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<b>Document title</b>	Outcome of RSC meeting
<b>Code</b>	5-5
<b>Category</b>	CMNT
<b>Agenda Item</b>	5 – Implementation of the RAP on Marine Litter
<b>Submission date</b>	25.9.2015
<b>Submitted by</b>	Secretariat
<b>Reference</b>	

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### Background

Cooperation between OSPAR and Barcelona Conventions on their respective marine litter action plans started in 2014 with both Secretariats of the Conventions together with Spain and France aiming at identifying and further work on common topics and similar actions.

HELCOM Secretariat attended the informal meeting on cooperation between OSPAR and Barcelona RSC regarding Regional Action Plans on Marine Litter held 18 September 2015 in Paris. The one-day Meeting, organized by the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, based its discussion on a compilation table containing OSPAR, Barcelona and HELCOM indicating the state of play, the calendar and the next steps for the implementation of common topics and similar actions.

This document contains the outcome of the informal meeting, which is to be considered a living document, (Attachment 1) together with the compilation table used for the discussion (Attachment 2).

### Action required

The Meeting is invited to:

- take note of the information;
- consider the proposals for cooperation as contained in the document, and suggest further issues of cooperation if appropriate;
- consider participating in the next meeting of the RSC envisaged in spring 2016.

## Attachment 1

**Informal meeting on cooperation between Regional Seas Conventions on Marine Litter Regional Action Plan (RAP)  
(Paris, September 18th)**

***Main conclusions***

**I. Priority actions, timeframe and resources**

1. Accumulations areas/hotspots of ML (including ghost nets)

Proposed output:

Study to define/establish a common approach on accumulation areas (methodology for mapping accumulations, risk assessment tool) in collaboration with stakeholders (fisheries organizations...) and supported by research studies.

2. Fishing for litter activities (passive FFL)

Proposed output:

- Identification of main areas for fishing litter;
- Exchange of experience on incentives for developing fishing for litter scheme and remove the barriers to these activities;
- To raise awareness or provide training.

3. Implementation of MARPOL Annex V / waste management in ports

Proposed outputs:

- Joint study on application and impacts of fee systems.

4. Riverine inputs / Sewage and storm water related waste (including microparticles)

Not a priority at this stage.

Conference on June 25/26 in Germany on riverine inputs.

5. Public awareness and education activities / citizen science and data

Proposed output:

- To develop a study / existing material for ML education programmes, if they fit what is needed and see what still need to be developed;
- Checking with UNEP if something is done regarding the follow up of G7 on ML;
- Side event at the Barcelona Convention in February 2016 in order to show what is done on ML.

6. Cleanup campaigns (national, international)

Proposed output:

- Exchange information on best practices for clean up campaign through data base;
- To develop common guidelines for clean cup campaigns based on the existing material;
- To link national campaigns to international ones / to identify these campaigns.

## 7. Waste prevention

Proposed output:

- Training and exchanges of best practices and information on waste prevention, especially on extended producer responsibility, eco-design;
- Exchange of information on existing legislation in CPs and on effectiveness of its implementation;
- Share outcome of ongoing overview and evaluation (sources and inputs of microplastics).

## 8. Information on RSC and CPs activities

Proposed output:

- Sharing best practices with GPA;
- Sharing information systems;
- Developing common database for best practices.

## 9. Collaboration with stakeholders and developing a long term relationship with the different regional actors

- Organization of events. Different organizers depending on the discussed topic. Focus on measures or on stakeholders types?;
- Identification of contacts;
- Developing networks;
- Involving RAC and regional actors in coordinated actions: priority on fisheries organization (GFCM), transport societies, port authorities;
- Developing background documents to develop partnerships on a thematic basis, for each category of actors to describe the activities implemented in the framework of the RSC.

New areas for coordination or cooperation:

Actions for support countries with their national action plans and foster capacity building;

Need for methodologies and tools.

## **II. Follow up of the process**

For the next biennium: Need for a country to facilitate the process at this stage. Important to help the Secretariats and add weight to this initiative.

Spain and Germany could eventually organize other meetings on the same topic for the next biennium.

For the long-term: need for permanent and formal organization, with leadership by the Secretariats.

Perspectives:

- Call for projects in the framework of EMFF launched by the EC. Possibility to present concrete projects for coordination on ML RAP.
- Involvement of CPs party to two RSC: Sweden, Turkey.

