For HELCOM

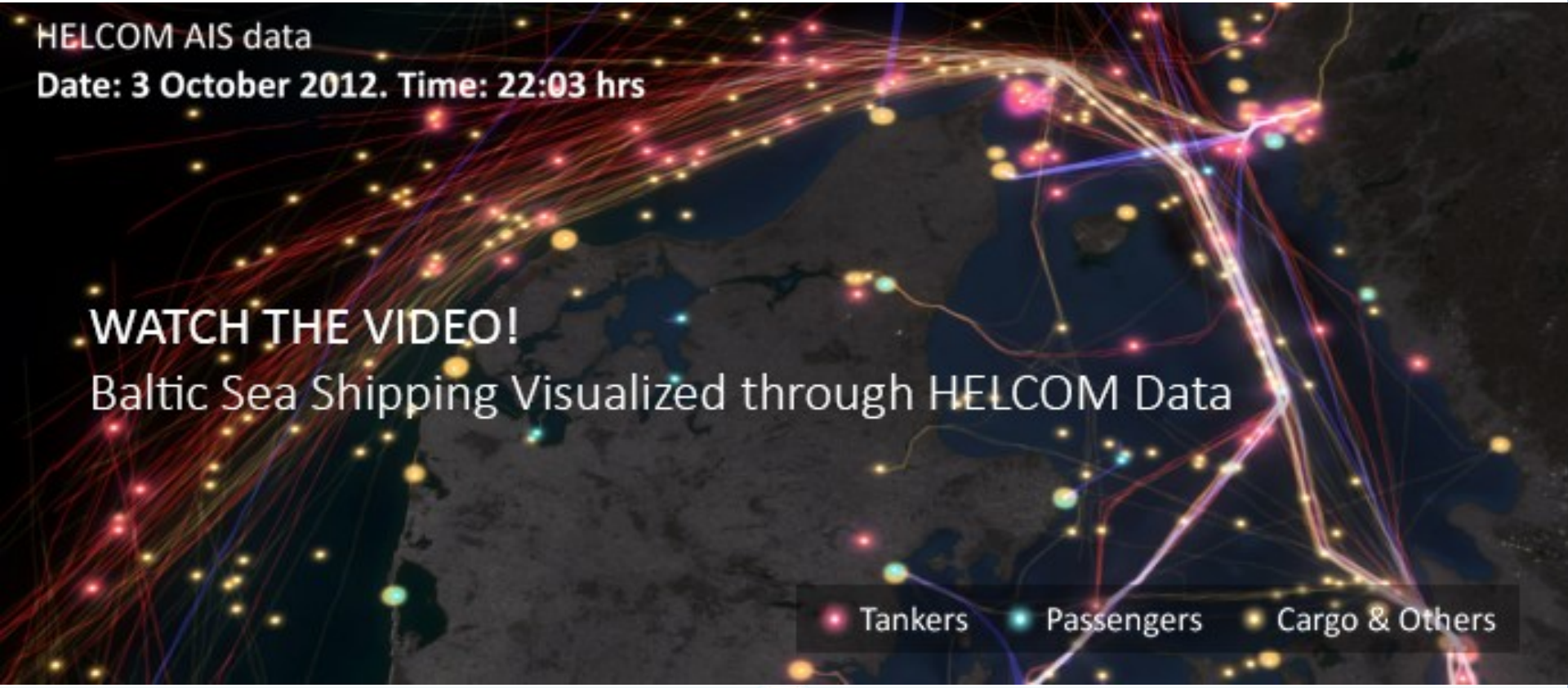
Silver Vahtra
HOD of EE deleg to HELCOM
MoE of EE

