

# BALTIC SEA ENVIRONMENT PROCEEDINGS

No. 18

## ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION 1985

Including the Seventh Meeting of the  
Commission held in Helsinki 11—14 February  
1986



No. 18

ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION  
1985

Report on the activities of the Baltic Marine  
Environment Protection Commission during 1985  
including the Seventh Meeting of the Commission held  
in Helsinki 11—14 February 1986

HELCOM Recommendations passed during 1986

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## REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION DURING 1985 INCLUDING THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD IN HELSINKI 11-14 FEBRUARY 1986

### 1. Activities of the Commission during 1985

#### 1.1 Sixth Meeting of the Commission

During the sixth year of operation of the Helsinki Commission special attention was continuously paid to the elaboration of further measures against pollution.

The outcome of the sixth meeting of the Commission, held in Helsinki 12-15 March 1985, has been published in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 15.

Detailed information on the progress made since the sixth meeting of the Commission in the different substantive activities within the framework of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission is given in the subsequent paragraphs.

#### 1.2 Scientific-Technological Committee (STC)

The 12th meeting of the Scientific-Technological Committee (STC) was held in Simrishamn, Sweden, 16-20 September 1985. Delegations from all the Contracting Parties and an Observer from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) as well as the Chairman of the Maritime Committee, Mr. Seppo Hildén, the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Professor Harald Velner, and the Maritime Secretary, Commander Fleming Otzen, attended the meeting.

Mr. Lars Thorell of Sweden, the Chairman of the STC, acted as Chairman of the meeting, and Mr. Zenon Baginski of the Polish People's Republic, the Vice-Chairman of the STC acted as Vice-Chairman of the meeting.



The Contracting Parties reported to the meeting on their bilateral cooperation as well as on their scientific, legal and administrative measures as regards the goals of the Convention, especially those related to the mandate of the STC. The representative of ICES informed the meeting on the scientific activities of ICES including those requested by the Commission.

#### Baltic Monitoring Programme and Assessment of the State of the Baltic Sea

The Committee discussed matters related to the Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP). The Meeting considered a coordinated time-table for the BMP cruises in 1986, data collection and progress made in the establishment of the HELCOM Data Bank.

The meeting also considered the present state of intercalibration on organochlorines, coordinated by the Federal Republic of Germany, and the intercalibrations coordinated by ICES dealing with e.g. trace metals and sediments.

The STC decided to establish a project for further elaboration of the Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP) and to propose to the Commission that an ad hoc group of experts should meet for this purpose to review the present BMP, to comment on the present Guidelines for the 2nd Stage of the BMP, and to make proposals for the 3rd Stage of the BMP. The Lead Country of the project will be Denmark and, the meeting invited also ICES to take part in this work.

The Committee further considered preparations related to the First Periodic Assessment of the state of the Baltic Sea 1980-1985 on the basis of the outcome of the 5th meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea (GEA). The approval of the general conclusions of the First Periodic Assessment and the decision on the publishing of the conclusions and the background document is to be made by the Commission at its seventh meeting. The meeting also considered preparations of coastal assessments in the Baltic

Sea States and emphasized the great value of this work in the future work of the STC.

#### Monitoring of Radioactive Substances and Airborne Pollution

The meeting considered the decision by the Commission that an ad hoc Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea be established, Finland acting as Lead Country. The first meeting of the Group was to be held in April 1986 and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to be invited to take part in the work as an observer organization, as decided by the Commission.

The Committee discussed the report of the 2nd meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (EGAP). The Committee considered the present state of preparations for the first step of intercomparisons and intercalibrations coordinated by Sweden, preparations for a compilation of data as well as the proposal by the German Democratic Republic to arrange a seminar on matters related to modelling the origin of transport of air pollutants to the Baltic Sea Area. The STC decided to submit the draft HELCOM Recommendation concerning monitoring of airborne pollution load for the consideration of the 7th meeting of the Commission, and further emphasized the need for starting the consideration of the proposals for action by the Commission to decrease airborne pollution discharges as a task of the STC.

#### Preparation of Criteria and Standards for Discharges to the Baltic Sea

The STC discussed the outcome of the 8th meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Criteria and Standards for Discharges of Harmful Substances into the Baltic Sea Area (WGS). The meeting discussed the progress reports and other Lead Country preparations presented by the Contracting Parties, especially the progress report on lead. The STC also considered the future work of the Lead Countries on harmful substances; Cadmium, Mercury, Lead,

Copper, Zinc, Oil, DDT, PCBs and "New Contaminants". The Committee elaborated five draft HELCOM Recommendations for adoption by the Commission. The draft Recommendations are related to the reduction of discharges from agriculture, and the reduction of discharges from urban areas by the development of sewerage systems, by the use of effective methods in wastewater treatment, by the pretreatment of parts of wastewater originating from industrial plants and by the treatment of stormwater. The Committee also decided to propose that the next meeting of the WGS be arranged in a similar way as WGS 8 with two sub-groups, one for the consideration of matters related to sewage treatment in urban areas and the other for matters related to discharges from agriculture.

The Committee further considered the proposal that a joint seminar should be arranged for discussion of matters related to oil pollution and that at the end of the seminar a group should make proposals for further action to the STC, the MC and the EGC. The seminar will be held in Sweden and organized jointly by Sweden and Finland.

#### Other Activities in the Field of the STC

The meeting considered activities regarding the Baltic Marine Environment Bibliography. Suitable key-words for the data input sheets will be picked up from the draft ASFA Thesaurus for the purpose of joining the HELCOM Bibliography to an international on-line system. The meeting was of the opinion that there is a need for including also the old bibliographic data in the on-line system.

The STC further considered the cooperation with other international organizations as well as with the MC and the EGC.

The meeting also accepted the draft long-term plan for the STC in general for consideration by the 7th meeting of the Commission. The meeting considered the need for consultant services in the field of the STC as well as proposals for documents to be

published in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings series during the next fiscal year.

Finally, the STC re-elected Mr. Lars Thorell of Sweden as Chairman of the STC and Mr. Zenon Baginski of Poland as Vice-Chairman of the STC for the two-year period starting in 1985.

#### **1.3 Maritime Committee (MC)**

The Maritime Committee held its 11th Meeting in Vaasa, Finland, 29 October - 1 November 1985, under the chairmanship of Mr. Seppo Hildén of Finland. Mr. Rudolf Lammel of the German Democratic Republic acted as Vice-Chairman. Delegations from all the Contracting Parties attended the meeting. The Chairman of the Scientific-Technological Committee (STC), Mr. Lars Thorell, the Chairman of the Expert Group on Co-operation in Combatting Matters (EGC), Professor Jerzy W. Doerffer, the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Professor Harald Velner and the Scientific Secretary, Dr. Terttu Melvasalo also attended the Meeting.

#### Matters Related to Reception Facilities

The Committee discussed matters related to reception facilities in ports and was informed on national investigations regarding the use of reception facilities. The Committee agreed to a questionnaire relating to the amount of waste received, the fee system used and the coverage of costs for the operation of reception facilities which should be answered by the Contracting Parties. The consideration of the final draft of a new publication on reception facilities in the Baltic Sea Area and adjacent waters was postponed until the next meeting of the Committee.

#### Pollution Prevention Equipment on Board Ships

The Committee considered matters relating to pollution prevention

equipment on board ships, including, inter alia, a submission from Finland on transfer of bilge water in non-specific piping containing a proposed interpretation of the bilge water discharge requirements of the Helsinki Convention and of MARPOL 73/78 in order to avoid spillage of oil. The Committee invited Finland to bring the matter to the attention of MEPC 23. When discussing certification of sewage treatment equipment, the Committee held the opinion that a certification within the Helsinki Convention context was not needed. However, if such certification was requested by shipowners, administrations should use the form of the International Sewage Pollution Prevention Certificate (1973), as contained in MARPOL 73/78.

The Committee discussed the draft guidelines for discharges from pleasure craft and for the establishment of reception facilities, as elaborated at the last meeting of the Committee. Some questions were raised as to what extent Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention applies to pleasure craft. The Secretariat was requested to investigate the matter before the next meeting of the Committee and further discussion on the draft guidelines was deferred to that meeting.

The Committee considered matters related to the entry into force on 1 January 1986 of the provisions concerning noxious liquid substance carried in bulk as contained in Regulation 5 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention. The Committee agreed to a draft outline statement by the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention on the principles for the implementation of Regulation 5 of Annex IV for own and foreign ships. This statement should be presented at the 22nd session of MEPC in connection with the presentation of a draft MEPC Resolution, proposed by the Baltic Sea States, concerning the application in the Baltic Sea Area of the discharge provisions of MARPOL 73/78, Annex II, as amended, as of 1 January 1986 by ships flying the flag of states which are not parties to the Helsinki Convention.

The Committee agreed to a notification procedure to IMO according to Regulation 5 (13) of MARPOL 73/78, Annex II, which would ensure that the MARPOL 73/78 special area provisions would be applied in the Baltic Sea Area right from the start of the application of Annex II to MARPOL 73/78.

The Committee elaborated a tentative list of substantive items for the 6th meeting of the Group of Experts on the Application of Regulation 5 of Annex IV (MC EM CHEM), which was authorized by the Commission to report directly to the 7th meeting of the Commission on any substantive items which would require action by that meeting.

#### Baltic Sea Position Reporting System (BAREP)

The Committee considered the report on the 7th meeting of the Group of Experts on a Traffic Information system (MC WGTI 7), which was held in Copenhagen, 1-2 October 1985. The Committee endorsed the wish of the Group of Experts that the report on the BAREP system, as elaborated by the Group, should be published in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings.

The Committee decided to propose the EGC to consider the possible need for the elaboration of more detailed guidelines for reporting incidents involving harmful substances to be used in the Baltic Sea Area as a supplement to the more general IMO Guidelines.

#### Cooperation with the EGC and the STC

In considering the Report of the Expert Group on Co-operation in Combatting Matters the Committee held the opinion that some indications about the total input of noxious liquid substances into the Baltic Sea Area could be obtained from the coming work of the EGC sub-group on chemicals. The Committee requested the EGC to keep the MC informed of this work.



The Committee considered the report of the Scientific-Technological Committee and supported the idea of a joint seminar between the STC, the MC and the EGC on oil pollution questions and proposed that the total oil input could be taken up as an additional topic for the seminar.

When considering matters related to research and development, the Committee expressed the opinion that the two limits for the oil input from normal operation of ships in the oil input studies gave an estimation on the range inside which the actual oil input from normal operation of ships should be found. The Committee decided that the two studies should be submitted to the joint seminar on oil questions.

#### Other Activities in the Field of the MC

The Committee further completed the figures in the studies relating to oil input from accidental spillages in the Baltic Sea Area 1975/1983.

The Committee considered and amended the final draft of an updated version of the brochure "Clean Seas for the Benefit of Man". The final draft would be considered at the next meeting of the Committee and the brochure would be distributed to mariners in 1987.

The Committee considered IMO matters which could implicate a possible action from the MC. As a result of the Committee's deliberations on this matter, the Committee, inter alia, proposed the Commission to adopt three draft HELCOM Recommendations concerning Recording of Fuel Oil Bunkering Operations in the Oil Record Book and Documentation for the Use of Reception Facilities, concerning the application of the Revised Guidelines and Specifications for Oil Discharge Monitoring and Control Systems for Oil Tankers and concerning the Application of the IMO Format for Reporting Alleged Inadequacy of Oily Waste Reception Facilities and of a Helsinki Convention Format for Reporting Alleged Inadequacy of Reception Facilities for Sewage and Garbage.

The Committee decided to consider at its next meeting the future procedure for applying IMO Resolutions within the Helsinki Convention context.

The Committee re-elected Mr. Seppo Hildén as Chairman of the Maritime Committee for the coming two years and Mr. Rudolf Lammel as Vice-Chairman of the Maritime Committee for the same cadency period.

#### **1.4 Expert Group on Co-operation in Combatting Matters (EGC)**

The Expert Group on Co-operation in Combatting Matters held its 9th Meeting in Simrishamn, Sweden, 24-27 September 1985, under the chairmanship of Professor Jerzy W. Doerffer of Poland. Mr. Ulf Bjurman of Sweden was elected Vice-Chairman of the Meeting. Delegations from all the Contracting Parties attended the Meeting. The Chairman of the Maritime Committee, Mr. Seppo Hildén of Finland, the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Professor Harald Velner and the Scientific Secretary, Dr. Terttu Melvasalo also attended the Meeting.

Delegations informed the Meeting on major oil spillages in the Baltic Sea Area which had taken place since the last meeting of the Expert Group. In one of the reported incidents the escaped oil cargo could not be traced, most probably because the gravity of the oil had caused the oil to sink. Finland and Sweden, which had been affected by the incident, undertook to report to the next meeting of the Expert Group on any experience gained related to the further detection and tracking of the submerged oil.

In order to make national annual reports on oil spills comparable the Expert Group adopted summary formats for pollution reporting and estimation of the amount of oil discharge for the calendar years 1985 and 1986.

The Expert Group received information on planned developments within the national contingency organizations and the Expert Group decided to request all Contracting Parties to submit



national investment plans until 1990 to the next meeting of the Expert Group.

#### Identification of Oil Spills

The Expert Group was informed on the work relating to standardized methods for the identification of oil spills in the Baltic Sea Area. An oil experiment would be carried out at sea from 29 September to 3 October 1985 and the results from the oil experiment would be discussed at a workshop to be held 27-28 February 1986 in Hamburg.

#### Dispersants

On the basis of information received from Delegations and from the work within the Bonn Agreement relating to dispersants the Expert Group requested the Contracting Parties to submit information on the national guidelines for the application of dispersants as well as information on the methods and tests for the ranking of dispersants according to efficiency and toxicity to the next meeting of the Expert Group.

#### Combatting of spillages of harmful substances other than oil

The Expert Group discussed matters related to combatting spillages of harmful substances other than oil, inter alia, draft guidelines for the combatting of chemicals in the Baltic Sea Area, as prepared by the Federal Republic of Germany. The Group proposed the Commission to establish an ad hoc Working Group which should prepare matters related to the guidelines for consideration of the next meeting of the EGC.

The Expert Group agreed to a reporting format for number and general dimensions of chemical tankers in the Baltic Sea traffic, list of transported chemicals and list of recoverable floating and sinking substances, which should be used for reporting during the period October-December 1985.

The Expert Group held the view that the IMO guidelines for reporting incidents involving harmful substances, when approved by the 14th session of the IMO Assembly, should also be adopted within the Helsinki Convention context and the Expert Group elaborated a draft HELCOM Recommendation to that effect.

#### Cooperation with the MC and the STC

The Expert Group received information on matters to be discussed at the 11th meeting of the Maritime Committee as well as on the outcome of the 11th and 12th meetings of the Scientific-Technological Committee. The Expert Group could support the joint seminar on oil questions, as proposed by the 12th meeting of the Scientific-Technological Committee and further held the opinion that it would be most beneficial for the work of the Expert Group, if matters related to guidelines for the use of dispersants and sub-surface movements of oil could be included in the topics for the seminar.

#### Other Activities in the Field of the EGC

The Expert Group further discussed initiated and planned national research and development programmes related to the mandate of the Group.

The Expert Group received information on the activities within other regional combatting agreements and the Group noted that due to the mutual agreement between the Bonn Agreement and the Helsinki Convention concerning exchange of documents, valuable documentation from the Bonn Agreement had been made available to this meeting of the Expert Group.

The Expert Group received information on the national status relating to aerial surveillance and in order to intensify the airborne surveillance activities in the Baltic Sea Area the Expert Group proposed the Commission to adopt a draft HELCOM Recommendation concerning airborne surveillance/remote sensing activities in the Baltic Sea Area.



The Expert Group held the view that equipment exercises should be initiated as early as possible and it should be investigated intersessionally, whether a trilateral/bilateral equipment exercise could be arranged already in the interim period 1985/1986.

The Expert Group discussed matters related to offshore activities and the Group proposed the Commission to request the Contracting Parties to submit information on exploration and exploitation activities to the next meeting of the Expert Group.

The Expert Group re-elected Professor Jerzy W. Doerffer as Chairman of the Expert Group for the coming two years and elected Commander Preben S. Stamp as Vice-Chairman of the Expert Group for the same cadency period.

## 2. Administration of the Commission during 1985

Dr. Peter Ehlers of the Federal Republic of Germany continued to act as Chairman of the Commission.

