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MINUTES OF THE 18TH MEETING OF LAND-BASED POLLUTION GROUP (HELCOM LAND)

INTRODUCTION

0.1 The 18th Meeting of the Land-based Pollution Group (HELCOM LAND 18/2013) was held from 17 to 19 April 2013 in Uppsala, Sweden, at the premises of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), upon invitation by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. The Meeting was attended by representatives of all HELCOM Contracting Parties except for Denmark, European Union and Latvia. Representatives of Observers from Republic of Belarus and the EUREAU, as well as invited guests from John Nurminen Foundation (Finland), Center of Environmental Safety of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the ARTWEI and BASE Projects attended the Meeting (cf List of Participants in Annex 1).

0.2 On behalf of Sweden, the Meeting was welcomed by Ms. Lotten Sjölander from the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.

0.3 The Meeting was opened by HELCOM Executive Secretary Ms. Monika Stankiewicz, outlining the aims and focus of the 18th Meeting of the HELCOM Land-based Pollution Group and highlighting the importance of the work of HELCOM LAND with regards to deliveries and inputs on various pollution reduction measures to the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting.

0.4 The Meeting was chaired by HELCOM LAND Chairman Mr. Leonid Korovin. HELCOM Professional Secretary Mr. Mikhail Durkin acted as the Secretary of the Meeting, assisted by Ms. Leena Heikkila, HELCOM Administrative Assistant.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

Documents: 1/1, 1/2

1.1 The Meeting <u>adopted</u> agenda as contained in document 1/1.

Agenda Item 2 Information by the Secretariat, Contracting Parties and Observer Organizations

Documents: 2/1, 2/2, 2/2/Rev.1, 2/3, 2/4, 2/5

2.1 The Meeting took note of the outcomes of relevant meetings, including HELCOM 34/2013, HELCOM HOD 39/2012, HELCOM LOAD 5/2013 and HELCOM GEAR 3/2013, introduced by the Secretariat, and especially of

- inputs to and development of 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration and preparation of overview on BSAP implementation, based on the BSAP Index,
- progress with revision of Maximum Allowable Inputs (MAI) and Country-Allocated Reduction Targets (CART),
- activities under the scope of HELCOM LAND, including HELCOM Agri/Env Forum and various projects (BASE Project),
- climate change and its implications for the Baltic Sea region,
- activities within the Gothenburg Protocol of the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) and its linkages to the HELCOM work.
- 2.2 The Meeting took note of the comments by Finland that
 - it is beneficial to ensure coherence between HELCOM and EU work including in relation to hazardous substances and revision of the EU List of Priority substances

and the Watch List under the EU Water policy (taking into account the <u>"informal"</u> <u>agreement</u> on priority substances in the field of water policy that was reached by the EU Parliament and the Council on 17 April 2013), and

- the sensitivity analysis of BaltSEM model applied for revision of the Nutrient Reduction Scheme should be provided for further transparency of this work, as well as that it would be important that in the future PLC database should allow for access not only to aggregated, but also to raw data and information on sampling frequency and quality should be made available for broader expert community, e.g. researchers.

2.3 The Meeting <u>noted</u> the information by the Secretariat that a scientific background report on revision of Maximum Allowable Inputs (MAI) and Country-Allocated Reduction Targets (CART) is under development and contains information on sensitivity of modelling tools used for the revision process. The Meeting also <u>noted</u> that the recently launched project on modernisation of Pollution Load Compilation database (HELCOM PLUS) aims to develop such transparent and open pollution load user system and that PLC-6 Project will also address issues related to frequency and quality assurance of collected data within revision of PLC Guidelines.

2.4 The Meeting <u>noted</u> the information by the Secretariat that a mechanism for monitoring the reaching of BSAP commitments, especially nutrient reduction targets, is currently under development by HELCOM LOAD group and will comprise of a scientificallybased tool for assessment the progress in reaching reduction targets based on compilation of pollution loads (PLC), as well as a Core Pressure Indicator on nutrient loads.

2.5 The Meeting <u>welcomed</u> the information that the popular report will be developed to communicate the process of revision of the Nutrient Reduction Scheme and to explain how nutrient reduction targets are derived.

2.6 The Meeting <u>noted</u> the information by the Secretariat that HELCOM Workshop of the Heads of Delegation and the BSAP review experts of LOAD and MONAS (HOD MAI/CART WS 2/2013) will be held on Friday, 26 April 2013 in Rønne (Bornholm), Denmark and aims, *inter alia,* to communicate the revision of Maximum Allowable Inputs (MAI) and Country-Allocated Reduction Targets (CART), to be based on a popular version of the scientific background report (cf paragraph 2.3).

