BALTICSEAENVIRONMENTPROCEEDINGS

No.62

ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION
1995

Report on the activities of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission during 1995 including the 17th Meeting of the Commission held in Helsinki, 12 - 14 March 1996

HELSINKI COMMISSION
Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission
1996

For bibliographic purposes this document should be cited as:
HELCOM, 1996
Activities of the Commission 1995
Including the 17th Meeting of the Commission held
in Helsinki 12 - 14 March 1996
Balt. Sea Environ. Proc. No. 62

ISSN 0357-2994

OY EDITA AB, HELSINKI 1996

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REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HELSINKI COMMISSION DURING 1995

1. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION DURING 1995

During 1995, the new organization which was decided upon by HELCOM 16 was implemented, influencing the work of the Commission to a great extent. Some *working* groups were dissolved or merged with others, projects were created or proposed. There were discussions with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on whether these organizations could take over the responsibility for HELCOM monitoring programmes concerning air pollution and radioactivity. Furthermore, there are joint discussions going on with other regional intergovernmental organizations concerning possible cooperation with European Environment Agency (EEA) as to storage, evaluation and assessment of the marine environment.

The implementation of the Baltic Sea Joint Comprehensive Environmental Action Programme, JCP, has proceeded and results in the form of construction of many waste water treatment plants, new environmental legislation and new environmental institutions can be seen in some of the countries in transition. By the end of 1995, ten environmental hot spots were removed from the list of 132 identified in the JCP.

During 1995, Estonia and Finland ratified the 1992 Helsinki Convention. Thus, the Convention has been ratified as of 31 December 1995 by six Contracting Parties, i.e., in addition to the two afore-mentioned, by the European Community, Germany, Latvia and Sweden.

1.1 Helsinki Commission (HELCOM)

The outcome of the 16th meeting of the Commission, held in Helsinki 14-17 March 1995, has been published in Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 60.

Detailed information on the progress made since the 16th meeting of the Commission in different substantive activities within the framework of the Helsinki Commission is given in the subsequent paragraphs.

HELCOM data activities and data strategy

A review of HELCOM data activities was carried out by a consultant and the result as well as the given proposals were discussed by an informal data meeting and later on by the HELCOM Committees and HELCOM PITF. The outcome was submitted to HELCOM 17 for consideration and possible decision.

Project for preparation of the Final Report on Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration 1988, FINREP

HELCOM 16 established a project to prepare the final report on the implementation of the ministerial declaration 1988. The report shall be submitted to HELCOM 19/98 to be held at ministerial level.

The members of the project have been appointed. In the first meeting of the project group, a work plan was elaborated and the working tasks were divided. The work was started during autumn 1995 and the draft report is expected to be ready in October 1997.

1.2 Environment Committee (EC)

The Environment Committee (EC) held its sixth meeting in Helsinki, Finland, 16-20 October 1995. A joint meeting of the Environment and Technological Committees was held on 18 October 1995. The Meeting of EC 6 was attended by Delegations from all the Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area (Helsinki Convention) (the European Commission at the joint session with the Technological Committee), Observers from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the Baltic Marine Biologists (BMB), BirdLife International, Conferences of Baltic Oceanographers (CBO), Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB), ECOTEC, the European Chlor-Alkali Industry (EURO CHLOR), the European Fertilizer Manufacturers' Association (EFMA), the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and representatives of the consultant of the Helsinki Commission on BMP and MORS environmental data, the Finnish Environment Agency. The Executive Secretary, Mr. Ulf Ehlin, the Technological Secretary, Mr. Vassili Rodionov, the Maritime Secretary, Mr. Adam Kowalewski and the Programme Co-ordinator, Mr. Niels-J. Seeberg-Elverfeldt also attended the Meeting.

Mr. Niels-Peter Rühl of Germany acted as Chairman of the Meeting and Mr. Eugeniusz Andrulewicz of Poland and Mr. Yuri Panteleev of Russia acted as Vice-Chairmen of the Meeting. The Environment Secretary of the Commission, Ms. Eeva-Liisa Poutanen, acted as Secretary of the Meeting.

The Contracting Parties reported to the Meeting on their national and bilateral activities pertinent to the goals of EC. The Observers provided information on the recent activities in their organizations looking forward to close cooperation especially on issues related to mutual interest.

Cooperation with other Committees

The Environment Committee examined the request by the Combatting Committee (CC) to develop detailed criteria for the implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 10/1 concerning abnormal situations. The combatting authorities of the Contracting Parties are responsible for reporting of the implementation of this Recommendation. The Committee endorsed a proposal for detailed criteria for abnormal situations concerning algal blooms with the understanding that this proposal is a first step in a process to develop a more comprehensive guideline for a harmonized "Baltic Event System" in which the criteria for abnormal situations is transformed to a picture handbook/poster/guidelines for observers. Other specific topics of common interest with CC, discussed by EC were, i.a., those related

to follow-up studies in connection with major oil spills, plans to construct new and to enlarge the existing oil terminals in some of the Contracting Parties, information on oil spillages and development of a common Baltic Sea Oil and Chemical Spill Model System.

The Committee also discussed the developments at IMO concerning elaboration of new regulations on ballast water to prevent introduction of alien species into the Baltic Sea and the actions taken by the Maritime Committee (MC). The Environment Committee appreciated the offer by the Baltic Marine Biologists (BMB) to identify organisms with particular potential to become established in the Baltic Sea and to evaluate the risks or benefits of such introductions for the Baltic ecosystem. Furthermore, the Committee requested the Contracting Parties to take action to reduce the risks associated with the intentional introduction of alien species in the Baltic Sea (e.g. for aquaculture and scientific field experiments) and to follow the appropriate Code of Practices.

Specific topics of common interest with the Technological Committee (TC) were discussed during the joint session of both Committees. The main issues considered were implementation of the Ministerial Decisions 1994, evaluation of waterborne and airborne loads, third periodic assessment, quality assurance policy, data handling, cooperation with international organizations as well as specific topics concerning, i.a., revised HELCOM Recommendation concerning information and consultation, further restriction of pollution from fish farming and effects of sand-gravel extraction. The outcome of these considerations are highlighted under sub-chapter 1.4 of this report.

Airborne pollution

The Committee considered the report of the twelfth meeting of the Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (EC EGAP) and endorsed the work plan for the preparation of the report on airborne pollution load to the Baltic Sea 1991-1995 as well as the project proposal on the ongoing intercomparison activity under EC EGAP "HELCOM-EMEP-PARCOM-AMAP intercomparison of heavy metals in precipitation". With reference to the decision by HELCOM 16 to dissolve EC EGAP, the future work related to airborne pollution will be coordinated under TC INPUT in close co-operation with ECE EMEP. EMEP has agreed to coordinate activities on emissions, atmospheric monitoring and modelling for HELCOM. Negotiations between HELCOM and EMEP on future cooperation have been initiated.

Monitoring of radioactive substances

The Committee considered the report of the tenth meeting of the Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea (EC MORS). With reference to the decision by HELCOM 16 to dissolve also this working group and taking into account the fact that IAEA has informed not being prepared to take over the full responsibility of the coordination of the EC MORS programme, the Committee endorsed the project proposal for future continuation of the work of EC MORS. The project will, i.a., evaluate and assess the annual data submissions by the Contracting Parties on environmental data and discharge data on radioactivity, improve models for prediction of doses, ascertain that all aspects of quality assurance of analytical data are covered, investigate the need for short time local emergency relating models and if considered of high priority, improve such models and include in the

impact assessment of other exposure pathways than ingestion, i.e., inhalation, exposure from beach occupancy, etc.

Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP) and related activities

The Committee considered the progress made by the ICES/HELCOM Steering Groups on Quality Assurance of Chemical and Biological Measurements in the Baltic Sea and the outcome of the ICES/HELCOM Second Workshop on QA of Biological Measurements, held in Warnemünde, Germany. The Committee appreciated the progress made by both Steering Groups and endorsed the advanced study course on primary production measurements with the main emphasis on monitoring of the Baltic Sea as well as the Third QA Workshop focusing on primary productivity measurements and zooplankton methodology for monitoring the Baltic Sea.

The Committee considered the revision of the Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP) and Guidelines and decided that in spite of the fact that national proposals were still missing from two countries the work will be continued. The Committee requested the ad hoc Coordination Group to meet in autumn 1995/winter 1996 and to work out a proposal for a harmonized monitoring programme, to be further considered at the Second BMP Revision Workshop in autumn 1996/winter 1997. In the work also issues related to coastal monitoring programme should be considered as well as a proposal to include the monitoring of contaminants in sea water in the revised BMP. In designing the revised monitoring programme for the Baltic Sea the results of the Third Periodic Assessment and the Sediment Baseline Study, the results of the ICES/HELCOM Steering Groups on QA of Chemical and Biological Measurements in the Baltic Sea as well as the results of relevant evaluations of national monitoring programmes and advice by ICES should be taken into account.

Regarding monitoring activities of coastal waters, the Committee endorsed the project proposal on coastal conditions and monitoring and welcomed the information that the network of the Coastal Monitoring Programme (CMP) stations will also include Baltic Sea Protected Areas, where appropriate.

The Committee also considered matters related to data submissions and data deliveries and expressed its serious concern that none of the Contracting Parties had submitted data on harmful substances for 1994 and only very few countries for the previous years (e.g. 1992-1993). The Committee strongly requested all Contracting Parties to submit the BMP data according to agreed deadlines and Guidelines. Furthermore, the Committee decided that in future the Contracting Parties have to submit annual national data reports together with the BMP data including also information on data quality. The national data reports and data submissions will be considered annually by the new Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (EC MON).

The Committee endorsed the proposal by the informal data meeting to apply an open bidding in the future for data handling of the BMP data and environmental data on radioactivity and approved the specifications for submitting a bid.

Assessment of the state of the sea

The Committee was informed about the progress made by the experts in preparing the Third Periodic Assessment of the State of the Baltic Sea, 1989-1993. In spite of the problems related to data submissions by the Contracting Parties as well as consequential problems of the consultant in processing the data, the final draft is expected to be presented for consideration of EC 7 in autumn 1996 after which it will be printed.

The Committee also requested the experts to elaborate a chapter on environmental conditions of the Baltic Sea 1990-1995 which will be included in the document for the Prime Ministerial Conference planned to be arranged by Sweden in 1996.

Nature conservation and biodiversity

The Committee endorsed the Guidelines for management of Baltic Sea Protected Areas (BSPAs) and requested each Contracting Party to send their proposals for possible new protected off-shore marine areas using the agreed Guidelines.

The Committee considered for the first time the implementation status of the HELCOM Recommendations concerning protection of the coastal strip (15/1) and BSPAs (15/5) and noted that so far rather low progress has been made by the Contracting Parties in implementing these Recommendations. The Committee endorsed the project under EC NATURE on Red Data Book on Biotopes and requested Sweden to elaborate a project proposal on wild Baltic salmon for consideration of the next EC NATURE.

The Committee proposed HELCOM 17 to adopt a draft HELCOM Recommendation concerning protection of harbour porpoise in the Baltic Sea Area.

The Committee reviewed the population status and health of the Baltic seals. The Committee stated that the Baltic sea populations have fluctuated widely historically, although they have probably never previously fallen to the levels found in the 1970s. However, as a result of a reduction in the load of toxic organic pollutants and an end to hunting, among other things, there has been a general improvement in the situation. However, the figures are still very low. The present maximum number counted of the three seal species is approximately 400 harbour seals (common seals) (*Phoca vitulina*), approx. 4,000 ringed seals (*Phoca hispidu)* and approx. 5,300 grey seals *(Halichoerus grypus*) in the Baltic Sea area (excluding the Danish straits and Kattegat).

Earlier this century the Baltic grey seal population was distributed over the entire Baltic, whereas at present a population has not established itself in the southernmost areas. In the most recent years the observed annual increase in the number of grey seals north of the 58th parallel, i.e. the populations in the northern Baltic Proper, the Åland Sea and the Bothnian Bay, have been in the range of 10 per cent. The observed increase is due to a substantially improved reproductive capacity in combination with the general ban on hunting as recommended by HELCOM. However, the population south of this latitude remains very low and largely constant (some 200 individuals) and the situation thus continues to be very critical for the grey seal in this area.

The ringed seal population in the Bothnian Bay, where the majority of the ringed seal population exists, has also increased (to over 3,000 individuals), although the annual increase has only been five to six per cent; the status of the population in the Gulf of Finland and the Gulf of Riga is critical.

The improved breeding success indicates that the health of the grey seal population has improved, although certain forms of pathological changes remain at a largely unchanged high level. The frequency of sterile female ringed seals has declined but is still significantly high. A probable reason for the improvements in health is that concentrations of organochlorine compounds have fallen since the early 1970s. However, high numbers of drowned seals in fishing gear and possibly illegal hunting have contributed to the critical status of Baltic seals.

All these findings clearly indicate that the precautionary principle should still be applied in the management of the Baltic seals.

Thus all Contracting Parties confirmed that HELCOM Recommendation 9/1 of 1988, stating that the hunting of grey seals, ringed seals and harbour seals should generally be prohibited, is still highly valid.

A review at the Committee meeting among the Contracting Parties showed that no general permits for seal hunting have been issued. However, permits for killing for research (Finland) and in exceptional cases for remedial purposes (Denmark) have been issued in a few cases.

The Committee also recalled that the Contracting Parties according to Recommendation 9/1 should make efforts to establish seal sanctuaries.

Other activities in the field of EC

The Committee considered matters related to dredged spoils and decided to modify the HELCOM Guidelines (HELCOM 13/16, Annex 5) based on those of OSCOM so that they will meet the actual needs and also decided to adopt the three technical annexes of the OSCOM Guidelines to be used also within the framework of HELCOM. The draft amended Guidelines for the disposal of dredged spoils will be forwarded to HELCOM 17 for adoption. The Committee requested all Contracting Parties to define sediment quality criteria on national basis, as required by the OSCOM Guidelines and decided that EC 7 should consider the necessity of harmonizing these criteria.

Data on dredged spoils dumped in 1992 is still incomplete and therefore, the Committee urged the Contracting Parties which had not submitted the requested information to do so without delay and, furthermore, all Contracting Parties were requested to submit data for the year 1993 to the Lead Country, Germany.

Recalling the decisions by HELCOM 16 on the re-organization of the subsidiary bodies of EC the Committee dissolved the following ad hoc and expert groups: Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution (EC EGAP), Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances (EC MORS), ad hoc Working Group on Baltic Sea Sediment Baseline Study, ad hoc Working Group on Microbiology, Phytoplankton Expert Group and ad hoc Working Group on Coastal Monitoring. Consequently, a new Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (EC MON)

was established, for which the Committee endorsed the draft Terms of Reference and elected Chairmen. Also the Terms of Reference for EC were revised, accordingly.

The Committee re-elected Mr. Niels Peter Rühl, Germany, as Chairman of EC for the next two-year period, starting from the end of the 17th meeting of the Commission. The Committee re-elected Mr. Yuri Panteleev, Russia, as Vice-Chairman of EC for the next one-year period and elected Mr. Stig Carlberg, Sweden, as Vice-Chairman of EC for the next two-year period, both starting from the end of the 17th meeting of the Commission.

1.3 **Technological Committee (TC)**

The Technological Committee (TC) held its sixth meeting in Helsinki, Finland, 16-20 October 1995. A joint meeting of the Technological and Environment Committees was held on 18 October 1995. The Meeting of TC 6 was attended by Delegations from all the Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area (Helsinki Convention), the Observers from the European Chlor-Alkali Industry (EURO CHLOR) and ECOTEC as well as by the representatives of the consultants of the Helsinki Commission, the Finnish Environment Agency (FEA) and Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-East (EMEP MSC-E). The Executive Secretary, Mr. Ulf Ehlin, the Environment Secretary, Ms. Eeva-Liisa Poutanen, the Maritime Secretary, Mr. Adam Kowalewski and the Programme Co-ordinator, Mr. Niels-J. Seeberg-Elverfeldt also attended the Meeting.

The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Tapani Kohonen, Chairman of TC, and Ms. Ulla-Britta Fallenius, Vice-Chairman of TC. The Technological Secretary of the Commission, Mr. Vassili Rodionov, acted as Secretary.

The Contracting Parties, the Observers and the Secretariat reported on the activities pertinent to the mandate of the Technological Committee.

Cooperation with other Committees and HELCOM PITF

Specific topics of common interest with the Environment Committee (EC) were discussed during the joint session of TC 6 and EC 6. The main issues considered were implementation of the Ministerial Decisions 1994, evaluation of waterborne and airborne loads, third periodic assessment, quality assurance policy, data handling, cooperation with international organizations as well as specific topics requiring the expertise of both Committees, i.a., revised HELCOM Recommendation concerning information and consultation, further restriction of pollution from fish farming and effects of sand-gravel extraction. The outcome of these considerations are highlighted under sub-chapter 1.4 of this report.

The Committee examined proposals concerning deletion of “hot spots” under the Joint Comprehensive Environmental Action Programme (JCP), namely WWTPs in Germany, and recommended to HELCOM PITF to delete the Greiswald Municipal WWTP(“hot spot” No 114) and the Stralsund Municipal WWTP (“hot spot” No 116) from the “hot spot” list.

The Committee discussed the issues of common interest with the Maritime Committee, i.a. a project on the follow-up of the Baltic Strategy for Port Reception Facilities for Ship-generated Wastes and cooperation on procedures for ashore handling of ship-generated waste.

Pollution load compilations

The Committee examined the outcome of the third meeting of the ad hoc Expert Group on Pollution Load of the Baltic Sea (TC POLO) and decided to forward to HELCOM 17 the two project proposals concerning evaluation of airborne pollution load (199 1 - 1995) and waterborne pollution load (1995).

Reduction of pollution from point sources

The Committee examined the outcome of the fifth meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Discharges and Emissions from Point Sources (TC POINT) and decided to forward to HELCOM 17 for adoption eight draft HELCOM Recommendations concerning priority polluting sectors, such as the pulp and paper industry (further restriction of discharges of AOX, nutrients and organic matter, based on BAT), iron and steel industry (further restriction of dust emissions and discharges of nitrogen, phenols, cyanide, PAH and organic matter from hard coal cokeries; further restriction of discharges of suspendable solids, oil and cyanide from iron and steel mills), production of fertilizers (restriction of emissions of dust, N0x, fluorine and chlorine compounds, discharges of nutrients, fluoride and heavy metals as well as waste disposal, based on BAT), urban areas (further provisions for stormwater management systems), offshore activities (further restriction of discharges of oil, heavy metals and other noxious chemicals, restriction of emissions of hydrocarbons and sulphur, based on BAT), food industry (basic principles for realization of BAT and BEP, restriction of discharges of organic matter and nutrients).

Reduction of pollution from diffuse sources

The Committee examined the outcome of the fifth meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Inputs from Diffuse Sources (TC DIFF) and decided to forward to HELCOM 17 for adoption two draft HELCOM Recommendations concerning reduction of pollutant leaching from forestry land and measures aimed at the reduction of mercury resulting from light sources and electrical equipment.

In consideration of matters related to reduction of pollution from agriculture the Committee examined i.a. the proposal for the Project "Reduction of Pollution Entering the Baltic Sea from Agricultural Activities and Rural Settlements" and recognized a need to mature the proposal in order to make the Project result-oriented as well as to reduce unnecessary costs envisaged for research and monitoring activities during the inventory phase and to put an emphasis on legislative aspects and implementation of Good Agricultural Practice (GAP). To this end the Committee decided to convene an informal expert meeting with the aim to improve the Project Plan and to prepare concrete proposals for submission to the 1996 Prime Ministerial Conference in Visby, Sweden. This informal meeting on agriculture (7-8 December 1995, Warsaw, Poland) concluded that, due to numerous accomplished or on-going international projects on agriculture, a compilation and evaluation of existing experiences, developments and proposals should precede the start of the HELCOM Project in order to avoid duplication and to make optimal use of available resources. The Project proposal will be re-examined in the light of the findings from the evaluation with due consideration to technical, legal and economic aspects of environmentally sound agricultural practice.

With regard to the decision by HELCOM 15 concerning producing a concrete operational definition of balanced fertilization by 1997, the Committee requested the Commission to prolong the aforementioned deadline taking into the account that this work will be an integral part of the proposed Project on Agriculture.

In consideration of matters related to reduction of pollution from transport sector the Committee was not in the position to finalize a Draft HELCOM Recommendation on reduction of emissions from transport sector affecting the Baltic Sea, and decided to convene an informal meeting of representatives of agencies/ministries from environmental and transport fields with the aim to mature a proposal for a Draft Recommendation and to prepare concrete proposals concerning transport sector for submission to the 1996 Prime Ministerial Conference in Visby, Sweden. The informal meeting on transport (14-15 December 1995, Berlin, Germany) elaborated a final proposal for the Draft HELCOM Recommendation concerning transport sector for submission to HELCOM 17.

Proposals for consideration in preparation of the 1996 Prime Ministerial Conference in Visby, elaborated by informal meetings on agriculture and transport, were considered at the consultative meeting of the TC/EC Chairmen (19 December 1995, Hamburg, Germany) and included to the consolidated proposal submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Commission.

Reporting on implementation of HELCOM Recommendations related to land-based sources of pollution

The Committee considered and endorsed the procedure for the 1996 reporting round on implementation of HELCOM Recommendations related to its mandate.

Other activities in the field of TC

In accordance with the decision by HELCOM 16 on the re-organization of the subsidiary bodies of TC, the Committee dissolved the following working and ad hoc expert groups: Working Group on Reduction of Discharges and Emissions from Point Sources (TC POINT), Working Group on Reduction of Inputs from Diffuse Sources (TC DIFF) and ad hoc Expert Group on Pollution Load to the Baltic Sea (TC POLO). Consequently, the new Working Groups - on Pollution Reduction (TC RED) and on Inputs to the Environment (TC INPUT) - were established, for which the Committee endorsed the draft Terms of Reference, adopted Work Programmes and elected Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen. Also the Terms of Reference for TC and the Strategy and Action Plan of TC were revised, accordingly.

According to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, the Committee elected Ms. Ulla-Britta Fallenius, Sweden, as Chairman of TC and Mr. Jochen Poremski, Germany, as Vice-Chairman of TC for the two-year period, both starting from the end of the 17th meeting of the Commission.

