

PAME Summary Progress Report SAO Meeting 1-2 November 2018, Rovaniemi, Finland

2018-11

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)

Arctic Council Secretariat

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PAME Summary Progress Report SAO Meeting 1-2 November 2018, Rovaniemi, Finland

Summary of progress on PAME activities: PAME's 2nd biannual meeting of 2018 (PAME II-2018) was held at the facilities of the Admiral Nevelskoy Maritime State University in Vladivostok, Russia from 1-4 October following pre-meetings of PAME's five thematic expert groups on 30 September (shipping, marine protected areas, ecosystem approach, marine litter and resource exploration and development).

Framework for a Pan-Arctic Network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs): Canada updated delegations on the 4th MPA workshop on *Exploring ways to support Indigenous/Local involvement in, and Indigenous/Local led, marine protection in the circumpolar Arctic Ocean* to be held 27-29 November 2018 in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut. Canada and invites members to nominate additional participants and speakers.

Finland presented a revised draft proposal for a Factsheet series on Arctic climate change impacts. The draft is to be revised based on discussions and comments received at PAME II-2018 and circulated to other Arctic Council working groups prior to the upcoming SAO meeting. The PAME Chair and Secretariat are to further discuss this revised draft project proposal with other Arctic Council working groups at the upcoming SAO meeting to finalize a working method. Interested working groups are requested to circulate a revised version to their members for comments, based on approved working method, by early January 2019. PAME welcomed CAFF's interest in engaging in the Factsheet series project.

Collective efforts by the PAME and CAFF Secretariats' work with UN Environment Programme WCMC to update the Arctic Protected Areas Indicator Report is ongoing. Subject to final outcomes, the report could potentially contribute to next steps on protected areas in the Arctic.

Protection from Invasive Species: PAME and CAFF have established a Joint ARIAS (Arctic Invasive Alien Species Strategy and Action Plan) Implementation Coordinating Group (ICG). PAME approved the Terms of Reference for the ICG. The plan is to convene a face-to-face meeting in Washington D.C. in early January 2019 to develop project proposals for CAFF and PAME to consider including in their respective 2019-2021 work plans.

Arctic Marine Shipping: PAME, aided by its Shipping Expert Group, continues to advance a number of projects and initiatives to promote safe and sustainable navigation in the Arctic. These include a key project to update the 17 Ministerial-approved Recommendations contained in the 2009 Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (AMSA) Report, the Arctic Ocean Review Final Report (AOR 2013) and the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP), in consultation with all other Arctic Council working groups and task forces, as relevant.

The 2nd annual Arctic Shipping Best Practice Information Forum meeting, 14-15 May 2018 (London, UK), included its web-portal launch (www.arcticshippingforum.is). The 3rd annual Forum meeting will be in 2019.

PAME approved the development of a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission (ARHC), subject to concurrence by the SAOs. PAME noted that the ARHC, at its 8th Conference in September 2018 (Svalbard, Norway) expressed its desire to develop such an MOU.

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) gave a presentation at PAME II-2018, and based on this PAME invited the WMO to submit to PAME I-2019 a paper on the Voluntary Observing Ship (VOS) scheme, focusing on the number of ships operating in Arctic waters that participate in the scheme and the value of information they collect to enhancing maritime safety.

PAME welcomed Norway's proposal to compile a list that summarizes how each Arctic and Observer State understands and applies in practice the IMO's Polar Code; encouraged them to continue to work towards a harmonized and effective implementation of the Polar Code; and invited them to submit to PAME I-2019 information on Polar Ship Certificates that have been issued by or on behalf of their maritime administrations.

PAME, through its Arctic State IMO contact points, continues to work intersessionally to follow up on MEPC 72/16, *Regional Reception Facilities Plan (RRFP) – Outline and Planning Guide for the Arctic*. The aim is towards a joint submission of the eight Arctic States on the RRFP to IMO's MEPC 74 meeting in 2019.

Good progress has been made in operationalizing the Arctic Ship Traffic Data (ASTD) Project and the official launch of the ASTD database will be in January 2019. The ASTD expert group held a workshop in Reykjavík in September 2017, to advance the work of the system.

One or more workshops are planned in 2019 to discuss options for more systematically engaging Observers in PAME's shipping related work, and a process has been established to revise the draft AMSA update/refresh project matrix (updating the recommendations contained in the 2009 AMSA Report) with the intent to submit a project proposal for inclusion in the PAME 2019-2021 Work Plan.

Arctic Offshore Resource Exploration and Development: The Resource Exploration and Development Expert Group (REDEG) reported on progress on Part II of the *Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities (MEMA) Project*. MEMA Project co-leads will revise and distribute the final draft MEMA Part II report to PAME 30 days in advance of PAME I-2019.

