

### Provisional Annotated Agenda and Schedule

Time	Agenda Item	Related Action Points	Documents
<b>Tuesday, 12 April</b>			
<b>9.00-10.30</b> + coffee break	<b>1. Opening of the Meeting</b>		
	<b>1.1 Welcoming Remarks</b>		
	<b>1.2 Adoption of the Agenda</b>		<b>Doc.1.2 Rev. 1</b> (Provisional Agenda)
	<b>2. Presentation by Invited Expert</b> <i>The meeting will be shown a presentation by Prof. Ralph Tiedemann: Genome-wide Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) analysis of harbor porpoise (Phocoena phocoena) improves population resolution in North and Baltic Seas</i>		
<b>10.50-13.00</b> + lunch break	<b>3. Recovery Plan for Baltic Harbour Porpoises (Jastarnia Plan - JP)</b> <i>Implementation of the Plan and Action Points (AP) recommended by previous Meetings of the Jastarnia Group</i>		
	<b>3.1 Bycatch Reduction</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>	<b>(JG11/AP07)</b> Noting that Regulation 812/2004 in its current form does not protect harbour porpoises in the Baltic Sea sufficiently and that according to EC Communication (2011) 578, a revision is not foreseen in the near future and that bycatch mitigation measures will probably in future be addressed in the new Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), Baltic Sea Range States should implement comprehensively the bycatch mitigation measures laid down in Recommendations 1-4 of the Jastarnia Plan.	
	<b>3.1.1 JP Recommendation 1: Reduce Fishing Effort in Certain Fisheries</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>	<b>(JG11/AP01)</b> ASCOBANS should urge relevant authorities to investigate ways of limiting part-time and recreational set-net fisheries.	Inf.4.1.1 (Response of ICES on IUU)

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		<p><b>(JG8/AP05)</b> With respect to recreational fisheries, Parties should work towards banning those types of gear known to pose a threat to harbour porpoises.</p> <p><b>(JG11/AP02)</b> Parties should step up action to reduce fishing effort involving gear known to cause high porpoise bycatch rates as required under the Jastarnia Plan, and to provide information documenting the magnitude and location of such effort to ICES. The Secretariat should request the ICES WGBYC to present the information to the Jastarnia Group.</p> <p><b>(JG11/AP03)</b> In order to achieve favourable conservation status for Baltic harbour porpoises as required under the Habitats Directive, Parties should make concerted efforts to eliminate bycatch especially in current and future Natura 2000 sites (SACs) where harbour porpoises form part of the selection criteria. In these areas, this could be achieved by replacing set nets and introducing alternative gear that is considered less harmful.</p> <p><b>(JG10/AP04)</b> The Chair of the Jastarnia Group and the Secretariat should write to ICES requesting statistics on IUU fisheries in the Baltic Sea, broken down by ICES areas, to be presented to the next Jastarnia Group Meeting.</p>	
	<p><b>3.1.2 JP Recommendation 2:</b>  <b>Involve stakeholders in the work of reducing bycatch of harbour porpoises</b>  <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG11/AP04)</b> A small drafting group should develop briefing notes on ASCOBANS positions regarding bycatch, insofar as possible based on any drafts that the North Sea Coordinator may prepare for fora in that area. These should be used by anyone representing ASCOBANS at Baltic RACs and other meetings of relevant EU and Baltic Sea bodies in order to maintain a consistent and appropriate approach.</p> <p><b>(JG11/AP05)</b> The Secretariat should produce a synopsis of bycatch-related regulations of relevance to individual fishermen, especially with regard to legal sanctions for bycatch and incentives for those delivering carcasses with a view to using the carcasses obtained for porpoise conservation research,</p>	