3rd Meeting of ISC
EUSMSR, PA Clean Shippoing

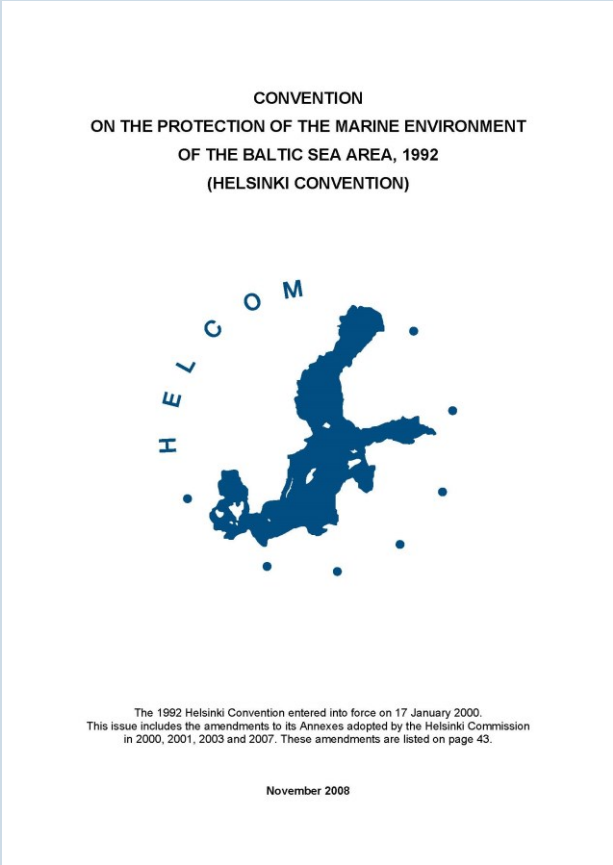
07.10.2014 Copenhagen, Denmark

Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Baltic Sea visualized (internet link –click picture)



Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area



CONVENTION
ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT
OF THE BALTIC SEA AREA, 1992
(HELSINKI CONVENTION)

HELCOM

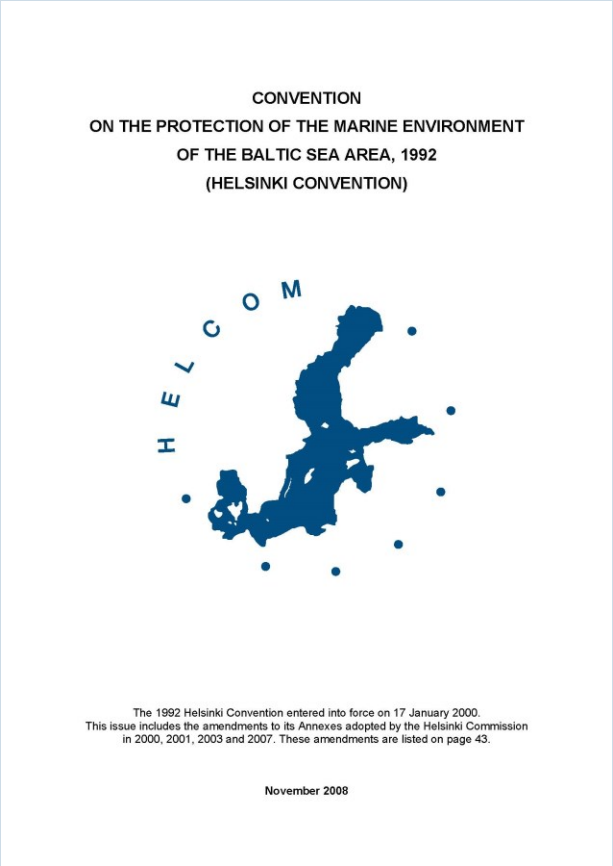
The 1992 Helsinki Convention entered into force on 17 January 2000.
This issue includes the amendments to its Annexes adopted by the Helsinki Commission in 2000, 2001, 2003 and 2007. These amendments are listed on page 43.