Professor Harald Velher acted as Executive Secretary, Dr. Terttu Melvasalo and Commander Fleming Otzen correspondingly as Scientific and Maritime Secretaries of the Commission. The other members of the staff of the Commission were assistants Ritva Kostakow-Kämpe, Teija-Liisa Lehtinen, Marjaliisa Inha and Tuomas Kuokkanen. Mr. Rainer Rudloff of the Federal Republic of Germany acted as postgraduate assistant during the period 1 September - 20 December 1985.

The contribution of the Contracting Parties to the costs of the Commission is based on equal shares of the seven Contracting Parties. In addition, the Government of Finland has paid an extra contribution to cover the rent of the office, communication and equipment expenses and a part of the salaries of the office staff.

The distribution of expenses of the Commission during the fiscal year from 1 July 1984 to 30 June 1985 was approximately as follows:

Meetings	160 000
Salaries	1 100 000
Other administration	640 000
Consultant services	100 000
Publications	110 000
Total	FIM 2 110 000
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The Executive Secretary was Secretary General of the Commission meetings and conducted the work of the Secretariat. During the year the Executive Secretary continued to develop the cooperation between the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention and between the Commission and other international and bilateral organizations.

For the first time the meeting of the STC was held outside Finland, and the meeting of the MC outside Helsinki. The meetings took place in Simrishamn, Sweden and Vaasa, Finland, respectively.

Two meetings of the Chairmen of the Commission and representatives of the Secretariat (CASH) were organized; one in Linköping, Sweden and the other in Helsinki, Finland. These meetings were organized with the help and active participation of the national authorities. The experience gained from the CASH meetings show that they are a good instrument to activate the work of the Commission intersessionally.

The Scientific Secretary made the necessary preparations and acted as Secretary General of the following meetings:

- the 5th meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea (GEA), Rostock-Warnemünde, the German Democratic Republic, 28-31 May 1985



- the 8th meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Criteria and Standards for Discharges of Harmful Substances into the Baltic Sea Area (WGS), Norrköping, Sweden, 3-6 June 1985
- the 2nd meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (EGAP), Kiel, the Federal Republic of Germany, 26-30 August 1985, and
- the 12th meeting of the Scientific-Technological Committee (STC), Simrishamn, Sweden, 16-20 September 1985.

The Scientific Secretary has also carried out tasks related to the implementation and follow-up of the decisions concerning matters in the scientific and technological fields.

The Maritime Secretary made the necessary preparations and acted as Secretary General of the following meetings:

- the 9th meeting of the Expert Group on Co-operation in Combatting Matters (EGC), Simrishamn, Sweden, 24-27 September 1985
- the 7th meeting of the Group of Experts on a Traffic Information System (MC WGII), Copenhagen, 1-2 October 1985
- the 11th meeting of the Maritime Committee (MC), Vaasa, Finland, 29 October - 1 November 1985, and
- the 6th meeting of the Group of Experts on the Application of Regulation 5 of Annex IV (MC EM CHEM), Helsinki, 14-17 January 1986.

The Maritime Secretary has also carried out tasks related to the implementation and follow-up of the decisions concerning matters in the maritime field.

#### Publications and Data

In accordance with the decisions of the Commission the following volumes of the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings have been published:

- No. 14 Seminar on review of progress made in water protection measures, 17-21 October 1983, Espoo, Finland

- No. 15 Activities of the Commission, 1984, including the Sixth Meeting of the Commission held in Helsinki, 12-15 March 1985

Distribution of the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings has been made through national authorities of the Contracting Parties. In addition, the Secretariat has circulated ca. 200 copies of each publication for use to international organizations as well as to some libraries, embassies and other organizations outside the Contracting Parties.

Amendment No. 3 to Volume I and Amendments Nos. 2 and 3 to Volume II of the Manual on Co-operation in Combatting Marine Pollution have been distributed to the holders of the Manual. In addition amendments to the BMP Guidelines (Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 12), preprints of the Symposium on Ecological Investigations of the Baltic Sea Environment, Riga, USSR, 16-19 March 1983, as well as the Baltic Marine Environment Bibliography for the years 1980-1983 in microfiche form have been distributed to the Baltic Sea States.

Further data of the BMP included in the HELCOM Data Bank before the end of November 1985 was all distributed to the Baltic Sea States and to ICES.

#### Co-operation with Other International Organizations

The following organizations were observers of the Commission during 1985:

- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe (WHO/EURO)
- Oslo and Paris Commissions (OSCOM/PARCOM)
- International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC)
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)



Cooperation with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) was initiated.

In addition to the representation of the observer organizations at the meetings of the Commission, a representative of ICES attended the 12th meeting of the STC and a representative of the Paris Commission the 2nd meeting of the EGAP.

The Commission was represented by the Government of Poland at the 11th Session of the IBSFC in Warsaw, 16-21 September 1985.

Mr. Sture Irberger of Sweden represented the Helsinki Commission at the UNEP ad hoc Group of Experts on the Protection of the Marine Environment against Pollution from Land-based Sources.

The Executive Secretary represented the Commission at the 24th Inter-Secretariat Meeting on Water Problems in Europe, convened by the ECE Secretariat in Geneva, 20 May 1985, the Paris Commission meeting in Brussels, 2-5 June 1985, the Oslo Commission meeting in Mariehamn, Finland, 11-13 June 1985, the International Conference on Acid Precipitation in Uppsala, Sweden, 13-14 August 1985, the meeting on Patchiness Activities in the Baltic Sea, organized by ICES/SCOR in Tallinn, USSR, 20-23 October 1985 and at the BMB Committee meeting in Turku, Finland, 10 June 1985.

The Executive Secretary visited also USSR, Sweden and the Federal Republic of Germany and discussed with the representatives of the national authorities responsible for the protection of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea, the ways and possibilities of further cooperation between the Baltic Sea States.

The Scientific Secretary represented the Commission in the BMB Committee meeting and symposium in Turku, Finland, 10-14 June 1985, the Inter-Secretariat meeting on Air Pollution Problems in Europe in Helsinki, 5 July 1985, the 73rd statutory meeting of ICES in London, 6-10 October 1985, the Patchiness Study meeting in Tallinn, USSR, 20-23 October 1985, and the consultation meet-

ing on Nutrients under Article 9 of the Paris Convention in Copenhagen, 28-29 November 1985.

The Maritime Secretary represented the Commission in the 21st and 22nd sessions of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) in London, 22 April - 1 May 1985 and 2-6 December 1985, the 15th Session of IMO's Sub-Committee on Bulk Chemicals in London, 2-6 September 1985, the Joint IMO/UNEP Meeting of Experts on Regional Arrangements for Co-operation in Combatting Major Incidents of Marine Pollution in London, 29 April - 3 May 1985 and the XV Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Copenhagen Agreement in Copenhagen, 8-10 October 1985.

### 3. Seventh Meeting of the Commission, 11-14 February 1986

The Helsinki Commission held its seventh meeting in Helsinki from 11 to 14 February 1986. The meeting was attended by Delegations from all the seven Baltic Sea States as well as by Observers from the following international organizations: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC) and Oslo and Paris Commissions. The meeting was chaired by the Chairman of the Commission, Dr. Peter Ehlers.

The Commission decided upon matters related to technological, scientific, maritime and legal problems on the protection of the Baltic Sea. The preparatory work had been done during the intersessional period by the three subsidiary bodies (STC, MC and EGC) and several ad hoc working groups.

During the past year, particular emphasis was given to further effective measures to reduce pollution load from land-based sources.



HELCOM Recommendations adopted by the Seventh Meeting of the Commission

The Commission adopted three recommendations concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges of pollutants from urban areas and one to limit discharges from agriculture. The Recommendations are related to the development of sewerage systems (7/3), pretreatment of wastewater from industrial plants (7/4), treatment of stormwater from urban areas (7/5) and reduction of discharges from agriculture (7/2), of which the latter is the first one from this branch and thus an important starting point for the reduction of nutrients from agriculture. Furthermore, a recommendation (7/1) was adopted concerning monitoring of the airborne pollution load to the Baltic Sea.

Relating to the entry into force of the Helsinki Convention's provisions on Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk on 1 January 1986 the Commission adopted two recommendations, one supplementing the existing recommendations relating to these provisions (7/6) and one applying the Revised Part II - Residues and Mixtures Containing Noxious Liquid Substances - of the MEPC Guidelines on the Provision of Adequate Reception Facilities in Ports by the Baltic Sea States (7/10).

The Commission also adopted a recommendation on the recording of fuel oil bunkering operations in the Oil Record Book and documentation for the use of reception facilities (7/7) as well as a recommendation on the application by the Baltic Sea States of the revised IMO guidelines and specifications for oil discharge monitoring and control systems for oil tankers and of the amendments to IMO's international performance and test specifications for oily waste separating equipment and oil content meters (7/8).

The Commission further adopted a recommendation on the application of the Baltic Sea states of the new IMO format for reporting alleged inadequacy of oily waste reception facilities (7/9).

With regard to cooperation in combatting marine pollution the Commission adopted a recommendation concerning airborne surveillance/remote sensing activities in the Baltic Sea Area (7/11) and further a recommendation on the application of the IMO guidelines for reporting incidents involving harmful substances (7/12). The Recommendations are attached to this report.

Matters Related to the Administration of the Commission

The Commission adopted the budget for the fiscal year 1986/1987 of the order of FIM 2.9 million and decided further to diminish the use of the special fund and consider the use of funds available in connection with the possible enlargement of the Secretariat in the future.

The Commission approved the decision by the Executive Secretary to prolong the term of office of Commander Fleming Otzen (Denmark) as Maritime Secretary of the Commission for the next three-year period starting 1 July 1986.

The Commission welcomed the nomination by the Delegation of Poland of Mr. Jerzy Vonau as Chairman and Mr Mieczyslaw Metler as Vice-Chairman of the Commission for the coming two-year period starting 1 July 1986 and expressed appreciation to the present Chairman, Dr. Peter Ehlers of the Federal Republic of Germany for his excellent work during his chairmanship.

The Commission noted that cooperation with other international organizations and bilateral groups had been activated, especially with the Oslo and Paris Commissions, the Bonn Agreement, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the International Association for Water Pollution Research and Control (IAWPRC) and the Baltic Marine Biologists (BMB). Working arrangements between the Helsinki Commission and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) was established as well as cooperation with the ECE Environmental Statistics.



#### Matters Related to the STC

The Commission approved the report of the 12th meeting of the STC in general. The substantive items from the report are described in detail under Chapter 1.2 of this report.

When considering the report the Commission e.g. endorsed the first periodic assessment of the state of the Baltic Sea (1980-1985) and decided to publish it in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings series. The summary of the conclusions is attached to this report.

The Commission considered questions related to the further development of the monitoring programme and assessments on the marine environment as well as monitoring and reduction of airborne pollution load to the Baltic Sea Area. The Commission endorsed the decision by the STC to establish a project for further elaboration of the Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP) for the third stage together with the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) and the Baltic Marine Biologists (BMB). The Commission also adopted the working arrangements between the Helsinki Commission and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The progress in the establishment of the data bank for the BMP data of the Helsinki Commission was reported as well.

The Commission considered preparations concerning the first compilation of the load of land-based pollution to the Baltic Sea and the progress reports on harmful substances prepared by Lead Countries. The Commission endorsed the long-term plan for the work of the Scientific-Technological Committee including the branch-wise studies which is attached to this report. The Commission also decided that a joint seminar on oil pollution matters be arranged under the auspices of the Commission as proposed by STC, MC and EGC in November 1986 in Sweden.

#### Matters related to the MC

The Commission approved the report of the 11th meeting of the MC in general. The substantive items from the report are described in detail under Chapter 1.3 of this report.

When considering the report in detail the Commission decided that notification to IMO on the date at which the MARPOL 73/78 Annex II special area requirements shall take effect in the Baltic Sea Area should be submitted at such a time that these requirements would be applied in the Baltic Sea Area on the application date for MARPOL 73/78 Annex II.

The Commission noted with appreciation that IMO, at the request of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention, had adopted a resolution on the application as of 1 January 1986 of the provisions of Annex II to MARPOL 73/78 on the discharge of noxious liquid substances in the Baltic Sea Area also by ships flying the flag of states not Parties to the Helsinki Convention.

The Commission decided further that a new edition of the information brochure "Clean Seas for the Benefit of Man" should be distributed in the beginning of 1987, that the publishing of the reception facilities booklet should be postponed until early 1987 and that the report on the experience gained and the conclusions drawn from the BAREP system in the trial period should be submitted to IMO's Maritime Safety Committee (MSC).

The Commission requested the MC to elaborate a proposal for a new wording of Regulations 4 and 5 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention, to consider whether supplementary guidelines on the provision of adequate reception facilities in ports would be needed in the Baltic Sea Area to clarify the IMO Guidelines, to consider which HELCOM Recommendations could be revoked/amended once all the Contracting Parties also have become parties to MARPOL 73/78 and to work out a long-term strategy for the MC.



The Commission finally welcomed the invitation by Sweden to the Contracting Parties to participate in a seminar on the regulations contained in MARPOL 73/78, Annex II and Regulation 5 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention to be held in Norrköping, Sweden, 17-18 November 1986.

#### Matters related to the EGC

The Commission approved the report of the 9th meeting of the EGC in general. The substantive items from the report are described in detail under Chapter 1.4 of this report.

When considering the report in detail the Commission decided to establish an ad hoc working group to prepare matters for the EGC relating to combatting spillages of harmful substances other than oil and further decided that the working group should convene twice before EGC 10.

The Commission requested the EGC to work out a long-term strategy for its work and to prepare draft amendments to Annex VI, Appendix (reports on incidents involving harmful substances) to the Helsinki Convention taking into consideration that supplementary provisions to those adopted by IMO may be necessary for the Baltic Sea Area.

The Commission finally requested the Contracting Parties to submit information to EGC 10 on off-shore exploration and exploitation activities.

#### LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS PASSED DURING 1985 <sup>\*)</sup> AND 1986

##### Recommendation 6/1

Recommendation regarding the elimination of the use of PCBs and PCTs

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

##### Recommendation 6/2

Recommendation concerning restriction of discharges from oil refineries

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

##### Recommendation 6/3

Recommendation concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges of mercury from chloralkali industry

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

##### Recommendation 6/4

Recommendation concerning measures aimed at the reduction of mercury resulting from dentistry

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

##### Recommendation 6/5

Recommendation concerning safe handling of used mercury- and cadmium-containing batteries

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

##### Recommendation 6/6

Recommendation concerning limitation of discharges of cadmium from land-based sources

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

##### Recommendation 6/7

Recommendation concerning the treatment of municipal sewage and industrial wastewater with special emphasis on the reduction of discharges of nutrients

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

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\*) Recommendations passed during 1985 are included in Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 15



#### **Recommendation 6/8**

Recommendation concerning the implementation of Regulation 5 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 6/9**

Recommendation concerning amendments to Regulation 5 of Annex IV and Appendix V of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 24 of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 6/10**

Recommendation concerning the application by the Baltic Sea States of IMO Resolution A.544(13) on standards for procedures and arrangements called for by Annex II of MARPOL 73/78

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 6/11**

Recommendation concerning the application by the Baltic Sea States of a format for reporting difficulties encountered in the disposing of residues and mixtures containing noxious liquid substances

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 6/12**

Recommendation concerning the application of IMO's International Bulk Chemical Code (IBC Code) and IMO's Bulk Chemical Code (IMO Assembly Resolution A.212(VII) including ten sets of amendments) (BCH Code)

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 6/13**

Recommendation concerning co-operation in investigating violations or suspected violations of discharge and related regulations for ships and dumping regulations

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 6/14**

Recommendation concerning establishing of a pollution reporting system for pollution incidents

- adopted 13 March 1985, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 7/1**

Recommendation concerning monitoring of airborne pollution load

- adopted 11 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 7/2**

Recommendation concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from agriculture

- adopted 11 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 7/3**

Recommendation concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from urban areas by the development of sewerage systems

- adopted 12 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 7/4**

Recommendation concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from urban areas by the pretreatment of parts of wastewater originating from industrial plants

- adopted 11 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 7/5**

Recommendation concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from urban areas by the treatment of stormwater

- adopted 11 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 7/6**

Recommendation concerning the implementation of Regulation 5 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention, supplementing Recommendations 6/8, 6/9 and 6/10

- adopted 13 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 7/7**

Recommendation concerning recording of fuel oil bunkering operations in the Oil Record Book and documentation for the use of reception facilities

