

CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE  
ENVIRONMENT OF THE BALTIC SEA AREA

HELSINKI COMMISSION - Baltic Marine  
Environment Protection Commission

17th Meeting  
Helsinki, 12-14 March 1996

HELCOM 17/96  
17/1  
Annex 23

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**HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/13 \*)**

Adopted 12 March 1996, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

**USE BY THE BALTIC SEA STATES OF THE MANUAL ON CO-OPERATION IN COMBATTING MARINE  
POLLUTION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE  
ENVIRONMENT OF THE BALTIC SEA AREA, (HELSINKI CONVENTION)**

**THE COMMISSION,**

**RECALLING** the provisions of Article 11 and Annex VI of the 1974 Helsinki Convention and Article 14  
and Annex VII of the 1992 Helsinki Convention,

**RECALLING ALSO** that in accordance with the 1992 Helsinki Convention the Contracting Parties agree  
to apply, as far as practicable, the principles and rules included in the Manual,

**NOTING** that detailed operational guidelines for conducting joint combatting actions to respond to  
spillages of oil or other harmful substances between two or more Contracting Parties have been  
developed and recommended for the use within the framework of the Helsinki Convention,

**NOTING ALSO** that the guidelines are contained in VOLUMES I, II and III of the Manual on Co-operation  
in Combatting Marine Pollution within the Framework of the Helsinki Convention, and

**BEING AWARE** of a need of updating the Manual in order to simplify its structure, reflect experience  
gained in its application and to include the principles on combatting marine pollution laid down in the  
1992 Helsinki Convention,

**NOTING FURTHER** that the Combatting Committee revised VOLUMES I and II of the Manual and  
combined them in one single VOLUME I,

**HAVING CONSIDERED** the draft Parts I and II of the new revised VOLUME I,

**ADOPTS** the Manual for the use by the Contracting Parties when co-operating in combatting marine  
pollution within the framework of the Helsinki Convention,

**AUTHORIZES** the Combatting Committee to complete, update and to amend the Manual as necessary  
in so far as such measures do not concern matters of principle,

**RECOMMENDS** to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to ensure the use of the Manual by their  
national organizations responsible for dealing with spillages of oil and other substances at sea.

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\*) This Recommendation supersedes HELCOM Recommendations 2/5, 2/6 and 4/4.