November 2008

The 1992 Helsinki Convention entered into force on 17 January 2000

- International treaty law (includes Regulations)
- Signed 1974 (in force 1980) & Revised 1992 (in force 2000)
- Ratified by all Baltic Sea coastal states and the EU (i.e. part of EU aquis)
- Established HELCOM in 1980 (which i.a. issues “Recommendations”)
- Preceded by Interim Commission (1974-80)

Annex VII
Response to pollution incidents



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November 2008

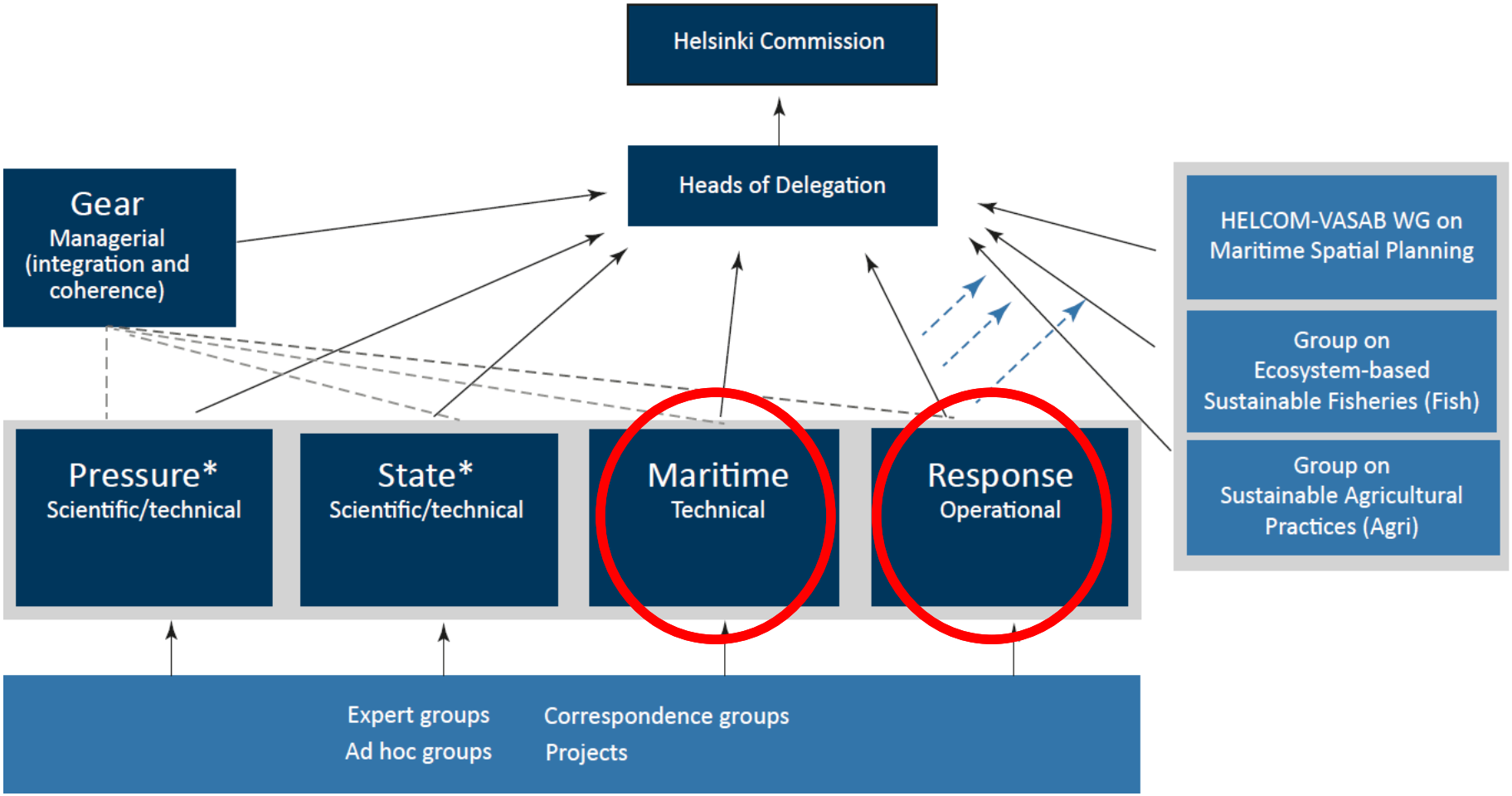
Example: Cooperation on aerial surveillance is carried out in accordance with Article 14 and Annex VII, Regulations 1, 3, 4, 10

