

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme

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Outline of plan for finalization of SWIPA

Annex to agenda point 3.2: Climate Change and the Cryosphere – Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic – SWIPA.

Status as of March 26, 2010:

The preliminary report “The Greenland Ice Sheet in a Changing Climate” was released during the UN Framework Convention on Climate change, 15th Conference of the Parties and was presented by the Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Per Stig Møller and convening lead author Professor Dorthe Dahl-Jensen at a joint Norwegian/Danish side-event on December 14, 2009.

The preliminary science report is produced in English. A lay-man’s version produced by a science writer and signed off by the lead authors of the science report has been translated and is available in the following languages: Chinese, Danish, French, Greenlandic and Russian, and are available in these languages.

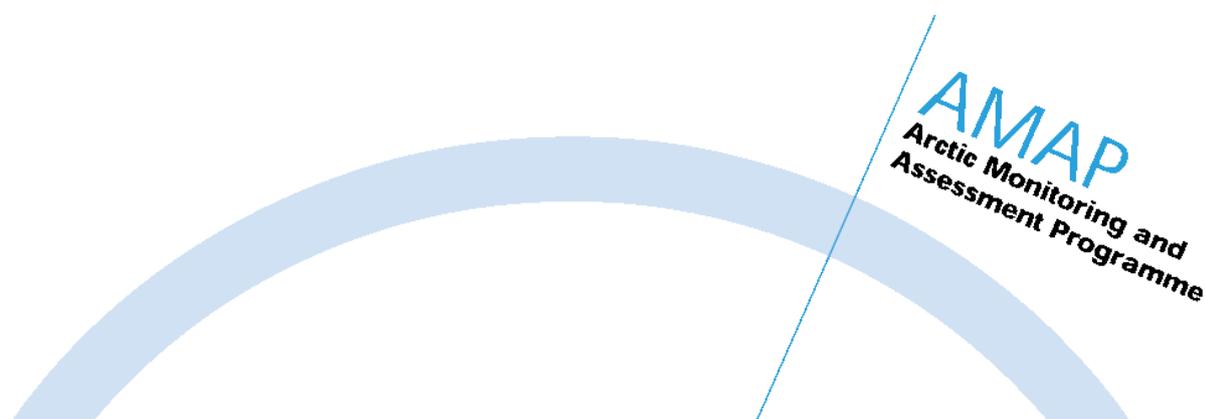
An 18 min. film based on the findings of the preliminary report on the Greenland Ice Sheet was finalized after review at the SAO meeting in November, 2010. Another 18 min. film introducing the SWIPA project has also been and finalized after SAO review. The films have been sponsored by Nordic Council of Ministers, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Danish Energy Agency.

In addition a brochure about SWIPA has been produced.

National distribution of the preliminary SWIPA products take place through the AMAP WG. All products are available on the AMAP web-page, and through the AMAP secretariat. .

January 12-15, 2010 SWIPA lead authors and the SWIPA Integration Team met at the Alfred Wegner Institute in Potsdam for a 3-day SWIPA workshop co-sponsored by International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) and AMAP.

The anticipated length of the of the Science report is now less than 500 pages of which 380 will deal with the different components of the Cryosphere, and remain the main modules of the report.



The SWIPA science include the of the following chapters:

1. Past and present climate (10 pp)
2. Modelling (10 pp)
3. Snow (50 pp)
4. Permafrost (50 pp)
5. River and Lake Ice (50 pp)
6. Ice Caps and Glaciers (50 pp)
7. The Greenland Ice Sheet (80 pp)
8. Sea Ice (100 pp)
9. The human dimension (25 pp)
10. Synthesis/Integration (35 pp)
 - Feedbacks
 - Sea Level Change
 - Contaminants
 - Ecology
 - Socio-economy
 - Knowledge gaps and observational needs

A Peer Review Selection Committee consisting of nationally appointed members responsible for the selection of Peer reviewers and for overlooking the peer review process has been established. Selection of peer reviewers has been concluded and 3 peer reviewers for each of the chapters 1-9 have been identified and have accepted to carry out a scientific peer review.

AMAP has contacted 3 internationally acknowledged scientist who have accepted to review the full report and ensure scientific consistency across the document and to review the synthesis/integration chapter, as the latter requires substantial knowledge of the full document and the issues addressed her as well as scientific overview of the topics dealt with in the integration chapter.

Plans for completion of the SWIPA science report.

Final drafts of the different chapters of the SWIPA report are planned to be completed during April and beginning of May.

The peer review process of chapters 1-9 is planned for April until mid June. The process includes response from convening lead authors and documentation of adequate response.

Consistency check and review of synthesis/integration chapter will take place in the same period.

The reviewed science report will be distributed to Arctic Council working groups and PPs for information (mid June), in order to share information early in the process, and to collect comments and information that can guide the approach taken in the summary report and other outreach material.

Technical editing and layout is planned to start at the end of the review period (mid June) and will take place during the remainder of 2010. Final editing and printing is scheduled for January-February 2010.

A SWIPA IT meeting is scheduled for June 14-16 in Oslo. The meeting will address outstanding issues in connection to the review process. A first draft of an executive summary is planned to be compiled at the meeting which will also discuss the conclusions and scientific recommendations stemming from the report.

Plans for production of Summary report.

A summary report in layman style language will be written by a science writer. The SWIPA IT has agreed that the summary report shall have an approximate size of 50 pages, and shall reflect the key findings and science recommendations of the science report.

The AMAP WG will develop science based policy-relevant recommendations to be included in the Summary report.

The format and contents of the Summary report will be discussed at the SWIPA IT meeting mid June, 2010.

The drafting of the summary report will start after the SWIPA IT meeting at which time a consolidated draft science report will be ready. The drafting is scheduled for the summer 2010 and a first draft is planned ready by the end of August 2010.

AMAP has entered into contract negotiations with (a group of) highly skilled science journalist..

Comments from the convening lead authors and AMAP HoDs to the draft(s) of the summary report will be collected and taken into account in an iterative process.

Other AC working groups and PPs will also be requested to comment during this process (August-September).

It is anticipated that convening lead authors of the science report, The SWIPA Integration team and the AMAP HoDs will sign off a final draft of the summary report by the end of October, 2010.

Final layout, editing and printing will take place during the November 2010-February 2011.

Other outreach material.

The SWIPA IT meeting in mid June 2010 will discuss the need for additional outreach material.

At this stage an update of the SWIPA film which was show at the SAO-meeting in November 2009 is planned. An update of the film will inform on the results of the SWIPA project rather than on the intent of the project.

An update of the film and possible other outreach material will be overlooked and supervised by the SWIPA Integration Team which includes the convening lead authors of the SWIPA report and the organizations working together with Arctic Council/AMAP on the project.

Final remarks

It is anticipated that final drafts of most SWIPA material will be ready by the end of October, 2010.

A presentation of the status of the work and the material may be included in the SAO agenda for the October 2010 SAO meeting.