



**HELCOM Ministerial Session**

# How to protect the marine environment while enabling sustainable use and blue economy?

Wednesday 18 May 2016 at 13:00 – 15:00

Venue: MOVE 2

Logomo, Köydenpunojankatu 14, Turku, Finland

## **Aim of the session**

The participants of the high level session representing the Baltic Sea countries and the European Union are invited to:

- Exchange best practices and examples of successful cross-sectoral cooperation benefiting marine environment
- Consider possibilities to improve the governance of the seas, particularly through regional co-operation
- Review the progress made through HELCOM cooperation in protecting the Baltic Sea and consider strategic directions for the future

The event initiates a series of high-level gatherings prior to the HELCOM Ministerial Meeting in 2018.

Event web page: <http://www.helcom.fi/helcom-at-work/events/events-2016/helcom-ministerial-session>

## **Participation**

Participation in the session is open to anyone interested. We kindly ask participants to register for the event through the Ministerial session web page.

The Ministerial debate will be streamed live and can be watched online.

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## Host

Mr. **Kimmo Tiilikainen**, Minister of Agriculture and the Environment of Finland

## Speakers

Mr. **Karmenu Vella**, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission

Mr. **Harry Liiv**, HELCOM Chair, Ministry of the Environment of Estonia

Mr. **Jan Olsson**, Environment Ambassador, Ministry of the Environment and Energy/Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden

Ms **Heike Imhoff**, EU Water Director at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

Mr. **Silver Vahtra**, Head of Delegation for HELCOM, Ministry for the Environment of Estonia

Ms. **Joanna Kopczyńska**, Head of Polish Delegation for HELCOM, Ministry of the Environment of Poland.

## Moderator

Mr. **Nicklas Wancke**, journalist at the Finnish Broadcasting Company Yle

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## Tentative schedule

TIME	
13.00 – 13.10	<b>Welcome remarks and introduction</b> <i>Mr Kimmo Tiilikainen, Minister of Agriculture and the Environment of Finland</i>
13:10 – 13:20	<b>Status of implementation of the HELCOM commitments, including on eutrophication</b> <i>Ms Monika Stankiewicz, HELCOM Executive Secretary</i>
13:20 – 14:00	<b>Cross-sectorial topics and actions that can contribute to achieving a healthy marine environment. Best practices and new ideas.</b> Ministerial debate, including questions from the floor
14:00 – 14:05	<b>Snapshot of busy waters of the Baltic Sea</b> Presentation
14:05 – 14:45	<b>Protecting marine environment, for the blue economy to thrive. Are we doing enough for the Baltic Sea?</b> Ministerial debate, including questions from the floor
14:45-14:50	<b>Closing remarks</b> <i>Minister Tiilikainen</i>

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**14:50-15:00** Time slot for interviews with media after the Ministerial Session