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| <b>Document title</b>  | HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan follow-up   |
| <b>Code</b>            | 9-1   |
| <b>Category</b>        | CMNT  |
| <b>Agenda Item</b>     | 9 - Follow-up of HELCOM Recommendations: implementation, reporting and revision |
| <b>Submission date</b> | 28.9.2016   |
| <b>Submitted by</b>    | Secretariat   |
| <b>Reference</b>       |   |

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### Background

A follow-up system for HELCOM agreements – [the HELCOM Explorer](#) - was published in May 2016, based on criteria reviewed by Working Groups in 2015 and reporting by Contracting Parties on the implementation of national actions. HOD 50-2016 requested HELCOM Working Groups to consider and make plans for the implementation of the actions not yet accomplished under their area of responsibility ([Outcome of HOD 50-2016](#), para 4.2).

This document reflects the status of implementations of joint regional actions under Pressure Working Group. This document contains background up to date and can be viewed at the [HELCOM Explorer](#).

Available information on national actions relevant to PRESSURE group within the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan follow-up as currently available in the [HELCOM Explorer](#) is also included for information.

### Action requested

The Meeting is invited to consider, discuss and agree on the implementation status of ministerial commitments and other information included in the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan follow-up (relevant to Pressure group).

The Meeting is invited to decide on inclusion of the unaccomplished actions into the Work Plan for 2017-2019.

## Background

The development of a system to follow- up HELCOM agreements under the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP), Ministerial Declarations and Recommendations was initiated in 2014 (GEAR 14 -2016) and published on a web-based platform in May 2016 where actions can be viewed, sorted, and downloaded - [the HELCOM Explorer](#).

The follow-up system is based on the assessment of accomplishment of:

- joint regional actions, implemented by HELCOM Working Groups, Experts Groups and projects,
- national actions, implemented by Contracting Parties.

The assessment of accomplished joint regional actions agreed under the BSAP and Ministerial Declarations is up to date (June 2016). Reporting on national actions by the Contracting Parties is nearly completed.

For the reporting of national actions HOD 49-2015 agreed on a step-wise approach firstly focusing on the commitments under the BSAP and Ministerial Declarations ([Outcome of HOD 49-2015](#), para 4.102). The current follow -up therefore only includes a limited number of actions from HELCOM Recommendations, i.e. those that were specifically cited in the BSAP or those included under Recommendation 35-1 which was assessed as part of the HELCOM Ecological coherence assessment of the marine protected areas network in the Baltic Sea (BSEP 148).

Aggregated results of the current accomplishment of actions were presented at HOD 50-2016 ([document 4-25](#))

## Pressure Working Group

Under the PRESSURE Working Group, there are 20 joint actions from BSAP and Ministerial Declaration. 11 of those were considered as accomplished already in the preparation of the Ministerial Meeting in 2013 and 2 additional actions has been accomplished since then. Thus, 7 agreed joint actions remains to be accomplished.

## Remaining actions

This document contains information on the joint actions not yet completed by the Pressure Working Group.

The remaining joint actions are sorted as:

- Not accomplished; indicating that no activity has been taken to carry out the action
- Partly accomplished; indicating that there are ongoing HELCOM activities related to the action.

## HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan follow-up (relevant to PRESSURE)

### Accomplishment of Joint actions

|   | Action  | Origin      | Target  | Target year   | Origin (specific)   | Accomplishment      | Supporting information   |
|---|---|-------------|---|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| 1 | Further development of MAI-CART follow-up scheme  | BSAP/M<br>D | Operational MAI-CART follow-up system   | Not specified | MD 2013             | Partly accomplished | First versions of MAI and CART assessments done. A project to further operationalize MAI and CART assessments has been launched. |
| 2 | Aim for elimination of remaining Hot Spots under the HELCOM JCP   | BSAP/M<br>D | All JCP agricultural hot spots eliminated   | 2018          | MD 2013             | Partly accomplished | 6 hot spots removed since 2013   |
| 3 | Updated information on the atmospheric nitrogen deposition to be included into review of the HELCOM BSAP environmental targets for eutrophication, the maximum allowable inputs and the nutrient reduction scheme       | BSAP/M<br>D | Updated data on atmospheric nitrogen deposition included in revised nutrient reduction scheme | 2012          | MD 2010,<br>MD 2013 | Accomplished        | See overview prepared for the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration  |
| 4 | Principles for fair burden sharing of the country-wise reduction needs for atmospheric nitrogen deposition inputs be developed for inclusion in the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan nutrient reduction requirement system | BSAP/M<br>D | Country-wise atmospheric input reductions taken into account in the nutrient reduction scheme | 2013          | MD 2010,<br>MD 2013 | Accomplished        | See overview prepared for the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration  |