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		<p>irrespective of whether such incentives are laid down in national legislation. Funding should be made available for a consultant to carry out this task on behalf of the Secretariat, based on Terms of Reference agreed by JG10 (see Annex 5).</p> <p><b>(JG7/AP04)</b> Parties should establish national processes to develop guidelines and methods for reducing and monitoring bycatch in the relevant fisheries, as called for in Jastarnia Plan Recommendation 2, and to report on progress in achieving this.</p> <p><b>(JG6/AP11)</b> A targeted approach to involving stakeholders such as fishermen should be adopted. With respect to fishermen, this should involve working primarily with those who have been receptive in the past.</p> <p><b>(JG5/AP02)</b> Parties should involve stakeholders, including fishermen, and urge them to accept responsibility for eliminating the potential risk of bycatch in gillnets and to take the necessary actions to obtain this goal. One way of making this into a positive market force is to develop a green policy for the fisheries, promoting a “porpoise free fish” label. In such a process it is recommended to seek advice from similar label initiatives on the market and to integrate this green policy into the public relations and awareness campaigns discussed below.</p> <p><b>(JG4/AP07)</b> Parties should develop a collaborative approach to engaging fishers in reporting bycatch. Parties should involve stakeholders, including fishermen, in the work of reducing bycatch and in collaboration with them develop necessary mitigation measures.</p>	
	<p><b>3.1.3 JP Recommendation 3: Replace fishing methods known to be associated with high porpoise bycatch (i.e. set nets) and introduce alternative gear considered less harmful</b></p>	<p><b>(JG11/AP06)</b> Parties should undertake or continue efforts to test and implement pots, traps and other porpoise-friendly gear. Parties are encouraged to report on related initiatives or research even where the intention is not primarily the conservation of marine mammals.</p> <p><b>(JG7/AP08)</b> The Jastarnia Group recommends that the Secretariat approach the Marine Stewardship Council and other</p>	

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	<p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p>similar certification organizations to urge them to prioritize bycatch of cetaceans in the evaluation criteria applied for certifying fisheries and to promote porpoise-friendly fishing gear and other mitigation measures as described in the Jastarnia Plan.</p> <p><b>(JG6/AP03)</b> Parties should promote research on the development of new porpoise-safe fishing gear. Included in the responsibility of the stakeholders for mitigating bycatch is the active participation in this research and development. The implementation of resulting new fishing gear can be considerably facilitated by including the new gear in a green label, e.g. as outlined above, since it will increase acceptance of a higher value of the catch, which in turn would serve as an incitement for the fishermen to adopt the new gear.</p>	
	<p><b>3.1.4 JP Recommendation 4:                      Implement a pinger programme on a short-term basis</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG5/AP04)</b> Parties are reminded to implement urgently the pinger use recommended in the Jastarnia Plan, which calls for pingers to be made mandatory in probable high-risk areas and fisheries associated with bycatch of harbour porpoises on a short-term basis (no more than 3 years) irrespective of vessel size. In the meantime, Parties must develop long-term measures to mitigate bycatch, such as alternative fishing gear.</p> <p><b>(JG2/AP03)</b> More enforcement of pinger use and the monitoring of its efficiency should be ensured.</p>	
<p><b>14.15-16.10</b>                      + coffee break</p>	<p><b>3.2 Research and Monitoring</b></p> <p><b>3.2.1 JP Recommendation 5:                      Analyze stock affinities of harbour porpoises in the “transition zone” of the south-western Baltic</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG11/AP09)</b> Baltic Parties are urged to continue to submit, as they become available, all results on genetic, morphological and other biological research dealing with the stock identity of Baltic porpoises, including results from ongoing relevant studies.</p>	

