

Work Plan for the HELCOM Maritime Working Group 2021-2022 (approved by HOD 59-2020)

ACTION	INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES/RESPONSIBLE	RESULTS/TIME FRAME
Measures and actions enhancing maritime safety		
Propose additional safety measures, including routeing measures	Contracting Parties HELCOM SAFE NAV HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous
Follow-up implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 34E/2 on e-navigation	HELCOM SAFE NAV HELCOM AIS EWG	Continuous
Maintain and update the “HELCOM Routeing Guide for the Baltic Sea” – chart and web page version	Lead countries: - chart - Germany - web page version - Denmark	Continuous
Contribute to HELCOM Maritime Spatial Planning work with maritime input	HELCOM - VASAB MSP WG HELCOM Secretariat HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous
Follow-up, contribute to and utilize the results of various risk assessments of shipping accidents in the Baltic Sea	In co-operation with HELCOM RESPONSE	Meetings of HELCOM SAFE NAV
Continue the development of AIS Application Specific Messages and promote their use in the Baltic Sea	HELCOM AIS EWG	Continuous
Co-operate with the Monitoring Working Group of BSHC to speed-up hydrographic re-surveys and support other hydrographic activities and follow-up the implementation of the Revised re-survey scheme, taking into account relevant actions in the BSAP	Contracting Parties HELCOM MARITIME	National analyses on the need to revise the re-survey scheme areas based on traffic density maps
Co-operate with Baltic Icebreaking Management to further improve the safety of navigation in ice conditions	Contracting Parties	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME
Follow up implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 31E/5 on Mutual Plan for Places of Refuge	Contracting Parties In co-operation with HELCOM RESPONSE	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME

Consideration of the ways to further reduce emissions and discharges from shipping		
Follow-up the designation of the Baltic Sea as a Special Area under Annex IV of MARPOL for sewage discharges from passenger ships	HELCOM MARITIME CP PRF	Continuous
Follow-up new developments regarding availability of technology to treat sewage to Special Area standards and promote harmonised application of Special Area requirements	HELCOM MARITIME CP PRF	Continuous
Investigate and consider introduction of economic incentives for reducing emissions from ships, which are currently not regulated internationally	Contracting Parties GREEN TEAM	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME
Investigate and consider alternative fuels and green technology for shipping, including following up improvements in Tier III technologies	HELCOM MARITIME GREEN TEAM	HELCOM MARITIME
Carry out work with regard to enforcement of the Baltic Sea NECA area, taking into account relevant actions of the BSAP	HELCOM MARITIME GREEN TEAM	Continuous
Consider revision of Recommendation 28/3 on Guidelines on Bunkering Operations and Ship to Ship Cargo Transfer	Contracting Parties GREEN TEAM HELCOM RESPONSE	Meetings of GREEN TEAM and HELCOM MARITIME
Carry out activities according to the work plan of the HELCOM GREEN TEAM	HELCOM MARITIME GREEN TEAM	Continuous Meetings of the GREEN TEAM (events in cooperation with other actors)
Summarize the outcome of implementation of more stringent limits of SOx emissions that came into force in 2015	HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous
Assess whether there is room/need for other HELCOM measures to address emissions from shipping	HELCOM MARITIME GREEN TEAM	Continuous

