the wording based on the 2018 Ministerial Meeting re. ceilings</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> To utilize the text in the already drafted nutrient reduction scheme from RedCore 27-2019 meeting.</p> <p>To be reformulated more like an action. Deadline needed, discussion at PRESSURE 12</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b> <b>Not needed as covered by previous action.</b></p>	<p><b>Lead: RedCore DG</b> <b>Formulation discussed at PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> <i>achieve or remain below national nutrient input ceilings (NIC) for each sub-basin, integrating waterborne, airborne and transboundary inputs, to reduce nutrient inputs to the Baltic Sea.</i></p>	
<p>National programmes to achieve nutrient reductions</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 3</b></p>	<p><b>Co-Lead countries Germany and Sweden</b> <b>Formulation discussed at PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b></p>	

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019, PRESSURE 11a-2020 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
<p>Origin: BSAP Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (5/9 countries)</p>	<p>To be amended. Common interpretation: National programmes” could be interpreted as any programme or set of measures including under other policies than HELCOM as long as they are sufficient to reach the country-wise allocated reduction targets (PRESSURE 10a-2019, para 2.2) <b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> The first part on achieving the NIC could be merged with previous actions. <b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b> <b>Agreed by the group</b></p>	<p><i>(In order to achieve the country wise nutrient input ceilings WE AGREE to undertake the necessary measures by [2025].)</i></p> <p><i>We furthermore agree to submit to HELCOM by [2023] a detailed account list of planned and implemented measures in different sectors and catchments alongside an estimation of their effectiveness in order to share practical information demonstrating how country-wise nutrient inputs ceilings can be achieved.</i></p>	
<p>Evaluation of effectiveness of national programmes for reduction of nutrients and need for additional measures, in order to reach the country-wise reduction targets</p> <p>Origin: BSAP Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (4/9 countries)</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 2</b> (update of wording needed e.g. reference to ceilings) Consider keeping as two actions to facilitate the reporting since countries may have implemented national programmes but not necessarily fully evaluated their effectiveness.</p>		
<p>Target the elimination of phosphorus in laundry detergents for consumer use as soon as possible, but not later than by 2015</p> <p>Origin: MD 2010) Implementation; <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (8/9 countries)</p> <p>(Considering also overlapping actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Encourage voluntary use of P-free dishwasher detergents (MD 2010)</li> <li>- RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the</li> </ul>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 3</b> Accomplishment of the existing action is pending the implementation by Russia. Possible development of the action. PRESSURE 10a-2019 (para 2.9) took note of a study concerning the environmental risk of surfactants and their transformation products discharged by wastewater treatment plants which will be published. The Meeting noted that the action could also be extended to address other contaminants from industrial dish waters, e.g. surfactants. <b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b></p>	<p><b>Lead country: Germany</b></p> <p>Rephrasing not needed for the existing action “Target the elimination...”. Will be kept in the updated BSAP if Russia has not implemented this action by 2020.</p> <p><i>Undertake efforts to target the elimination of phosphorus in detergents for industrial &amp; institutional use, in particular for institutional use of laundry and dishwasher detergents in compliance with the best available technique [no later than by 2030]</i></p>	<p>Note that for EU Member States the use of P-free <b>dishwater detergents for consumer use</b> is regulated since 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2017. Therefore, <b>laundry and dishwasher detergents for consumer use</b> are regulated.</p> <p>Germany proposes that HELCOM undertakes action <b>concerning phosphorus in detergents for industrial &amp; institutional use, in particular for institutional use of laundry and dishwasher detergents for</b></p> <p>Germany proposes to apply the best available technology concerning phosphorus in laundry and dishwasher detergents for industrial and</p>

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019, PRESSURE 11a-2020 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
<p>Contracting States to the Helsinki Convention that further investigations on alternative builders, especially on their use and environmental effects, be carried out. (HELCOM Recommendation 28E-7))</p>	<p>Germany will lead the rephrasing</p> <p>There are two points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To rephrase to include industrial use and dishwasher detergents</li> <li>2. To make a new action on hazardous substances to include other contaminants in detergents</li> </ol> <p>Other actions regarding dishwasher detergents and alternative builders from BSAP should be checked.</p> <p>There is a need for background information on what are the alternative substances to replace phosphates and their potential environmental effect.</p> <p>The current action on laundry detergents should be kept since it has not been implemented by Russia and the target year should be changed.</p> <p>Secretariat will clarify implementation with Russia and suggest a target year</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b></p> <p>Denmark and Sweden need time or further consideration of the proposal by 8 May.</p>	<p><i>By 2025, develop and publish a HELCOM progress report about alternative builder, especially on their use, environmental effects and effectiveness.</i></p>	<p>institutional use. However, the question arises how BAT is determined, since no BREFs (EU Best Available technique reference documents) exist. Germany has already addressed this subject in a study but the outcome was not satisfying. Germany will undertake further efforts concerning this subject in the coming years.</p> <p>Germany furthermore proposes that this action should be accompanied by a HELCOM action on further reducing P-discharges from sewage treatment plants.</p> <p>Concerning the reduction of the use of slowly degradable substances in laundry and dishwater detergents Germany considers submitting a proposal for a new action on this subject for the updated BSAP but a synopsis has not been prepared yet and national discussion is ongoing.</p> <p>The EU has already commissioned the following 2 reports:  <a href="#">WRc (2002): Phosphates and Alternative Detergent Builders</a>  <a href="#">RPA (2006): Non-surfactant Organic Ingredients and Zeolite-based Detergents.</a></p> <p>These reports need updating, including an overview of alternative builders, where they are used and their effectiveness compared to phosphates. Germany would be interested in drafting this report, in cooperation with other HELCOM CPs.</p>
<p>Enhance the recycling of phosphorus (especially in agriculture and wastewater treatment) and to promote</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019: Category 3</b></p> <p>The action will be specified by a future Baltic Sea nutrient recycling strategy</p>	<p><b>Lead country: Finland</b>  <a href="#">undertake measures to implement the nutrient recycling strategy and</a></p>	