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	<p><b>3.2.2 JP Recommendation 6:</b> <b>Develop and apply new techniques (e.g. acoustic monitoring) for assessing trends in abundance</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG11/AP10)</b> ASCOBANS and the Parties should explore the possibility of co-funding and/or otherwise supporting dedicated follow-up studies for SAMBAH, among other things with a view to assessing trends.</p> <p><b>(JG1/AP03)</b> The monitoring of population developments should be considered an ongoing project that should continue for many years to come.</p>	
	<p><b>3.2.3 JP Recommendation 7:</b> <b>Develop interactive pingers or pingers using frequencies not audible to seals</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG5/AP08)</b> Parties should promote studies on alternative fishing gear, the development of interactive pingers and pingers not audible to seals.</p>	
	<p><b>3.2.4 JP Recommendation 8:</b> <b>Investigate possible detrimental effects of various types of sound and disturbance (including pinger signals, noise from vessels, wind parks, gravel extraction or constructions and seabed exploration for oil and gas) on harbour porpoises</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG8/AP11)</b> Germany recently issued recommendations on the reduction of sound emissions associated with construction of offshore wind farms and set an upper limit for pile driving operations. This good example and the results of current studies should be reflected both in the national legislation of Parties and in the relevant indicators for Good Environmental Status to be developed for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.</p> <p><b>(JG8/AP10)</b> Parties are invited to commission research on whether pingers cause habitat exclusion and habituation.</p> <p><b>(JG5/AP09)</b> Parties and the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee Noise Working Group are asked to give special consideration to the particular requirements in the Baltic Sea when mitigating the impact of anthropogenic noise on porpoises, such as the destruction through explosion of old ammunition or during the construction of sea bed pipelines as well as pile-driving for wind turbines. Furthermore, additional ship noise is of concern during offshore construction as well as the use of depth</p>	

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		<p>sounders (e.g. fish finders) with frequencies of less than 150kHz in particular by an increasing number of leisure boats.</p> <p><b>(JG5/AP10)</b> Parties are asked to undertake baseline studies of underwater noise in their respective waters as a reference point for future impact assessments.</p> <p><b>(JG5/AP11)</b> The Jastarnia Group requests that the working group on noise should also consider guidelines on the safe disposal of abandoned ammunition to minimise the detrimental effects on harbour porpoises, for example through the use of bubble curtains.</p> <p><b>(JG4/AP08)</b> Parties should investigate possible detrimental effects of various types of sound and disturbance on harbour porpoises (including pinger signals, noise from vessels, wind parks or construction). Parties should initiate and support studies on the effect of anthropogenic noise on the harbour porpoise.</p> <p><b>(JG1/AP02)</b> More research should be conducted on the behaviour of harbour porpoises near pingers.</p> <p><b>(JG1/AP12)</b> A study on noise emitted by vessels should be undertaken; North Sea countries should be asked to contribute to this as the findings were relevant to both recovery plans.</p>	
	<p><b>3.2.5 JP Recommendation 9:</b>  <b>Monitor bycatch of fisheries known to be harmful to harbour porpoises to be able to estimate bycatch levels</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG9/AP13)</b> Given the positive experiences in the Danish fishery, Parties should implement video surveillance widely in order to document bycatch of porpoises and identify and implement effective mitigation measures, and at the same time reduce discards of fish. Currently video surveillance is the most accurate measure for bycatch estimates and total documentation of the fishery, applicable also to small vessels, and meets the requirements of Article 12 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p><b>(JG4/AP02)</b> Bearing in mind the Parties' commitments under the Habitats Directive and EC Regulation 812/2004, Parties are</p>	

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		required to establish a system to monitor bycatch on all vessels regardless of size.	
16.30-18.30	<p><b>3.2.6 JP Recommendation 10: Further develop sustainable alternative fishing gear with no bycatch of harbour porpoises</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	(JG4/AP09) Parties should promote studies on alternative fishing gear and interactive pingers.	
	<p><b>3.2.7 JP Recommendation 11: Compile data on fishing effort</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	(JG11/AP13) The Secretariat should ask Parties to provide information as to the definitions of the term ‘fisheries’, rules and regulations applicable to the various types of fisheries in their national legislation, as well as related statistics. This information should be provided in time for the next JG meeting.	Inf.4.2.7 (Responses from Parties)
	<p><b>3.2.8 JP Recommendation 12: Examine habitat preference of harbour porpoise</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	(JG11/AP08) The Advisory Committee should encourage Parties to explore the possibility of a joint monitoring effort and to promote the collection of data at the sub-regional and local levels based on the methods adopted by SAMBAH. Progress should be reviewed in 2016.	
	<p><b>3.2.9 JP Recommendation 13: Examine prevalence of derelict (“ghost”) gear and the feasibility of its removal</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p>(JG11/AP14) Parties should continue to collect data on the extent of ghost nets in their waters, including net types and locations. Regular assessments should then be made of the total quantities of nets lost or discarded, taking account of the distribution of different types of fisheries.</p> <p>(JG11/AP15) Taking into consideration the future requirements under the MSFD, Parties should continue to implement measures to prevent the loss of fishing gear, and mitigation measures for ghost nets, such as regular clean-ups, provision of disposal containers at ports, deposit systems, mandatory reporting of lost gear, marking of nets etc. Wherever possible</p>	