Methodology for future work:

- Regular informal meetings proposed in the same format;
- Regular update of the common tool regarding implementation of the ML actions and RAP (every 6 months, before each new meeting);
- Regular update of the priorities of coordinated actions identified during the Paris meeting (after meetings);
- Regular information on coming events in each organization and involved CPs;
- Joint basecamp for exchange of information: send an email to John Mouat;
- Next meeting: Spring 2016 / beginning of May (in Spain). Back to back with other regional meetings.

[Attachment 2](#)

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## OSPAR / CONTRACTING PARTIES ACTIONS

### Theme

Prevention of sea-based sources of marine litter

### Key words

Implementation of MARPOL Annex V by the ports

### OSPAR Actions

62. Ensuring effective implementation and enforcement of MARPOL Annex V in relation to both fishing and shipping waste by considering its implementation by port state control and other competent bodies.

#### *OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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### Barcelona Actions

9.5. In accordance with Article 14 of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol explore and implement to the extent possible ways and means to charge reasonable cost for the use of port reception facilities or when applicable apply No-Special-Fee system and take the necessary steps to provide ships using their ports with updated information relevant to the obligation arising from Annex V of MARPOL Convention and from their legislation applicable in the field.

#### *Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Upgrade guidelines on port reception facilities based on MLRP and MARPOL as well as on ways and means to promote a no special fee system based on best practices. (To be implemented in 2016 and concluded with a regional meeting in 2017).

### Comments

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - **Fixed Fee system included in the Integrated Management Plans of all the Ports of the State:** a fixed fee is applied in these ports depending on the type of vessel (gross register tonnage) and not on the volume of wastes delivered, regulated in Art. 132 of the Legislative Royal Decree 1381/2002, transposing Directive 2000/59/EC. During the first 7 days at the port, vessels can deliver all wastes included in annex I and V of the MARPOL Convention with no additional cost. There are some exemptions and reductions in the fee that increase the incentive.
  - **Inspections by maritime Authorities to check the compliance of the reception of ship generated wastes and cargo residues** (Art.11 of the Legislative Royal Decree 1381/2002, transposing Directive 2000/59/EC, and modified by RD 1084/2009)
- New measures (direct relation with MARPOL):
  - **Extension of the fixed-fee system regulated in the Legislative Royal Decree 1381/2002 to the ports managed by regional authorities** (for example, Ports of Catalunya in considering this concept, with an exemption for recreational and fishing vessels).
  - **Improvement of the inspection system** (if considered necessary by the competent Authority).
- Other new measures improving waste management in ports:
  - **Extension of port reception facilities to all kind of wastes collected at sea** (i.e. FfL, recreational vessels might collect visible litter at sea).
  - **Improvement of the waste management in ports.**
- Guidance for waste management in ports (Ports of the State), analyzing the role of the Port Authority in waste management and proposing technical and administrative measures to improve waste management by port operators and users. The Guidelines will analyze one by one all the activities developed in the port.

- Ports of Catalunya will develop reception and management plans for wastes in the period 2016-2021.
- Port of Barcelona will promote the improvement of its port reception facilities in the period 2016-2021.

#### HELCOM actions

RS3 within HELCOM RAP ML: Further work on implementation and harmonization of the no-special-fee system, addressing:

- gaps in existing regulations,
- enforcement and practices concerning shipping,
- port reception facilities auditing to assess adequacy of garbage collection,
- fair waste burden sharing between ports.

*Further specification: Evaluate the implementation of HELCOM Recommendation (28E-10), starting 2016.*

#### HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)

To identify further gaps in availability of PRF for ship-generated wastes, mandatory delivery of waste and the application of the “no-special-fee” system, and propose measures to fill in these gaps, is an action to be conducted within the Work Plan for the HELCOM Maritime Working Group 2014-2016. Contracting Parties are responsible for carrying out this action. Finland as lead for HELCOM work on “no-special fee” system.

#### Identification of joint products, deliverables

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## Theme

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## Key words

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## OSPAR Actions

65. Seeking cooperation in the river and river basin authorities in order to include impacts of litter on the marine environment in river and river basin management plans.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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## Barcelona Actions

9.4. Take necessary measures to establish as appropriate adequate urban sewer, wastewater treatment plants, and waste management systems to prevent run-off and riverine inputs of litter.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

1. Expected to be implemented in the framework of NAP update by the Contracting Parties where relevant. The NAPs are expected to be submitted end of 2015. Regional training by end of 2015 on WWTP operation to also address such matters.

2. With regards to solid waste it is planned to undertake sharing of best practices on waste management including prevention and landfill bans of high caloric wastes (esp. for plastics).

