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PAME REPORT TO SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS

Rovaniemi, Finland – 12-13 June 2001

CURRENT STATUS

PAME held its working group meeting in Washington, D.C., January 9-12, 2001 and the status of the Work Plan (Attachment I) is on schedule as presented below.

RPA PROGRESS

With respect to the RPA adopted in September 1998 the following progress has been made:

RPA Programme support elements

The implementation and programme support elements of the RPA are moving forward and the main updates regarding the RPA progress are as follows:

- First steps have been made in the development of an Arctic Clearing-house by adding a new window to the PAME Homepage that will identify a list of candidate links specific to the RPA priorities. This work is done in full coordination with the other working groups of the Arctic Council. This work is also coordinated with the GPA Clearing-house in an effort to create synergies on national, regional and global level.
- Preparing a draft report on capacity building in the context of PAME's work. This work will be based on:
 - The draft Guidelines that were prepared by Canada in an effort to assist the working Groups of the Arctic Council in addressing capacity building issues in a coordinated manner.

- The planned international workshop on capacity building to be hosted by Canada.
- Collaboration of efforts with other working groups of the Arctic Council.
- Drafting a communication strategy with the aim to convey PAME's policy and non-emergency pollution prevention and control measures related to the protection of the Arctic marine environment from land and sea-based activities to target audiences.
- PAME is currently coordinating efforts of regional reporting in preparation for the GPA Intergovernmental Review meeting that will be held in Montreal, Canada, 26-30 November 2001.
- PAME continues to participate in UNEP's annual meetings of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans in their efforts to strengthen these programmes. Many of the issues and problems addressed have relevance to PAME's work and provide an important opportunity to bring Arctic issues to the attention of the global community, in particular, the RPA, and to contribute to and learn from the experiences of other regional seas programmes.
- PAME has a one-page summary of its activities on the GPA homepage under regional seas programmes: <http://www.gpa.unep.org/seas/>

Russian NPA-Arctic

The Russian NPA-Arctic project was formally integrated into the Russian institution system through the Federal Targeted Oriented Program "World Ocean" at a Hearing of the State Duma on March 12th 2001.

First steps have been taken in preparing the full scale GEF project and the accompanied Partnership Conference. The first meeting towards the preparation of the full-scale GEF project was held in Moscow 24-25 April namely: Extended Meeting of the NPA-Arctic Scientific Expert Council of the World Ocean of FTOP (Federal Targeted Oriented Programme) on the Preparation of a GEF Full scale Project, and Proposals and Documents for the Partnership Conference.

Further information on the developments of the Russian NPA-Arctic are provided by its lead agency, the Ministry of Development and Trade of the Russian Federation, and summary presented in Attachment II.

- PAME continues to support the efforts of the authorities of the Russian Federation and ACOPS in the preparations for the full-scale GEF project through various means such as financial contributions, technical assistance, and by encouraging private sector interest.
- PAME will coordinate efforts with the Russian Federation and ACOPS in planning the Partnership Conference and serve as an advisory body to the partnership process for the purpose of facilitating participation by all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector; NGOs; national foreign assistance and

technical agencies; native groups; industry and professional organizations, and other Arctic Council working groups and observing states.

- PAME recognizes the importance of an early involvement of the private sector in supporting the implementation of the Russian NPA-Arctic and as a preparation for the Partnership Conference following is planned:
 - The United States have volunteered to organize a round-table meeting in Washington D.C. in September 2001 to initiate interest and discussion among governments, private sectors and International Financial Institutions (IFIs) prior to the Partnership Conference. The main goal is to encourage private sector interest in the Russian NPA-Arctic project. The meeting, with invitees ranging from businesses to government officials, will serve to facilitate private-private discussions between private sector groups from the Russian Federation, United States and Canada, as well as to express the high level support for the NPA-Arctic in Russia.
 - A second round table meeting is proposed to be held in Scandinavia (preliminary steps indicate interest from Finland) with the same goals as the first one, but the emphasis would be on exchange of views between the private sectors of the Scandinavian countries and the Russian Federation.
- PAME recognizes the involvement of relevant projects of other working groups of the Arctic Council in the partnership process as a potential opportunity to improve working group coordination approach to GEF and other International Funding Institutions.
- Three non-profit organizations, with an interest in the environment and/or Russian business, participated in the private sector discussion at the last PAME meeting and gave a short summary of their respective fields of specialties and possible future contributions and participation in the Russian NPA-Arctic.
- All documents on Russia NPA-Arctic are available at ACOPS homepage at: <http://www.acops.org> and on the PAME homepage at: <http://www.grida.no/pame>

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

Work Plan for the update of the current status of the international conventions and agreements as presented in the 1996 PAME report was prepared and agreed upon at the last PAME meeting with the following procedure:

1. Just before the next ministerial meeting, update the matrix of the status of legal instruments;
2. record the status of the 1996 PAME Recommendations; and
3. identify new problems areas (if any).

