

HELCOM Regional Action Plan: the Baltic Sea experience

International High-level Conference

Inter-basin Cooperation on Marine Litter:

a focus on the Danube River and the Black Sea

4 April 2019, Sofia, Republic of Bulgaria

By HELCOM staff Friday, March 29, 2019

Structure of the RAP ML

- HELCOM Recommendation 36/1: Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter
- Annex to the Action Plan containing the list of actions:
 - 30 Regional actions HELCOM Collective Actions
 - 27 Voluntary national actions
 - Both Regional and National actions are grouped in:
 - Land-based sources of marine litter
 - Sea-based sources of marine litter
 - Education and outreach on marine litter
- Appendixes: reporting format in implementation of actions, on the effectiveness of the implemented actions and definition of terms

How is the RAP ML implemented?



• Lead Country approach on the regional actions within the RAP

By HELCOM staff Friday, March 29, 2019



Status of leadership



How is the RAP ML implemented?



- Lead Country approach on the regional actions within the RAP
- Facilitated by the HELCOM Experts Network on Marine Litter (EN-Marine Litter): ToR for the period 2019-2021 agreed in December 2018
- Followed up by HELCOM Working Group PRESSURE

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Follow up

- (b)

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CODE OF ACTION	Additional information
RL1	*Lithuanian:
	a) National waste management plan for 2014-2020 can be found here: https://www.e-
	tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.9945210D6571/ZtaLvZPcai
	b) National waste prevention programme can be found here: https://www.e-
	tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.09C26B84F785/ejmYyEmdlI
	c) The Law on Packaging and Packaging Waste can be found here: https://www.e-
	tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/7a5f8dd03c5811e6bcc5c96b48152012.
	*Swedish revised National Waste Plan and a Waste Prevention Program for the years 2018-2023 under
	development can be found here: http://www.naturvardsverket.se/Miljoarbete-i-samhallet/Miljoarbete-i-
	Sverige/Regeringsuppdrag/Reviderad-nationell-avfallsplan/
	*Additional information on the Waste Council ("Avfallsrådet"), the Swedish EPA's expert support for
	waste issues and issues related to sustainable management of materials in society can be found here:
	http://www.naturvardsverket.se/Miljoarbete-i-samhallet/Miljoarbete-i-Sverige/Uppdelat-efter-
	omrade/Avfall/Vem-gor-vad/Avfallsradet/
	*There are two background reports under progress within Blastic project, one on marine litter sources
	and one on available methods to monitor marine plastic litter, as well as an identification list of marine
	litter sources. There will be a questionnaire for pilot municipalities to be filled in with the list of marine
	litter sources. Subsequently, draft measures for municipalities will be drafted.
	*DE is to provide updated information on their national PoMs. Propose to change deadline to 2019 in
	order to benefit from the guidelines produced by the Blastic project. CPs are invited to consider
	leadership.
RL2	*LIthuanian wastewater management regulation can be found here: https://e-
	seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.276576
	*Propose to change deadline to 2019 in order to benefit from the guidelines produced by the Blastic
	project and also in the view of the HOLAS II assessment. To consider ongoing work on Nordic Council of
	Ministries, Clean Europe Network (DE to provide contact details), and the Baltic Sea Accelerator. CPs
	are invited to consider leadership.
	*Additional information on the Swedish EPA commission ("regeringsuppdrag") to administer calls for
	support for cutting-edge technologies and advanced system solutions for sustainable urban
	development for the years 2016-2019 can be found here: http://www.naturvardsverket.se/Miljoarbete-i-

Status of implementation | Leadership by country | Activities by country | Additional infor

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Additional information

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- Lead Country approach on the regional actions within the RAP
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- Followed up by HELCOM Working Group **PRESSURE**
- Work approaches:
 - a. Questionnaires
 - b. National activities
 - c. Specific events

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Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission



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Questionnaires



 To compile background information for drafting HELCOM guidelines on best practice on waste management to prevent waste turn in to marine litter (action RL3) alongside with addressing cleaning and collection systems to prevent litter from land entering the aquatic environment (action RL2) and marine litter references in waste management plans (action RL1) -> [PRESSURE 11-2019]



 To collect knowledge regarding the national regime of control and inspections of MARPOL Annex V infringements (actions RS 2 and RS 3) -> Report ready

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Questionnaires



 On the management on sanitary waste (action RL8) -> "Analysis of the degree of the marine environment pollution by wastes flowing down the rivers to the sea, including sanitary waste" -> Further actions at PRESSURE 10-2019



 On the prevalence and sources of EPS and XPS in the Baltic Sea, and suggestion of possible measures to reduce the environmental load of EPS and XPS in the Baltic Sea (action RL 9) -> Report to PRESSURE 10-2019.



 On deposit refund systems for bottles, containers and cans (action RL 11) -> Report ready, and further actions to PRESSURE 10-2019

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Questionnaires



 On whether landfills or dumpsites including historic ones may eventually pose a risk to the marine environment due to factors such as coastal erosion and vicinity to rivers (action RL 14) -> 2016, relaunched 2019.



 On the current situation to draft a best practice model on disposal of end-of-life pleasure boats (ELB) (action RS 1) -> Results to PRESSURE 10-2019.



• On national activities on ALDFG -> Report ready + discussion on further steps at PRESSURE 10-2019.

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National activities



Most of them target **microplastics**:

- Identification of the importance of different sources of primary and secondary microplastics (action RL 6).
- Possible techniques in waste water treatment plants to prevent micro particles entering the marine environment (action RL7).
- EU INTERREG Baltic Sea Region project FanpLESStic-sea project -Initiatives to remove microplastics before they enter the sea (Jan. 2019-June 2021).

