



Document title	Update of HELCOM reporting format on dredged material
Code	5-1
Category	DEC
Agenda Item	5 - Dredging/depositing operations and mining on the sea floor
Submission date	29.9.2016
Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	

Background

PRESSURE 4-2016 discussed suggestion to update the HELCOM reporting format on dredged material (HELCOM Recommendation 36/2) and decided to organize an expert skype meeting to discuss it and agreed in general that the proposed changes can be accepted with a study reservation by Germany, as Germany saw a need for more time to test the proposed format. The meeting agreed that the tests would be done by Germany by 22 August 2016 with a view that the new format will be used for the reporting data from 2016.

Following the first meeting of the nominated experts on dredged material, the Secretariat together with Germany outlined a modified suggestion on updating the reporting format based on assessment needs, data availability, and feedback from the first expert meeting. The second expert meeting agreed on the suggested modifications to the updating of HELCOM Reporting format on dredged material.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to consider the proposed updates to the reporting format, agree on submission of relevant changes to HELCOM Recommendation 36/2 to HOD 51-2016 for endorsement and further use for annual reporting round in 2017 and onwards.

Update of HELCOM Reporting format on dredged material

Background

The first expert group meeting discussed the suggestion to modify the reporting format for dredged material due to findings of dredged material data completeness analysis reported to PRESSURE 4-2016 meeting. Those were:

- Polygon sites reported as corner coordinates leaves room for interpretation and error and manual correction of polygons in laborious and slow;
- Best result would be obtained if all spatial data would be reported as shapefiles together with the excel template, with clear linkage (Deposit site ID) to reported data in excel file;
- Dredging sites are missing from data prior to 2013;
- In some cases, there was confusion regarding the excel template on where and how to include dredged material depositing sites and where to include information on dredging sites → a more clear naming and concepts needed in the guideline and reporting format

Based on this, a suggestion for modified reporting was introduced to the expert group. The group in general found that the proposed changes can be accepted with a study reservation by Germany, as Germany saw a need for more time to test the proposed format. The Meeting agreed that the tests would be done by Germany by 22 August 2016 with a view that the new format will be used for the reporting data from 2016.

The Secretariat together with Germany worked further on the reporting format and suggested a modified version for the second meeting of the expert group in 2 September 2016 where the suggested format was agreed to be updated accordingly.

Suggested modifications

The suggested modifications are listed below and included in yellow highlight in the modified reporting format excel (Document 5-1-Att1).

The suggested modifications are done to make the reporting format as clear and understandable as possible and also to include the possibility to report dredging sites together with deposit operations.

Specific modifications by sheet:

Sheet 1a: Deposit site coord

- **Modified field name:** "HELCOM Deposit site ID" to replace old field name "HELCOM Site ID"
- **Modified field name:** "Specific national site name" to replace old field name "Site name"
- **Added new field:** "Shapefile submitted": Yes/No-field indicating whether spatial data is included as shapefile (this is recommended) with data submission
- **Added new field:** "Activity within deposit site (optional)", containing latitude and longitude coordinates of a pointwise deposit operation within a deposit site area/licensed area (polygon or a circular site)
- It was further specified that all reported coordinates should be in WGS84 decimal degrees format.

Sheet 1b: New sheet: Dredging site coord (optional: If available, shapefile or pointwise location of dredging site, where dredged material is originated)

- **New field:** HELCOM Dredging site ID. Unique ID for a dredging site to differentiate dredging site
- **New field:** Shapefile submitted. Yes/No-field indicating whether spatial data about dredging site is included as shapefile (this is recommended)
- **New field:** Dredging site latitude and longitude coordinates of a pointwise dredging operation within a dredging site area/licensed area (polygon or a circular site)
- **New field:** Specific national site name. Name of dredging site.
- It was further specified that all reported coordinates should be in WGS84 decimal degrees format.

Sheet 2. Contaminated material

- **Modified field name:** "HELCOM Deposit site ID" to replace old "HELCOM Site ID"
- **Modified field name:** "HELCOM Dredging site ID" to replace old "ID"

Sheet 3. Details of activity

- **Modified field name:** "HELCOM Deposit site ID" to replace old "HELCOM Site ID"
- **Modified field name:** "HELCOM Dredging site ID" to replace old "ID"
- **Modified field name:** "Placement (beneficial use)" to replace old "Beneficial use"

Sheet 4. Contaminant load

- **Modified field name:** "HELCOM Deposit site ID" to replace old "HELCOM Site ID"
- **Modified field name:** "HELCOM Dredging site ID" to replace old "ID"
- **New field:** "Exemption" : Yes/No-field indicating whether dredged material is exempted from physical and chemical characterization (see [Guideline](#) paragraph 6.3)

Sheet 5.

- **Modified field content:** TBT: $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ (units changed from mg kg^{-1} to $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ for consistency as TBT load is reported as kg not not tonnes in sheet 4)
- **Modified field content:** DBT: $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ (units changed from mg kg^{-1} to $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ for consistency as TBT load is reported as kg not not tonnes in sheet 4)

Sheet 6. Action levels.

- **Modified field content:** TBT: $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ (units changed from mg kg^{-1} to $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ for consistency as TBT load is reported as kg not not tonnes in sheet 4)
- **Modified field content:** DBT: $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ (units changed from mg kg^{-1} to $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ for consistency as TBT load is reported as kg not not tonnes in sheet 4)