The MEMA database (www.memadatabase.is) is online for comments. Once finalized, the database will be publically available as a resource for those interested in engagement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The project co-leads will develop a promotional flyer for distribution and outreach.

The Resource Exploration and Development expert group (REDEG) presented an overview on the Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines (2009) and possible consideration via survey of whether the Guidelines could be updated to address areas related to non-emergency operations, monitoring, and decommissioning.

Ecosystem Approach to Management (EA): PAME welcomed the *Draft Guidelines for Implementing an Ecosystem Approach to Management of Arctic Marine Ecosystems* and decided on next steps for finalizing the Guidelines, including a presentation for discussion at a dedicated session at the Arctic Biodiversity Congress in Rovaniemi, Finland, in 9-11 October 2018 and distribution to CAFF, AMAP and SDWG to seek their input.

A prospectus for a 2nd International EA Conference to be held in Bergen, Norway, in late spring/early summer 2019 has been drafted with a focus on the issue of scale integration in EA implementation. A planning group will be established, including invited representatives of PAME, AMAP, CAFF, SDWG, Permanent Participants, PICES and ICES.

PAME welcomed the continued work of the joint ICES/PICES/PAME Working Group on Integrated Ecosystem Assessment of the Central Arctic Ocean (WGICA), promoting the work on IEA and implementation of EA for the CAO. PAME noted that the draft ToR for continued WGICA work will be considered by ICES and PICES during the next month. These revised ToRs will be circulated to PAME HoDs for review before they are finalized in consultation with ICES and PICES.

Desktop Study on Marine Litter, including Microplastics, in the Arctic: PAME welcomed the update and presentation on the marine litter project by the five co-leads (Iceland, Norway, Sweden, AIA and OSPAR). A revised draft desktop study and the draft project plan for 2019-2021 will be prepared, taking into account the comments received at PAME II-2018, as well as further comments on the revised draft desktop study and the draft project plan for 2019-2021. PAME invites its members and other Arctic Council working groups to provide comments to the draft study. Development of communication and outreach material is an important component of this project and includes: Plastic in a bottle-Sending afloat five capsules with GPS transmitters, dedicated graphic page on the PAME website and a short video (work in progress).

Collaboration on other working group projects: PAME works towards strengthening the coordination and collaboration with other working groups by inviting them to nominate experts in PAME's expert groups working on activities of mutual relevance. Furthermore, PAME makes an effort to participate in meetings of other working groups e.g., through its HoDs for coordination purposes, and shares work in progress to seek inputs, as relevant.

PAME liaises with CAFF on its MPA and invasive species work. PAME continues to coordinate its work with EPPR noting in particular the project on "Compendium of Arctic Ship Accidents (CASA)". Joint PAME/EPPR project proposal by Norway for the 2019-2021 work plan is currently being circulated for review and comments.

Observers at the PAME II-2018 Working Group Meeting: PAME continues its engagement with Observer States in PAME's shipping-related activities by inviting one representative for each meeting to give a presentation on its Arctic interest and activities. Poland gave such a presentation at PAME II-2018, and China has offered to provide such a presentation at PAME I-2019. Five Observer States were represented at the meeting: Poland, France, the Republic of Korea, China and Japan. Three Observer Organizations were represented: UNEP, WWF and WMO.

PAME Administration for Next Meeting: Sweden has offered to host the next PAME meeting (PAME I-2019) in Gothenburg. Proposed dates are 4-7 February 2019 to meet the 30 day deadline prior to SAO meeting (12-14 March 2019).

Annex I - Proposed Projects for PAME Work Plan (2019-2021)

This list is preliminary and will be further refined for the PAME I-2019 final approval. The inclusion of projects on this list does not prejudice any subsequent decision or approval on them.

Framework for a Pan-Arctic Network of MPAs:

- ✓ Expansion/refinement of the MPA Toolbox
- ✓ Connectivity study
- ✓ Collaboration with CAFF on cooperative work between our working groups, possibly including with WCMC on the Indicator Report
- ✓ Production of communication materials: Factsheet(s) development

Protection from Invasive Species

- ✓ Possible project proposals based on outcomes of the face-to-face meeting in Washington D.C. in early January 2019

Arctic Marine Shipping:

