



Document title	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda
Code	1-2
Category	CMNT
Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
Submission date	19.8.2020
Submitted by	Secretariat

Background

The HELCOM SOM Platform supports the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan by analysing sufficiency of measures (SOM) to reach good environmental status in the Baltic Sea and identify gaps in existing measures. The approach for the SOM analysis has been developed by the HELCOM ACTION project under the guidance of the HELCOM SOM Platform and Gear Group and agreed by HOD 56-2019. The detailed SOM methodology has been endorsed by Gear 22-2020 ([Outcome](#), para 4.21).

In the spring and summer 2020, the data collection as well as the SOM methodology model development have been finalized, and the results of the SOM analysis prepared. The results will be submitted to the BSAP UP workshops and to SOM Platform in August, as agreed in SOM Platform 3-2020.

Information on the meeting

As agreed by HOD 58-2020 (Outcome, para 4.41), the 4th Meeting of the SOM Platform (HELCOM SOM Platform 4-2020) will take place on 15 September 2020. The meeting is arranged online.

The Meeting will start **at 10:00** and is expected to end **at 18:00** on **Tuesday 15 September 2020 (EEST, UTC+3)**.

The Meeting will be Chaired by Mr. Urmas Lips. The Meeting will focus on:

- Considering and discussing the results of the SOM analysis, including their further use and presentation in the BSAP update process;
- Discussing and providing guidance on the main report that presents the methodology and results of the SOM analysis;
- Considering the follow-up of the BSAP UP workshops;
- Giving guidance on the cost-effectiveness analysis and how the results should be considered by the Working Groups.

Documents for the Meeting will be made available in the SOM Platform 4-2020 [Meeting Site](#) in the HELCOM Meeting Portal. The basic documents and documents requiring action or a decision to the Meeting should be submitted in electronic form to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi) **by 24 August 2020**. Documents containing comments to the basic documents as well as information documents should be provided to the Secretariat **by 7 September 2020**.

The participants are kindly requested to register to the Meeting by answering the [Participation Survey](#) not later than **by 7 September 2020**. 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.

Annotations to the Provisional Agenda

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

The Meeting is invited to adopt the agenda of the meeting (document 1-1).

Agenda item 2 Results of the SOM analysis

In the spring and summer 2020, the data collection as well as the SOM methodology model development have been finalized, and the first results of the SOM analysis have been prepared. The results have been submitted to the HELCOM BSAP UP workshops arranged in August and September 2020. Results are available for all topics in the analysis: hazardous substances, litter, eutrophication, noise, non-indigenous species, benthic habitats, fish, birds and mammals. The results may be amended and revised in the autumn 2020 based on additional analyses and feedback received.

Documents describing the first results of the SOM analysis will be presented to the Meeting.

The Meeting is invited to consider the first results of the SOM analysis and provide guidance on how they can be used and presented in the further BSAP update process.

Agenda item 3 Report on SOM analysis

A report summarizing the methodology and results of the SOM analysis will be prepared in the fall 2020. In addition, topic-specific methodology and results will be presented in so-called topic reports, which give additional background information, details and results relevant to the topic in question. As there are nine distinct topics in the SOM analysis and the approach, methodology and data collection are relatively complex, the contents of the main report summarizing the analysis requires careful consideration.

A tentative outline of the main report will be presented to the Meeting.

The Meeting is invited to discuss and provide guidance on the main report that presents the methodology and results of the SOM analysis.

Agenda item 4 Follow-up of the BSAP UP workshops

HELCOM has received a number of proposals on new actions for the updated BSAP presented as 'synopses' for new actions. As agreed by SOM Platform 2-2019, the proposals have, as a first step, been considered by HELCOM Working Groups from technical point of view, followed by an evaluation at BSAP UP workshops in August-September 2020 as agreed by HOD 57-2019. The evaluation at workshops will be guided by a set of criteria that has been developed by the SOM Platform and endorsed intersessionally by the Gear Group.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcomes of the BSAP UP workshops. The Meeting is invited to note that according to the updated work plan for the BSAP update approved by HOD 58-2020, the outcomes of the BSAP UP workshops will be further elaborated and endorsed by HELCOM Working Groups for submission to HOD 59-2020.

Agenda item 5 Cost-effectiveness analysis of new measures

The ACTION project and ToR for the HELCOM SOM Platform includes the step of analysing cost-effectiveness of proposed new measures. An approach and steps for evaluating the costs and effects of new measures was presented in the SOM Platform 3-2020 meeting ([Document 6-1](#)).

Some information on the effectiveness and costs of proposed new measures is available through the synopses and from the SOM analysis of existing measures, and additional information has been compiled by the HELCOM ACTION project. National information on cost estimates has been requested from the HELCOM EN ESA representatives, as agreed by GEAR 22-2020 (Outcome, para 4.31).

A document describing the progress of evaluating the costs and effects of new measures will be presented to the Meeting.

The Meeting is invited to give guidance on the cost-effectiveness analysis and how the results should be considered by the Working Groups.

[Agenda item 6](#) [Next steps](#)

The Meeting is invited to agree on next steps for the SOM Platform, including whether to convene the fifth meeting in November 2020.

[Agenda item 7](#) [Notes from the Meeting](#)

The notes will be finalized after the closure of the Meeting and circulated for approval in writing by the participants in a time frame agreed by the Meeting.

Provisional timetable for HELCOM SOM Platform 4-2020

Note: All times EEST (UTC+3, Finnish time)

Tuesday 15 September	
10.00-11.15	Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda Agenda item 2 Results of the SOM analysis
11.15-11.30	<i>BREAK</i>
11.30-13.00	Agenda item 2 Results of the SOM analysis, continued
13.00-14.00	<i>LUNCH BREAK</i>
14.00-15.30	Agenda item 2 Results of the SOM analysis, continued Agenda item 3 Report on SOM analysis Agenda item 4 Follow-up of the BSAP UP workshops
15.30-15.45	<i>BREAK</i>
15.45-18.00	Agenda item 5 Cost-effectiveness analysis of new measures Agenda item 6 Next steps Agenda item 7 Notes from the Meeting
18.00	Meeting ends