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		<p>fishing communities and other relevant stakeholders should be actively involved. A review of progress should be conducted by JG12.</p> <p><b>(JG5/AP14)</b> Parties should recognise the magnitude of the problem regarding derelict fishing gear and encourage fisheries organisations to remove it. There may be major benefits for the stakeholders in terms of public relations.</p>	
	<p><b>3.3 Marine Protected Areas</b></p>		
	<p><b>3.3.1 JP Recommendation 14: Expand the network of protected areas in the Baltic Sea and improve its connectivity and ensure the development of appropriate harbour porpoise management plans for these areas</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG10/AP16)</b> Parties, Range States and NGOs seeking to develop management plans for SACs and MPAs designated for harbour porpoises are encouraged to make use of the expertise available within the Jastarnia Group, and to consult or cooperate with other Parties that are in the process of developing or have developed management plans.</p> <p><b>(JG9/AP03)</b> Parties are strongly encouraged to use the data provided by SAMBAH once these become available, in particular in connection with the establishment of management plans for harbour porpoises, as well as with regard to mitigation measures.</p> <p><b>(JG4/AP06)</b> A working group should be established to evaluate how the selection guidelines for MPAs set out during the joint ECS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS workshop (selection criteria for marine protected areas for cetaceans) in San Sebastian also can be adapted for use in the Baltic Sea.</p> <p><b>(JG3/AP07)</b> Guidance should be provided on how to identify sites suitable for harbour porpoise conservation.</p>	
	<p><b>3.4 Public Awareness</b></p>		
	<p><b>3.4.1 JP Recommendation 15: Develop a comprehensive public awareness campaign</b></p>	<p><b>(JG11/AP16)</b> Each country is encouraged to designate one website for reporting of sightings and strandings by the public. The URLs should be made available for use on the ASCOBANS website. There should be an exchange of information between</p>	

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	<p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p>these databases as appropriate. GIS referenced data should be submitted to HELCOM regularly.</p> <p><b>(JG10/AP17)</b> Parties should establish sightings and strandings programmes, preferably in a coordinated fashion for all Baltic Sea States. They should consider initiating sightings days or weeks, comparable to the National Whale and Dolphin Watch in the UK. They should also consider developing a sightings and strandings app for smartphones.</p> <p><b>(JG8/AP17)</b> All Parties and Range States should establish sighting campaigns and related databases similar to those established by GSM in Germany, the Finnish Ministry of the Environment and the Swedish Museum of Natural History. The websites should be interlinked. The data should be submitted to HELCOM regularly.</p> <p><b>(JG8/AP16)</b> Information on the impacts of anthropogenic pressures (bycatch, noise, pollution, disturbance etc.) on cetaceans, specifically geared to relevant professional groups, should be made available on the ASCOBANS website. The information should be compiled and updated by the Secretariat with continuous input from the relevant Working Groups.</p> <p><b>(JG4/AP11)</b> Funding should be provided for translation of information material for the general public and fishers into all Baltic languages.</p> <p><b>(JG11/AP17)</b> National focal points for public awareness should be established.</p>	
	<p><b>3.5 ASCOBANS Cooperation with Other Bodies</b></p>		
	<p><b>3.5.1 JP Recommendation 16: Strive for close consultation and cooperation between ASCOBANS and other relevant regional and international bodies</b></p>	<p><b>(JG3/AP09)</b> These recommendations of the Jastarnia Group should be forwarded to all relevant organisations active in the Baltic.</p> <p><b>(JG10/AP22)</b> Parties are urged to ensure that calls for participation in the Jastarnia Group are relayed to the</p>	