2.7 The Meeting <u>discussed</u> the First draft of 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration as contained in document 2/2 and <u>took note</u> of the following general comments by the Contracting Parties and Observers:

- by Finland, that the declaration should be policy-oriented, focussed on main issues and evaluate the implementation of the BSAP;
- by Poland suggesting that the statements of the Heads of Governments, Ministers and other High-level representatives of the Baltic Sea countries and the European Union at the Baltic Sea Forum, that took place in St. Petersburg on 5-6 April 2013, could also be referred to and also provide an input to the overview of implementation of the HELCOM BSAP;
- by Belarus that it would be valuable to highlight in the declaration the importance of not only municipal point-sources, but also agricultural point- and diffuse sources of pollution to the Baltic Sea in transboundary inputs.

2.8 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the presentation by EUREAU on upstream work of water utilities to reduce pollution inputs at source (Presentation 1) as an input to the draft ministerial declaration and <u>took note</u> this information when discussing relevant agenda items.

2.9 The Meeting <u>discussed</u> and further <u>developed</u> the relevant parts of the draft ministerial declaration in the competence of HELCOM LAND as contained in Annex 2 to the Minutes.

2.10 The Meeting <u>considered</u> and <u>reviewed</u> in general the draft overviews of the implementation of the Eutrophication and Hazardous Substances Segments of the HELCOM BSAP as contained in document 2/3.

2.11 The Meeting <u>recommended</u> differentiating between HELCOM projects and other projects contributing to implementation of the HELCOM BSAP in the overview and creating a list to be used as a reference to various projects' outcomes that could be utilised for review of the progress in implementation of the BSAP.

2.12 The Meeting <u>considered</u> the suitability of the presented approach to evaluate and present the progress in the implementation of the Baltic Sea Action Plan and follow-up commitments as presented in the Attachments and in general <u>supported</u> the approach. The Meeting <u>was</u> also <u>of the opinion</u> that more distinctive colour classes should be used to demonstrate progress, e.g. blue, yellow and red to reflect accomplished, on-going and starting actions. The Meeting also <u>pointed out</u> that for some actions, especially in the hazardous substances segment, it will be difficult to assign any code reflecting regional status of implementation, and status of implementation on national level would need to be referred to.

2.13 The Meeting took note of the additional information on implementation of the eutrophication and hazardous substances segments of the HELCOM BSAP presented by the Russia (document 2/5, 2) and <u>invited</u> the Secretariat to update the BSAP Index of Actions and the draft overview document (doc. 2/3) accordingly.

2.14 The Meeting <u>invited</u> the Contracting Parties who have not yet done so to complement the information to the BSAP Index tables as soon as possible and preferably **by 30 April 2013 latest** to enable preparations for the Ministerial Meeting.

2.15 The Meeting took note of the information by Belarus on progress in implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (Presentation 3) and invited Belarus to submit updated information on priority sites/point sources for implementation of the HELCOM BSAP as an input to 2013 Ministerial Meeting. The Meeting also invited the Secretariat to update the BSAP Index of Actions and the draft overview document (doc. 2/3) accordingly.

2.16 The Meeting also <u>took note</u> of the progress of the project implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BASE) as contained in document 2/4. The Meeting further <u>took note</u> of the suggestion by Finland to build on Balthazar Phase II when implementing the BASE project with regards to monitoring.

Agenda Item 3 Actions to limit emissions and discharges of nutrients from land-based sources

Documents: 3/1, 3/1/Add.1, 3/2, 3/2/Add.1, 3/3, 3/4, 3/5

3.1 Activities on diffuse sources, including agriculture

3.1 The Meeting took note of the information by the Secretariat on the outcome of the Fifth HELCOM Agriculture and Environment Forum and <u>welcomed</u> that the Foorum has come up with a consolidated input to the draft ministerial declaration with regards to agrienvironment measures.

3.2 The Meeting <u>discussed</u> the Draft revised HELCOM Recommendation "Measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from fresh water and marine aquaculture" as contained in document 3/3, <u>thanked</u> Finland for drafting the revised recommendation and in general <u>supported</u> its development and finalisation prior to the Ministerial Meeting, noting that some countries need further time to finalise consultations.

3.3 The Meeting <u>took noted</u> the following comments by the Contracting Parties to the Draft:

 by Germany, suggesting that the issue of the use of pharmaceuticals in aquaculture should be further addressed in the draft, as well as that nutrient limit values are quite weak; as well as stating that the recommendation should guide the Contracting Parties, especially if respective national legislation is missing;

- by Estonia and Lithuania, expressing study reservation on the draft, due to still needed national consultations with respective ministries;
- by Russia, expressing general support to the proposed draft recommendation.

3.4 The Meeting <u>noted</u> the information by the Secretariat that the Draft revised HELCOM Recommendation was requested to be submitted for consideration of the Ninth HELCOM Baltic Fisheries and Environment Forum to be held on 29-30 April in Tallinn, Estonia, and the Fifteenth Meeting of the Nature Protection and Biodiversity Group (HELCOM HABITAT 15/2013) which will convene in Riga, Latvia, on 14-17 May 2013.

