

Presentations from SAO-meeting

2015-10-22

Arctic Council

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Multilateral Audit of the Arctic Council



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Background

- Multilateral audit on the Arctic States' national authorities' work with the Arctic Council
- Conducted by the Supreme Audit institutions of Denmark, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States



Key Findings

- Changes in the Arctic have elevated the importance of international cooperation in the Arctic
- The Arctic Council has contributed to enhanced cooperation, governance and scientific knowledge
- The Council faces key challenges related to its organizational structure, establishing priorities, funding its work and ensuring effective implementation of voluntary recommendations adopted by member states
- Indigenous groups make important contributions to the Council, but face challenges participating



Challenges related to organization, funding and effective implementation

- Optimizing the organizational structure
- Challenges prioritizing our work
- Funding challenges: No central funding source
- No mechanism for reporting on national implementation of the Arctic Council recommendations

PP participation

- Limitation on participation due to lack of resources
- Expansion of the Council work may deepen this challenge

Norway's work with the Arctic Council

The audit has led to:

- Better coordination between different stakeholders in the Norwegian government
- Increased awareness
- Increased transparency and accountability