

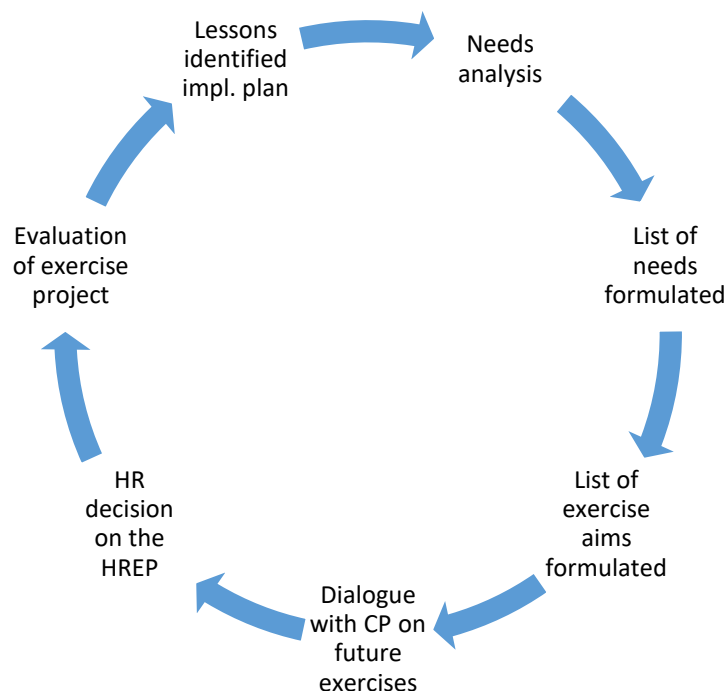


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Reference	

Background

RESPONSE 28-2020 approved the HELCOM Response Exercise Plan (HREP) and agreed that implementation of it should start for BALEX 2021. The HREP is a multiannual exercise plan that is updated annually by the Response Working Group following the process outlined in Annex 11 of the [HELCOM Response Manual](#).

The HELCOM Exercise Development and Monitoring Team (HEDMOT) has a central role in the HREP process. The figure below demonstrates the updating of the HREP in a cyclic, one year-process by the HEDMOT



Attached is the HREP as approved by RESPONSE 28-2020 (c.f. document 12-1) with updated references to the Annexes in the HELCOM Response Manual.

