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<b>Document title</b>	National developments regarding response at sea, on shore and for oiled wildlife response
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<b>Category</b>	INF
<b>Agenda Item</b>	6 - National preparedness at sea and on shore
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<b>Submitted by</b>	Secretariat
<b>Reference</b>	

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## Background

The attachment to this document contains national information on developments regarding response at sea, on shore and for oiled wildlife response in Finland, Germany and Latvia and Sweden.

RESPONSE 25-2018 encouraged the Contracting Parties to make use of a reporting template suggested by EWG SHORE 12-2016 when reporting on enhancements of national preparedness on shore, including oiled wildlife response, covering new equipment and development projects of national interest.

In document 6-1 and in an email sent by the Secretariat on 30 January 2020 to the Response contacts, Contracting Parties were invited to fill in the reporting template and send it to the Secretariat (markus.helavuori@helcom.fi) prior to the meeting at the latest by 19 February 2020, using the separate Word file (document 6-1 Att.1).

Information has been provided only by Finland, Germany, Latvia and Germany as set out in the annex to this document. Other Contracting Parties are kindly invited to provide the filled in template at the RESPONSE 27-2020

## Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.

## Template for compiling information on national developments response at sea, on shore and for oiled wildlife response

With reference to paragraph 5.3 of the [Outcome of RESPONSE 22-2016](#), the Contracting Parties are invited to inform in writing of developments response at sea, on shore and for oiled wildlife response by filling in the below table, as seen as convenient.

<b>Country: FINLAND</b> 1	
<b>Legal and organizational</b>	Past -
	Ongoing -
	Future -
<b>Strategic/policy level</b>	Past -

<sup>1</sup> Relevant information should also be updated in the HELCOM Response Manual.

	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>-</p>
	<p>Future</p> <p>-</p>
<p><b>Operational</b> (plans and agreements, state and international)</p>	<p>Past</p> <p>In November 2019 there was an oil spill in Finnish EEZ in Gulf of Finland. Border Guard surveillance aircraft observed an oil spill which size was estimated 16-32 m3. Patrol boat took samples from sea. Samples are still under investigation. When patrol vessel arrived on scene all oil had disappeared. New patrol flight showed also that the oil had disappeared. It is still unknown why or where the oil disappeared.</p> <p>“Suomen Leijona” oil spill incident in June 2019 (separate presentation)</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Contract between Finnish Government and Meritaito LTD for oil pollution response vessel pool has terminated on 31.12.2019. A new tender process for the pollution response vessel services has been launched by the Finnish Border Guard.</p> <p>Before signing the new contracts, the Finnish marine pollution response fleet consists of eight oil recovery vessels that all are equipped with fixed oil recovery equipment.</p> <p>The Rescue Service Districts continue with the same readiness as they have had before.</p> <p>Border Guard vessel Merikarhu will be sold and is no longer in active duty.</p> <p>Future</p> <p>-</p>

<b>Exercises</b>	Past -
	Ongoing -
	Future -
<b>Equipment and distribution of the equipment</b>	Past -
	Ongoing -
	Future -

<b>Projects</b>	<p>Past</p> <p>-</p>
	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>In <b>OILART</b>-project, an operational art concept will be developed. The concept provides the following tools for the Response Commander:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Tactical Principles of Tier 3 Oil Response Operation</li> <li>2) Designing and Commanding Tool for the Response Commander. This will include a suggestion for a command structure of the functions under the Response Commander together with the duties for these functions.</li> </ol> <p>The project is implemented by theme workshops for multisectoral parties in Finland, Estonia and Sweden. In February 2020, 11 out of total 16 events have been carried out.</p> <p>11-12 March 2020, a table top exercise will be organized jointly by the Finnish Border Guard, OILART and OILSAREX projects. The project will continue till the end of 2020.</p> <p><b>OILSAREX:</b> The goal of the OILSAREX-project is to develop a concept for Search and Rescue and Environmental response exercises in the Baltic Sea.</p> <p>Concrete outputs of the OILSAREX project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exercise concept: Adaptive manual for planning, execution and evaluation of SAR/ER exercises (TTX, LIVEX, SIMEX)</li> <li>- Exercise evaluation guidelines : Tools through which the lessons learned and recommendations for future development could be systematically collected and shared</li> </ul> <p>OILSAREX project started in November 2019 and will end in Nov 2020 (second phase in the end of 2021 TBC). Current phase: Drafting the first version of the concept including current state, future vision and gap analysis, processes and stakeholders.</p> <p>Outcomes of project will be created by workshops and exercises. First draft of the concept will be presented, and tested in Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) and Oil incident response Table Top Exercise "GOFEX2020" in Helsinki, Finland on 11–12 March 2020, and further developed in LIVE exercise in Fall 2020. OILSAREX project is</p>