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	<p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p>environmental and fisheries organizations in their respective countries.</p>	
	<p><b>a) European Commission / ICES</b></p>	<p><b>(JG10/AP19)</b> Parties are strongly encouraged to fulfil their obligations under the current Regulation 812/2004 and the Habitats Directive.</p> <p><b>(JG8/AP07)</b> Given that the Jastarnia Group has the most specific expertise related to harbour porpoise conservation in the area and in light of the specific problems and situation in the Baltic Sea, the Secretariat should address the European Commission to urge it to seek the Group's advice when the technical measures framework (TMF) and data collection framework (DCF) of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) are being drafted. Parties should also convey the same message to appropriate fora.</p> <p><b>(JG5/AP12)</b> Parties should use their right to comment during the process for the review of the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Commission to ensure marine mammal bycatch reporting. For example, bycatch reporting should be included in the fishing logbooks as additional columns without requiring any separate forms.</p> <p><b>(JG7/AP16)</b> The Jastarnia Group encourages Parties to take advantage of the financial resources available within the framework of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region by working towards launching two flagship projects under Priority Area 2 of the Strategy (To preserve natural zones and biodiversity, including fisheries) relating to a) monitoring bycatch in fisheries known to be harmful to harbour porpoises to be able to estimate bycatch levels; and b) developing and promoting the use of alternative fishing gear in collaboration with the fisheries sector.</p>	

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		<p><b>(JG7/AP18)</b> Baltic Sea Parties should ensure that ASCOBANS is duly involved in updating and further developing the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.</p>	
	<p><b>b) HELCOM</b></p>	<p><b>(JG10/AP21)</b> Parties are urged to provide all relevant data to the HELCOM harbour porpoise database.</p> <p><b>(JG8/AP18)</b> Parties should designate focal points dealing with the Baltic Harbour Porpoise Database operated by HELCOM. The Secretariat should remind Parties to provide the details of these focal points to the Secretariats of ASCOBANS and HELCOM.</p> <p><b>(JG8/AP21)</b> The Secretariat should collaborate with HELCOM SEAL to obtain data on harbour porpoise strandings in the Russian territories of the Baltic Sea.</p> <p><b>(JG5/AP17)</b> The Jastarnia Group acknowledges the progress regarding the future cooperation between the Jastarnia Group and HELCOM. The Jastarnia Group promotes further cooperation with the HELCOM ad hoc Seal Group and will strive to cooperate with the HELCOM fish forum. Further, HELCOM should continue to be invited to take part in the Jastarnia Group meetings.</p>	<p>Inf.4.5.1 (HELCOM Rec.17/2 Reporting)</p>
	<p><b>c) Fisheries Organizations</b></p>	<p><b>(JG7/AP17)</b> Parties should provide the financial resources required to enable ASCOBANS representatives to attend BALTFISH and RAC meetings and events. Once this funding is ensured, the Secretariat should write to BALTFISH and the Baltic RAC suggesting enhanced cooperation and the inclusion of ASCOBANS issues in the agenda of BALTFISH and RAC meetings</p> <p><b>(JG6/AP12)</b> Bycatch mitigation activities of the Jastarnia Group should be coordinated with the related work of other regional bodies and organizations in order to avoid duplication of effort.</p> <p><b>(JG6/AP22)</b> The Jastarnia Group should step up cooperation with the Baltic RAC.</p>	

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		(JG1/AP08) Fisheries organizations should be contacted to stress the importance of recovering bycaught animals.	
<b>Wednesday, 13 April</b>			
<b>9.00-18.30</b> Coffee break 10.30-10.50 Lunch break 13.00-14.15 Coffee break 16.10-16.30	<b>4. Revision of the Jastarnia Plan</b> <i>The consultants will present to the meeting the draft revision of the Jastarnia Plan. Comments will be invited.</i>	<b>(JG11/AP21)</b> In view of the SAMBAH results and the requirement for regular reviews and updates of both the Jastarnia Plan and the Gap Area Plan, an urgent revision of both plans is needed with the aim of presenting drafts for adoption by MOP8 in 2016. Parties are urged to provide the necessary funding.	<b>Doc.5</b> (Draft Revision JP)
<b>Thursday, 13 April</b>			
<b>9.00-10.30</b> + coffee break	<b>5. Cross-cutting Issues</b>		
	<b>5.1 Baltic Sea Coordinator</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Action Points.</i>	<b>(JG11/AP18)</b> In light of the positive experience with the North Sea Coordinator, the Jastarnia Group recommends that the Advisory Committee ensure that the appointment of a Baltic Sea Coordinator, or a joint coordinator for both regions, possibly attached to the Secretariat, is considered by the next MOP.	
	<b>5.2 CFP Expert</b>	<b>(JG11/AP19)</b> Coordinating Authorities of the countries hosting the Group's meetings are asked to ensure the attendance of an expert on the CFP at the respective meetings of the Group.	

