

Contribution to the report of the Secretary-General, “Oceans and the law of the sea”, on the topic of “Oceans and sustainable development: integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, namely, environmental, social and economic”

Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission ([HELCOM](#)) governs the Helsinki Convention. HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP, 2007–2021), the ongoing scheme applying ecosystem approach to the management of human activities, has kept its place as the key reference point in any action related to Baltic marine protection.

In 2014 HELCOM celebrated its 40th anniversary and completed streamlining process, resulting in better capacity to coordinate and manage the requirements of its Contracting Parties – also across different sectors with more economic, scientific or social impetus.

A key HELCOM task is to regionally coordinate implementation of the legislative and policy frameworks in European and global contexts, e.g. EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD); Strategy for Socio-Economic Development of North West Federal District of Russia; International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Moreover, HELCOM cooperates with other Conventions, Programmes and initiatives, e.g. in the North-