## Comments

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - **Preventing waste input through the hydrographic network and / or wastewater treatment infrastructure:**

National Plan for Water Quality (2007-2015): planning the construction of treatment plants necessary to comply with Directive 91/271 / EC of sewage: WWTP necessarily have a pretreatment which retains solid waste preventing their release together with the effluent and consequent arrival to the marine environment

\* River Basin Management Plans developed for each river basin district in accordance with Directive 2000/60 / EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (WFD) collect the whole set of infrastructure seeking compliance with established environmental objectives, including treatment plants of urban waste water.
- New measures:
  - **Study on the characteristics and amounts of marine litter (including micro-plastics) from wastewater treatment plants and proposing specific measures to be incorporated into the river basin management plans (3rd cycle)**
  - **Guidelines for direct inputs to the sea:** is expected to include criteria for controlling the input of marine litter in effluents by adequate monitoring programs in the discharge areas (currently marine litter is not included in the control parameters).

## HELCOM actions

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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## Identification of joint products, deliverables

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**Theme**

Prevention of land-based sources of marine litter.

**Key words**

Extended producer responsibility and control of the product life cycle.

**OSPAR Actions**

70. Promoting Extended Producer Responsibility Strategies requiring producers, manufacturers, brand owners and first importers to be responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with a focus on items frequently found in the marine environment.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

9.3.a. Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to Extended Producer responsibility strategy by making the producers, manufacturer brand owners and first importers responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with measures prioritizing the hierarchy of waste management in order to encourage companies to design products with long durability for reuse, recycling and materials reduction in weight and toxicity.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Collect and disseminate successful case studies of companies and initiatives providing solutions to waste generation ending up as marine litter and alternatives. Activity planned in 2016/2017.

**Comments**

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - **Implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility Strategy:** Art. 31 and 32 of the Law 22/2011, of wastes and contaminated soils, establishes the legal framework that involves producers of products that will be a waste after use in the prevention and organisation of waste management, promoting reuse, recycling and valorization. There are Integrated Management Systems in response of this concept regarding domestic wastes and industrial wastes. Some examples are: ECOEMBES-packages, ECOVIDRIO-glass, CANAL HORECA-glass packages in restaurants and hotels y REPACAR Y ASPAPEL-paper.

**HELCOM actions**

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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**Theme**

Prevention of land-based sources of marine litter.

**Key words**

Sustainable consumption (plastics).

**OSPAR Actions**

71. Encouraging the development and implementation of Sustainable Procurement Policies that contribute to the promotion of recycled products, in particular plastic, focusing on those products that impact upon the marine environment.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

9.3.b. Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to Sustainable Procurement policies contributing to the promotion of the consumption of recycled plastic-made products.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Training and support programme for green start-ups in 8 Mediterranean Southern and Eastern countries.

**Comments**

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - Sustainable Public Procurement Policies;
  - Plan for a Green Public Procurement in the Central Administration and its Organisms (2008): its aim is to use recycled paper and other recycled materials. Regional Governments have similar procedures.
- New measures:
  - Revision of the plan to include references to recycled plastics.

**HELCOM actions**

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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**Theme**

Removal of marine litter.

**Key words**

Fishing for litter.

**OSPAR Actions**

74. Encouraging all fishing vessels to be involved in Fishing for Litter schemes, where they are available.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

9.6. Explore and implement to the extent possible the "Fishing for Litter" environmentally sound practices, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations, to facilitate clean up of the floating litter and the seabed from marine litter caught incidentally and/or generated by fishing vessels in their regular activities including derelict fishing gears.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Draft guidelines on fishing for litter developed based on the OSPAR model, hopefully to be adopted by COP 19 next February. Mediterranean project experiences used for this purpose. The last CBD guidelines on impacts of ML on biodiversity were also taken into account. FfL guidelines developed focus on passive FfL. However there are some provisions in the guidelines on active FfL.

**Comments**

Common: Pilot projects under preparation to secure funding for implementing in the next four years the implementation of these guidelines. Coordination with GFCM sought. Involvement of key NGOs in the region is also important.

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - **Financing of Fishing for Litter initiatives and projects involving littoral trawling fishing sector:** FMEP Operative programme, in response to Regulation 508/2014, Art. 40.1, includes fishing for litter activities. The funds are managed by Fundación Biodiversidad through a call for projects and the local action groups are approved by regional authorities. Some experiences in Spain are:
    - a) Pescal Project (coordinated by CETMAR 2012-2014) : Includes FfL and two more activities: ghost nets research and directed clean up campaigns with vessels.
    - b) 2015: Santa pola and Torrevieja Ports.
    - c) Ecoportos: coordinated by University of Cádiz. Started in Port of Motril in 2013. All waste is managed. The project includes a social aspect: some captures are given to a Food Bank.
    - d) "Bolsas ecológicas a bordo" is promoted by Fishermen association in Villajoyosa Port (Alicante), since 2012.
    - e) Regional waste Agency in Cataluña will develop a pilot action in the Port of Barcelona with the aim to replicate in all the Ports in Cataluña.
- New measures:
  - **Foster Fishing competent authorities to implement FfL activities following the "Guide on best practices for fishing for Litter in the Mediterranean", UNEP/MAP.**
  - **"Guide on best practices for fishing for Litter in the Mediterranean".**
  - **Extension of port reception facilities to all kind of wastes collected at sea (i.e. FfL, recreational vessels might collect visible litter at sea).**