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019, PRESSURE 11a-2020 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
<p>development of appropriate methodology</p> <p>Origin: MD 2013 Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly implemented (3/9 countries)</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> The elaboration of the nutrient recycling strategy is ongoing, and the action will be specified during the spring.</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b></p> <p>Provisional proposal for further consideration by the strategy drafting group and HOD</p>	<p><a href="#">measures to achieve the Strategy' objectives</a></p>	

Theme: Hazardous substances and litter

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
<p>Collect more information and assess the state of contamination with pharmaceuticals and their degradation products of the aquatic environment and to develop measures, as appropriate, to prevent pharmaceuticals from reaching the Baltic Sea</p> <p>Origin: MD 2013 Implementation: <b>Joint</b> Status: Partly accomplished</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 3</b> Based on the ongoing projects further recommendations can be given on collection of data as well as specific measures could be proposed.</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> To be discussed and agreed at PRESSURE 12</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b> <b>Agreed by the group</b></p>	<p><b>Lead country: Germany with CG PHARMA</b> Identify priority pharmaceuticals utilising the best available knowledge on their releases into the aquatic environment, environmental effects and data on the use in the region with subsequent integration of these substances to HELCOM assessments as indicators of the state of the Baltic sea and environmental pressure.</p>	<p>The proposal is focused on the need of systematic observation of the state of the Baltic Sea regarding contamination by pharmaceuticals and assessment of input of these substances to the Baltic Sea. The proposal does not consider any measures to minimise input of pharmaceutical substances to the aquatic environment.</p>
<p>Agree to develop in 2008 specific efficiency requirements and emission limit values for small scale combustion appliances in relation to HELCOM Recommendation 28E-8.</p> <p>Origin: BSAP Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (3/9 countries)</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 3</b> The Meeting took note that according to the reporting on implementation of Recommendation 28E-8, not all countries have limit values for dioxin and dioxin-like compounds for small-scale combustion appliances and some countries consider that other measures are more relevant to address dioxin emissions as well as other</p>	<p><b>Lead country: Finland</b> <b>Formulation discussed at PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> <i>[In order to decrease dioxin emissions, we agree to develop specific efficiency requirements for small scale combustion appliances and emission limit values for dioxins or relevant indicator substance(s).</i></p>	

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
	<p>compounds require establishing of limit values (para 2.11).</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> Denmark will consider proposing an alternative formulation in cooperation with Finland for PRESSURE 12</p> <p>The alternative proposal could focus on firewood instead of efficiency requirements. Denmark will circulate the studies on this.</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b></p> <p>Finland has received related information from Denmark and is considering it. Finland will endeavor to propose formulation coordinated with Denmark by 8 May.</p>		
<p>National programmes to eliminate hazardous substances</p> <p>Origin: BSAP Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (6/9 countries)</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 3</b></p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> Germany and Sweden will co-lead rephrasing Proposal based on regional policy document on hazardous substances for PRESSURE 12</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b> <b>Requires further approval.</b></p>	<p><b>Lead country: Germany, co-lead by Sweden</b></p> <p><u>develop national programmes with a particular focus on substances which are not regulated by other policies</u></p> <p><u>submit to HELCOM by [2023] a detailed account list of planned and implemented measures in different sectors, pathways and geographical areas in order to share practical information.</u></p>	
<p>Evaluation of effectiveness of national programmes to eliminate hazardous substance</p> <p>Origin: BSAP Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (5/9 countries)</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 3</b></p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> See previous action on national programmes to eliminate hazardous substances Proposal to merge the two actions</p>	<p><b>Lead country: Germany, provisionally co-lead by Sweden</b></p>	

