

# BALTIC SEA ENVIRONMENT PROCEEDINGS

No. 42

## ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION 1991

Report on the activities of the Baltic Marine  
Environment Protection Commission during 1991  
including the 13th Meeting of the Commission held  
in Helsinki, 3 - 7 February 1992

BALTIC MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMISSION  
- HELSINKI COMMISSION -

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## LIST OF CONTENTS

Page

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION DURING 1991                                  | 1  |
| 1.1 Twelfth Meeting of the Commission  | 1  |
| 1.2 Environment Committee (EC)   | 1  |
| Airborne Pollution   | 2  |
| Monitoring of radioactive substances   | 2  |
| Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP) and related activities                     | 2  |
| Assessments of the state of the sea  | 3  |
| Other activities in the field of EC  | 3  |
| 1.3 Technological Committee (TC)   | 3  |
| Matters related to other Committees, HELCOM Task Force and HELCOM GRC        | 4  |
| Matters related to harmful substances  | 4  |
| Second Pollution Load Compilation  | 5  |
| Discharges and emissions from point sources                                  | 5  |
| Inputs from diffuse sources  | 5  |
| Other activities in the field of TC  | 6  |
| 1.4 Maritime Committee (MC)  | 6  |
| Reception facilities   | 6  |
| Matters related to discharges from ships                                     | 6  |
| Air pollution from ships   | 7  |
| Maritime safety  | 7  |
| Control measures and investigation of violations                             | 7  |
| Cooperation within IMO   | 7  |
| Other activities in the field of MC  | 8  |
| 1.5 Combatting Committee (CC)  | 8  |
| Revision of the HELCOM Manual on Co-operation in Combatting Marine Pollution | 8  |
| Combatting spillages of oil and other harmful substances                     |    |
| Oil  | 9  |
| Other harmful substances   | 9  |
| Surveillance activities  | 9  |
| Joint combatting exercises   | 9  |
| Other activities in the field of CC  | 10 |
| 1.6 HELCOM <u>ad hoc</u> Group for Revision of the Convention (HELCOM GRC)   | 10 |
| 1.7 HELCOM <u>ad hoc</u> high level Task Force (HELCOM TF)                   | 11 |
| National plans   | 12 |
| The prefeasibility studies   | 13 |
| Analysis of key environmental topics   | 13 |
| Interim report   | 14 |

|    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 2. | ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMMISSION 1991   | 14 |
|    | Publications and Data   | 17 |
|    | Cooperation with other International Organizations  | 18 |
| 3. | 13th MEETING OF THE COMMISSION, 3-7 FEBRUARY 1992   | 21 |
|    | HELCOM Recommendations adopted by the 13th meeting<br>of the Commission                   | 21 |
|    | Matters related to the administration of the Commission                                   | 22 |
|    | Matters related to the Environment Committee (EC)   | 23 |
|    | Matters related to the Technological Committee (TC)                                       | 23 |
|    | Matters related to the Maritime Committee (MC)  | 24 |
|    | Matters related to the Combatting Committee (CC)  | 25 |
|    | Matters related to the HELCOM ad hoc Group for Revision of the<br>Convention (HELCOM GRC) | 26 |
|    | Matters related to the HELCOM <u>ad hoc</u> high level<br>Task Force (HELCOM TF)          | 26 |

#### RECOMMENDATIONS PASSED DURING 1992

|  |  |    |
|--|--|----|
|  | HELCOM Recommendation 13/1<br>Disposal of dredged spoils   | 29 |
|  | HELCOM Recommendation 13/2<br>Industrial connections and point sources other than household<br>connected to municipal sewerage systems | 31 |
|  | HELCOM Recommendation 13/3<br>Basic Principles in waste water management in chemical industry  | 33 |
|  | HELCOM Recommendation 13/4<br>Atmospheric pollution related to the use of scrap materials<br>in the iron and steel industry            | 37 |
|  | HELCOM Recommendation 13/5<br>Principles for permitting waste water discharge and emissions<br>from industrial plants                  | 39 |
|  | HELCOM Recommendation 13/6<br>Definition of best environmental practice  | 41 |
|  | HELCOM Recommendation 13/7<br>Reduction of ammonia volatilization from storages  | 43 |
|  | HELCOM Recommendation 13/8<br>Reduction of ammonia volatilization from field application<br>of manure                                  | 47 |
|  | HELCOM Recommendation 13/9<br>Reduction of nitrogen, mainly nitrate, leaching from<br>agricultural land                                | 49 |

|  |    |
|--|----|
| HELCOM Recommendation 13/10<br>Reduction of phosphorus leaching and erosion  | 51 |
| HELCOM Recommendation 13/11<br>Reduction of farm waste discharges  | 53 |
| HELCOM Recommendation 13/12<br>Managing freshwater ecosystems for retention of nutrients   | 55 |
| HELCOM Recommendation 13/13<br>Approval of pesticides for use in the catchment area<br>of the Baltic Sea                                     | 57 |
| HELCOM Recommendation 13/14<br>Amendment to Regulation 6 of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention  | 59 |
| HELCOM Recommendation 13/15<br>Early measures to reduce sulphur in marine fuel oils in<br>the Baltic Sea Area                                | 63 |
| LIST OF MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS UNDER THE AUSPICES<br>OF THE HELSINKI COMMISSION AS AGREED BY THE 13th MEETING<br>OF THE COMMISSION | 65 |
| LIST OF BALTIC SEA ENVIRONMENT PROCEEDINGS   | 67 |

# **REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HELSINKI COMMISSION DURING 1991**

## **1. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION DURING 1991**

### **1.1 Twelfth Meeting of the Commission**

During the twelfth year of operation of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) the elaboration of further measures against pollution was continued. Special emphasis was given to the follow-up work on the national implementation of the 1988 Ministerial Declaration and the Baltic Sea Declaration, 1990, the work related to the revision of the Convention as well as the work associated with the ad hoc high level Task Force.

The outcome of the twelfth meeting of the Commission held in Helsinki 19-22 February 1991 has been published in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 37.

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

### **1.2 Environment Committee (EC)**

The Environment Committee (EC) held its Second Meeting in Gdynia, Poland, 9-13 September 1991. The meeting was attended by Delegations from all the Contracting Parties as well as Observers from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC), the Oslo and Paris Commissions, and a representative of the Baltic Marine Biologists (BMB) and of the Consultant of the Helsinki Commission on BMP data (EDC). Two Observers from the Greenpeace International, an Observer from the Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB) and an Observer from the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) attended the beginning of the meeting to give statements. The Executive Secretary of the Commission, the Task Force Secretary and the Technological Secretary also attended the meeting.

Mr. Piotr Krzyzanowski of Poland, Chairman of the EC, acted as Chairman of the meeting, and Mr. Niels Peter Rühl and Mr. Lutz Brüggmann of Germany, Vice-Chairmen of the EC, acted as Vice-Chairmen of the Meeting. The Environment Secretary, a.i., 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 the Environment Committee. The Observers of ICES provided information on the progress in the activities requested by the Helsinki Commission. The Observer of BMB informed about the working strategy of BMB, looking forward to future cooperation with the EC. The Observer of Greenpeace delivered a statement concerning the

fixed link between Denmark and Sweden. In the discussions the meeting expressed the view that further information on the fixed link should be considered by the thirteenth meeting of the Commission. The Observer of WWF delivered a statement concerning nature conservation and biodiversity. Also a study concerning preparation of guidelines for the use of wetlands was introduced. The Observer of CCB also delivered a statement concerning the fixed link between Denmark and Sweden. With regard to the work of other Committees and ad hoc Groups, the EC considered, e.g. the proposal for the establishment of an expert group on harmful substances under TC, the specific questions from the ad hoc Group for Revision of the Convention (GRC), as well as the responsibility of EC to provide a contribution to the work of the ad hoc high level Task Force.

The meeting pointed out that it was of the utmost interest of EC to consider the questions whether measures planned within the Task Force, and included in the Joint Comprehensive Programme, are relevant and sufficient to achieve the ecological balance of the Baltic Sea.

### Airborne Pollution

The Committee considered the report of the eighth meeting of the Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (EC EGAP). The meeting, noting with satisfaction, the timely preparation of the evaluation report "Airborne Pollution Load to the Baltic Sea 1986-1990", expressed its appreciation to the Editorial Group and to the consultant on EGAP data, EMEP-CCC (NILU). The meeting, furthermore, considered the cooperation between EC EGAP and TC concerning, e.g. the division of matters related to emissions and the synchronization of timetables. The Committee was informed on the change in the chairmanship of EC EGAP.

### Monitoring of radioactive substances

The Committee considered the report of the sixth meeting of the Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea (EC MORS). The Committee was informed on the change in the chairmanship of EC MORS. The meeting was also informed on the submissions of data to the relevant data bases, on the ongoing and planned intercalibration programmes as well as on the map showing the distribution of the deposition of Cs-137 in the drainage area of the Baltic Sea.

### Baltic Monitoring Programme (BMP) and related activities

The Committee, noting the importance of intercalibrations and matters related to quality assurance, endorsed the proposal for the establishment of reference laboratories for the various determinands measured in the BMP. The meeting, noting the new contract between the Helsinki Commission and the Environment Data Centre (EDC) of the National Board of Waters and the Environment in Finland, thanked the former consultant, Finnish Institute of Marine Research, for their work.

With regard to the revision of the BMP, the meeting agreed that the BMP should consist of a mandatory part, performed by all Contracting Parties, and a baseline part, in which laboratories would participate according to their expertise in the particular measurements. The Committee agreed to abandon the present five-year periodicity and replace it with a more flexible one, and also agreed in principle how the revision of the mandatory part of the BMP will be coordinated.

## Assessments of the state of the sea

With regard to the coastal assessment, the Committee accepted the proposal by the coastal assessment working group of printing the interim report on the state of the coastal waters of the Baltic Sea in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings by the end of 1991 as a first approach. The Meeting agreed to propose that the working group continue its work as planned and accepted the revised timetable for the First Assessment of the State of the Coastal Areas of the Baltic Sea to be ready for print in 1992.

The Committee also considered the progress in the work of specific assessments, e.g. concerning seals and sediments (Baltic Sea Sediment Baseline Study 1993).

## Other activities in the field of EC

The meeting considered the proposal for future work regarding BMP data and assessment activities and agreed that it would be beneficial, if the BMP- data were initially evaluated without reference to data from other sources, along the lines of the unified methods.

With regard to the dredged spoils, the Committee considered the draft guidelines for disposal of dredged spoils and agreed, e.g. how the collection of data on the amounts of dredged spoils in the Baltic Sea will be collected and reported during the initial stage.

The Committee noted the interests from various international organizations to build up and develop a Geographical Information System (GIS) to the Baltic Sea Area, and decided to draw the attention of the Commission to the very confusing present situation and to request the Commission to decide whether HELCOM should be a coordinating unit for all different international bodies interested in developing GIS for the Baltic Sea. Also cooperation with WHO/EURO and UNESCO/ASP/INISTE was considered.

The Committee elected unanimously Mr. Niels Peter Rühl of Germany as Chairman of EC for the next two-year period, starting at the end of the thirteenth meeting of the Commission, and Mr. Eugeniusz Andrulowicz of Poland and Mr. Yuri Panteleev of the USSR as Vice-Chairmen for the next two-year period.

### **1.3 Technological Committee (TC)**

The Second meeting of the Technological Committee (TC) was held in Kauniainen, Finland, 14-18 October 1991. Delegations from all Contracting Parties attended the meeting. The Executive Secretary of the Commission, the Task Force Secretary, the Environment Secretary a.i. and the Maritime Secretary of the Commission as well as the Observer from the Paris Commission also attended the meeting. The Observers from Greenpeace International attended the meeting to give a statement in the beginning of the meeting and participated in the discussion on the statement according to the Rules of Procedure (HELCOM 10/14, Paragraph 8.24).

Mr. Tapani Kohonen, the Chairman of TC, acted as Chairman of the meeting. Mr. Ain Lääne and Ms. Ulla-Britta Fallenius, the Vice-Chairmen of TC, acted as Vice-Chairmen of the

meeting. The Technological Secretary of the Commission, Mr. Vassili Rodionov, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

The Contracting Parties reported to the meeting on their activities pertinent to the goals of the Ministerial Declaration 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration 1990.

The Observers from Greenpeace International delivered a statement concerning the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and organochlorine pollution from bleaching processes in the pulp and paper industry. The statement was complemented by proposals for relevant draft Recommendations.

In the discussion concerning the organochlorine pollution it was recognized that TC and Greenpeace International were pursuing similar goals but better data should be provided for further consideration by TC.

With regard to the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, the Committee recalled the opinion of the Commission (HELCOM 12/18, Paragraph 12.15) that this problem is dealt with in the specialized international fora, and noted that several Contracting Parties had ratified, or were looking forward to ratify the Basel Convention which deals with transboundary transport of hazardous wastes and their disposal. Relevant regulations adopted by the OECD in January 1991 were also referred to. In conclusion a clear majority of the Delegations could see no necessity to create new legal instrument in this field and held the opinion that the problems of hazardous waste management might be solved by reduction measures taken at source using BAT and BEP.