**HELCOM actions**

RS12 within HELCOM RAP ML: Enter into the partnership with international and regional organizations (e.g. KIMO, NABU, OSPAR Commission) as well as port authorities, to encourage implementation of passive Fishing for Litter schemes, to collect litter caught in fishing nets during normal fishing activities.  
*Further specification: increasing trends in the number of vessels from the fishing sector involved in the schemes.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Poland and WWF Poland offered to lead the action on retrieval of the ghost nets from the Baltic Sea.

Identification of joint products, deliverables

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**Theme**

Removal of marine litter.

**Key words**

Fishing for litter and management of the fished waste.

**OSPAR Actions**

74. Encouraging all fishing vessels to be involved in Fishing for Litter schemes, where they are available.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

10.e. Explore and implement to the extent possible the application of the Fishing for Litter practices, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations and in partnership with fishermen and ensure adequate collection, sorting and/or environmentally sound disposal of the fished litter.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

1. Promote fishing best practice in relation to marine litter (covering all relevant aspects including e.g. dolly rope, waste management on board, waste management at harbours and operational losses/net cuttings)
2. Develop a risk assessment tool for identifying where accumulations of ghost nets pose a threat to the environment and should be removed.

**Comments**

Common: Collaboration with GFCM is crucial. Potential for cross collaboration among regional seas to raise awareness or provide training.

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - **Financing of Fishing for Litter initiatives and projects involving littoral trawling fishing sector:** FMEP Operative programme, in response to Regulation 508/2014, Art. 40.1, includes fishing for litter activities. The funds are managed by Fundación Biodiversidad through a call for projects and the local action groups are approved by regional authorities. Some experiences in Spain are:
    - a) Pescal Project (coordinated by CETMAR 2012-2014) : Includes FfL and two more activities: ghost nets research and directed clean up campaigns with vessels.
    - b) 2015: Santa pola and Torrevieja Ports.
    - c) Ecoportos: coordinated by University of Cádiz. Started in Port of Motril in 2013. All waste is managed. The project includes a social aspect: some captures are given to a Food Bank.
    - d) "Bolsas ecológicas a bordo" is promoted by Fishermen association in Villajoyosa Port (Alicante), since 2012.
    - e) Regional waste Agency in Cataluña will develop a pilot action in the Port of Barcelona with the aim to replicate in all the Ports in Cataluña.
- New measures:
  - **Foster Fishing competent authorities to implement FfL activities following the "Guide on best practices for fishing for Litter in the Mediterranean", UNEP/MAP.**
  - **"Guide on best practices for fishing for Litter in the Mediterranean".**
  - **Extension of port reception facilities to all kind of wastes collected at sea (i.e. FfL, recreational vessels might collect visible litter at sea).**

**HELCOM actions**

RS12 within HELCOM RAP ML: Enter into the partnership with international and regional organizations (e.g. KIMO, NABU, OSPAR Commission) as well as port authorities, to encourage implementation of passive Fishing for Litter schemes, to collect litter caught in fishing nets during normal fishing activities.

*Further specification: increasing trends in the number of vessels from the fishing sector involved in the schemes.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Poland and WWF Poland offered to lead the action on retrieval of the ghost nets from the Baltic Sea.

Identification of joint products, deliverables

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#### Theme

Awareness raising.

#### Key words

Realisation of cleaning campaigns.

#### OSPAR Actions

80. Encourage participation in International, EU and National Litter Cleanup Campaigns.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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#### Barcelona Actions

10.b. Explore and implement to the extent possible the implementation of the National Marine Litter Cleanup Campaigns on a regular basis.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

No particular activity envisaged. We expect that the NAP currently under update will give full consideration to this measure and requirement. It is important to link this national campaigns to the international one and as appropriate to the Mediterranean coastal day.

#### Comments

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - **Financing of clean up activities (beaches and shallow seabed):**
    - a) Fundación Biodiversidad finances clean up campaigns in the framework of a Programme for volunteers and also in the generic call for projects (national framework).
    - b) Ordinary clean-up activity by local Authorities.
    - c) Other clean up actions by regional authorities.