- adopted 12 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### **Recommendation 7/8**

Recommendation concerning the application by the Baltic Sea States of IMO Resolution A.586(14) - Revised guidelines and specifications for oil discharge monitoring and control systems for oil tankers



as amended by IMO Resolution MEPC.24(22) and amendments to IMO Resolution A.393(X) on international performance and test specifications for oily-water separating equipment and oil content meters as contained in IMO Resolution MEPC.24(22)

- adopted 12 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### Recommendation 7/9

Recommendation concerning the application by the Baltic Sea States of the IMO format for reporting alleged inadequacy of oily waste reception facilities (MEPC/CIRC.160) and the application of a Helsinki Convention format for reporting alleged inadequacy of reception facilities for sewage and garbage

- adopted 12 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### Recommendation 7/10

Recommendation concerning the application by the Baltic Sea States of the revised part II - Residues and mixtures containing noxious liquid substances - of the MEPC guidelines on the provision of adequate reception facilities in ports

- adopted 12 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### Recommendation 7/11

Recommendation concerning airborne surveillance/remote sensing activities in the Baltic Sea Area

- adopted 12 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### Recommendation 7/12

Recommendation concerning the application of the IMO guidelines for reporting incidents involving harmful substances

- adopted 12 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention



#### HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/1

Adopted 11 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

#### RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING MONITORING OF AIRBORNE POLLUTION LOAD

##### THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Article 6 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974 (Helsinki Convention), in which the Contracting Parties undertake to take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area, and to endeavour to use best practicable means in order to minimize the airborne pollution of the Baltic Sea Area by noxious substances,

RECALLING ALSO Paragraph 3 of the Article 16 of the Helsinki Convention, in which the Contracting Parties undertake directly, or when appropriate, through competent regional or other international organizations and other basis of the information and data acquired pursuant to Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 16, to cooperate in developing intercomparable observation methods, in performing baselines studies and in establishing complementary or joint programmes for monitoring,

NOTING the increasing concern on harmful effects of pollutants in the environment and that an essential amount of various contaminants is transported via the atmosphere,

NOTING FURTHER the decision by the Commission that a joint monitoring programme on airborne pollution should be started,

DESIRING to limit the pollution of the Baltic Sea due to atmospheric transport of harmful substances,

BEING MINDFUL of the need of reliable data on the amounts of harmful substances carried by the air to the Baltic Sea,



RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention that:

- a) each Baltic Sea State should have at least one monitoring station on the sea or on the coast, whenever possible, to be included into the tentative stage of the monitoring programme started in 1985;
- b) the list attached to this Recommendation (Annex 1) should be used as the basis for the monitoring programme in all Baltic Sea States, bearing in mind that the list consists of minimum requirements, and that Chloride (Cl) in precipitation should be included in the monitoring programme as an alternative sea salt indicator;
- c) when the intercalibrations are acceptable, in the precipitation samples components lead (Pb), copper (Cu) and zinc (Zn) should be analysed as a routine basis from at least one sea or coastal station of each country; and
- d) whenever possible, also experimental monitoring of those substances which are now included in the present list attached to this Recommendation, should be started,

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the Baltic Sea States would report their data to the Commission by using the format attached to this Recommendation (Annex 2),

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that measures taken in accordance with this Recommendation and the analyses and methods used should be reported to the Commission by 1 May 1987 and thereafter every 3 years.

RECOMMENDED LIST OF PARAMETERS FOR THE MONITORING OF AIRBORNE POLLUTION LOAD

		Routine Minimum requirements	Experimental
N	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> precipitation	+	+
	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> precipitation	+	+
	NO <sub>2</sub> gas	-	+
	HNO <sub>3</sub> gas + NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> particles	-	+
	NH <sub>3</sub> gas + NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> particles	-	+
Pb	precipitation particles	+ *)	+
		-	+
Cd	precipitation	-	+
Cu, Zn	precipitation particles	+ *)	+
		-	+
S	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> precipitation	+	+
	SO <sub>2</sub> gas	(+)	+
	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> particles	(+)	+
Na, Mg**) or Cl	precipitation particles	+	+
		-	+
+	monitored on routine or experimental basis		
-	not monitored on routine basis		
*)	not monitored on routine basis; strongly recommended after intercalibrations as a routine basis from at least one station of each country		
( )	brackets indicate conditional status of + or -		
**)	alternative sea salt indicators		

Country  
Station  
Year

Month	PRECIPITATION										Bulk <input type="checkbox"/> Wet only <input type="checkbox"/> **					Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> ***					AIR CONCENTRATION				
	Preci- pita- tion mm	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> -N mg dm <sup>-3</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> -N mg dm <sup>-3</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> -S mg dm <sup>-3</sup>	Na <sup>+</sup> mg dm <sup>-3</sup>	Mg <sup>2+</sup> mg dm <sup>-3</sup>	Pb μg dm <sup>-3</sup>	Cd μg dm <sup>-3</sup>	Cu μg dm <sup>-3</sup>	Zn μg dm <sup>-3</sup>	Cl <sup>-</sup> mg dm <sup>-3</sup>	SO <sub>2</sub> -S μg m <sup>-3</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> -S μg m <sup>-3</sup>	NO <sub>2</sub> -N μg m <sup>-3</sup>	HNO <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> μg N m <sup>-3</sup>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> μg N m <sup>-3</sup>	NH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> μg N m <sup>-3</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> μg N m <sup>-3</sup>							
Jan																									
Feb																									
Mar																									
Apr																									
May																									
June																									
July																									
Aug																									
Sept																									
Oct																									
Nov																									
Dec																									

\*\* Indicate which sampler is used.  
\*\*\* Indicate which sampling period is used.

HELCOM/EGAP Deposition Monitoring  
Reporting Format  
(Instructions for filling in the  
format are attached.)

# TENTATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPORTING MONITORED DATA TO THE BALTIC MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMISSION

Monthly mean values should be reported in the following way:

## Precipitation

The precipitation amount should preferably be based on the volume collected in the actual deposition sampler; if not, the base should be given.

## Concentrations of precipitation

## Sampling periods less than a month

The concentration of each species should be precipitation amount weighted arithmetic mean values, i.e. calculated with the following formula

$$C_M = \frac{\sum P_i C_i}{\sum P_i}$$

where  $C_M$  is the weighted monthly mean.  $P_i$  is the precipitation amount (mm) collected at each sampling period and  $C_i$  is the corresponding concentration.  $\sum P_i C_i$  is thus the total collected amount per unit area and month and  $\sum P_i$  the total precipitation amount for the month in question.

## Weekly sampling

If weekly sampling is used and if a week includes two adjacent months, the measured data should be allocated to the month which contains the largest number of days in the week in question.

## Concentrations below the detection limit

When the concentrations are below the detection limit the value zero should be used for the mean calculations. When the sampling or analysis has failed due to a too small sample this should be neglected. If sampling and analysis have failed due to other reasons this should be marked with an asterisk after the concentration values.

## Units

The concentrations should be expressed in  $\mu\text{g}$  or  $\text{mg}$  of the element in question (e.g. N or S) per  $\text{dm}^3$  precipitation or per  $\text{m}^3$  air as indicated in the reporting format.





HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/2

Adopted 11 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of  
the Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING MEASURES AIMED AT THE REDUCTION OF  
DISCHARGES FROM AGRICULTURE

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING that according to Article 6 of the Convention on the  
Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area,  
1974, (Helsinki Convention), the Contracting Parties undertake to  
take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based  
pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

NOTING the increasing concentrations of nutrients in the marine  
environment causing negative effects on ecosystems including  
eutrophication and oxygen depletion,

RECOGNIZING the importance of discharges from agriculture as  
sources of pollution of the marine environment by nutrients,

DESIRING to limit this pollution by accomplishing special  
measures concerned,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the  
Helsinki Convention that:

- a) the farming practice should be managed under the following  
conditions:
  - (i) the storage facilities for manure and silage should be  
improved, including effluent control;
  - (ii) the cultivation practice should be carried out with  
optimum use of nutrients, e.g. fertilization plan,  
soil mapping, timing, dosage, spreading technique,  
crop rotation;

- (iii) in animal husbandry, a certain area of farmland should  
be designated per animal to avoid harmful leaching to  
the environment as a consequence of manure spreading  
and/or animal pasturing;

- (iv) water protecting zones should be established along  
specified eutrophication sensitive water bodies,  
taking into account local conditions;

- (v) household wastewater, washing water from milking,  
cleaning of machines, etc. should be controlled;

- b) the knowledge about agricultural practice and environmental  
problems should be improved, i.e. by:

- (i) informing and educating farmers and advisors on  
environmental effects of the use of fertilizers and  
agricultural practices;

- (ii) carrying out research work on environmental effects of  
farming management, cultivation practice, choice of  
crops, and developing the best cultivation practice  
from an environmental point of view;

- (iii) monitoring the losses of nutrients;

- c) it should also be stressed that the Contracting Parties  
should have close cooperation and exchange of experience with  
regard to environmentally sound agricultural practice;

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the Contracting Parties should report on  
their national measures taken in accordance with paragraphs a)  
and b) above by 1 March 1988.





HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/3

Adopted 12 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of  
the Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING MEASURES AIMED AT THE REDUCTION OF  
DISCHARGES FROM URBAN AREAS BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF SEWERAGE  
SYSTEMS

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the Convention on the  
Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area,  
1974, (Helsinki Convention), in which the Contracting Parties  
undertake to take all appropriate measures to control and  
minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the  
Baltic Sea Area,

RECALLING ALSO Paragraph 1 of Annex III of the Helsinki  
Convention in which the Contracting Parties agree to treat  
municipal sewage in an appropriate way so that the amount of  
organic matter does not cause harmful changes in the oxygen  
content of the Baltic Sea Area and the amount of nutrients does  
not cause harmful eutrophication of the Baltic Sea Area,

RECALLING FURTHER Paragraph 3 of Annex III of the Helsinki  
Convention in which the Contracting Parties agree to minimize the  
polluting load of industrial wastes in an appropriate way in  
order to reduce the amount of harmful substances, organic matter  
and nutrients,

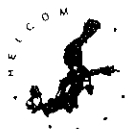
RECOGNIZING the need for development of present sewerage systems,

DESIRING to limit pollution caused by unsuitable sewerage  
systems,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the  
Helsinki Convention that:

- a) sewers should be maintained and renewed in a way that  
infiltration and exfiltration be minimized;
- b) the net infiltration in major catchment areas should not  
exceed 100% of the dry weather flow as a yearly average;
- c) a separated sewerage system and/or a semi-separated sewerage  
system should be selected for new developments,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the actions taken by the Contracting  
Parties should be reported to the Commission one year after the  
adoption of this Recommendation and thereafter every 5 years.



HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/4

Adopted 11 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of  
the Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING MEASURES AIMED AT THE REDUCTION OF  
DISCHARGES FROM URBAN AREAS BY THE PRETREATMENT OF PARTS OF  
WASTEWATER ORIGINATING FROM INDUSTRIAL PLANTS

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the Convention on the  
Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area,  
1974, (Helsinki Convention), in which the Contracting Parties  
undertake to take all appropriate measures to control and  
minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the  
Baltic Sea Area,

RECALLING ALSO that Annex II of the Helsinki Convention defines a  
list of harmful substances for the purpose of Article 6 of the  
Convention,

RECOGNIZING that heavy metals and other harmful substances  
originating from industrial plants cannot be sufficiently reduced  
in central treatment plants,

DESIRING to limit this pollution,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the  
Helsinki Convention that:

- a) those parts of urban wastewater which are of industrial  
origin and contain heavy metals or other harmful substances  
which cannot be reduced in a central treatment plant to an  
environmentally acceptable level, should be pretreated on the  
spot of their formation, i.e. before entering the sewerage  
system;
- b) pretreatment guidelines for permissible levels of pollutants  
be developed on a national basis,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the actions taken by the Contracting  
Parties should be reported to the Commission one year after the  
adoption of this Recommendation and thereafter every 5 years.



HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/5

Adopted 11 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of  
the Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING MEASURES AIMED AT THE REDUCTION OF  
DISCHARGES FROM URBAN AREAS BY THE TREATMENT OF STORMWATER

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the Convention on the  
Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area,  
1974, (Helsinki Convention), in which the Contracting Parties  
undertake to take all appropriate measures to control and  
minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the  
Baltic Sea Area,

RECALLING ALSO HELCOM Recommendation 5/1 regarding limitation of  
oil in stormwater systems,

RECOGNIZING the need for limiting harms caused by the quality of  
stormwater discharged to the Baltic Sea Area,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the  
Helsinki Convention that:

- a) measures should be taken already at the source to prevent the  
deterioration of the quality of stormwater (e.g. efficient  
dry street cleaning and reduction of lead in petrol);
- b) where a stormwater in a separate system district is collected  
from areas with high traffic
  - (i) flow equalization units should be provided whenever  
possible for the first flush of stormwater; and
  - (ii) this water be conveyed to sewage treatment plant;
- c) contaminated stormwater from heavily polluted industrial  
areas (loading, unloading, storing) should be treated as  
polluted wastewater;



- d) all possible means should be taken to minimize the volume of stormwater entering combined sewer systems (minimization of the volume could be reached for instance by local infiltration);
- e) in areas with combined sewer systems overflow should be prevented as far as possible by appropriate designing of the sewerage system and providing retention facilities,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the action taken by the Contracting Parties should be reported to the Commission one year after the adoption of this Recommendation and thereafter every 5 years.



HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/6

adopted 13 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the  
Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATION 5  
OF ANNEX IV TO THE HELSINKI CONVENTION, SUPPLEMENTING REC-  
OMMENDATIONS 6/8, 6/9 AND 6/10

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING HELCOM Recommendation 6/8 concerning the Implemen-  
tation of Regulation 5 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Con-  
vention and particularly the provisions contained therein  
whereby the Commission recommended that the Governments of  
the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention should,  
when applying the provisions of the Annex to that Recommen-  
dation, take into consideration the outcome of the twenty-  
first session of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Com-  
mittee (MEPC),

RECALLING ALSO the Recommendation of the Commission adopted  
at its sixth session, as reflected in the report on that  
session, paragraph 5.11, to the effect that Appendices II  
and III to Annex II to MARPOL 73/78, as revised by MEPC 21,  
should be applied by the Contracting Parties in lieu of  
Appendices III and IV of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention  
in the interim period between the entry into force of  
Regulation 5 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention and the  
entry into force of amendments to Regulation 5 of Annex IV  
on the basis of accepted amendments to Annex II to MARPOL  
73/78,

RECALLING FURTHER HELCOM Recommendation 6/9 concerning  
Amendments to Regulation 5 of Annex IV and Appendix V of  
Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention whereby the Commission,  
inter alia, resolved that the draft form of the Cargo Record  
Book approved by MEPC at its twenty-first session should be  
used by chemical tankers flying the flags of the Baltic Sea  
Countries for the purpose of Regulation 5 of Annex IV to the  
Helsinki Convention,



RECALLING FURTHERMORE HELCOM Recommendation 6/10 concerning the Application by the Baltic Sea States of IMO Resolution A.544 (13) on Standards for Procedures and Arrangements called for by Annex II to MARPOL 73/78 whereby the Commission recommended, inter alia, that Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention as from January 1986 should apply the Standards for Procedures and Arrangements called for by Annex II to MARPOL 73/78, as contained in the Annex to IMO Resolution A.544 (13), and revised by MEPC 21,

NOTING that MEPC at its twenty-second session adopted and thereby agreed on changes to previous editions of

- a) the text of Annex II to MARPOL 73/78 on which the Annex to HELCOM Recommendation 6/8 is based,
- b) the text of Appendices II and III to Annex II to MARPOL 73/78 which Appendices have the same functions as Appendices III and IV to Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention,
- c) the text of the form of the Cargo Record Book,
- d) the text of the Standards for Procedures and Arrangements for the Discharge of Noxious Liquid Substances,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention should, until the entry into force of amendments to Regulation 5 of Annex IV on the basis of accepted amendments to Annex II to MARPOL 73/78,

- a) when applying the provisions of the Annex to HELCOM Recommendation 6/8, take into consideration the outcome of the twenty-second session of MEPC in respect of amendments to Regulations 2,5,8 and 14 of Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 (Resolution MEPC 16 (22)),
- b) apply the provisions of Appendices II and III to Annex II of MARPOL 73/78, as amended at the twenty-second session of MEPC (Resolution MEPC 16 (22)), in lieu of the provisions of Appendices III and IV to Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention,
- c) accept, as having the same validity as the Cargo Record Books referred to in HELCOM Recommendation 6/9, Cargo Record Books made out in accordance with the decision of MEPC at its twenty-second session (Resolution MEPC 16 (22)),
- d) apply, for the purpose of Regulation 5 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention, the Standards for Procedures and Arrangements for the Discharge of Noxious Liquid Substances, as adopted by MEPC at its twenty-second session (Resolution MEPC 18 (22)).



HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/7

adopted 12 February 1986, having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING RECORDING OF FUEL OIL BUNKERING OPERATIONS IN THE OIL RECORD BOOK AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE USE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING HELCOM Recommendation 4/2 on the use and recognition of the revised forms of International Oil Pollution Prevention (IOPP) Certificate and Oil Record Book agreed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) (MEPC/Circ.99),

RECALLING ALSO that the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of IMO at its 21st session adopted a recommendation on recording of fuel oil bunkering operations in the Oil Record Book (MEPC/Circ.146),

RECALLING FURTHER that MEPC at the same session adopted a recommendation on the use of reception facilities (MEPC/Circ.145),

RECOGNIZING that the frequency of reports on fuel oil spills associated with bunkering operations shows the desirability to have a verification of the place, time and date, and of the type and quantity of fuel oil received by ships when bunkering,

RECOGNIZING ALSO that in the event of a spill or oil slick being alleged to originate from a particular ship, the relevant authority will examine the Oil Record Book and may use entries in the book as evidence in any legal proceedings,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention advise owners, masters and officers of ships flying their flag that shipmasters and officers in charge of fuel oil bunkering operations should record the place, time and date, and type and quantity of fuel oil bunkered in Section H of Part I of the Oil Record Book,



RECOMMENDS ALSO that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention advise operators of reception facilities, owners, masters and officers of ships flying their flag that shipmasters and officers in charge of operations for the discharge of oily wastes to reception facilities should obtain from the operator of the reception facility a receipt or certificate detailing the quantity of tank washings, dirty ballast, residues or oily mixtures transferred, together with the time and date of the transfer. This receipt or certificate, if attached to the Oil Record Book, may aid the master of the ship in clarifying that his ship was not involved in an alleged pollution incident.



HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/8

adopted 12 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the  
Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE APPLICATION BY THE BALTIC SEA STATES OF IMO RESOLUTION A.586 (14) - REVISED GUIDELINES AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR OIL DISCHARGE MONITORING AND CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR OIL TANKERS AS AMENDED BY IMO RESOLUTION MEPC. 24 (22) AND AMENDMENTS TO IMO RESOLUTION A.393 (X) ON INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND TEST SPECIFICATIONS FOR OILY-WATER SEPARATING EQUIPMENT AND OIL CONTENT METERS AS CONTAINED IN IMO RESOLUTION MEPC. 24 (22)

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING the provisions of Regulation 4 of Annex IV to the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974, (Helsinki Convention), concerning the discharge of oil,

RECALLING ALSO HELCOM Recommendation 1/2 concerning the application by the Baltic Sea States of IMO Resolution A.393 (X) - Recommendation on International Performance and Test Specifications for Oily-Water Separating Equipment and Oil Content Meters,

RECOGNIZING that the Assembly of IMO has adopted, at its fourteenth session, Resolution A.586 (14) - Revised Guidelines and Specifications for Oil Discharge Monitoring and Control Systems for Oil Tankers,

RECOGNIZING ALSO that IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee has adopted, at its twenty-second session, Resolution MEPC. 24 (22) containing amendments to IMO Resolutions A.586 (14) and A.393 (X),

\*) supplements HELCOM Recommendation 1/2



NOTING that Administrations of the Baltic Sea States, pursuant to Sub-paragraph 6 of Paragraph A of Regulation 4 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention should approve oil discharge monitoring and control systems,

NOTING ALSO that Administrations of the Baltic Sea States, pursuant to Sub-paragraph 3.b) (V) of Paragraph B of Regulation 4 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention should approve oily-water separating and filtering systems,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention:

- a) should apply the Revised Guidelines and Specifications for Oil Discharge Monitoring and Control Systems for Oil Tankers, contained in the Annex to IMO Resolution A.586 (14) as amended according to Annex 1 to IMO Resolution MEPC. 24 (22);
- b) should apply the Amendments to the Recommendation on International Performance and Test Specifications for Oily-Water Separating Equipment and Oil Content Meters, contained in Annex 2 to IMO Resolution MEPC. 24 (22);
- c) should establish testing programmes in accordance with the aforesaid IMO Resolutions and exchange information and experience gained when carrying out testing;
- d) should utilize the form of "Certificate of Type Approval for Oil Content Meters Intended for Monitoring the Discharge of Oil Contaminated Water from the Cargo Tank Areas of Oil Tankers" attached to the Annex to IMO Resolution A.586 (14);
- e) should recognize such certificates issued under the authority of a Government of another Baltic Sea State as having the same validity as certificates issued by them; and
- f) should consult one another in case an oil content meter passes a test in one Baltic Sea State, and fails a test of a similar nature in another Baltic Sea State with a view to coming to an agreement which could be mutually acceptable.



HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/9 \*)

adopted 12 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the  
Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE APPLICATION BY THE BALTIC SEA STATES OF THE IMO FORMAT FOR REPORTING ALLEGED INADEQUACY OF OILY WASTE RECEPTION FACILITIES (MEPC/CIRC.160) AND THE APPLICATION OF A HELSINKI CONVENTION FORMAT FOR REPORTING ALLEGED INADEQUACY OF RECEPTION FACILITIES FOR SEWAGE AND GARBAGE

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING HELCOM Recommendation 3/4 concerning the application by the Baltic Sea States of the IMO format for reporting alleged inadequacy of reception facilities for oily waste (MEPC/Circ.60) and the application of a Helsinki Convention format for reporting alleged inadequacy of reception facilities for sewage and garbage,

RECALLING ALSO HELCOM Recommendation 6/11 concerning the application by the Baltic Sea States of a format for reporting difficulties encountered in the disposing of residues and mixtures containing noxious liquid substances,

RECALLING FURTHER the provisions of Regulations 7 and 8 of Annex IV to the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, (1974), Helsinki Convention, concerning sewage and garbage,

RECOGNIZING that the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its 22nd session agreed on a revised format for reporting alleged inadequacy of oily waste reception facilities, as contained in Document MEPC/Circ. 160),

\*) This Recommendation supersedes HELCOM Recommendation 3/4.



NOTING that reporting of inadequate reception facilities in relation to Regulations 4, 7 and 8 of Annex IV to the Helsinki Convention, as initiated by HELCOM Recommendation 3/4, should be continued, in the case of reports on inadequate reception facilities for oily waste on the basis of the revised IMO format,

RECOGNIZING ALSO that the format contained in Document MEPC/Circ.160) will supersede the forms of reports on inadequate reception of oily waste as contained in Document MEPC/Circ.60,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that agreed IMO forms of reports on Inadequate Reception Facilities for Sewage and Garbage are not available,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention should:

- a) instruct ships flying their flag to report, in accordance with the format given in Document MEPC/Circ.160), which is attached as Attachment 1 to this Recommendation, any alleged inadequacy of reception facilities for oily waste in ports when applying the provisions of Regulation 4 of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention or the provisions of Annex I of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78); and
- b) see to it that the master of a ship concerned should complete and submit the format to the administration in each instance when he has experienced difficulties in disposing of oily wastes to reception facilities;

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention should:

- c) instruct ships flying their flag to report in accordance with the format given in Attachment 2 to this Recommendation any inadequacy of reception facilities for sewage and garbage in ports of the Baltic Sea Area experienced when applying the Provisions of Regulations 7 and 8 of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention; and
- d) see to it that the master of the ship concerned should complete and submit to the administration the form contained in Attachment 2 to this Recommendation in each instance when he has experienced difficulties in disposing of sewage and garbage to reception facilities;

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention should, in addition to the procedures laid down in MEPC/Circ. 160):

- e) evaluate each report received, and where the allegation is considered justified, inform the Contracting Party in question and submit to the Secretariat of the Helsinki Commission a summary report; and
- f) submit, when receiving such information from a Contracting Party, comments or other information on the alleged inadequacy, to the Contracting Party which has submitted the report and to the Secretariat of the Helsinki Commission.

REQUESTS the Secretariat of the Helsinki Commission to circulate information received under sub-paragraphs e) and f) above.

FORMAT FOR REPORTING ALLEGED INADEQUACY OF OILY WASTE RECEPTION FACILITIES

The Master of a ship having difficulties discharging oily waste to reception facilities should forward the information below, together with supporting documentation, to the competent authority of the Flag State.

PORT PARTICULARS

- A. COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. NAME OF PORT OR TERMINAL: \_\_\_\_\_
- C. BERTH, TERMINAL OR JETTY: \_\_\_\_\_

SHIP PARTICULARS

- A. SHIP AND CALL SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. CAPACITY SHIP'S SLUDGE HOLDING TANKS: \_\_\_\_\_ metric tons
- C. CAPACITY SHIP'S OILY WATER HOLDING TANKS: \_\_\_\_\_ metric tons

PARTICULARS OF THE ALLEGED INADEQUACY

- A. DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. SPECIFICS OF INADEQUACY: Describe the specific difficulty with transferring waste to the reception facility such as inability to accept waste, undue delay because rate of transfer too slow, improper equipment for transfer of waste, etc.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- C. EXPLANATION GIVEN BY PORT OR TERMINAL OPERATOR FOR INADEQUACY:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- D. IF INADEQUACY WAS INABILITY TO ACCEPT WASTE, GIVE THE TYPE AND AMOUNT OF WASTES UNABLE TO TRANSFER TO RECEPTION FACILITY:

TYPE OF WASTE	AMOUNT (metric tons)
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- E. IF WASTE HAD TO BE DISCHARGED AT ANOTHER PORT, TERMINAL OR BERTH SPECIFY THE NAME OF THE PORT, TERMINAL OR BERTH AND INDICATE WHETHER THIS INVOLVED DEVIATION:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- F. TIME DELAYED IN PORT DUE TO INADEQUACY: \_\_\_\_\_
- G. DATE AND TIME SHIP FIRST REQUESTED RECEPTION FACILITIES: \_\_\_\_\_
- H. DATE AND TIME OF SHIP'S ARRIVAL: \_\_\_\_\_
- I. DATE AND TIME OF SHIP'S DEPARTURE: \_\_\_\_\_
- J. DID SHIP ARRIVE WITH ABNORMAL AMOUNTS OF WASTE FOR DISCHARGE: State reasons (e.g. lack of facilities in last port of call, length of sea passage, weather conditions, equipment failure, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- K. LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ENCLOSED: Provide copies of ship's log, oil record book, port/terminal notification requesting facilities, statements from port or terminal personnel, etc.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- L. OTHER COMMENTS OR INFORMATION:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NAME AND SIGNATURE OF MASTER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_



FORM FOR REPORTING ALLEGED INADEQUACY OF RECEPTION  
FACILITIES FOR SEWAGE AND GARBAGE

1. Country  
Name of Port or Area  
Location in the port (e.g. berth/terminal/jetty)  
Date of Call
2. Type and amount of waste for discharge to facility  
\_\_\_\_\_ sewage m<sup>3</sup>  
\_\_\_\_\_ garbage m<sup>3</sup>  
amount of waste not accepted by facility:  
above/other m<sup>3</sup>
3. Special problems encountered  
undue delay  
inconvenient locality of facilities  
charges for use of facilities  
use of facility not technically possible  
other
4. Remarks: (e.g. information received from port  
authorities or operators of reception  
facilities: reasons given concerning 2  
above)
5. Ship's particulars  
Name of ship  
Owner or operator  
Distinctive number or letters  
Port of registry  
Number of persons on board:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of completion of form

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Master



HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/10 \*)

adopted 12 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the  
Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE APPLICATION BY THE BALTIC SEA  
STATES OF THE REVISED PART II - RESIDUES AND MIXTURES CONTAINING  
NOXIOUS LIQUID SUBSTANCES - OF THE MEPC GUIDELINES ON THE  
PROVISION OF ADEQUATE RECEPTION FACILITIES IN PORTS

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING HELCOM Recommendation 1/11 concerning the Application  
by the Baltic Sea States of the MEPC Guidelines on the Provision  
of Adequate Reception Facilities in Ports,

RECALLING ALSO that Part II of these Guidelines contain  
Guidelines on the Provision of Adequate Reception Facilities in  
Ports for the Reception of Residues and Mixtures Containing  
Noxious Liquid Substances,

NOTING that IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC)  
at its twentysecond session adopted a Revised Part II of the  
Guidelines,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the  
Helsinki Convention should apply the relevant parts of the MEPC  
Revised Guidelines on the Provision of Adequate Reception  
Facilities in Ports - Part II, Residues and Mixtures Containing  
Noxious Liquid Substances, when implementing HELCOM  
Recommendation 1/11.

\*) Supplements HELCOM Recommendation 1/11



HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/11

adopted 12 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the  
Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING AIRBORNE SURVEILLANCE/REMOTE SENSING  
ACTIVITIES IN THE BALTIC SEA AREA

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Regulation 3 of Annex VI of the Helsinki Convention  
according to which the Contracting Parties shall develop and  
apply, individually or in co-operation, surveillance activities  
covering the Baltic Sea Area, in order to spot and monitor oil  
and other harmful substances released into the sea,

BEING CONVINCED that airborne surveillance with remote sensing  
capabilities provides a greatly enhanced capability for improving  
the response to major oil releases of the shipping casualty type,

ALSO BEING CONVINCED that airborne surveillance with remote  
sensing capabilities provides a potential improvement in the  
ability to collect evidence for prosecution purposes in cases of  
illegal operational discharges from ships,

FURTHER BEING CONVINCED that regular airborne surveillance has a  
deterrent effect on potential offenders of the Convention's dis-  
charge regulations,

CONSCIOUS that airborne surveillance equipment which can function  
efficiently even at night and in bad weather should be developed  
or improved,

NOTING that regular airborne surveillance with remote sensing  
capabilities is taking place in certain parts of the Baltic Sea  
Area,

RECOMMENDS:

- a) that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the  
Helsinki Convention should apply airborne surveillance  
with remote sensing capabilities in the Baltic Sea  
Area,
- b) that the Governments of the Contracting Parties which  
do not apply such surveillance activities, as a matter  
of priority, consider the possibilities to allocate  
funds for such a purpose,
- c) that the Governments of the Contracting Parties con-  
tinue their efforts to develop or improve airborne  
surveillance systems which can function with greater  
efficiency at night and in thick weather when visi-  
bility is poor.

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the Governments of the Contracting Parties  
to the Helsinki Convention, bilaterally or multilaterally, under-  
take to co-ordinate such surveillance activities which take place  
outside territorial waters, as appropriate.





HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 7/12

adopted 12 February 1986, having regard  
to Article 13, Paragraph b) of the  
Helsinki Convention

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE IMO GUIDELINES  
FOR REPORTING INCIDENTS INVOLVING HARMFUL SUBSTANCES

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Article 8 and Protocol I of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78), concerning reports on incidents involving harmful substances,

RECALLING ALSO Paragraph 3 of Regulation 5 and the Appendix of Annex VI to the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974, (Helsinki Convention) concerning reports on incidents involving harmful substances,

RECALLING FURTHER that the provisions of Protocol I of MARPOL 73/78 are identical to those of the Appendix of Annex VI of the Helsinki Convention,

RECOGNIZING that the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its twentysecond session adopted Resolution MEPC.22(22) containing Guidelines for Reporting Incidents Involving Harmful Substances according to Protocol I of MARPOL 73/78,

RECOMMENDS that Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention apply these Guidelines, as attached to this Recommendation, for reporting purposes according to Paragraph 3 of Regulation 5 and the Appendix of Annex VI to the Helsinki Convention.

GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INCIDENTS INVOLVING HARMFUL SUBSTANCES

1 INTRODUCTION

The intent of these guidelines is to enable coastal States and other interested parties to be informed without delay of any incident giving rise to pollution, or threat of pollution, of the marine environment, as well as of assistance and salvage measures, so that appropriate action may be taken.