3.5 The Meeting <u>requested</u> the Contracting Parties who have not yet done so to submit relevant national information on limit values for discharge of nutrients from freshwater and marine aquaculture to enable further drafting/updating of the revised recommendation in order to substantiate the proposed changes in limit values for nutrient discharges and to provide a comparison of existing limit values in the Contracting Parties.

3.6 The Meeting <u>invited</u> Finland to elaborate the draft further, based on the received comments, as well as the Contracting Parties to clarify study reservations by the indicated dates of the respective HELCOM meetings (cf 3.4).

3.7 The Meeting took note of the presentation on the progress of the <u>ARTWEI Project</u> (Presentation 4) especially with regards to nutrient retention in the transitional waters and <u>invited</u> to submit the presented information for the use of HELCOM LOAD and Pollution Load Compilation projects. The Meeting <u>considered</u> that the work of the project will provide substantial input to the development of integrated management of coastal lagoons as hot spots.

3.8 Based on the request of HELCOM LAND WS 2/2012, the Meeting also took note of the information by Russia about national regulations for ship-generated waste (sewage) management within inland waterways as contained in document 3/4. The Meeting <u>invited</u> other Contracting Parties to share similar information at the next meeting of HELCOM LAND.

3.2 Activities on municipal/household waste-water discharge

3.9 The Meeting <u>considered</u> the Draft HELCOM Recommendation on Sewage Sludge Handling as presented by Lead Countries Germany and Sweden and <u>thanked</u> these countries for elaborating the first draft (Presentation 5, document 3/1).

3.10 The Meeting <u>pointed out</u> that different methodologies exist to measure heavy metals and organic compounds in sludge, which in addition to the different types of soils require careful considerations on how common limit values could be set; that the language in the draft recommendation needs to follow the language in other HELCOM Recommendations. The Contracting Parties further <u>commented</u> on the differences in national regulations, e.g. regarding hygienisation for landscaping and horticulture purposes, and less strict limit values, as well as on the need to consider potential increase of wastewater treatment costs resulting from stricter limits regulating application of sludge. The Contracting Parties expressed different opinions on the list of parameters to be included in the draft recommendation.

3.11 The Meeting also <u>took note</u> of comments by Observers: by Belarus pointing on the importance of the work related to solving the problem of sewage sludge in general; and by EUREAU referring to the revision process of the EU Fertiliser Regulation which will very probably address limit values for pollutants for organic fertilisers, including sewage sludge, also pointing at several parameters proposed to be substantiated with further information.

3.12 The Meeting <u>regretted</u> that only few Contracting Parties have provided response to the questionnaire circulated by the Lead Countries in December 2012 to support the drafting of the recommendation and allowing to compare national limit values for pollutants in the sewage sludge applied for different purposes as a basis for setting common limit values in the draft. The Meeting <u>requested</u> the Contracting Parties to provide such national information to the Lead Countries and to the Secretariat (<u>mikhail.durkin@helcom.fi</u>) by 30 April 2013 latest to benefit further drafting of the draft recommendation.

3.13 The Meeting <u>provided</u> further detailed comments to the Draft HELCOM Recommendation on Sewage Sludge Handling as contained in document 3/1/Rev.1 and <u>invited</u> the Lead Countries Sweden and Germany to take the comments into account when developing the second draft of the recommendation, also requesting that any further written proposals should be submitted by the Contracting Parties **by the end of May 2013**.

3.3 Activities on industrial waste-water discharge

3.14 The Meeting took note of the background information presented by the Secretariat on reporting for the implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 17/6 "Reduction of Pollution from Discharges into Water, Emissions into the Atmosphere and Phosphogypsum out of the Production of Fertilizers", which was initiated by HELCOM 33/2012 after identifying a significant source of phosphorus input to the Gulf of Finland in late 2011 within HELCOM BALTHAZAR Project, and the follow-up activities to ensure that there are no similar sources of pollution in the Baltic Sea Area (as already discussed at HELCOM LAND 17/2012, HELCOM HOD 37/2012, HELCOM LAND WS 2/2012, HELCOM HOD 39/2012 and HELCOM 34/2013).

3.15 The Meeting <u>considered</u> the information by Finland (doc. 3/2) and Poland (doc. 3/2/Add.1), as well as a presentation by Russia (Presentation 6) for the preparation of the report to HELCOM HOD 41/2013 on assessment of the situation at phosphorus fertiliser production and phosphogypsum handling sites.

3.16 The Meeting <u>noted</u> that the monitoring data showing insignificant impact of the phosphogypsum waste sites in both Finland and Poland are collected by the respective industries themselves and by relevant provincial environmental authorities.

3.17 The Meeting <u>welcomed</u> the information by Russia confirming that the discharge of phosphorus from the phosphogypsum facility in Kingisepp into River Luga has decreased significantly, due to pollution abatement measures undertaken by the Phosphorite facility under joint cooperation of Finnish and Russian experts in 2011-2012.