	to map directions for cooperation in the joint field of exercises to avoid any possible duplication or overlapping work the HREP project.
	Future -
<b>Highlights/summary</b> (for publishing on the HELCOM web page)	

Country: LATVIA <sup>2</sup>	
Legal and organizational	Past No changes since last RESPONSE meeting
	Ongoing Division of legal responsibilities regarding vessel reporting procedures among Latvian Coast Guard Service and Latvian Maritime Administration are ongoing, particularly use of SitRep/PolRep function in SafeSeaNet.
	Future New GMDSS system for the Latvian Coast Guard Service is planned to be put into service in 2020.
Strategic/policy level	Past National risk assessment catalogue has been compiled by the Ministry of Interior, whereas vessel accident risk and oil/chemical spill at sea has been ranked with low probability, but very high negative impact.
	Ongoing No ongoing changes
	Future No planned changes

<sup>2</sup> Relevant information should also be updated in the HELCOM Response Manual.

<b>Operational</b> (plans and agreements, state and international)	<b>Past</b> No changes since last RESPONSE meeting
	<b>Ongoing</b> Work on preparing National Oiled Wildlife Response plan is still ongoing. It is planned to prepare plan for adoption in ministry at the beginning of 2021.
	<b>Future</b> It is planned to initiate update of most of the oil spill response plans of the Latvian sea ports, docks and terminals.
<b>Exercises</b>	<b>Past</b> Latvian – Estonian bilateral exercise was carried out in June 2019. Local exercises, such as OILEX Riga, OILEX Liepaja have been carried out in 2019.
	<b>Ongoing</b> Exercises planned for 2020 are being prepared.
	<b>Future</b> Latvian – Estonian bilateral exercise is planned to take place in June 2020. National oil spill response exercise and local exercises are planned to take place in 2020.

<b>Equipment and distribution of the equipment</b>	<p>Past Latvian Navy has purchased additional coastal boom (500m) in 2019.</p>
	<p>Ongoing Equipment purchase and distribution plans for 2020-2021 are elaborated by the Latvian Navy headquarters.</p>
	<p>Future If purchase plans approved, new equipment and distribution will be carried out in 2020-2021.</p>
<b>Projects</b>	<p>Past Latvian Coast Guard Service was a co-operation partner in the projects: “Maritime Single Windows” “Anna” “Geoilwatch”</p>
	<p>Ongoing Latvian Coast Guard Service is not involved in any projects at the moment. There is OILSPILL project (Enhancing Oil Spill Response Capability in the Baltic Sea Region 2019–2021) ongoing. Project partner from Latvia is Latvian Maritime Academy, and associated organization - State Fire and Rescue Service of Latvia.</p>
	<p>Future No projects planned.</p>

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<b>Highlights/summary</b> (for publishing on the HELCOM web page)	
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Country: SWEDEN <sup>3</sup>	
Legal and organizational	Past
	Ongoing
	Future
Strategic/policy level	<p>Past</p> <p>The annual national conference for oil spill preparedness and response was held in Gothenburg in November 2019. The presentations were filmed and are available on <a href="#">MSB's website</a>, a few also in English (<a href="#">ITOPF</a>, <a href="#">historic spills</a> and <a href="#">EU project GRACE</a>).</p>
	Ongoing
	<p>Future</p> <p>The national risk assessment will be revised in 2020. The previous version is from 2016. The report is part of the national strategy for oil spill response. The report will be presented at the next Response meeting. The national action plan for oil spill response will also be revised, starting late 2020 and will (hopefully) be adopted in June 2021. The previous version is from 2016. The strategy document will not be revised.</p>

<sup>3</sup> Relevant information should also be updated in the HELCOM Response Manual.