This work will be accomplished by following lead countries approach:

Unites States – Dumping Activities

Norway – Shipping Activities

Denmark/Greenland - Offshore Oil and Gas Activities

Canada - Land-based Activities

SHIPPING ACTIVITIES

Norway, as the lead-country on shipping activities, is currently developing in greater detail its proposal on the follow-up activities of The Snap Shot Analysis of Maritime Activities and ways to address ship generated waste through:

- An information campaign aimed at full compliance by ship operators with MARPOL 73-78 requirements.
- Exchange of information on control, monitoring, investigation of violations and prosecution of offenders.
- Provide information on the availability of waste reception facilities in the Arctic.
- Discuss incentives which stimulate the use of waste reception facilities.

Canada is acting as the lead country in establishing a correspondence group for the purpose of developing Arctic Waters Oil Transfer Guidelines. This work is proposed to focus on the following issues:

1. What is the current status of oil transfer guidelines in the circumpolar nations.
2. Development of a common set of best practices.

This project is proposed to be completed over the next 2 years, in time for the Ministerial meeting of the Arctic Council that is scheduled for 2002.

OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS GUIDELINES

PAME continues to promote application of its Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines and has provided comments to WWF on their draft evaluation criteria for the offshore guidelines, i.e. are the PAME guidelines being implemented? If so, to what extent are they followed and working to meet the original objectives?

WWF is currently in the process of finalizing their analysis of the effectiveness and implementation of the PAME. WWFs analysis are intended as an input to PAME's review of the Guidelines.

PAME members are currently preparing suggested amendments and additions to the 1997 Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines. The next PAME meeting will consider these suggested changes and whether to elaborate a process through which they could be incorporated into the Guidelines, if appropriate.

With respect to improving the application of the Guidelines, then preliminary steps are being taken towards involvement of oil and gas experts at next PAME meeting.

Such an approach could also help forge links between the Guidelines and the RUNARC process.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER WORKING GROUPS

Working groups of the Arctic Council, ACAP, AMAP, CAFF and EPPR, have participated and reported at previous PAME meetings in an effort to increase the cooperation and avoid overlap between the working groups.

The preparation of draft PAME Operating Guidelines (Attachment II) was done in coordination with the other working groups

ACAP

Both ACAP and PAME recognize the importance of coordination of efforts in addressing pollution prevention and control issues. Initial steps are being taken towards these efforts.

CAFF

Initial Steps have been made regarding collaboration with PAME in CAFF's implementation process of the Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN) as requested by the Ministerial meeting in Barrow.

EPPR

Coordination of efforts with EPPR on work of relevance to PAME, in particular on shipping activities and the update on the 1997 Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines.

PAME ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

PAME has finalised its Operating Guidelines and is in the process of finalising its Communication Strategy for consideration by the SAOs.

The PAME Secretariat received \$135,000 US through voluntary contributions for 2001, of which approximately half is provided by the Icelandic government. The projected operational costs for 2002 is \$155,000 US. The core staff consists of an Executive Secretary (100%), Administrative Assistance (40%) and, a Technical Advisor (25%); the latter two are shared with the CAFF Secretariat.

OTHER BUSINESS

- The next PAME meeting is scheduled for October 9-11, 2001 in Moscow, Russia.
- PAME has prepared a brochure on its activities.
- PAME'S homepage: <http://www.grida.no/pame>
- Attachment III includes PAME's Work Plan for 2000-2002.

ATTACHMENT I
OVERVIEW OF PAME WORKPLAN

2001-2002

RPA

- Support the RPA, Russian NPA-Arctic and Partnership Conference.
- Contribute to the 2001 GPA Intergovernmental Meeting.
- Contribute to the Rio+10 Meeting.

Legal Instruments

- Update Matrix of International Agreements.
- Prepare a report on the status of 1996 PAME recommendations.
- Identify problems for which additional measures are needed and make recommendations.

Shipping

- Prepare Arctic Waters Oil Transfer Guidelines under the leadership of Canada.
- Consider a Norway proposal on ship generated wastes.

Oil and Gas

- Prepare an assessment of the application of the Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines.
- Consider possible changes in the oil and gas guidelines and other measures.
- Consider ways in which the application of the oil and gas guidelines may be improved.

Other

- Complete a PAME communications strategy and brochure.
- Create a RPA window at the PAME Website to facilitate access to clearing house information.