1.4 Joint Session of EC and TC

Implementation of the Ministerial Decisions 1994

In accordance with the decisions by HELCOM 15 and HELCOM 16, the Committees examined the Report of the TC/EC ad hoc Expert Meeting to Assess National Nutrient Programmes (TC/EC ASNUT 95) and endorsed the conclusions of TC/EC ASNUT 95 and the information on major sources and loads of nutrients in problem areas of eutrophication for submission to HELCOM 17.

The Committees thoroughly examined the conclusions by TC/EC ASNUT95 concerning areas considered as "non-sensitive" to inputs of nitrogen but could not reach a consensus with regard to this issue. The Committees noted that delays in defining areas being non-sensitive to inputs of nitrogen hampers the progress in negotiating several important draft Recommendations in TC-field, and resumed that the issue has to be resolved at the Commission's level.

The Committees endorsed an expert meeting on sensitive/non-sensitive areas for eutrophication of the Baltic Sea caused by nitrogen, with a view to presenting the conclusions for consideration by HELCOM 17. The terms of reference for this expert meeting were prepared by the consultative meeting of the TC/EC Chairmen (19 December 1995, Hamburg, Germany).

The Committees endorsed a Guide on the content of national reports on measures to reduce the discharges and emissions of heavy metals (HMs) and persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and proposed to HELCOM 17 that an ad hoc TC/EC expert meeting be convened in June 1996 for assessment on national measures to reduce HMs and POPs.

The Committees appreciated the offer by EURO CHLOR to provide financial assistance to the Chlorine Flow Study for the Baltic Sea Region, and endorsed in principle the terms of reference for the planned project "Inventory and Emissions of Organochlorine Products in the HELCOM-Area". The consultative meeting of the TC/EC Chairmen (19 December 1995, Hamburg, Germany) further considered the plans for this project and proposed that the project plan should be clarified pending the results of the aforementioned assessment on national measures to reduce HMs and POPs.

The Committees approved responsibilities of TC INPUT, TC RED and EC MON with regard to contribution to the HELCOM Implementation Project (HELCOM FINREP) and preparation of specific chapters of the Final Implementation Report as well as requested the Lead Countries for specific Recommendations to provide to HELCOM FINREP the summary on individual Recommendations from the 1990, 1993 and 1996 implementation reporting rounds, in addition to the 1996 progress reports.

Evaluation of waterborne and airborne loads

The Committees considered the plans for preparation of waterborne and airborne pollution load evaluations and jointly adopted the related project proposals.

With regard to the future work on airborne pollution the Committees took note of the proposal for future cooperation between HELCOM and EMEP and the decision made by the EMEP Steering Body to coordinate emissions, atmospheric monitoring and modelling activities for HELCOM. The Committees requested the Contracting Parties, the HELCOM and EMEP Secretariats and the EMEP Centres to clarify further the details of the cooperation. Furthermore, the Committees stressed the need to have in the future a close cooperation between EC MON, TC INPUT and EMEP.

Third Periodic Assessment

The Committees were informed about the progress made by the experts in preparing the Third Periodic Assessment of the State of the Baltic Sea, 1989-1993.

Quality assurance policy

Regarding quality assurance (QA) issues the Committees strongly supported the proposed application for future extension of the programme "Quality Assurance of Information for Marine Environmental Monitoring in Europe" (QUASIMEME) under the EU Fourth Frame Programme, and nominated the representatives of HELCOM to the QUASIMEME Advisory Board. Both Committees agreed upon the letter of support to accompany the proposal to EU for an extension of the QA studies. In the letter it was urgently stressed that all Contracting Parties of HELCOM be supported at the same level of participation in the QA programme as well as the laboratories responsible for the coastal monitoring programme and analyses of samples (e.g. , river water) for the calculation of input of substances be included in the future QUASIMEME programmes. Furthermore, the Committees supported the proposal to seek possibilities to include also biological measurements in the future QUASIMEME programmes.

Data handling

With regard to data handling the Committees approved the report of the informal data meeting (Helsinki, 15-16 August 1995) in general and endorsed the proposal to start developing a computerized network for future data handling within HELCOM. The Committees also welcomed the draft Data and Information Strategy for HELCOM elaborated by the informal data meeting but, since the strategy concerned information in a wider sense than just data handling, the Committees proposed to extend the text to cover, i.a. the use of GIS, distribution of HELCOM information through the World Wide Web, printed publications as well as HELCOM bibliography. Regarding the availability of the data the Committees agreed that the environmental data (BMP, EGAP, MORS) collected within the framework of HELCOM should be made available for public as soon as the data are validated. Also technical and administrative data (PITF, TC, CC, and MC) should be made available. PLC data should be available as soon as possible, but only after validation and evaluation.

Cooperation with international organizations

The Committees took note of the advice by ICES on ecotoxicological reference values, overviews of contaminants in the marine environment, transfer of halogenated organic compounds through the food chain (request originating from the Ministerial Decisions, 1994), and assessment of concentrations of contaminants not harmful to man or nature (request originating from the Ministerial Decisions, 1994). The Committees considered the last issue

to have been completed at least for the time being and, therefore, deleted it from the requests from HELCOM to ICES for 1996. The first request originating from the Ministerial Decisions, 1994, was slightly specified to focus on the transfer of halogenated organic compounds (DDT family, HCB, CBs and dioxins) through the pelagic food chains.

Specific topics

In accordance with the request by the Commission, the Committees re-examined matters related to information and consultation on new activities, like fixed links, submarine cables and oil terminals, affecting the Baltic Sea. The Committees proposed to HELCOM 17 a revised HELCOM Recommendation concerning information and consultation with regard to construction of new installations affecting the Baltic Sea, superseding HELCOM Recommendation 12/2.

The Committees also examined matters related to further restriction of pollution from fish farming and proposed to HELCOM 17 a revised HELCOM Recommendation concerning reduction of discharges from marine fish farming, superseding HELCOM Recommendation 15/3. The Committees agreed to start consideration of reduction measures for fresh water fish farms in 1996.

The Committees considered relevance of the sand-gravel extraction to the scope of revised HELCOM Recommendation 9/5 (offshore activities) and agreed that the environmental effects of such activities should be dealt with as a separate topic under EC NATURE.

Future work

The Committees agreed that the meetings of TC and EC in 1996 will be convened separately but after two years a back-to-back meeting will be considered.

The Committees endorsed the consultative meetings of TC/EC Chairmen in December 1995 and April 1996 in order to ensure proper cooperation in matters of common interest.

1.5 Maritime Committee (MC)

The Maritime Committee held its 21st meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 9 to 11 October 1995. Delegations from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden as well as Observers from the International Maritime Organization (IMO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Baltic Ports Organization (BPO) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) attended the meeting.

Mr. Peter Ehlers from Germany and Ms. Alicja Gwadera from Sweden acted as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Meeting, respectively, and Mr. Adam Kowalewski, Maritime Secretary of the Commission, acted as Secretary of the Meeting.

Reception Facilities

The Committee approved the Baltic Strategy for Port Reception Facilities for Ship-generated Wastes and Associated Issues and decided to submit it to HELCOM 17 for endorsement as

well as to submit to HELCOM 17 the draft HELCOM Recommendation on reception facilities for adoption.

The Committee approved also the Project on the follow-up of the Strategy and decided to submit it to HELCOM 17 for endorsement.

The draft HELCOM Recommendation addresses, inter alia, a need for development in the entire Convention Area of a harmonized fee system for the use of reception facilities and a system harmonized to the widest possible extent for determining the severity of sanctions to be imposed on, including calculating the level of fines to be charged, when a ship violates the Convention's regulations in respect of operational requirements.

The investment programme to improve reception facilities in the countries in transition constitutes a part of the Strategy. The programme has been developed on the basis of IMO missions to the countries in transition in the Baltic Sea region. The total need for investments, including technical assistance programmes, in the investigated ports is about 37.5 million USD. IMO has elaborated also a project proposal entitled "Enhancement of reception facilities for ships in eastern Baltic ports" which has been presented to the appropriate international financial institutions and donor organizations. The project proposal is co-sponsored by the Helsinki Commission.

Implementation of the Strategy is one of the prerequisites for substantial decrease in the number of operational and illegal discharges in the Baltic Sea Area.

Matters related to discharges from ships

The Committee considered a compilation of comments on the study concerning discharges of sewage and grey water from passenger ships in the Baltic Sea Area and came to the conclusion that the work on further restrictions of such discharges should be conducted in a form of a project. The Committee invited the Contracting Parties to provide its next meeting with a project proposal.

The draft HELCOM Recommendation concerning measures to abate pollution of the marine environment by oil and other harmful substances in cases of grounding, collision, sinking of a ship or other maritime casualty, which was approved also by MC 21, is dealt with under matters related to the Combatting Committee.

The Committee was informed on the outcome of the 37th session of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) in relation to air pollution from ships and that the recognition of the Baltic Sea as a "special area" under the new annex to MARPOL 73/78 on prevention of air pollution from ships was not yet discussed. The Committee expressed its deep concern for the development of this issue at IMO and decided to reconvene the ad hoc Working Group on Air Pollution from Ships (MC AIR) for its eighth meeting to discuss about possible further actions towards IMO and regional measures against air pollution from ships.

Harmful marine organisms in ballast waters

The Committee was informed that at MEPC 37 the Ballast Water Working Group elaborated a work programme and schedule of tasks for the issue of ballast waters. Draft regulations for

the control and management of ship's ballast water to minimize the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in a form of a new annex to MARPOL 73/78 are expected to be considered at MEPC 39 in 1997 and possibly be approved at MEPC 40 in 1998. According to the first version of the draft regulations the ballast water and associated sediments are not to be released in waters outside the jurisdiction of the flag State, except in areas or shore-based treatment and disposal facilities designated for this purpose, and in accordance with procedures as may be specified by the responsible Port State Authority. The ballast water may be exchanged in deep ocean areas or open seas at water depths of 2,000 m and more. This shall include flushing out of tanks, chain lockers and other locations where sediments may accumulate. The Maritime Committee decided to further cooperate on this item at IMO.

Other activities in the field of MC

The Committee decided that national reports on the implementation of the HELCOM Recommendations in the maritime field should comply with the requirements of sub-paragraphs a)-c), Paragraph 1 of Article 16 of the 1992 Helsinki Convention and requested the Contracting Parties to submit their national reports in accordance with these provisions to its next meeting. On the basis of national information received from all the Contracting Parties the Committee will decide whether or not a specific Recommendation is implemented in the entire Convention Area. Furthermore, the Maritime Committee requested all the Contracting Parties to provide its 23rd meeting in 1997 with a comprehensive overview on the implementation of valid MC related HELCOM Recommendations in accordance with the aforementioned system.

The Committee re-elected Mr. Peter Ehlers from Germany and Ms. Alicja Gwadera from Sweden as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of MC, respectively, for a period of two years.

1.6 Combatting Committee (CC)

The 19th meeting of the Combatting Committee was held in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 3 to 6 October 1995. Delegations from Denmark, Estonia, the European Commission, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden as well as an Observer from the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) participated in the Meeting.

Mr. Olli Pahkala from Finland, Chairman of the Combatting Committee, and Mr. Adam Kowalewski, Maritime Secretary of the Commission, acted as Chairman and Secretary of the Meeting, respectively.

Revision of the Manual on Co-operation in Combatting Marine Pollution

The Committee approved the draft HELCOM Recommendation on the Use by the Baltic Sea States of the Manual on Co-operation in Combatting Marine Pollution within the framework of the Helsinki Convention and decided to submit it together with the revised Volume I of the Manual (Part I: information on general guidelines for co-operation is addressed to contingency planners; Part II: information on operational matters is addressed to the field personnel) to HELCOM 17 for adoption.

The Committee approved also in principle the Guidelines on how the authorities should deal with chemical munition caught by fishermen and decided to attach them to Volume III of the HELCOM Combatting Manual.

Matters related to oil and other harmful substances

The Committee discussed about the plans to construct new and to enlarge the existing oil terminals in some of the Contracting Parties and was of the opinion that if these plans were completed, the risks connected to the transportation of oil would considerably increase. The Committee came to the following conclusions:

special emphasis should be put in the HELCOM work on preventive measures and safety standards in relation to tankers, tanker traffic and oil terminals;

HELCOM Guidelines concerning contingency plans in oil terminals should be developed. Poland offered to elaborate relevant proposals for consideration of CC 20;

the Contracting Parties were requested to provide the Secretariat by the end of 1995 with updated information on plans to construct new or to enlarge existing oil terminals and with estimated quantities of oil transported by sea.

Matters related to incidents involving harmful substances and sunken ships

Both Combatting Committee (CC 19) and Maritime Committee (MC 21) approved the draft HELCOM Recommendation concerning measures to abate pollution by oil and other harmful substances in cases of grounding, collision, sinking of a ship or other maritime casualty and decided to submit it to HELCOM 17 for adoption.

The draft HELCOM Recommendation comprises actions to be taken by the Baltic Sea States on regional level to remove bunker fuel oil, other oils, or any harmful substance carried as cargo which may cause hazards to the marine environment. It also concerns common actions of the Baltic Sea States towards IMO as to amending and elaborating global conventions (e.g. convention for liability and compensation for damage caused by hazardous and noxious substances, convention on wreck removal).

Surveillance activities

The Committee considered the overview of national surveillance activities over the Baltic Sea in years 1988-1994 and noted with deep concern the increased number of oil pollution incidents in 1994 in comparison with the reporting period 1988-1993. The average number of reported oil spillages increased by up to 30% in 1994. The Committee noted that ships' traffic in general has increased during the last years, and that there is an increased number of sub-standard ships travelling in the Baltic. Also the insufficient system of prosecuting the offenders of anti-pollution regulations was of major concern of the Committee. Furthermore, the Committee noted considerable differences between the fine levels in the different countries in the Baltic Sea region.

The Committee concluded that the following actions should be taken with respect to this situation:

to strengthen the control procedures in the entire Convention Area;

to develop information on the anti-pollution requirements and control measures in the Baltic Sea for seamen. Finland offered to elaborate proposals for revision of the booklet "Clean Seas Guide: The Baltic Sea Area, a MARPOL 73/78 Special Area" for consideration of the coming meetings of CC and MC;
to substantially improve the enforcement of anti-pollution measures in the Contracting Parties.

Other activities in the field of CC

The Committee endorsed in principle a proposal by Finland to establish for operational purposes a project concerning development of a common Baltic Sea oil and chemical spill model system and requested the Contracting Parties to provide Finland with their comments on the proposal by the end of November 1995. Finland will submit the project proposal to HELCOM 17 for approval.

The Committee, taking into account that under Article 16, paragraph 1 of the 1992 Helsinki Convention reporting on the implementation of HELCOM recommendations will be mandatory, requested the Chairman and the Maritime Secretary to develop a detailed reporting procedure to follow the implementation of each HELCOM Recommendation in the CC field.

Denmark (aerial surveillance), Finland (combatting spillages) and Poland (offshore installations) will act as Lead Countries in the preparation of the CC part of the Final Report on the implementation of the 1988 Ministerial Declaration.

The Committee re-elected Mr. Olli Pahkala from Finland and elected Mr. Thomas Fagö from Sweden as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of CC, respectively, for a period of two years.

1.7 HELCOM Programme Implementation Task Force (HELCOM PITF)

In 1995 HELCOM PITF met twice, for its Sixth Meeting on 31 May - 1 June 1995, in St. Petersburg, Russia, and for its Seventh Meeting on 22-23 November 1995 in Vilnius, Lithuania. Delegations from HELCOM Contracting Parties, other HELCOM PITF member countries, i.e. Belarus, Norway, the Ukraine and the other HELCOM PITF members, i.e. the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the European Investment Bank (EIB), the Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO), the Nordic Investment Bank (NIB), the World Bank, the Baltic Sea International Fishery Commission (IBSFC) and observers of HELCOM, i.e. Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB), European Union for Coastal Conservation (EUCC), International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), Standing Conference of Rectors, Presidents and Vice-chancellors (CRE), World Wide fund for Nature (WWF) and Union of Baltic Cities (UBC), participated in the Meetings.

Mr. Göte Svenson from Sweden acted as Chairman and Mr. Niels-J. Seeberg-Elverfeldt, the HELCOM Programme Co-ordinator, as Secretary to both Meetings. The Executive Secretary, Mr. Ulf Ehlin participated in both Meetings and the Technological Secretary, Mr. Vassili Rodionov in the Sixth Meeting.

HELCOM PITF 6 decided to request the Executive Secretary to submit a paper on achievements in implementing the Baltic Sea Joint Comprehensive Environmental Action

Programme (JCP) to the Sofia Conference of Environmental Ministers on 23-25 October 1995 in Sofia, Bulgaria. The Meeting adopted a new hot spot reporting format as well as one for reporting on status of JCP implementation by element. It expressed gratitude to Germany for arranging the HELCOM Workshop on the "Reduction of Emissions from Traffic in the Baltic Sea Area" and endorsed the proposal to arrange workshops on (1) Certification, registration and enforcement of vehicles, (2) Inspection and maintenance of in-use vehicles and (3) Organization and technical requirements for the public transport; traffic impact assessment as a part of physical planning. Sweden, Germany and Finland offered to host these workshops in the order proposed. The Meeting also took note of a Seminar on "Cost-Effective Methods for Water Protection, planned for 22-24 August 1995 in Kristianstad, Sweden and decided to co-sponsor it.

HELCOM PITF 7 took note of submitted reports on status of JCP implementation by element with appreciation, feeling that they introduced needed transparency in the process of JCP implementation. The Meeting took also note of ICLEI's withdrawal from its Lead Party responsibility for the JCP elements on Policies, Laws and Regulations as well as Institutional Strengthening nd Human Resource Development. ICLEI had underlined its commitment to HELCOM PITF, lack of funding made it, however, impossible to continue to act as a Lead Party. ICLEI would, therefore, withdraw from its Lead Party responsibility and appreciate to continue as an observer. Reacting on the information about the outcome of the Conference of the Environmental Ministers in October in Sofia, Bulgaria, the Meeting decided to urge PITF members and the Secretariat to seek close co-ordination with the EAP Task Force and the PPC.

Concluding considerations regarding the Prime Ministerial Conference in Visby, Sweden, 3-4 May 1996, the Meeting agreed that it would be essential to seek reconfirmation by the forthcoming meeting of Heads of Governments and of Environmental Ministers of the HELCOM mandate laid down in the Baltic Sea Declaration (Ronneby 1990) and reiterated by Environmental Ministers 1992, including the authorization granted to PITF to update the JCP as warranted by developments in the region. PITF would also welcome supplementary assignments, in particular as regards programmes for abatement of pollution from non-point sources such as agriculture and the transportation sector as well as strengthening mechanisms for programme implementation. The Meeting further endorsed the proposals contained in the Report from an Informal Meeting, held on 1 September 1995, regarding the Prime Ministerial Conference in Visby, Sweden, 3-4 May 1996, i.a. to substitute the Annual Report 1995 of HELCOM PITF by the HELCOM Report to be submitted to the Visby Conference in May 1996.

Regarding implementation of the Ministerial Declaration 1988 the Meeting accepted the responsibilities regarding the elaboration of the relevant PITF sub-chapters as contained in Annex 4 of the Report of the First Meeting of the HELCOM Project on Preparation of the Final Report on Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration 1988.

Finland and Sweden are requested to submit, on the basis of comments received, a revised proposal for criteria to remove the hot spots from the List of Hot Spots by 9 February 1996, the deadline for PITF 8 submission. The submission of questionnaires for preparation of the Fourth Activity Inventory on status of activities at the hot spots showed great deficiencies. For this reason the Meeting decided to urge for adequate and timely reporting on status of activities at the JCP hot spots, to set a deadline for submission of missing questionnaires and relevant

information to the Secretariat and asked the Lead Parties Finland and Sweden to advise the Secretariat when completing the Activity Inventory.

On the proposal by Germany the Meeting decided, taking into account the advice of TC 6, to remove hot spots 114 and 116 (waste water treatment plants in Greifswald and Stralsund) from the List of Hot Spots.

On the report of Lead Party Poland on agriculture the Meeting expressed gratitude to the Polish Delegation for its work and decided to encourage the Lead Party to further elaborate its project proposal "Reduction of Pollution Entering the Baltic Sea from Agricultural Activities and Rural Settlements" taking into account views expressed by other PITF parties, i.a. decreasing the size of the project, focusing to a great extent on collecting and disseminating existing knowledge as regards development of environmentally sound practices in agriculture.

Regarding traffic and the preparation of the three workshops referred to in HELCOM PITF 6 the Meeting expressed appreciation of the Finnish confirmation to organize the workshop on "Organization and Technical Requirements for the Public Transport; Traffic Impact Assessment as a part of Physical Planning" and of Estonia willing to host it jointly with Finland. It encouraged to proceed with the preparations of the workshop hosted by Finland and Estonia as well as the seminar planned to be hosted by Germany. Sweden will explore its possibilities to co-host this seminar.

The Meeting expressed support for HELCOM to co-sponsor the WWF Wetland Conference 1996. Regarding conclusions and recommendations of the Seminar on Cost-effective Methods for Water Protection, particularly regarding co-operation with other appropriate HELCOM bodies for organization of a workshop/seminar to develop models to calculate cost-effectiveness for comparing methods to reduce and re-circulate nutrients in 1996. The Meeting took note and expressed appreciation of Germany's preparedness to explore possibilities of organizing an international workshop on this issue.

Considering the importance of public awareness and environmental education (PA & EE) for JCP implementation the Meeting decided that status reports on implementation of the JCP shall include information on how PA & EE activities have been taken into account in connection with JCP implementation.

On the proposal to establish an Annual Baltic Sea Environment Day the Meeting decided to recommend to HELCOM 17 to institutionalize an Annual Baltic Sea Environmental Day either on 22 March or on 3 September.

The work plan of HELCOM PITF has been slightly revised. The Meeting decided to submit this version of the HELCOM PITF work plan covering the years 1996-1997 for approval to HELCOM 17.

Mr. Mieczsyław S. Ostojski from Poland was elected as Vice-Chairman of HELCOM PITF.

