



Document title	Swedish information on relevant planned and on-going activities contributing to the implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 36/1
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Agenda Item	5-Implementation of the RAP on Marine Litter
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Submitted by	Sweden
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Background

HOD 48-2015 endorsed the concrete regional actions and voluntary national actions to reduce the input and presence of marine litter in the Baltic Sea as part of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (HELCOM Recommendation 36/1 and its Annex as contained in document 5-1).

Sweden has offered to take lead on two actions, RL7 "Investigate and promote best available techniques as well as research and develop additional techniques in waste water treatment plants to prevent micro particles entering the marine environment" and RS5 "Promote and disseminate best practice in relation to all relevant aspects of waste management within the fishing sector (including e.g. waste management on board, waste management at harbors and operational losses/net cuttings)". Sweden has uploaded follow-up summaries for action RL7 and RS5 on the HELCOM marine litter workspace and would like to ask Contracting Parties and Observers with relevant information for these two actions to upload it on the HELCOM marine litter workspace or to send it directly to johanna.eriksson@havochvatten.se

Sweden would like to inform on ongoing and planned activities and projects related to action RL1, RL4 and RL6.

RL1 - "Prepare and agree on HELCOM guidelines on marine litter references to be included in national and local waste prevention and waste management plans, i.a. an element highlighting the impacts of marine litter."

The Swedish proposal for the Programme of measures for the marine environment (PoM) includes two measures related to RL1:

1. The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will conduct strategic work by including marine litter in relevant waste management plans and programs including the municipal waste plans, where the significance of waste management for preventing marine litter is highlighted.
2. Municipalities should, during revision of municipal waste plans, identify and highlight how waste management can contribute to reducing the emergence of marine litter and establish objectives for such work.

RL4 – "Improvement of storm water management in order to prevent litter, including micro litter, to enter the marine environment from heavy weather events."

A Swedish and an OSPAR report on best available techniques to reduce and prevent sewage and storm water related waste entering the marine environment, including micro particles will be ready during 2016.

RL6 – "Establish an overview of the importance of the different sources of primary and secondary micro plastics. Evaluate products and processes that include both primary and secondary micro plastics, such as

fibres from clothing, assess if they are covered or not by legislation, and act, if appropriate, to influence the legal framework, or identify other necessary measures.”

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has an assignment to identify the more important sources to micro plastics in Sweden and also to propose measures to be taken in order to reduce the input of microplastics from the sources. And if necessary, propose constitutional amendments to reduce the emissions of micro plastics. The EPA will report to the Swedish Ministry of Environment and Energy in the middle of June 2017.

Additionally, Keep Sweden Tidy will be lead partner of an EU project called “Blastic (Plastic waste pathways into the Baltic Sea)”. The project will be presented during the HELCOM Pressure meeting. Results from the project can be used in the implementation of all actions mentioned above.

Action required

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.