



With reference to HELCOM Recommendation 24/8 (Amendments to Annex IV "Prevention of Pollution from Ships" to the Helsinki Convention, concerning discharge of sewage) HELCOM 25/2004 adopted the following Guidelines referred to in Regulation 5, paragraph D, subparagraph a) i):

## **GUIDELINES ON GRANTING EXCEPTIONS FOR PLEASURE CRAFT ACCORDING TO PARAGRAPH D OF REGULATION 5 OF ANNEX IV TO THE HELSINKI CONVENTION**

A Contracting Party making use of the exceptions stated in paragraph D of Regulation 5 to the Helsinki Convention should consider the following issues, when granting exceptions for pleasure craft:

- The nature of the pleasure craft traffic in their territorial waters, including the length of the sailing season;
- The effect of sewage discharges from pleasure craft on eutrophication in their territorial waters;
- The estimated number of pleasure craft to be exempted;
- The size of pleasure craft to be exempted (length and/or beam for example);
- The age of the pleasure craft to be exempted;
- Possible technical difficulties in certain types of pleasure craft to install toilet retention systems;
- The cost of installation of a toilet retention system compared to the value of the craft.

A Contracting Party making use of the exceptions shall inform the Helsinki Commission of the concrete wording of their exception policy.