



Arctic Council SAO plenary meeting (eDocs code: ACSAOUS202) 16-17 March 2016, Fairbanks, Alaska, U.S.A.

Document Title

Cover Note on the Arctic Ship Traffic Data (ASTD) Project Plan

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PAME

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15th February 2016

Status on the Arctic Shipping Traffic Data project plan Information for the SAO meeting 16-17 March 2016

PAME I-2016 RoDs on the Arctic Shipping Traffic Data project plan:

PAME thanks the Arctic Shipping Traffic Data (ASTD) expert group for its important work in developing the ASTD project plan presented at PAME I-2016. PAME recognizes the value and potential benefits of this project and that any final ASTD product is likely to have significant benefits for other Arctic Council working groups and subsidiary bodies.

Accordingly, PAME requests the Secretariat to:

- 1) share the ASTD project documents, as refined at PAME I-2016, with other Arctic Council working groups and subsidiary bodies with a request for their input by March 1; and*
- 2) work with the ASTD expert group to convene a virtual briefing and Q&A session on the ASTD project for other interested AC working groups and subsidiary bodies by March 11.*

PAME approves continued work on ASTD Phase II of the project by the ASTD expert group and welcomes consideration of subsequent phases. Specifically, PAME requests that the ASTD expert group develop a draft systems design document taking into account any intercessional input obtained from PAME's Shipping Expert Group and other Arctic Council working groups and subsidiary bodies. PAME also requests member governments to identify by 1 March 2016 representatives who, under USA leadership, can prepare a draft data-sharing document and a draft cost-sharing document in consultation with the ASTD expert group. All documents are to be submitted to the PAME Secretariat at least 30 days in advance of the PAME II-2016 meeting to ensure sufficient time for review.

PAME requests its Secretariat to continue providing administrative support to facilitate work on the project. The USA will continue to serve as the overall member government lead for this initiative.

Approval of this intersessional work does not obligate member governments to approve any subsequent phase of the ASTD project as per the ASTD project plan.

Progress to date:

The ASTD project plan was sent out to Arctic Council working groups and other subsidiary bodies on the 12th of February asking for their input in writing and inviting them to participate in a virtual briefing and Q&A session on Tuesday March 8.