In order to prevent violations of the existing regulations on prevention of pollution from ships the Contracting Parties shall develop and apply individually or in cooperation, surveillance activities covering the Baltic Sea Area in order to spot and monitor oil and other substances released to the sea, using *inter alia*, airborne surveillance equipped with remote sensing systems

Practical side: regular cooperation

Renewed HELCOM working structure

September 2014



HELCOM MARITIME group

- Baltic Sea countries (Ministries of transport, economy, environment), EMSA, EU COM +observers
- Based on Helsinki Convention (1974, 1992) Article 8: "Article 8: Prevention of pollution from ships"
- Implementing IMO and regional initiatives
- Current subgroups: HELCOM/OSPAR TG BALLAST, HELCOM SAFE NAV & HELCOM AIS

Recent HELCOM MARITIME work

- Airborne pollution
  - Alternative fuels and Greentech platform
  - Work on MARPOL Annex VI (SECA, NECA)
- Port reception facilities
  - Sewage from passenger ships (MARPOL Annex IV)
- Ballast water (IMO BWMC)
  - E.g. HELCOM/OSPAR guidel. for IMO BWMC A-4
- Safety of Navigation (HELCOM Copenhagen Declaration fr. 2001)
  - Under Keel Clearance Recommendation
  - E-navigation and second-generation AIS
  - Overviews and new measures (HELCOM AIS 2005, accident data)

Sewage from passenger ships & IMO MARPOL Annex IV

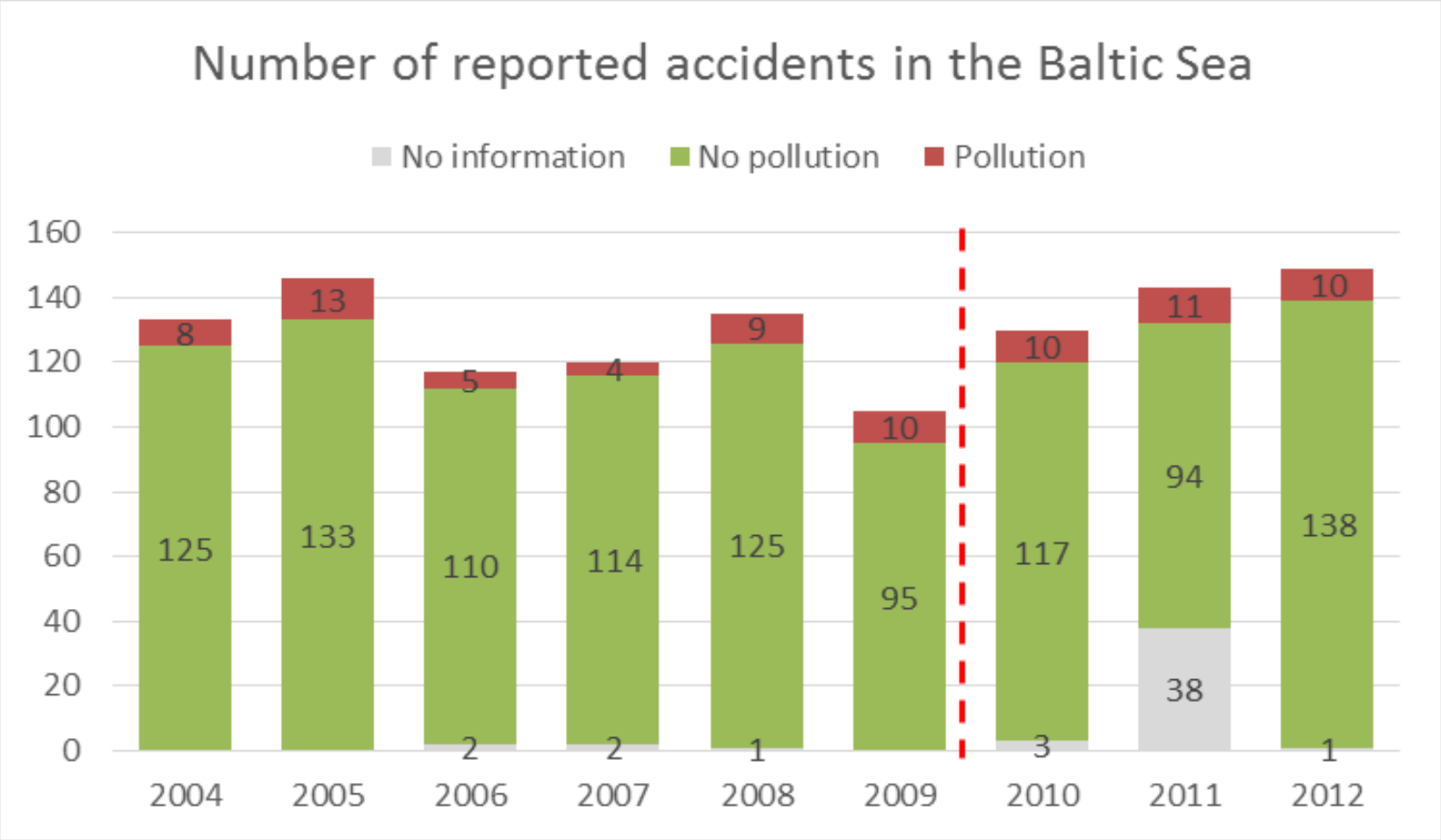
- 2013 HELCOM overview of cruise traffic and sewage PRFs in Baltic Sea ports
- 2014 HELCOM data collection in cooperation with cruise industry (CLIA) on cruise ship use of PRFs in Baltic Sea ports
- PRF Cooperation platform meeting 3 November 2014 to discuss results
- Solving remaining challenges to enable Annex IV notification to IMO MEPC