3.18 The Meeting also <u>noted</u> that the information in the format of reporting under HELCOM Recommendation 17/6 is still missing from Lithuania, Poland, Sweden and Russia and <u>requested</u> these Contracting Parties to submit the missing information **by 30 April 2013** to the Secretariat (<u>mikhail.durkin@helcom.fi</u>).

3.19 The Meeting further <u>noted</u> that information about phosphogypsum waste handling at the Köping facility is still missing and <u>requested</u> Sweden to provide this information **by 30 April 2013** to enable compilation of the overall report to HELCOM HOD 41/2013.

3.20 Following the discussions at HELCOM 34/2013, the Meeting <u>invited</u> Finland together with the Secretariat to compile the report on assessment of the situation at phosphorus fertiliser production and phosphogypsum handling sites for HELCOM HOD 41/2013 and to circulate it to HELCOM LAND by correspondence **by 15 May 2013** with the view to finalise it for HELCOM HOD 41/2013.

Agenda Item 4Actions to limit emissions and discharges of hazardous
substances from land-based sources

Documents: 4/1, 4/2

4.1 The Meeting <u>considered</u> the Draft Palette of Measures on cost-effective management options to reduce discharges, emissions and losses of hazardous substances, as contained in document 4/1, and in general, with the exception for Finland, <u>expressed</u> its support for the development and further use of the Draft Palette of measures region-wide as a background document.

4.2 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the following comments of the Contracting Parties and Observers to the Draft Palette of Measures:

- by Germany, referring to the forward-looking character of the Palette that builds upon the results of several activities being carried out in the Baltic Sea Region within recent years to identify cost-effective measures to limit inputs of hazardous substances and helping to implement EU requirements and the HELCOM BSAP with regards to hazardous substances;
- by Estonia, welcoming the use of the Palette of measures, but pointing to the need of softening of the provisions (cf p. 36 of the Draft Palette) regarding potential use of incineration as a measure for the reduction of pollution by hazardous substances;
- by Lithuania, supporting the Draft Palette of measures in general, as relevant to both industries and authorities in implementation of respective legal provisions and the BSAP commitments, and asking for a clarification to be included in the text of the document for clear interpretation of comparison of reduction measures (cf Section B of the Draft Palette);
- by Russia, Sweden and Poland, in general welcoming the use of the draft Palette of measures for future use in countries, especially for selection of options for reducing pollution by hazardous substances in specific industrial sectors;
- by Finland, supporting the palette as a background document that could be used nationally, but not willing to support the endorsement of the document as a joint ministerial outcome, as it does not follow EU requirements for hazardous substances, e.g. under EU Water Framework Directive and Marine Strategy Framework Directive;
- by EUREAU, welcoming the results of performed studies as compiled in the draft palette, and also highlighting the need of further focus on measures to reduce pollution at source.

4.3 The Meeting <u>proposed</u> to forward the draft palette of measures to the 41st Meeting of HELCOM Heads of Delegation in line with preparations for the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting and taking into account the comments expressed above (cf 4.2).

4.4 The Meeting took note of the presentation by Russia on bio-assays used in wastewater discharge monitoring (Presentation 7) and <u>invited</u> other Contracting Parties to share similar experiences at the next meeting of HELCOM LAND.

4.5 The Meeting <u>considered</u> the Draft HELCOM Recommendation on voluntary introduction of the Whole Effluent Assessment (WEA) approach for identification of sources of hazardous substances, as contained in document 4/2, and <u>took note</u> of the following comments by the Contracting Parties:

- by Germany and Sweden, already implementing WEA in national monitoring of effluents;
- by Finland and Estonia, in general supporting the use of bio-toxicity in monitoring of municipal and industrial discharges, but not supporting the need for introduction of a general recommendation for this kind of monitoring at this moment;
- by Lithuania, referring to on-going national discussions on setting up aquatoxicitybased limit values for wastewater treatment discharges and general supporting of the WEA approach, but being not in a position to support the draft recommendation at this point as the approach may require further testing nationally;
- by Russia, supporting the application of bio-assays, but not being ready to implement them as broadly as suggested in the proposed draft recommendation

4.6 The meeting <u>took note</u> of the comments by EUREAU, pointing that there is not enough scientific ground and proof of cost-efficiency for application of the WEA-approach as a tool to monitor hazardous substances in the effluents, and also referring that EU is pointing out to the need to improve the understanding of cumulative effects of chemicals. 4.7 Based on the discussions and with reference to the commitments on WEA in the HELCOM BSAP, the Meeting <u>suggested</u> to reformulate the respective paragraphs in the Draft Ministerial declaration reflecting the efforts to test and evaluate the applicability of the WEA in the Baltic Sea Area. Further research for assessing possibility to establish PBT (persistent, bio-accumulating, toxic)-based discharge limit values based on bio-testing, including WEA approach, is needed in general.