#### HELCOM actions

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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Identification of joint products, deliverables

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**Theme**

Awareness raising.

**Key words**

Participation in cleaning campaigns.

**OSPAR Actions**

80. Encourage participation in International, EU and National Litter Cleanup Campaigns.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

10.c. Explore and implement to the extent possible the participation in International Coastal Cleanup Campaigns and Programmes.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

No particular activity is envisaged on this point. Coordination among all RS is helpful. We support in the Mediterranean HELMEPA in this campaign, however something more organised can be done to promote all Med countries and NGO/MAP partners to participate in these campaigns.

**Comments**

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - **Participation in clean up activities (beaches and shallow seabed):** MAGRAMA, regional and local authorities participates in different actions. There is also a wide civil action consisting in organising clean up activities, some of them as part as international initiatives: Programa Coastwatch, International Coastal Cleanup, Ocean Initiatives, Clean Up the Med, Dive Against Debris, Red de Vigilantes Marinos, Iniciativa Surf and Clean y A limpiar el mundo.
- New measures:
  - **Promotion of clean up events at the Clean Up day.**
  - **Clean up directed actions is previously identified areas.**

**HELCOM actions**

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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**Theme**

Awareness raising.

**Key words**

"Adopt a beach".

**OSPAR Actions**

81. Promoting the "Adopt a beach" system.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

10.d. Explore and implement to the extent possible the application as appropriate Adopt-a-Beach or similar practices and enhance public participation role with regard to marine litter management.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

No particular activity envisaged. We expect that the NAP currently under update will give full consideration to this measure and requirement. A meeting to share best practices across Europe can be helpful.

**Comments**

Spain: no measure at the national level

**HELCOM actions**

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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**Theme**

Awareness raising.

**Key words**

Raise awareness about marine litter.

**OSPAR Actions**

82. Raising public awareness of the occurrence, impact and prevention of marine litter, including micro plastics.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

16. Undertaking, where appropriate in synergy with existing initiatives in the field of education for sustainable development and in partnership with civil society, public awareness and education activities with adequate duration and follow up, with regard to marine litter management including activities related to prevention and promotion of sustainable consumption and production.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Support Contracting Parties in developing material for ML education programmes, including those for professional seafarers and fishermen. This activity is planned in 2016.

**Comments**

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - **Raise awareness about marine litter:** Participation in workshops, congresses and through the MAGRAMA web site (<http://www.magrama.gob.es/es/costas/temas/proteccion-medio-marino/actividades-humanas/basuras-marinas/>)
- New measures:
  - **Preparation of new raise awareness materials, including a mediatic campaign.**

**HELCOM actions**

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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## OSPAR / COLLECTIVE ACTIONS

### Theme

Prevention of land-based sources of marine litter.

### Key words

Enhance product design and producer/user responsibility.

### OSPAR Actions

51. Explore with industry the development of design improvements to assist in the reduction of negative impacts of products entering the marine environment in order to better inform industry on alternative solutions.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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### Barcelona Actions

9.3.a. Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to Extended Producer responsibility strategy by making the producers, manufacturer brand owners and first importers responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with measures prioritizing the hierarchy of waste management in order to encourage companies to design products with long durability for reuse, recycling and materials reduction in weight and toxicity.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Training and support Programme to promote entrepreneurship in selected SMES and CSO to implement innovative solutions to prevent the generation of waste ending up as marine litter. This activity planned in 2016/2017 under Switch Project.

### Comments

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures: **Foster the design of products taking into account their entire life-cycle, minimizing environmental impact by minimizing generation of waste both in its production and as a consequence of use.**
  - Law 22/2011, of wastes and contaminated soils: Art.31 establishes that producers of products that will be waste in the future may be obliged to design products taking into account their entire life-cycle, minimizing environmental impact and generation of waste both in its production and as a consequence of use.
  - EMPRENDEVERDE Eco-Recinnova Programme: MAGRAMA, through Fundación Biodiversidad, fosters creation and consolidation of companies or new lines of business in the field of Eco-design, recycling and Eco-innovation. It is a través de la Fundación Biodiversidad, pone en marcha un nuevo programa para fomentar la creación y consolidación de empresas o nuevas líneas de negocio en el ámbito del Ecodiseño, el Reciclaje y la Eco-innovación. Eco-Recinnova is a cycle of activities developed in collaboration with Ecoembes, the Integrated Management Organisation leading with packages in Spain.
  - There are also fostering initiatives at the regional level (Cataluña Ecodesign Awards, Basque Ecodesign Center for collaboration between public and private sector, publication of guidelines for different sectors,...)