#### Matters related to other Committees, HELCOM Task Force and HELCOM GRC

The Technological Committee considered the results of the second meeting of the Environment Committee (EC 2) and agreed upon further interaction between the two Committees, i.a., on division of action related to airborne pollution. TC also endorsed the "Draft Guidelines for the Disposal of Dredged Spoils" prepared by EC 2 for submission to HELCOM 13 for adoption.

TC considered the topical overview consultant reports prepared for HELCOM TF and provided their comments as requested by the Task Force Secretariat.

TC also considered the requests by the HELCOM GRC and made proposals with regard to the contents of the revised Convention within the competence of the Committee.

#### Matters related to harmful substances

TC considered the outcome of the 3rd meeting of the Workshop on Harmful Substances, inter alia, the work plans for handling of harmful substances on the "waiting" list for the purposes of TC and EC, and agreed to propose to HELCOM 13 that an ad hoc expert group on harmful substances (TC CHEM) be established under TC DIFF.

With regard to further work on priority harmful substances, TC decided to discontinue the substance-wise work of the Lead Countries on the substances covered by HELCOM Recommendations and reporting obligations in order to avoid duplication. For the time being the Lead Country work for dioxins would continue as agreed.

## Second Pollution Load Compilation

TC recognized that in spite of the efforts of the Lead Countries, Germany and the USSR, and the Secretariat the preparation of the Second Pollution Load Compilation (PLC-2) was still behind the agreed timetable due to the delay in the submission of national data.

After thorough discussion the Committee decided that the first draft of the report of PLC-2 should be prepared by the Lead Countries on the basis of available data by 1 March 1992 and further consideration would be arranged by the Lead Countries to involve the national experts.

TC also considered a proposal for establishment of Pollution Load Data Base but could not support the idea. The Committee agreed that the right direction would be the improvement of the Guidelines for PLC.

## Discharges and emissions from point sources

TC considered the results of the first meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Discharges and Emissions from Point Sources (TC POINT) and decided to propose to HELCOM 13 four draft Recommendations concerning basic principles in waste-water management in chemical industry, atmospheric pollution related to the use of scrap in the iron and steel industry, limitation of emissions and discharges from incineration of household waste as well as principles for permitting discharges and emissions from industrial plants.

The Committee also elaborated reporting formats for proposed draft Recommendations, where appropriate.

TC further discussed the status of consideration of the draft Recommendation on nitrogen removal at municipal waste-water treatment plants but could not reach the consensus and requested TC POINT to continue the work.

The Committee agreed on further work related to the reduction of pollution from point sources, *inter alia*, included municipalities, textile industry and fish-farming to the list of priority sectors considered by TC POINT and endorsed the "waiting" list of sectors to be handled by the Group.

## Inputs from diffuse sources

TC considered the results of the first meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Inputs from Diffuse Sources (TC DIFF) and decided to propose to HELCOM 13 the draft Recommendations on Definition of BEP and on approval of pesticides for use in the Baltic Sea Area as well as seven draft Recommendations concerning reduction of nutrient inputs from agriculture.

The Committee agreed on further work related to the reduction of pollution from diffuse sources, *inter alia*, endorsed the list of priority sectors and products considered by TC DIFF and agreed upon the "waiting" list of sectors and products handled by the Group.

## Other activities in the field of TC

TC elaborated a temporary working strategy of the Committee and a two-year programme. Taking into account that the long-term strategy for TC would be strongly affected by the results of the HELCOM Task Force and the HELCOM GRC, the Committee decided to consider the long-term strategy at its third meeting in autumn 1992.

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, TC re-elected Mr. Tapani Kohonen as Chairman of the Committee and Ms. Ulla-Britta Fallenius and Mr. Ain Lääne as Vice-Chairmen of the Committee for the next two-year period.

### **1.4 Maritime Committee (MC)**

The Maritime Committee (MC) held its 17th meeting in Hamburg, Germany, 24-27 September 1991. Delegations from all the Contracting Parties attended the meeting, as well as Mr. Niels-Peter Rühl, Vice-Chairman of the Environment Committee, and Mr. Fleming Otzen, Executive Secretary of the Commission.

Mr. Peter Ehlers of Germany and Mr. John Østergaard of Denmark acted as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the meeting, respectively. Mr. Adam Kowalewski, Maritime Secretary of the Commission, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

#### Reception facilities

The Committee expressed its strong support to the idea of organizing the seminar on reception facilities in Finland in spring 1992 and urged the Contracting Parties to provide Finland with any relevant background information to facilitate the preparations of the seminar.

The Committee also decided to have a general discussion on reception facilities when sufficient background information is available and further requested the Contracting Parties to submit to MC 18 all necessary information which could contribute to such a discussion.

#### Matters related to discharges from ships

The Maritime Committee elaborated a proposal for a draft HELCOM Recommendation concerning guidelines for minimum throughput of oily-water separating equipment and requested the Contracting Parties to inform the next meeting of the Committee on their positions on the issues to enable the Committee to take a final decision on the draft HELCOM Recommendation.

The Committee, taking into account that Annex III of MARPOL 73/78 enters into force on 1 July 1992, decided to propose HELCOM 13 to amend Regulation 6 of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention and elaborated a draft HELCOM Recommendation for that purpose.

The Committee considered the outcome of the intersessional working group on practical solutions with regard to discharge of sewage from small ships. With respect to small cargo ships and fishing vessels between 200 GRT and 500 GRT, built before 2 May 1980, the Committee agreed on the following principles:

- the provisions for the discharge of sewage apply without any restrictions;

- in case holding tanks cannot be installed due to constructional reasons an equivalent (e.g., mobile toilets) suitable to meet the discharge prohibitions may be accepted by the Administration on request of the shipowner.

The Maritime Committee, noting the ongoing work of the Contracting Parties on the minimization/elimination of the use of disinfectants, requested the Contracting Parties to submit relevant information on this issue for consideration at its next meeting in 1992.

MC further agreed with a proposal by Germany on the interpretation of sub-paragraphs b) and c) of Regulation 7B and sub-paragraph 1 of Regulation 7G of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention and decided on the unified interpretation of these provisions that the number of persons on board a ship comprises both the crew and passengers.

The Committee requested the Contracting Parties to submit their comments on the German proposal on measures on prevention of pollution by garbage from ships to Germany by 30 March 1992. Germany offered to elaborate proposal for a draft HELCOM Recommendation on this issue after having received the before mentioned comments from the Contracting Parties.

#### Air pollution from ships

The Committee reconsidered the draft HELCOM Recommendation entitled "Early measures to reduce sulphur in marine fuel oils and to prohibit the addition of chemicals and other wastes, harmful to the environment, into such oils in the Baltic Sea Area", redrafted and approved it and decided to submit it to HELCOM 13 for adoption.

The Maritime Committee decided to convene MC AIR for its third meeting (Helsinki, Finland, 14-17 January 1992) and elected Mr. John Østergaard of Denmark as Chairman of MC AIR.

#### Maritime Safety

The Committee requested the Contracting Parties to submit to the Secretariat by 1 February 1992 their comments on the Danish proposal for certain mandatory use of pilotage services for ships over 20.000 GRT carrying dangerous cargoes in bulk in the Baltic Sea Area. MC further decided to discuss this matter at its next meeting after having received comments by the Contracting Parties and eventually by the Baltic Pilotage Authorities Commission (BPAC).

#### Control measures and investigation of violations

The Committee took note of the information on the Ministerial Conference on Port State Control (Paris, France, 14 March 1991) and approved in principle the flow chart on communication procedures between the countries participating in the Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (MOU) and the Helsinki Convention countries.

#### Cooperation within IMO

The Committee confirmed the need to continue the coordination on certain subjects in environmental matters within the Helsinki Commission and IMO and to further discuss such

coordination at the Baltic Maritime Co-ordinating Meetings (BMCM) to be held in conjunction with MEPC.

The Committee also noted that one of the main tasks of its work is to initiate and coordinate actions of the Baltic Sea States at IMO and was of the opinion that the Commission should be informed in detail on this part of the Maritime Committee's work. Therefore, the Committee requested the Secretariat to submit to HELCOM 13 a list of actions by the Baltic Sea States at IMO.

#### Other activities in the field of MC

The Committee took note of the information on the outcome of the Informal Working Group on New Requirements on Constructional Arrangements for Tankers in understanding that the future position of the Contracting Parties on the prevention of oil pollution from ships depends on the results of the IMO Working Group on Oil Tanker Design to be held in Genoa, Italy, 18-22 November 1991.

The Committee took note of the recommendations by the International Seminar on the Protection of Sensitive Sea Areas (Malmö, Sweden, 25-28 September 1990) and on the IMO draft Guidelines for the Designation of Special Areas and Identification of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas. The Committee was of the opinion that if further protective measures in the Baltic Sea Area are necessary these documents would serve as the basic background information when elaborating the position of the Contracting Parties and initiating actions at IMO. The Committee also decided to reconsider the issue when the development of cooperation on nature conservation and biodiversity would enable the Committee to discuss additional measures which might be proposed at IMO for adoption.

The Committee took note of the information on the implementation status of those paragraphs of the Ministerial Declaration 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration which refer to the maritime activities and requested the Secretariat to keep the information updated and also updated and amended the list of activities and target dates.

The Maritime Committee re-elected Mr. Peter Ehlers of Germany and Mr. John Østergaard of Denmark as Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Maritime Committee, respectively, for a period of two years.

### **1.5 Combatting Committee (CC)**

The 15th meeting of the Combatting Committee was held in Gdansk, Poland, 4-8 November 1991. Delegations from all the Contracting Parties attended the meeting, as well as Mr. Fleming Otzen, Executive Secretary of the Commission. The Committee elected Mr. Olli Pahkala of Finland as Vice-Chairman of the Combatting Committee and he chaired the meeting in the absence of Mr. Oleg Khalimonov, Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Adam Kowalewski, Maritime Secretary of the Commission, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

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

The Committee approved the following new chapters to be included in the HELCOM Combatting Manual:

- International early warning reporting system for pollution caused by algal blooms;
- Action checklist for decision makers for dealing with incidents involving chemicals, and
- Cooperation on aerial surveillance over the Baltic Sea Area.

### Combatting spillages of oil and other harmful substances

#### Oil

The Combatting Committee considered the summary of national spillage reports and noted that there were no significant changes in observed and reported oil spills in the Baltic Sea Area in 1990 in comparison with the previous years. The Committee decided to continue the evaluation of national reports on spillages at sea and amended the format to be used for the national reports.

The Committee also welcomed the offer by Germany to continue with the evaluation of the national reports on this issue together with the mapping of the locations of spills.

#### Other harmful substances

The Committee considered and approved the report of the seventh meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Combatting Spillages of Harmful Substances Other than Oil (CC CHEM). The Committee also approved in principle the proposal by CC CHEM 7 that the first revision of the inventory of transportation of chemicals carried in bulk should be made in 1995.

The Committee renewed the request to CC CHEM to elaborate proposals for guidelines for application of HELCOM Recommendations 11/13 (Development of national ability to respond to spillages of oil and other harmful substances) and 12/7 (Special cooperation in case of a chemical tanker accident in the Baltic Sea).

The Committee further decided that the eighth meeting of CC CHEM will be held in Schleswig, Germany, 10-12 June 1992.

### Surveillance activities

The Committee considered the possibilities of future cooperation of the Contracting Parties on surveillance activities and decided as follows:

- the joint aerial surveillance flights should be conducted twice a year for the time being;
- the responsibility for the coordination of these flights (lead-countryship) should rotate among the Contracting Parties every second year, and the CC should nominate a lead country for this purpose in due time at its forthcoming meetings starting from the meeting in 1992.

Sweden agreed to organize the joint aerial surveillance flights in 1992.

The Committee further decided to convene an informal working group to develop a strategy for these flights and invited Sweden to organize the meeting in 1992 and submit the report for consideration of CC 16.

### Joint combatting exercises

The Committee considered the report on the BALEX DELTA joint operational combatting exercise "Roenne 91" (Bornholm Area, 2 October 1991), submitted by the Evaluation Team.

Acting on the basis of the recommendations of the evaluation Team, the Committee approved guidelines to be taken into account when planning the forthcoming exercises.

#### Other activities in the field of CC

The Combatting Committee was of the opinion that the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention should initiate a meeting on expert level with the representatives of the Republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to discuss matters related to combatting pollution and building up their national abilities to respond to spillages at sea as well as that the POLREP communication system used within the Helsinki Convention context should also be established between the three Republics and the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention.

The Committee welcomed an invitation by Sweden to a workshop on oil drift forecasts focused on the Baltic to be held in Norrköping, Sweden, 21-22 January 1992.

The Committee requested the Contracting Parties to submit to the Secretariat by the end of August every year information on the implementation status of those HELCOM Recommendations which refer to the combatting field. The Committee also updated and amended the list of activities and target dates.

