



22 January 2019

To: HELCOM Heads of Delegation
Nominated experts for SOM Platform 1-2019
Chairs and Vice-Chairs of GEAR, MARITIME, PRESSURE, RESPONSE, STATE & CONSERVATION, FISH,
AGRI, HELCOM-VASAB MSP, EN-Noise, EN-HZ, EN-Marine Litter, HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST
HELCOM ESA network
HELCOM Observers

Re. [Invitation to the Kick-off Meeting of the ad hoc HELCOM Platform on sufficiency of measures \(SOM Platform 1-2019\), 28 February-1 March 2019, Helsinki, Finland](#)

Dear Madam/Sir,

With reference to the Outcome of the 55th Meeting of the HELCOM Heads of Delegation (HOD 55-2018, paragraph 3.24), I have the honour to invite the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention and the HELCOM Observers to the Kick-off Meeting of the ad hoc HELCOM Platform on sufficiency of measures (SOM Platform 1-2019), which will be held in Helsinki, Finland, at the premises of the HELCOM Secretariat (Katajanokanlaituri 6b) on 28 February-1 March 2019.

The Meeting will be opened on **Thursday, 28 February, at 9:00** and is expected to terminate **by 15:00 on Friday, 1 March**.

Please find attached the Background and Provisional Annotated Agenda and information for participants.

HOD 55-2018 Meeting agreed that the work on analyses of sufficiency of measures for the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan will be carried out via an interdisciplinary platform for the implementation of the analyses (SOM Platform), which is to engage the existing HELCOM ESA (social and economic analysis) network, national technical experts on the topics to be addressed by the platform, and the Chairs of HELCOM Working Groups. The topics covered by the SOM platform are hazardous substances, marine litter, underwater sound, non-indigenous species and biodiversity except for MPAs which are covered by the HELCOM ACTION project.

Documents for the Meeting will be made available in the SOM Platform 1-2019 [Meeting Site](#) in the HELCOM Meeting Portal. The participants are kindly requested to register to the Meeting by answering the [Participation Survey](#) not later than **by 21 February 2019**. Please note that you need to be a registered user with relevant rights to access the restricted meeting documents and to register to the meeting. [Instructions](#) for the use of the Meeting Portal are available on the HELCOM website.

Yours sincerely,

Monika Stankiewicz
Executive Secretary