ATTACHMENT II

UPDATE AND DEVELOPMENTS OF THE RUSSIAN NPA-ARCTIC PROVIDED BY:

THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

ATTACHMENT III



Work Plan

**FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ARCTIC
MARINE ENVIRONMENT**

2000 - 2002

August 2000

Preface:

The purpose of the PAME Work Plan is to provide a framework for PAME's work related to the protection of the Arctic marine environment for the period of 2000 – 2002.

PAME's activities are directed towards protection of the Arctic marine environment. PAME consists of National Representatives responsible for its work in their respective countries. Permanent Participants, representing Arctic indigenous groups, also participate in PAME, as well as representatives from several observer countries and interested organisations. Thus PAME provides a unique forum for collaboration on a wide range of Arctic pollution prevention issues.

The PAME Working Group meets twice a year to assess progress and advance its work. PAME is headed by a chair and vice-chair which rotate among the Arctic countries and is supported by an International Secretariat.

PAME reports to the Senior Arctic Officials and, through them, to the Ministers of the Arctic Council that meets every two years.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CURRENT STATUS	1
RPA PROGRESS.....	1
RPA PROGRAMME SUPPORT ELEMENTS.....	1
RUSSIAN NPA-ARCTIC	2
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS.....	3
SHIPPING ACTIVITIES.....	4
OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS GUIDELINES	4
COORDINATION WITH OTHER WORKING GROUPS	5
ACAP.....	5
CAFF.....	5
EPPR.....	5
PAME ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT.....	5
OTHER BUSINESS.....	5
ATTACHMENT I.....	6
OVERVIEW OF PAME WORKPLAN.....	6
ATTACHMENT II	7
UPDATE AND DEVELOPMENTS OF THE RUSSIAN NPA-ARCTIC PROVIDED BY:.....	7
THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE	7
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION	7
INTRODUCTION	1
MANDATE.....	1
OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS.....	2
OBJECTIVE 1.....	2
OBJECTIVE 2.....	3
OBJECTIVE 3.....	4
OBJECTIVE 4.....	4
OBJECTIVE 5.....	5
OVERVIEW OF PAME WORKPLANS.....	6

Introduction

The PAME working group addresses policy and non-emergency pollution prevention and control measures related to the protection of the Arctic marine environment from land and sea-based activities. These include coordinated action programmes and guidelines complementing existing legal arrangements.

The PAME Work Plan 2000 – 2002 has been developed according to its mandate and agreed priorities. The aim is collaborative actions involving member countries and permanent participants, observing countries and regional/international organizations.

This Work Plan identifies 5 objectives and a set of specific actions which outline the overall direction for the PAME program.

Mandate

The 1998 Iqaluit Ministers' Meeting requested PAME to undertake the following work:

Work vigorously for the early implementation of the actions described in the first phase of the Regional Programme of Action (RPA) and its further development in a manner consistent with the associated international agreements and arrangements.

Seek appropriate support to help Russia finalize the Russian NPA-Arctic and host a Partnership Conference to be organized with the assistance of the Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea (ACOPS) which would seek funds to remediate regional priority pollution sources and activities identified in the RPA and Russian NPA-Arctic.

Review the effectiveness and general usage of the 1997 Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines in the year 2000.

Assess current and potential shipping activities to assist in determining what, if any, additional Arctic shipping measures are required.

Assess the adequacy of existing international agreements and arrangements related to the protection of the Arctic marine environment.

Objectives and Actions

Objective 1

Prevent marine pollution from land-based activities.

Rationale:

The Ministers of the Arctic Council declared (1998 Iqaluit Declaration) its support for the development and implementation of the Russian NPA-Arctic and to host a Partnership Conference with the assistance of ACOPS, which would seek funds to remediate regional priority pollution sources and activities identified in the RPA and Russian NPA-Arctic.

The RPA objective is to protect the Arctic marine environment through joint actions on land-based activities which are the main sources of marine pollution. The actions range from legal mechanisms to technology transfer, education and training, and capacity building.

The design and overall management objective of the Russian NPA-Arctic provides for the need to protect and restore the quality of the marine environment, including its biological resources and biodiversity. The goal is to support the conservation and sustainable development of its natural resources and the removal of threats to the health of its human population from anthropogenic sources of pollution in the Arctic marine environment.

The Russian NPA-Arctic has identified 38 activities to be implemented in the period from 1999-2002. Seven of these activities are underway with financial support through the GEF PDF-B Project: "Support to the National Plan of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Anthropogenic Pollution in the Russian Federation".

RPA Actions:

- Encourage the implementation of National Plans of Actions.
- Respond to additional RPA proposals such as the consideration of Codes of Practice for Mining.
- Clarify application of the RPA to the Coastal Zone.
- Develop a reporting procedure and format for assessing the implementation of RPA in collaboration with other working groups.
- Provide progress reports on the implementation of the RPA.