The Combatting Committee re-elected Mr. Oleg Khalimonov of the USSR and Mr. Olli Pahkala of Finland as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee, respectively, for a period of two years.

#### **1.6 HELCOM ad hoc Group for Revision of the Convention (HELCOM GRC)**

HELCOM GRC finalized its work and elaborated a new draft Convention on the protection of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area. The draft instrument contains new provisions on:

- definitions of "Best Available Technology", "Best Environmental Practices", "precautionary principle", "hazardous substance", "incineration", "pollution incident" and "regional economic integration organization";
- inclusion of the internal waters of the Contracting Parties in the Convention Area;
- environmental impact assessment;
- prohibition of incineration,
- notification and consultation on pollution incidents;
- nature conservation and biodiversity;
- reporting and exchange of information;
- information to the public;
- protection of information;
- right to vote;
- new Annex VI on prevention of pollution from offshore activities.

The new Convention also includes, *inter alia*, revised definitions of "pollution", "pollution from land-based sources" as well as revised provisions on fundamental principles and obligations, harmful substances, principles and obligations concerning pollution from land-based sources, prevention of pollution from ships, pleasure craft, exploration and exploitation of the seabed and its subsoil, scientific and technological cooperation and revised Annexes I (Harmful substances), II (Criteria for the use of Best Environmental Practice and Best

Available Technology), III (Criteria and measures concerning prevention of pollution from land-based sources), IV (Prevention of pollution from ships), V (Exceptions from the general prohibition of dumping waste and other matter in the Baltic Sea Area), and VII (Response to pollution incidents).

According to the final clauses of the draft Convention the Convention will enter into force after the deposit of the last instrument of notification or approval by all the Baltic Sea States and the European Economic Community and it will be opened for accession by any other State or regional economic integration organization interested in fulfilling its aims and purposes, provided that this State or organization is invited by all the Contracting Parties.

It should be mentioned further that the draft instrument provides the possibility for the States in the catchment area of the Baltic Sea to sign the Convention at the Diplomatic Conference or within the period of six months after the Conference.

### **1.7 HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force (HELCOM TF)**

The twelfth meeting of the Commission approved the establishment of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force within the Helsinki Commission to fulfill the tasks given by the Prime Ministers and the Ministers of the Environment in the Baltic Sea Conference in Ronneby, Sweden 2-3 September 1990. In accordance with the ministerial decision the first meeting of the HELCOM TF was held 30 October-2 November 1990 and reported to the twelfth meeting of the Commission in February 1991.

The HELCOM TF and its Steering Group have met eight times. The second meeting of the HELCOM TF was held in Stockholm, Sweden, 6-9 May 1991 and the third meeting in Helsinki, Finland, 7-10 January 1992. The Steering Group, established by the first meeting of the HELCOM TF, was convened six times in 1991, HELCOM TF STEER 1 in Helsinki, 10-11 January, HELCOM TF STEER 2 in Helsinki, 13-14 March, HELCOM TF STEER 3 in Warsaw, 18-19 June, HELCOM TF STEER 4 in Copenhagen, 2-3 September, HELCOM TF STEER 5 in Tallinn, 12-15 November and HELCOM TF STEER 6 in HELSINKI, 11-13 December.

Mr. Göte Svenson of Sweden, Chairman of the HELCOM TF, acted as Chairman of both meetings of the HELCOM TF and all six meetings of the Steering Group. Mr. Janusz Kindler of Poland and Mr. Dimitri Zimin of the USSR, Vice-Chairman of the HELCOM TF, acted as Vice-Chairmen of the Meetings of the HELCOM TF and of the Steering Group. The Task Force Secretary of the Commission, Ms. Terttu Melvasalo, acted as Secretary of all the meetings.

The meetings of the HELCOM TF were attended by Delegations from all members of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force, i.e., the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention, Norway, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Commission of the European Communities (CEC), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), European Investment Bank (EIB), Nordic Investment Bank (NIB) and the World Bank. The meetings were also attended by a Delegation from the International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC). The second meeting of the HELCOM TF was, in addition, attended by Independent Environmental Experts and the third meeting by Delegations from Estonia, Latvia and

Lithuania. The Chairman of the Commission, the Executive Secretary, and the Technological Secretary, also attended the meetings of the HELCOM TF.

The meetings of the Steering Group were attended by the members of the Steering Group, i.e., Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the HELCOM TF, Executive Secretary and Task Force Secretary of the Commission and representatives of the international financing institutions acting as Executing Agencies (EBRD, EIB, NIB, and World Bank). Representatives of most of the other members of the HELCOM TF also attended the meetings of the Steering Group. Some of the meetings were also attended by representatives of CEC, Greenpeace International, IBSFC, WWF, consultants of the HELCOM TF Secretariat and the Executing Agencies as well as the Technological Secretary of the Commission.

The meetings of the HELCOM TF as well as the meetings of the Steering Group considered the progress in the work of the Task Force as reported by the Task Force Secretary coordinating the preparations of the programme as agreed in the work plan of the HELCOM TF, and the Executing Agencies coordinating pre-feasibility studies mainly for investments in priority areas. The meetings also considered information and proposals by the representatives of the members, contact persons and the observer of the Task Force.

The last meeting of the HELCOM TF is scheduled to be held in Helsinki, 16-19 March 1992 to finalize the material to be submitted by the Task Force for the ministerial approval within the framework of the Helsinki Commission. The proposals concerning the ministerial meeting and proposals for the follow-up procedure of the Joint Comprehensive Baltic Sea Environmental Action Programme have been submitted for consideration by the Commission.

#### National plans

The Baltic Sea Declaration requested the countries to provide concrete national plans to be used as a basis for the Joint Comprehensive Programme "for decisive reduction of emissions in order to restore the Baltic Sea to a sound ecological balance". The submissions of some of the national plans, to be submitted to the Task Force by 31 January 1991, were delayed. According to information by the representatives of the countries, the national plans are free for citing in open literature.

The national plans submitted by the countries to the HELCOM TF are the following:

- Czech and Slovak Federal Republic: "National Plan of the Federal Republic of Czech and Slovak Federal Republic for Protection of the Environment in River Odra Basin", January 1991
- Denmark: "Environmental Impact of Nutrient Emissions in Denmark, 1991", and "Ends and Means in the Environment Policy, 1990", April 1991
- Estonia: "National Plan for the Protection of the Baltic Sea of the Republic of Estonia", February 1991
- Finland: "National plan for Reduction of the Load of Pollution on the Baltic Sea, 1991", May 1991
- Germany: "National Action Programme for the Protection of the Baltic Sea in the Federal Republic of Germany, 1991", February 1991
- Latvia: "Supporting Studies for the Preparation of the Joint Comprehensive Programme, 1991", February 1991
- Lithuania: "Information on the national environmental protection measures, 1991", February 1991

- Norway: "National Plans for Reduction of the Load of Pollution to the Baltic Sea, 1991", February 1991
- Poland: "National Plan for Reduction of the Load of Pollution on the Baltic Sea", February 1991
- Sweden: "National Plan for the Swedish Marine Environment, Annex A-K, 1991", February 1991
- USSR: "Filled-in formats Pertaining to the Programme of Environment Protection Measures, 1991", February 1991

### The prefeasibility studies

The international financial institutions participating in the Baltic Sea Conference, 1990, were invited to analyze financial and other requirements and to identify and prepare investment projects and accompanying measures for the different parts of the Baltic Sea. In accordance with the work plan of the HELCOM TF the financial institutions, acting as Executing Agencies, have coordinated and supervised the consultant work for prefeasibility studies in areas, where national and international investments are needed. The studies, financed by Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Germany, the Nordic Project Fund (NOPEF), Norway and the Commission of the European Communities (CEC), were carried out in different study areas as follows:

- Karelia, St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg region and Estonia
- the Western coast of Estonia
- the Gulf of Riga and Daugava river basin
- the Lithuanian coast and Nemunas river basin
- the Kaliningrad region and Pregel river basin
- the Vistula river basin and the Baltic Sea coast of Poland
- the Oder/Odra river basin
- the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern catchment area.

### Analysis of key environmental topics

In accordance with the work plan, the review of the national plans was coordinated by the Secretariat and summary reports were submitted to the meetings of the HELCOM TF and the Steering Group. The analysis reports of the national plans were prepared by different experts and consultants of the HELCOM Secretariat with regard to the following topics:

- pollution load data and establishment of TF data base
- action plans for reduction of nutrient discharges from agriculture
- pollution load and reduction plans from urban areas
- environmental impact of solid wastes
- environmental impact of forest industry
- industrial discharges others than pulp and paper industry
- radioactive substances and their effects
- long-term effects of the pollution load and possible effects of the reduction measures.

The Executing Agencies coordinated consultant works for preparation of topical area studies for agricultural runoff in the study areas and for atmospheric deposition of pollutants.

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) prepared a study report on wetlands as ecosystems for nature and societies in the Baltic Sea region. An analysis report of fish and fisheries in the Baltic Sea was presented by the International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC),

observer of the HELCOM TF, in the Dialogue Meeting on fish and fisheries organized by the International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES) in Gdynia, Poland in autumn 1991. The Meeting was cosponsored by IBSFC and HELCOM.

Possible printing of the analysis reports or some of them in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings (BSEP) series is proposed to the 13th meeting of the Helsinki Commission. The HELCOM TF will consider what publications should be published in the BSEP series.

### Interim Report

In order to provide the preliminary findings of the HELCOM TF for use in policy and budget preparations at an early stage, an interim report of the HELCOM TF was printed in August 1991 and distributed in several thousands of copies to the HELCOM TF members, contact addresses of the Commission, contact persons, consultants, relevant organizations, different institutions and parliamentarians of the member countries.

## **2. ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMMISSION 1991**

Mr. Harald Velner and Mr. Evgeny Borisov of the USSR were respectively the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission during 1991.

Mr. Fleming Otzen acted as Executive Secretary, Ms. Terttu Melvasalo acted as Task Force Secretary, Ms. Eeva-Liisa Poutanen as Environment Secretary a.i., Mr. Adam Kowalewski as Maritime Secretary and Mr. Vassili Rodionov as Technological Secretary of the Commission. The other members of the staff of the Commission were Ms. Ritva Kostakow-Kämpe, Administrative Officer, Ms. Teija-Liisa Lehtinen, Environment Assistant, Ms. Leena Heikkilä, Maritime Assistant, Ms. Satu Tofferi, Technological Assistant, Mr. Håkan Blomberg, Office Assistant, Ms. Riitta Harjunoski, Task Force Assistant, and Mr. Stefan Sacklén, Office Assistant (as from 29 July 1991).

The contributions of the Contracting Parties to the budget of the Commission is based on equal shares of the seven Contracting Parties. In addition, the Government of Finland has paid an extra contribution to cover the rent of the office, communication and equipment expenses, a part of the salaries of the office staff as well as a part of the expenses for data handling services.

The Government of the USSR has placed a special contribution at the disposal of the Executive Secretary to be used primarily for data handling services.

The Task Force budget for the period 1 December 1990 to 30 November 1991 was FIM 2 742 000. The budget period has been extended until 30 June 1992 and no need for additional contributions from the Contracting Parties to the Task Force budget is foreseen.

The distribution of expenses of the Commission during the fiscal year from 1 July 1990 to 30 June 1991 was approximately as follows:

|          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| Meetings | 640 000   |
| Salaries | 1 936 000 |
| Travels  | 115 000   |

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Consultant services  | 311 000          |
| Publications         | 240 000          |
| Other administration | <u>1 212 000</u> |
| Total                | FIM 4 454 000    |
|                      | =====            |

The Executive Secretary was Secretary General of the twelfth meeting of the Commission and conducted the work of the Secretariat.

The Meeting of the EC was held in Gdynia, Poland, the TC meeting in Kauniainen, Finland, the MC meeting in Hamburg, Germany, the CC meeting in Gdansk, Poland, the GRC meetings in Helsinki, and the Task Force meetings in Stockholm and Helsinki.

The Committee meetings were well organized by the responsible host countries and the engagement of several national authorities in the meeting arrangements provided an excellent possibility to further enhance the importance of the work within the Helsinki Commission context. All the Committee meetings were well and positively covered by the national news media.

The 14th meeting of the Chairmen and the Secretariat of the Helsinki Commission (CASH) was organized with the help of the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency in Hamburg, Germany on 6 and 7 June 1991 in conjunction with the meeting of the Chairmen of EC and TC on 5 June 1991. The 15th meeting of CASH was held in Helsinki at the Secretariat premises on 30 October 1991.

The Executive Secretary, the Task Force Secretary and the Environment Secretary, a.i., participated in the ICES/OSPARCOM/HELCOM Inter-Secretariat meeting in March in the ICES Headquarters in Copenhagen as well as the following meeting with the General Secretary of ICES and representatives of the ICES staff concerning questions related to the HELCOM Data Base and the formalization of the cooperation between ICES and HELCOM.