The NIB reported that the bank has been the leading agency for co-ordinating an Investment Study for the oil shale fuelled power plants in Narva, as well as the modernization of oil shale mining operations in North-East Estonia. Narva is one of the hot spots around the Baltic Sea. The Investment Plan was submitted to the Estonian government in November 1995. The

Nordic Council of Ministers decided to extend the Baltic Investment Programme (BIP), managed by the Nordic Investment Bank. The amount has been increased from ECU 30 million to ECU 60 million and the programmes have been prolonged until 1999. BIP aims at financing small and medium sized enterprises in the Baltic states, as well as providing technical assistance to the three national investment banks (Estonian Investment Bank (EstIB), Investment Bank of Latvia (LIB) and Lithuanian Development Bank (LDB). The extension of BIP opens possibilities to provide financing for infrastructure projects.

The World Bank requested the views of the Meeting concerning potential Baltic Sea oriented activities at the early stage of the development for funding under the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The proposed activities concerned: (a) management of Baltic costal lagoons and wetlands; (b) development of oil reception facilities for control of pollution in ports in Poland and other countries and © a "large marine ecosystem" proposal developed by local marine science institutions. The Meeting noted potential interest in all three activities and advised that they should be prepared to the concept paper level for further consideration in the future.

The Fourth Activity Inventory and a Draft HELCOM Report for the Prime Ministerial Conference in Visby in substitution of the Annual Report 1995 of HELCOM PITF will be submitted to HELCOM 17 in time.

Actions arising from the Ministerial Decisions at HELCOM 15

HELCOM PITF members and observers, also mindful of these Ministerial Decisions, continued to be active on all levels to further the implementation of the JCP. Particularly PITF member countries in transition generally made provisos in their budgets for environmental expenditures. Additionally, HELCOM PITF co-ordinates its activities to further JCP implementation with other countries and organizations as well as with the larger Environmental Action Programme for Central and Eastern Europe (EAP), both in an attempt to make optimal use of existing resources and to avoid duplication. Establishment of an adequate legal framework progresses in the environmental area, with respect to private laws on companies, property, banking etc., however, is still somewhat slow. Establishment of an appropriate institutional infrastructure for the administration of environmental protection and enforcement of relevant laws is forthcoming. It requires, however, a lot of external assistance, particularly with respect to development of human resources.

2. ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMMISSION 1995

Mr. Harald-Adam Velner and Mr. Ain Lääne from Estonia were Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission, respectively.

Mr. Ulf Ehlin acted as Executive Secretary, Ms. Eeva-Liisa Poutanen as Environment Secretary, Mr. Adam Kowalewski as Maritime Secretary, Mr. Vassili Rodionov as Technological Secretary and Mr. Niels-J. Seeberg-Elverfeldt as Programme Coordinator of the Commission. The other members of the staff of the Commission were Ms. Ritva Kostakow-Kämpe as Administrative Officer, Ms. Teija-Liisa Lehtinen, Environment Assistant, Ms. Leena Heikkilä, Maritime Assistant, Ms. Satu Tofferi, Technological Assistant, Ms. Riitta Harjunkoski, Programme Coordination Assistant, Mr. Håkan Blomberg and Mr. Stefan

Sacklén, Administrative Assistants, as well as Ms. Salme Mikkeli who was employed as part-time Assistant until 31 July 1995 and as full-time Assistant as from 1 August 1995 in the Secretariat.

The term of office of the half-time professional staff member, Ms. Maria Kausto, financially supported by the Barbara Gauntlett Foundation, USA, ended on 30 June 1995. Ms. Kausto contributed to the Secretariat's work within the framework of HELCOM PITF.

According to the Convention, the contributions by the Contracting Parties to the budget of the Commission are based on equal shares of the Contracting Parties. In addition, the Government of Finland has paid an extra contribution to cover the rent of the office, communication and equipment expenses and a part of the salaries of the office staff. However, an agreement was made at an extraordinary HELCOM meeting in Gdansk, Poland on 23 March 1993, for a special arrangement on sharing the costs for a transition period of three years. Accordingly, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Poland and Sweden paid 16.4 %, Russia 12 % and Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania 2 % each after deduction of the extra contribution by Finland and the 2.5 % contribution by the European Community.

In addition, an equivalent of FIM 16 189 was received from EU Nordic Party Junior Trainees, FIM 58,479 from the EU and FIM 34,042 from Norway for meeting support especially to meetings of HELCOM PITF. Also, an equivalent of FIM 90,615 was received from the EU to cover for the costs of the revision of the report on Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Baltic Sea Region.

The distribution of expenses of the Commission during the fiscal year from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995 was as follows:

Meetings	727,000
Salaries	3,657,000
Travels	269,000
Data handling and Consultant services	1,130,000
Publications	157,000
Support for countries in transition	250,000
Other administration	1,653,000
Total FIM	7,843,000

The Executive Secretary was Secretary General of the 16th meeting of the Commission 14-17 March 1995, and conducted the work of the Secretariat. He also made the necessary preparations and acted as Secretary of the following meetings:

the 21st Meeting of the Chairmen and the Secretariat of the Helsinki Commission (CASH), Tallinn, Estonia, 2-3 June 1995;

informal meeting in preparation for the Prime Ministerial Conference in Visby, Sweden, May 1996, Helsinki, Finland, 1 September 1995.

The Executive Secretary also performed the duties of Manager of the HELCOM Project Preparation of the Final Report on Implementation of the 1988 Ministerial Declaration (HELCOM FINREP).

He further acted as chairman of the informal meeting on HELCOM data activities and data strategy, Helsinki, Finland, 15-16 August 1995.

The above mentioned meetings were also attended by the Environment, Technological and Maritime Secretaries as well as by the Programme Coordinator. The Administrative Officer participated in CASH 2 1.

The Chairman of the Commission and the Executive Secretary visited jointly

the Minister of the Environment of Poland, Mr. Stanislaw Zelichowski, to discuss HELCOM administration and activities, Warsaw, Poland, 15 February 1995;

the Deputy Director for DG XI, European Commission, Mr. Fernand F. Thurmes to discuss HELCOM administration and activities as well as possibilities for HELCOM to more effectively use EU funds to promote environmental activities within the Baltic Sea Region, Brussels, Belgium, 14 December 1995.

Furthermore, the Executive Secretary participated in the following meetings under the auspices of the Helsinki Commission or paid the following visits:

visited the Swedish Minister of the Environment, Ms. Anna Lindh, to discuss HELCOM activities, Stockholm, Sweden, 18 January 1995;

participated, together with the Programme Coordinator, in the 1. ECO-BALTIC Conference organized by International Network for Environmental Management, INEM, and gave a statement on "The Baltic Action Programme, a Tool to Restore the Baltic Sea Environment", Liibeck, Germany, 8-10 March 1995;

the Meeting of EC/TC Chairmen, Hamburg, Germany, 5-6 April 1995;

the Minister of the Environment of Latvia, Mr. Endulis Emsis, to discuss HELCOM related activities in Latvia, Riga, Latvia, 11-12 May 1995;

visited, together with the Technological Secretary and the Programme Coordinator, Mr. A.K. Frolov, Chairman of the Leningrad Region Committee of Nature Protection, in conjunction with PITF 6 to discuss the implementation of the JCP, St. Petersburg, Russia, 29 May 1995;

visited, together with the Chairman of HELCOM PITF, the Programme Coordinator and the Technological Secretary, the Environmental Minister of the Leningrad Region, Mr. Juri V. Fokin, and Mr. Alexei 1. Kudrin, First Deputy Mayor of St. Petersburg, in conjunction with PITF 6 to discuss the implementation of the JCP, St. Petersburg, Russia, 29 May 1995;

the Sixth Meeting of HELCOM PITF, St. Petersburg, Russia, 31 May-l June 1995;

participated in the inauguration of the municipal waste water treatment plant in Korgessaare together with, i.a., the Ministers of the Environment of Estonia and Sweden, Korgessaare, Estonia, 18 August 1995;

Seminar on Cost-Effective Methods for Water Protection, organized by the County of Kristianstad, Kristianstad, Sweden, 22-24 August 1995;

the Sixth Meeting of the Environment Committee (EC), Helsinki, Finland, 16-20 October 1995;

the Sixth Meeting of the Technological Committee (TC), Helsinki, Finland, 16-20 October 1995:

visited the Swedish Ministry of the Environment to discuss preparations for the Prime Ministerial Conference in Visby, May 1996, Stockholm, Sweden, 10 November 1995.

The Environment Secretary made the necessary preparations and acted as Secretary of the following meetings:

the meeting of the Chairmen of EC, Hamburg, Germany, 5-6 April 1995;
the Twelfth Meeting of the Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (EC EGAP), Gdansk, Poland, 26-28 April 1995;
the Fifth Meeting of the Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (EC NATURE), Roosta, Estonia, 2-5 May 1995;
the Second Meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Coastal Monitoring, Uppsala, Sweden, 11-12 May 1995;
the Tenth Meeting of the Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea (EC MORS), St. Petersburg, Russia, 15-19 May 1995;
the Informal Data Meeting, Helsinki, Finland, 15-16 August 1995;
the Joint TC/EC ad hoc Expert Meeting to Assess National Nutrient programmes (TC/EC ASNUT 95), Helsinki, Finland, 11-13 September 1995 (in cooperation with the Technological Secretary);
the Sixth Meeting of the Environment Committee (EC), Helsinki, Finland, 16-20 October 1995;
the Joint Meeting of EC 6 and TC 6, Helsinki, Finland, 18 October 1995 (in cooperation with the Technological Secretary);
the Third Meeting of the Steering Group for the Coordination of the Third Periodic Assessment (EC BETA), Helsinki, Finland, 27-30 November 1995;
the Meeting of the Chairmen of EC, Hamburg, Germany, 18- 19 December 1995.

Furthermore, the Environment Secretary participated in the following meetings:

the Sixth Meeting of the Technological Committee (TC), Helsinki, Finland, 16-20 October 1995.

The Environment Secretary has also carried out tasks related to the implementation and follow-up of decisions concerning matters in the environmental field.

The Technological Secretary made the necessary preparations and acted as Secretary of the following meetings:

the Workshop on Traffic, Rostock-Warnemünde, Germany, 23-27 January 1995;
the Seminar on Food Industry, Kaunas, Lithuania, 20-23 March 1995;
the Meeting of the Chairmen of TC, Hamburg, Germany, 5-6 April 1995;
the Fifth meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Inputs from Diffuse Sources (TC DIFF), Stockholm, Sweden, 8-12 May 1995;
the Fifth meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Discharges and Emissions from Point Sources (TC POINT), Pärnu, Estonia, 22-26 May 1995;
the Third meeting of the ad hoc Expert Group on Pollution Load to the Baltic Sea (TC POLO), Riga, Latvia, 5-8 June 1995;
the First meeting of the Project for Preparation of the Final Report on Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration 1988 (HELCOM FINREP), Helsinki, Finland, 6-7 September 1995;

the Joint TC/EC ad hoc Expert Meeting to Assess National Nutrient Programmes (TC/EC ASNUT 95), Helsinki, Finland, 11-13 September 1995 (in cooperation with the Environment Secretary);

the Sixth meeting of the Technological Committee (TC), Helsinki, Finland, 16-20 October 1995;

- the Joint Meeting of TC 6 and EC 6, Helsinki, Finland, 18 October 1995 (in cooperation with the Environment Secretary);
- the Informal Expert Meeting on Agriculture, Warsaw, Poland, 7-8 December 1995 (in cooperation with the Programme Co-ordinator);

the Informal HELCOM Meeting of Transport, Berlin, Germany, 14-15 December 1995 (in cooperation with the Programme Co-ordinator);

- the Meeting of the Chairmen of TC, Hamburg, Germany, 18- 19 December 1995.

Furthermore, the Technological Secretary participated in the following meetings:

the Twelfth meeting of the Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (EC EGAP 12), Gdansk, Poland, 26-28 April 1995;

the Sixth Meeting of HELCOM PITF (HELCOM PITF 6), St.Petersburg, Russia, 31 May-l June 1995;

the Informal Data Meeting, Helsinki, Finland, 15-16 August 1995;

the meeting of the Lead Countries, Data Manager and Quality Assurance Co-ordinator of PLC-3, Helsinki, Finland, 16-18 August 1995;

the Sixth Meeting of the Environment Committee (EC), Helsinki, Finland, 16-20 October 1995.

The Technological Secretary has also carried out tasks related to the implementation and follow-up of decisions concerning matters in the technological field and performed the duties of Secretary of the HELCOM Project for Preparation of the Final Report on Implementation of the 1988 Ministerial Declaration (HELCOM FINREP).

The Maritime Secretary made the necessary preparations and acted as Secretary of the following meetings:

the Seventh Meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Air Pollution from Ships (MC AIR), Helsinki, Finland, 10-12 April 1995;

the Third Meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Reception Facilities in Ports (MC REFAC), Gdansk, Poland, 4-6 April 1995;

Drafting Group Meeting of MC REFAC in Helsinki, Finland, 12-13 June 1995;

the Fourth Meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Reception Facilities in Ports (MC REFAC), Helsinki, Finland, 29-31 August 1995;

the twelfth meeting of the Baltic Maritime Co-ordinating Meeting (BMCM) held in conjunction with MEPC 37 in London, United Kingdom, 10 September 1995;

the 19th Meeting of the Combatting Committee (CC), Copenhagen Denmark, 3-6 October 1995;

the 21st Meeting of the Maritime Committee (MC), Copenhagen, Denmark, 9-l 1 October 1995;

the Eighth Meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Air Pollution from Ships (MC AIR), Helsinki, Finland, 15-17 January 1996.

The Maritime Secretary also acted as Secretary of the following meetings:

the Second Meeting of the Informal Working Group on revision of the HELCOM Combatting Manual (CC MANUREV), Cuxhaven, Germany, 3-4 May 1995;
the Third Meeting of the Informal Working Group on revision of the HELCOM Combatting Manual (CC MANUREV), Helsinki, Finland, 4-5 December 1995.

Furthermore, the Maritime Secretary participated in the following meetings:
the Baltic Sea Environment Pollution Prevention (BSEPP) Follow-up Seminar in Tallinn, Estonia, on 6 September 1995;
the Nordic Workshop on the Effectiveness of Multilateral Environmental Agreements, Helsinki, Finland, 7-9 September 1995;
the 37th Session of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) in London, United Kingdom, 11-15 September 1995;
the Baltic Sea Environmental Pollution Prevention, BSEPP-95, Regional Training Programme, in Karlskrona, Sweden, on 6 November 1995.

The Maritime Secretary has also carried out the tasks related to the implementation and follow-up of the decisions concerning the maritime and combatting fields.

The Programme Co-ordinator made the necessary preparations and acted as Secretary of the following meetings:
the Sixth Meeting of HELCOM PITF, St. Petersburg, Russia, 31 May - 1 June 1995;
the Seventh Meeting of HELCOM PITF, Vilnius, Lithuania, 22-23 November 1995.

The Programme Co-ordinator participated in the following meetings:
Drafting Group Meeting - Annual Report of HELCOM PITF 1994, Helsinki Finland, 9 January 1995;
Informal Meeting on Reporting about Status of Activities at JCP Hot Spots and possible Establishment of an Information System, Helsinki, Finland, 10 January 1995;
Workshop on Traffic, Rostock-Warnemünde, Germany, 23-27 January 1995;
Fourth Meeting of HELCOM PITF PA & EE, Stockholm, Sweden, 13-14 September 1995;
HELCOM Workshop on Good Agriculture Practice Codes and Sanitary Standards, Gdansk, Poland, 21-22 September 1995;
Informal Expert Meeting on Agriculture, Warsaw, Poland, 7-8 December 1995 (in cooperation with the Technological Secretary);
Informal HELCOM Meeting on Transport, Berlin, Germany, 14-15 December 1995 (in cooperation with the Technological Secretary).

Furthermore, the Programme Co-ordinator participated in the following meetings in order to promote and co-ordinate JCP implementation, partly through presentations on the JCP:
1995 1. ECO-BALTIC Conference organized by the International Network for Environmental Management (INEM) (presentations regarding Role of Private Industry in JCP Implementation), Lübeck, Germany 8-10 March 1995;
Hansa-Kolleg (presentation on Role of Private Industry in JCP Implementation), St. Petersburg, Russia, 4-6 May 1995.

Publications and data

In accordance with the decision by the Commission, the following volumes of the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings have been published:

No. 60 Activities of the Commission 1995; Including the 16th meeting of the Commission held in Helsinki 14-17 March 1995

No. 61 Radioactivity in the Baltic Sea 1984 - 1991 (in print)

A newsletter "HELCOM NEWS" containing information on HELCOM activities has been produced four times and submitted to the Contracting Parties, institutions and persons involved in the HELCOM work as well as to cooperating organizations.

The consultant of the Commission, Finnish Environment Agency, FEA, updated the data sets for the assessment period 1989-1993 based on the national data submissions, and numerous data sets and graphical outputs were delivered to the Conveners of the sub-regional expert groups involved in the preparation of the Third Periodic Assessment. The compilation of national data submissions as well as the graphical presentations of the 1993 BMP data from selected stations, according to the agreement between the Commission and the consultant, were submitted to the sixth meeting of EC by FEA. For the assessment work the temporal trend assessment of BMP data on contaminants in biota from the Baltic Sea was carried out by ICES.

Several data sets have been delivered to various scientists and institutes following the rules of publicity of the BMP data.

Furthermore, most of the 1993 and part of 1994 data on airborne pollution have been submitted by the Contracting Parties to the consultant of the Commission, ECE/EMEP Chemical Co-ordinating Centre, Norwegian Institute for Air Research, NILU, in Norway. Data concerning radioactive substances, both environmental and release data, have been compiled by the consultants, FEA and the Finnish Centre for Radiation and Nuclear Safety, STUK, and were submitted together with graphical presentations to the tenth meeting of EC MORS.

Regarding the development of the Basic Geographic Information of the Baltic Drainage Basin (BGIS) the feasibility study, financially supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers, was carried out in 1994. Due to difficulties in fund-raising for this initiative, the BGIS work has been put temporarily "on-ice". Some of the recommended themes in the BGIS feasibility study have been included in the proposal for a HELCOM GIS, directly addressing the needs of the Helsinki Commission for GIS data.

Regarding status of activities of the JCP hot spots, HELCOM PITF distributes annually an Activity Inventory, the thus far third was issued in February 1995. It contains besides specification of the hot spots note of whether technical assistance and/or investments are underway, of the extent to which resources have been allocated or reserved in Mio. ECU and on sources of finance.

Cooperation with other governments

HELCOM 16 granted observer status to Belarus who has been the only country being observer to HELCOM during 1995.

Cooperation with other international organizations

HELCOM 16 granted observer status to the Baltic Ports Organization, BPO, the European Fertilizer Manufacturers' Association, EFMA, and BirdLife International for a time period of one year.

The international organizations being observers of the Commission during 1995 have, therefore, been the following:

- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC)
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- Oslo and Paris Commission (OSCOM/PARCOM)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe (WHO/EURO)
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- Baltic Ports Organization (BPO)
- BirdLife International
- Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB)
- European Chlor-Alkali Industry (EURO CHLOR)
- European Fertilizer Manufacturers' Association (EFMA)
- European Union for Coastal Conservation (EUCC)
- International Environmental Agency for Local Governments (ICLEI)
- Standing Conference of Rectors, Presidents and Vice-Chancellors of the European Universities (CRE)
- Stichting Greenpeace Council, Greenpeace International
- Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC)
- World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF International.

The Commission was represented at different international meetings by

Mr. Hartmut Nies, Germany, at the meeting of the Working Group on Radioactive Substances (RAD) of the Oslo and Paris Commissions, Lisbon, Portugal, 1-3 February 1995;

Mr. Julius Iassig, Finland, at the Meeting of Government-Designated Experts to review and revise a Global Programme of Action to protect the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities, Reykjavik, Iceland, 6-10 March 1995;

Mr. Julius Lassig, Finland, at the Joint Meeting of the Oslo and Paris Commissions, Brussels, 26-30 June 1995;

Mr. Sverker Evans, Sweden, at the informal meeting on conflicts between seals and fisheries, Åland, 22-25 August 1995;

Ms. Terttu Melvasalo, Finland, at the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities, Washington D.C., U.S.A., 23 October - 3 November 1995.

The Chairman and the Executive Secretary represented the Commission at the following meetings:

Third Conference on Baltic Sea States Subregional Cooperation, Västerås, Sweden, 8-9 November 1995;

the 5th International Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development in the Baltic Region "Transforming the Baltic Environment - Strategies and Policies", organized by Stockholm Environment Institute, Nykoping, Sweden, 13-15 November 1995.

The Executive Secretary represented the Commission at the following international meetings:

Second Meeting of the BALTEX Science Steering Group, Helsinki, Finland, 25-27 January, 1995;

the "Conference on Nordic Activities in the Adjacent Areas, Experiences and Perspectives" organized by the Nordic Council of Ministers, Copenhagen, Denmark 27-28 March 1995;

participated, together with the Environment Secretary, in "Expert Seminar on the Creation of Spatial Data Sets in the Baltic Sea Region" organized by National Land Survey of Finland within the framework of Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea 2010, Helsinki, Finland, 3-4 April 1995;

planning meeting for EXPOSITION 97, Stockholm, Sweden, 19 April 1995;

the Baltic Sea Conference 1995 for local and regional government, with a statement "Transports and the Baltic Sea Environment", Norrköping, Sweden, 18 May 1995;

Fourth Ministerial Session of the Council of the Baltic Sea States, with a report on "Matters related to the protection of the environment in the Baltic Sea drainage area", Gdansk, Poland, 19 May 1995;

Economic Forum of the OSCE, with a statement on "Cooperation among the States in the Baltic Sea Region on Environmental Matters", Prague, Czech Republic, 7-9 June 1995;

"Conference on Funding and Institutional Issues for the Washington Action Programme on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities" organized by the Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea, ACOPS, with a background paper on "The Baltic Sea Joint Comprehensive Environmental Action Programme - A Tool to Implement the Helsinki Convention" and chairing a panel on the Baltic Sea, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, 18-20 June 1995;

Stockholm Water Symposium, with a presentation "HELCOM - Guardian and Catalyst for the Protection of the Baltic Sea", Stockholm, Sweden, 14-17 August 1995;

the Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials of the Council of the Baltic Sea States, informing on "Environmental problems in the Baltic Sea Region", Stockholm, Sweden, 5 September 1995;

ECOCITY Conference and Exhibition, with a statement "The Helsinki Commission, Guardian of and Catalyst for the Protection of the Baltic Sea", Helsinki, Finland, 6 September 1995;

the 4th Parliamentary Conference on Cooperation in the Baltic Sea Area, Rönne, Denmark, 12-13 September 1995;

the Baltic Sea Symposium, organized by the Swedish Ocean Industry Group, SWEDOCEAN, with a presentation "HELCOM and the Baltic Sea Action Programme", Stockholm, Sweden, 14 September 1995;

Seminar for Environmental Journalists, organized by the Nordic Council of Ministers, with a presentation "Environmental problems in the Baltic Sea Area and HELCOM activities", Copenhagen, Denmark, 20 September 1995;

participated, together with the Programme Coordinator, in the Third Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe", Sofia, Bulgaria, 23-25 October 1995.