2 HOW TO MAKE REPORTS

The report should be transmitted in the following manner:

- .1 to the nearest coastal State through an appropriate coast station preceded by the safety signal (if the incident affects the safety of navigation) or by the urgency signal (if it affects the safety of ship or persons);
- .2 on appropriate frequencies (in the bands 405-525 kHz, 1605-2850 kHz or 156-174 MHz);
- .3 when the ship is not within reach of an MF or VHF coast station, to the most appropriate HF coast station or on the relevant maritime satellite communication system;
- .4 when the ship is within or near an area for which a ship reporting system has been established, to the designated shore establishment responsible for operation of that system.

3 CONTENTS OF REPORTS

The report should contain the following specific information:

- .1 name of ship, call sign and flag;
- .2 frequency or radio channel guarded;
- .3 name, address, telex and telephone number of the ship's owner and representative (charterer, manager or operator of the ship or their agent);



- .4 type of ship, (e.g. oil tanker, chemical tanker, dry cargo ship) and gross tonnage;
- .5 date and time (UTC) of the occurrence of the incident;
- .6 brief description of incident (including damage sustained);
- .7 position, course and speed at time of incident, as appropriate;
- .8 the correct technical name (trade names should not be used, if possible), quantity, and concentration of the harmful substance discharged or likely to be discharged into the sea; and
- .9 type and quantity of cargo carried, harmful substances to be specified.

#### 4 SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

4.1 Immediately following or as soon as possible after the transmission of the information referred to in section 3, as much as possible of the following information essential for the protection of the marine environment as appropriate to the incident should be reported:

- .1 condition of the ship, as relevant;
- .2 ability to transfer cargo/ballast;
- .3 cause of the discharge;
- .4 whether the discharge is continuing, and the approximate quantity discharged;
- .5 weather on scene, sea and current conditions;
- .6 estimate of the spill movement, if possible include an estimate of the surface area of the spill;
- .7 actions being taken with regard to the discharge and the movement of the ship;
- .8 assistance which has been requested from or which has been provided by others;

- .9 correct technical name, UN number, IMO Dangerous Goods Class and manufacturer of the harmful substance;
- .10 type of packaging including identification marks and whether in packaged form, freight containers, portable tanks, road and rail vehicles or ship-borne barges;
- .11 whether the lost packaged harmful substance floated or sank;
- .12 estimate of the quantity and likely condition of the packaged harmful substance.

4.2 In the case of a sinking or stranding, suitable arrangements should be made for these reports to be supplemented as soon as possible by the full dangerous goods list or manifest, stowage plan and details of damage to the ship and likely state of the cargo.

#### 5 PROBABILITY OF DISCHARGE

5.1 The probability of a discharge resulting from damage to the ship or its equipment is a reason for making a report. In judging whether there is such a probability and whether the report should be made, the following factors, among others, should be taken into account:

- .1 the nature of the damage, failure or breakdown of the ship, machinery or equipment; and
- .2 sea and wind state and also traffic density in the area at the time and place of the incident.

5.2 It is recognized that it would be impracticable to lay down precise definitions of all types of incidents involving probable discharge which would warrant an obligation to report. Nevertheless as a general guideline, the master of the ship should make reports in cases of:

- .1 damage, failure or breakdown which affects the safety of ships. Examples of such incidents are collision, grounding, fire, explosion, structural failure, flooding, cargo shifting; and



- .2 failure or breakdown of machinery or equipment which results in the impairment of the safety of navigation. Examples of such incidents are failure or breakdown of steering gear, propulsion plant, electrical generating system, essential shipborne navigational aids.

## 6 REPORTS ON ASSISTANCE OR SALVAGE

6.1 Whenever a ship is engaged in or requested to engage in an operation to render assistance to or undertake salvage of a ship involved in an incident referred to in sub-paragraph 1(a) or 1(b) of Article II of Protocol I of MARPOL 73/78, as amended, the Master of the former ship should report without delay the particulars of the action undertaken or planned. In addition he should report, as far as practicable, on the items referred to in sections 3 and 4. Reports should be made in accordance with section 2 and the coastal State should be kept informed regarding developments.

## 7 ACTION BY GOVERNMENTS

7.1 Governments should issue appropriate instructions to coast stations, Coast Earth Stations (CES) and designated shore establishments responsible for operation of any ship reporting system to ensure that reports are relayed without delay to the officer or agency designated to receive and process such reports, and to ensure that the officer or agency relays the report without delay to any coastal State which may be affected.

7.2 Affected States which may require information relevant to the incident should take into account the circumstances in which the Master is placed and should endeavour to limit their requests for additional information.



## SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL CONCLUSIONS OF THE FIRST PERIODIC ASSESSMENT

Observed signs of positive changes in the marine environment of the Baltic Sea during the past five years are e.g. the decrease in the concentrations of DDT in fish and birds owing to effective measures carried out by the Baltic Sea States. A general decrease of PCBs was also detected in certain areas. The metal concentrations in open Baltic waters are, taking into account the high fresh water content of these waters, comparatively low. This indicates that the effects of the anthropogenic contribution to trace metal concentrations in the open Baltic Sea is not alarmingly high. Generally, the values of mercury in fish in the open Baltic Sea are comparable to "natural" levels in the central North Sea and North Atlantic. No widespread negative effects of oil on biota was documented during the study period although accidental oil spillages and also chronic oil pollution have caused local damage to the ecosystem.

The main negative changes in the marine environment of the Baltic Sea concluded in the present assessment are those concerning the trend in increasing nutrient concentrations contributing to more frequent oxygen depletion and the occurrence of hydrogen sulphide in deep parts of the Baltic Proper. In addition, exceptionally strong blooms of algae have occurred in the Kattegat and the Belt Sea during the past period. The blooms have caused depletion of oxygen in near-bottom waters as well as mortality of bottom fauna in larger areas. Studies in the Northern and Central Baltic Proper as well as in the Gulf of Finland and the Gulf of Bothnia have not revealed any clear changes in the open areas in spite of the rapid nutrient accumulation in the Gulf of Finland. However, it is stated in the conclusions that the material available is still too scanty to give a reliable picture of changes in the pelagic community of the Baltic Sea.



In some areas there is a close correlation between nutrient concentration and salinity. In these areas the increase of nutrients is partially due to transport of deep water rich in nutrients to the surface. However, in the Gulf of Bothnia, Gulf of Finland, Kattegat and Belt Sea no correlations between salinity and nutrients have been observed, and anthropogenic sources are suggested to be responsible for the increasing nutrient concentrations in the surface layers of these areas. Regardless of whether anthropogenic pollution or natural causes predominate, the rapid nutrient increase is becoming a serious problem in the Baltic Sea Area.

Since 1980 new information has been obtained in the Baltic Sea Area on the presence of "newly detected" contaminants in trace amounts, which are highly toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative compounds.

LONG-TERM PLAN FOR THE SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL COMMITTEE (STC)  
OF THE HELSINKI COMMISSION,  
endorsed by the Seventh Meeting of the Helsinki Commission,  
11-14 February 1986



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## INTRODUCTION

The fifth meeting of the Helsinki Commission adopted the HELCOM Resolution 5/A, the Medium-Term Plan for the Activities of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM 5/16, Paragraph 5.3 and Annex 5). The Commission noted that the plan should be kept constantly under review and requested its permanent subsidiary bodies to take into account the Medium-Term Plan, when elaborating plans and programmes for action related to their mandates (HELCOM 5/16, Paragraph 5.4).

The present long-term plan for the Scientific-Technological Committee (STC) is based on the decisions by the Commission (HELCOM 6/16, Paragraph 4.34 and HELCOM 7/14, Paragraphs 2.2 and 4.45-4.47)) and the Scientific-Technological Committee (STC 12/18, Paragraph 12.2). The decision dealing with the Medium-Term Plan of the Commission has been taken into account as well (HELCOM 5/16, Paragraph 5.3 and Annex 5).

In the Medium-Term Plan, HELCOM Resolution 5/A, the Helsinki Commission adopted e.g. that in order to enable the Contracting Parties to intensify practical measures to reduce the land-based pollution of the Baltic Sea Area, high priority will be given by the Commission to the following tasks:

- evaluation of effects of and elaboration of proposals for appropriate action against:
  - discharges of nutrients and oxygen consuming substances into the marine environment of the Baltic Sea, including input of nutrients from diffuse sources, i.a., agriculture and forestry; and
  - other contaminants, especially pollutants from pulp and paper industries and airborne substances;
- elaboration of criteria for reduction of the emission of harmful substances from major sources taking into account the varying need for measures within the different branches of industry and the best available and economically feasible technologies; and

- stormwater management and treatment.

In the Medium-Term Plan the Commission further adopted e.g. that the activities with a view to obtaining a rational base for appropriate measures aimed at the environmental protection of the Baltic Sea Area will include:

- regular monitoring and periodic assessment of the state of the environment of the Baltic Sea;
- evaluation of the pollution load;
- research work aiming at the improvement of the state description of the Baltic Sea including study of the pathways and environmental effects of harmful substances, especially persistent contaminants;
- research and development with a view to improving technologies for reduction of pollutants, especially nitrogen compounds; and
- exchange of relevant scientific and technological information.

It is assumed that the Scientific-Technological Committee has an increasingly important role in the practical application of the Helsinki Convention. The Articles of the Convention, which are connected to the present Terms of Reference of the STC (accepted by the Commission at its third meeting; HELCOM 3/15, Annex 11) are 5, 6, 9, 10 and 16. Therefore, in this document the review of the activities and future plans in the field of the STC are based on the Convention text and its implementation in the work of the STC.

Knowledge of the harmful effects of pollutants on the Baltic Sea Environment as well as of the measures needed to avoid the harm has increased since the signing of the Convention (1974). Consequently, one of the main questions of the long-term plan might be to decide on the priorities in the joint activities and the time-table of different actions to be taken by the Contracting Parties.

To protect the marine environment, not only criteria and standards are needed for the discharges, but also a better understanding of the fate of the pollutants in the sea and their effects on the natural resources. In some cases a close connection has been observed between the discharges and the changes in the Baltic Sea. However, the knowledge is still far from sufficient and in future closer cooperation in the field of wastewater management strategy and evaluation of the harmful environmental effects is needed.

The reason for signing the Helsinki Convention by the Baltic Sea States was the common and increasing concern for the pollution of the Baltic Sea in early 1970s. The effects of harmful substances on the natural resources of the Baltic Sea have been evaluated twice since the signing of the Convention (in 1980 and 1985). The recent results show e.g. that since the beginning of this century the overall trends in the deep waters of the Baltic Proper, i.e. increasing temperature and salinity accompanied by decreasing oxygen concentration, have continued. Also the trends of increasing nutrient concentrations (phosphorus and nitrogen) have generally continued in the Baltic Proper. However, the Baltic offshore waters show comparatively low metal concentrations thus indicating that in this regard the anthropogenic impact on the water quality is not alarmingly high. In addition, there is an evident decrease in the content of DDT substances in fish and birds in the Baltic Sea owing to the ban on the use of DDT introduced by all the Baltic Sea States in the 1970s. Some results of the assessment work indicate changes in the state of the Baltic Sea. However, there are still many gaps in the knowledge due to insufficient research activities. For instance, the interpretation of many scientific results needs additional information e.g. on the stress caused by land-based discharges. One important field in the future work of the STC will be to keep the knowledge of the authorities of the Baltic Sea States updated in relation to the need for research in different sections.



In addition, it is understood that oil pollution seems to be now of minor importance for the Baltic Sea as long as no major accidents occur. However, there is a need for the consideration of e.g. present laboratory and field research activities, analytical methods for measuring oil concentrations in effluents and recipients, and off-shore activities. Also land-based discharges from many urban areas have decreased considerably due to effective action taken by the Contracting Parties in accordance with the regulations of the Convention and decisions and recommendations by the Commission.

In the outlines for the long-term plan for the STC, accepted by the Commission in principle in 1985, it was assumed that in the long-term plan special attention should be paid to how the goals of the Convention have been achieved and could be achieved in the future work of the STC. It was proposed that the main fields to be considered in this respect could be: status and measures of different branches (e.g. agriculture, industry), cooperation with other international organizations and evaluation of the activities within the STC. This consideration of the "background" is included in the present long-term plan written according to the order of the Articles of the Convention, relevant to the work of the STC.

It is emphasized that the long-term plan for the STC is not a fixed order of activities to be carried out by the STC for a long time, but rather as dynamic guidelines for the work, the content of which, as well as the priority of the planned activities, should be as flexible as possible for changes, whenever appropriate.

## STRATEGY

Source: The Convention and its implementation by the Commission with its decisions at the meetings

### Present strategy

The STC has considered at its meetings matters related to its Terms of Reference given by the Commission. The preparatory work has been done by the Contracting Parties, by ad hoc groups, by "Lead Countries", by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), by consultants, by experts or by the Secretariat. Also results of seminars have been considered without further preparatory work. In the ad hoc groups the organization has differed; in some cases the groups have steady members or contact persons, in other cases the delegates have been nominated by the countries for each meeting. The groups have had either a chairman with limited or unlimited period, nominated or proposed by the STC, or nominated by the host country or "Lead Country" or by each meeting in question.

In 1985 the Commission accepted the outlines for the long-term plan of the STC in principle, and decided that in 1985 the principles be applied in the work of the STC. In 1986 the Commission endorsed the long-term plan for the STC.

### Strategy in future

The HELCOM Resolution 5/A adopted by the fifth meeting of the Commission includes many substantive items which might be difficult to prepare for the use of the Commission by the STC without several meetings of ad hoc groups and expert workshops or seminars. The sixth meeting of the Commission, when accepting the ideas of the long-term plan in principle, stressed that the

organization of the STC should be as flexible as possible. Therefore, no new organizational strategy is included in the present long-term plan. However, clarification of the procedure for the ad hoc groups is necessary. This includes the consideration of the periods of the ad hoc groups or projects, the tasks given by the STC, and the nomination of chairmen.

The idea of projects, as applied in the work of the STC in 1985, should be considered with regard to whether in future work it could help the STC to collect advice for its work by using expertise of different branches. Each project is coordinated and the meetings are chaired by an expert nominated by the "Lead Country" for the project in question as accepted by the STC and the Commission. Delegates to the meetings will be nominated by each Contracting Party as appropriate. The secretary of the project could preferably be given by the Lead Country, although the meetings of the projects could also be chaired by the host country and be convened by the Secretariat of the Commission, which has been the normal procedure so far. The STC will set the period for each project and make proposals for meetings of the ad hoc groups for the consideration of the work of the projects.

Seminars should be fora for exchange of new information. In addition, it should be emphasized that the results of the seminars should not be subjected to the consensus principle because the requirement of consensus only applies to HELCOM. The experts participating in the seminars should be as individuals responsible for the ideas they present. At the level of ad hoc working groups consensus is not needed. At the Committee level consensus is not obligatory but would facilitate discussion at the Commission level.

Where advisable, the branchwise approach is recommended in the work of the STC. The strategy should be based on the possibilities offered by the best available water pollution control technology, at least until reliable criteria are available and can be adopted.

Emissions should normally be limited at source. Emission standards should take into account the best technical means available and quality objectives used should be based on the latest scientific data. As long as it is not scientifically proved that the effects of emissions are minor or negligible, all efforts should be undertaken so as to strengthen the control and strictly limit the emissions of pollutants at source. Emission standards and quality objectives should be reviewed periodically and appropriate time limits should be fixed for this. With either approach adequate environmental monitoring is required. If the quality of the environment seems to be insufficient, emission controls should be tightened or bans imposed.

It is perhaps not always advantageous to have loosely formulated general recommendations. A more definite recommendation is, however, normally acceptable to the countries only at a stage when they know they are in a position to implement it. A strategy outlined in the long-term plan is hence needed to guide the development in such a way that the final goal can be reached and a recommendation can be passed in a reasonable time.

The strategy will be drawn up by the STC but the active participation of the Secretariat is needed in negotiating about the strategy for each sector. Also the "Lead Country" principle could be applied in formulating strategies, which materialize in the organization of seminars and the establishment of projects and ad hoc groups, and in their programmes.

The strategy of the STC should be kept under continuous review and be revised as appropriate.



# 1. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF THE BALTIC SEA

Source: Article 16 of the Convention

## Article 16

### *Scientific and technological co-operation*

1. The Contracting Parties undertake directly, or when appropriate through competent regional or other international organizations, to co-operate in the fields of science, technology and other research, and to exchange data as well as other scientific information for the purposes of the present Convention.