### HELCOM actions

RL5 within HELCOM RAP ML: Establish a dialogue and negotiate on solutions with business and industry to (i) develop design improvements that reduce the negative impacts of products entering the marine environment, and (ii) reduce over-packaging and promote wise packaging.

*Further specification: Initiatives taken by the private sector.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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Identification of joint products, deliverables

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### Theme

Prevention of land-based sources of marine litter.

### Key words

Enhance product design and producer/user responsibility.

### OSPAR Actions

35. Identify the options to address key waste items from the fishing industry and aquaculture, which could contribute to marine litter, including deposit schemes, voluntary agreements and extended producer responsibility.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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### Barcelona Actions

9.3.a. Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to Extended Producer responsibility strategy by making the producers, manufacturer brand owners and first importers responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with measures prioritizing the hierarchy of waste management in order to encourage companies to design products with long durability for reuse, recycling and materials reduction in weight and toxicity.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Collect and disseminate successful case studies of companies and initiatives providing solutions to waste generation ending up as marine litter and alternatives. Activity planned in 2016/2017.

### Comments

Spain: no measure at the national level.

### HELCOM actions

RL5 within HELCOM RAP ML: Establish a dialogue and negotiate on solutions with business and industry to (i) develop design improvements that reduce the negative impacts of products entering the marine environment, and (ii) reduce over-packaging and promote wise packaging.

*Further specification: Initiatives taken by the private sector.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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Identification of joint products, deliverables

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**Theme**

Prevention of land-based sources of marine litter.

**Key words**

Reduction of plastic bags.

**OSPAR Actions**

44. Reduce the consumption of single use plastic bags and their presence in the marine environment, supported by the development of quantifiable (sub) regional targets, where appropriate, and assist in the development of relevant EU initiatives.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

9.3.d. Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to fiscal and economic instruments to promote the reduction of plastic bag consumption.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

- a) A study on state of play of use of economic instruments in the field of pollution control and prevention is in process. It will also address ML related ones (Ongoing to finish by end of 2015).
- b) The countries are undertaking to the extent possible cost benefit analysis of the selected measures including on marine litter in the framework of NAP update.(Ongoing to finish by end of 2015) c) Support national regulatory framework update to enhance marine pollution prevention, control tools and enforcement for key sectors including ML; d) Assess and promote the use of relevant instruments and incentives to reduce the single-use of plastic bags (activity c and d planned as follows: Assessment report in 2016, Regional meeting in 2017).

**Comments**

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- Existing measures:
  - **Reducción del consumo de bolsas de plástico de un solo uso:**
    - a) Law 22/2011, of wastes and contaminated soils: establishes a calendar for gradual substitution of commercial single-use non-biodegradable plastic bags.
    - b) MAGRAMA Institutional campaign for the reduction of use of commercial single-use plastic bags (2010 and 2011): the aim was to modify consumption habits and raise awareness among producers, commerce, etc. There are other rise-awareness campaigns at the local level (i.e. "Plástico Cero. Lanzarote Reserva de la Biosfera" 2014-2016).
    - c) Tax in the case of use of single-use bags (applied to commerces): Andalucía (Law 11/2010).
    - d) Regional Waste Agency in Cataluña has signed an agreement with commercial sector. The clients will pay for the use of these bags in January 2016.
- New measures:
  - **Measures to comply with the DIRECTIVE (EU) 2015/720 of 29 April 2015 amending Directive 94/62/EC as regards reducing the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags:** Member States shall take measures to reduce on its territory the use of lightweight plastic bags. The measures may include, among others, the use of national reduction targets, maintenance or the introduction of economic instruments as well as marketing restrictions as an exception to Article 18, provided that those restrictions are proportionate and non-discriminatory. It states that at least the Member States must adopt one of the following measures: a) to ensure that the level of annual consumption does not exceed 90 light plastic bags per person no later than December 31, 2019, and 40 Lightweight plastic bags per person no later than December 31, 2025, or equivalent objective expressed by weight. The very light plastic bags can be excluded from the

national consumption targets; b) the adoption of instruments to ensure that, no later than December 31, 2018, no light plastic bags are delivered free at the point of sale of goods or products, unless they apply equally effective instruments. The very light plastic bags may be excluded from such measures.

#### HELCOM actions

RL10 within HELCOM RAP ML: Define and implement appropriate instruments and incentives to reduce the use of plastic bags, including the illustration of the associated costs and environmental impacts (e.g. establishment of levies, deposit fees, taxes or bans on plastic bags). Support regional coordination in the Baltic Sea of the implementation of the future revised Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste to reduce the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags, for HELCOM Contracting Parties being EU members.