In conjunction with the third meeting of the Steering Group of the Task Force in Warsaw the Chairman of the Task Force and the Executive Secretary visited the Minister of Environment of Poland, Mr. Maciej Nowicki, to discuss matters related to the work of the Task Force.

The Executive Secretary, the Chairman of EC EGAP, Mr. Nils Heidam of Denmark and the Technological Secretary participated in the exploratory meeting between the Paris Commission, the Helsinki Commission and the EC Convention on the Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP) in Oslo in October 1991 concerning a closer cooperation between these three organizations.

On 3 October 1991 the Executive Secretary had a meeting with the Finnish Minister for the Environment, Ms. Sirpa Pietikäinen, on matters related to the cooperation between the Government of Finland and the HELCOM Secretariat as well as matters concerning the future work of the Helsinki Commission.

In connection with the fifth meeting of the Task Force Steering Group in Tallinn, the Executive Secretary met with the Minister for the Environment in Estonia, Mr. Tõnis Kaasik, to discuss the different aspects in the working relations between the Republic of Estonia and the Helsinki Commission.

In continuation of the second meeting of EC the Executive Secretary participated together with the Task Force Secretary and the Environment Secretary, a.i., in the eighth ICES Dialogue meeting in Gdynia, Poland in September 1991.

The Environment Secretary, a.i., made the necessary preparations and acted as Secretary General of the following meetings:

- the meeting of the Chairmen of EC, the representatives of the HELCOM Secretariat and Conveners/Contact persons of the projects of EC, Kiel, 11 April 1991;
- the Eighth Meeting of the Group of Experts on Airborne Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (EC EGAP), Tallinn, 14-17 May 1991;
- the meeting of the Chairmen of EC, Hamburg, 5 June 1991;
- the Sixth Meeting of the Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea (EC MORS), Stockholm, 10-14 June 1991;
- the Second Meeting of the Environment Committee (EC), Gdynia, 10-14 September 1991.

The Environment Secretary, a.i., also attended the two meetings of the ad hoc Working Group on Coastal Assessment in May (Sweden) and in August (Germany).

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

- the Third meeting of the Workshop on Harmful Substances, Copenhagen, 3-5 April 1991;
- the First meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Inputs from Diffuse Sources (TC DIFF), Tallinn, 23-26 April 1991;
- the First meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Discharges and Emissions from Point Sources (TC POINT), Stockholm, 13-17 May 1991;
- the Third meeting of the Chairmen of the Technological Committee (TC), Hamburg, 5 June 1991;
- the Third bilateral meeting of the Lead Countries for the Second Pollution Load Compilation, Tallinn, 3-5 July 1991;
- the Workshop on Data Processing of the Second Pollution Load Compilation, Hamburg, 29-30 August 1991;
- the meeting of the Group of Legal Experts of HELCOM GRC, Helsinki, 24-25 September 1991;
- the Second meeting of the Technological Committee, Kauniainen, 14-18 October 1991.

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

- the meeting of Special Expert Group on Revision of Annexes to the Convention (HELCOM GRC ANX), Helsinki, 8-12 April 1991;
- the meeting of the Informal Working Group on Requirements on Constructional Arrangements for Tankers, Helsinki, 22-23 April 1991;
- the seventh meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Combatting Spillages of Harmful Substances Other than Oil (CC CHEM), Visby, 21-23 May 1991;
- the second meeting of the HELCOM ad hoc Group for Revision of the Convention (HELCOM GRC), Helsinki, 24-28 June 1991;
- the sixth meeting of the Baltic Maritime Co-ordinating Meeting (BMCM) held in conjunction with MEPC 31, London, 30 June 1991;
- the 17th meeting of the Maritime Committee (MC), Hamburg, 24-27 September 1991;
- the 15th meeting of the Combatting Committee (CC), Gdansk, 4-8 November 1991;

- the third meeting of the HELCOM ad hoc Group for Revision of the Convention (HELCOM GRC), Helsinki, 26-29 November 1991, as well as the meetings of legal experts held in Helsinki 2-3 December 1991 and 30-31 January 1992;
- the third meeting of MC AIR, Helsinki, 14-17 January 1992.

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

The Task Force Secretary made the necessary preparations and acted as Secretary General of the following meetings:

- the first meeting of the Steering Group of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force (HELCOM TF STEER), Helsinki, 10-11 January 1991;
- the second meeting of the Steering Group of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force (HELCOM TF STEER), Helsinki, 13-14 March 1991;
- the second meeting of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force (HELCOM TF), Stockholm, 6-9 May 1991;
- the third meeting of the Steering Group of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force (HELCOM TF STEER), Warsaw, 18-19 June 1991;
- the fourth meeting of the Steering Group of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force (HELCOM TF STEER), Copenhagen, 2-3 September 1991;
- the fifth meeting of the Steering Group of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force (HELCOM TF STEER), Tallinn, 12-15 November 1991;
- the sixth meeting of the Steering Group of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force (HELCOM TF STEER), Helsinki, 11-13 December 1991;
- the third meeting of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force (HELCOM TF), Helsinki, 7-10 January 1992.

The Task Force Secretary has also carried out other tasks related to the implementation and follow-up of decisions concerning the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force.

#### Publications and Data

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

- No. 37      Activities of the Commission 1990, Including the Twelfth Meeting of the Commission held in Helsinki 19-22 February 1991
- No. 38      Third Biological Intercalibration Workshop, 27-31 August 1990, Visby, Sweden
- No. 39      Airborne Pollution Load to the Baltic Sea 1986-1990 (in print)
- No. 40      Interim Report on the State of the Coastal Waters of the Baltic Sea (in print),
- No. 41      BSEP on the International Workshop on Nitrogen and Agriculture, held on 9-12 April 1991, in Schleswig, Germany,

as well as Volume III, Response to Incidents Involving Chemicals, of the HELCOM Manual on Co-operation in Combatting Marine Pollution.

The Baltic Marine Environment Bibliography for the years 1986-1989 was distributed in June 1991.

The new contract between the Helsinki Commission and the Environment Data Centre of the National Board of Waters and the Environment in Finland (EDC) for management of the BMP data and data on radioactive substances was signed in May 1991.

The existing Baltic Monitoring Programme data (hydrographical, hydrochemical and biological data for the years 1986-1989; and data on harmful substances for the years 1978-1989) has been compiled by the consultant (Finnish Institute of Marine Research, FIMR) for submission to the Contracting Parties on magnetic tapes at the beginning of April 1991. The graphical presentations of the 1989 BMP data from selected stations, according to the agreement between the Commission and the consultant, were submitted to the second meeting of the EC by FIMR.

The data for 1990 is under preparation and will be distributed as agreed.

Furthermore, 1990 data submitted by the Contracting Parties on airborne pollution has been submitted to the consultant of the Commission, ECE EMEP Centre NILU in Oslo, and has been used by the experts of the Commission in the preparation of the evaluation report (BSEP No. 39). Data concerning radioactive substances, both environmental data and release data, has been compiled by the consultants, the Finnish Institute of Marine Research, FIMR (former consultant) and the Finnish Centre for Radiation and Nuclear Safety, STUK, and was submitted to the sixth meeting of EC MORS.

The Interim Report of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force, The Joint Comprehensive Programme, was printed and distributed in August 1991.

Management of data included in the national plans submitted to the HELCOM TF and up-dated according to amendments submitted by the contact persons of the HELCOM TF, has been carried out by a consultant.

#### Cooperation with other International Organizations

The following organizations were observers of the Commission during 1991:

- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe (WHO/EURO)
- Oslo and Paris Commission (OSCOM / PARCOM)
- International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC)
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
- Commission of the European Communities (CEC)
- Stichting Greenpeace Council, Greenpeace International
- World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF International
- Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB)

In addition to the representation of the observer organizations at the twelfth meeting of the Commission, two representatives of ICES, a representative of OSPARCOM and a representative of IBSFC attended the second meeting of the EC. Also representatives of

Greenpeace International, CCB and WWF gave their statements at the meeting of EC 2 as agreed by the Commission. Furthermore, a representative of the Baltic Marine Biologists (BMB) and a representative of the consultant of HELCOM on BMP data, the Environment Data Centre (EDC), also attended EC 2. Representatives of PARCOM, the EMEP Meteorological Synthesizing Centres -West and East as well as the Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU), attended the eighth meeting of EC EGAP and a representative of IAEA, the International Laboratory of Marine Radioactivity (ILMR) attended the sixth meeting of EC MORS.

A representative of PARCOM attended the second meeting of TC as well as representatives of Greenpeace International gave their statements to the Committee. A representative of ICES attended the Third meeting of the Workshop on Harmful Substances.

A representative of IMO attended the third meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Air Pollution from Ships (MC AIR).

The International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC), observer organization of the HELCOM TF, was represented in the second and third meeting of the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force and in the sixth meeting of the Steering Group of the HELCOM TF. Representatives of Greenpeace International and WWF attended the fourth meeting of the Steering Group and WWF also in the fifth meeting of the Steering Group.

The Commission was represented at different international meetings in the field of the EC by the following persons:

- Mr. Tonny Niilonen of Denmark at the 12th BMB Symposium, Helsingør, 26-30 August 1991;
- Mr. Niels Heidam of Denmark at the meeting between PARCOM, HELCOM and EMEP, London, 4 November 1991;
- Mr. Jürgen Pankrath of Germany at the Ninth Meeting of the Working Group on the Atmospheric Input of Pollutants to Convention Waters (ATMOS) of PARCOM, London, 5-8 November 1991;
- Mr. Eugeniusz Andrulowicz of Poland at the first meeting of the joint BMB/WWF Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity in the Baltic Sea Area, Stockholm, 3-4 December 1991.

In the field of the TC the Commission was represented at different international meetings by the following persons:

- Mr. Julius Lassig of Finland at the 18th meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee for Scientific Advice (SACSA) of the Oslo Commission, Copenhagen, March 1991, as well as at the 14th consultative meeting of the Contracting Parties to the London Dumping Convention, London, November 1991;
- Mr. Niels-Peter Rühl of Germany at the 17th meeting of the Oslo Commission, The Hague, June 1991;
- Mr. Ulrich Kremser of Germany at the 2nd meeting of the Working Group on Diffuse Sources (DIFFCHEM) of the Paris Commission, Brussels, October 1991.

In the fields of the MC and the CC the Commission was represented at different international meetings by the following persons:

- Mr. Oleg Khalimonov of the USSR, at the IMO Informal Consultations of Regional and International Oil Pollution Response Information Arrangements, IMO Headquarters, London, 15-17 October 1991;
- Mr. Aapo Latvalahti of Finland at the meeting of IMO Working Group on Oil Tanker Design, Genoa, Italy, 18-22 November 1991.

In the field of the HELCOM TF the Commission was represented at different international meetings by the following person:

- Mr. Ingemar Olsson at the meeting of the International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission, Gdynia, 13-14 September 1991.

The Environment Secretary, a.i., represented the Commission at the following meetings:

- the Senior Advisors to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems, Espoo, 25 February - 1 March 1991;
- the ECE Task Force on Persistent Organic Pollutants, Solna, 19-22 March 1991;
- the Working Group on the Baltic Marine Environment (ICES), Kiel, 9- 10 April 1991;
- the International Seminar on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (WWF), Stockholm, 27-28 May 1991;
- the ICES Statutory Meeting, La Rochelle, France, 25 September - 1 October 1991;
- the consultation on the Baltic GIS, Geneva, Switzerland, 7 November 1991;
- the European Charter on Environment and Health in the Baltic countries, Stockholm, 25-27 November 1991.

The Technological Secretary represented the Commission at

- the 18th meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) of the Paris Commission, Copenhagen, March 1991;
- the **HANSA** Environment Conference, Helsinki, May 1991;
- the International Workshop "Baltic Cities, Environment and Health", Turku, May 1991;
- the 13th joint meeting of the Paris and Oslo Commissions, The Hague, June 1991;
- the 13th meeting of the Paris Commission, The Hague, June 1991;
- the Environment Northern Seas International Conference, Stavanger, August 1991;

The Maritime Secretary represented the Commission at

- the Second High Level Meeting on the preparations of the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Port State Control, Paris, 12 March 1991;
- the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Port State Control, Paris, 14 March 1991;
- the 31st session of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), London, 1-5 July 1991;
- the HELCOM joint operational oil combatting exercise "Roenne 91" held in conjunction with POLREP 91, Denmark, October 1991.

The Task Force Secretary represented the Commission at the following meetings:

- the **HANSA** Environment Conference, Helsinki, May 1991;
- the Environment Northern Seas International Conference, Stavanger, 26-30 August 1991;
- seminars and meetings related to the studies co-ordinated by the Executing Agencies and carried out by the consultants in the Study Areas, relevant for preparation of the Joint Comprehensive Programme.

