

## State and Conservation 5-2016 outcome extracts of relevance for ZEN ZIIM 2016

The full [Outcome](#) is available in the HELCOM meeting portal.

4J.4 The Meeting discussed the possibility to include additional results in the updated and final version of the 2nd holistic assessment in 2018 in the case that indicators are tested and made operational during 2017. The Meeting was of the view that this possibility should be discussed at a national level and proposed that the GEAR Group could consider this issue further.  
*(Gear 15-2016 will take place 17-18 November 2016)*

4J.19 The Meeting considered the core indicator 'Zooplankton mean size and total stock' (document 4J-29) and noted the endorsement by Finland and Sweden on the nationally relevant GES boundary proposal while other countries agreed to further discuss the issue at ZEN-ZIIM and inform on their position at HOD 51-2016.

4J.20 The Meeting noted that the next meeting of the ZEN-ZIIM project will be held on 24-25 November 2016 and encouraged Contracting Parties to attend the meeting, bringing their own data so that calculations of GES boundaries can be done jointly.

4J.21 The Meeting took note of the following comments by Contracting Parties:

- Denmark will participate in ZEN-ZIIM 2016 and bring national data but cannot lift the specific study reservation at this time.
- Germany informed that national projects could provide GES boundaries for their assessment units, but relevant information will not be available before the end of 2017, so that it could earliest be considered at that stage if assessments could be done in 2018, provided that the indicator is found applicable to German waters as well.
- Latvia will participate in ZEN-ZIIM 2016 with the aim to complete the GES boundary for the Gulf of Riga.
- Poland will check GES boundaries for the Gulf of Gdansk as presented to the Meeting.

5J.1 The Meeting took note of the proposed changes to the monitoring guidelines of zooplankton species composition, abundance and biomass (document 5J-4), further noted that the ZEN-ZIIM project will finalize the revised monitoring guidelines at their annual meeting 24-25 November 2016, and invited ZEN-ZIIM to submit the finalized guidelines for endorsement at State and Conservation 6-2017. The Meeting noted the request from Germany to take into account the national comments already provided on the guidelines and that Poland will send written comments for consideration by the ZEN-ZIIM meeting. The Meeting requested the ZEN-ZIIM project to clarify the procedure to update the zooplankton species list.

3MA.1 The Meeting took note of the status of data reporting for HOLAS II (document 3MA-1) and took note of the urgency to submit the still missing data **without further delay, latest by end of November 2016** so that experts can continue with calculations for updated indicator evaluations.

3MA.2 The Meeting took note of the following information on the status of data delivery:

- Zooplankton:

- Finland and Denmark is working on submitting zooplankton data, which has not been reported due to technical challenges – however, the Finnish data is available to be included in the indicator.
- Germany will check the availability of zooplankton data 2011-2012 for the EEZ

3MA.4 The Meeting took note of information by ICES that in the future EEA will amend the EIONET reporting requirements to contain similar mandatory fields as in COMBINE so EIONET data can be potentially be transferred to COMBINE in the future when the amended reporting requirements are implemented.

3MA.5 The Meeting took note of information from ICES Data Centre on the reporting of data to COMBINE (document 3MA-2), including the new application for the Station Dictionary, the Simplified Reporting Format for reporting of new data (not to be used for supplementing existing data submissions), and the planned release of the Quality Control Database in November 2016. The Meeting noted that the Simplified Reporting Format cannot be used for partial reporting since it overrides already reported data. ICES requested that if there are delays in data reporting, then Contracting Parties should notify ICES so that the work related to quality checking the reported data can be planned accordingly.