	Preliminary date for the annual oil spill conference is 25-26 November 2020.
<b>Operational</b> (plans and agreements, state and international)	Past
	Ongoing Regional plans are developed by some county administrative boards. The west coast counties (Halland and Västra Götaland) have recently revised their plans, which are seen as a good model for other counties. The national strategy recommends that counties rather than individual municipalities develop contingency plans for shore response.
	Future
<b>Exercises</b>	Past Arranged and conducted exercises within Copenhagen agreement west and east(north). SweDenGer exercise was conducted
	Ongoing The border municipalities Halden and Strömstad (NO-SE) on the Swedish west coast are planning a cross-border field exercise on the shore, parallel to the Copenhagen Agreement exercise in September 2020.

	<p>Future Exercises within the Copenhagen agreement( West and East), National defence exercise and SweDenGer</p>
<p><b>Equipment and distribution of the equipment</b></p>	<p>Past MSB has mobilized a new depot in Malmö for oil spill response and shoreline cleanup in October 2019 (presented in detail at SHORE Network 3-2019). The depot is MSB's 6<sup>th</sup> and strengthens the capacity to respond to spills in the southern Baltic Sea. MSB's national resources are also listed in CECIS Civil Protection, and available to HELCOM Response. Replacement of SwCG older RO-BOOM high sea booms</p>
	<p>Ongoing It is planned for a lifetime extension of the 5 older SwCG environmental protection vessels and KBV181 is planned for major overhaul with focus on oil in ice</p>
	<p>Future</p>
<p><b>Projects</b></p>	<p>Past</p>
	<p>Ongoing Revue on needed response capacity in our major lakes  Analysis ability / capacity / equipment for lightering Ensure SwCG ability by analyzing what equipment and capacity the authority has to carry out lightering, both with storage-bound and ship-based equipment.</p>

	<p>Fact collection, analysis and testing in order to ensure our ability to respond to hybrid oils. The work will lead to an orientation in how we need to adapt methods and equipment if needed to meet future challenges.</p>
	<p>Future Analysis on risks and response to accidents with hybrid powered ships (ie modern batteries)</p>
<p><b>Highlights/summary</b> (for publishing on the HELCOM web page)</p>	

Country: GERMANY <sup>1</sup>	
Legal and organizational	Past
	Ongoing
	Future
Strategic/policy level	Past

<sup>1</sup> Relevant information should also be updated in the HELCOM Response Manual.

	Ongoing
	Future
<b>Operational</b> (plans and agreements, state and international)	Past
	Ongoing
	Future
<b>Exercises</b>	Past

	Ongoing
	Future
<b>Equipment and distribution of the equipment</b>	Past
	Ongoing The German Waterways and Shipping Administration (WSV) has commissioned the construction of 2 multi-purpose vessels (MPV) with the option of a third. The main tasks of the ships are oil and chemical pollution fighting, emergency towing, fire fighting and every day tasks for the WSV. The ships will be operated with pure LNG. They can operate in a toxic and explosive atmosphere and receive a helicopter landing platform.
	Future The ships will replace the MPV SCHARHÖRN, MELLUM and possibly NEUWERK. The first MPV is scheduled to start operating in early 2023, the next will follow in early 2024. The new buildings will improve the quality of German emergency preparedness in the sea area of the North Sea and the Baltic Sea.
<b>Projects</b>	Past

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	Ongoing
	Future
<b>Highlights/summary</b> (for publishing on the HELCOM web page)	