2. Without prejudice to Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Article 4 of the present Convention the Contracting Parties undertake directly, or when appropriate through competent regional or other international organizations, to promote studies, undertake, support or contribute to programmes aimed at developing ways and means for the assessment of the nature and extent of pollution, pathways, exposures, risks and remedies in the Baltic Sea Area, and particularly to develop alternative methods of treatment, disposal and elimination of such matter and substances that are likely to cause pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area.

3. The Contracting Parties undertake directly, or when appropriate through competent regional or other international organizations, and, on the basis of the information and data acquired pursuant to Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, to co-operate in developing inter-comparable observation methods, in performing baseline studies and in establishing complementary or joint programmes for monitoring.

4. The organization and scope of work connected with the implementation of tasks referred to in the preceding Paragraphs should primarily be outlined by the Commission.

Current activities and tasks completed

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## Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP)

The coordinated Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP) has been carried out since 1979. Guidelines for the programme were adopted for the First Stage (1979-1983) in 1979 and for the Second Stage (1984-1988) in 1983. The programme includes regular hydrographic, chemical and biological observations performed in different sub-areas of the Baltic Sea by all the Baltic Sea States. The research cruises, stations, frequency of sampling and methodological details are described in the Guidelines, published in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings (No. 12). Changes should be discussed by the STC when need arises. The Guidelines have been prepared on the basis of seminars and workshops, in which all the Baltic Sea States have participated. A project was established for revising the present BMP and for making proposals for the Third Stage of the BMP.

## Data

The BMP data have been submitted to the Secretariat by the Contracting Parties and processed annually on a consultative basis (at the Finnish Institute of Marine Research). Magnetic tapes as well as microfiche cards have been distributed to the Contracting Parties and to ICES, although delayed from the planned time-table due to lack of some data.

In 1985 the Commission decided that a common data base for the BMP data be established at a consultative basis. The contract between the Commission and the Finnish Institute of Marine Research was signed and the common data base will be in use in autumn 1987 at the latest. However, it should be stressed that this stage is only the first step in developing an effective data base, which should cover various needs of the Commission in future.

### Intercomparable methods

Several intercalibrations have been carried out by the Baltic Sea States. In addition, ICES has informed on its intercalibration exercises and base-line studies relevant to the work of the STC, and countries have been encouraged to cooperate with ICES in this field.

### Assessments of the state of the Baltic Sea

An assessment on the effects of pollution on the natural resources of the Baltic Sea was published by the Commission in 1981 (Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 5A, 5B). The Commission has decided that the state of the Baltic Sea should be considered periodically. The first periodic assessment (1980-1985) was presented to the Commission in 1986. Several specific assessments are under preparation dealing with e.g. fish, sediments and coastal areas of the Baltic Sea States.

### Airborne pollution

The Commission decided to start a monitoring programme on airborne pollution in 1985. The methodological aspects have been decided to be considered by intercomparisons and intercalibrations. The Commission adopted the HELCOM Recommendation 7/1 (in 1986) concerning Monitoring of Airborne Pollution Load.

### Radioactive substances

The Commission was informed about a study carried out by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the Baltic Sea. The Commission decided in 1985 to start a monitoring programme for

radioactive substances in the Baltic Sea as a continuation of the programme started by IAEA. Finland acts as Lead Country for matters related to radioactive substances. The Commission has also invited IAEA to take part as an Observer in the work of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea.

### Future activities

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### Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP)

A seminar on monitoring and assessment will be arranged in 1986 (USSR) to consider the results achieved by various monitoring programmes. At the end of the seminar an ad hoc group of experts will consider the results aiming to conclude the available information and make proposals for the STC as appropriate. STC 12 proposed the group to review the present BMP and to give its proposals for the Third Stage of the BMP (starting in 1989) for the consideration of STC 14 in 1987. The international scientific organizations (ICES and BMB) are invited to cooperate in this work. One important cooperative task could be to harmonize the BMP work with the work carried out on bilateral basis, so that the regional monitoring programmes could cover also the needs of the BMP and the results could be reported accordingly to the Commission.

The monitoring work carried out by the Oslo and Paris Commissions in their respective convention areas could be taken into account on a more practical level in the work of the STC. In this work the cooperation with their Joint Monitoring Group (JMG) is important and it might be possible to seek for cooperation in view of common criteria and standards in the water quality, e.g. by using monitoring results.



Proposals to be considered by the STC in 1987 should include e.g. how to arrange the changes needed in the Guidelines for the Third Stage to be initiated in 1989, and the proposals for reorganization of the work by using the expertise of the other organizations (e.g. scientific and bilateral).

Proposals by experts are also needed with regard to further development of the data base for the BMP data (the second stage of the development), possible extension of the data bank to include also other than the BMP data, as well as practical questions to be solved to allow effective use of the data base.

#### Time-table:

- 1986:
  - Symposium on monitoring and assessment (USSR)
  - First expert meeting to initiate the preparation of proposals for STC 14 on how to arrange the changes in the BMP for the Third Stage (working as a part of the symposium). Later in 1986 another meeting will be arranged.
  - STC 13: possible proposals for HELCOM 8
- 1987:
  - Expert meeting (or workshop) on the monitoring programme (BMP) to consider in detail changes needed in the Guidelines for the Third Stage
  - STC 14: proposals for HELCOM 9 including proposal for publishing the Guidelines for the Third Stage
  - Common data base available in autumn 1987 at the latest; consideration by STC 14 how to use it and further steps needed
- 1988:
  - HELCOM 9 to consider the proposals by STC 14
  - Printing of new Guidelines and distribution to the Contracting Parties
- 1989 - 1993:
  - The Third Stage of the BMP
- 1986 - 1993:
  - Collection of monitoring data according to the Guidelines, processing of the joint data and distribution of all data annually to the Contracting Parties

#### Intercomparable methods

Intercalibrations, which could be organized in cooperation with ICES on methods developed, changed or added to the BMP, are considered important. At least the following intercalibrations are foreseen:

- microbiological methods
- sedimentological studies and harmful substances in sediments
- "new toxic substances"; organic pollutants in water, biota and sediments
- total nitrogen; development of more reliable methods
- oil

In addition, regular intercalibration exercises of chemical and biological methods should be included in the BMP to improve the reliability of data to be collected to the common data base. These intercalibrations could be hosted by any Baltic Sea State as in earlier intercalibrations in previous years.

#### Time-table:

- 1986:
  - Baseline study (and intercalibration) of microbiological methods
- 1985 - 1987:
  - Intercalibration of organochlorine compounds in sea water (Federal Republic of Germany)
- 1987 & 1988:
  - Sediment analyses (ICES); possible intercalibration
  - Analyses of new organic toxic substances, methods and possible intercalibration
- 1987 - 1993:
  - Regular intercalibration exercises of chemical and biological methods included in the BMP, to be decided by the STC and to be hosted by any Baltic Sea State.

### Assessments of the state of the Baltic Sea

The next overall assessment on the state of the Baltic Sea, "Periodic Assessment", could be compiled in 1990 (or 1995) following the order of the earlier assessments (1980, 1985). For the next assessment a more simplified way to consider the results is needed. According to the decision by HELCOM 6, the common data base will be available at the end of 1987 at the latest. Thus, the scientists or a group of experts who will be authorized to prepare the first drafts of the common understanding of the state of the Baltic Sea, Periodic Assessment 1990 (or 1995), can use all data collected through the joint monitoring programme (BMP), and stored in the data base. The decision on the preparation of the next assessment could be done already in 1986/87 or in 1987/88 by the STC and HELCOM.

It might be advisable to ask ICES or also other scientific organizations (e.g. BMB, CBO), separately or together, to help in the preparation of the next overall assessment on the state of the Baltic Sea, and the document would be considered by the STC with a view to its possible publishing in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings.

Specific assessments dealing with the scientific results achieved by sediment studies will be available in 1987 when the project initiated by ICES at the request by HELCOM will be finished. On the basis of that assessment a decision will be made on methods concerning sediment studies to be possibly included in the Guidelines for the Third Stage of the BMP.

It has been recommended that coastal assessments will be prepared on a national basis starting in 1984. Since only one finalized assessment has been reported so far, it seems to be difficult to see any period suitable between the steps of the coastal assessment work. However, taking into account the evident importance of such national reports, it might be advisable to encourage countries to start with information available even

though including some gaps, and later on to complete or redraft a new coastal assessment periodically. This information seems to be of highest importance to understand the overall state and changes in the Baltic Sea.

An assessment on fish was started in 1985 by the decision of the Commission, to be prepared along the same outlines drafted for the work of the first periodic assessment. The results will be available in 1987, when further decision in this field must be made by the STC. To keep watch on the scientific results on fish, studies on the Baltic Sea could be a task which could be proposed to be given to ICES as a special request by the Commission. Although the planned seminar concerning Pollution-Induced Fish Diseases was cancelled recently due to low interest in participation, there is still a need for a workshop or a seminar on the topic of fish diseases in the Baltic Sea Area.

Scientific research concerning microbiological methods has been carried out without common interest or joint activities by the Baltic Sea States. When some common method will be proposed to be included in the joint monitoring programme (BMP), a need might arise to collect all additional available results pertinent to the work of the STC to be considered in the sense whether they can predict changes in the Baltic ecosystem for the scientists.

Changes in the phytobenthos in the coastal areas of the Baltic Sea have been reported at the STC and one review was carried out in early 1980s. The scientific organization BMB (Baltic Marine Biologists) has a working group of experts dealing with these questions. In cooperation with the BMB, (e.g. the STC asking the BMB to follow up the changes and to evaluate the results periodically), it might be possible for the STC to get essential information for its work based on scientific results.

A current activity to be carried out by ICES at the request by HELCOM is to keep watch on the population dynamics of the seals in the Baltic Sea. When this project will turn to a state of assessment, it might be possible to collect this information as a "specific assessment" as well.



The reduction of pollutants harmful to the Baltic Sea should be one of the main interests of the STC. Thus, the monitoring and assessment of the state of the Baltic Sea should be constantly focused on giving essential information for the use of the STC and the Commission, when planning measures needed to eliminate and decrease polluting discharges to the Baltic Sea.

Time-table:

- 1986: - HELCOM 7 to consider the results of the First Periodic Assessment 1980-1985
- Symposium on monitoring and assessment (USSR)
- STC 13: proposals for HELCOM 8
- 1986 - 1987: - Preparation of a specific assessment on fish
- Preparation of coastal assessments on a national basis
- Preparation of a sediment assessment by ICES
- Possible preparation of a specific assessment on Baltic Seals by ICES
- 1987 / 1988: - HELCOM 8 or 9 to decide on possible publishing of coastal assessments and their consideration in a workshop or a seminar, specific assessments on sediments and fish, and possibly on phytobenthos and microbiology on the basis of proposals by STC 14 or 15, and decision on the next periodic assessment
- Possible preparation of a specific assessment on phytobenthos
- 1986 - 1993: - Annual information on activities and scientific results, answers and reports on the requests by the Commission as well as proposals for further steps to be taken by the STC, dealing with the state of the Baltic Sea should be considered at STC meetings (possibly in cooperation with the other international organizations, ICES, bilateral committees and working groups, CBO, BMB, etc.)

- Proposals for further use of the expertise of the other organizations should be considered annually by the STC as well
- Further steps of national coastal assessments
- Proposals by the STC to be considered at the meetings of HELCOM, accordingly

1990: - Possible consideration of the results of the possible second periodic assessment in STC 17

1986 - 1993: - Possible workshops and seminars on the monitoring and assessment work could be organized by the Baltic Sea States, first of them being in 1986 (USSR)

Airborne pollution

According to the decision by HELCOM 6 the monitoring programme started in 1985. In 1986 the first step of the intercalibration of analytical methods and the intercomparison of sampling methods should be carried out. The results could be considered at a workshop or a seminar to be organized by a Baltic Sea State. On the basis of the intercalibrations and intercomparisons, further guidelines for the monitoring will be compiled including the advice for the handling of data. The monitoring programme is recommended by the Commission to be continued regularly according to the guidelines (HELCOM Recommendation 7/1, 1986). The possibilities and limitations of the existing models to determine deposition fields of airborne pollution load of the Baltic Sea Area should be considered at a workshop or a seminar to be organized by a Baltic Sea State.

(Consideration of the work aiming at the reduction of airborne pollution load is included in Chapter 2 "Reduction of pollution from different sources" of this long-term plan.)

Time-table:

- 1986: - Seminar on possibilities and limitations of the application of existing models to determine deposition fields of airborne pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (German Democratic Republic)
- 1987: - Possible workshop for consideration of the results of the first step of the intercalibrations and intercomparisons
- 1986 - 1993: - Monitoring of airborne pollution, collection of data to a common data base, evaluation of the data periodically, and ad hoc meetings (EGAP) proposed by the STC, evaluation of the results every third year.

Radioactive substances

IAEA finished the programme carried out in the Baltic Sea at the end of 1984. The Commission decided that the monitoring of radioactive substances would start in 1985 as a continuation of the work carried out by IAEA. The ad hoc group will have its first meeting in 1986 and it might decide upon the monitoring and assessment work relevant to the STC following the lines developed by the project of IAEA. The work will be carried out by using the "Lead Country" principle (Finland).

Time-table:

- 1986: - First meeting of the ad hoc group of experts on monitoring of radioactive substances in the Baltic Sea (Finland); proposals to be considered by STC 13
- 1987: - Continuation of the programme started by the IAEA and submission of data
- 1988 - 1993: - Consideration of the monitoring programme, the reliability of methods used in different countries
- The results and evaluation of the results

- Meetings to be arranged for the experts according to the need for consideration of items of common interest to be proposed to the STC
- Reporting to the HELCOM meetings accordingly

**2. REDUCTION OF POLLUTION FROM DIFFERENT SOURCES**

Source: Article 5 and Annex I

Article 6 and Annexes II and III

## Article 5

*Hazardous substances*

The Contracting Parties undertake to counteract the introduction, whether airborne, waterborne or otherwise, into the Baltic Sea Area of hazardous substances as specified in Annex I of the present Convention.

## ANNEX I

## HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

The protection of the Baltic Sea Area from pollution by the substances listed below can involve the use of appropriate technical means, prohibitions and regulations of the transport, trade, handling, application, and final deposition of products containing such substances.

1. DDT (1,1,1-trichloro-2,2-bis-(chlorophenyl)-ethane) and its derivatives DDE and DDD.
2. PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls)
3. PCTs (polychlorinated terphenyls). \*)

\*) since 1 February 1983



## Article 6

*Principles and obligations concerning land-based pollution*

1. The Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area.

2. In particular, the Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to control and strictly limit pollution by noxious substances and materials in accordance with Annex II of the present Convention. To this end they shall, inter alia, as appropriate co-operate in the development and adoption of specific programmes, guidelines, standards or regulations concerning discharges, environmental quality, and products containing such substances and materials and their use.

3. The substances and materials listed in Annex II of the present Convention shall not be introduced into the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area in significant quantities without a prior special permit, which may be periodically reviewed, by the appropriate national authority.

4. The appropriate national authority will inform the Commission referred to in Article 12 of the present Convention of the quantity, quality and way of discharge if it considers that significant quantities of substances and materials listed in Annex II of the present Convention were discharged.

5. The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to establish and adopt common criteria for issuing permits for discharges.

6. To control and minimize pollution of the Baltic Sea Area by harmful substances the Contracting Parties shall, in addition to the provisions of Article 5 of the present Convention, aim at attaining the goals and applying the criteria enumerated in Annex III of the present Convention.

7. If the discharge from a watercourse, flowing through the territories of two or more Contracting Parties or forming a boundary between them, is liable to cause pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area, the Contracting Parties concerned shall in common take appropriate measures in order to prevent and abate such pollution.

8. The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to use best practicable means in order to minimize the airborne pollution of the Baltic Sea Area by noxious substances.

## ANNEX II

## NOXIOUS SUBSTANCES AND MATERIALS

The following substances and materials are listed for the purposes of Article 6 of the present Convention.

The list is valid for substances and materials introduced as waterborne into the marine environment. The Contracting Parties shall also endeavour to use best practicable means to prevent harmful substances and materials from being introduced as airborne into the Baltic Sea Area.

