

All presentations from the Arctic Council's Senior Arctic Official's meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, March 28-29 2012.

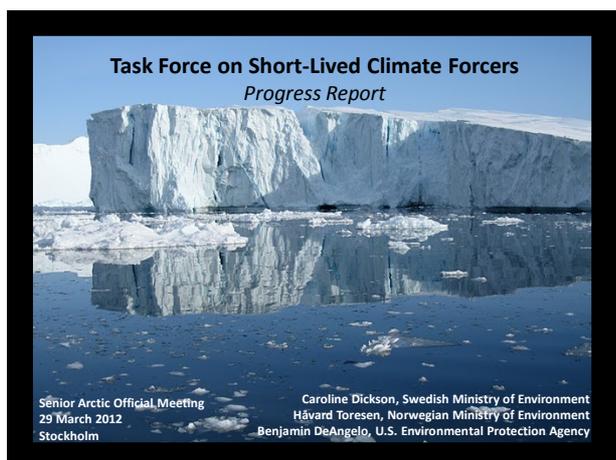
2012

Arctic Council

Arctic Council Secretariat

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Nuuk Mandate and Charge from SAOs

- Nuuk Declaration requested that the Task Force [and the AMAP expert group] continue its work “by focusing on methane and tropospheric ozone, as well as further black carbon work where necessary and **provide a report to the next Ministerial meeting in 2013.**”
- The SAO’s final report to Ministers, reflecting the Task Force’s own recommendations (from 2011), stated the following:
 - Regarding future work for **black carbon**, the Task Force recommends continued focus on the **costs** of implementing certain measures, the **additional emission reduction potential** of some measures, potential Arctic **climate benefits**, and potential **health benefits**.
 - Regarding **methane**, the Task Force notes that the Arctic Council and Council nations may be able to **leverage existing efforts** to encourage additional methane **reductions, both within and outside Arctic Council nations**, by **communicating and demonstrating** the climate benefits of such measures specifically for the Arctic region.

How Task Force is responding to renewed mandate

- The Task Force goals are to:
 - Address previously identified needs to inform or update black carbon recommendations
 - Develop recommendations on methane and, if possible, additional precursors of tropospheric ozone
 - Collaborate with other Arctic Council workgroups
 - Address relevant linkages with outside efforts on short-lived climate forcers

Task Force Work Plan, 2012-13

- Provide and communicate more comprehensive **cost** information of black carbon mitigation options
 - Task Force is collaborating closely again with IIASA
- Synthesize information about potential direct and indirect **health benefits** in Arctic countries of BC (and possibly methane and other ozone precursors) mitigation
 - Task Force is leveraging existing studies from UNEP and U.S. EPA
- Provide continued updates on national black carbon emission **inventories** and explain relationship to inventory efforts under LRTAP’s Gothenburg Protocol
- **Gas flaring** and **open biomass burning** will be analyzed – possibly followed by policy/mitigation recommendations

Task Force Work Plan, 2012-13

- Develop recommendations on methane and, if possible, additional precursors of tropospheric ozone
 - Drawing from existing information and efforts to provide (e.g., from national governments, IIASA, UNEP):
 - Key methane emission sources, current and projected, in Council and non-Council nations
 - Known cost-effective mitigation options
 - Ongoing and planned policies and initiatives
 - Develop recommendations for actions within Arctic Council nations
 - Develop recommendations for the Council or Council nations to encourage methane actions in other world regions
 - Unlike the case for black carbon, methane reductions anywhere in the world curtail both global and Arctic climate change
- Seek guidance from AMAP and other scientists as necessary, with respect to possible recommendations on non-methane precursors of tropospheric ozone
 - National updates on programs in place to address

Task Force Work Plan, 2012-13

- Collaborate with other Arctic Council workgroups
 - Scientific work carried out thus far by AMAP has been very useful to inform Task Force key messages and recommendations
 - Continued TF collaboration with AMAP on **modeling scenarios** to address policy-relevant questions and quantify **Arctic climate benefits of reducing emissions** and to identify near- and long-term extensions of 2011 analyses
 - Identifying policy-relevant future emission/mitigation scenarios that highlight potential Arctic climate benefits of reducing black carbon, methane, and possibly other pre-cursors of tropospheric ozone
 - Task Force aims to collaborate with ACAP PSG, especially on identifying important emission sources, and costs of implementing mitigation measures

Task Force Work Plan, 2012-13

- Address relevant linkages with outside efforts on short-lived climate forcers

- There are now a number of relevant and related efforts that the Task Force needs to consider when delivering its recommendations, including:

- LRTAP – developing guidelines for countries to enable voluntary reporting of black carbon emission inventories and projections; prioritization of particulate matter mitigation measures that also reduce black carbon
 - IMO – potential to address expected increase in shipping emissions in proximity to Arctic sea ice
 - Global Methane Initiative – several Council nations participating voluntarily to encourage methane reductions
 - Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants – Canada, Sweden and U.S. recently launched this global coalition, along with other countries, to raise awareness and enhance action building on existing efforts. Open to new members.

Planned Task Force Deliverables

- Provide supporting technical materials
 - Black carbon and methane emissions, characterization of mitigation options (costs, potential benefits), information on tropospheric ozone and precursors, existing policy frameworks
- Deliver key messages
 - Regional nature of black carbon vs. global nature of methane
 - Arctic climate and health benefits of reducing short lived forcers
 - How existing policies, forums and initiatives may be leveraged
- Mitigation recommendations for each key source
 - If needed, amend as necessary previous recommendations for black carbon
 - Special focus open biomass burning, gas flaring, and oil and gas exploration and development
 - Recommendations on methane and possibly other ozone precursors
- Communication considerations
 - Creating an 'Arctic voice' to promote reduction of short-lived forcers
 - Outreach to Council observers, industry, other nations

Timeline for 2012

- Task Force meeting, 8-9 February 2012, Vienna (IIASA)
- SAO meeting, 28-29 March 2012, submit revised work plan
- Task Force meeting, 25-26 April 2012, Stockholm
- Deputy Ministers meeting, 14-15 May 2012, deliver status report, and provide overview of planned deliverables
- Task Force meeting, late September (to be determined)
- SAO meeting, November 2012, present preliminary messages and detailed view of expected deliverables for Ministers