- Develop proposals for a clearing-house mechanism in coordination with the UNEP/GPA Office.

Russian NPA-Arctic Actions:

- Support the effort of the Russian Federation and ACOPS in the development and implementation of the Russian NPA-Arctic through technical, scientific and financial assistance.
- Continue to promote information sharing, collaboration and in the funding raising efforts for the implementation of the Russian NPA-Arctic.
- Encourage International Financial Institutions (IFIs) to take part in the design and implementation of pre-investment studies and the hot-spot analysis.
- Serve as an advisory body to the partnership process and promote participation of all relevant stakeholders in the Partnership Conference.
- Report on the progress of the Russian NPA-Arctic to all relevant stakeholders (e.g. Arctic Council working Groups, SAOs and IFIs).

Objective 2

Prevent marine pollution from offshore oil and gas activities.

Rationale:

The Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines were adopted at the Alta Ministerial Meeting in 1997. These guidelines are intended to be of use to the Arctic countries at all stages for the planning, exploration and development of offshore oil and gas activities. The goal of these guidelines is to ensure that the Arctic marine and coastal environments are better protected.

The Arctic Council has instructed PAME to periodically evaluate the effectiveness, adequacy and usage of these guidelines.

Actions:

- Consider the adequacy and effectiveness of the Oil and Gas Guidelines, and the need for and appropriateness of other measures by PAME in this field.
- Review and revise, as appropriate, the Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines.
- Consider other possible new measures for Oil and Gas.
- Encourage the continuation of the RUNARC project.

- Collaborate with other organizations involved with the review and assessment of Arctic Offshore Guidelines including WWF, IUCN, OGP and UNEP.

Objective 3

Prevent marine pollution from shipping activities.

Rationale:

Present and future shipping activities in the Arctic are a potential cause of concern with respect to the protection of the Arctic marine environment.

Actions:

- Complete analysis on present and future shipping activities in the Arctic.
- Promote working group co-operation in the assessment of shipping activities e.g., combining shipping information with sensitivity mapping information from CAFF and EPPR.
- Consider shipping proposals and recommend possible new shipping measures.

Objective 4

Implement existing international agreements and assess the need for further actions or measures.

Rationale:

Update the 1996 PAME report as a means to continue activities in identifying means of preventing or reducing pollution of the Arctic environment through coordinated action programmes and guidelines complementing existing international agreements.

Actions:

- Provide an update of the 1996 PAME Report including assessing the need for further actions or instruments at international and/or national level to prevent Pollution of the Arctic Marine Environment.
- Encourage and facilitate co-operation between and among regional organizations/conventions and agreements to promote the exchange of information, experience and expertise.
- Promote ratification and implementation of international conventions and agreements.

Objective 5

Develop and promote integrated and cost-effective actions.

Rationale:

There is a need to coordinate work with other working groups of the Arctic Council, regional and international organizations, local authorities and indigenous groups in an effort to promote integrated and cost-effective actions.

Actions:

- Develop PAME Communication Strategy.
- Develop reporting procedures/mechanism on the implementation of the PAME Work Plan to Arctic Council SAOs and Ministers and other interested intergovernmental bodies (e.g. UNEP, UN-ECE and CSD).
- Promote regular consultation with other working groups of the Arctic Council, regional and international organizations, local authorities and indigenous groups.
- Develop integrated training programmes to build capacity in skills to prevent and control marine pollution.
- Develop education materials on measures to protect the marine environment (e.g. fact-sheets).

Overview of PAME Workplans

2000

Support the RPA, Russian NPA-Arctic and Partnership Conference
Factual updates on status of International Agreements and Arrangements
Review Snap Shot Analysis on shipping
Invite comments on Oil and Gas Guideline and need for other measures
Develop Proposals for Clearing House
Develop communication Brochure
Progress Reports to Ministers on:

- RPA, Russian NPA-Arctic, Partnership Conference
- Shipping Analysis
- Meeting goals and objectives of offshore guidelines
- Status of agreements and additional instruments

2001

Define Coastal Area
Support RPA, Russian NPA-Arctic and hold Partnership Conference
Collate Shipping Proposals
Consider proposed amendments to PAME Offshore Guidelines and any suggestions for other measures in this area
Respond to additional RPA Proposals
Complete update on marine pollution sources
Continue Analysis of International Agreements and Arrangements

2002

Support RPA and Russian NPA-Arctic
Complete Analysis of International Agreements and Arrangements
Provide recommendations on:

- Adequacy of international agreements and arrangements
- Possible new shipping measures
- Possible amendments to offshore oil and gas guidelines
- Possible new measures for land-based activities