Port Reception Facilities		
Carry out activities according to the Terms of Reference and work plan of the CP PRF	HELCOM MARITIME CP PRF	Continuous Meetings of the CP PRF (events in cooperation with other actors)
Monitor the availability of PRF for sewage in the Baltic Sea region, and upgrade PRFs if necessary	Contracting Parties CP PRF	Continuous
Identify further gaps in availability of PRF for other ship-generated wastes than sewage, mandatory delivery of waste and the application of the “no-special-fee” system, and propose measures to fill in these gaps	Contracting Parties	Continuous
Carry out work in accordance with actions related to PRF in the BSAP	HELCOM MARITIME CP PRF Contracting Parties	Continuous
Cooperation to prevent the introduction of non-indigenous species from shipping related vectors		
Carry out work according to the Regional Baltic Sea plan for harmonized ratification and implementation for the 2004 IMO Ballast Water Management Convention (BWMC), taking into account relevant BSAP actions	HELCOM MARITIME COMPLETE Project	Continuous
Implementing the Joint Harmonized Procedure for granting exemptions in accordance with the BWMC regulation A-4 in the Baltic Sea	HELCOM MARITIME in co-operation with OSPAR HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST	Continuous
Regularly update the Baltic Sea target species list	HELCOM MARITIME Target Species List Expert (Correspondence) Group led by Finland Information on progress will be provided to HELCOM STATE & CONSERVATION and TG BALLAST	Continuous
Work towards harmonized implementation of the IMO Biofouling Guidelines and Guidance documents, taking into account relevant actions in the BSAP	HELCOM MARITIME in co-operation with OSPAR HELCOM-OSPAR TG BALLAST	Continuous

Co-operation to ensure enforcement of regulations and detection, investigation and successful conviction of offenders of anti-pollution regulations		
Inter-regional cooperation with other Regional Seas Conventions on the enforcement of regulations and detection, investigation and successful conviction of offenders of anti-pollution regulations	HELCOM MARITIME HELCOM RESPONSE	Continuous
Carry out work related to the enforcement of regulations and detection, investigation and conviction of offenders related to anti-pollution regulations	HELCOM MARITIME HELCOM RESPONSE	Continuous
Collection and analyses of the statistics on ships' movements in the Baltic and on environmental impact of shipping/experience exchange		
Provide modelling data on emissions, discharges and underwater noise from ships in the Baltic Sea Area	Lead country: Finland	Annual reports on emissions to HELCOM MARITIME meetings
Provide available measurement data on emissions, discharges and underwater noise from ships in the Baltic Sea area as the primary source of data	Contracting Parties	HELCOM MARITIME meetings
Collect and compile information on shipping accidents in the Baltic Sea	HELCOM Secretariat/Contracting Parties in liaison with EMSA	Annual HELCOM report on shipping accidents
Analyse and use annual HELCOM reports on illegal discharges observed during aerial surveillance	In co-operation with HELCOM RESPONSE	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME
Uphold, maintain and further develop the HELCOM AIS System	HELCOM AIS EWG	Continuous
Analyse AIS based information on shipping in the Baltic	Contracting Parties HELCOM Secretariat	Continuous HELCOM Maritime Assessment
Regulating access to AIS information according to HELCOM Recommendation 33/1	HELCOM AIS EWG national contact points HELCOM Secretariat	Continuous
Produce thematic assessments and GES relevant indicators related to Maritime Activities to support work of HELCOM GEAR and STATE & CONSERVATION	HELCOM MARITIME HELCOM Secretariat	Continuous
Information to mariners		
Update and disseminate the revised HELCOM Baltic Sea Clean Shipping Guide	HELCOM Secretariat	Update when needed

Other tasks stemming from implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (Maritime related activities in the Sea-based segment)		
Further address marine litter	HELCOM PRESSURE in coordination with HELCOM MARITIME and FISH WS RAP ML Contracting Parties	According to the Baltic Sea Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter
Further consider noise from shipping and leisure boats and its environmental effects in light of the developments at the international level in IMO, taking into account relevant actions in the BSAP	PRESSURE (EN-Noise) in coordination with HELCOM MARITIME	Meetings of HELCOM MARITIME
Exchange information about offshore activities	HELCOM MARITIME HELCOM RESPONSE	Continuous
Consider an assessment of pleasure craft activities in the Baltic Sea region including, <i>i.a.</i> , environmental impacts and risks of accidents	EBA, Contracting Parties	by 2022
Consider joint proposals to IMO on clean and safe shipping in the Baltic Sea	HELCOM MARITIME	Continuous
Update of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan		
Contribute to the update of the BSAP in accordance with the strategic plan for the update and the work plan for implementation of the BSAP update	HELCOM MARITIME Heads of Delegation Secretariat Interdisciplinary platform (to be established)	By the 2021 Ministerial Meeting