*Further specification: By 2018 HELCOM Contracting Parties start to coordinate and inform each other about consumption of plastic bags on an annual basis. By 2019 establish a reduction target of plastic bags. Taking into account the measures which are implemented nationally.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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Identification of joint products, deliverables

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### Theme

Prevention of land-based sources of marine litter.

### Key words

Riverine inputs of litter.

### OSPAR Actions

42. Investigate and promote with appropriate industries the use of Best Available Techniques (BAT) and Best Environmental Practice (BEP) to develop sustainable and cost-effective solutions to reduce and prevent sewage and storm water related waste entering the marine environment, including micro particles.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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### Barcelona Actions

9.4. Take necessary measures to establish as appropriate adequate urban sewer, wastewater treatment plants, and waste management systems to prevent run-off and riverine inputs of litter.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

1. Expected to be implemented in the framework of NAP update by the Contracting Parties where relevant. The NAPs are expected to be submitted end of 2015. Regional training by end of 2015 on WWTP operation to also address such matters.
2. With regards to solid waste it is planned to undertake sharing of best practices on waste management including prevention and landfill bans of high caloric wastes (esp. for plastics).

### Comments

Spanish PoM draft (to be discussed with other competent authorities) includes:

- New measures:
  - **Study on the characteristics and amounts of marine litter (including micro-plastics) from wastewater treatment plants and proposing specific measures to be incorporated into the river basin management plans (3rd cycle).**

### HELCOM actions

RL4 within HELCOM RAP ML: Improvement of stormwater management in order to prevent litter, including microlitter, to enter the marine environment from heavy weather events.

*Further specification: by 2018 at the latest HELCOM has compiled information to give guidance on improvements of stormwater management on a local level to prevent and reduce stormwater related waste (including microlitter) entering the marine environment, taking into consideration similar action within OSPAR. If appropriate according to findings of the activity and other relevant information, amend HELCOM Recommendation 28E/5 on municipal wastewater treatment.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Marine litter in rivers monitoring to be discussed at the next Pressure Meeting (7-9 October 2015).

### Identification of joint products, deliverables

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**Theme**

Prevention of land-based sources of marine litter.

**Key words**

Riverine inputs of litter.

**OSPAR Actions**

46. Evaluate all products and processes that include primary micro plastics and act, if appropriate, to reduce their impact on the marine environment.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

9.3.g. Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to establishment of procedures and manufacturing methodologies together with plastic industry, in order to minimize the decomposition characteristics of plastic, to reduce microplastics.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

No specific activity envisaged. Collaboration across RS may be useful.

**Comments**

Spain: no measure at the national level.

**HELCOM actions**

RL7 within HELCOM RAP ML: 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.

*Further specification: by 2018 HELCOM has compiled information, and prepared a report on micro particles removal in waste water treatment plants taking into account similar action within OSPAR. If appropriate according to findings of the search and other relevant information, amend HELCOM Recommendation 28E/5 on municipal wastewater treatment.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Sweden offered to lead this action.

**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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**Theme**

Prevention of land-based sources of marine litter.

**Key words**

Reduction of microplastics.

**OSPAR Actions**

49. Investigate the prevalence and impact of expanded polystyrene (EPS) in the marine environment, and engage with industry to make proposals for alternative materials and/or how to reduce its impacts.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

9.3.e. Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to establishment of [mandatory] Deposits, Return, and Restoration System for expandable polystyrene boxes in the fishing sector.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Part of the activity on best practices. Collaboration with Plastic industry and across RS can further support this kind of activities.

**Comments**

Spain: no measure at the national level.

**HELCOM actions**

RL6 within HELCOM RAP ML: Establish an overview of the importance of the different sources of primary and secondary microplastics. 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.

*Further specification: by 2017 an overview on what products and processes contribute to the input of micro plastics to the Baltic Sea, taking into account similar action within OSPAR. By 2018 existing legislation is assessed and necessary measures identified together with relevant stakeholders.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

Denmark will carry out national investigation regarding microplastics.

**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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**Theme**

Prevention of land-based sources of marine litter.

**Key words**

Alternatives or reduction of the impacts of the expanded polystyrene.

**OSPAR Actions**

57. Develop a risk assessment for identifying where accumulations of ghost nets pose a threat to the environment and should be removed.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

9.7. Explore and implement to the extent possible "Gear marking to indicate ownership" concept and "reduced ghost catches through use of environmentally neutral upon degradation of nets, pots and traps concept", in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations in the fishing sector.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

No specific activity envisaged. Collaboration with GFCM and across RS is necessary.