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	<i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Action Points.</i>	The Secretariat should recall this recommendation to the Coordinating Authority of the host country in good time before the meeting.	
	<p><b>5.3 Projects</b></p> <p><i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG11/AP11)</b> Parties should consider supporting any projects relevant for achieving the aims of the Jastarnia Plan.</p> <p><b>(JG11/AP12)</b> Parties and NGOs are requested to ensure that the results of all relevant projects are made available to ASCOBANS.</p> <p><b>(JG11/AP20)</b> Parties are encouraged to use SAMBAH results for harbour porpoise conservation in the Baltic Sea.</p> <p><b>(JG11/AP21)</b> In view of the SAMBAH results and the requirement for regular reviews and updates of both the Jastarnia Plan and the Gap Area Plan, an urgent revision of both plans is needed with the aim of presenting drafts for adoption by MOP8 in 2016. Parties are urged to provide the necessary funding.</p>	
<p><b>11.00-13.00</b> + lunch break</p>	<p><b>6. Conservation Plan for the Harbour Porpoise Population in the Western Baltic, the Belt Sea and the Kattegat (WBBKP)</b> <i>Implementation of the Plan and Action Points (AP) recommended by previous Meetings of the Jastarnia Group</i></p> <p><b>6.1 Involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of the Plan and its evaluation</b></p> <p><b>6.1.1 WBBKP Recommendation 1</b> <b>Actively seek to involve all stakeholders in the implementation of the Plan and its evaluation</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG10/AP26)</b> National Coordinators should provide an overview of measures currently ongoing in their countries actively to engage fishing communities and other stakeholders in the implementation of the Plan, in order to identify existing gaps and lessons learnt of interest to all Parties. Parties should provide the funding required for measures needed to fill the gaps. Parties should explore the possibility of obtaining EU funding for this purpose.</p> <p><b>(JG10/AP27)</b> Noting the successful Natura 2000 dialogue forums conducted in Denmark, Parties are encouraged to</p>	

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		consider establishing a similar format for the stakeholder working group required under Objective a. of the Plan.	
	<p><b>6.1.2 WBBKP Recommendation 2</b>  <b>Cooperate with and inform other relevant bodies about the Conservation Plan</b>  <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>		
14.15-16.10 + coffee break	<b>6.2 Mitigation of Bycatch</b>		
	<p><b>6.2.1 WBBKP Recommendation 3</b>  <b>Protect harbour porpoises in their key habitats by minimizing bycatch as far as possible</b>  <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i></p>	<p><b>(JG11/AP22)</b> A request should be made to the Bycatch Working Group to advise whether the revised MSC assessment standards meet ASCOBANS' requirements.</p> <p><b>(JG11/AP23)</b> The Secretariat should invite a MSC representative to next Jastarnia Group meeting.</p> <p><b>(JG10/AP28)</b> Parties are strongly encouraged to take all necessary steps to develop without delay their joint recommendations to the European Commission regarding the management of harbour porpoise SACs to minimize bycatch rates within these areas.</p> <p><b>(JG10/AP29)</b> Parties should continue to provide funding for research on alternative fishing gear and practices as needed.</p> <p><b>(JG10/AP30)</b> ASCOBANS should seek to influence existing eco-labelling programmes to take full account of the need to avoid cetacean bycatch in certifying fisheries. In the case of MSC, the Secretariat is requested to liaise directly with the organization in order to determine the appropriate means of influencing their eco-labelling programmes.</p>	
	<p><b>6.2.2 WBBKP Recommendation 4</b>  <b>Implement pinger use in fisheries causing bycatch</b></p>	<p><b>(JG11/AP24)</b> Parties are strongly encouraged to take all necessary steps to develop as soon as possible agreements to implement immediately the use of pingers in gillnet fishery</p>	