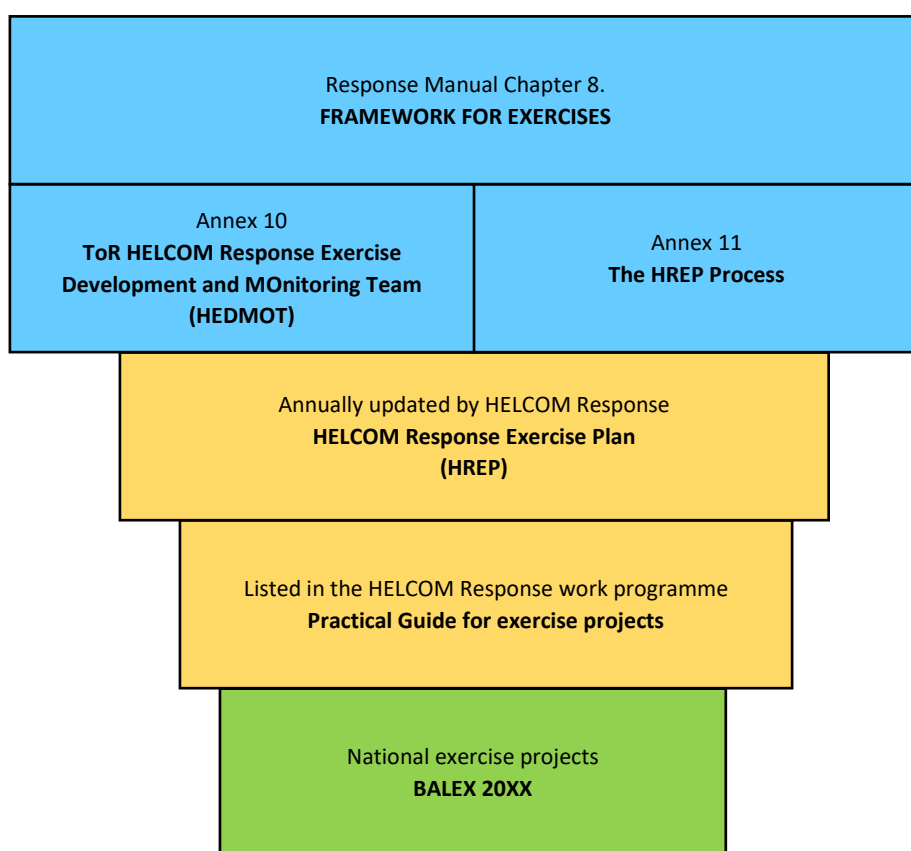
Action requested

The Meeting is invited to consider implementation and continued development of the HREP, taking into account any input from the 2021 BALEX HEDMOT.

HELCOM Response Exercise Plan

All HELCOM Response exercises – at sea, on the shore and combined – support the development of HELCOM cooperation on the response to marine pollution. The *HELCOM Response Manual*, chapter 8, provides a broad picture of the exercise framework and helps establish its foundation. The long-term *HELCOM Response Exercise Plan* (HREP) lists identified development needs and outlines the decided exercise projects.

The process in which needs are identified, aims and host nations are proposed, and lessons are developed into improvement plans is described in Annex 11 to the HELCOM Response Manual, *The HREP Process*. In addition to the Manual and the HREP, the *Practical Guide for HELCOM RESPONSE exercises (under development)*, describes the methodology for designing, planning, conducting, and evaluating exercise projects. The HELCOM Response Exercise Development and MOnitoring Team (HEDMOT) has a central role in evaluating and monitoring exercises as well as in suggesting revisions in the HREP and in the Practical Guide. The HEDMOT Terms of Reference are found in Annex 10.



The HREP consists of three parts. The first part lists identified exercise needs, the second lists proposals for aims together with suggestions for an exercise type, and the third part presents the coming HELCOM Response exercise activities that have been adopted.

Identified Exercise Needs

This section lists exercise needs, identified in the needs analysis carried out by the HEDMOT in accordance with HREP process as defined in the HELCOM Response Manual, and adopted by HELCOM Response. *The text below represents illustrative examples of such needs, and should not be regarded as prioritized needs adopted by HELCOM Response.*

- Cooperation between operations at sea, on the shore and for the protection of wildlife has not been trained or tested together in exercises.

- The set-up for achieving situational awareness needs to be further developed, using previously identified best practices. (BD 19)
- The procedures for alarming as well as for requesting and offering assistance, are not tested in a comprehensive manner that includes all steps necessary, including national ones. (BALEX BRAVO 19)

Proposed Exercise Project Aims and Suggestions for Corresponding Exercise Types

In this section, exercise project aims endorsed by HELCOM Response are listed as inspiration and starting-points for future Exercise Project Lead Countries. For each proposed exercise project aim, suggestions for the choice of exercise type are offered.

The following is an example, and not an aim adopted by HELCOM Response.

- Develop the framework for holistic/integrated management of marine pollution incidents that enable a coordinated response operation at sea and on shore.
 - Table-top exercises focusing on sea/shore coordination or prioritization of resources.
 - Functional exercise focusing on common logistics.

Adopted HELCOM Response Exercise Projects

In this section, the exercise projects agreed by HELCOM Response are listed in a table together with the Lead Country and the exercise aim.

Year	Lead Country	Aim
20XX	X-land	Implement the framework for holistic/integrated management of marine pollution incidents
20XY	Y-land	YYY