## A For urgent consideration

1. Mercury, cadmium, and their compounds.

## B

2. Antimony, arsenic, beryllium, chromium, copper, lead, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, tin, vanadium, zinc, and their compounds, as well as elemental phosphorus.
3. Phenols and their derivatives.
4. Phthalic acid and its derivatives.
5. Cyanides.
6. Persistent halogenated hydrocarbons.
7. Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and their derivatives.
8. Persistent toxic organosilicic compounds.
9. Persistent pesticides, including organophosphoric and organostannic pesticides, herbicides, slimicides and chemicals used for the preservation of wood, timber, wood pulp, cellulose, paper, hides and textiles, not covered by the provisions of Annex I of the present Convention.
10. Radioactive materials.
11. Acids, alkalis and surface active agents in high concentrations or big quantities.
12. Oil and wastes of petrochemical and other industries containing lipid-soluble substances.
13. Substances having adverse effects on the taste and/or smell of products for human consumption from the sea, or effects on taste, smell, colour, transparency or other characteristics of the water seriously reducing its amenity values.
14. Materials and substances which may float, remain in suspension or sink, and which may seriously interfere with any legitimate use of the sea.
15. Lignin substances contained in industrial waste waters.
16. The chelators EDTA (ethylenedinitrilotetraacetic acid or ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid) and DTPA (diethylenetriaminopentaacetic acid).

## ANNEX III

## GOALS, CRITERIA AND MEASURES CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF LAND-BASED POLLUTION

In accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of the present Convention the Contracting Parties shall endeavour to attain the goals and apply the criteria and measures enumerated in this Annex in order to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area.

1. Municipal sewage shall be treated in an appropriate way so that the amount of organic matter does not cause harmful changes in the oxygen content of the Baltic Sea Area and the amount of nutrients does not cause harmful eutrophication of the Baltic Sea Area.

2. Municipal sewage shall also be treated in an appropriate way to ensure that the hygienic quality, and in particular epidemiological and toxicological safety, of the receiving sea area is maintained at a level which does not cause harm to human health, and in a way that under the given composition of the sewage no significant amount of such harmful substances as are listed in Annexes I and II of the present Convention is formed.

3. The polluting load of industrial wastes shall be minimized in an appropriate way in order to reduce the amount of harmful substances, organic matter and nutrients.

4. The means referred to in Paragraph 3 of this Annex shall in particular include minimization of production of wastes by processing techniques, re-circulation and re-use of processing water, developing of water economy and improvement of qualifications for water treatment. In the treatment of waste water mechanical, chemical, biological and other measures, according to the quality of the waste water, and as required to maintain or improve the quality of the recipient water, shall be applied.

5. The discharge of cooling water from nuclear power plants or other kinds of industries using large amounts of water shall be effected in a way which minimizes the pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area.

6. The Commission will define pollution control criteria, objectives for reduction of pollution and objectives concerning measures, including processing techniques and waste treatment, to reduce pollution of the Baltic Sea Area.

#### Current activities and tasks completed

Several HELCOM Recommendations, as listed below, have been adopted by the Commission dealing with reduction or elimination of discharges of pollutants to the Baltic Sea. Background information for preparations of HELCOM Recommendations have been collected by "Lead Countries" into "progress reports". "Lead Country" reports on Cadmium, Mercury, Copper and Zinc will be published in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings in 1986, and the reports on Oil, Lead, DDT, PCBs and "new contaminants" later on.

Criteria and standards for harmful substances have been considered at several meetings. The first compilation of information available on the discharges to the Baltic Sea is under preparation and has been decided to be published as soon as possible. The evaluation of the pollution load should also include information on the substances of "highest priority" as well as information available on other substances.

The progress in this field until 1985 has been based on certain substances but in 1985 the first effort was made to consider the discharges branchwise. The projects dealing with discharges from municipalities and agriculture were started. HELCOM 6 also considered the branchwise approach to be applied in the field of discharges from the pulp and paper industries.

The following HELCOM Recommendations are dealing with the reduction of pollution:

HELCOM Recommendation 2/8 regarding the implications of the document "Assessment of the effects of pollution on the natural resources of the Baltic Sea, 1980"

HELCOM Recommendation 3/1 regarding the limitation of the use of PCBs

HELCOM Recommendation 3/2 regarding the elimination of discharges of DDT

HELCOM Recommendation 3/3 concerning the protection of seals in the Baltic Sea Area

HELCOM Recommendation 4/1 concerning amendment of Annex I of the Helsinki Convention

HELCOM Recommendation 5/1 regarding the limitation of oil in stormwater systems

HELCOM Recommendation 6/1 regarding the elimination of the use of PCBs and PCTs

HELCOM Recommendation 6/2 concerning the restriction of discharges from oil refineries (supersedes HELCOM Recommendation 5/2)

HELCOM Recommendation 6/3 concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges of mercury from chloralkali industry

HELCOM Recommendation 6/4 concerning measures aimed at the reduction of mercury resulting from dentistry

HELCOM Recommendation 6/5 concerning safe handling of used mercury- and cadmium-containing batteries

HELCOM Recommendation 6/6 concerning the limitation of discharges of cadmium from land-based sources

HELCOM Recommendation 6/7 concerning the treatment of municipal sewage and industrial wastewater with special emphasis on the reduction of discharges of nutrients

HELCOM Recommendation 7/2 concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from agriculture

HELCOM Recommendation 7/3 concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from urban areas by the development of sewerage systems



HELCOM Recommendation 7/4 concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from urban areas by the pretreatment of parts of wastewater originating from industrial plants

HELCOM Recommendation 7/5 concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from urban areas by the treatment of stormwater

Several seminars have been hosted by the Baltic Sea States.

The technical work of the STC aiming at the reduction of pollution has so far concentrated on the so-called high priority substances. The "Lead Country" work method has been applied to the hazardous substances of Annex I of the Convention and to the noxious substances of priority of Annex II as follows:

- PCBs and PCTs, "new contaminants" (Denmark)
- oil (Finland)
- copper and zinc (German Democratic Republic)
- lead (Federal Republic of Germany)
- DDT and its derivatives (Poland)
- cadmium (Sweden)
- mercury (USSR)

Preparatory work has been done for the reduction of nutrient loading, the discharge of harmful substances from the pulp and paper industry and the so-called "new contaminants".

Tackling the problem of harmful substances from the pulp and paper industry was an early attempt to apply the recently adopted branch-oriented policy. The branchwise approach was opted because it allows for the coordination of pollution control measures within an industry or economic sector while the substance approach is likely to produce incompatible measures for the various substances discharged from a single source.

The "Lead Country" principle has been applied also for the branchwise approach, now started for discharges from municipalities, agriculture and pulp and paper industry. Sweden is the Lead Country for the project dealing with discharges from urban areas, Denmark for agriculture, and Finland and Sweden together for the discharges from the pulp and paper industry.

The substance approach is based on the Convention itself and continues to be an indispensable parallel activity needed both independently and in conjunction with the branchwise method for drawing up material balances, setting up priorities and directing the branchwise work.

#### Future activities

The consideration of the implementation of the Recommendations is one task of the STC. In most of the Recommendations it is decided when the "feed-back" or "follow-up" information is planned to be started. The status of the Recommendations is considered high. Therefore, the development of Recommendations, their implementation by the Contracting Parties and their regular consideration at the meetings of the STC are essential tools in the work of the STC to fulfil the tasks given by the Commission.

The first compilation of the pollution load to the Baltic Sea will not be complete. Therefore, periodically repeated compiling of information is seen as an important task of the STC, as is also the improvement of the quality of information to be included in the further pollution load compilations.

In the work of the STC aiming at the reduction of pollution from different sources, the cooperation with other international organizations is essential. Both collection of scientific background information and preparation of criteria and standards for reduction of discharges, as well as consideration of feasible technical methods are carried out in several organizations. Land-based pollution is dealt with e.g. in the Paris Commission



(PARCOM) and its subsidiary bodies, and in the bilateral organizations between the Baltic Sea States. Also the results of the North Sea Conference (1984) and actions thereon in the North Sea Area, are important in the planning of the work of the STC. It might be even worth comparing different measures recommended by HELCOM and PARCOM dealing with the reduction of land-based pollution.

Consideration of recent advantageous technological methods for reduction of pollution should also be based on the best information available. In this work international technological organizations (e.g. The International Association on Water Pollution Research Control, IAWPRC,) can provide essential information for the use of the STC. In this respect the value of seminars dealing with technical advance in the Baltic Sea Area should be stressed. Countries should also be encouraged to host seminars in the field of technology.

HELCOM 6 adopted the principle proposed by the STC in its future work that branchwise approach will be mainly applied for reduction of pollution. The work on the basis of substances should also be continued. Thus the "Lead Country" principle could be continued on the same substances as until 1985. The "Lead Country" principle could also be applied branchwise in the preparation of information and draft recommendations.

The experience of these branches gathered by other countries and organizations is important in order to avoid duplication of work. For this purpose good cooperation with relevant organizations is essential.

Whatever approach is taken, the work should follow the Convention and its Annexes. The priorities of the branches considered should for the time being be based on quantitative information of pollution loads, available technology and the assessment of the state of the Baltic Sea.

A list of priorities in the work of "branchwise approach" must be a dynamic one and should not be too fixed for several years. However, at this stage it is important to see which branches are already under work, which other branches are to be dealt with as soon as possible, or which branches seem to be of secondary or potential importance. Because the order of priorities has not been decided, the following list of branchwise approach is not to be considered as a list of priorities, but rather as a list of activities with branchwise approach seen in the field of the STC.

<u>Branchwise approach</u>	<u>Work accomplished under substancewise approach</u>
- Pulp and paper industry	
- Discharges from urban areas	- Recommendation on the limitation of oil in stormwater systems. General recommendation on reduction of nutrients and BOD. Recommendations concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from urban areas by the development of sewerage systems, by the pretreatment of parts of wastewater originating from industrial plants and by the treatment of stormwater were based on proposals originating from the Project for Discharges from Urban Areas
- Agriculture	- Recommendation concerning Measures aimed at the Reduction of Discharges from Agriculture was initiated by the Project dealing with Discharges from Agriculture
- Oil refineries	- Recommendation on restriction of oil discharges
- Reception facilities	- Information collected on oil discharges
- Oil exploration and exploitation	- Questionnaire



- Aquaculture (fish farming)
- Forestry
- Oil shale processing
- Coking
- Petrochemical industry
- Other chemical industry (fertilizers,  $\text{TiO}_2$  etc.)
  - Recommendations on reduction of discharges of Hg from chloralkali industry and on limitation of discharges of Cd from manufacture of certain compounds
- Non-ferrous metal industry
- Surface treatment
  - Recommendation on limitation of discharges of Cd from electroplating
- Saw mills, impregnation plants
- Recreation
- Dredged spoils
- Marine construction operations (causeways, channels etc.)
- Hydraulic construction operations in the drainage basin
- Landfills
- Iron and steel industry
  - Recommendation on restriction of oil discharges under work
- Thermal power production
- Incineration of waste and other combustion processes
- Offshore mining and excavation
- Evaluation of river discharges

- Evaluation of airborne pollution
- Recommendation concerning monitoring of airborne pollution load was based on the proposals by an ad hoc Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution
- Evaluation of radioactive pollution

On the basis of the evaluation of collected data and model calculations on deposition fields, a programme for reduction of airborne pollution load harmful to the Baltic Sea will be initiated by the Baltic Sea States. This should happen in a close cooperation with other relevant international organizations (ECE/EB\*, WMO, PARCOM etc.). Reduction of atmospheric pollution may be dealt with as an entity (substance by substance) or it may be considered in connection with the other pollutants from a particular source (branchwise).

The rivers may be mentioned as another example of a multiple-source conveyor of pollution. Reduction of pollution carried by rivers may be tackled as such (substance by substance), or the problem may be handled in the context of each polluting sector.

A strategy for the branch or substance in question should be drawn up by setting clear objectives, inter alia, concerning emissions and environmental quality standards to be met within a specific time-table.

Environmental impact assessment is needed for assessing the effects of discharges, especially those of "new contaminants". Methods for assessing the impacts on the marine environment in the earliest possible stage should be developed and systematically applied.

\* Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution



As a general criteria high priority should be given to pollutants causing long-term irreversible effects with impact over large geographical areas. It might be possible to develop methods and criteria by which priorities could be set between rather well-defined groups of pollutants released to the Baltic Sea. For this purpose risk assessment of chemical hazards could be applied. A specific Baltic Sea hazard and risk assessment procedure could be developed for this purpose.

#### Time-table:

- 1986:
- Discharges from urban areas (Sweden) and discharges from agriculture (Denmark) to be considered (WGS 9)
  - First pollution load compilation to be published
  - STC 13 to consider new drafts for recommendations and the order of projects possibly to be initiated (e.g. pulp and paper, fish farming)
- 1987:
- Consideration of discharges from pulp and paper industry: WGS
  - Seminar on pulp and paper (Finland)
  - Consideration of discharges from fish farming: WGS
  - STC 14: consideration of the results of projects and the seminar 1987, and draft recommendations for HELCOM 9 (1988), and projects to be carried out in 1988-1990
- 1988:
- Consideration of discharges from agriculture: WGS
  - Consideration of pulp and paper discharges
  - Consideration of substances of "highest priority" (can be based also on the "follow-up" of Recommendations and new information collected by the Lead Countries); STC 15 to make proposals for HELCOM 10, accordingly (1989)

- 1988 / 1989:
- Seminar on recent development of technology
  - WGS to consider the recent information on substances of "highest priority"
  - STC 16 to make proposals for HELCOM 11, accordingly
- 1989 - 1993:
- Following the principle that the list of priorities in the work of "branchwise approach" should be a dynamic one and should not be too fixed for several years, the STC should consider at its meetings the priority of branches to be worked with, and make its proposals for HELCOM meetings, accordingly
  - Follow-up of the implementation of Recommendations might cause a need for further ad hoc meetings of experts on certain harmful substances
  - The Baltic Sea States should also be encouraged to arrange seminars in various fields of the technology, as well as larger symposia or seminars of overall consideration
- 1993 / 1994:
- seminar on recent development of technology

### 3. PROHIBITION OF DUMPING

Source: Article 9

#### Article 9

##### *Prevention of dumping*

1. The Contracting Parties shall, subject to Paragraphs 2 and 4 of this Article, prohibit dumping in the Baltic Sea Area.
2. Dumping of dredged spoils shall be subject to a prior special permit by the appropriate national authority in accordance with the provisions of Annex V of the present Convention.
3. Each Contracting Party undertakes to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Article by vessels and aircraft:
  - a) registered in its territory or flying its flag;
  - b) loading, within its territory or territorial sea, matter which is to be dumped;
 or
  - c) believed to be engaged in dumping within its territorial sea.



4. The provisions of this Article shall not apply when the safety of human life or of a vessel or aircraft at sea is threatened by the complete destruction or total loss of the vessel or aircraft, or in any case which constitutes a danger to human life, if dumping appears to be the only way of averting the threat and if there is every probability that the damage consequent upon such dumping will be less than would otherwise occur. Such dumping shall be so conducted as to minimize the likelihood of damage to human or marine life.

5. Dumping made under the provisions of Paragraph 4 of this Article shall be reported and dealt with in accordance with Annex VI of the present Convention and shall also be reported forthwith to the Commission referred to in Article 12 of the present Convention in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 4 of Annex V of the present Convention.

6. In case of dumping suspected to be in contravention of the provisions of this Article the Contracting Parties shall co-operate in investigating the matter in accordance with Regulation 2 of Annex IV of the present Convention.

#### Current activities and tasks completed

A format for information on dumped wastes, referred to in Annex V, Regulation 2, Paragraph 4 of the Convention, has been accepted during the Interim Period of the Commission (IC 2, Paragraph 4.1.3 and Annex 3). Dredged spoils remain partly outside the dumping restriction. The consideration of the risks related to the dumping of such spoils was started in 1970s by the STWG (Scientific-Technological Working Group, predecessor of the STC), but further consideration has been postponed (STWG 3) due to low priority level of this question in the field of the STC. Some Baltic Sea States have provided information concerning dredged spoils and concentration of substances in them.

The problem of final disposal of war gas ammunition has been considered by the STC and HELCOM on the basis of information by some of the Baltic Sea States. HELCOM 6 requested the Contracting Parties to submit further information for the compilation of a comprehensive survey on the procedure followed in the different Contracting Parties concerning transportation, handling, storage and destruction of gas ammunition from the Baltic Sea. STC 12 decided to continue submitting information on dumped war gas

ammunition each year, but agreed that the consideration of the final disposal of dumped war gas ammunition stored on land is not a question for the STC, except to the extent that the activities related to it could cause harm to the marine environment.