The Executive Secretary also paid the following visits:

Stockholm Environmental Institute to discuss and prepare for the 5th International Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development in the Baltic region "Transforming the Baltic Environment - Strategies and Policies" to be held in Nyköping, Sweden, 13-15 November 1995, Stockholm, Sweden, 18 January 1995;

County Administration of Kristianstad to discuss and prepare for the seminar "Cost-Effective Methods for Water Protection", Kristianstad, Sweden, 9 February 1995.

The Environment Secretary represented the Commission at:

the consultation on common aspects within the ECE/LRTAP Convention, London, United Kingdom, 16 January 1995;

the Workshop on Networks and Communication in the Baltic Sea Area, Tampere, Finland, 27-28 March 1995;

the Expert Seminar on the Creation of Spatial Data Sets in the Baltic Sea Region, Helsinki, Finland, 3 April 1995;

the meeting with representatives of ECOTEC, München, Germany, 7 April 1995 (together with the Technological Secretary);

the meeting of the ICES Working Group on the Baltic Marine Environment, Norrköping, Sweden, 19-21 April 1995;

the meeting with the ICES Advisory Committee on the Marine Environment (ACME) and representatives of OSPARCOM, Copenhagen, Denmark, 29 May 1995;

the Fourth International Conference on the Protection of the North Sea 1995, Esbjerg, Denmark, 8-9 June 1995;

the Second Meeting of the European Topic Centre on Marine and Coastal Environment (ETC/MC) of the European Environment Agency (EEA), La Spezia, Italy, 3-5 August 1995;

the consultation between the HELCOM and ECE Secretariats and EMEP Centres, Geneva, Switzerland, 25 August 1995 (together with the Technological Secretary);

the 1995 Annual Science Conference (83rd ICES Statutory Meeting), Aalborg, Denmark, 20-23 September 1995 (together with the Maritime Secretary).

The Technological Secretary represented the Commission at the following international meetings:

EUROCHLOR Conference "Environment and Chlorine Industry", Brussels, Belgium, 9- 10 February 1995;

the meeting with representatives of ECOTEC, München, Germany, 7 April 1995 (together with the Environment Secretary);

the Second seminar of the UNESCO-HELCOM sponsored Baltic Floating University (BFU), 11-13 August 1995, Helsinki;

the meeting between the Helsinki Commission and the Economic Commission for Europe, Geneva, Switzerland, 25 August 1995 (together with the Environment Secretary);
the Meeting of the Working Group on Nutrients (OSPARCOM NUT), London, U.K., 19-22 September 1995;
the Meeting of the Working Group on Inputs to the Marine Environment (OSPARCOM INPUT), London, U.K., 20-24 November 1995;
the Baltic Environmental Data and Information Management Conference, Jurmala, Latvia, 28 November 1995.

The Programme Co-ordinator represented the Commission at the following international meetings:

PPC and EAP Task Force meetings, Paris, France, 14- 16 June 1995, ;
21st Meeting of International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (presentation on HELCOM activities), Warsaw, Poland, 4 September 1995;
ECOCITY, Trade Fair and Seminar (presentation on Role of Private Industry in JCP Implementation), Helsinki, Finland, 6-7 September 1995;
Third Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe", Sofia, Bulgaria, 23-25 October 1995.

Co-sponsored conferences

HELCOM co-sponsored the following conferences and seminars during 1995:

ECO-BALTIC Conference organized by International Network for Environmental Management, INEM, Lübeck, Germany, 8-10 March 1995;
- Seminar on Cost-Effective Methods for Water Protection organized by the County Administration of Kristianstad, Sweden, 22-24 August 1995;
- the 5th International Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development in the Baltic Region "Transforming the Baltic Environment - Strategies and Policies" organized by Stockholm Environment Institute, Nyköping, Sweden, 13-15 November 1995.

3. 17th MEETING OF THE COMMISSION, 12-14 MARCH 1996

The Helsinki Commission held its 17th Meeting in Helsinki from 12 to 14 March 1996. The Meeting was attended by representatives of all the Contracting Parties, viz. Denmark, Estonia, European Community, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden. The Meeting was also attended by representatives of the Observer Government of the Ukraine. Furthermore, an observer from the United States of America participated and the following observer organizations were represented: International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC), International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), Oslo and Paris Commissions (OSPAR), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Birdlife International, Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB), EURO CHLOR, European Fertilizer Manufacturers' Association (EFMA), and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). Furthermore, the Meeting was attended by a representative of the International Network for Environment Management (INEM) as an applicant for observership to HELCOM.

The Meeting was chaired by the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Harald-Adam Velner. Mr. Ulf Ehlin, Executive Secretary of the Commission, acted as Secretary General of the meeting.

The Commission considered and decided upon matters within the environment, technological, maritime and legal fields related to the protection of the Baltic Sea as well as upon matters related to cooperation in combatting pollution on the sea and matters related to the work of the HELCOM Programme Implementation Task Force.

The Commission especially followed up the implementation of the 1988 Ministerial Declaration and the Decisions taken on ministerial level during HELCOM 15. Inter alia, the Commission examined the conclusions from the assessment of national measures to reduce nutrient inputs, and urged the Contracting Parties to improve their national programmes and enforcement tools in order to reach the overall 50% reduction goal as soon as possible, giving the priority attention to reduction of pollution from agricultural activities and rural settlements in the entire Baltic Sea catchment area, reduction of NO,-emissions from transport sector and reduction of discharges of nutrients (especially nitrogen compounds) from municipal sewage treatment plants and industry.

As regards measures to reduce the discharges and emissions of heavy metals (HMs) and persistent organic pollutants (POPs), the Commission decided to assess relevant national activities with a view to presenting the results to HELCOM 18 in 1997.

HELCOM Recommendations adopted by the 17th meeting of the Commission

The Commission adopted two HELCOM Recommendations related to the field of the Environment Committee (EC), concerning:

- protection of harbour porpoise in the Baltic Sea Area (HELCOM Recommendation 17/2)
- information and consultation with regard to construction of new installations affecting the Baltic Sea (HELCOM Recommendation 17/3)

eight recommendations related to the field of the Technological Committee (TC), concerning:

- reduction of emissions from transport sector affecting the Baltic Sea (HELCOM Recommendation 17/ 1)
- restriction of atmospheric emissions and waste water discharges from hard coal cokeries (HELCOM Recommendation 17/4)
- restriction of discharges from the iron and steel industry (HELCOM Recommendation 17/5)
- reduction of pollution from discharges into water, emissions into the atmosphere and phosphogypsum out of the production of fertilizers (HELCOM Recommendation 17/6
- reduction of discharges from urban areas by proper management of stormwater (HELCOM Recommendation 17/7)
- reduction of discharges from the kraft pulp industry (HELCOM Recommendation 17/8)
- reduction of discharges from the sulphite pulp industry (HELCOM Recommendation 17/9)
- basic principles for realization of BAT and BEP in food industry (HELCOM Recommendation 17/10)

two recommendations related to the field of the Maritime Committee (MC), concerning:

- Reception Facilities (HELCOM Recommendation 17/1 1)
- Measures to Abate Pollution of the Marine Environment by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Grounding, Collision, Sinking of a Ship or Other Maritime Casualty (HELCOM Recommendation 17/12)

one recommendation related to the field of the Combatting Committee (CC), concerning:

> 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) (HELCOM Recommendation 17/13.

All recommendations adopted by the 17th meeting of the Commission are attached to this publication.

Matters related to the Environment Committee (EC)

The substantive items from the report of the sixth meeting of the EC are described in detail under Chapter 1.2 of this publication.

Regarding the reorganisation of the subsidiary bodies of the Environment Committee, the Commission endorsed four projects under EC; on Red Data Book of Baltic Biotopes, on future continuation of the work of EC MORS, on coastal conditions and monitoring and on optimizing bacterioplankton production measurements for the Baltic Sea.

The Commission adopted HELCOM Recommendation concerning information and consultation with regard to construction of new installations affecting the Baltic Sea and invited EC to reconsider the Attachment to the Recommendation (Criteria to assist in determination of environmental significance of proposed activities) taking into account the comments made by Poland and the criteria established by the European Community.

Regarding issues related to nature conservation and biodiversity the Commission adopted HELCOM Recommendation concerning protection of harbour porpoise in the Baltic Sea Area and considered issues related to the protection of seals and requested EC NATURE as well as the Environment Committee to further discuss the seal issues.

The Commission urged all Contracting Parties to ratify the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds Agreement and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. The Commission also recommended to all Contracting Parties to start developing strategies for the protection and wide use of migratory population of waterbirds with special regards to threatened species and urged all Contracting Parties to identify and protect internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds in the Baltic Sea Region under relevant national and international legislation.

The Commission adopted the revised Guidelines for the Disposal of Dredged Spoils which now follow the Guidelines agreed under the framework of the Oslo Commission for the Northeast Atlantic and the North Sea area.

The Commission adopted the Data and Information Strategy of the Helsinki Commission and endorsed the proposal to start developing a computerized network for data handling and the related project for which Germany is acting as Lead Country.

Matters related to the Technological Committee (TC)

The Commission considered the report of the sixth meeting of the Technological Committee (TC), the substantive items of which are described in detail under Chapters 1.3 and 1.4 of this publication.

The Commission adopted a comprehensive HELCOM Recommendation on reduction of emissions from the transport sector that contains a wide spectrum of legislative, economic and technical provisions aimed at developing of a sustainable transport system in the Baltic Sea region.

As first steps to be taken by the year 2000 it calls for harmonization of strict emissions standards and inspection requirements for various transport means, phasing out of the use of leaded petrol grades and limitation of sulphur content in fuels.

With regard to further restriction of industrial pollution, the Commission adopted six new HELCOM Recommendations for industrial branches of serious environmental concern, i.a. the pulp and paper industry production of fertilizers, iron and steel industry, hard coal cokeries, food industry.

The Commission also adopted a new HELCOM Recommendation aiming at proper management of stormwater systems in urban areas.

The Commission could not reach an agreement on the Draft HELCOM Recommendation on reduction of mercury from light sources and electrical equipment as well as on the Draft HELCOM Recommendations concerning measures to reduce pollution from fish farming and forestry. The documents were referred back to the Technological Committee for re-examination in 1996.

Matters related to the Maritime Committee (MC)

The substantive items from the report of the 21st meeting of the Maritime Committee are described in detail under Chapter 1.5 of this publication.

The Commission adopted HELCOM Recommendation 17/1 1 on Reception Facilities which constitutes a part of the Baltic Strategy for Port Reception Facilities for Ship-Generated Wastes and Associated Issues.

The Commission endorsed the Baltic Strategy for Port Reception Facilities and Associated Issues and the Project on follow-up of the Baltic Strategy. The Baltic Strategy is enclosed to this Report.

The Commission adopted HELCOM Recommendation 17/12 concerning Measures to Abate Pollution of the Marine Environment by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Grounding, Collision, Sinking of a Ship or Other Maritime Casualties (the Recommendation was approved by both the Maritime and Combatting Committees (CC 19 and MC 21).

The Commission adopted the Terms of Reference for the Maritime Committee as amended by MC 21.

The Commission took note that the Committee had decided that national reports on the implementation of the HELCOM Recommendations in the maritime field should comply with the requirements of sub-paragraphs a)-c), Paragraph 1 of Article 16 of the 1992 Helsinki Convention and requested the Contracting Parties to submit their national reports in accordance with these provisions to its next meeting. On the basis of national information received from all the Contracting Parties the Committee will decide whether or not a specific Recommendation is implemented in the entire Convention Area.

Matters related to the Combatting Committee (CC)

The substantive items from the report of the 19th meeting of the Combatting Committee are described in detail under Chapter 1.6 of this publication.

The Commission adopted HELCOM Recommendation 17/13 on the 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 Contracting Parties will use the revised Manual.

The Combatting Committee had decided to simplify and substantially revise the contents of Volumes I and II of the present HELCOM Combatting Manual, as well as to harmonize some of the chapters with the relevant Manuals being in use within the Bonn and Copenhagen Agreements. Both Volumes I and II of the present Manual are amalgamated into one Volume I, which is divided into two Parts. Part I is addressed to contingency planners and contains information on general guidelines for co-operation. Part II is addressed to field personnel and deals with operational matters. The present Volume III remains unchanged. However, in accordance with the decision of HELCOM 16, the Combatting Committee approved the HELCOM Guidelines to authorities in dealing with chemical munition caught by fishermen and requested the Secretariat to distribute them to the users of the Manual as a new Chapter 3.5 to Volume III.

The Commission encouraged the Contracting Parties to facilitate bilateral negotiations on the delimitation of their response regions in accordance with Paragraph 1 a) of Regulation 7 of Annex VI of the Helsinki Convention. The reason for this decision is that HELCOM Recommendation 2/7 concerning the Delimitation of Response Regions for Combatting Marine Pollution is not fully implemented, since all the Contracting Parties in accordance with Part V of the Law of the Sea Convention have established or are in the process of establishing their exclusive economic zones. For the time being only eight out of eighteen possible bilateral agreements on the delimitation of response regions are in force. For the purpose of responsibilities to respond to marine pollution some countries use areas declared and delineated as their respective exclusive economic zones or fishery zones. The exclusive economic zones between the neighbouring states of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Russia as well as between Denmark and Poland are not yet delimitated. It could be assumed that bilateral negotiations on the issues in question will be a time-consuming process. However, it is not explicitly mentioned in the Helsinki Convention that the response regions are identical to the exclusive economic zones or fishery zones. Clear information on the responsibility of a coastal state to conduct response operations is of utmost importance for the implementation of the HELCOM combatting arrangements. The Commission also drew the attention of the Contracting Parties concerned to the Law of the Sea Convention, Paragraph 3, Article 74 concerning delimitation

of the exclusive economic zones between States with opposite or adjacent coasts. This provision stipulates, inter alia, that the States concerned, in a spirit of understanding and co-operation, shall make every effort to enter into provisional arrangements of a practical nature and, during transitional period, not to jeopardize or hamper the reaching of the final agreement and that such arrangements shall be without prejudice to the final delimitation.

The Commission adopted the Terms of Reference for the Combatting Committee as amended by CC 19.

The Commission took note that the Committee had considered the overview of surveillance activities over the Baltic Sea Area in years 1988-1994 and noted with deep concern the increased number of oil pollution spillages in 1994 in comparison with the previous years and endorsed actions agreed upon by the Combatting Committee with respect to this situation. The agreed actions refer to the strengthening of control measures in the entire Convention Area, development of information for seamen on the anti-pollution requirements in the Baltic Sea, as well as to the substantial improvement of the enforcement of anti-pollution regulations.

Matters related to the HELCOM Programme Implementation Task Force (HELCOM PITF)

The substantive items of matters related to HELCOM PITF are described in detail under Chapter 1.7 of this publication.

The Meeting approved the work plan of HELCOM PITF 19961997 submitted as HELCOM 17/96, 10/2.

CHAIRMEN, VICE-CHAIRMEN, CONVENERS AND COORDINATORS OF HELSINKI COMMISSION AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Helsinki Commission (HELCOM)

Professor Harald-Adam Velner, Estonia
Chairman of HELCOM

Mr. Ain Lääne, Estonia
Vice-Chairman of HELCOM

Environment Committee (EC)

Mr. Niels-Peter Rühl, Germany
Chairman of EC

Mr. Eugeniusz Andrulewicz, Poland
Vice-Chairman of EC

Mr. Yuri Panteleev, Russia
Vice-Chairman of EC

Mr. Niels Z. Heidam, Denmark
Chairman of EC EGAP (up to EC 6)

Mr. Sven P. Nielsen, Denmark
Chairman of EC MORS (up to EC 6)

Mr. Lars Rahm, Sweden
Chairman of EC BETA

Mr. Henning von Nordheim, Denmark
Chairman of EC NATURE

Mr. Matti Perttilä, Finland
Convener of the ad hoc Working Group on Baltic Sea Sediment Baseline Study (up to EC 6)

Mr. Uwe Harms, Germany
Convener of the ICES/HELCOM Steering Group on Quality Assurance of Chemical Measurements in the Baltic Sea

Mr. Lars Hernroth, Sweden
Convener of the ICES/HELCOM Steering Group on Quality Assurance of Biological Measurements in the Baltic Sea

Mr. Jorma Kuparinen, Finland
Convener of the ad hoc Working Group on Microbiology (up to EC 6)

Ms. Lucyna Wrzolek, Poland
Convener of the Phytoplankton Expert Group (up to EC 6)

Mr. Ulf Grimås, Sweden
Convener of the ad hoc Working Group on Coastal Monitoring of the Baltic Sea (up to EC 6)

Technological Committee (TC)

Mr.Tapani Kohonen, Finland
Chairman of TC

Ms. Ulla-Britta Fallenius, Sweden
Vice-Chairman of TC

Mr. Ulrich Kremser, Germany
Vice-Chairman of TC

Mr. Bernd Mehlhorn, Germany
Chairman of TC POINT (up to TC 6)

Ms. Margareta Stackerud, Sweden
Chairman of TC DIFF (up to TC 6)

Ms. Heike Herata, Germany
Mr. Ain Lääne, Estonia
Co-ordinators of TC POLO (up to TC 6)

Maritime Committee (MC)

Mr. Peter Ehlers, Germany
Chairman of MC

Ms. Alicja Gwadera, Sweden
Vice-Chairman of MC

Ms. Alicja Gwadera, Sweden
Chairman of MC AIR

Mr. Julius Lassig, Finland
Chairman of MC REFAC (until MC 21)

Combatting Committee (CC)

Mr. Olli Pahkala, Finland
Chairman of CC

Mr. Anders Bergwall, Sweden
Vice-Chairman of CC (until HELCOM 17)

Mr. Thomas Fagö, Sweden
Vice-Chairman of CC (as from HELCOM 17)

Mr. Dan Thorell, Sweden
Chairman of CC MANUREV

HELCOM Programme Implementation Task Force (HELCOM PITF)

Mr. Göte Svenson, Sweden
Chairman of HELCOM PITF

Mr. Mieczysław Ostojski, Poland
Vice-Chairman of HELCOM PITF

Mr. Per Wramner, Sweden
Chairman of HELCOM PITF MLW

Mr. Eugeniuz Andrulewicz, Poland
Vice-Chairman of HELCOM PITF MLW

Ms. Marjut Hertell, Finland
Chairman of HELCOM PITF PA & EE

Ms. Jadwiga Czeczkowska, Poland
Vice-Chairman of HELCOM PITF PA & EE

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/1

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

REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT SECTOR AFFECTING THE BALTIC SEA

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Articles 3 and 6 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1992 (Helsinki Convention), in which the Contracting Parties undertake to take all appropriate measures to prevent and eliminate pollution in order to promote the ecological restoration of the Baltic Sea by applying the precautionary and the polluter-pays principles and by promoting the use of BAT and BEP,

RECALLING also that the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990 call, inter alia, for a substantial reduction of pollution from diffuse sources,

RECOGNIZING the fact that nitrogen compounds emitted from the transport sector contribute substantially to harmful eutrophication of the Baltic Sea Area,

HAVING REGARD to the on-going work within the UN ECE, the OECD, the European Union and the European Conference of Ministers of Transport regarding the transport and the environment,

HAVING REGARD ALSO to the efforts made by the Baltic Sea Conference of Ministers of Transport towards implementation of practical measures with respect to reduction of emissions from the transport sector in the Baltic Sea Region,

BEARING IN MIND that the elaboration of standards to reduce emissions from sea transport and aviation is regulated on a global scale by specialized international organizations (IMO and ICAO),

BEARING ALSO IN MIND the various sources of pollution from transport, and

DESIRING that the technical measures of this Recommendation focus on reduction of pollution from land-based transport affecting the Baltic Sea,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention that the following principles should be incorporated in the national strategies and programmes for the transport sector:

I. Environmental protection should be made an integral part of all activities in the transport sector;

which means:

1) environmental goals for sustainable transport should be developed;

2) coordinated plans for transport should be developed in order to minimize its overall environmental impact;

3) possibilities to avoid unnecessary transport should be considered as a part of spatial planning;

4) public awareness and environmental education for an environmentally sound traffic should be introduced. The population concerned and NGOs should be involved when planning developments in transport sector and have appropriate access to information;

5) the Contracting Parties should promote in their transport policy particular measures regarding transport sector as enumerated in Attachment 1.

II. The "Polluter-Pays Principle" as mentioned in the 1992 Helsinki Convention should be implemented in the transport sector;

which means:

1) further internalization of external costs (environment, accidents etc.) into the costs of transport;

2) extending this Principle to sea transport and aviation;

3) introducing differentiated "cost neutral" environmental taxes, charges and/or fees according to environmental properties for fuels and vehicles (e.g. higher prices for leaded and correspondingly lower prices for unleaded petrol).