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
	<p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b> See previous</p>		
<p>Develop common indicators and associated targets related to quantities, composition, of marine litter, including riverine inputs, in order to gain information on long-term trends</p> <p>Origin: MD 2013 Implementation: <b>Joint</b> Status: Partly accomplished</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 2</b></p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> S&amp;C to take over the reformulation, led by Denmark</p> <p>To address riverine input of litter in synergy with work ongoing in OSPAR</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b> <b>Germany will make proposal for S&amp;C</b></p>	<p><b>Lead: EN-Marine litter</b></p>	
<p>Elimination of remaining hot spots from the JCP List (municipal and industrial)</p> <p>Origin: MD 2013 Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 2</b> e.g. decision on deadlines needed 41 out of 162 hot spots remain in the HELCOM list, among which: 6 agricultural, 15 municipal, 17 industrial and 3 coastal.</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> Should be considered together with the proposal for new action to revise the hot spot list</p> <p>International funds facilitating the elimination of hot spots -&gt; not to restrict to national tools/instruments</p> <p>Clearer guidelines on how to eliminate the hot spots such as checklist, criteria etc. can facilitate receiving funds</p>	<p><b>Lead: Secretariat</b> <b>Formulation discussed at PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b> <i>Establish national tools to eliminate remaining hot spots from HELCOM list or include the hot spots into existing investment programmes with target year: municipal [2025] industrial [20XX] coastal [20XX] agricultural [20XX]</i></p> <p><b>New formulation:</b> <i>prioritize including inclusion of HELCOM hot spots into investment programmes (national or international) or establish alternative financial mechanisms to eliminate remaining hot spots from HELCOM list by 2025; specify HELCOM criteria for deletion of hot spots from the list wherever it is needed;</i></p>	

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
	<p>Target year 2025 could be proposed for all sectors</p> <p>EUSBSR projects to support the elimination of hot spots</p> <p>Secretariat to suggest a new formulation for PRESSURE 12 based on the comments</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b> <b>Agreed by the group</b></p>	<p><i>apply HELCOM criteria for deletion of municipal/industrial, <del>and</del> agricultural <u>and other</u> hot spots to justify results of the investment projects.</i></p>	
<p>Implementation of the UNEP 2013 Minamata Convention on Mercury</p> <p>Origin: MD 2013</p> <p>Implementation: <b>National</b></p> <p>Status: Not accomplished</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE 10a-2019:</b> <b>Category 2 or 3</b></p> <p>If there is a need for regional support of the implementation, e.g. identify specific actions of the Minamata Convention that are of particular relevance for the Baltic Sea; could possibly be re-iterated in the updated BSAP.)</p> <p>Mercury has been selected as an example for SOM analysis. Specification of the actions required to facilitate implementation of the Minamata Convention will be given based on the results of this analysis.</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b></p> <p>Denmark will contribute to reformulating the actions, especially on dredged material and amalgam</p> <p>Should be more concrete than “undertake all possible measures”</p> <p><b>PRESSURE 12-2020</b></p> <p><i>Include commitments regarding implementation of other conventions in the preamble.</i></p>	<p><b>Lead: Secretariat and Denmark</b></p> <p><b>Formulations discussed at PRESSURE 11a-2020:</b></p> <p>“enhance implementation of the UNEP 2013 Minamata Convention on Mercury”</p> <p>“undertake all possible measures to reduce mercury emissions from energy sector”</p> <p>“<del>continuously</del> control concentration of mercury in dredge material and undertake possible measures to prevent its resuspension during dredging operations and handling of dredged material at sea”</p> <p>“introduce the ban of the use of mercury-based amalgam in dentistry”</p> <p>“establish and maintain procedures (rules) to handle mercury containing wastes to prevent entering of the contaminant to the environment, including public information on the procedures (rules)”</p> <p><b>Updated formulation for the action on amalgam in dentistry:</b></p> <p>“introduce the ban of the use of mercury-based amalgam in dentistry <u>by 2030</u>, except when deemed strictly necessary by</p>	<p>The suggested added exception for amalgam in dentistry is in line with the EU text for this subject.</p>

Existing action	Comments by PRESSURE 10a-2019 and PRESSURE 12-2020	Proposed formulation for updated BSAP	Explanation
	<p>Do not repeat measures from international treaties in the BSAP.</p> <p>Proposed actions to some extent repeat those in Minamata and leave the decision for HODs.</p> <p>The group provisionally agreed on the formulation pending acceptance of the para on dredged material by Denmark by 8 May and agreed to seek for decision by HOD on inclusion of the actions from Minamata Convention to the updated BSAP.</p> <p>Finland does not support inclusion of measure related to contaminated wastes as it duplicates the Convention.</p>	<p>the dental practitioner based on the specific medical needs of the patient.”</p>	

Actions identified as likely to remain in the updated BSAP not requiring rephrasing

Existing action	Reflections by PRESSURE 10a-2019
<p>Establishment of chemical product registers to be built upon e.g. the EU REACH (EC1907/2006) framework (2010)</p> <p>Origin: BSAP Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (6/9 countries)</p>	<p><b>Category 1</b></p> <p>Note that action will not be implemented by Germany (PRESSURE 10a-2019, para 2.10)</p>
<p>Ratification of the UNEP 2013 Minamata Convention on Mercury</p> <p>Origin: BSAP Implementation: <b>National</b> Status: Partly accomplished (7/9 countries)</p>	<p><b>Category 1</b></p> <p>Remain with unchanged wording if not implemented by all countries by 2021.</p>