



## Memo of RedCore DG 26-2019

**1 July 2019 Online (10.00 – 13.00 EET)**

**Chair:** Lars M. Svendsen (DK)

**Participants:** Peeter Ennet (EE), Lars Sonesten (SE), Bo Gustafsson (BNI), Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky (HELCOM Secretariat)

### 1. Information from HELCOM Secretariat on the Outcome of HOD 56-2019

- 1.1. The Meeting took note and discussed the main outcomes of HOD 56-2019 related to the Group's work.
- 1.2. Growing aquaculture sector in the Baltic Sea region and its effect on nutrient loads might have impact on the HELCOM nutrient reduction scheme follow-up, as it seems like not all information on the sea-based fish farms is available for the nutrient input assessment. Compensatory measures to mitigate nutrient load from fish farms are to be considered, not only at sea but to include also measures on land. This approach requires national tools to take the effect of land-based measures into account when issuing permits to establish new sea-based fish farms. Though, some estimations show that compensation of nutrient loads from aquaculture in water-management sector might not be economically feasible.
- 1.3. The Meeting pointed out that regional discussion on the compensatory measures should involve S&C Working Group, especially when it concerns the effects of compensatory measures at sea, which proves the need to increase cooperation between RedCore DG and EN EUTRO.
- 1.4. Reflecting on the proposal for a more detailed subdivision of the Baltic Sea sub-basins currently used in the HELCOM assessment, the Meeting pointed out that such assessment might be done nationally or bilaterally by countries sharing a sub-basin, based on the HELCOM MAI. Higher resolution of the regional assessment might cause inadequately high workload, compared to the value of the assessment results for the whole region. The fact that many areas, especially in Danish Straights, are regulated by WFD while MAI concerns open sea should also be taken into account.

### 2. Coordination of PLC-7 and ACTION project

- 2.1. The Meeting discussed current issues related to the coordination of ACTION project and PLC-7 assessments. An Online meeting of the WP4 took place in June 2019 where the achieved progress was discussed, and it was agreed that the next meeting is held on 16 August 2019.
- 2.2. WP4 will produce an assessment of potential contribution of various sectors of human activities to nutrient load reduction based on PLC data. As far as detailed data are not available for all countries, the assessment will use extrapolation of available data with some assumptions. A draft assessment will be ready in upcoming weeks and circulated to the RedCore DG members.
- 2.3. The evaluation of achievement of BSAP targets implementing WFD requirements based on aggregation of the nutrient input -related targets for individual river basins has been started. The Meeting pointed out that the achievements of WFD targets are sometimes considered as a measure, which causes terminological confusion.
- 2.4. The work to select cases illustrating the effects of measures to reduce nutrient inputs for individual river basins has also been started within the WP4. A proposal on provisional selection criteria and

nutrient load trends for all Baltic Sea rivers was circulated to PLC-7 Project Implementation Group. The Meeting agreed that in some cases aggregated data for several rivers can be also used as a case study until it serves for evaluation of the effects of measures.

### 3. The Workshop with river basin management authorities

- 3.1. The Meeting recalled the request of PRESSURE 10-2019 that the show cases are to be communicated with national representatives in the Group before their presentation at the Workshop.
- 3.2. The Meeting recommended to circulate a tentative timetable of the Workshop before August 2019.

### 4. Progress in assessment of nutrient inputs 2017 and other issues.

- 4.1. All data for the HELCOM Baltic Sea Environmental Fact Sheet (BSEF) on nutrient input in 2017 are compiled, and a draft of the document will be ready by 5 July 2019. As the BSEF has to be approved by the Pressure Group, the draft will further be circulated to the group for tacit approval within about 4 weeks.
- 4.2. BNI received some supplementary data on transboundary inputs from Latvia and Lithuania.
- 4.3. The situation with 2018 periodic reporting by Poland is still unclear, though some progress has been noticed. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to clarify the status of the PLC periodic data report by Poland and Germany.
- 4.4. Contract with EMEP is to be updated this July for the next 3-year period. It also has to include a formalized reporting format for the data on airborne N deposition. BNI agreed to clarify the technical aspects of the reporting format with EMEP in the upcoming days to be included to the updated contract.
- 4.5. An online meeting with EMEP on the contract update is planned for 3 July 2019 at 10.00 (EET). The Meeting agreed that RedCore DG would join the meeting. Progress in the ENIREC II project to evaluate reduction of airborne N by 2030 through implementation of the Gothenburg Protocol and EU NEC directives will also be discussed at the online meeting.
- 4.6. The Meeting agreed that the next RedCore DG physical meeting (RedCore DG 27-2019) will be arranged on 27-28 August 2019 in Helsinki in the Secretariat's premises.