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	<i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>	associated with bycatch irrespective of vessel size or type, as provided for in the Plan, and to enforce the use of pingers.	
	<b>6.2.3 WBBKP Recommendation 5</b> <b>Where possible replace gillnet fisheries known to be associated with high porpoise bycatch with alternative fishing gear known to be less harmful</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>		
	<b>6.3 Assessment of Bycatch Level</b>		
	<b>6.3.1 WBBKP Recommendation 6</b> <b>Estimate total annual bycatch</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>	<b>(JG10/AP32)</b> Parties are encouraged to undertake or promote research regarding bycatch estimation.	
	<b>6.4 Monitoring the Status of the Population</b>		
	<b>6.4.1 WBBKP Recommendation 7</b> <b>Estimate trends in abundance for harbour porpoises in the Western Baltic, the Belt Sea and the Kattegat</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>	<b>(JG11/AP25)</b> Noting activities that have already taken place in 2012, Parties are strongly encouraged to continue to undertake and cooperate on inter-SCANS surveys of the Western Baltic (gap area) harbour porpoise population and evaluate trends in population density and abundance. <b>(JG11/AP26)</b> Parties are strongly encouraged to lend their support to the projected SCANS III survey and secure the necessary funding.	
	<b>6.4.2 WBBKP Recommendation 8</b> <b>Monitor population health status, contaminant load and causes of mortality</b>	<b>(JG11/AP27)</b> Parties are strongly encouraged to coordinate and standardize their monitoring efforts and determine the number of stranded or bycaught animals to be collected for necropsies in the Western Baltic, the Belt Sea and the Kattegat. For this	

Time	Agenda Item	Related Action Points	Documents
	<i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>	purpose, ASCOBANS is requested to establish a coordination group comprised of the scientists involved, whose names should be notified to the Secretariat by 1 May 2015. The first meeting of this group could take place in conjunction with JG12. <b>(JG10/AP35)</b> The animals collected should be necropsied and examined with regard to health status, contaminant load and causes of mortality. The resultant data should be fed into a common database, such as the future database required under MOP Resolution 7.4.	
16.30-18.30	<b>6.5 Ensuring Habitat Quality Favourable to the Conservation of the Harbour Porpoise</b>		
	<b>6.5.1 WBBKP Recommendation 9 Ensure a non-detrimental use of pingers by examining habitat exclusion and long-term effects of pingers</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>		
	<b>6.5.2 WBBKP Recommendation 10 Include monitoring and management of important prey species in national harbour porpoise management plans</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>	<b>(JG11/AP28)</b> Parties should promote research on the consequences of impacts on prey communities for harbour porpoises.	
	<b>6.5.3 WBBKP Recommendation 11 Restore or maintain habitat quality</b> <i>Members will be invited to provide updates on the implementation of the Recommendation and Action Points.</i>	<b>(JG11/AP29)</b> The Secretariat should ask Jacob Nabe-Nielsen of Aarhus University, the leader of the project “Disturbance Effects on the Harbour Porpoise Population in the North Sea” (DEPONS), to attend the next meeting of the Jastarnia Group as an invited expert.	

Time	Agenda Item	Related Action Points	Documents
		<p><b>(JG10/AP38)</b> Parties should undertake or promote continual monitoring of the effects of projects with a potential impact on harbour porpoise behaviour and distribution, and baseline studies on this issue. Research is also required on the context in which porpoises are using the habitats.</p>	
	<p><b>7. Any Other Business</b>  <i>Any issues not covered in the agenda may be raised here.</i></p>		
	<p><b>8. Date and Venue of the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Jastarnia Group</b>  <i>Invitations to host the meeting in 2017, potentially back-to-back with the North Sea Group Meeting, are encouraged.</i></p>		
	<p><b>9. Close of Meeting</b></p>		