Agenda Item 5 Joint Comprehensive Environmental Action Programme

Documents: 5/1, 5/1/Att1, 5/1/Att2, 5/2, 5/3, 5/3/Att

5.1 The Meeting took note of the draft report on the current state of affairs with Russian 'hot spots' of the JCP programme as presented by the BASE Project (doc. 5/3, 5/3/Att; Presentation 8) and invited the Secretariat to use the finalised report for the purpose of updating Technical Annex 1 of the JCP Assessment Report (cf 5.3). Based on the presented draft report, the Meeting invited Russia to consider submission of proposals for deletion and splitting of the remaining hotspots for consideration of HELCOM LAND.

5.2 The Meeting <u>asked</u> other Contracting Parties about their expected nominations for deletion of remaining hot spots and <u>noted</u> the information:

- by Estonia, that further assessment is needed for evaluating the time for deletion of remaining two hot spots (Kehra and Narva), as it is connected with the needs of certain technological changes to be applied;
- by Lithuania, that Nevezis River catchment and Curonian Lagoon integrated management programme are the two remaining hot spots and a comprehensive approach is needed for their deletion, due to the current implementation of the programme of measures under the EU WFD, as well as to the transboundary nature of the latter hot spot;
- by Sweden, that mining waste in Dalälven River catchment is still remaining a hot spot and it will require further activities to clean it up due to accumulated environmental impact;
- by Poland, that evaluation of the four remaining industrial hot spots (out of total 19 remaining) is on-going and will be submitted to the Secretariat shortly;
- by Germany, that integrated management in Odra Lagoon is a transboundary hot spot with Poland, and further work needs to be carried out to define when the hot spot could be submitted for deletion;
- by Finland, that the only remaining hot spot is agricultural runoff to the Archipelago Sea and it is not proposed for deletion within the coming years, due to the low effect demonstrated with measures undertaken so far;
- by Belarus, that remaining three municipal hot spots in Brest, Grodno and Vitebsk are currently undergoing environmental remediation projects, co-financed by the Belarus and the IFIs, including NDEP and NIB, as well as that further work is on-going with the support of NEFCO/NIB BSAP Fund to identify pilot activities addressing the List of priority installations in the field of wastewater treatment and agriculture in the Republic of Belarus contributing to transboundary pollution of the Baltic Sea.

5.3 The Meeting <u>took note</u> of the presentation by the Secretariat of the Final Draft Report on assessment of efficiency of the HELCOM JCP (document 5/1 and 5/1/Att1, 5/1/Att2; Presentation 9) and <u>endorsed</u> the Final draft report for approval by the Heads of Delegation.

5.4 The Meeting <u>considered</u> the deletion of hot spot No. 54 (Lifosa) from the JCP List of Hot spots based on additional information presented by Lithuania after HELCOM LAND WS 2/2012 and circulated to the Contracting Parties in December 2012 and <u>recommended</u> to the Heads of Delegation to delete this site from the List of JCP hot spots, pending submission of the reporting format on implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 17/6 to the Secretariat (<u>mikhail.durkin@helcom.fi</u>) and Finland (<u>sirkka.tattari@ymparisto.fi</u>) and final decision by Finland based on such submission.

5.5 The Meeting took note of, and discussed the Draft HELCOM Guidance on nomination of environmentally sound techniques and practices to a Catalogue of Green Baltic Practices, as presented by the Lead Countries Poland and Russia (doc. 5/2) and in general, with the exception of Finland, <u>supported</u> the presented approach for Green Baltic Practices. Finland pointed out that it supports the information exchange of good practices and best environmental technologies, but does not want to establish a formal catalogue and nomination for single industrial installations, municipalities or other activities. The Finnish opinion is that this kind of ranking is not the task of an international convention.

5.6 The Meeting <u>considered</u> that a selection procedure should be such as not to create additional burden on national administrations which should be reflected in more clear criteria. The Meeting <u>felt</u> that a possible way forward could be launching open sector-specific calls addressing relevant Baltic Sea -specific activities to share the examples of technologies and good practices, e.g. on bi- or tri-annual basis to avoid overloading with nomination/ selection process.

5.7 The Meeting <u>invited</u> the Contracting Parties to provide further comments to the draft HELCOM Guidance on [nomination of] environmentally sound techniques to a Catalogue of Green Baltic Practices to the Lead Countries Poland and Russia **by 15 May 2013** in order to report to HELCOM HOD 41/2013.

Agenda Item 6

Reporting to HELCOM LAND

Documents: 6/1, 6/2

6.1 The Meeting <u>considered</u> the Reporting on HELCOM Recommendations within the competence of HELCOM LAND adopted since the adoption of HELCOM BSAP (2007) as presented by the Secretariat (doc. 6/1) and <u>updated</u> missing information with a view to submit it as an input for the preparations of the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting.

6.2 The Meeting <u>invited</u> the Contracting Parties to present relevant additional information and especially <u>requested</u> Poland, Denmark and Latvia to submit missing reporting to the Secretariat (<u>mikhail.durkin@helcom.fi</u>) by 30 April 2013 and <u>agreed</u> on publishing the reporting after this date on HELCOM website.