III. The introduction of best available technology (BAT) for vehicles and fuels in all transport modes should be facilitated;

In particular, the Contracting Parties should take the following regulatory and technical measures:

1) by the year 2000 gradually harmonize the emission standards for passenger cars, light duty vehicles and heavy duty vehicles, with a view to introducing at least the requirements specified in UN ECE Regulations and EU-Directives listed in Attachment 2;

2) develop and introduce the effective system of control to ensure and to enforce the compliance of motor vehicles with the requirements specified in the above paragraph 111.1;

3) gradually harmonize national emission standards and test procedures for in-use motor vehicles equipped with both spark ignition and diesel engines in line with relevant EU-Directive mentioned in Attachment 2;

4) enhance the existing national inspection and maintenance programmes with regard to emission reduction from in-use motor vehicles;

5) reduce the lead content in leaded petrol grades to maximum of 0.15 g/l and ensure the availability of unleaded petrol, meeting the requirements specified in Attachment 2;

6) phase-out the use of leaded petrol grades across the whole Baltic Sea Region as soon as possible but not later than the year 2000;

7) limit the sulphur content in diesel fuel for road vehicles to a maximum of 0.05 % m/m as from 1 October 1996 in the Northern and Western Baltic countries and by the year 2000 across the whole Baltic Sea Region. Limit the sulphur content in diesel fuel imported or produced after 30 September 1996 and being used by road vehicles to a maximum of 0.3 % m/m in the Southern and Eastern Baltic countries;

8) request mandatory vapour recovery systems (Stage I ¤) for all new petrol stations and distribution systems commissioned after 1 January 1997, and gradually retrofit existing petrol stations and distribution systems with such technology. Request mandatory vapour recovery systems (so called Stage II ¤) as soon as possible;

9) give incentives for removal of an old vehicle from service only if the vehicle has been scrapped, in order to prevent the transfer of high pollutant motor vehicles from one country to another.

Furthermore, the Contracting Parties should consider:

10) the introduction and support of the use of alternative cleaner fuels, in particular compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquefied petrol gas (LPG) bio fuels, for operation of urban transport busses and municipal vehicles, in connection with three way catalyst with λ -control;

11) the development and introduction of internationally harmonized fuel consumption standards for motor vehicles, in particular passenger cars, and promote the entry into use of low-consumption cars by economic incentives, in order to reduce CO, emissions (introduction of low-consumption cars should take into account traffic safety aspects),

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Footnote:
¤)
Stage I = Reduction of VOC emissions from storage and distribution of petrol from terminals to service stations by vapour balance/vapour return systems.

Stage II= Reduction of VOC emissions from distribution of petrol from the underground storage tank of the service station to the vehicle fuel tank by vapour balance/vapour return systems.

DECIDES that the particular measures regarding the transport sector in Attachment 1 and the list of Regulations in Attachment 2 should be kept up-dated and revised by the Technological Committee in accordance with the Procedure adopted by the Commission (HELCOM 11/14, Annex 26),

RECOMMENDS ALSO that international financial institutions, donors and other external sources of funding should include measures to support sustainable transport when considering financial packages for infra structural investments,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the action taken by the Contracting Parties according to this Recommendation should be reported to the Commission in 2000 and thereafter every three years.

Attachment 1

Particular measures regarding the transport sector

Increase Transport Efficiency

1) make efficient use of existing transport capacity in order to reduce the need for new infrastructure;

2) take measures to increase load factors in freight transport as well as car occupancy, e.g. by car pools, easy parking of high occupancy cars etc.;

3) increase efficiency in public transport systems with an appropriate legal framework, adequate management and technology.

Modal Shift

4) improve infrastructure and services, in particular for multi modal and railway transport, in order to achieve a modal shift from road transport;

5) improve infrastructure to and in the ports in order to make transport on inland waterways and at sea more competitive;

6) facilitate a modal shift in international transport in favour of railway transport through easy border crossing of trains.

Physical Planning and Transport Regulations

7) establish environmental zoning, e.g. by car-free city centres, restriction for polluting vehicles, calming city traffic etc.;

8) promote environmentally friendly modes of transport (like bicycles and walking), develop plans for their use and establish infrastructure for them (e.g. Bike & Ride system);

9) introduce and develop an environmentally sound city parking management, i.a. with fees for city parking which e.g. cover the full cost of land use;

10) improve quality and infrastructure of public transport in urban areas (e.g. by Park & Ride system) and encourage its use;

11) establish a traffic impact assessment as a part of the environmental impact assessment in physical planning;

12) start information campaigns for the external costs of transport.

Attachment 2

List of Regulations referred to in paragraphs III.1, III.3 and III.5 of HELCOM Recommendation 17/1

For passenger cars

UN ECE Regulation 83, 01 series of amendments Approval B and C

EU-Directive 91/441/EEC

For light duty vehicles

UN ECE Regulation 83, 02 series of amendments Approval B and C

EU-Directive 93/59/EEC

For heavy duty vehicles equipped with diesel engines

UN ECE Regulation 49, 02 series of amendments, type B

EU-Directive 91/542/EEC, type (level) B

For in-use motor vehicles equipped with both spark ignition and diesel engines

EU-Directive 92/55/EEC

For quality of unleaded petrol

European Standard EN 228

REPORTING FORMAT FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/1 CONCERNING REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT SECTOR AFFECTING THE BALTIC SEA

Lead Country: Germany

Reporting Country: **Date:**

1. What has been done to make environmental protection an integral part of the transport policy?

   Please report according to paragraphs I. 1 - I.4 of the Recommendation.

   On which laws, regulations are these principles based?

   Are further improvements planned, please specify.

2. Which measures have been promoted in the national transport policy?

   Please report according to paragraph I.5 of the Recommendation and to paragraphs 1 - 12 of Attachment 1.

   Are any measures under preparation, please specify.

3. What has been done to implement the "Polluter-Pays Principle" in the transport sector?

   Please report according to paragraphs II. 1 - II.3 of the Recommendation.

   Which measures are under preparation, please specify.

4. What has been done to implement the BAT for vehicles and fuels for all transport modes?

   Please report according to paragraphs III. 1 - III. 11 of the Recommendation.

   On which laws, regulations etc. is the implementation based?

   Are there particular certification and registration procedures for motorized vehicles to keep the emissions as low as possible, and how are these procedures legally implemented and enforced?

Are there particular inspection and maintenance programmes to keep emissions from in-use vehicles low?

Are other measures planned, please specify.

5. Please provide statistical data on actual values of air polluting emissions from the transport sector as well as an estimation of emission reduction achieved due to implemented measures. ¤)

Footnote:

¤) Details on reference years, parameters to be reported etc. will be elaborated within TC pending the development of overall airborne pollution monitoring programme of HELCOM.

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/2

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

PROTECTION OF HARBOUR PORPOISE IN THE BALTIC SEA AREA

THE COMMISSION,

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the population status of harbour porpoise in the Baltic Sea and **AWARE** that individual numbers have drastically decreased,

RECOGNIZING the relevance of the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS), the action list and relevant recommendations by the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES) and the resolutions of International Whaling Commission (IWC) and European Cetacean Society (ECS),

RECOGNIZING that harbour porpoise is and should remain an integral part of the marine ecosystems,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that by-catches, habitat deterioration and disturbance adversely affects this species,

CONVINCED that the vulnerable status of harbour porpoise in the Baltic Sea calls for immediate actions in order to safeguard their survival,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention:

a) give highest priority to avoid by-catches of harbour porpoise;

b) take action, in close co-operation with ICES, for the collection and analysis of additional data on population distribution and abundance, stock identities and threats such as pollutant levels, by-catch mortality, disturbance by shipping (e.g. under water noise);

c) consider the establishment of protected marine areas for harbour porpoise within the framework of the Baltic Sea Protected Areas (BSPAs), when documented information is available that an area hosts harbour porpoise;

d) report to the Commission every three years, beginning from 1998 on their progress in implementing the above recommendations.

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/3 *)

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

INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION WITH REGARD TO CONSTRUCTION OF NEW INSTALLATIONS AFFECTING THE BALTIC SEA

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Article 3 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974 (Helsinki Convention), in which the Contracting Parties undertake to take individually or jointly all appropriate legislative, administrative or other relevant measures in order to prevent and abate pollution and to protect and enhance the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

RECALLING ALSO that according to Article 16 the Contracting Parties, without prejudice to their sovereign rights, agreed directly, or when appropriate through competent regional or other international organizations, to promote studies, undertake, support or contribute to programmes aimed at developing ways and means for the assessment of the nature and extent of pollution, pathways, exposures, risks and remedies in the Baltic Sea Area,

HAVING **REGARD** to Paragraphs 1 and 17 of the Baltic Sea Declaration 1990 in which the Heads of the Governments stated their firm determination, inter alia, to assure the ecological restoration of the Baltic Sea and preservation of its ecological balance as well as to undertake to integrate environmental considerations into the procedures for planning future development in all economic and social processes,

HAVING REGARD to Article 4 of the EC-Directive 85/337/EEC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment,

HAVING REGARD FURTHER to Article 2, para 5 of the ECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, 1991,

*) This Recommendation supersedes HELCOM Recommendation 1212

BEING CONSCIOUS of the particular sensitivity of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea, and of the economic, social and cultural values the Baltic Sea and its living resources represent for the peoples of the Baltic Sea States,

BEING **CONVINCED** that damage to the marine environment can be irreversible or remediable only in a long term perspective and at considerable expense and that, therefore, a principle of precautionary approach should be applied, not to wait for full and undisputed scientific proof of harmful effects before taking appropriate preventive action,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Commission:

a) inform and, where necessary, consult with any Contracting Party likely to be significantly affected by the construction of an installation with a significant potential adverse impact on the Baltic Sea where an Environmental Impact Assessment is required by either national or international law;
or
where the environmental significance of proposed activities (e.g. fixed links, submarine power cables, oil-terminals etc.) satisfies one or more criteria contained in the Attachment;

./.

b) ensure that where two or more Contracting Parties share a common water body (including sediments), the relevant authorities of those countries cooperate to ensure that the significant adverse environmental effects on that body of water of a proposal (including where appropriate, the effects of related proposals and cumulative effects) are fully investigated before a decision on that proposal is made. The scope of these investigations should be agreed between the parties concerned:

c) inform the Commission on such installations/activities as described under Paragraph a),

DECIDES that the criteria specified in the Attachment should be kept updated and be revised when appropriate by the Environment Committee in accordance with the Procedure adopted by the Commission (HELCOM 11/14, Annex 26).

Attachment

Criteria to assist in determination of environmental significance of proposed activities

In considering proposed activities to which Paragraph a) of this Recommendation applies, the concerned Contracting Parties may use the following criteria:

a)	Size:	proposed activities are large for this kind of activity;
b)	Location:	proposed activities are located in the Convention area;
		proposed activities are located close to an international frontier;
		proposed activities are located in the catchment area but could give rise to significant transboundary effects far remoted from the site of development;
		proposed activities are located close to areas of special environmental sensitivity or importance;
c)	Effects:	proposed activities cause disturbances of natural hydrological (including sediment transport), hydrochemical and biological regime (e.g. behaviour of fish and marine mammals);
		proposed activities result in release of hazardous substances (operational /accidental).

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/4 *)

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

RESTRICTION OF ATMOSPHERIC EMISSIONS AND WASTE WATER DISCHARGES FROM HARD COAL COKERIES

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING that according to Article 6 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974 (Helsinki Convention), the Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area, and in particular to control and strictly limit pollution by noxious substances and materials in accordance with Annex II to the Helsinki Convention,

RECALLING ALSO that, inter alia, certain metals, cyanides and oil are listed in the said Annex for the purposes of Article 6 of the Convention,

RECOGNIZING that hard coal cokeries are notable sources of discharges of ammonia, phenols and cyanides to water and emission of dust to atmosphere,

RECOGNIZING ALSO that hard coal cokeries may be notable sources of discharges of polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) to water,

DESIRING to limit atmospheric emissions and waste water discharges from hard coal cokeries with best available technology,

DESIRING ALSO to improve knowledge on these emissions and discharges,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention as of 1 January 2002, or immediately upon adoption of a new production unit that has been granted a licence after 1 January 1998, take the following measures to reduce atmospheric emissions from hard coal cokeries:

1. dust emissions from hard coal cokeries should be avoided or collected and dedusted before being allowed to enter into the atmosphere;

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*) This Recommendation supersedes sub-paragraphs 4.a, 4.b and 4.c of HELCOM Recommendation 11/7

2. fugitive emissions from hard coal cokeries should be avoided as far as technically feasible, e.g. by enclosing the coke pushing operation besides good operational and housekeeping practices;

3.A low emission coke cooling techniques, preferably dry quenching, should be used. Dust emissions in the waste gas from dry quenching should not exceed 20 mg/m^3 (ndg) for new plants and 50 mg/m^3 (ndg) for existing plants. The total dust emissions from wet quenching may not exceed 50 g per tonne of coke for new plants and 80 g per tonne of coke for existing plants;

3.B filling gases from hard coal cokeries are to be conveyed to the crude gas as far as possible. Filling gases which may not be passed on should be burned. The emission of particulate matter in the combustion waste gas should not exceed 25 mg/m^3;

3.c before coke pushing the coke should be fully carbonized. Waste gases from coke oven pushing should be captured and passed through a dust collector. Dust emission after dust filters should not exceed 5 g per tonne of coke;

4. the total emissions (including e.g. fugitive emissions from pushing, leaking doors and charging holes and dedusted gas) from all process steps should be measured or estimated and reported,

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention take the following measures to reduce waste water discharges from hard coal cokeries:

5. production processes, recovery of by-products (ammonia, etc.), gas cleaning equipment, waste- and stormwater treatment technology and, in particular, recycling of waters should be developed in order to minimize discharges of nitrogen, phenols, cyanide, COD and PAH;

6. internal and external measures should be taken to minimize accidental discharges (e.g. installation of sufficient storage capacity for untreated waste water);

7. sludges out of biological waste water treatment should be disposed of in the manner causing minimal environmental hazard, e.g. be charged into coke ovens together with the coal;

8. specific discharges (g per tonne hard coal) and concentrations in effluent (mg/l) should not, as an annual average for each mill, as of 1 January 2002 or immediately upon adoption of a new production unit that has been granted a licence after 1 January 1998, exceed the following values:

tot-N (i)		
COD,, (TOC)	100 (40)	g/t
PAH (ii)	0.03	g/t (or 7 g/t suspendable solids)

as 24h or shorter period limit value (as annual mean value):

NH_3-N	30 mg/l (25 mg/l)
Phenol	0.5 mg/l (0.3 mg/l)
CN_{vol}	0.2 mg/l (0.1 mg/l)

(i) No limit value, but should be measured

(ii) Measurement at least six PAHs contained in DIN 38 409-H13-3

9. internationally accepted standardized sampling, analysing and quality assurance methods (e.g. CEN-Standards, ISO-Standards, OECD-Guidelines) should be used whenever available,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the Contracting Parties report to the Commission the discharges, atmospheric emissions and the pollution control measures taken every three years starting in 2003,

DECIDES that this Recommendation should be reconsidered in 2000 regarding requirements and especially concerning a limit value for tot-N and limit values concerning total dust emission from wet quenching.

REPORTING FORMAT FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/4 CONCERNING RESTRICTION OF ATMOSPHERIC EMISSIONS AND WASTE WATER DISCHARGES FROM HARD COAL COKERIES

Country: _____ **Year:** _____

For each plant:

a) Name and location of hard coal cokery and its production in tonnes/year;

b) Waste water treatment systems applied;

c) Waste water flow in m^3 per tonne hard coal;

d) Discharges in g per tonne hard coal or mg/l for the following parameters:

tot-N, N-NH,+, COD,, or TOC, Phenol, CN_{vol}, PAH or suspendable solids;

e) Quenching technique applied;

f) Status of the cokery as to the paragraphs 2 and 3 .A-3 .C;

g) Total atmospheric emissions of dust in g per tonne coke;

h) Description of disposal of sludge out of biological waste water treatment.

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/5 *)

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

RESTRICTION OF DISCHARGES FROM THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING that according to Article 6 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974 (Helsinki Convention), the Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to control and strictly limit pollution by noxious substances,

RECALLING ALSO that Annex II of the Helsinki Convention defines certain metals, oils and cyanide contained in industrial waste waters as noxious substances for the purposes of Article 6 of the Convention,

RECOGNIZING that iron and steel industry is a major source of metal, oil and cyanide discharges,

RECALLING the Ministerial Declaration at the ninth meeting of the Helsinki Commission,

DESIRING more information about the discharges from iron and steel industry,

RECOGNIZING the importance of reducing the discharges from iron and steel industry by

(i) minimizing the hazards to human health and to the environment from toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative substances by the application of best available technology;

(ii) developing industrial processes (in particular, recycling of waters) and preventing incidental effluent discharges;

(iii) developing waste- and stormwater treatment techniques and reuse or further utilization and/or processing of the sludge in a manner causing as little environmental hazard as possible,

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*) This Recommendation supersedes HELCOM Recommendation 1 1/5

RECOMMENDS that the Contracting Parties, as of 1 January 2002 (countries in transition as of 1 January 2005), or immediately upon adoption of a new production unit that has been granted a licence after 1 January 1998, take the following measures to reduce waste water discharges from iron and steel industry:

1. General requirements

a) discharges should be avoided by using dry operations (e.g. gas cleaning techniques which cause no discharges to water);

b) process water, polluted cooling water and polluted stormwater should be treated separately from unpolluted cooling water at each plant;

c) installation of closed water systems should be developed for process water and polluted cooling water in order to reach a circulation rate of at least 95 % ;

d) production processes, utilization of by-products, waste- and stormwater treatment technology should be developed in order to minimize discharges (e.g. slag granulation by process water);

e) internal and external measures should be taken to minimize accidental discharges (e.g. installation of sufficient storage capacity for untreated waste waters);

f) sludges should be disposed of in a manner causing minimal environmental hazard, preferably by treating and entering the sludges to the blast furnace, sintering plant or electric arc furnace;

2. Requirements to the effluent of the plant

After having fulfilled the general requirements under 1, the following limit values should not be exceeded as annual mean values (for CN_{vol} 24h value);

Type of process	Suspendable solids	Oil	CN_{vol}
Blast furnace	10 mg/l		0.2 mg/l
Sintering plant	10 mg/l		
Open-heart furnace	10 mg/l		
Basic oxygen furnace	10 mg/l		-
Electric arc furnace	10 mg/l		0.1 mg/l
Continuous casting	10 g/t	5 g/t	
Hot rolling	50 g/t (or 1 t/a) **)	10 g/t (or 0.2 t/a)**)	
Cold rolling	10 g/t	5 g/t	

- *) for existing plants only

For plants with integrated waste water systems the total annual discharges should not exceed the sum of the annual production multiplied with the values above for each process,

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the Contracting Parties report to the Commission every three years starting in 2000,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that measurements and requirements for heavy metals as well as possible measurements and requirements for the environmental properties (e.g. toxicity and persistency) of the oil products used should be examined in 2000,

DECIDES that this Recommendation should be reconsidered in 2000, especially concerning limit values for continuous casting, hot and cold rolling.

REPORTING FORMAT FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/5 CONCERNING RESTRICTION OF DISCHARGES FROM THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY

Country: _____ **Year:** _____

For each plant:

1) Name of the plant, its production in tonnes/year and its location;

2) Process water, polluted cooling water and polluted stormwater treatment and re-circulation systems applied;

3) Status of the plant as to the paragraphs la , b, c, d, e , f;

4) a) Annual mean discharges in mg/l (for cyanide maximum 24h value)

Process	**suspendable solids**	CN_{vol}
Blast furnace		
Sintering plant		
Open-heart furnace		
Basic oxygen furnace		
Electric arc furnace		

b) Specific discharges in g/tonnes processed steel:

Process	**suspendable solids**	**oil**	**Ni**	**Cr**	**Zn**
Continuous casting					
Hot rolling					
Cold rolling					

HELSINKI COMMISSION
Baltic Marine Environment
Protection Commission

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/6

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

REDUCTION OF POLLUTION FROM DISCHARGES INTO WATER, EMISSIONS INTO THE ATMOSPHERE AND PHOSPHOGYPSUM OUT OF THE PRODUCTION OF FERTILIZERS

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING that according to Article 6 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974 (Helsinki Convention) the Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to control and strictly limit pollution by noxious substances and nutrients,

RECALLING ALSO that Annex II of the Helsinki Convention defines heavy metals as noxious substances for the purposes of Article 6 of the Convention, and that Annex III of the Convention defines nutrients as substances to be controlled to minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment,

RECALLING FURTHER that the Ministerial Declaration of the ninth meeting of the Helsinki Commission calls for a considerable reduction of land-based pollution,

RECOGNIZING that the production of fertilizers is responsible for an important part of the discharges of heavy metals and nutrients into the Baltic Sea,

DESIRING to limit the discharges, emissions and wastes (phosphogypsum) of this industry with Best Available Technology,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties that they apply the following requirements to the product lines of the fertilizer industry listed below:

A. production of nitrogen-containing multi nutrient fertilizers (NP, NPK)
B. production of nitrogen fertilizers
C. production of phosphate fertilizers
D. production of phosphoric acid.

1. Waste water discharges

1.1. Measures to avoid/minimize waste water discharges

The amount and harmful effects of waste water resulting from the production of fertilizers should be kept as low as possible by using the following measures, inter alia:

no discharge of phosphogypsum into the recipient;
use of low pollutant raw materials (e.g. phosphate rock with low heavy metal content wherever possible);
avoidance of highly contaminated sulphuric acid (residues from industrial processes) for the digestion of phosphate rock;
recirculation of waters to the largest extent possible, e.g. of gas scrubbers, application of multistage gas scrubbers;
recirculation of vapours, condensates and process waters;
multiple use of process water in other fields;
use of rain-waters;
avoidance of direct cooling/quenching;
use of dry process methods wherever possible and appropriate.

By the application of these or equivalent techniques and, possibly, in conjunction with the evaporation of small residual waste water quantities, a few products as for example nitrolime or superphosphate could be produced without waste water being generated.

1.2 Treatment technologies

Waste water which could not be avoided should be treated with the techniques given below, if necessary, in combination or by equally effective measures:

sedimentation/filtration;
concentration/evaporation preferably with subsequent recirculation to production;
concentration by means of ion exchangers;
precipitation of phosphate/fluoride/heavy metals by lime slurry, including multistage heavy metal precipitation with flocculation/filtration;
ammonia stripping;
biological waste water treatment with nitrification/denitrification and phosphoric precipitation.

