



9 August 2018

To: HELCOM Expert Network on Marine Litter
Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the HELCOM Groups
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM PRESSURE
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM MARITIME
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM FISH
Contacts and Observers of HELCOM STATE&CONSERVATION

Cc: HELCOM Heads of Delegation
Observers of HELCOM

**Re. Invitation to the Third HELCOM Workshop on implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (WS RAP ML 3-2018)
Riga, Latvia, 9 October 2018**

Dear Madam/Sir,
Dear Colleagues,

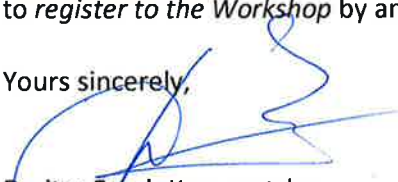
Referring to the Outcome of PRESSURE 8-2018 ([para. 3.29](#)) and the Outcome of HOD 54-2018 ([para.4.4](#)) I have the honour to invite the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention and Observer Organizations to the Third Workshop on implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (WS RAP ML 3-2018) hosted by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia, in Riga, on 9 October 2018. The Workshop will be held back to back with the Ninth Meeting of the HELCOM Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area (PRESSURE 9-2018) on 10-12 October.

The Workshop will be opened **at 10.00 on Tuesday, 9 October**, and it is expected to terminate **by 17:00 on the same day**. The Workshop will be held at the premises of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia (Peldu iela 25, Riga). The Provisional Agenda (document 1-1) is attached and the Annotations to the Provisional Agenda can be found on this [link](#).

The Workshop aims to evaluate the state of the implementation of the HELCOM RAP ML ([HELCOM Recommendation 36/1](#)), identify obstacles hampering progress towards final goals of the particular actions and discuss lessons learned from the on-going implementation. Representatives of the HELCOM countries and observers will be invited to propose joint HELCOM activities to facilitate accomplishment of the actions and achieving the goals set by the RAP ML. Conclusions and proposals of the Workshop will be submitted to PRESSURE 9-2018 for consideration.

Information for the Workshop will be made available in the HELCOM Meeting Portal on the [WS-RAP ML 3-2018 Meeting Site](#) (please see the [instructions for signing up and signing in](#)). Participants are kindly requested to *register to the Workshop* by answering the [Participation Survey](#) not later than **1 October 2018**.

Yours sincerely,


Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky
Professional Secretary