6.3 The Meeting took note of the recently adopted BAT Conclusions under EU Industrial Emissions Directive (industrial emissions for the tanning of hides and skins (adopted on 11.02.2013) and <u>agreed</u> to consider them when revising the HELCOM Recommendations in industrial field. The Meeting <u>welcomed</u> the information by Finland that a programme of expected deliveries of BAT Conclusions can be submitted to the Secretariat.

6.4 The Meeting took note of the "Report for the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on progress in implementing Regulation (EC) 166/2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR)" as well as <u>noted</u> the role of E-PRTR for collection of relevant data on industrial facilities in the Baltic Sea Area.

Agenda Item 7 Any other business

Documents: 7/1, 7/2, 7/3

7.1 The Meeting <u>welcomed</u> the information by <u>RECO Baltic 21 Tech</u> - Towards Sustainable Waste Management in the Baltic Sea Region, Sweden (Presentation 10). The Meeting <u>invited</u> the project to circulate its background information and final outcomes (reports) to HELCOM Contracting Parties and Observers via the Secretariat (<u>mikhail.durkin@helcom.fi</u>).

7.2 The Meeting also <u>took note</u> of the information on the International Conference on Prevention and Management of Marine Litter in European Seas, held in Berlin, Germany, on

10-12 April 2013, presented by the Secretariat (doc. 7/2) and <u>agreed</u> that possible additional actions could be addressed by HELCOM LAND with regards to minimising pollution by marine litter from land-based sources. The Meeting also <u>took note</u> of the comment by Finland that the Heads of Delegations could discuss which of the subsidiary bodies of HELCOM will take the responsibility for marine litter, also in the course of the streamlining of HELCOM work.

7.3 The Meeting further took note that the next meeting of the network "Make the Baltic Sea Lead in Sustainable Management for Pharmaceuticals" will take place in Riga, Latvia, on 13-14 June 2013. Accommodation and travel costs to some extent can be covered for participants from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland by the PA HAZARD of the EU SBSR. The Meeting <u>invited</u> the Secretariat to clarify with organisers the conditions for participation Russian experts.

7.4 The Meeting took note of the Working Programme of HELCOM LAND for 2013-2014 adopted by HELCOM HOD 39/2012 as contained in document 7/3 and <u>invited</u> the Contracting Parties to submit proposals for potential discussion issues for of the next meeting of HELCOM LAND to the Secretariat (<u>mikhail.durkin@helcom.fi</u>) well in advance.

7.5 The Meeting <u>agreed</u> that the 19th meeting of HELCOM LAND should be held on 14-16 May 2014 and <u>invited</u> Estonia to consider the possibility of hosting the next meeting and inform about such possibility at HELCOM HOD 41/2013.

7.6 The Meeting took note of the List of Contact addresses of HELCOM LAND and invited the Contracting Parties to send corrections, if needed, to the Secretariat (leena.heikkila@helcom.fi).

7.7 The Meeting expressed its sincere gratitude to both Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) for the generous hospitality and excellent arrangements of the HELCOM LAND 18/2013 Meeting.

Agenda Item 8 Election of Chairpersons

Documents: None

8.1 The Meeting <u>re-elected</u> Mr. Leonid Korovin, Russia, as Chairman of HELCOM Land-based Pollution Group and Ms. Galina Danilishina, Estonia, as a Vice-Chair of HELCOM LAND for eutrophication component for the two-year period (2013-2015), based on the nominations by the Contracting Parties. The Meeting also <u>proposed</u> Ms. Ulrike Pirntke to be elected as a Vice-Chair of HELCOM LAND for hazardous substances component, respectively, and <u>invited</u> Germany to confirm that Ms. Ulrike Pirntke can take this post. The Meeting <u>congratulated</u> the elected and nominated Chair and Vice-Chairs.

Agenda Item 9 Outcome of the Meeting

Documents: 9/1

9.1 The Meeting <u>adopted</u> the Minutes of the Meeting as contained in document 9/1.

ANNEX 1 LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS			
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ANNEX 2 FIRST DRAFT 2013 HELCOM MINISTERIAL DECLARATION - REVISED SECTIONS IN THE FIELD OF EXPERTISE OF HELCOM LAND

Sustainable aquaculture

- 1 (B). BEING AWARE of environmental impacts of aquaculture such as the introduction of non-indigenous species, ecological and genetic impacts on wild fish stocks from unintended releases of farmed species, nutrient pollution, as well as introduction of antibiotics and other pharmaceuticals, [ADOPT HELCOM Recommendation 3XE/X on measures aimed at reduction of discharges from fresh water and marine aquaculture];
- 1 (N). THEREFORE WE AGREE to further address both water- and airborne inputs of nutrients, including:
 - the full implementation of nitrogen emission reduction commitments under [upcoming NEC Directive] and CLTRAP Gothenburg Protocol which will contribute to reaching nutrient reduction targets in the Baltic Sea through measures undertaken e.g. in transportation, combustion and agriculture
 - further prioritization for areas and sectors with highest potential for nutrient reduction to be specified¹
 - further development of innovative approaches to overcoming the problem of internal loading, especially in coastal areas and semi-enclosed lagoons, such as harvesting algae and trash fish for removal of excessive nutrients.