1.3 **Limit values**

The following load values should not be exceeded as annual mean values:

	Product line A (NP, NPK) *)	Product Line B (N) *)	Product Line C (P, PK) **)	Product Line D (Phosphorus Acid) **)
Total Nitrogen (kg N/t)	0.6	0.7		
Phosphate-P (kg/t)	0.04		0.05	0.02
Fluoride (kg/t)	0.15		0.3	0.05
Cadmium (g/t)	0.02		0.05	0.1
Mercury (g/t)	0.003		0.01	0.01
Zinc (g/t)	0.7		1	1

*) load values related to the nitrogen content in the product
**) related to the phosphorpentoxide (P_2O_5) in the product

If a limit value is omitted in the table, then it is of no relevance for the product line.

2. **Emissions into the atmosphere**

Air emissions resulting from the production of fertilizers should be treated by appropriate techniques (Table 1) and comply with the following limit values:

NO, (mg/m^3 related to NO_2)***)	500
dust (mg/m^3)	50 (75mg/m^3 in case of fertilizers containing more than 10% SO, or more than 50% NH,-NO,)
Fluorine compounds (mg/m^3)	5
Chlorine compounds (mg/m^3)	30

***) only if emissions into the atmosphere of NO, are expected

Table 1: Recommended techniques for air pollution abatement and treatment

Operation stage	Emitted substance	Minimization measure
Reloading and transportation of raw phosphates	dust	plant enclosure, waste air treatment by means of filters
Production of NP/NPK fertilizer (product line A) - dissolution with nitric acid - neutralization with ammonia - granulation and drying	 fluorides, NO_x NH,, F compounds dust	 multi-state scrubber gas scrubber cyclones
Production of single nutrient nitrogen fertilizer (product line B) Production of single nutrient phosphate fertilizer (product line C)	NH, hydrogen fluoride, phosphate dust	process optimization wet scrubber
Production of PK fertilizer (product line C)	dust, hydrogen fluoride, hydrogen chloride	wet scrubber
Production of phosphoric acid (product line D) - sulphuric acid dissolution - sulphuric acid/nitric acid dissolution - upgrading of acid	 fluorides, NO, fluorides phosphoric acid fog, fluorides	 wet scrubber wet scrubber lamellar precipitator or grid packings

3. Waste (phosphogypsum)

Phosphogypsum from the sulphuric acid dissolution should be re-used to the extent possible. If this is not practicable it has to be disposed of in a disposal facility appropriately equipped. A discharge into waters does not comply with BAT,

RECOMMENDS ALSO that these measures should be implemented by 1 January 1998 for new plants and by 1 January 2002 for existing plants,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the Contracting Parties report to the Commission every three years starting from 2003,

DECIDES that this Recommendation should be reconsidered in 2004, especially regarding limit values for the different product lines and products.

REPORTING FORMAT FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/6 CONCERNING THE REDUCTION OF POLLUTION FROM DISCHARGES INTO WATER, EMISSIONS INTO THE ATMOSPHERE AND PHOSPHOGYPSUM OUT OF THE PRODUCTION OF FERTILIZERS

country: _____ **Year:** _____

1. Site specific information (please fill in one sheet for every location)

1.1 Product specification

Fertilizers produced	Product 1 ine	Production t/a	Production process used

Other chemical production at the location Yes ___ N o :
If yes, please describe further

1.2 Description of internal measures and air pollution abatement technologies (see sections 1.1 and 2 of the Recommendation)

1.3 Description of waste water treatment facility (see section 1.2 of the Recommendation)

1.4 Description of the disposal facility for phosphogypsum

1.5 Discharge data

Compliance with the Recommendation Yes: ____ **No:**
If no, please describe further

Additional data

Waste water volume	m^3/a:
Cadmium	t/a:
Mercury	kg/a:
Zinc	t/a:
Total Nitrogen	t/a:
Phosphate-P	t/a:
Fluoride	t/a:

1.6 Emission data into the atmosphere

- Compliance with the Recommendation Yes: ____ No:
If no, please describe further
Additional load data

Dust	t/a:
Fluorine compounds	t/a:
NO_x	t/a:
Chlorine compounds	t/a:

HELSINKI COMMISSION
Baltic Marine Environment
Protection Commission

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/7 *)

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

REDUCTION OF DISCHARGES FROM URBAN AREAS BY PROPER MANAGEMENT OF STORMWATER

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Paragraph 1 of Article 6 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974 (Helsinki Convention), in which the Contracting Parties undertake all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

RECALLING ALSO HELCOM Recommendation 5/1 regarding limitation of oil in stormwater systems,

RECOGNIZING the need for limiting the harmful effects caused by the stormwater discharges to the Baltic Sea,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention that:

a) measures should be taken already at the source to prevent the deterioration of the quality of stormwater (e.g. efficient dry street cleaning and reduction of lead in petrol);

b) contaminated stormwater from heavily polluted industrial areas (loading, unloading, storing) should be treated separately; measures can be based on local research and consideration case by case;

c) if a stormwater in a separate sewer system district is collected from traffic areas where the first flush of stormwater is highly polluted

flow equalization units should be provided whenever possible for the first flush of stormwater; and

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*) This Recommendation supersedes HELCOM Recommendation 1 1/2

when possible this water should be treated separately in stormwater treatment facilities or in a sewage treatment plant, as appropriate;

d) depending on the characteristics of the contamination of the stormwater, possible means should be taken to minimize the volume of stormwater entering combined and separate sewer systems (minimization of the volume, reached e.g. by local infiltration if allowed by geological conditions);

e) in areas with combined sewer systems, overflow should not be allowed more than on the average 10 times per year or limited to 10 percent of the total flow conveyed in the sewer system (several overflow occasions during one single day are regarded as one), which aim may be reached by appropriate design of the sewerage system and by providing retention facilities**); the aim should further be to catch the first (most polluted) volume of overflow for separate treatment. In order to decrease the amount of overflowing pollutants combined sewer outflows should be equipped with some treatment facilities such as swirl concentrators,

RECOMMENDS that this Recommendation will be in force as from 1 January 1998, with provisions b) - e) applying only to new and retrofitted sewerage systems,

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the Contracting Parties report to the Commission every three years starting in 2000,

DECIDES that this Recommendation should be reconsidered in 2000.

**) Experience shows that the easiest way to express pollution load caused by combined sewer overflow is to use the indirect figure of frequency, i.e. number of times per year, because thus it is not necessary to undertake the difficult task of determining the quality of the combined sewer outflow in each case.

REPORTING FORMAT FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/7 CONCERNING REDUCTION OF DISCHARGES FROM URBAN AREAS BY PROPER MANAGEMENT OF STORMWATER

Country: _____ **Year:** _____

1. Have steps been taken to prevent the deterioration of the quality of the stormwater at the source, e.g.

   a) dry street cleaning?
   b) reduction of lead in petrol?

2. Are flow equalization units used; to what extent and what is the experience?

3. Is heavily polluted stormwater conveyed to special waste water treatment plants?

4. Are local infiltration systems used to minimize the volume of stormwater entering the combined systems? If so, describe the systems and your experience of applications.

5. Are there any national, regional or local regulations or guidelines for the proper management of stormwater? If so, describe them and your experience of applications. Please, describe also recording and estimations of overflows.

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/8 *)

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

REDUCTION OF DISCHARGES FROM THE KRAFT PULP INDUSTRY

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING that according to Article 6 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea, 1974 (Helsinki Convention) the Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to control and strictly limit pollution by noxious substances and nutrients,

RECALLING ALSO that Annex II of the Helsinki Convention defines lignin substances contained in industrial waste water as noxious substances to be controlled to minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment,

HAVING **REGARD** to the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and to the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990, calling, inter alia, for a substantive reduction of the load of pollutants most harmful to the ecosystem of the Baltic Sea,

RECOGNIZING that the kraft pulp mills are responsible for an important part of the discharges from the pulp and paper industry into the Baltic Sea,

RECOGNIZING the importance of limiting discharges into the Baltic Sea from production of kraft pulp by application of best available technology as defined in HELCOM Recommendation 12/3,

BEING AWARE that "best available technology" for a particular process will change with time in the light of technological advances, economic and social factors, as well as changes in scientific knowledge and understanding,

DESIRING to limit discharges from the kraft pulp industry,

DESIRING ALSO more information about the discharges from the kraft pulp industry,

RECOGNIZING the importance of reducing discharges from kraft pulp mills by developing

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***)** This Recommendation supersedes Recommendation 1 1/4

a) process water systems with a high degree of recirculation

b) more efficient treatment techniques of waste water, including sludge minimization and treatment,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties take measures according to BAT (see Attachment 1) to reduce discharges from the kraft pulp industry,

so that the following annual average discharge limit values**) in kg per tonne of Air Dry Pulp (kg/t ADP) produced are not exceeded from 1 January 2000 for any mill which has started to operate before 1 January 1997,

	COD	AOX	Tot-P	Tot-N
Bleached Pulp	30	0.4	0.04	0.4
Unbleached Pulp	15		0.02	0.3

and so that in countries in transition the following annual average discharge limit values in kg per tonne of Air Dry Pulp (kg/t ADP) produced are not exceeded from 1 January 2005 for any mill which has started to operate before 1 January 1997,

from 1 January 2005:

	COD	AOX	Tot-P	Tot-N
Bleached Pulp	35	0.4	0.04	0.4
Unbleached Pulp	20		0.02	0.3

and also so that the following annual average discharge limit values in kg per tonne of Air Dry Pulp (kg/t ADP) produced are not exceeded by any mill starting to operate or considerably increasing its capacity (by more than 50%) after 1 January 1997,

	COD	AOX	Tot-P	Tot-N
Bleached Pulp	15	0.2	0.02	0.35
Unbleached Pulp	8		0.01	0.25

RECOMMENDS ALSO that molecular chlorine is not used in the bleaching of kraft pulp after 1 January 1997 (2000 for countries in transition),

RECOMMENDS **FURTHER** that, as a first step, limit values regarding nitrogen should apply to kraft pulp mills located at the coast,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the Contracting Parties should report every three years starting in 2000,

DECIDES that according to the development of BAT and especially the substitution of chelating agents, this Recommendation should be reconsidered in 1998.

**) For methods of effluent analysis, see Attachment 2

Attachment 1

BEST AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE KRAFT PULP INDUSTRY, 1995

The Contracting Parties have stressed the importance of limiting discharges into the Baltic Sea from production of kraft pulp by application of Best Available Technology. Best Available Technology for the kraft pulp industry include the following or equally effective measures as important examples:

1. Dry debarking with minor waste water discharges;

2. Closed screening;

3. Stripping of most concentrated condensates and reuse of most condensates in the process;

4. Systems which enable the recovery of almost all spillages;

5. Extended delignification in the digester followed by oxygen delignification;

6. Efficient washing before the pulp leaves the closed part of the process;

7. At least secondary treatment for waste water discharges;

8. Partial closure of the bleach plant. The main part of the discharge from the bleach plant is piped to the recovery system;

9. Use of environmentally sound chemicals in the process, for example use of biodegradable chelating agents wherever possible.

Attachment 2

METHODS OF EFFLUENT ANALYSIS

For the analyses the following methods or methods giving equivalent results should be used:

AOX	SCAN-W 9:89 or DIN 38 409, part 14
COD	Potassium Dichromate Oxidation (e.g. IS0 6060, second edition)
Tot-P	Determination using sulphuric acid and potassium peroxo-disulphate (e.g. SS 02 81 02 or SFS 3026)
Tot-N	Determination using the Kjeldahl method after reduction with Devarda's alloy (e.g. ISO/DIS 10048, SS 02 81 01).

All analyses should be made on unsettled, unfiltered samples.

REPORTING FORMAT FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/8 CONCERNING REDUCTION OF DISCHARGES FROM KRAFT PULP INDUSTRY

country _____ **Year** _____

For each kraft pulp mill:

1) Name, location and type of production (for example bleached, unbleached) in tonnes/year;

2) Internal measures and waste water treatment system applied;

3) Annual mean discharges in kg/tonne of ADP for COD, AOX, tot-P and tot-N;

4) Annual use of chelating agents in tonnes per year.

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/9 *)

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

REDUCTION OF DISCHARGES FROM THE SULPHITE PULP INDUSTRY

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING that according to Article 6 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea, 1974 (Helsinki Convention) the Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to control and strictly limit pollution by noxious substances, and nutrients,

RECALLING ALSO that Annex II of the Helsinki Convention defines lignin substances contained in industrial waste waters as noxious substances to be controlled to minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment,

HAVING REGARD to the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and to the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990, calling, inter alia, for a substantive reduction of the load of pollutants most harmful to the ecosystem of the Baltic Sea,

RECOGNIZING that the sulphite pulp mills are responsible for an important part of the discharges from the pulp and paper industry into the Baltic Sea,

RECOGNIZING the importance of limiting discharges into the Baltic Sea from production of sulphite pulp by application of best available technology as defined in HELCOM Recommendation 12/3,

BEING AWARE that what is "best available technology" for a particular process will change with time in the light of technological advances, economic and social factors, as well as changes in scientific knowledge and understanding,

DESIRING to limit discharges from the sulphite pulp industry,

DESIRING ALSO more information about the discharges from the sulphite pulp industry,

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*) This Recommendation supersedes HELCOM Recommendation 1 1/3

RECOGNIZING the importance of reducing discharges from sulphite pulp mills by developing

a) process water systems with a high degree of recirculation;

b) more efficient treatment techniques of waste water, including sludge minimization and treatment,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties take measures according to BAT (see Attachment 1) to reduce discharges from the sulphite pulp industry,

so that the following annual average discharge limit values[**)] in kg per tonne of Air Dry Pulp (kg/t ADP) produced are not exceeded from 1 January 2000 (for countries in transition from 1 January 2005) for any mill which has started to operate before 1 January 1997,

	COD	AOX	Tot-P	Tot-N
Bleached Pulp	70	0.5	0.08	0.7
Unbleached Pulp	45		0.06	0.6

and also so that the following annual average discharge limit values in kg per tonne of Air Dry Pulp (kg/t ADP) produced are not exceeded by any mill starting to operate or considerably increasing its capacity (by more than 50%) after 1 January 1997,

	COD	AOX	Tot-P	Tot-N
Bleached Pulp	35	0.1	0.04	0.4
Unbleached Pulp	20		0.03	0.3

RECOMMENDS ALSO that molecular chlorine is not used in the bleaching of sulphite pulp after 1 January 1997,

RECOMMENDS **FURTHER that, as** a first step, limit values regarding nitrogen should apply to sulphite pulp mills located at the coast,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the Contracting Parties should report to the Commission every three years starting in 2000,

DECIDES that according to the development of BAT and the use of non-biodegradable chelating agents, this Recommendation should be reconsidered in 1998.

**) For methods of effluent analysis, see Attachment 2

Attachment 1

BEST AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE SULPHITE PULP INDUSTRY, 1995

The Contracting Parties have stressed the importance of limiting discharges into the Baltic Sea from production of sulphite pulp by application of Best Available Technology. Best Available Technology for the sulphite pulp industry include the following or equally effective measures as important examples:

1. Dry debarking with minor waste water discharges;

2. Closed screening;

3. Neutralising of weak liquor before evaporation followed by re-use of the main part of condensates in the process;

4. Systems which enable the recovery of almost all organic substances dissolved in the cook (a total U-value***) of about 98% is achievable);

5. No discharge from the bleach plant when the sodium based processes are being used;

6. At least secondary treatment for waste water discharges;

7. Partial closure of the bleach plant when another process than sodium based is used;

8. Use of environmentally sound chemicals in the process, for example use of biodegradable chelating agents wherever possible.

***) U-value is the proportion of organic substances dissolved in the cook and thereafter recovered and burned in the recovery boiler

Attachment 2

METHODS OF EFFLUENT ANALYSIS

For the analysis the following methods or methods giving equivalent results should be used:

AOX	SCAN-W 9:89 or DIN 38 409, part 14
COD	Potassium Dichromate Oxidation (e.g. IS0 6060, second edition)
Tot-P	Determination using sulphuric acid and potassium peroxo-disulphate (e.g. SS 02 81 02 or SFS 3026)
Tot-N	Determination using the Kjeldahl method after reduction with Devarda's alloy (e.g. ISO/DIS 10048, SS 02 81 01).

All analyses should be made on unsettled, unfiltered samples.

REPORTING FORMAT FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/9 CONCERNING REDUCTION OF DISCHARGES FROM THE SULPHITE PULP INDUSTRY

Country: _____ **Year:** _____

For each sulphite pulp mill:

1) Name, location and type of production (for example bleached, unbleached) in tonnes/year;

2) Waste water treatment system applied;

3) Annual mean discharges in kg/tonne of ADP for COD, AOX, Tot-P and Tot-N;

4) Annual use of chelating agents in tonnes per year.

HELSINKI COMMISSION
Baltic Marine Environment
Protection Commission

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/10

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

BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR REALIZATION OF BAT AND BEP IN FOOD INDUSTRY

THE COMMISSION

RECALLING that according to Article 6 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974 (Helsinki Convention), the Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area, and in particular eutrophication processes,

RECOGNISING that plants of food industry are notable sources of discharges of organic matters and nutrients to water,

DESIRING to implement new environmental management standards in food industry environmental performance,

DESIRING ALSO to improve knowledge on food products life-cycle assessment,

DESIRING ALSO to reduce the load of organic matter and nutrients,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties should apply for example the following BAT and BEP measures in the different branches of food industry (see Attachment):

1. Reduction of waste water volume and pollution load by the following in-plant measures:
   automatic control of processes;
   installation of cooling circuits instead of run-through-cooling;
   use of vapour condensates for cleaning operations;
   recycling of preheated water from heat exchangers for cleaning operations;
   recycling of low polluted waste waters for cleaning operations;
   multiple use of cleaning waters;
   use of biodegradable cleaning agents;
   decentral cleaning stations in order to shorten the pipes for cleaning agents;
   push away of liquid products in pipes with compressed air and vacuum instead of water;
   use of nitric acid for cleaning operations instead of other acids;
   control of product losses by continuous waste water sampling and analyses;

improving the basic technology for reducing raw material losses;
installation of safety mechanisms to prevent overfilling;
use of peroxyacids instead of chlorine-containing cleaning agents and disinfectants, to avoid generation of hazardous chlorinated substances;
mechanical cleaning before cleaning with liquids and disinfection to minimize the use of cleaning agents and disinfectants;
- controlled discharge of waters containing disinfectants in order to protect subsequent biological treatment;
- collection of product residues for further use, e.g. as feed for animals and fertilizers;
separate collection and disposal of disinfectant rests and used concentrates;
- separate collection and treatment of fat, blood and nutrients;
transportation of processed fish and sea products in a plant preferably without water;
equipment of floor drains with fixed sink strainers.

2. Reduction of pollution load by end-of-pipe measures

After having implemented the relevant measures under l., plants of food industry which discharge more than 25 m^3/d into water bodies, or to municipal waste water treatment plant without biological treatment including phosphorus removal, should meet the following requirements (2-hour or 24-hour values):

COD	250 mg/l
BOD, (BOD,)	25 mg/l (30 mg/l)
tot-P	2 mg/l *)
NH,-N	10 mg/l *) **)

*) for plants above 500 m^3/d
**) if temperature in biological reactor is above 12 C°.

Wherever possible concentration values should be complemented with specific production-orientated load values.

Internationally accepted standardized sampling, analysing and quality assurance methods (e.g. CEN-standards, ISO-standards and OECD-Guidelines) should be used whenever available.

By planning end-of-pipe treatment plants fulfilling the requirements above, future requirements to the reduction of tot-N (denitrification) have to be taken into account.

3. Reduction of emissions into the atmosphere

To reduce the emissions of substances into the air the following measures have to be taken into account:
capsulation of devices and installations;
appropriate storage of substances;
desucking of waste gas;
purification of waste gas.

In single cases limit values for substances or groups of substances might be needed. Setting up limit values (e.g. for total carbon or dust) the following items should be considered:

waste gas concentration;
load of substances;
duration of emissions;
local spread-out conditions;
distance to next settlement;
measurements of smell if detection limit of analytical devices is too high.

4. Reduction of energy consumption

The recycling of heat through heat exchangers should be achieved.

Further possibilities to regain energy (e.g. generation of biogas by anaerobic treatment of highly polluted waste waters or sludges) should be evaluated.

5 . Environmental management improvement

To improve the environmental management and cooperation between the plant and the permitting environmental authority and other organizations/institutions, in order to implement this Recommendation, the following measures should be taken:

the plant should provide a list of raw materials and chemicals including the quantities and ecotoxicological properties (safety data sheet) to the responsible environmental authorities;
- self-controlling of the plant and its reporting should be specified by the responsible environmental authority;
- the authorities should take into account promotion of pilot projects in order to establish examples for other plants;
- development and exchange of information including the work of branch associations and research institutions should be intensified;

RECOMMENDS ALSO that this Recommendation should be implemented for new plants as from 1 January 1998 and for existing plants as from 1 January 2000 (2005 for countries in transition),

RECOMMENDS **FURTHER** that the Contracting Parties should report to the Commission on implementation of this Recommendation in 2000 and thereafter every three years,

DECIDES that this Recommendation should be revised in 2002 considering limitation of tot-N in the waste water from food industry.