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Specific events





"Principles for design reducing/preventing marine litter"



Report on the workshop on marine litter and ecodesign held in Berlin on 15th of June 2018

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ECODESIGN

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Specific events



Seminar on prevention of and sanctions on illegal waste disposal from ships at sea

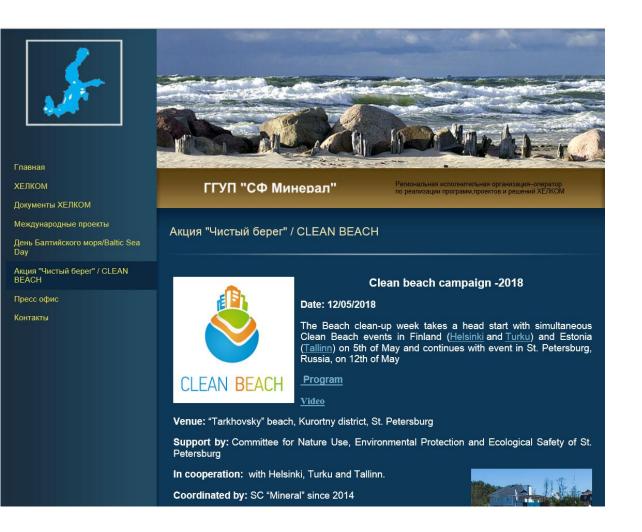
2930. November		
Venue: German Environment Agency		
Bismarckplatz, room 1042		
14193 Berlin		
Day 1		
12.30pm	Registration	
1:00pm	Welcome notices	
	Uli Claussen and Dr Ewald Brandt, Welcome, introduction and goals of the	
	seminar	
1:15pm	Setting the scene	
	Stefanie Werner, representing OSPAR /HELCOM, on marine litter - main	
	problems and the relevance of sea-based sources of waste	
	Aleke Stöfen O'Brien, World Maritime University, on possible	
	recommendations for OSPAR and HELCOM	
2:00pm	Experiences and challenges in preventing and sanctioning of illegal waste	
	disposal from ships at sea - presentations from:	
	Anna Bobo Remijn, European Commission, Directorate-General for Mobility	
	and Transport, Maritime Safety Unit	
	Dr. Ewald Brandt, representing North Sea Network for Prosecutors and	
	Investigators (NSN) and the Network of Prosecutors on Environmental Crime (ENRPO)	
	Kjetil Sørensen, Norwegian Maritime Authority (tbc)	
	Dr. Susanne Heitmüller and Laura Jurk , Federal Maritime and Hydrographic	
	Agency (BSH)	
3:30pm	Coffee break	
4:00pm		
	N.N., Perspective from ports	
	Torsten Wrobel, Hamburg Water Police	
	Capt. Wolfgang Hintzsche, German Shipowners Association	

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Other pathways

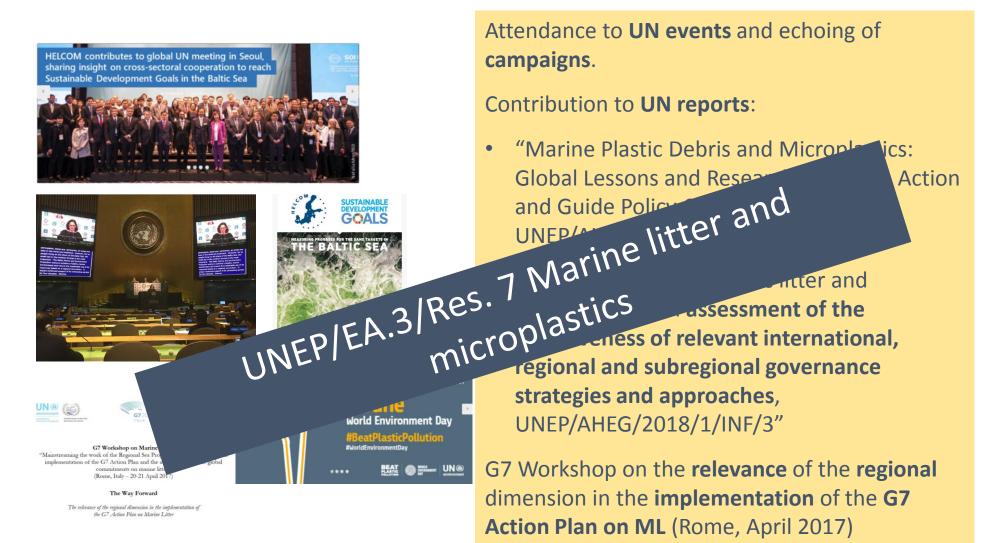
- Improve of the stormwater management to prevent litter, including microlitter, to enter the marine environment from heavy weather events (action RL 4) -> Amendment of HELCOM Recommendations on waste water management at PRESSURE 10-2019??
- Exchange platform for spreading experiences on good cleaning practices in beaches (action RL 15) -> "Clean Beach" - 2018



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HELCOM's role outside the region





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Regional Seas Conventions

Informal cooperation between OSPAR, UNEP-MEDPOL, HELCOM and countries belonging to both Conventions (since 2014). Black See joined the 2018 meeting, and EU in 2017 and 2018:

- Waste prevention and management (general perspective, single-use plastic bags, primary microplastics and other key waste items
- Passive FFL activities
- Hotspots of marine litter
- Clean-up campaigns
- Public awareness and education activities



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HELCOM and the EU processes



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Thank you!



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