#### Future activities

The consideration of information on dredged spoils might become actual in future. The interpretation of "dumping" may also call for further reconsideration in future. The problem of final disposal of war gas ammunition will be considered in various bodies of HELCOM (at least by the STC and the EGC) and at the meetings of HELCOM, although it is self-evident that the question should be seen in a wider scope than only as a question of HELCOM.

#### Time-table:

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 1986:        | - If necessary, STC 13 to consider the possible activities arisen from Article 9 as a basis for the work of the STC and to make proposals for HELCOM 8 (1987), accordingly             |
| 1987:        | - A workshop, group of experts or other competent body to prepare a background document for the consideration of STC 14 for questions on the implementation of Article 9, if necessary |
| 1988:        | - HELCOM 9 to consider the possible proposals by STC 14 on activities regarding the implementation of Article 9 of the Convention  |
| 1989 - 1993: | - Activities by the STC according to the results of the further consideration of the task  |

#### 4. PREVENTION OF POLLUTION RESULTING FROM EXPLORATION OR EXPLOITATION OF THE SEA-BED

Source: Article 10

##### Article 10

##### *Exploration and exploitation of the sea-bed and its subsoil*

Each Contracting Party shall take all appropriate measures in order to prevent pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area resulting from exploration or exploitation of its part of the sea-bed and its subsoil or from any associated activities thereon. It shall also ensure that adequate equipment is at hand to start an immediate abatement of pollution in that area.

##### Current activities and tasks completed

In comparison with the other sources of pollution, exploration and exploitation of the sea-bed and its subsoil has not hitherto been of high priority in the work of the Commission. Thus, no joint activities, other than exchange of information, have been initiated within the STC so far.

##### Future activities

The discussion on the effects on the environment caused by oil drilling might become actual in future. The consideration of the implementation of this Article should start in a meeting of the STC with possible proposals for actions, if necessary.

#### 5. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Source: Article 16 (see Chapter 1)

##### Current activities and tasks completed

Already during the Interim Commission period it was stressed that seminars and expert meetings in the field of water protection technology are essential for the work of the Commission and that they should be arranged regularly, e.g. once a year or every second year for being fora for exchange of recent information.

Several seminars on the recent development in the technological field have been arranged by the Baltic Sea States. Expert meetings on criteria and standards for discharges of harmful substances into the Baltic Sea Area have been arranged annually.

Compiling of annual national bibliographies has been a routine work in the STC, and in 1985 the Commission decided that the bibliographies be included in a global on-line system.

The Commission has published 16 volumes in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings.

The exchange of the data of the joint monitoring programme (BMP) has started to cover chemical, physical and biological data as well as data on "harmful substances", which should be distributed both to all Contracting Parties and to the Data Centre of ICES. Workshops and symposia dealing with the development of the BMP have been arranged.

At the meetings of the STC and its subsidiary bodies the Delegates have often given information on recent development achieved on a national basis and information available in open literature, pertinent to the work of the STC.



### Future activities

The exchange of monitoring data should be more effective in future. This has been considered in the meetings of the STC and decisions on steps needed already exist. This includes both better exchange of information on cruises planned by the countries for the coming years, character of monitoring (sampling areas, depths, methods, parameters) carried out according to the Guidelines as well as additional work to be done on board.

The common data base will be ready in 1987, and from that time onwards a more effective exchange of data as well as of the agreed processed results will be possible, by using a consultant and with help from international organizations. For this purpose proposals for resources needed for the work should be made by the STC for the Commission in due time. A workshop or expert meeting might be needed in 1987/1988 to prepare the proposals for the STC, which are the ways and means to exchange knowledge reached through collecting the BMP data and how to exchange through the STC the information relevant to its work.

The common data base is foreseen to cover in future also information on land-based load, including discharges from land, rivers and non-point sources as well as e.g. data on airborne pollution and radioactive substances. The need for exchange of this kind of data as well as the processing and the evaluation of the data will be in the interest of the STC. For this purpose ad hoc working seems to be necessary after 1987 to plan the activities, to estimate the value of the exchange of information and to prepare proposals for actions for the consideration of the STC from 1988 onwards.

The need for more published data and the evaluation of results in the field of discharges and water protection is evident. One important part in the exchange of information in the STC will thus be to consider which of the data and common evaluation can

be published through the channels of the Commission, for which the STC will propose resources, accordingly.

The preparation of common criteria and standards and HELCOM Recommendations needs wide exchange of information on procedures applied in the Baltic Sea States, thus being a prerequisite for the development of the procedures in the work of the STC.

It is also necessary to coordinate the exchange of information with the relevant international organizations. This concerns the submission of data, information available from the organizations (e.g. results of working groups, seminars, publications etc.) as well as the work done by the organizations at the request by the Commission. This work could preferably be done at the meetings of the STC, practical questions being solved by the Secretariat of the Commission and the organizations concerned. Also joint meetings, seminars and symposia for experts representing the STC (HELCOM) and other international organizations might be working bodies for special questions in future.

### Time-table:

- 1986 - 1987: - Preparation of publications in the field of the assessment of the state of the Baltic Sea, of the pollution discharges, of the reporting of substances of "highest priority"
- STC to coordinate the collection and distribution of data in an effective way for the use of all Contracting Parties, by using a consultant
- 1987 / 1988: - Expert meeting for preparing proposals for STC 14 or 15 on the effective use of the data base and exchange of the results achieved, possibly in cooperation with other international organizations or a consultant
- 1988: - STC 15 to consider the proposals by the experts and to consider the possibilities to enlarge the collection and processing of data in a common data base to cover also input data etc. Proposals for HELCOM in 1989

- 1988 / 1989: - Preparation of publications on further assessments (specific assessments) and possible reports prepared by "Lead Countries" on the substances of "highest priority", as well as other publications which will advance the exchange of knowledge
- Expert meeting to consider the exchange of knowledge on the land-based discharges and their possible inclusion in the common data base and steps needed
- 1989: - STC 16 to consider the proposals by the experts on land-based pollution and to make proposals for HELCOM, accordingly, taking into account the common interest on the processed data and the need for publications in open literature
- 1986 - 1993: - Exchange of information annually at the meetings of the STC and its subsidiary bodies
- Workshops and seminars to be arranged by the Baltic Sea States to exchange recent information in various fields related to the work of the STC
- Publishing in open literature the results of common interest from the field of the STC

## 6. COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Source: Article 16 (see Chapter 1)

### Present cooperation

The international organizations and agreements most closely related to the field of the STC are the other regional or global conventions (e.g. Oslo, Paris, London, Gdansk, Geneva, Bonn, Copenhagen), certain agreements among the Baltic Sea States as part of HELCOM tasks (Gulf of Finland, Gulf of Bothnia, the Sound), bilateral and international organizations (Sweden-USSR, Sweden-DDR, Denmark-USSR, Denmark-Federal Republic of Germany, ICES, UNEP, IAEA, CBO etc.). Permanent Observers of the Commission are UNEP, ECE, IMO, WHO/EURO, OSPARCOM, IBSFC, ICES and IAEA.

Only ICES has acted as Observer in all meetings of the STC. In most cases no Observer Organizations have participated in the meetings of the ad hoc groups of the STC. Some tasks have been completed by ICES and BMB at the request by the Commission proposed by the STC. Observers of HELCOM have participated in some meetings of some of the other organizations and reported to the STC or to HELCOM.

The sixth meeting of the Commission stressed the importance of international cooperation as well as bilateral cooperation between the Baltic Sea States as an essential tool in the work of the Commission. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to consult with the Committee for the Gulf of Bothnia, the Working Group for the Protection of the Gulf of Finland and the Danish-Swedish Group for the Sound, and to consider possible action by the Commission in order to make better use within the Commission of the work carried out by these bilateral committees.

The Baltic Sea States have cooperated in the field of the STC with ICES by participating also in intercalibrations and baseline studies carried out by this organization. Some requests by the STC are still actual in the contacts between the Commission and ICES. The need for closer contacts in the field of scientific knowledge seems to be evident.

### Future cooperation

The Commission considered the proposals by the Executive Secretary in its seventh meeting in 1986, and STC 13 might consider the task in detail in its field, accordingly, on the basis of the decisions by the Commission.

Special attention should be paid to how the resources and advice offered by ICES including ICES/SCOR group and the Baltic Marine Biologists (BMB) and the Conferences of the Baltic Oceanographers



(CBO) could be used. The division of work between HELCOM and these organizations as well as the use of information from the Oslo and Paris Commissions should be discussed. It is advisable to intensify the cooperation with other international organizations in order to benefit from important work going on and to avoid duplication of work. A reporting system may be needed to allow both parties to be aware of the work being done. Better contacts between the secretariats should also be established.

One actual question in the field of the STC is to organize the participation of the Observer Organizations of HELCOM in the meetings of the STC and its subsidiary bodies, when appropriate. For the ad hoc group for radioactive substances, established in 1985, the participation of IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) has been approved by the Commission. The work in the field of airborne pollution under the STC is of interest e.g. in the Oslo and Paris Commissions, WMO (World Meteorological Organization) and ECE due to similar activities. The items discussed in the STC and in its subsidiary bodies might get more information of tasks carried out in other international organizations, if participation of relevant organizations in the meetings could be the practise when appropriate. Discussion is needed on the possibilities and need for the STC to support increasingly some of the activities of these organizations and to use their expertise in its own work.

For the work of the STC it is also important to have cooperation with international technical organizations (such as IAWPRC, The International Association on Water Pollution Research and Control), which can give high quality information on water pollution control.

It is also natural that cooperation between different bodies of the Helsinki Commission should be strengthened whenever the tasks so demand.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE LONG-TERM PLAN

BMB	Baltic Marine Biologists
BMP	Baltic Monitoring Programme (of HELCOM)
CBO	Conferences of Baltic Oceanographers
ECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
ECE/EB	Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
EGAP	<u>Ad hoc</u> Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (of HELCOM)
EGC	Expert Group on Co-operation in Combatting Matters (of HELCOM)
GEM	<u>Ad hoc</u> Group of Experts on Monitoring (of HELCOM)
HELCOM	Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAWPRC	International Association on Water Pollution Research Control
IBSFC	International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICES/SCOR	Working Group on the Study of the Pollution of the Baltic
IMO	International Maritime Organization
JMG	Joint Monitoring Group of the Oslo and Paris Commissions
MC	Maritime Committee (of HELCOM)
MORS	<u>Ad hoc</u> Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea (of HELCOM)
OSPARCOM	Oslo and Paris Commissions
PARCOM	Paris Commission
SCOR	Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research
STC	Scientific-Technological Committee (of HELCOM)
STWG	Scientific-Technological Working Group (former STC)
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WGS	<u>Ad hoc</u> Working Group on Criteria and Standards for Discharges of Harmful Substances into the Baltic Sea Area (of HELCOM)
WHO/EURO	World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe
WMO	World Meteorological Organization





# MEETINGS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE HELSINKI COMMISSION

Ad hoc Meeting of Experts in the Oil Identification Field	27-28 February 1986 Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany
Baltic Sea Monitoring Symposium	10-15 March 1986 Tallinn, USSR
1st Meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Monitoring (GEM)	14-16 March 1986 Tallinn, USSR
Informal Expert Meeting on Matters Related to the Evaluation of the Pollution Load on the Baltic Sea	20 March 1986 Helsinki, Finland
1st Meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea (MORS)	8-11 April 1986 Helsinki, Finland
Informal Expert Workshop on Article 17 of the Convention	29 April 1986 Helsinki, Finland
3rd Meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution of the Baltic Sea (EGAP)	5-9 May 1986 Neubrandenburg, German Democratic Republic
Seminar on matters related to modelling the origin of transport of air pollutants to the Baltic Sea Area	7-8 May 1986 Neubrandenburg, German Democratic Republic
1st Meeting of the working group for matters related to combatting of spillages of harmful substances other than oil	20-23 May 1986 Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany
9th Meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Criteria and Standards for Discharges of Harmful Substances into the Baltic Sea Area (WGS)	9-13 June 1986 Helsinki, Finland
Seminar on Discharges from Urban Areas	8-9 September 1986 Visby, Sweden
13th Meeting of the Scientific-Technological Committee (STC)	15-19 September 1986 Gdansk, Poland

2nd Meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Monitoring (GEM)	22-24 September 1986 Gdynia, Poland
2nd Meeting of the working group for matters related to combatting of spillages of harmful substances other than oil	6 October 1986 Klaipeda, USSR
10th Meeting of the Expert Group on Cooperation in Combatting Matters (EGC)	6-10 October 1986 Klaipeda, USSR
Seminar on Regulation 5 of Annex IV	17-18 November 1986 Norrköping, Sweden
Joint Seminar on Oil Pollution Questions	19-20 November 1986 Norrköping, Sweden
Meeting of Ad hoc group of Experts on Oil Pollution Questions	21 November 1986 Norrköping, Sweden
12th Meeting of the Maritime Committee (MC)	24-27 November 1986 Helsinki, Finland
8th Meeting of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission -	24-27 February 1987 Helsinki, Finland
9th Meeting of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission -	16-19 February 1988 Helsinki, Finland



# BALTIC SEA ENVIRONMENT PROCEEDINGS

- No. 1 JOINT ACTIVITIES OF THE BALTIC SEA STATES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT OF THE BALTIC SEA AREA 1974-1978 (1979)\*
- No. 2 REPORT OF THE INTERIM COMMISSION (IC) TO THE BALTIC MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMISSION (1981)
- No. 3 ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION 1980
  - Report on the activities of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission during 1980
  - HELCOM Recommendations passed during 1980
 (1981)
- No. 4 BALTIC MARINE ENVIRONMENT BIBLIOGRAPHY 1970-1979 (1981)
- No. 5A ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF POLLUTION ON THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE BALTIC SEA, 1980  
PART A-1: OVERALL CONCLUSIONS (1981)\*
- No. 5B ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF POLLUTION ON THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE BALTIC SEA, 1980  
PART A-1: OVERALL CONCLUSIONS  
PART A-2: SUMMARY OF RESULTS  
PART B: SCIENTIFIC MATERIAL (1981)
- No. 6 WORKSHOP ON THE ANALYSIS OF HYDROCARBONS IN SEAWATER  
Institut für Meereskunde an der Universität Kiel,  
Department of Marine Chemistry, March 23-April 3, 1981 (1982)
- No. 7 ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION 1981
  - Report of the activities of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission during 1981 including the Third Meeting of the Commission held in Helsinki 16-19 February 1982
  - HELCOM Recommendations passed during 1981 and 1982
 (1982)
- No. 8 ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION 1982
  - Report of the activities of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission during 1982 including the Fourth Meeting of the Commission held in Helsinki 1-3 February 1983
  - HELCOM Recommendations passed during 1982 and 1983
 (1983)
- No. 9 SECOND BIOLOGICAL INTERCALIBRATION WORKSHOP  
Marine Pollution Laboratory and Marine Division of the National Agency of Environmental Protection, Denmark, August 17-20, 1982, Rønne, Denmark (1983)

- No. 10 TEN YEARS AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE HELSINKI CONVENTION  
National Statements by the Contracting Parties on the Achievements in Implementing the Goals of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area (1984)
- No. 11 STUDIES ON SHIP CASUALTIES IN THE BALTIC SEA 1979-1981  
Helsinki University of Technology, Ship Hydrodynamics Laboratory, Otaniemi, Finland  
P. Tuovinen, V. Kostilainen and A. Hämäläinen (1984)
- No. 12 GUIDELINES FOR THE BALTIC MONITORING PROGRAMME FOR THE SECOND STAGE (1984)
- No. 13 ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION 1983
  - Report of the activities of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission during 1983 including the Fifth Meeting of the Commission held in Helsinki 13-16 March 1984
  - HELCOM Recommendations passed during 1983 and 1984
 (1984)
- No. 14 SEMINAR ON REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE IN WATER PROTECTION MEASURES  
17-21 October 1983, Espoo, Finland (1985)
- No. 15 ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION 1984
  - Report on the activities of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission during 1984 including the Sixth Meeting of the Commission held in Helsinki 12-15 March 1985
  - HELCOM Recommendations passed during 1984 and 1985
 (1985)
- No. 16 WATER BALANCE OF THE BALTIC SEA  
A Regional Cooperation Project of the Baltic Sea States; International Summary Report (1986)
- No. 17A FIRST PERIODIC ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT OF THE BALTIC SEA AREA, 1980-1985; GENERAL CONCLUSIONS (1986)

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