Diffuse sources

(Revised text agreed by Agriculture/Environment Forum to be inserted)

2 (N). WE DECIDE to speed-up implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 28E/6 "Onsite wastewater treatment of single family homes, small businesses and settlements up to 300 Person Equivalents (P.E.) based on evaluation of remaining gaps and through better involvement of regional and local authorities and through promotion of good examples of cost-effective wastewater management in scattered housing;

Point sources

- 3 (N). WE PRIORITIZE further upgrading of waste water treatment to fully implement HELCOM Recommendation 28E/5, *inter alia* through launching pilot activities by engaging wider network of municipalities, and enhancing cooperation under the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, prioritizing in financial programmes and complementing, if needed, by changes in national legislation;²
- 4 (N). While stressing the importance of measures to reduce pollution at source, WE AGREE to develop [by 2014] HELCOM Recommendation for handling of sewage sludge originating from municipal wastewater treatment, including beneficial and safe use of valuable phosphorous resources and recovery of energy;
- 5 (N). WE DECIDE to continuously assess potential large sources of nutrient pollution on land e.g. industries, fur- and fish-farming, and when needed address them with abatement measures;

¹ based on PLC-5.5

² Study reservation by Finland

³ To be placed separately as it applies to both Nutrients and Hazardous Substances

Hot Spots under Joint Comprehensive Environmental Action Programme³

- 6 (N). Based on the assessment of efficiency of the Joint Comprehensive Environmental Action Programme (JCP), 1992-2012, ACKNOWLEDGE the efforts undertaken with support of IFIs and European institutions to clean-up and remediate [109] pollution hot spots, which has led to significant reductions of pollution loads, including nutrients from the hot spots, proving the overall value of the JCP in improvement of environmental situation in the Baltic Sea region;
- 7 (N). RECOGNISING challenges in remediation of still active hot spots [53], especially represented by agricultural runoff (6) and coastal management programmes (3), WE AGREE to:
 - aim for elimination of remaining hot spots from the JCP List as part of the implementation of the Baltic Sea Action Plan by [2018] latest, with a view that municipal [25] and industrial (19) hot spots should be removed from the List by [2016];

- follow up the progress in the hot spots remediation and support exchange of information and knowledge, especially on application of BAT for remaining industrial hot spots, with a view to facilitate necessary abatement measures to speed up remediation;

8 (N). [ENCOURAGING the promotion of green technologies and practices that can support the development of more environmentally friendly solutions in all sectors by research, development and innovation initiatives DECIDE to establish Green Practices catalogue⁴ to be compiled on [annual] basis for national cases contributing to implementation of all segments of the Baltic Sea Action Plan – *further discussion at HOD*]

Hazardous substances from air and waterborne sources on land

- 1 (H). Insert statement on the status of implementation of recent HELCOM recommendations⁵
- 2 (H). WE SUPPORT intensification of efforts and cooperation to reduce inputs of hazardous substances with an ultimate aim to reach Good Environmental Status [as determined by core indicators for hazardous substances]⁶, e.g. through
 - monitoring and assessment of airborne inputs and development of measures addressing airborne transport of hazardous substances
 - [continuing research on hazardous substances of specific concern to the Baltic Sea, including on their interaction and cumulative effects in collaboration with e.g. BONUS Programme and the PA Hazard of the EUSBSR⁷]
 - assessing the need for joint measures to reduce emissions and discharges of hazardous substances
 - making use of information generated by REACH Regulation, EU WFD and EU MSFD, e.g. substance-specific risk assessments and dossiers, etc., as well as exchange information collected within HELCOM work with relevant legal frameworks
- 3 (H). [WE ENDORSE⁸ [the palette of measures on management options to reduce discharges, emissions, and losses of hazardous substances from various sources to

⁸ Pending reservation by Finland

³ To be placed separately as it applies to both Nutrients and Hazardous Substances

⁴ Finland does not support the activity as proposed in doc. 5/2

⁵ After the reporting on recommendations is complete and also should be lifted as applied to both nutrients and hazardous substances

⁶ Finland: pending adoption of core indicators

⁷ Finland does not support any new research activities to be carried out by HELCOM Secretariat and does not want to see names of specific programmes/projects

be used by national authorities and industries as a guidebook on indicative measures and their cost-efficiency and to serve further work on regional level];