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| 5 | Joint input to strengthen the emission targets for nitrogen under the EU NEC Directive (National Emission Ceilings Directive) and the Gothenburg protocol under CLRTAP (Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution) | BSAP/M<br>D | Joint input to revision of Gothenburg Protocol and NECD   | Not specified | BSAP,<br>MD 2010 | Accomplished        | See overview prepared for the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration   |
| 6 | Update of requirements of HELCOM Strategy for hazardous substances (HELCOM Recommendation 19/5)   | BSAP/M<br>D | HELCOM strategy on hazardous substances updated   | Not specified | BSAP             | Accomplished        | HELCOM Recommendation 31E/1 updated the Strategy<br>See overview prepared for the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration           |
| 7 | Update of HELCOM requirements concerning proper handling of waste/landfilling (HELCOM Recommendation 24/5)  | BSAP/M<br>D | Updated recommendation on handling of waste/landfill  | Not specified | BSAP             | Accomplished        | HELCOM Recommendation 31E/4 supersedes Recommendation 24/5<br>See overview prepared for the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration |
| 8 | Update of HELCOM requirements for iron/steel industry (HELCOM Recommendation 24/4)  | BSAP/M<br>D | Updated recommendation on requirements of iron/steel industry   | Not specified | BSAP             | Not accomplished    |   |
| 9 | Evaluation of the need to develop further requirements for reduction of heavy metals and other hazardous substances emissions from energy production and industrial combustion plants   | BSAP/M<br>D | Evaluation completed to assess there is a need for further requirements to reduce emissions of hazardous substances from energy production and industrial combustion plants | 2008          | BSAP             | Partly accomplished | An evaluation for mercury and dioxines was done by the COHIBA project   |

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| 10 | Develop in 2008 specific efficiency requirements and emission limit values for small scale combustion appliances (see also HELCOM Recommendation 28E/8 Reduction of dioxins and other hazardous substances from small scale combustion, 2008) | BSAP/M<br>D | Emission limit values and efficiency requirements developed under Rec 28E/8 | 2008 | BSAP<br>MD 2013  | Not accomplished |   |
| 11 | Screening of the occurrence of selected hazardous substances (2008-2009)  | BSAP/M<br>D | Screening of the occurrence of hazardous substances carried out             | 2009 | BSAP             | Accomplished     | See overview prepared for the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration |
| 12 | Screening of sources of selected hazardous substances (2009)  | BSAP/M<br>D | Screening of the sources of hazardous substances carried out                | 2009 | BSAP             | Accomplished     | See overview prepared for the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration |
| 13 | Testing and possible introduction of Whole Effluent Approach (2009)   | BSAP/M<br>D | WEA tested  | 2010 | BSAP             | Accomplished     | Tested through the COHIBA and Balthazar project                   |
| 14 | Introduction of ban on the use, production and marketing of endosulfan, pentabromodiphenylether (pentaBDE) and octabromodiphenylether (octaBDE)   | BSAP/M<br>D | Use, production and marketing of endosulfan, pentaBDE and octaBDE banned    | 2010 | BSAP             | Accomplished     |   |
| 15 | Restrictions on cadmium content in fertilisers  | BSAP/M<br>D | Restrictions on cadmium content in fertilizers adopted                      | 2009 | BSAP,<br>MD 2010 | Accomplished     | HELCOM Recommendation 31E/3 on Cadmium in fertilizers adopted     |

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| 16 | Need to strictly control the dredging and disposal of sediments when revising the HELCOM Guidelines for disposal of dredged spoils, to avoid that substantial amounts of hazardous substances are re-suspended from bottom sediments (containing organotin, mercury and cadmium compounds, as well as other heavy metals and poly-aromatic compounds) | BSAP/M<br>D | HELCOM guidelines for disposal of dredged spoils revised to include strict controls to avoid substantial resuspension of hazardous substances from bottom sediments | Not specified | MD 2010 | Accomplished        | Recommendation 36/2 on Management of Dredged Material adopted                              |
| 17 | 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  | BSAP/M<br>D | Compile information on pharmaceuticals in the aquatic environment, their sources and pathways as well as appropriate measure  | Not specified | MD 2013 | Partly accomplished | Report on state of pharmaceuticals in the Baltic Sea ongoing has been published in 2016    |
| 18 | Monitoring and assessment of airborne inputs of hazardous substances  | BSAP/M<br>D | A system for monitoring and assessing airborne inputs of hazardous substances   | Not specified | MD 2013 | Accomplished        | A system of annual assessment of inputs of three airborne hazardous substances is in place |
| 19 | Develop a regional action plan on marine litter   | BSAP/M<br>D | Develop a regional action plan on marine litter   | 2015          | MD 2013 | Accomplished        | HELCOM Recommendation 36/1 on Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP ML) adopted       |
| 20 | Identify the socio-economic and biological impacts of marine litter, also in terms of toxicity of litter  | BSAP/M<br>D | Identify impacts of marine litter (socio-economic and biological)   | Not specified | MD 2013 | Not accomplished    |  |

## HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan follow-up (relevant to PRESSURE)

### Accomplishment of national actions

|   | Action   | Information on follow-up | Origin  | Target   | Target year   | Accomplishment      | Assessment criteria  |
|---|--|--------------------------|---------|--|---------------|---------------------|--|
| 1 | National programmes to achieve nutrient reductions   | Follow-up                | BSAP/MD | National programmes for nutrient reductions      | 2010          | Partly accomplished | Work is ongoing in some CPs to elaborate (or revise) a national nutrient reduction programme |
| 2 | Evaluation of effectiveness of national programmes for reduction of nutrients and need for additional measures, in order to reach the country-wise reduction targets | Follow-up                | BSAP/MD | Effective national programmes                    | 2013          | Assessment on-going |  |
| 3 | Initiate joint activities to address transboundary nutrient inputs from non-Contracting Parties according to the HELCOM nutrient reduction scheme                    | Follow-up                | BSAP/MD | Non-Contracting Parties have reached their CARTs | 2020          | Partly accomplished | Some CPs have taken joint initiatives  |
| 4 | Advanced municipal waste water treatment under HELCOM Recommendation 28E/5   | Via recommendation       | BSAP/MD | HELCOM Recommendation 28E/5 implemented          | 2010          | Assessment on-going |  |
| 5 | On site treatment for single family homes, small businesses and scattered settlements  | Via recommendation       | BSAP/MD | HELCOM Recommendation 28E/6 implemented          | Not specified | Assessment on-going |  |
| 6 | Target the elimination of phosphorus in laundry detergents for consumer use as soon as possible but not later than by 2015   | Via recommendation       | BSAP/MD | Laundry detergents free of phosphorus            | 2015          | Assessment on-going |  |

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| 7  | Enhance the recycling of phosphorus (especially in agriculture and wastewater treatment) and to promote development of appropriate methodology                           | Follow-up         | BSAP/<br>MD | Recycling P in agriculture and wastewater treatment   | Not specified | Assessment on-going |  |
| 8  | Elimination of remaining hot spots from the JCP List by 2018 at the latest , with a view that municipal and industrial hot spots should be removed from the List by 2016 | Follow-up         | BSAP/<br>MD | Elimination of all still active hot spots from JCP list   | 2016          | Assessment on-going | Some of the remaining hot spots removed from JCP list  |
| 9  | Establishment of chemical product registers to be built upon e.g. the EU REACH (EC1907/2006) framework (2010)  | Follow-up         | BSAP/<br>MD | All Contracting Parties have established chemical product registers built upon the REACH framework                            | 2010          | Partly accomplished | Some CPs have a national chemical products register, or work is ongoing to develop such a register   |
| 10 | Application of the same requirements concerning hazardous substances for products marketed globally as in the internal European market                                   | Follow-up         | BSAP/<br>MD | Requirements concerning hazardous substances are the same for products marketed internally in Europe and to the global market | Not specified | Partly accomplished | Some CPs apply the same requirements concerning hazardous substances for products marketed internally in Europe and to the global market, and/or work is ongoing |
| 11 | Implementation of the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) on classification and labelling of chemicals and to take into account guidelines for preparing safety data sheets | Accomplished 2013 | BSAP/<br>MD | Globally Harmonised System (GHS) on classification and labelling of chemicals implemented                                     | Not specified | Accomplished        | All CPs have implemented the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) on classification and labelling of chemicals   |
| 12 | Ratification of the Stockholm POPs Convention  | Accomplished 2013 | BSAP/<br>MD | All Contracting Parties have ratified the Stockholm POPs convention   | 2010          | Accomplished        | All countries ratified the Convention.   |



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| 13 | Ratification of the UNEP 2013 Minamata Convention on Mercury   | Follow-up            | BSAP/<br>MD | Ratification of the Minamata Convention on mercury     | Not specified | Partly accomplished | CPs have lunched ratification procedures for the Minamata Convention on Mercury |
| 14 | Implementation of the UNEP 2013 Minamata Convention on Mercury   | Follow-up            | BSAP/<br>MD | Implementation of the Minamata Convention on mercury   | Not specified | Assessment on-going | Some CPs have started implementation of the Minamata Convention.                |
| 15 | Agree to develop in 2008 specific efficiency requirements and emission limit values for small scale combustion appliances in relation to HELCOM Recommendation 28E-8 | Via recommendation   | BSAP/<br>MD | Increased number of low-emission combustion appliances | Not specified | Partly accomplished |   |
| 16 | Assessment of national implementation programmes (NIPs) with the aim to identify, facilitate and speed up the preparation of bankable projects                       | Not valid any longer | BSAP/<br>MD | NIPs have been assessed                                | 2011          | Assessment on-going |   |