



Document title	Multi-regional HNS Response Manual – joint submission to PPR
Code	12-1
Category	DEC
Agenda Item	12 - HELCOM Recommendations and Response Manuals
Submission date	7.9.2021
Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	

Background

HELCOM 42-2021 adopted the revised [Multi-regional Marine HNS Response Manual](#) (Bonn Agreement, HELCOM, REMPEC) to replace the HELCOM Response Manual Volume II.

The Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC, 31 May to 2 June 2021) requested the REMPEC Secretariat to submit the Manual to the 9th session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR 9), in consultation with the Secretariats of the Bonn Agreement and HELCOM for the “Development of an operational guide on the response to spills of Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS)”, in the framework of the PPR.

PPR 9 is scheduled for 4-8 April 2021 and the while the document submission deadline has not been announced yet, it is likely to be in the end of December 2021.

The REMPEC Secretariat has been in contact with the HELCOM and Bonn Agreement secretariats regarding such a joint submission to PPR 9. Approval for Bonn Agreement to co-sponsor this submission will be requested at the Thirty-third Meeting of Bonn Agreement Contracting Parties (Bonn 2021, 22-23 September 2021).

HELCOM is an observer member of IMO and as such there are no procedural obstacles for co-sponsoring a document submission to PPR 9. HELCOM has also submitted documents to IMO meetings in the past, the latest being document MEPC 73/INF.22 on Baltic Sea sewage port reception facilities, which was submitted to the 73rd session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee in 2018. This submission was agreed by MARITIME 17-2017 and approved by HOD 53-2017.

The Meeting is invited to agree that HELCOM co-sponsors, together with REMPEC and the Bonn Agreement, a document to PPR 9 containing the Multi-regional Marine HNS Response Manual with a view to support the development of an operational guide on the response to spills of Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) by IMO.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to agree that HELCOM co-sponsors the submission to PPR 9 and to invite HOD 61-2021 to approve the submission.