Attachment

Branches of Food Industry

1) Milk processing

2) Production of fruit and vegetable products

3) Production of refreshing beverages and bottling of beverages

4) Processing of potatoes

5) Meat industry

6) Breweries

7) Production of alcohol and liquors

8) Production of feed from plant products

9) Production of hide glue, gelatine and bone glue

10) Production of malt

11) Fish processing industry

12) Sugar production

13) Processing of oil seed, sweat oil and nutrient fat

14) Processing of molasses

15) Production of starch

REPORTING FORMAT FOR HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/10 CONCERNING BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR REALIZATION OF BAT AND BEP IN FOOD INDUSTRY

Country: _____ **Year:** _____

The following items have to be reported for every branch (according to Attachment 1) separately:

1) Number of plants in the branch,

2) Overall description of the situation in the branch referring to items 1 (in-plant measures), 3 (emissions to the atmosphere), 4 (energy consumption) and 5 (environmental management improvement),

3) Plants which discharge into water bodies, or to municipal waste water treatment plants without biological treatment, and their discharge situation (for every plant above 25 m^3/d separately),

3.1 Waste water volume (m^3/d, m^3/a)

3.2 Discharge concentrations, loads and used methods of analysis

	Concentration mg/l	Method of analysis	Specific load kg/t product (if available)
COD			
BOD, (BOD,)			
NH,-N *)			
tot-P *)			

*) only for plants above 500 m^3/d

HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 17/12

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

MEASURES TO ABATE POLLUTION BY OIL AND OTHER HARMFUL SUBSTANCES IN CASES OF GROUNDING, COLLISION, SINKING OF A SHIP OR OTHER MARITIME CASUALTY

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING paragraphs 6 and 7 of Article 2, Article 11, Annex II and Annex VI of the 1974 Helsinki Convention and paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of Article 2, paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 3, Article 5, Article 14, Annex I and Annex VII of the 1992 Helsinki Convention,

RECALLING ALSO International Convention Relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Oil Pollution Casualties, 1969 and Protocol relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Pollution by Substances other than Oil, 1973, as amended,

RECALLING FURTHER Articles 211 and 221 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,

BEARING IN MIND the recent incidents which posed a serious threat to the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area and to the coastlines and related interests of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention,

CONSCIOUS that the introduction of any harmful substance to the marine environment of the Baltic Sea is liable to cause pollution,

BEING AWARE of the importance of precautionary measures to avoid pollution caused by maritime casualties,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the polluter-pays principle stipulated in the 1992 Helsinki Convention,

REQUESTS the Governments of the Contracting Parties, which have not yet done so, to ratify the International Convention on Salvage, 1989, in order to establish a modern legal regime concerning efficient and timely salvage operations to maintain the safety of the vessels, to protect other property in danger and the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

REQUESTS ALSO the Governments of the Contracting Parties, which have not yet done so, to ratify the Protocol of 1992 to amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969 (CLC PROT 1992) and the Protocol of 1992 to amend the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971 (FUND PROT 1992), in order to ensure compensation for responding to oil pollution incidents in the exclusive economic zones or equivalent areas of the Contracting Parties,

REQUESTS FURTHER the Governments of the Contracting Parties:

i) to cooperate within the International Maritime Organization (IMO):

1. to promote early elaboration of a convention on wreck removal;

2. to study possibilities of amending the list of substances annexed to the 1973 Protocol relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Pollution by Substances other than Oil (INTERVENTION PROTOCOL, 1973) by inclusion of other harmful substances, such as nutrients, which give coastal states the right to intervene in sea areas particularly sensitive to any kind of pollution;

3. to study proposals concerning the amendment of MARPOL 73/78 by a new annex related to solid harmful substances:

ii) to cooperate during the diplomatic conference to be arranged by IMO for the purpose of

1. amending the 1976 Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims (CLLMC) by higher limits of liability; and

2. adopting the convention for liability and compensation for damage caused by hazardous and noxious substances (HNS Convention),

URGES the Governments of the Contracting Parties, in cases of grounding, collision, sinking of a ship or other maritime casualty, to take appropriate action on the basis of international law in their exclusive economic zones or equivalent areas, or in response regions in accordance with Regulation 7 of Annex VI to the Convention, to:

1. remove the bunker fuel oil, other oils and any other harmful substance carried as a cargo on board which may cause or are likely to cause immediate or delayed hazards to the marine environment, coastlines of the Contracting Parties or their related interests;

2. carry out salvage of a ship and removal of a wreck whenever she may pose a danger to the safety of navigation and to the marine environment,

URGES **ALSO** the Governments of the Contracting Parties to provide the Combatting and Maritime Committees with reports on the progress related to this Recommendation every year.

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,

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

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.

HELSINKI COMMISSION
Baltic Marine Environment
Protection Commission

THE BALTIC STRATEGY FOR PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES FOR SHIP-GENERATED WASTES AND ASSOCIATED ISSUES

CONTENTS:

1. Introduction

Goal

The goal of the Baltic Strategy for reception of ship-generated wastes is to:

make possible the full implementation of the regulations on reception facilities as laid down in MARPOL 73/78 and the 1974 and 1992 Helsinki Conventions in order to substantially decrease operational discharges and to eliminate illegal disposal of ship-generated wastes at sea and thus to prevent pollution of the Baltic Sea Area;

highlight the need for developing an environmentally sound treatment of ship-generated wastes subsequent to their reception in facilities ashore, as part of the waste management system of the Contracting Parties;

Means to achieve the goal

1. **In order to achieve the goal a HELCOM Recommendation on reception facilities, containing a list of actions to be taken by the Contracting Parties, has been elaborated.**

2. **A compilation of the need for investments to improve the reception of ship-generated wastes, and to make possible primary, and in some cases final treatment of such wastes, has been made by IMO for the countries in transition.**

In order to make it possible to take appropriate action in the entire Baltic Sea region additional financing has thus to be arranged via appropriate international financial institutions and donor organizations. A project proposal has been developed within IMO and has been sent, jointly by IMO and HELCOM, to appropriate international financing bodies.

3.1 **A basic principle of the Strategy is the introduction of a harmonized fee system for the use of reception facilities. It could be the "no-special-fee" system although some Baltic Sea States, because of internal legal and administrative reasons, are not able to introduce such a system until their legislation has been amended.**

The ongoing work in IMO on a financing scheme for reception facilities should be taken into account in the follow-up actions on the Strategy.

The "no-special-fee" system means a practical implementation of the polluter-pays principle in relation to the entire shipping activities. According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the polluter-pays principle means that the polluter should bear the "costs of pollution prevention and control measures", the latter being "measures decided by public authorities to ensure that the environment is in an acceptable state". In other words the polluter has to bear the cost of steps that he is legally bound to take to protect the environment, such as measures to reduce the pollutant emissions at source and measures to avoid pollution by collective treatment of effluent from a pollution installation and other sources of pollution (see OECD document OCDE/GD(92)81).

An early implementation of the "no-special-fee" system, however, will constitute a self-financing instrument for the investments referred to in paragraph 2 above.

3.2 The Strategy also addresses, inter alia, the following important issues:

waste minimization onboard
training of ships' officers and crews in waste management
application of best available technology (BAT) onboard and ashore
information systems and their application
port state control
special pollution problems related to fishing vessels, working vessels and pleasure craft, including proposals for their remedy
enforcement of regulations
enforcement of appropriate measures in cases of violations of regulations.

Implementation of the Strategy for Port Reception Facilities for Ship-generated Wastes and Associated Issues

The implementation of the HELCOM Recommendation on reception facilities will be a time-consuming process which will comprise legislative, administrative and technical measures. Therefore, the Contracting Parties are recommended to take appropriate actions as soon as possible before 1 January 1998 in understanding that the finalization of certain issues may require an extended implementation period.

A reporting format for the implementation of the Strategy has been elaborated. The Maritime Committee is responsible for the monitoring of the implementation of the Strategy and will receive, on an annual basis, reports on the national steps to meet the obligations laid down in the Strategy.

Each Contracting Party will designate one authority responsible for the reporting on matters related to the implementation of the Strategy.

2. HELCOM Recommendation 17/11

Adopted 13 March 1996, having regard to Article 7 of the Helsinki Convention

RECEPTION FACILITIES

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING the 1992 Helsinki Convention which stipulates a need for development and application of uniform requirements for the provision of reception facilities in the Baltic Sea Area,

RECALLING ALSO the 1988 Ministerial Declaration which urges the Contracting Parties to work together to promote the use of shore reception facilities for residues and wastes from ships making such facilities and services available at reasonable costs or without charging special fees to the individual ships,

RECALLING FURTHER that Annexes I, II, III and V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78) are in force,

BEARING IN MIND that the provisions of Regulation 7 of Annex IV of the 1974 Helsinki Convention and Regulation 5 of Annex IV of the 1992 Helsinki Convention, in which each Contracting Party undertakes to ensure the provision of facilities at its ports and terminals of the Baltic Sea Area for the reception of sewage, without causing undue delay to ships, adequate to meet the needs of the ships using them,

NOTING that the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has adopted guidelines on the provision of adequate reception facilities in ports for oily wastes, residues and mixtures containing noxious liquid substances, sewage, and garbage to assist Governments in implementing the requirements of MARPOL 73/78,

DESIRING to protect the Baltic Sea Area against harmful effects by pollution from ships including pleasure craft,

CONSCIOUS of the international nature of shipping and of the importance of a harmonized system for the provision of reception facilities and relevant financial arrangements covering the Baltic Sea Area,

CONSCIOUS ALSO of the importance of applying an effective harmonized penal system having a deterrent effect on the illegal operational discharges thereby encouraging the use of reception facilities,

AGREES:

1. **That primarily a system shall be established in the Convention Area for the control of ships' discharges to reception facilities and waste management on board ships. A prerequisite for an efficient control system aiming at a better enforcement if the exchange of information on whether a ship has used a port reception facility in the Area and an estimation of the amount of waste generated on board any ship. A suitable communication system with an accompanying data base should be introduced for this purpose. It is important that the control is exercised under the responsibility of the Administration in order to minimize distortion of competition between ports;**

2. That, as a matter of priority, a harmonized fee system shall be established with the dual purpose of encouraging ships to deliver waste ashore and to avoid undesirable waste streams between ports thereby encouraging a sound sharing of the waste burden in the Convention Area. The "no-special-fee" system constitutes such a system and will, when applied by all Contracting Parties in a harmonized way, serve both purposes. In this context the "no-special-fee" system is defined as a charging system where the cost for reception, handling and disposal of ship-generated waste is included in the harbour fee or otherwise charged to the ship irrespective of whether wastes are delivered or not;

3. That mandatory regulations shall be developed for ships to deliver all garbage to a port reception facility before leaving port, taking into account the need for special arrangements for e.g. passenger ferries and ships engaged in short voyages;

4. That harmonized, mandatory rules shall be developed and applied within the Helsinki Convention context to new fishing vessels, working vessels and pleasure craft, which are not covered by the existing regulations, in respect of toilet retention systems and holding tanks for sewage. Sufficient onboard storage possibilities are to be provided also for other wastes generated on board such vessels. Existing fishing vessels, working vessels and pleasure craft shall, to the widest possible extent, become equivalently equipped, or if this is not possible, in the case of sewage, be equipped with portable toilets in order to make reception of sewage for municipal treatment possible thereby minimizing discharges into the marine environment;

5. That, in order to facilitate the enforcement of existing discharge regulations through an expeditious and effective legal mechanism, the responsibility for the evaluation of evidence presented in cases of illegal operational discharges from ships to the widest possible extent shall be centralized on a national level and assigned to persons/institutions having adequate expertise in matters related to violation of international marine environment protection regulations in respect of shipping;

6. That all necessary steps are taken as soon as possible to elaborate a system harmonized to the widest possible extent for determining the severity of sanctions to be imposed on, including calculating the level of fines to be charged, when ships violate the Convention's regulations in respect of operational requirements,

II REQUESTS the Maritime Committee to finalize the follow-up actions related to Section I as soon as possible and to report on the status of this work to the Commission at its meeting in 1998,

III AGREES ALSO to seek cooperation with the North Sea region with the aim to develop uniform requirements including financial arrangements and proper operation of reception facilities in both regions,

IV RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention take appropriate action before 1 January 1998, in order to ensure:

1. That measures shall be taken and procedures shall be applied on board ships aiming at the minimization of waste production and waste segregation. The Contracting Parties should encourage both their shipping and ship supplying industries when requisitioning bonded stores and ships' provisions to apply the substitutionary principle in order to prevent, already at an early stage, the generation of unnecessary waste on board ships. The development and application of improved technology with the aim of eliminating the adverse environmental effects from shipping should also be encouraged and the education of ships' crews and management at all levels on the importance of waste management should be promoted;

2. That cost-effective technical and practical solutions shall be applied both on board ships and in ports for separation of oily bilge water or water extraction from oily residues in order to avoid expensive long-distance transportation of large amounts of contaminated water and to make it possible to recycle the oil, or as an alternative, to utilize the extracted oil as an energy resource at the place of its appropriate thermal destruction;

3. That port requirements, procedures and conditions for reception and disposal of ship-generated wastes shall to the widest possible extent be harmonized with the IMO's Manual on Shipboard Waste Management in order to promote and simplify the reception of wastes from ships ● I;

4. That the reception procedures and waste handling shall be harmonized between port authorities and shipping companies for passenger vessels and passenger ferries engaged in so-called dedicated trade in order to promote and simplify the waste reception and thereby to avoid unnecessary burdens of costs as well as to make recycling of wastes possible to the greatest extent;

5. That marinas, fuelling stations, fishing harbours, etc. for pleasure craft and small vessels shall be equipped with installations for simple and convenient reception of sewage and other wastes as a normal service. The establishment of a network of such installations should be encouraged by e.g. a national plan in order to ensure an extensive coverage of waste reception;

6. That any contradictive economic, procedural, operational, technical, etc. hindrances for the use of port reception facilities for ship-generated wastes shall be eliminated. In particular customs, health and environmental formalities should be as simple and expeditious as possible in order to avoid undue delay of ships. In this context it should be particularly observed that any fees charged for the use of reception facilities, whether included in the harbour fee or not, should not serve lucrative purposes but reflect the real costs entailed by the port for the reception and final disposal of the wastes,

V RECOMMENDS ALSO to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to facilitate the implementation of these measures by providing technical assistance and expertise including organizing arrangements for financial support to the countries in transition,

VI URGES the Governments of the Contracting Parties to assign one authority responsible for the coordination of the implementation of this Recommendation on national level.

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*) The IMO Manual has not yet been adopted.

3. Investments to improve reception facilities in the countries in transition in the Baltic Sea region

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) arranged advisory missions on port reception facilities to Estonia (Ports of Tallinn and Pärnu), Latvia (Ports of Riga and Liepaja), Lithuania (Port of Klaipeda), Poland (Ports of Gdansk, Gdynia, Kolobrzeg, Szczecin, Swinoujscie, Darlowo, Ustka and Leba) and Russia (Ports of St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad). Proposals in conformity with these needs constitute this part of the Strategy. On the basis of the aforementioned missions IMO identified needs for investments to improve reception facilities in the ports of the countries in transition. The total need for investments, including technical assistance programmes, in the investigated ports is about 37.5 million USD. IMO elaborated also a project proposal entitled "Enhancement of reception facilities for ships in eastern Baltic ports" to be presented to appropriate international financial institutions and donor organizations. The project proposal was co-sponsored by the Helsinki Commission. The project proposal has been sent to the World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), European Investment Bank (EIB), Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO), Nordic Investment Bank (NIB) and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

E S T O N I A

Port of Tallinn

The State Enterprise Port of Tallinn covers the following areas: the City Port, the Kopli Port, Port of Muuga, the Paldiski Port and six small local ports. At present there are no projects for the development of port reception facilities in these port areas. In Kopli Port the operator of the oil terminal, the private enterprise SCANTRANS is in the progress of renovating the existing oil treatment facility. To renovate this facility there is an urgent need for approximately USD 200,000. To assist the Port of Tallinn in the development of a plan for the provision and operation of adequate reception facilities a technical expert with experience in port reception facilities should be provided.

As an indication on the basis of comparison with previous studies for other ports, the following order of magnitude investment sum can be given:

Projects

Muuga Port

(1)	**Collection system for oil. Collection vessels with adequate capacity is available. Treatment facilities storage tank of 100 cubic meters for primary treatment, secondary treatment tank of 50 cubic meters, oil/water separator, filter and oil monitor, with piping**	**USD**	**600,000**

Kopli Port

(1)	**Renovation of existing oil separator at the SCANTRANS Terminal**	**USD**	**200,000**
	Renovation of existing collection ships and the SCANTRANS treatment facility in general	**USD**	**1 ,000,000**
Total / Ports of Muuga and Kopli		**USD**	1,800,000

Port of Pärnu

No plans for the development of port reception facilities are available for the Port of Pärnu. To assist in the development of a plan for the provision and operation of adequate reception facilities a technical expert with expertise in port reception facilities should be provided.

As an indication on the basis of comparison with previous studies for other ports, the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Projects

(1)	**Collection system for oil.**		
	1 tank truck, capacity 10 cubic meters		
	1 storage tank of 50 cubic meters with oil/water separator and oil monitor	**USD**	**400,000**
(2)	**Collection system for sewage.**		
	1 tank trailer, capacity 10 cubic meters		
	piping for connection to city sewage system	**USD**	**100,000**
(3)	**Collection system for garbage.**		
	1 truck with lifting system for 1 and 2 cubic meters containers, heavy plastic with hatch cover		
	5 pc containers of 1 cubic meter each		
	5 pc containers of 2 cubic meters each	**USD**	**200,000**
Total		**USD**	**700,000**

L A T V I A

Port of Riga

Facilities for the reception of ship-generated-wastes have been established in the Port of Riga. However, the facilities do not comply with modern standards and should be replaced or modernized. It is recommended to support the development of new facilities and the modernization of some of the existing facilities. Technical assistance for the development of such new plans and technical installations should be provided with assistance from outside. It is estimated that two manmonth of assistance may be needed to produce technical plans for the development of reception facilities in the Port of Riga.

As an indication on the basis of comparison with previous studies of other ports, the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Projects

(1)	**Reception and final treatment of oily wastes.**		
	Renovation and modernisation of existing collection vessels	**USD**	**300,000**
	Construction of treatment facility	**USD**	**400,000**
(2)	**Reception of sewage.**		
	Renovation and modernisation of existing collection vessels	**USD**	**300,000**
(3)	**Reception of garbage.**		
	Renovation and modernisation of existing collection system, trucks and containers	**USD**	**400,000**
	Construction of incinerator	**USD**	4,500,000
Total		**USD**	5,900,000

Liepaja

Facilities for the reception of ship-generated-wastes have been established in Liepaja port. However, the facilities are outdated and do not comply with modern standards. It is recommended to support the development of new facilities and renovate some of the existing facilities. Technical assistance for the development of such new plans and technical installations should be provided with the assistance from outside. It is estimated that two manmonth of assistance may be needed to produce technical plans for the development of reception facilities in the port of Liepaja.

As an indication on the basis of comparison with previous studies of other ports, the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Projects

(1)	**Reception of oily wastes. Construction of final treatment facilities; storage tank of 1,000 m^3 for primary treatment, secondary treatment tank of 50 m^3, oil/water separator, filter and oil monitor with piping**	**USD**	**600,000**
(2)	**Renovation and modernization of existing collection vesselss "GAUJA", "TEBRA" and "NMS-0006" used for the collection of Oily wastes and sewage**	**USD**	**300,000**
(3)	**Reception of sewage water. Construction of waste water laboratory and pipelines**	**USD**	2,500,000
(4)	**Reception of garbage. Renovation and modernization of existing collection system, trucks and containers**	**USD**	**400,000**
	Construction of incineration for dry garbage	**USD**	1,200,000
Total		**USD**	5,000,000

L I T H U A N I A

Klaipeda

Under Klaipeda State, Sea-Port Administration operates a number of reception facilities as follows:

The State Oil Enterprise *(NAFTA)* is operating an oil treatment facility for the reception of dirty ballast and oily mixtures from calling tankers. Plans for modernization and extension of the capacity have been developed and is under implementation with assistance from a Dutch engineering company. At present there are no needs for economical support for this facility.

The State Stevedorina Company *SMELTE* operates its own reception and treatment facilities for the reception of oily mixtures, sewage and garbage. At present the future organization of the entire Klaipeda State Sea-Port is under consideration. These considerations may have some impact on the future operation of the facilities operated by SMELTE. If the facilities of SMELTE are going to continue its operations, a modernization programme of the treatment facilities has to be developed. Technical assistance for the development of such a plan should be provided with assistance from outside. It is estimated that one man-month of assistance may be needed to produce technical plans for the development of reception and treatment facilities of Klaipeda "SMELTE".

The Stevedorino Company *KLASCO* is the owner of two vessels for the collection of oily mixtures, sewage and garbage. The daily operation of these vessels is taken care of by the Chief Captain's Office under the Harbour Master's Office. The two vessels have been in service for 10 to 18 years, respectively, and are in an urgent need for modernization. Furthermore, the garbage collection system as operated today is considered inadequate in its present configuration.

A modernization plan for the two vessels has to be developed. Technical assistance for the development of such a plan should be provided with assistance from outside. It is estimated that one manmonth of assistance may be needed to produce technical dock specifications for the modernization of the five vessels.

As an indication on the basis of comparison with previous studies of other ports, the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Projects

(1)	**Modernization of three collection vessels including the transfer systems, the initial on-board treatment facilities, the main and auxiliary engines, the crew accommodation and facilities to reduce vapour emissions during transfer operations.**	**USD**	**900,000**
(2)	**Modernization of garbage reception facilities. 2 trucks with multi-lift system for standard garbage containers. 20 standard containers with hatch cover**	**USD**	**650,000**
(3)	**Construction of incinerator for ship-generated waste including heat generation, smoke cleaning and necessary instrumentation**	**USD**	1,500,000
(4)	**Installation of automatically operated oil content monitor on outlet from oil separator system**	YSD	*1.000*
Total		**USD**	3,05 **1,000**

POLAND

Port of Gdansk

The following projects for the Port of Gdansk have been identified:

(1)	**Modernization of the system of collecting oily wastes.**		
	- Modernization of the tank vessel, the barges and the pipelines from the mooring plant to the treatment plant	**USD**	**1 ,ooo,ooo**
	- Modernization of the equipment for cleaning operations on board visiting oil tankers and on fixed land-based storage tanks	**USD**	**500,000**
	- Purchase of modern trucks for land transportation	**USD**	**500,000**
	- Modernization of the oil treatment facility (along the lines of the US/British engineers' proposal), including facilities for incineration of oily sludge and other wastes	**USD**	3,000,000
(2)	**Construction of a plant for initial mechanical and biological treatment of sewage from ships; Estimated costs**	**not yet specified**	

(3) **Establishment of adequate facilities for the reception of garbage (5,000ship call/year). Two trucks with multi-lift systems for standard garbage containers and 20 standard containers; Estimated costs** **USD 650.000**

Total estimated costs (except for (2)) **USD 5,650,000**

Ad (2) **Construction of a sewage treatment facility for initial treatment of sewage received from ships.**

A location for the construction of the sewage treatment plant has been allocated next to the Port Service facility. A project is under preparation but has not yet been capitalized. Technical assistance for the development of such a plan should be provided with the assistance from outside. It is estimated that one manmonth of assistance may be needed to produce technical specifications including cost specifications for the sewage treatment plant.