- ✓ Black Carbon and Methane mitigation measures for shipping in the Arctic (Iceland)
- ✓ Report on Arctic ship traffic based on ASTD information (USA (to be confirmed)/PAME Secretariat)
- ✓ A follow up to the CASA project, including to incorporate its results in the ASTD (PAME/EPPR) (USA)
- ✓ AMSA recommendation update refresh (USA/Canada)
- ✓ A framework for more systematically engaging with Observers on shipping related matters (USA/Italy/Poland/Republic of Korea)
- ✓ PAME-ARHC Memorandum of Understanding (USA/Canada)
- ✓ Study/report on discharge of grey water from vessels in the Arctic (Canada/(to be confirmed)/WWF)
- ✓ Study/report on underwater noise from vessels in the Arctic (Canada/(to be confirmed)/WWF)
- ✓ Study/report on toxicity and fate of light and intermediate fuel oils when spilled on a cold water surface (Norway/Finland (TBC)/EPPR (TBC))
- ✓ Study/report on indigenous and local community reliance on HFO (PAME/SDWG) (USA/AIA/CCU)
- ✓ Two projects following up on the Arctic Marine Tourism Project (Iceland)
- ✓ Further development of the ASTD database (USA/Norway)
- ✓ Further elaboration of the Shipping Forum's web-portal and outreach to increase awareness (Iceland/USA/Canada)

Arctic Offshore Resource Exploration and Development (REDEG):

- ✓ Information handbook or reference guide as a practical tool for engagement with indigenous peoples and local communities. PAME will reach out to SDWG to explore their possible interest in collaborating on this information handbook or reference guide.
- ✓ (Short) Information sheet on meaningful engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in marine activities.
- ✓ Responses to the survey will help to inform any possible future work on updating existing guidance within the AOOGG.

Ecosystem Approach to Management (EA):

- ✓ Arrange and report from the 2nd International Conference on Implementing the Ecosystem Approach to Management in the Arctic, to be held in Bergen, Norway, in spring/early summer 2019. The core theme of the conference is the issue of scale integration in the context of EA implementation.
- ✓ Hold a 7th EA workshop in 2020 with focus on element No. 5 of the EA framework: Value the cultural, social, and economic goods and services produced by the ecosystem.
- ✓ Continue emphasis on development of Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA). Continue to report on developments within ICES/PICES/PAME Working Group on Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (WGICA) as well as other ICES activities on IEA, the meetings of scientific experts on fish stocks in the central Arctic Ocean, and any other relevant activities, e.g., in the U.S. NOAA IEA program.

- ✓ Report on developments in defining or setting ecological quality objectives in the context of EA implementation in national and international processes.

Marine Litter

- ✓ Regional action plan on marine litter (Iceland/Norway/Sweden/Canada (TBC)/USA (TBC)/AIA (TBC)/OSPAR)
- ✓ Communication and outreach products

Annex II - Preliminary list of deliverables to the 2019 Ministerial

This list is preliminary and will be further refined for the PAME I-2019 final approval.

Framework for a Pan-Arctic Network of MPAs:

- ✓ MPA Workshop reports for 3rd and 4th workshops for PAME I-2019 (USA, Finland, Sweden, MPA-EG)
- ✓ Toolbox expansion based on 4th workshop on indigenous and local engagement in marine protected areas (Canada)

Arctic Marine Shipping:

- ✓ Arctic Shipping Best Practice Information Forum (Finland/Canada/USA/PAME Secretariat)
 - Report
 - Web-portal
- ✓ Report on the environmental, economic, technical and practical aspects of the use by ships in the Arctic of alternative fuels (Norway/WWF)
- ✓ Underwater Noise in the Arctic: A State of knowledge report (Canada/WWF)
- ✓ Report on the Safe and Low Impact Shipping Corridors (Canada/Iceland/AIA/WWF)
- ✓ Arctic Ship Traffic Data Project (USA)
 - Report
 - Database
- ✓ Regional Reception Facilities Plan (RRFP) – Outline and Planning Guide for the Arctic, Joint submission to IMO.

Arctic Offshore Resource Exploration and Development (REDEG):

- ✓ MEMA Part II Executive Summary for Policy Makers (possibly as a standalone document) (Canada/USA)
- ✓ MEMA Part II Findings for Policy Makers (full report) (Canada/USA)
- ✓ MEMA Database

Ecosystem Approach to Management (EA):

- ✓ Guidelines for Implementing an Ecosystem Approach to Management of Arctic Marine Ecosystems (Norway/USA/EA-EG)
- ✓ ICES/PICES/PAME Working Group on Integrated Ecosystem Assessment of the Central Arctic Ocean (WGICA) Report “Integrated Ecosystem Assessment of the Central Arctic Ocean: Ecosystem Description and Vulnerability Characterization”
- ✓ Progress report on the EA-EG 2017-2019 Workplan

Marine Litter:

- ✓ Desktop study on Marine Litter, including microplastics in the Arctic (Phase I) (Iceland/Norway/Sweden/AIA/OSPAR)
- ✓ Communication and outreach products

Other:

- ✓ 2nd reporting on progress/implementation of the 2015-2025 Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP).
- ✓ PAME Summary Report of 2017-2019 Activities.
- ✓ 2019-2021 PAME Work Plan.