**Comments**

Spain: no measure at the national level.

**HELCOM actions**

RL9 within HELCOM RAP ML: Compile information on the prevalence and sources of expanded polystyrene (EPS) in the marine environment, and engage with industry to make proposals for alternative solutions (e.g. use of other materials, establishment of deposits, return and restoration systems, overpackaging reduction).

*Further specification: by 2017 an overview of the most significant sources of EPS ending up in the marine environment is produced, in cooperation with OSPAR. Make recommendations to the Contracting Parties on voluntary agreements with the industry on changes in product design and applying best practices when handling EPS by 2019.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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**Theme**

Prevention of sea-based sources of marine litter.

**Key words**

Ghost fishing.

**OSPAR Actions**

59. Establish a database on good practice examples of marine litter measures and initiatives and share this database with other Regional Seas Conventions in order to make action more visible to the public.

*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

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*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Comments**

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**HELCOM actions**

RS10 within HELCOM RAP ML: Mapping of snagging sites or historic dumping grounds and a risk assessment for identifying where accumulation of ghost nets pose a threat to the environment and should be removed.

*Further specification: as part of the assessment to be developed by HELCOM SUBMERGED by 2016. Mapping by 2017. Risk assessment by 2018.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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## Theme

Other

## Key words

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## OSPAR Actions

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*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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## Barcelona Actions

11. Assessment

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

1. Updated ML assessment report to be submitted to COP 19 finalized; 2. Project to assess lost fishing gears in the Med implemented with MIO ECSD ( Med NGO) in the southern and Balkan countries; new data collected; 3. Marine litter baselines developed and submitted for consideration of the Contracting Parties. 4. National assessment fact sheets on ML planned for 2016/2017.

## Comments

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## HELCOM actions

RS11 within HELCOM RAP ML: Based on the risk assessment conducted in RS10 and identification of accumulation areas, initiate removal of ghost nets and their safe management on land.

*Further specification: the aim is to increase the removal and disposal of the nets, and that statistics are available to confirm the increasing trend.*

*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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## Identification of joint products, deliverables

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**Theme**

Other

**Key words**

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**OSPAR Actions**

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*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

12. Monitoring

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

1. ML Monitoring guidance prepared and submitted for Parties consideration. 2) Development of national monitoring programme on ML that is planned for 2016/2017; 3) Development of one or two monitoring protocols on ML also planned in 2016/2017, including regional training ; 4) establishment of a regional information system/data bank on ML also planned in 2016.5) ocollaboration with MEDITS, IMO and MAP Partner/NGOs sought for the implementation of ML monitoring Programme ( includng international compains mentioned above).

**Comments**

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**HELCOM actions**

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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Identification of joint products, deliverables

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**Theme**

Other

**Key words**

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**OSPAR Actions**

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*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Barcelona Actions**

7 and 8. Legal Policy framework and overall collaboration with key competent regional organisations.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

1. National Action Plan/Programmes of Measures under preparation to formulate measures on ML prevention and reduction; ( the updated NAPs for submission to COP 19, February 2016).2. Proposal to establish a coordination mechanism on ML with key stakeholders to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the Regional Plan. ToRs developed and discussed with MEDPOL FP 3. Synergies with GPA MLGP, to undertake an assessment of hot spots, establish a regional coordination mechanisms as well as a regional network node linked to GPML as appropriate.

**Comments**

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**HELCOM actions**

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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**Theme**

Other

**Key words**

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**OSPAR Actions**

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*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

55. Develop sub regional or regional maps of hotspots of floating litter, based on mapping of circulation of floating masses of marine litter, and identification of hotspots of accumulation on coastal areas and the role of prevailing currents and winds.

Reduction of abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG).

**Barcelona Actions**

10.a. Identify in collaboration with relevant stakeholders accumulations/hotspots of marine litter and implement national programmes on their regular removal and sound disposal.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Comments**

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**HELCOM actions**

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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**Theme**

Other

**Key words**

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**OSPAR Actions**

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*OSPAR: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

56. Identify hot spot areas through mapping of snagging sites or historic dumping grounds working with other initiatives, research programmes and with fishing organisations.

**Barcelona Actions**

10.a. Identify in collaboration with relevant stakeholders accumulations/hotspots of marine litter and implement national programmes on their regular removal and sound disposal.

*Barcelona: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Comments**

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**HELCOM actions**

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*HELCOM: Implementation (state of play, calendar, next steps...)*

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**Identification of joint products, deliverables**

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