### 3. 13th MEETING OF THE COMMISSION, 3-7 FEBRUARY 1992

The Helsinki Commission held its 13th meeting in Helsinki from 3 to 7 February 1992. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Governments of Denmark, Estonia (who acceded to the Helsinki Convention on 22 January 1992), Finland, Germany, Poland, Russia and Sweden, as well as Latvia and Lithuania, as observer states, attended the Meeting. The Meeting was, furthermore, attended by observers from the following intergovernmental organizations: International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC), International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), International Maritime Organization (IMO), Oslo and Paris Commissions (OSCOM/PARCOM) and Commission of the European Communities (CEC) as well as from the non-governmental international organizations Greenpeace International, Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB) and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). A representative of the Nordic Investment Bank as well as the Chairman of the ad hoc high level Task Force also attended the meeting during the Commission's discussions on matters related to the Task Force. The Meeting was chaired by the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Harald Velner. Mr. Fleming Otzen, 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 ad hoc high level Task Force.

The preparatory work had been done during the intersessional period by the six subsidiary bodies (EC, TC, MC, CC, HELCOM CRC and HELCOM TF) and several working groups as well as ad hoc working groups and informal expert meetings.

#### HELCOM Recommendations adopted by the 13th meeting of the Commission

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

- disposal of dredged spoils (HELCOM Recommendation 13/1)

as well as twelve recommendations related to the field of the Technological Committee (TC), concerning:

- industrial connections and point sources other than household connected to municipal sewerage systems (HELCOM Recommendation 13/2)
- basic principles in waste water management in chemical industry (HELCOM Recommendation 13/3)
- atmospheric pollution related to the use of scrap materials in the iron and steel industry (HELCOM Recommendation 13/4)
- principles for permitting waste water discharge and emissions from industrial plants (HELCOM Recommendation 13/5)
- definition of best environmental practice (HELCOM Recommendation 13/6)
- reduction of ammonia volatilization from storages (HELCOM Recommendation 13/7)
- reduction of ammonia volatilization from field application of manure (HELCOM Recommendation 13/8)
- reduction of nitrogen, mainly nitrate, leaching from agricultural land (HELCOM Recommendation 13/9)

- reduction of phosphorus leaching and erosion (HELCOM Recommendation 13/10)
- reduction of farm waste discharges (HELCOM Recommendation 13/11)
- managing freshwater ecosystems for retention of nutrients (HELCOM Recommendation 13/12)
- approval of pesticides for use in the catchment area of the Baltic Sea (I-IELCOM Recommendation 13/ 13).

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

- amendment to Regulation 6 of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention (HELCOM Recommendation 13/14); and
- early measures to reduce sulphur in marine fuel oils in the Baltic Sea Area (HELCOM Recommendation 13/15)

All recommendations adopted by the 13th meeting of the Commission are attached to this report.

#### Matters related to the administration of the Commission

The Commission adopted the budget for the fiscal year 1 July 1992 - 30 June 1993 of the order of FIM 7.75 million.

The Commission took note of the information on the national activities in general and especially with regard to the 50% reduction part of the 1988 Ministerial Declaration.

The Commission further took note of the present status of submission of Lead Country progress reports on implementation of HELCOM Recommendations from the 1990 reporting round, as compiled by the Secretariat.

The Commission welcomed the accession of Estonia and the participation of Latvia and Lithuania as observer states to the Convention. The Commission noted that the Russian Federation had taken over to exercise the rights and carry out the obligations resulting from the international treaties, conventions and agreements, signed by the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, this also in relation to the Helsinki Convention and its Commission.

The Commission decided to apply the same rules to non-governmental international organizations (NGOs) as are applicable to intergovernmental organizations, observers to the Helsinki Commission, i.e., participation in Committee meetings as well as full documentation for such meetings. Participation of NGOs and documentation in relation to the subsidiary bodies of the Committees should be decided upon by these bodies, taking into consideration to what extent such participation would contribute to their work. The Commission further decided that this procedure should be applied for a two year trial period.

While recognizing that the Committees function well under the conditions given to them by the Contracting Parties the Commission, in order to make the work of the Committees more effective requested the Contracting Parties to more carefully consider draft timetables proposed by the subsidiary bodies and evaluate whether it is possible nationally to comply with such proposed timetables before taking a final decision. The Commission further requested that the Contracting Parties report at an as early as possible stage to the Lead

Countries or the Contracting Parties and to the Secretariat when there are indications that national implementation of agreed timetables will be delayed.

The Commission also requested the Contracting Parties and appropriate Lead Countries to very carefully evaluate whether proposals for advancing already agreed timetables would be realistic and decided that the Lead Countries in the future should take direct contact with the other Contracting Parties in order to get their comments on or consent to items in question.

The Commission welcomed the information by the Delegation of Denmark on the nomination by the Government of Denmark of Mr. Filip Facius and Mr. Tonny Niilonen as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission, respectively, for the two-year period beginning 1 July 1992.

The Commission nominated a new Executive Secretary, Mr. Ulf Ehlin from Sweden, to succeed Mr. Fleming Otzen, whose term of office will expire 31 July 1988.

#### Matters related to the Environment Committee (EC)

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

The Commission took note of the progress in the work of EC EGAP and was informed about the finalization of the evaluation report "Airborne Pollution Load to the Baltic Sea 1986-1990", published in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings (BSEP 39). The Commission also took note of the progress in the work of EC MORS concerning e.g. data collection and matters related to intercalibration exercises.

The Commission was informed of the preparation of the Baltic Sea Sediment Baseline study 1993. The Commission took note of the extra work caused by the sediment baseline study and stressed the importance of finalizing the programme for the sediment baseline study before June 1992 and requested the Contracting Parties to provide the necessary staff, time and other resources from their participating laboratories to cover the sampling and analytical work in 1993-95.

The Commission took note of the progress in the preparation of the coastal assessment and was informed that the "Interim Report on the State of the Coastal Waters" have been published in the Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 40. The Commission, emphasizing the importance of adhering to the agreed deadlines, endorsed the revised timetable of the First Assessment of the State of the Coastal Areas of the Baltic Sea, which would be ready for print in 1992.

The Commission was informed about different activities related to the Baltic Monitoring Programme e.g. questions related to quality assurance, data handling and revision of BMP Guidelines. The Commission decided to support the development of the Geographical Information System (GIS) for the Baltic Sea with the HELCOM Secretariat acting as coordinating secretariat for all international organizations involved in the project.

The Commission considered matters related to the fixed link across the Sound on the basis of information provided by Denmark and Sweden. Other delegations and Greenpeace expressed their concern that Denmark and Sweden had not taken into consideration the

proposal by the Environment Committee that the invitation to the Expert Panel be addressed to all Contracting Parties, each Contracting Party should be allowed to nominate their experts in the panel and, furthermore, that all possible alternatives for a fixed link should be evaluated with regard to their effects on the marine environment. The Delegations of Denmark and Sweden would inform their Governments of the concern expressed.

The Commission adopted guidelines for disposal of dredged spoils as well as a corresponding HELCOM Recommendation. The guidelines are designed to assist Contracting Parties in the management of dredged spoils in a way, which will prevent pollution of the marine environment.

#### Matters related to the Technological Committee (TC)

The Commission considered the report of the second meeting of the Technological Committee (TC), the substantive items of which are described in detail under chapter 1.3 of this Report.

In order to intensify the work on identifying hazardous chemicals requiring urgent control and reduction measures, the Commission established an ad hoc expert group on harmful substances (TC CHEM) with Sweden acting as the Lead Country.

The Commission was informed about the status of preparation of the Second Pollution Load Compilation as well as about the problems experienced in national data submissions. The Commission agreed upon urgent actions to be taken in order to **finalize** the project within a few months.

With regard to reduction of pollution from point sources the Commission adopted new HELCOM Recommendations concerning air-pollution from scrap smelteries, principles for issuing permits for discharges and emissions from industry as well as revised HELCOM Recommendations concerning point source connections to municipal sewerage networks and basic principles in wastewater management in chemical industry.

Upon the proposal by Greenpeace International concerning phasing-out of chlorine bleaching in the pulp and paper industry, the Commission invited the Technological Committee and its working group on point sources (TC POINT) to examine the existing technical possibilities to phase-out chlorine bleaching with a view to preparation of an appropriate Recommendation in the future.

The Commission shared the concern expressed by some Contracting Parties and Greenpeace International with regard to generation and transboundary movement of hazardous wastes. However, the Commission held the opinion that transboundary movement of hazardous wastes should not be taken to the Commission's scope since this matter is regulated by the Basel Convention and the OECD, but effective measures should be taken by using BEP and BAT. Furthermore, the Commission requested the Technological Committee to extend the Terms of Reference for its working group on point sources (TC POINT) to cover elaboration of best methods of management of hazardous wastes, including their generation.

With regard to reduction of diffuse pollution the Commission adopted two new HELCOM Recommendations on Definition of Best Environmental Practice and on approval of pesticides for use in the catchment area of the Baltic Sea, as well as six HELCOM Recommendations concerning, i.a., ammonia volatilization from manure storages and field application of

manure, nutrient leaching from agricultural land and management of freshwater ecosystems for retention of nutrients.

The Commission also considered the proposals by Greenpeace International aiming the complete changing in agricultural policy and addressed them to the Technological Committee and its working group on diffuse sources (TC DIFF) for thorough examination.

#### Matters related to the Maritime Committee (MC)

The substantive items from the report of the 17th meeting of the Maritime Committee are described in detail under Chapter 1.4 of this publication.

The Commission, taking into account that Annex III of MARPOL 73/78 on Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Harmful Substances carried by Sea in Packaged Forms, or in Freight Containers, Portable Tanks and Rail Tank Wagons enters into force on 1 July 1992, adopted HELCOM Recommendation 13/14 entitled “Amendment to Regulation 6 of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention”. Regarding air pollution from ships the Commission adopted HELCOM Recommendation 13/15 “Early measures to reduce sulphur in marine fuel oils in the Baltic Sea Area” in which it is recommended that the Governments of the Contracting Parties take appropriate actions to encourage both the oil industries to supply and the shipowners to use marine fuel oils with a sulphur content as low as possible but not exceeding 1,5 % by weight and to conclude bilateral agreements for ships trading in the Baltic Sea in regular traffic between two countries involved to use such oils, not later than 1 January 1995.

The Commission was also informed on the outcome of the third meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Air Pollution from Ships (MC AIR), held in Helsinki 14-17 January 1992, in particular that the Group had elaborated joint proposals and comments on the contents of the new annex of MARPOL 73/78 on prevention of air pollution from ships. The Commission authorized the Maritime Committee to convene MC AIR for its fourth meeting.

The Commission, sharing the view of the Maritime Committee that one of the Committee’s main tasks is to initiate and coordinate actions of the Contracting Parties at IMO on the protection measures to prevent pollution of the marine environment, noted with satisfaction the list of major topics for coordinated actions taken or to be taken by the Baltic Sea States at IMO.

#### Matters related to the Combatting Committee (CC)

The substantive items from the report of the 15th meeting of the Combatting Committee are described in detail under Chapter 1.5 of this publication.

The Commission requested the Contracting Parties to provide Latvia and Lithuania, upon request, with assistance in case of a pollution incident at sea as well as to assist these states and Estonia in the establishment of their national abilities to combat pollution at sea. Furthermore, the Commission decided to convene an expert group meeting to consider interim arrangements with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania on combatting marine pollution and also on the main items to be discussed at this meeting.

The Commission endorsed the decision by the Committee to include new chapters to the HELCOM Combatting Manual. i.e., on an international early warning reporting system of

pollution caused by algal blooms, the action checklist for decision-makers dealing with incidents involving chemicals and on cooperation on aerial surveillance over the Baltic Sea Area, as well as the decision that the joint aerial surveillance flights over the Baltic Sea should be carried out twice a year for the time being.

#### Matters related to the HELCOM ad hoc Group for Revision of the Convention (HELCOM GRC)

The Commission approved the draft text of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1992 (cf. Chapter 1.6 of this publication).

The Commission requested the Government of Finland to convene in accordance with Article 22 of the Helsinki Convention a conference to adopt the Convention and to invite all the Baltic Sea States and the European Economic Community to the Conference to be held in Helsinki, Finland, on 9 April 1992.

The Commission also advised the Government of Finland to invite to the Conference the States in the catchment area of the Baltic Sea as well as the observer organizations of the Helsinki Commission.

#### Matters related to the HELCOM ad hoc high level Task Force

The Commission was informed on the progress in the work of the Task Force and especially on the outcome of the third meeting of the HELCOM TF, held in Helsinki 7-10 January 1992. The Commission was informed on the current drafting activities within the HELCOM TF in order to be able for the fourth meeting of the HELCOM TF (16-19 March 1992) to adopt the documents to be submitted for ministerial approval in April 1992. The Commission was also informed on the prefeasibility studies and topical studies coordinated and supervised by the four international financial institutions, members of the HELCOM TF.

The Commission stressed the need to take immediate action to start implementation of the Programme to be approved by the ministers and to establish an appropriate follow-up procedure within the Helsinki Commission. The Commission decided that also some supporting material for the Joint Comprehensive Programme could be printed in the Commission's Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings series.

