

PAME PROGRESS REPORT TO SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS. 12-14 October 2005. Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia.

2005

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)

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1. DEVELOPMENTS SINCE LAST SAO MEETING, APRIL 2005

PAME held its working group meeting in Aalsborg, Denmark 19-20 September 2005. PAMEs activities follow the 2004-2006 Work Plan and the first day of the meeting was dedicated to the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (AMSA). Following is a summary of updates and main decisions from the PAME meeting.

Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment

- Preparations of the Arctic marine shipping assessment (AMSA) are underway by the leads (Canada/Finland/USA) and a draft work plan, timeline, survey instruments and organizational structure are in the process of being revised based on inputs from participants at the PAME meeting.
- Lead countries met inter-sessionally in Canada to develop AMSA plans and strategies
- The Leads will send out as soon as possible invitations to candidates to serve as a round table of experts. The round table will help to steer the assessment as well as providing expert advice and support in this assessment.
- The initial task will be to conduct an inventory/survey of Arctic shipping of marine activity. A draft shipping information data collection instrument was tabled and discussed in Aalborg. A revised version reflecting comments from member states, PP's and observers will be sent out after the leads have run an in-house quality check to ensure a user-friendly process. The data will be collected for a single year (2004) and the questionnaire will be sent out with approximately 4-5-month turnaround time, with the aim of having information on the current level of shipping for the fall 2006 Ministerial meeting.
- Shipping is defined broadly in AMSA to include all possible ship activities and types: tankers, container ships, bulk carriers, fishing vessels, drilling ships, research ships, offshore supply/support vessels, passenger ships and small boats, and others.
- It will be the responsibility of individual Arctic coastal states to provide this baseline, survey information for 2004. The revised survey instruments will be sent out to the Arctic coastal states accompanied by a cover note that provides explanations to assist countries in completing the questionnaire. The cover note will also include explanations on how ice and risk information will be collected.
- The Leads will develop a concept paper with the aim to clarify and expand on the nature of the work plan, including the expert requirements discussions and inputs from participants

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- The AMSA work plan is composed of the following 8 Phases, many of which will run concurrently:

Phase 1 – Project Planning & Management

Phase 2 – Determination of Current Level of Arctic Marine Activity (Database Collection ~ Member States)

Phase 3 – Projected levels of Arctic Marine Activity in 2020 & 2050 (Plausible Future Scenarios ~ ACIA Sea Ice Projections and Regional Economics)

Phase 4 – Environmental Impact of Today's Arctic Marine Activity on Arctic communities, Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs), and all Arctic coastal seas

Phase 5 – Environmental Impact of Arctic Marine Activity in 2020 & 2050 on Arctic communities, Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs), and all Arctic coastal seas

Phase 6 – Risk Analyses

Phase 7 – Social and Economic Impact

Phase 8 – Analysis & Recommendations

- Working closely with the Permanent Participants and all the working groups of the Arctic Council is seen as important part of conducting this assessment.
- Outreach material is under preparations (brochure and posters) and the PAME homepage will be used as one of the communication tools.

Ecosystem Approach

- The United States, as the lead country for ecosystem approach, summarized the outcome of a one-day meeting that was held in Paris July 7, 2005 following the IOC-IUCN-NOAA-UNEP Large Marine Ecosystem Consultative meeting. The aim of this meeting was to start gathering input from Arctic countries and ecosystem experts.
- Participants at this meeting identified criteria for defining marine ecosystems; recommended that these criteria be applied to review the boundaries of Arctic Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs); and recommended criteria for monitoring.
- The United States informed PAME that an updated map of LMEs had been prepared in collaboration with Canada and Norway based on the outcome of the 7th of July meeting and a further updated map would be ready in October 2005.
- A Large Marine Ecosystem Steering Group will be established for designating suites of indicators of the changing status of Arctic LME's. Terms of Reference and

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timetable for the LME Steering Group will be prepared and ready for review at the next PAME meeting.

- The Director of the Murmansk Marine Biological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (MMBI RAS) provided information on their research directions and development perspectives as it relates to Arctic ecosystems.
- Both the work and progress on the LME indicators and boundaries is work in progress and the importance of cooperation and collaboration with other working groups of the Arctic Council, particularly AMAP and CAFF in this work.

Port Reception Facilities

- The assessment of existing measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues with Norway as the lead noted delays due to lack of response in providing contacts to establish a correspondence group for this work to start.
- Norway emphasises that this work would commence immediately following the last PAME meeting and provided a summary of a paper on project description an updated list of contacts for countries to review for accuracy.
- This assessment is done in cooperation between Det Norske Veritas (DNV) and the Norwegian Maritime Directorate and is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is divided into the following three phases:
 - Phase 1 – Assess availability of and measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated and cargo residues in the PAME region and which regulations and incentives for delivery each country has implemented.
 - Phase 2 – Identify gaps in existing coverage and possible improvements in availability and incentives for delivery
 - Phase 3 – recommendation for a harmonized guidelines based on the gap analysis.
- The importance of accessible information systems on existing port facilities has been discussed at previous PAME meetings and the lead where asked to consider the “lessons learned” from existing systems.

Other PAME-Activities

Regional Programme of Action

- Canada as the lead-country in advancing the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (RPA) provided an update on proposed follow-up and update

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of the RPA over the next 2 years as discussed and agreed at the last PAME meeting (Feb. 2005) and introduced a draft Work Statement for a RPA Project.

- PAME agreed with the content of the draft Work Statement and Canada will contact member states and permanent participants for information and input to this update in due time and report on progress at the next PAME meeting.

AMSP Communication Plan

- Canada and Iceland as the co-leads on the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP), provided a the 1st draft AMSP Communication Plan and PAME members have been asked to provide comments to this draft by end of November 2005. Canada will provide an updated version of the AMSP Communication Plan prior to the next PAME meeting.

Update status of the GEF/Russian NPA-Arctic

- Since the Second Consultative Meeting (Geneva, July 2004), during which the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation was designated as the sole Executing Agency and two Partner Agencies were established (NEFCO & ACOPS), two further meetings have taken place. On 16-17th March 2005, a 'Donors Meeting' was held in London between ACOPS, the bilateral donors (USA, Canada, Italy, Iceland, also representing NEFCO) and Russia and at the GEF Secretariat in Washington, D.C. on 30 May 2005.
- The starting date for project implementation was set at 15 June 2005.
- Russia informed PAME that the First Meeting of the Steering Committee will take place in Moscow 31st of October 2005.

Collaboration with groups and organizations within and outside the Arctic Council

- Collaboration and apparent synergies with AMAP and CAFF on the ecosystem approach and EPPR and SDWG working groups on the shipping assessment are fully recognized and representatives from AMAP and CAFF participated at the last PAME meeting for this purpose.

2. GUIDANCE FROM SAOS

It is important for the work laid down within the PAME 2004-2006 Work Plan that countries secure the involvement of respective country representatives, experts and representatives from the national indigenous communities to ensure a broad and active involvement in the PAME work.