HELCOM SECA correspondence group

- SECA enforcement a major current concern of shipping industry (compliance costs and freeriders)
- Correspondence group established March 2014
- Carries out initial exchanges on enforcement of SECA in the Baltic Sea
- Reports to to MARITIME 14/2014 (4-6. Nov 2014 Riga)

Ballast water management: IMO BWMC preparations

- HELCOM Ballast Water Road Map 2007
- Voluntary IMO guidances on ballast water exchange HELCOM, OSPAR & REMPEC (2008-)
- HELCOM & OSPAR BWM exemptions harmonized procedures 2013
- HELCOM & OSPAR BWM exemptions website and port survey database 2014



Ship accidents in the Baltic Sea, including tankers over 150 gross tonnage and/or other ships over 400 GT.

HELCOM [Report on shipping accidents in the Baltic Sea area during 2012](#) (2014).

HELCOM RESPONSE group

- Ministries of defence, interior, transport, environment, EMSA, EU COM + observers
- Based on Helsinki Convention (1974, 1992) Article 14: “Cooperation in combatting marine pollution”
- HELCOM Response Manual (Vol. I, II & new III)
- Current subgroups: IWGAS, EWG SHORE, EWG OWR, SUBMERGED, TG HNS MANUAL, TG POLREP

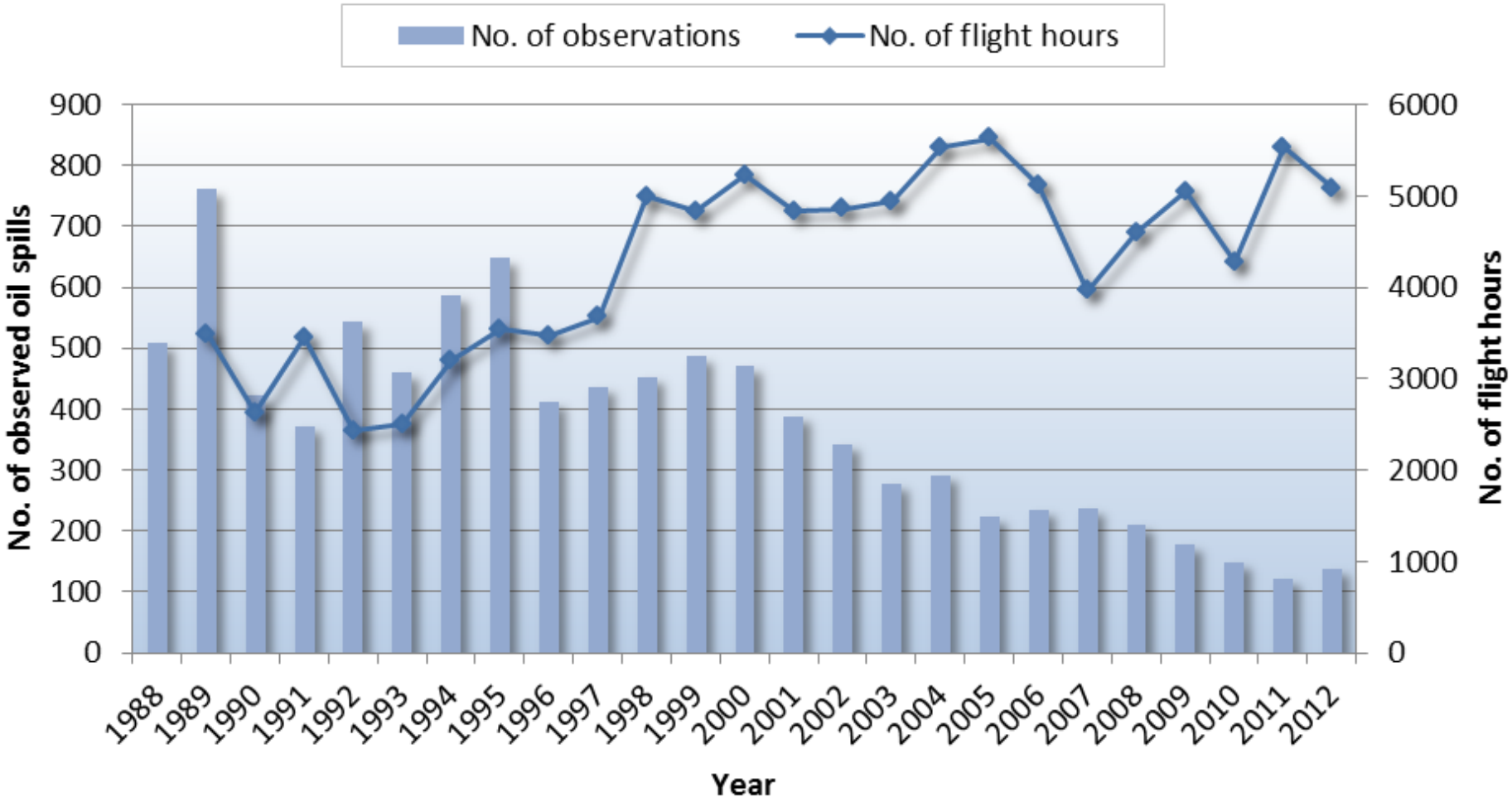
HELCOM BALEX DELTA

annual operational exercise

2014 in Ventspils, Latvia 10-12 June

HELCOM BALEX DELTA 2014/Ventspils (H. Backer)

Total number of flight hours and observed oil spills in the HELCOM area during aerial surveillance, 1988-2012



Recent HELCOM RESPONSE work

- Shoreline and OWR response
- Updating of HELCOM Response Manual Volume II (HNS) by 2016
- Assessment on submerged hazardous objects by 2015 (SUBMERGED EWG)
- Recommendation on channels of HELCOM POLREP incident reporting
- Ship-to-ship transfers in the Baltic Sea

EE HELCOM's Chairmanship 2014-2016, priorities

1. POLLUTION MANAGEMENT

1. Reduction of impact of hazardous substances

2. PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

1. **Use, conservation and protection of the Baltic Sea regional coastal and marine areas** - develop regional integrated coastal management, maritime spatial planning and **marine and maritime governance basis**, principles and best practices in order to contribute to **blue growth and creation of new jobs and prosperity** in the region while enabling a sustainable use of marine goods and services

End of Transmission

For further information on HELCOM response/ maritime activities:
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HELCOM BALEX DELTA 2011/Bornholm, Denmark
(photo by Juris Skrube, Latvia)