The needed funding for technical assistance **USD 30.000**

As an indication, on the basis of comparison with previous studies for other ports, the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Port of Gdynia

The following projects for the Port of Gdynia have been identified:

(1) **Modernization of existing pre-war sewage system inside the port area;**
(2) Development of adequate facilities for the reception of garbage from ships.

Ad (1) **Modernization of existing pre-war sewage system.**

A project for the development of the existing sewage system for rain and sanitary waste water has to be developed including an initial technical and biological treatment facility for ship-generated sewage. Technical assistance for the development of such a project should be provided with assistance from outside. It is estimated that two man-months of assistance may be needed to provide technical specifications including cost specifications for the modernization of the sewage system and the initial treatment plant.

Needed funding for the technical assistance **USD 60,000**

Ad (2) **Development of adequate facilities for the reception of garbage from ships.**

No plans for the development of a centrally organized and operated garbage collection system have been developed. As an indication on the basis of comparison with previous studies of other ports, the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Project

Two trucks with multi-lift system of similar and 20 standard containers with hatch cover **USD 640,000**

Total investment / Port of Gdynia **USD 700,000**

Kolobrzeg

The following investments are required in the port:

(1) **Replacement of existing oily/water separator** **USD 10,000**

(2)	Installation of automatic oil content monitoring system in connection with separator	USD	1,000
(3)	Tank truck for the collection of ships sewage and transportation to municipality sewage facility	USD	100,000
(4)	Garbage collection containers in fishery port, commercial port and yacht port. 6 pc with hatch cover	USD	1 0.000
	Total investment / Port of Kolobrzeg	USD	121,000

During the last years Kolobrzeg Port has been visited by an increased number of pleasure craft coming from all coastal states in the Baltic. At present no sanitary facilities are available in the yacht area of the port.

To meet the needs of the pleasure craft, to avoid further pollution of the marine environment in the port area and to attract even more yachts it is recommended to establish modern sanitary facilities including washing and toilet facilities in the yacht port. Adequate land areas are available for such a development.

As an indication, on the basis of comparison with previous studies for other ports, the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Project

Construction of house containing shower, washing and toilet facilities, including connection to city sewage facilities	USD	150,000

Port of Darlowo

The following investments are required in the port:

(1)	Installation of oily/water separator	USD	10,000
(2)	Installation of automatic oil content monitoring system in connection with separator	USD	1,000
(3)	Tank truck for the collection of ships sewage and transportation to municipality sewage facility	USD	100,000
(4)	Garbage collection containers in fishery port commercial port and yacht port. 4 pc with hatch cover	USD	7,500
	Total investment / Port of Darlowo	USD	118,500

Port of Ustka

The following investments are required in the port:

(1)	Installation of automatic oil content monitoring system in connection with separator	USD	1,000
(2)	Tank truck for the collection of ships' sewage and transportation to municipality sewage facility	USD	100,000
(3)	Garbage collection containers in fishery port, commercial port and yacht port. 4 pc with hatch cover	USD	7,500
	Total investment / Port of Ustka	USD	108,500

Port of Leba

The following investments are required in the port:

(1)	**Installation of oily/water separator**	**USD**	**10,000**
(2)	**Installation of automatic oil content monitoring system in connection with separator**	**USD**	**1,000**
(3)	**Construction of permanent storage tank for oily/water mixtures**	**USD**	**4,000**
(4)	**Tank trailer for the collection of ships sewage and transportation to municipality sewage facility**	**USD**	**15,000**
(5)	**Garbage collection containers in fishery port, commercial port and yacht port. 4 pc with hatch cover**	**USD**	**7.500**
Total investment / Port of Leba		**USD**	**37,500**

Port of Szczecin

At present the reception facilities for the reception of oily wastes is inadequate, out of date and in a condition which do not comply with modern environmental and labour safety standards.

There are no facilities for the reception of mixtures or residues of noxious liquid substances carried in bulk. Only brief information was received on which substances and in what quantities there were imported or exported to and from the port. All noxious liquid substances are handled by a state enterprise.

No facilities were available for the reception of sewage from ships. According to national health legislation an initial treatment of sewage is required before it can be discharged to municipality sewage treatment facilities

Garbage is collected from ships by small enterprises without adequate control from shipping or local administrations. It is assumed that collected garbage is disposed of at municipality waste dump sites.

The following needs have been identified for the Port of Szczecin:

(1) **Modernization of existing facilities for the reception of oily wastes;**
(2) **Construction of an incinerator for ship-generated wastes, including oily sludge and garbage;**
(3) Plant for initial treatment of ship-generated sewage;
(4) Development of centralized adequate system for the collection of ship-generated garbage;
(5) Specialized vessel for the collection of solid floating wastes in port areas;
(6) **Replacement of inadequate and old mechanical tank cleaning equipment; and**
(7) Installation of modern laboratory facilities for self control with effluent water and receive liquid wastes.

Technical assistance for the development of detailed projects should be provided with the assistance from outside. It is estimated that four manmonth of assistance may be needed to produce technical specifications including cost specifications for the above seven items, based on the IMO recommendations.

As an indication, on the basis of comparison with previous studies for other ports, and according to calculations provided by the state enterprise "Ship-Service S.A.", the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Projects

Ad (1) **Modernization of existing reception facilities for oily wastes.**

Construction of land based storage facilities for received oily mixtures and recovered waste oil. 3-step oily water separation system and discharge system for effluent water through filter and a continuous oil content monitoring system. Land areas are available at the present location of "Ship -Service S.A." The storage facilities for oily mixtures should consist of two tanks with a capacity of 100 cubic meters each. The tanks should be equipped with facilities for gravity separation of the oily mixture (1. step separation). The drained water from the 1. step separation should pass through a high performance oily/water separator (2. step) and from their through the filter and monitoring unit to the sea or community sewage system as required by local authorities. The storage facility for recovered oil should consist of one tank with a capacity of 50 cubic meters.

Estimated costs **USD** **650,000**

The recovered oil should connected to a waste oil regeneration/purification unit which extract particles, sludge and heavy metals. The recovered oil may be used for heating purposes at the facility or sold as fuel oil.

Estimated costs **USD** **500,000**

Ad (2) **Construction of an incinerator for ship-generated wastes, including oily sludge and garbage.**

No project has been developed for an incineration plant.

The plant should be developed with heat generation, smoke cleaning and emission control. The capacity of the plant should be sufficient to comply with the demands for incineration of ship-generated garbage from ships calling at the port of Szczecin as well as oily sludge generated under project (1).

Estimated costs **USD** 1,000,000

Ad (3) **Plant for initial treatment of ship-generated sewage.**

No projects have been developed for this sewage treatment plant.

The plant should have sufficient capacity to treat received sewage from calling ships. The plant should have facilities for physical and biological treatment of the received sewage. The plant should be able to discharge the effluent into the city sewage system. Land area for a sewage treatment plant is available inside the existing area of "Ship-Service S.A."

Estimated costs USD **500,000**

Ad (4) **Development of centralized adequate system for the collection of ship-generated garbage.**

No projects have been developed.

Centralization of existing garbage reception facilities, 2 trucks with multi lift system for standard garbage containers. 20 standard containers with hatch cover.

Estimated costs USD **650,000**

Ad (5) Specialized vessel for the collection of solid floating wastes in port areas.

1 vessel for the collection of floating garbage, oil and other wastes in the port area. The vessel should be equipped with a collection system, which can recover the waste and locate it in a movable container on board for subsequent delivery to the incineration plant under (4).

Estimated costs USD **400,000**

Ad (6) **Replacement of inadequate and old mechanical tank cleaning equipment.**

One of the tasks of "Ship-Service S.A." is to carry out tank cleaning operations on calling oil tankers. The existing equipment is out of date and needs replacement.

Estimated costs	**USD**	**100,000**

Ad (7) **Installation of modern laboratory facilities for self control with effluent water and receive liquid wastes.**

From the city authorities "Ship-Service S.A." is requested, on a continuous base, to carry out self control with effluent water discharged to the marine environment. To comply with this requirement, there is an urgent need to establish a pollution control laboratory, certificated according to ISO 9000.

Estimated costs	**USD**	150,000
Total estimated costs for items (1) to (7)	**USD**	3,950,000

If "Ship-Service S.A." is given the task to handle mixtures and residues of noxious liquid substances carried in bulk a complex reception facility has to been established. Before such a project is developed a comprehensive investigation on the present and future chemical trade on the port of Szczecin has to be initiated. To avoid such a situation it is recommended the shipping and port authorities to request any importer/exporter of MARPOL 73178 , Annex II substances to be responsible for the handling of all chemical wastes from such trade them self, as the reception and final treatment of any chemical waste is a very expensive and complex operation, which requires highly specialized personnel.

Port of Swinoujscie

The present facilities for the reception of oily waste is inadequate and do not comply with modern environmental and labour safety requirements. The facilities are operated by the state owned company "Ship-Service S.A." from Szczecin, and received oil is transported to that city for final treatment. The two ship repair yards operates their own reception facilities.

There is no transport of hazardous liquid substances in bulk in the port.

There are no facilities available for the reception of sewage from ships.

On request to the Harbour Masters Office garbage will be collected by companies. Officially, the garbage is delivered to the city waste dump site.

The new ferry terminal has developed its own reception facilities for the reception of oily wastes, sewage and garbage.

The following needs have been identified for the Port of Swinoujscie:

(1) **Modernization of existing facilities for the reception of oily wastes;**
(2) **Construction of an incinerator for ship-generated wastes, including oily sludge and garbage;**
(3) **Plant for initial treatment of ship-generated sewage;**
(4) **Development of centralized adequate system for the collection of ship-generated garbage;**
(5) **Specialized vessel for the collection of solid floating wastes in port areas.**

Technical assistance for the development of detailed projects should be provided with the assistance from outside. It is estimated that one manmonth of assistance may be needed to produce technical specifications including cost specifications for the above seven items, based on the IMO recommendations.

As an indication, on the basis of comparison with previous studies for other ports, and according to calculations provided by the state enterprise "Ship-Service S.A.", the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Projects

Ad (1) **Modernization of existing reception facilities for oily wastes.**

Construction of land based storage facilities for received oily mixtures and recovered waste oil. 3-step oily water separation system and discharge system for effluent water through filter and a continuous oil content monitoring system. Land areas are available at the present location of "Ship -Service S.A." The storage facilities for oily mixtures should consist of one tank with a capacity of 100 cubic meters. The tank should be equipped with facilities for gravity separation of the oily mixture (1. step separation). The drained water from the 1. step separation should pass through a high performance oily/water separator (2. step) and from their through the filter and monitoring unit to the sea or community sewage system as required by local authorities. The storage facility for recovered oil should consist of one tank with a capacity of 50 cubic meters.

Estimated costs **USD 400.000**

The recovered oil shall be transported to the waste oil regeneration/purification unit of "Ship-Service S.A." in Szczecin.

Ad (2) **Construction of an incinerator for ship-generated wastes, including oily sludge and garbage.**

No project has been developed for an incineration plant.

The plant should be developed with heat generation, smoke cleaning and emission control. The capacity of the plant should be sufficient to comply with the demands for incineration of ship-generated garbage from ships calling at the port of Swinoujscie.

Estimated costs **USD 1 ,ooo,ooo**

Ad (3) **Plant for initial treatment of ship-generated sewage.**

No projects have been developed for this sewage treatment plant.

The plant should have sufficient capacity to treat received sewage from calling ships. The plant should have facilities for physical and biological treatment of the received sewage. The plant should be able to discharge the effluent into the city sewage system. Land area for a sewage treatment plant is available inside the existing area of "Ship-Service S.A."

Estimated costs **USD 500,000**

Ad (4) **Development of centralized adequate system for the collection of ship-generated garbage.**

No projects have been developed.

Centralization of existing garbage reception facilities, 1 trucks with multi lift system for standard garbage containers. 10 standard containers with hatch cover. For sea transportation the specialized vessel under (5) shall be fitted with a crane with sufficient lifting capacity to deliver and collect the containers at the quay side.

Estimated costs **USD 450,000**

Ad (5) Specialized vessel for the collection of solid floating wastes in port areas.

1 vessel for the collection of floating garbage, oil and other wastes in the port area. The vessel should be equipped with a collection system, which can recover the waste and locate it in a movable container on board for subsequent delivery to the incineration plant under (2).

Estimated costs	USD	400.000
Total estimated costs for items (1) to (5)	USD	2,750,000

For the time being the Port of Swinoujscie is considering the construction of a new oil terminal for the import of refined products for local consumption. It is assumed that such a new facility will be requested to establish its own facilities for the reception and treatment of dirty ballast water, if needed.

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Port of Kaliningrad

The following projects for the Port of Kaliningrad have been identified:

(1) Renovation of existing oily wastes collection vessel;
(2) Renovation and up-dating of existing facility for final treatment of received oily wastes;
(3) Extension and up-dating of existing sewage treatment facility:
(4) Development of centralized adequate system for the collection of ship-generated garbage; and
(5) Construction of a facility for the incineration of ship-generated wastes, including garbage and oily sludge.

Only a part of the project identified under item (3) is based on a firm project.

Technical assistance for the development of the remaining projects should be provided with the assistance from outside. It is estimated that two manmonth of assistance may be needed to produce technical specifications including cost specifications for the above seven items, based on the IMO recommendations.

As an indication, on the basis of comparison with previous studies for other ports the following order of magnitude investment sums can be given:

Ad (1) Renovation of existing oily wastes collection vessel.

One of the existing oil and sewage collection vessels is 12 years old, and a renovation of the vessel is needed. The project should include renovation of main and auxiliary engines, the oil and sewage transfer system, the crew accommodation and the environmental and labour safety arrangements on board.

Estimated costs	USD	300,000

Ad (2) Renovation and up-dating of existing facility for final treatment of received oily wastes.

The renovation includes the following:

replacement of existing boiler for heat generation,
renovation of existing four storage tanks,
renewal of existing isolation on all tanks and pipping,
construction of a modern "two-step" treatment of drainage water from the "first-step" treatment in the four storage tanks. The drained water from the 1. step separation should pass through a high performance oily/water separator (2. step) and from their through a filter and a continuous monitoring unit to the sea or community sewage system as required by local authorities,

construction of a 50 cubic meters storage tank for recovered "dirty oil",
construction of a facility for heat recovery, the recovered heat to be utilized at the plant itself,
construction of a facility for treatment/regeneration of recovered "dirty oil" to secure a reasonable quality of fuel oil for the boiler and to reduce hazardous emission from the stack of the boiler,
renovation of the soil inside the plant area,
all transport areas to be paved with suitable surface for heavy traffic,
construction of adequate personnel and administration service facilities,
construction of a fence surrounding the plant area, including a gate function.

Estimated costs	USD	1,500,000

Ad (3) Extension and up-dating of existing sewage treatment facility.

Based on figures received from the Sea Commercial Port of Kaliningrad the extension of the existing sewage treatment facility are as follows:

- five units with a capacity of 200 m^3/day each	USD	250,000
- modification of existing unit	USD	100,000
Total according to existing project	USD	350,000

(This project has to be re-evaluated and updated)

- Modernisation of control room, laboratory, administration and personnel service facilities

Estimated costs	USD	300,000

Ad (4) Development of centralized adequate system for the collection of ship-generated garbage.

No project has been developed.
The system should consist of 2 trucks with multi-lift system and 20 standard containers with hatch cover.

Estimated costs	USD	400,000

Ad (5) Construction of a facility for the incineration of ship-generated wastes, including garbage and oily sludge.

No project has been developed for an incineration plant.
The plant should be developed with heat generation, smoke cleaning and emission control. The capacity of the plant should be sufficient to comply with the demands for incineration of ship-generated garbage from ships calling at the Port of Kaliningrad.

Estimated costs	USD	1,000,000
Total estimated costs for items (1) to (5)	USD	3,850,000

Port of St. Petersburg

The following projects for the port of St. Petersburg have been identified:

(1) Construction of a modern garbage/solid waste incinerator;
(2) Completion of a waste and rainwater facility.

Ad (1)

On a designated area inside port District IV to construct a modern plant with an annual incineration capacity of 5,000 tonnes of garbage/solid waste. The plant shall comprise of a rotary incineration kiln with balanced air flow operation and equipment with all necessary apparatus and utilities for loading the waste, heat

recovery and air pollution control plant. When finalized the plant shall comply with EEC standards on atmospheric emissions (CEE 89/369).

Estimated needed investments to implement this project **USD** 1,300,000

Ad (2)

On a designated area inside Port District IV to finalize the construction of a waste and rainwater treatment facility with sufficient capacity to process all rain and sanitary waste water from Port District IV and, in particular, from the new container terminal under construction. In addition the plant shall be able to handle the final treatment of the effluent water from the separation of oily waste received at the bunker station located in the vicinity of the waste water plant. In operation the waste water plant. In operation the waste water plant shall be able to comply with European waste water effluent standards.

Estimated investments to finalize the construction of the plant **USD 1.300.000**

Total needed investments / Port of St. Petersburg **USD** 2,600,000

4. Reporting Format on the Implementation of the Baltic Strategy for Port Reception Facilities for Ship-generated Wastes and Associated Issues

(Reports have to be submitted on annual basis to the meetings of the Maritime Committee)

Country _____ **Authority** _____

_____

_____

1. **Measures taken with respect to implementation of the Strategy (Specify whether legislative, administrative, practical)**

   1.1 **assignment of the authority responsible for the coordination of the implementation of the Recommendation in the Reporting Country:**

   1.2 on board ships flying the flag of the Reporting Country concerning in particular minimization of waste production on board a ship:

   1.3 by port authorities concerning in particular cost-effective solutions for separation of oily bilge water or water extraction from oily residues in ports and harmonization of the port requirements with the IMO Manual on Shipboard Waste Management:

   1.4 harmonization of reception procedures and handling between port authorities and shipping companies for passenger vessels in dedicated trade:

   1.5 measures taken in marinas, fuelling stations, fishing harbours, etc. for convenient reception of sewage and other wastes:

2. Needs for assistance by other Contracting Parties (to be filled in by the Countries in transition):

3. **Ongoing investments to improve adequacy of reception facilities:**

4. **Problems arising from the implementation of the Strategy which should be solved in the context of the Helsinki Commission:**

5. **Possible proposals for actions to be taken by the Maritime Committee:**

6. **Other remarks relevant to the implementation of the Strategy**

LIST OF MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE HELSINKI COMMISSION AS AGREED BY THE 17th MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

25-29 March 1996 Warnemiinde, Germany	First Meeting of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (EC MON 1/96)
17-18 April 1996 Helsinki, Finland	First Meeting of the Steering Group to co-ordinate the implementation of the project "Enhancement of Reception Facilities for Ships in Eastern Baltic Ports"
22 April 1996 Helsinki, Finland	Meeting of the Group of Legal Experts
early May 1996 Tvkminne, Finland	Phytoplankton Training Course
6-9 May 1996 Jurmala, Latvia	Sixth Meeting of the Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (EC NATURE 6/96)
8-10 May 1996 Jurmala, Latvia	Fifth Meeting of the HELCOM PITF MLW Working Group (HELCOM PITF MLW 5/96)
20-23 May 1996 Helsinki, Finland	Fifth Meeting of the Steering Group for the Coordination of the Third Periodic Assessment (EC BETA 5/96)
20-24 May 1996 Pori, Finland	First Meeting of the Working Group on Pollution Reduction (TC RED 1/96)
28 May 1996 Stockholm. Sweden	Meeting of the Heads of Delegations to HELCOM
29-30 May 1996 Stockholm, Sweden	Eighth Meeting of the Programme Implementation Task Force (HELCOM PITF 8/96)
before summer 1996 Sweden	Informal Workshop on Guidelines for Harmonized "Baltic Event System"
3-7 June 1996 Hamburg, Germany	Meeting of the Project Group on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea (MORS)
10-12 June 1996 Helsinki, Finland	Ad hoc TC/EC expert meeting on national reports on measures to reduce HM and POPs

14 June 1996 Helsinki, Finland	CASH 22
20-2 1 August 1996 Warsaw, Poland	Sixth Meeting of HELCOM PITF PA & EE Working Group (PA & EE 6/96)
9-12 September 1996 Klaipeda, Lithuania	First Meeting of the Working Group on Inputs to the Environment (TC INPUT 1/96)
16-19 September 1996 Helsinki, Finland	Sixth Meeting of the Steering Group for the Coordination of the Third Periodic Assessment (EC BETA 6/96)
19-20 September 1996 Helsinki, Finland	Third Meeting of the Project for Preparation of the Final Report on Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration 1988 (HELCOM FINREP 3/96)
4th week of September 1996 Poland	Ninth Meeting of the Programme Implementation Task Force (HELCOM PITF 9/96)
14-18 October 1996 Riga, Latvia	Seventh Meeting of the Environment Committee (EC 7196)
28-31 October 1996 Helsinki, Finland	20th Meeting of the Combatting Committee (CC 20/96)
4-6 November 1996 Helsinki, Finland	22nd Meeting of the Maritime Committee (MC 22/96)
15-19 October 1996 Warnemiinde, Germany	Advanced Study Course on Primary Productivity Measurements
15-19 October 1996 Warnemiinde, Germany	Third QA Workshop on Primary Productivity Measurements and Zooplankton
autumn 1996 / winter 1997 Denmark	Second Workshop on BMP Revision and Guidelines (including CMP)
11-15 November 1996 Stockholm, Sweden	Seventh Meeting of the Technological Committee (TC 7/96)
11-13 March 1997 Helsinki, Finland	18th Meeting of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM 18/97)
10-13 March 1998 Helsinki, Finland	19th Meeting of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM 19/98)