The Commission decided to establish an implementation body within the Helsinki Commission, subject to be approved by the meeting to be held at ministerial level, which according to the decision by the Commission will be held in Helsinki on 9 April 1992. The Commission also proposed the representation for the new body and allocated necessary financial means for the staff functions of the implementation body.

The Commission noted the results of the consideration by the Task Force with regard the ministerial meeting and decided that the Ministers should be proposed to adopt a Declaration containing key elements of the Programme. The Commission noted that a background document for the Declaration was decided to be drafted intersessionally within the HELCOM TF and be considered by the fourth meeting of the HELCOM TF (16-19 March 1992).

The Commission decided to propose that to the ministerial meeting all Task Force members should be invited as well as the observer organizations of the Helsinki Commission. The

Commission furthermore decided that the Government of Finland be invited to chair the ministerial meeting as “host country” of the Helsinki Commission, and noted the information by Finland that the Minister responsible for environmental affairs will be the most probable Chairman.

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## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/1

Adopted 6 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 9, Paragraph 2 of the Helsinki Convention

### DISPOSAL OF DREDGED SPOILS

#### THE COMMISSION,

**RECALLING** Paragraph 2 of Article 9 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974, (Helsinki Convention), concerning the regulation of dumping of dredged spoils,

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the protection of the marine environment in the area of the Convention warrants special attention in the case of the management of the disposal of dredged spoils,

**RECOGNIZING** that the application of agreed Guidelines for the Disposal of Dredged Spoils may facilitate the assessment of potential hazards caused by dumping of dredged spoils in the Convention area, thus preventing environmental damage,

**RECOGNIZING ALSO** that the application of Guidelines may facilitate the issuing of permits by national authorities for the dumping of dredged spoils,

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

- a) the Contracting Parties follow the Guidelines for the Disposal of Dredged Spoils as adopted by the Commission at its 13th Meeting and as to be amended by the Environment Committee, if necessary;
- b) the Contracting Parties report on the national implementation of, and their experience with, the Guidelines to the Helsinki Commission in 1995.



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/2\*)

Adopted 5 February 1992 having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### INDUSTRIAL CONNECTIONS AND POINT SOURCES OTHER THAN HOUSEHOLD CONNECTED TO MUNICIPAL SEWERAGE SYSTEMS

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 to take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

**RECALLING ALSO** that Annex II of the Helsinki Convention defines a list of harmful substances for the purpose of Article 6 of the Convention,

**RECOGNIZING** that heavy metals and other harmful substances originating from industrial plants and point sources other than household can not be sufficiently reduced in municipal treatment plants,

**DESIRING** to limit this pollution,

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

- a) the receiving water must not be harmed by persistent, toxic or bioaccumulating substances from point sources that can not be treated in the municipal sewage treatment plant;
- b) before connection to the municipal treatment plant of such waste water a pretreatment utilizing BAT (Best Available Technology) is recommended;
- c) the municipal sewage treatment plant must be protected from these substances or other properties that may disturb the processes in the plant or be harmful to the personnel;

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\*) This Recommendation supersedes HELCOM Recommendation 12/4

- d) the quality of the sludge in the sewage treatment plant must not be deteriorated in a way that makes the sludge inappropriate for agricultural use or other purposes in an environmentally sound way;
- e) the sewerage system must not be deteriorated due to the content of substances in the effluent water from industries and other point sources;
- f) limit values for these substances based on the best available technology should be established separately for industry and other relevant sectors discharging indirectly;
- g) industrial connections and other point source connections must be **authorized** before the connection is made and supervised by authorities thereafter,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the actions taken by the Contracting Parties should be reported to the Commission in 1994 and thereafter every three years.



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/3 • )

Adopted 5 February 1992 having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### BASIC PRINCIPLES IN WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT IN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

#### THE COMMISSION,

**RECALLING** Article 5 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 counteract the introduction of certain hazardous substances into the Baltic Sea Area, as specified in Annex I of the Convention,

**RECALLING ALSO** that according to Article 6 of the Helsinki Convention all appropriate measures to control and strictly limit pollution by noxious substances, listed in Annex II of the Convention, shall be taken, and that according to Annex III of the Convention the pollution load of industrial wastes shall be minimized,

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

**RECALLING FURTHER** the “Procedure on how the Committees should act in a more flexible and independent way in matters relating to decisions on purely technical questions” adopted by the Commission (HELCOM 11/14, Annex 26),

**RECOGNIZING** that the chemical industry <sup>1)</sup> is responsible for an important part of the discharges of hazardous substances into the Baltic Sea,

**DESIRING** to limit the discharges from this industry with best available technology,

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<sup>\*</sup> This Recommendation supersedes the present HELCOM Recommendation 11/6.

<sup>1)</sup> Standard Classification of Chemical Industry (Appendix 1) is based on International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 4, Rev. 3. United Nations, New York 1989.

DESIRING ALSO to implement HELCOM Recommendation 9/8 concerning measures aimed at the reduction of discharges from industry,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties that they apply to chemical industries producing wastewater which is discharged into waters or municipal sewerage systems, the following:

**General principles**

- a) low-waste technology should be applied wherever possible;
- b) the chemicals listed in Appendix 2, which may reach the environment should be substituted by less harmful chemicals or subjected to requirements which will provide at least as good a result from an environmental standpoint;
- c) water management in chemical factories should aim at closed water systems or at high circulating rate in order to avoid wastewater production wherever possible;

**Principles for wastewater handling**

- d) wastewaters containing substances/groups of substances listed in Appendix 2 should before 1995 be separately treated before mixing with diluting waters (cooling water and low polluted wastewater). Furthermore, treatment of hazardous substances should be continuously improved by using best available technology for different streams with regard to the total result;
- e) chemical factories producing wastewaters which contain hazardous substances should be equipped with an internal segregated sewerage system: a drainage system for polluted process water which must enter a suitable central treatment plant, municipal (see HELCOM Recommendation 13/2) or owned by industry, before it is mixed with non- or low-polluted water for final discharge, and another drainage system which receives cooling water, non-polluted stormwater and possible very low-polluted wastewater for final discharge. This should be applied to all new plants. In existing plants segregating of process water from cooling water should start as soon as possible, but not later than 1999,

DECIDES that the Standard Classification of Chemical Industry (Appendix 1) and the list of substances (Appendix 2) should be kept updated and revised, when appropriate, by the Technological Committee,

RECOMMENDS **FURTHER** that the Contracting Parties report to the Commission every three years starting in 1994.

## **Standard Classification of Chemical Industry**

### **Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products**

1. Manufacture of basic chemicals
  - 1.1 Manufacture of basic chemicals, except fertilizers and nitrogen compounds
  - 1.2 Manufacture of fertilizers and nitrogen compounds
  - 1.3 Manufacture of plastics in primary forms and of synthetic rubber
  
2. Manufacture of other chemical products
  - 2.1 Manufacture of pesticides and other agro-chemical products
  - 2.2 Manufacture of paints, varnishes and similar coatings, printing ink and mastics
  - 2.3 Manufacture of pharmaceuticals, medical chemicals and botanical products
  - 2.4 Manufacture of soap and detergents, cleaning and polishing preparations, perfumes and toilet preparations
  - 2.5 Manufacture of other chemical products n.e.c.
  
3. Manufacture of man-made fibres

### **Manufacture of Refined Petrochemical Products**

**LIST OF SUBSTANCES REFERRED TO IN ITEM b OF RECOMMENDATION ON  
BASIC PRINCIPLES IN WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT IN CHEMICAL  
INDUSTRY**

1. organohalogen compounds and substances which may form such compounds in the aquatic environment,
2. organophosphorus compounds,
3. organotin compounds,
4. substances in respect of which it has been proved that they possess carcinogenic or mutagenic properties or effect on capacity for reproduction in or via the aquatic environment,
5. mercury and its compounds,
6. cadmium and its compounds,
7. **biocides** and their derivatives not appearing in 1 to 6,
8. the following metalloids and metals and their compounds:
  - zinc
  - copper
  - nickel
  - chromium
  - lead
  - selenium
  - arsenic
  - antimony
  - molybdenum
  - tin
  - beryllium
  - uranium
  - vanadium
  - cobalt
  - thallium
  - tellurium
  - silver



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/4

Adopted 5 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION RELATED TO THE USE OF SCRAP MATERIALS IN THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY

#### 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 to take **all** appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

**RECALLING ALSO** that according to Paragraph 2 of Article 2 of the Helsinki Convention land-based pollution includes airborne pollution, and that according to Paragraph 8 of Article 6 of the Helsinki Convention, the Contracting Parties shall endeavour to use best practical means in order to minimize airborne pollution of the Baltic Sea by noxious substances,

**RECALLING FURTHER** the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990,

**RECOGNIZING** the importance of reducing emissions into atmosphere from the use of scrap materials in the iron and steel industry

- i) by minimizing hazards to human health and to the environment from toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative substances by the application of best available technology;
- ii) by developing processes and techniques for the collection and treatment of atmospheric emissions,

**RECOMMENDS** to the Governments of the Contracting Parties that

- 1) measures should be taken to avoid cadmium and mercury in all products that can end up as scrap. By 1994 the Contracting Parties should report on plans and measures they have taken and present a timetable for further reductions;

- 2) by 1994, in order to minimize the amount of chlorinated compounds in used scrap, the Contracting Parties should present proposals to reduce the use of chlorinated oils and emulsions in metal-working plants and the melting of chlorinated plastic together with steel products. A timetable for such reductions should also be presented by the same date;
- 3) the situation regarding mercury and dioxin emissions should be presented by the Contracting Parties by 1995;
- 4) further research and development should be carried out to achieve suitable technologies for reducing emissions of mercury and dioxin. The current state of development of such technologies should be presented by 1996. A timetable for the reduction of emissions of mercury and dioxin using such technologies should also be presented by the same date.



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION **13/5**

Adopted 5 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### PRINCIPLES FOR PERMITTING WASTEWATER DISCHARGES AND EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIAL PLANTS

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING 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 to endeavour to establish and adopt common criteria for issuing permits for discharges,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to apply the following principles of permitting:

1. The operator of the industrial plant has to submit in a form of application data and information to the responsible authority. The operator is recommended to negotiate with the responsible authority on the data required for the application before submitting the application to the authority (agreement on the scope of required information and surveys).

At least the following data and information ought to be included in the application:

#### General information

name, branch, location, number of employees;

#### Actual situation and/or planned activities

- site of discharge and/or emission;
- type of production, amount of production and/or processing;
- production processes;
- type and amount of raw materials, agents and/or intermediate products;  
amount and quality of untreated wastewater and raw gas from all relevant sources  
(e.g. process water, cooling water);  
treatment of wastewater and raw gas with respect to type, process and efficiency of pretreatment and/or final treatment;  
treated wastewater and raw gas with respect to amount and quality at the outlet of the pretreatment and/or final treatment facilities;

amount and quality of solid and liquid wastes generated during the process and the treatment of wastewater and raw gas;  
treatment of solid and liquid wastes;  
information about measures to prevent process failures and accidental spills;  
present status and possible impact on the environment;

Alternatives and their various impacts<sup>\*)</sup> if necessary

other possible production processes;  
other possible raw materials, agents and/or intermediate products;  
other possible treatment technologies.

2. The responsible authority has to evaluate the present status and the potential impact of the planned activities on the environment.

3. The responsible authority after comprehensive assessment with special consideration of the above mentioned aspects issues the permit in which at least the following are laid down

**characterizations** of all components (e.g. production capacity) which influence amount and quality of discharges and/or emissions;  
limit values for amount and quality (concentration and/or load) for direct and indirect discharges and emissions;  
instructions concerning:  
construction and safety;  
production processes and/or agents;  
operation and maintenance of treatment facilities;  
recovery of materials/substances and waste disposal;  
type and extent of control to be performed by the operator (self-control);  
measures to be taken in case of process failures and accidental spills;  
analytical methods to be used;  
schedule for modernization, retrofitting and investigations done by the operator;  
schedule for reports of the operator on monitoring/self-control, retrofitting and investigation measures.

4. The responsible authority or an independent institution authorized by the responsible authority has to

inspect the amount and quality of discharges and/or emissions by sampling and analysing;  
control the attainment of the permit requirements;  
arrange monitoring of the various impacts of wastewater discharges and emissions into the atmosphere;  
review the permit when necessary.