- 4 (H). WE AGREE to promote research and development of cost-efficient end-of-pipe solutions as well as source-reduction measures to limit discharges of hazardous substances from urban waste water treatment and landfill leachate, [and based on it consider possibility to update by [20XX] HELCOM Recommendation on municipal waste water treatment with respective requirements for hazardous substances]
- 5 (H). [WE NOTE that Whole Effluent Assessment approach was tested and evaluated region-wide through a joint research initiative for possible introduction in the Baltic Sea Region... to be developed]
- 6 (H). Awaiting signing and ratification of the UNEP Global Legally Binding Treaty on Mercury WE AGREE on early accession to this global instrument, , as well and quick start with preparation of national actions plans for its implementation, taking into account existing and possibly updated HELCOM recommendations limiting use of mercury in products and processes;
- 7 (H). WE RE-ITERATE the agreement to establish combustion efficiency requirements and/or emission limit values for dioxins according to HELCOM Recommendation 28E/8 by [20XX] in order to minimize dioxin emissions from small-scale combustion sources)⁹
- 8 (H). WE AGREE to revisit limit value for the content of cadmium in fertilizer required in the HELCOM Recommendation 31E/3;
- 9 (H). BEING CONCERNED about the negative impacts of pharmaceuticals, WE DECIDE to collect more information and assess the state of contamination with pharmaceuticals and their degradation products in marine environment [and the first step to develop measures to prevent pharmaceuticals from reaching the Baltic Sea];
- 10 (H). WE RECOGNISE the highest importance of public awareness in the field of hazardous substances and AGREE to further promote and continuously support actions aiming at e.g. consumer behavior towards "greener" (less associated with use of hazardous substances) products, processes and services;

⁹ Finland is not willing to lead this work further

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

HELCOM LAND 18/2013	Date dd.mm.yy	Title	Submitted by
1/1	08.03.13	Provisional Agenda	Secretariat
1/2	19.03.13	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda	Secretariat
2/1	02.04.13	Extracts from the minutes of HELCOM meetings with relevance to HELCOM LAND	Secretariat
2/2	05.04.13	First draft 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration	Secretariat
2/2/Rev.1	18.04.13	First draft 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration – revised sections in the field of expertise of HELCOM LAND	Secretariat
2/3	05.04.13	Draft overview document on implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan	Secretariat
2/4	10.04.13	Progress of the project implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BASE)	BASE PIU and Russian Partner
2/5	16.04.13	National implementation of the Eutrophication and Hazardous Substances Segments of the Baltic Sea Action Plan	Russia
3/1	02.04.13	Draft HELCOM Recommendation on Sewage Sludge Handling	Lead countries Sweden and Germany
3/1/Add.1	10.04.13	Occurrence and levels of selected compounds in European sewage sludge samples	Secretariat
3/2	02.04.13	Implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 17/6 "Reduction of Pollution from Discharges into Water, Emissions into the Atmosphere and Phosphogypsum out of the Production of Fertilizers"	Finland
3/2/Add.1	05.04.13	Implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 17/6 "Reduction of Pollution from Discharges into Water, Emissions into the Atmosphere and Phosphogypsum out of the Production of Fertilizers"	Poland
3/3	05.04.13	Draft HELCOM Recommendation "Measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from fresh water and marine aquaculture"	Finland
3/4	16.04.13	Information about national regulations for ship-generated waste (sewage) management within inland waterways	Russia

3/5	18.04.13	Data from Lfosa AB	Lithuania
4/1	02.04.13	Draft palette of measures on cost- effective management options to reduce discharges, emissions and losses of hazardous substances	Secretariat
4/2	02.04.13	Draft HELCOM Recommendation on voluntary introduction of the Whole Effluent Assessment approach for identification of sources of hazardous substances	Secretariat
5/1	02.04.13	Final draft report on assessment of efficiency of the HELCOM JCP	Secretariat
5/1/Att1		Technical Annex 5, List of remaining JCP Hot Spots in the Baltic Sea catchment area (239 pages)	Secretariat
5/1/Att2		Technical Annex 6, List of deleted JCP Hot Spots in the Baltic Sea catchment area (539 pages)	Secretariat
5/2	05.04.13	Draft HELCOM Guidance on nomination of environmentally sound techniques to a Catalogue of Green Baltic Practices	Lead countries Poland, Russian Federation and the Secretariat
5/3	12.04.13	Draft report: The current state of affairs with Russian 'hot spots' of the JCP programme	BASE Project
5/3/Att		Draft report: The current state of affairs with Russian 'hot spots' of the JCP programme	BASE Project
6/1	05.04.13	Reporting on HELCOM Recommendations within the competence of HELCOM LAND adopted since the adoption of HELCOM BSAP (2007)	Secretariat
6/2	12.04.13	E-PRTR Progress Report	Secretariat
7/1	10.04.13	List of HELCOM LAND Contact Addresses	Secretariat
7/2	17.04.13	Message from Berlin - Conclusions from the International Conference on Prevention and Management of Marine Litter in European Seas	Secretariat
7/3	17.04.13	Working Programme of the Land-based Pollution Group 2013-2014	Secretariat
9/1	19.04.13	Draft Outcome of HELCOM LAND 18/2013	Secretariat