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Footnote:

<sup>\*)</sup> concerning e.g. ecological, economic and safety aspects



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/6

Adopted 6 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### DEFINITION OF BEST ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE

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 to take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

**RECALLING ALSO** Paragraph 2 of Article 2 of the Helsinki Convention, in which "land-based pollution" is defined as pollution of the sea caused by discharges from land reaching the sea waterborne, airborne or directly from the coast,

**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,

**BEING AWARE** that from the environmental point of view, the reduction of inputs, resulting from the use of "Best Environmental Practice" (BEP), as defined in this Recommendation, does not necessarily lead to environmentally acceptable results,

**BEING FURTHER AWARE** that what is BEP for a particular source will change with time in the light of appropriate combination of measures, economic and social factors, as well as changes in scientific knowledge and understanding,

**RECOGNIZING**, according to the Paragraph 2 of Article 3 of the Helsinki Convention, that application of the best environmental practice should not result in any increase in pollution in other sea areas or in other parts of the environment or any increased risk to the human health or living resources in countries where the environmental regulations are less stringent,

**RECOMMENDS** that the Governments of the Contracting Parties agree that:

1. In order to prevent pollution of the sea from diffuse sources, the Contracting Parties shall use BEP, minimizing or eliminating inputs from such sources to the aquatic environment by providing control strategies.

2. The term “Best Environmental Practice” (BEP) is taken as the application of the most appropriate combination of measures. In selecting for individual cases, at least the following graduated range of measures should be considered:

provision of information and education to the public, to users and to producers about the environmental consequences of choice of particular activities and choice of products, their use and ultimate disposal;

the development and application of Codes of Good Environmental Practice which covers all aspects of the activity in the product’s life;

- mandatory labels informing users of environmental risks related to a product, its use and ultimate disposal;
- availability of collection and disposal systems;
- saving of resources, including energy; recycling, recovery, re-use;
- avoiding the use of hazardous substances and products and the generation of hazardous waste;
- application of economic instruments to activities, products or groups of products; a system of licensing which involves a range of restrictions or a ban.

3. In determining what combination of measures constitute the BEP, in general or in individual cases, particular consideration should be given to:

environmental hazard of the product, its production, its use and ultimate disposal; substitution by less polluting activities or substances;

scale of use;

potential environmental benefit or penalty of substitute materials or activities;

advances and changes in scientific knowledge and understanding;

time limits for implementation;

social and economic implications;

the precautionary principle, i.e., taking preventive measures when there is reason to assume that substances or energy introduced, directly or indirectly, into the marine environment may create hazards to human health, harm living resources and marine ecosystems, damage amenities or interfere with other legitimate uses of the sea even when there is no conclusive evidence of a causal relationship between inputs and their effects.

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that:

- (i) if the reduction of inputs resulting from the use of BEP does not lead to environmentally acceptable results, additional measures be applied;
- (ii) in order to attain the objectives, the intensified exchange of information and knowledge regarding BEP be promoted;
- (iii) the definition of BEP be revised when appropriate.



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/7

Adopted 6 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### REDUCTION OF AMMONIA VOLATILIZATION FROM STORAGES

#### 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 to take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

**HAVING REGARD** to Article 3 of the Helsinki Convention, in which the Contracting Parties shall individually or jointly take all appropriate legislative, administrative or other relevant measures to prevent and abate pollution,

**RECALLING FURTHER** the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990, calling, inter alia, for a substantive reduction of the inputs caused by diffuse sources,

**RECOGNIZING** the fact that a substantial part of the eutrophication problems observed in the Baltic Sea Area is caused by nutrient inputs from diffuse sources,

**DESIRING** to limit this pollution,

**RECOMMENDS** to the Governments of the Contracting Parties that:

- a) storage capacity of farms having more than five animal units according to the Appendix must be sufficient to allow application of manure on appropriate periods for minimizing volatilization;
- b) slurry storages should be covered, inter alia, with floating coverages, membrane covers, solid lids or membranes, possibly in conjunction with retrieval of methane gas. Loading of storages under the slurry surface should be promoted;
- c) urine storages should be covered in a way that prevents ammonia to volatilize from the storage;
- d) programmes should be developed and action taken to implement the above mentioned measures and to report on the effect of these measures or any other measures taken to reduce ammonia volatilization from storages,

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the actions stated in a) - d) should be implemented by the Contracting Parties within five years,

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the actions taken by the Contracting Parties, e.g. economic incentives, recommendations, regulations, agricultural advice, should be reported to the Commission in 1994 and thereafter every three years.

**Appendix  
to HELCOM Recommendation 13/7**

**CONVERSION FACTORS FOR CALCULATING ANIMAL UNITS (A.U.)**

| <b>Domestic breed</b>            | <b>unit</b>         | <b>equivalent<br/>to 1 a.u.</b> | <b>a. u.<br/>per animal</b> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>CATTLE</b>                    |                     |                                 |                             |
| milking cows                     |                     |                                 |                             |
| large stock                      | 1 year-cow          | 1                               | 1                           |
| jersey                           | 1 year-cow          | 1.1                             | 0.9                         |
| cow breed                        |                     |                                 |                             |
| large stock                      | 1 yearling          | 3                               | 0.33                        |
| jersey                           | 1 yearling          | 5                               | 0.2                         |
| nurse-cows with breed            | 1 year-cow          | 1                               | 1                           |
| fat stock                        |                     |                                 |                             |
| large stock                      | 1 yearling          | 2.5                             | 0.4                         |
| 250 kg                           | 1 <b>prod./year</b> | 5                               | 0.2                         |
| 350 kg                           | 1 <b>prod./year</b> | 3                               | 0.33                        |
| 450 kg                           | 1 <b>prod./year</b> | 2                               | 0.5                         |
| <b>PIGS</b>                      |                     |                                 |                             |
| <b>sow</b> with pigs and porkers | 1 year-sow          | 3                               | 0.33                        |
| slaughter hogs                   |                     |                                 |                             |
| 25-95 kg                         | 1 <b>prod./year</b> | 30                              | 0.033                       |
| 25-95 kg                         | 1 yearling          | 8                               | 0.12                        |
| <b>POULTRY</b>                   |                     |                                 |                             |
| broilers                         | 1 <b>prod./year</b> | 2.500                           | <b>0.0004</b>               |
| others                           | 1 yearling          | 150                             | 0.0067                      |
| <b>OTHERS</b>                    |                     |                                 |                             |
| ewes with lambs                  | 1 year-sheep        | <b>9</b>                        | 0.12                        |
| horses, 400-550 kg               | 1 year-horse        | 2                               | 0.5                         |
| mink, fitchets, etc.             | 1 year-bitch        | 40                              | 0.025                       |
| foxes                            | 1 year-bitch        | 15                              | 0.067                       |



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/8

Adopted 6 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### REDUCTION OF AMMONIA VOLATILIZATION FROM FIELD APPLICATION OF MANURE

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 to take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

HAVING REGARD to Article 3 of the Helsinki Convention, in which the Contracting Parties shall individually or jointly take all appropriate legislative, administrative or other relevant measures to prevent and abate pollution,

RECALLING FURTHER the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990, calling, inter alia, for a substantive reduction of the inputs caused by diffuse sources,

RECOGNIZING the fact that a substantial part of the eutrophication problems observed in the Baltic Sea Area is caused by nutrient inputs from diffuse sources,

DESIRING to limit this pollution,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties that:

- a) slurry applied on bare soil should be directly incorporated by means of efficient equipment, e.g., direct injectors, trailing hoses with units for injection, or harrowing as soon as possible after application;
- b) slurry added to growing crops should be applied by means of direct injectors or, in growing crops having a dense canopy, by means of efficient equipment, e.g., trailing hoses;
- c) urine should be applied by means of efficient equipment, e.g., trailing hoses, both on bare soil and on growing crops;

- d) solid manure should be incorporated shortly after application;
- e) programmes should be developed and action taken to implement the above mentioned measures and to report on the effect of these measures or any other measures taken to reduce ammonia **volatilization** from field application of manure,

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the actions stated in a) - e) should be implemented by the Contracting Parties within five years,

RECOMMENDS **FURTHER** that the actions taken by the Contracting Parties, e.g., economic incentives, recommendations, regulations, agricultural advice, should be reported to the Commission in 1994 and thereafter every three years.



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/9

Adopted 6 February 1992 having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### REDUCTION OF NITROGEN, MAINLY NITRATE, LEACHING FROM AGRICULTURAL LAND

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 to take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

HAVING REGARD to Article 3 of the Helsinki Convention, in which the Contracting Parties shall individually or jointly take all appropriate legislative, administrative or other relevant measures to prevent and abate pollution,

RECALLING FURTHER the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990, calling, inter alia, for a substantive reduction of the inputs caused by diffuse sources,

**RECOGNIZING** the fact that a substantial part of the eutrophication problems observed in the Baltic Sea Area is caused by nutrient inputs from diffuse sources,

DESIRING to limit this pollution,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties that:

- a) artificial fertilizers and animal manure should be applied according to crop need. This principle should be promoted, e.g., by the use of:
  - economic incentives used by the authorities to reduce nutrient application and to promote the development of a sustainable agriculture;
  - fertilizer and crop-rotation planning and calculation of nitrogen balance, i.e., with a specification of crop need and applied amounts of nitrogen fertilizers;
  - prognosis tools for nitrogen application, such as assesment of soil mineral nitrogen contents, soil nitrogen mineralization potential, or the use of calculation methods,

- b) utilization efficiencies of animal manures should be enhanced by:  
 application of animal manure shortly before or during the early growing season;  
 establishing of six to twelve months storage capacity for animal manure depending on farming system, climate and soil conditions;  
 develop governmental programmes for financial support for farmers' investments in storage capacity;  
 upper limits for application of animal manure, corresponding to 170 kg N (approximately 2 animal units) per hectare annually<sup>\*)</sup>; these upper limits might be exceeded in the following cases:  
 (i) long growing seasons,  
 (ii) crops with high nitrogen uptake,  
 (iii) high net precipitation in the vulnerable zone,  
 (iv) soils with exceptionally high denitrification capacity;  
 promote studies on nutrient contents of animal manures and the related conversion factors to animal units,
- c) utilization efficiency of artificial fertilizers should be promoted by integrated plant production<sup>\*)</sup>,
- d) green fields should cover 50% of the agricultural land, or the highest possible percentage with respect to climate and soil conditions,
- e) further distribution and increased utilization efficiency of animal manure may additionally be promoted by, e.g.:  
 slurry banks for surplus manure, possibly in connection with degassing of animal manure in large scale biogas plants;  
 use of large lorries, possibly in combination with small application units,
- f) programmes should be developed and action taken to implement the above mentioned measures and to report on the effect of these measures or any other measures taken to reduce nitrogen leaching from agricultural land,

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the actions stated in a) - f) should be implemented by the Contracting Parties within five years,

RECOMMENDS **FURTHER** that the action taken by the Contracting Parties, e.g. economic incentives, recommendations, regulations, agricultural advice, should be reported to the Commission in 1994 and thereafter every three years.

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Footnote:

- <sup>\*)</sup> The 170 kg N per hectare stems from the Nitrate Directive of the European Community.  
 \*) In this aspect integrated plant production is a farming **practice** which optimizes the utilization efficiency of fertilizers through a precise determination of the optimal fertilization level and the use of appropriate crop rotations.



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/10

Adopted 6 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### REDUCTION OF PHOSPHORUS LEACHING AND EROSION

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 to take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

HAVING REGARD to Article 3 of the Helsinki Convention, in which the Contracting Parties shall individually or jointly take all appropriate legislative, administrative or other relevant measures to prevent and abate pollution,

RECALLING FURTHER the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990, calling, inter alia, for a substantive reduction of the inputs caused by diffuse sources,

RECOGNIZING the fact that a substantial part of the eutrophication problems observed in the Baltic Sea Area is caused by nutrient inputs from diffuse sources,

DESIRING to limit this pollution,

RECOMMENDS to the Governments of the Contracting Parties that:

- a) artificial fertilizers and animal manure should be applied according to crop need. This principle should be promoted e.g., by the use of:
  - economic incentives used by the authorities to reduce phosphorus application and to promote the development of a sustainable agriculture;
  - fertilizer and crop-rotation planning, and calculation of phosphorus balance, i.e., with a specification of crop need and applied amounts of phosphorus fertilizers;
  - prognosis tools for phosphorus application, such as assessment of soil phosphorus content, soil phosphorus availability, or the use of calculation methods;
- b) reduction of soil erosion by means of, e.g., green fallowing, catch crops, winter crops and reduced tillage techniques (e.g. avoidance of mouldboard plowing in autumn);

- c) green fields should cover 50% of the agricultural land, or the highest possible percentage depending on climate and soil conditions;
- d) sufficiently broad vegetation zones (filter strips) along water courses should be considered as an additional measure;
- e) programmes should be developed and action taken to implement the above mentioned measures and to report on the effect of these measures or any other measures taken to reduce phosphorus leaching and erosion,

RECOMMENDS ALSO that the actions stated in a) - e) should be implemented by the Contracting Parties within **five** years,

RECOMMENDS **FURTHER** that the action taken by the Contracting Parties, e.g. economic incentives, recommendations, regulations, agricultural advice, should be reported to the Commission in 1994 and thereafter every three years.



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/11

Adopted 6 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### REDUCTION OF FARM WASTE DISCHARGES

#### 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 to take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

**HAVING REGARD** to Article 3 of the Helsinki Convention, in which the Contracting Parties shall individually or jointly take all appropriate legislative, administrative or other relevant measures to prevent and abate pollution,

**RECALLING FURTHER** the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990, calling, inter alia, for a substantive reduction of the inputs caused by diffuse sources,

**RECOGNIZING** the fact that a substantial part of the eutrophication problems observed in the Baltic Sea Area is caused by nutrient inputs from diffuse sources,

**DESIRING** to limit this pollution,

**RECOMMENDS** to the Governments of the Contracting Parties that:

- a) farm animal houses and similar enclosures for animals shall be designed in such a way that ground water and surface water will not be polluted:
  - floors should be made of waterproof materials;
  - floors should be constructed to resist the impact of animals and tools;
  - appropriate draining and collection of liquid manure should be established,
- b) storages should be constructed to safeguard against unintentional spillages:
  - solid manure should be stored in dung yards with waterproof floor and side walls;
  - manure effluents should be drained off through outlet pipes and collected in liquid manure storages,

- c) effluents from the preparation and storage of silage should be collected and directed to storages for liquid manure,
- d) containers for liquid manure and farm waste should be made of strong material impermeable to moisture,
- e) storages and containers should be made of strong materials as to resist the impact of filling and emptying operations,
- f) programmes should be developed and action taken to implement the above mentioned measures and to report on the effect of these measures or any other measures taken to reduce farm waste discharges,

**RECOMMENDS ALSO** that the actions stated in a) - f) should be implemented by the Contracting Parties within five years,

**RECOMMENDS FURTHER** that the actions taken by the Contracting Parties, e.g. economic incentives, recommendations, regulations, agricultural advice, should be reported to the Commission in 1994 and thereafter every three years.



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/12

Adopted 6 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### MANAGING FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS FOR RETENTION OF NUTRIENTS

#### 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 to take all appropriate measures to control and minimize land-based pollution of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area,

**HAVING REGARD** to Article 3 of the Helsinki Convention, in which the Contracting Parties shall individually or jointly take all appropriate legislative, administrative or other relevant measures to prevent and abate pollution,

**RECALLING FURTHER** the Ministerial Declaration of 1988 and the Baltic Sea Declaration of 1990, calling, inter alia, for a substantive reduction of the inputs caused by diffuse sources,

**RECOGNIZING** the fact that a substantial part of the eutrophication problems observed in the Baltic Sea Area is caused by nutrient inputs from diffuse sources,

**DESIRING** to limit this pollution,

**RECOMMENDS** to the Governments of the Contracting Parties that increased nutrient retention in freshwater systems should be considered through, e.g.:

- (i) programmes for re-establishing wetlands and smaller lakes;
- (ii) plugging of drainage pipes in abandoned meadows;
- (iii) allowing natural and re-establishing of the meandering of watercourses, inter alia, taking into account the infrastructure, by means of a combination of green fallowing and the restoration of watercourses;
- (iv) introduction of environmentally sound practices for weed mowing and maintenance of watercourses;
- (v) programmes should be developed and action taken to implement the above mentioned measures and to report on the effect of these measures or any other measures taken to reduce nutrient discharges,

**RECOMMENDS FURTHER** that the action taken by the Contracting Parties, e.g. economic incentives, recommendations, regulations, agricultural advice, should be reported to the Commission in 1994 and thereafter every three years.



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/13 <sup>\*)</sup>

Adopted 6 February 1992, having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### APPROVAL OF PESTICIDES FOR USE IN THE CATCHMENT AREA OF THE BALTIC SEA

#### THE COMMISSION,

**RECALLING** Article 2 of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1974 (Helsinki Convention), in which the “land-based pollution” is defined as pollution of the sea caused by discharges from land reaching the sea waterborne, airborne or directly from the coast,

**RECALLING ALSO** Article 6 and Annex II of the Helsinki Convention, on the principles and obligations concerning land-based pollution,

**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,

**RECALLING FURTHER** the “Procedure on how the Committees should act in a more flexible and independent way in matters relating to decisions on purely technical questions” adopted by the Commission (HELCOM 11/14, Annex 26),

**DESIRING** to limit the potential risk of pesticides reaching the Baltic Sea Area,

**RECOMMENDS** to the Governments of the Contracting Parties to take the following measures to reduce the risk of pollution by pesticides, which are meant to include acaricides, fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, molluscocides, nematocides, rodenticides used in agriculture, forestry and horticulture, slimicides and wood preservatives:

- a) pesticides shall not be sold, imported or applied until approval for such purposes has been granted by the authorities;

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<sup>\*)</sup> This Recommendation supplements HELCOM Recommendation 8/2.

- b) registration cannot be granted for substances or products which, in connection with their use or handling and storage, or on the basis of available studies or experience, are presumed to be especially dangerous to health or especially harmful to the environment;
- c) basic criteria for approval of pesticides should be elaborated within two years relevant to the Baltic Sea Area;
- d) registration should be reviewed at regular intervals in accordance with those criteria;
- e) national registers of approved pesticides should be published annually;
- f) “banned pesticides” shall not be used. “Banned pesticides” mean pesticides which, for health or environmental reasons, can not be approved for any use as pesticides by final governmental regulatory action. A list of banned pesticides is found in Appendix,

**DECIDES** that the list of banned active substances used as pesticides (Appendix to this Recommendation) should be kept updated and be revised when appropriate by the Technological Committee,

**RECOMMENDS ALSO** that the actions stated in a), b), d), e) and f) should be implemented by the Contracting Parties within five years,

**RECOMMENDS FURTHER** that the actions taken by the Contracting Parties should be reported to the Commission in 1994 and thereafter every three years.



## **HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/14**

Adopted 4 February 1992 having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph c) and Article 24, Paragraph 2  
of the Helsinki Convention

### **AMENDMENT TO REGULATION 6 OF ANNEX IV OF THE HELSINKI CONVENTION**

#### **THE COMMISSION,**

**RECALLING** that Annex III of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78), will enter into force on 1 July 1992,

**RECALLING ALSO** that certain provisions of Annex III of MARPOL 73/78 are included in Regulation 6 of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention,

**RECALLING FURTHER** HELCOM Recommendation 8/4 concerning amendments to Regulations 1-5 of Annex IV and Appendices I-IV to Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention and HELCOM Recommendation 10/9 concerning an amendment to Regulation 8 of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention,

**RECOGNIZING** that as from 1 July 1986 all Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention are also parties to MARPOL 73/78 and also bound by the provisions of Annex III of MARPOL 73/78 with regard to the protection of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area from pollution from ships,

**CONSIDERING** that, as a result of the developments in respect of MARPOL 73/78, there is no need to retain in the Helsinki Convention texts which reproduce provisions of Annex III of MARPOL 73/78,

**TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION** the amendment procedure for the Annexes of the Helsinki Convention, as contained in Article 24 of the Convention,

#### **RESOLVES:**

- a) to adopt the amendment to Regulation 6 of Annex IV of the Convention appearing in the Annex to this Recommendation;

- b)** to ask the Depository Government to communicate the amendment to the Contracting Parties with the Commission's recommendation for acceptance;
- c)** to determine that the amendment shall be deemed to have been accepted unless prior to 1 May 1992 any of the Contracting Parties has objected to the amendment; and
- d)** to determine that the accepted amendment shall enter into force on 1 July 1992.

**HELCOM Recommendation 13/14**  
**Annex**

1. Regulation 6 of Annex IV of the Helsinki Convention is amended as follows:

**" Regulation 6**  
**Harmful substances in packaged forms**

The Contracting Parties, also being parties to MARPOL 73/78, apply in conformity with that agreement the provisions of Annex III of MARPOL 73/78 for the prevention of pollution by harmful substances in packaged forms. "



## HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 13/15

Adopted 4 February 1992 having regard to  
Article 13, Paragraph b) of the Helsinki Convention

### EARLY MEASURES TO REDUCE SULPHUR IN MARINE FUEL OILS IN THE BALTIC SEA AREA

**THE COMMISSION,**

**NOTING** HELCOM Recommendation 11/12 on reduction of air pollution from ships,

**NOTING ALSO** the HELCOM submission to MEPC 29 on prevention of air pollution from ships, including fuel oil qualities,

**BEING AWARE** that sulphur in marine fuels will result in emissions of sulphur oxides in exhausts from diesel engines, which are direct proportional to the sulphur content in the fuel oil,

**BEING ALSO AWARE** that emissions of sulphur oxides from ships are a serious threat to nature, cultural heritage and the population in the countries bordering the Baltic Sea,

**CONVINCED** that measures on a global basis should be initiated through relevant regulations issued by IMO,

**TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION** IMO Assembly Resolution A.719(17) on prevention of air pollution from ships,

**ALSO CONVINCED** that early special interim measures should be taken by the Baltic Sea States in order to protect the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area, the environment in the Baltic Sea States, as well as to contribute to the global reduction of air pollution from ships,

**RECOMMENDS** that the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention should take appropriate action to:

1. Encourage both the oil industries to supply and the shipowners to use marine fuel oils with a sulphur content as low as possible, but not exceeding **1,5%** by weight;
2. Conclude bilateral agreements for ships trading in the Baltic Sea in regular traffic between the two countries involved to use only marine fuel oils with a sulphur content not exceeding **1,5%** by weight, not later than 1 January 1995;

3. Agree on the use of exhaust gas treatment systems on board ships as an alternative to Paragraph 2 which can be accepted provided that such systems and methods are proven to cause no harm to the marine environment;
4. Establish provisions for control of compliance with Paragraphs 1 to **3** by Administrations or Port Authorities to be adopted by the Maritime Committee.

**LIST OF MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE  
HELSINKI COMMISSION  
AS AGREED BY THE 13th MEETING OF THE COMMISSION**

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| 1 March 1992<br>London, United Kingdom     | Baltic Maritime Co-ordinating Meeting (BMCM)<br>in conjunction with MEPC 32  |
| 10-12 March 1992<br>Helsinki, Finland      | Expert Meeting on the Diplomatic Conference  |
| 16-19 March 1992<br>Helsinki, Finland      | Fourth Meeting of the HELCOM <u>ad hoc</u> high level Task<br>Force (HELCOM TF 4)  |
| 7-8 April 1992<br>Helsinki, Finland        | Preparatory meeting for the Diplomatic<br>Conference   |
| 9 April 1992<br>Helsinki, Finland          | Diplomatic Conference on the Protection<br>of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area  |
| 14-15 April 1992<br>Hamburg, Germany       | Workshop for consideration of the first draft of<br>the report of PLC-2  |
| 23 April 1992<br>Hamburg, Germany          | Meeting of EC-Chairman and Conveners of the<br>working groups of the Environment Committee (EC)  |
| 27 April- 1 May 1992<br>Hundested, Denmark | Second Meeting of the Working Group on<br>Reduction of Inputs from Diffuse Sources<br>(TC DIFF 2)  |
| 5-6 May 1992<br>Riga, Latvia               | Expert meeting to consider interim arrangements<br>with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania on combatting marine<br>pollution (CC EXMTG)   |
| 18-22 May 1992<br>St. Petersburg, Russia   | Second Meeting of the Working Group on Reduction<br>of Discharges and Emissions from Point Sources (TC POINT 2)  |
| 19-22 May 1992<br>Solna, Sweden            | Ninth Meeting of the Group of Experts on Airborne<br>Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area (EC EGAP 9)  |
| 1-5 June 1992<br>Helsinki, Finland         | Seventh Meeting of the Group of Experts on<br>Monitoring of Radioactive Substances in the Baltic Sea (EC<br>MORS 7), the first day being a seminar day on the Inventory<br>of Artificial Radionuclides in the Baltic Sea |
| 10-12 June 1992<br>Schleswig, Germany      | Eighth Meeting of the <u>ad hoc</u> Working Group on<br>Combatting Spillages of Harmful Substances Other than Oil<br>(CC CHEM 8)   |

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| 15-16 June 1992<br>Copenhagen, Denmark             | 16th Meeting of the Chairmen and the Secretariat of<br>the Helsinki Commission (CASH 16) |
| 17 June 1992<br>Copenhagen, Denmark                | Meeting of TC-Chairmen   |
| Autumn 1992<br>Poland                              | Seminar on diffuse pollution   |
| 29 September -<br>2 October 1992<br>Gdansk, Poland | 18th Meeting of the Maritime Committee (MC)  |
| 12-16 October 1992<br>Tallinn, Estonia             | Third Meeting of the Environment Committee (EC)  |
| 19-23 October 1992<br>Helsingborg, Sweden          | 16th Meeting of the Combatting Committee (CC)  |
| 1 November 1992<br>London, United Kingdom          | Baltic Maritime Co-ordinating Meeting (BMCM)<br>in conjunction with MEPC 33              |
| 2-6 November 1992<br>Berlin, Germany               | Third Meeting of the Technological Committee (TC)  |
| 16-19 November 1992<br>Turku, Finland              | Seminar on Port Reception Facilities   |
| 2-5 February 1993<br>Helsinki, Finland             | 14th Meeting of the Baltic Marine Environment<br>Protection Commission (HELCOM 14)       |