

For the protection of the Arctic Marine Environment

2004-2006

WORK PLAN



PAME

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment



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 2004 – 2006.

PAME's Working Group 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 of several observer countries and interested organisations. PAME provides a unique forum for collaboration on a wide range of Arctic marine environment issues.

The PAME Working Group generally 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.

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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.

The PAME Work Plan 2004 – 2006 was developed according to its mandate and agreed priorities and identifies 4 objectives followed by a set of specific actions. This Work Plan is in line with the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan that outlines the overall direction for the PAME program.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE I:

Improve knowledge and respond to emerging knowledge of the Arctic marine environment

RATIONALE:

Scientific findings (e.g. IPCC and ACIA) have estimated that warming of the Arctic with longer ice-free season will lengthen the navigation season followed by increased access to Arctic resources.

Activities such as development of hydrocarbon and mineral resources, cruise ship tourism and commercial fishing are expected to expand with improved access and the opening of a northern east-west corridor linking Europe and Asia across the North Pole. Increased accessibility and marine transportation in the Arctic will require greater support and pose increased environmental risks to the Arctic marine environment and its ecological processes, including the introduction of alien species and increases in marine pollution (e.g., oil spills).

This work will build on and be coordinated with other organizations involved in Arctic marine transportation such as IMO (Arctic Shipping Guidelines), Northern Sea Route (INSROP the International Northern Sea Route Programme, Northern Maritime Corridor), SDWG and the EPPR Working Group on accident related issues and other existing work related to this issue.

ACTIONS:

Actions	Activities	Lead
<p>1. Conduct a comprehensive and integrated Arctic marine shipping assessment at current and projected future levels in collaboration with the EPPR Working Group and other Working Groups as required. <i>(From sections 7.1.4; 7.2.2 and 7.2.6 in the AMSP)</i></p>	<p>Develop Terms of Reference, a work programme and a timeline, for the assessment. The goals, objectives and scope of the assessment will be defined and additional partners identified and confirmed as first step in the process and an initial scoping of issues will be completed. The full assessment will be completed over the 2006-2008 biennium. In developing the assessment it will be critical to take into account the relevant work and initiatives of the IMO, International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), Circumpolar Infrastructure Task Force (CITF) and the ACIA.</p>	<p>CANADA FINLAND USA</p>
<p>2. Respond to the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) findings and recommendations. <i>(From section 7.2.1 in the AMSP)</i></p>	<p>Review the ACIA findings and recommendations and identify possible measures as it relates to land-and sea-based protection and pollution prevention measures for the Arctic marine environment as and when appropriate.</p>	<p>PAME Chair/Secretariat</p>
<p>3. Contribute to the Arctic Council <u>Assessment of Potential Impacts of Oil and Gas Activities in the Arctic</u> (Lead by AMAP to report to Ministers in 2006). Response to identified measures will be included in the 2006-2008 Work Plan. <i>(From section 7.2.3 in the AMSP)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provide PAME input to the review process. ➤ Contribute to the peer review process and the development of recommendations to the Ministers in 2006. ➤ Participate in the symposium, scheduled for August 2005 in Russia. 	<p>DENMARK/ GREENLAND/ FAROE ISLANDS USA</p>
<p>Assess existing measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues and develop harmonized guidelines for consideration by States. <i>(From sections 7.2.4 and 7.2.6 in the AMSP)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Availability and measures for existing port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues in the PAME region, based on a survey of existing information. ➤ Identify gaps in existing coverage and possible improvements in the availability and incentives for delivery. ➤ Develop recommendations for harmonized guidelines for consideration by States. 	<p>NORWAY</p>

OBJECTIVE II:

Determine the adequacy of applicable international/regional commitments and promote their implementation and compliance

RATIONALE:

Promote the implementation and compliance of applicable international instruments and governmental commitments through increased coordination and collaboration and trends towards integrated approaches such as ecosystem approaches in addressing the challenges of coastal and marine environment. An integrated ecosystem approach to management requires that development activities be coordinated in a way that minimizes their impact on the environment and integrates thinking across environmental, socio-economic, political and sectoral realms.

The Arctic Council has an opportunity to provide international leadership on the global sustainable development agenda through the adoption and application of an integrated, ecosystem-based approach to managing the Arctic marine environment.

ACTIONS:

Actions	Activities	Lead
<p>1. Apply the ecosystem approach.</p> <p>This work will be carried out in collaboration with other Arctic Council working groups, in particular CAFF.</p> <p><i>(From section 7.3.2 in the AMSP)</i></p>	<p>This action item has various components, which can be carried out independently, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Compile an inventory of ecosystem-based projects ➤ Initiate the identification of Large Marine Ecosystems in the Arctic. <i>(From section 7.4.1 in the AMSP)</i> ➤ Initiate the identification of indicators of ecosystem health and ecosystem objectives. 	<p>USA</p> <p>USA</p> <p>USA</p>
<p>2. Advance the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action (RPA) and assess the need to expand its scope to address additional priority source categories not already covered.</p> <p><i>(From section 7.3.3 in the AMSP)</i></p>	<p>This action item has various components, which can be carried out independently, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assess the adequacy of the RPA, taking into account new information since 1997, and if necessary propose broadening it to address other source categories and update the 1997 RPA document. Liaise with relevant organizations (e.g., Regional Seas, GPA Coordination Office, University of the Arctic). 	<p>CANADA</p>

Actions	Activities	Lead
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="614 271 1153 510">➤ Facilitate technical cooperation for Russian Federation's activities aimed at protecting the Arctic marine environment (<i>From section 7.5.3 in the AMSP</i>) and continue support for Russian NPA Arctic GEF project. The exact nature of future cooperation will be determined on the basis of opportunities identified. <li data-bbox="614 524 1153 645">➤ Assist in the execution of a private sector roundtable to implement partnership projects that are developed for the Russian NPA-Arctic. <li data-bbox="614 658 1153 721">➤ Contribute to the 2006 GPA review. (<i>From section 7.7.2 in the AMSP</i>) 	<p data-bbox="1185 271 1385 365">Russia PAME Chair/Secretariat</p> <p data-bbox="1185 524 1241 555">USA</p> <p data-bbox="1185 658 1385 721">PAME Chair/Secretariat</p>

OBJECTIVE III:

Facilitate partnerships, programme and technical cooperation

RATIONALE:

There is a need to coordinate work with other working groups of the Arctic Council, regional and international organizations and programmes, local authorities and indigenous organizations in an effort to promote capacity building, sharing of information and technology transfer on the state of the Arctic marine environment.

ACTIONS:

Actions	Activities	Lead
1. Increase cooperation and collaboration with international/regional organizations. <i>(From section 7.5.2 in the AMSP)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Liaise with fisheries organizations and organizations associated with marine-related conventions and agreements to inform and be informed of possible cooperative opportunities including information exchange.➤ Participate in the development of the EU-Marine strategy as a means of information exchange in this forum.	PAME Chair/Secretariat DENMARK PAME Chair/Secretariat
2. Promote capacity building, information exchange and technology transfer related to oil and gas development and transportation activities.	Organize a workshop to encourage implementation of the Arctic Council Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines, taking into account the AMAP Assessment of Potential Impacts of Oil and Gas Activities in the Arctic.	USA

OBJECTIVE IV:

Support communication, reporting and outreach both within and outside the Arctic Council.

RATIONALE:

PAME is the Arctic Council focal point for information exchange and updates on Arctic marine protection issues and recognizes the importance of engaging and providing an opportunity for Permanent Participants, other governments and appropriate NGOs in the sustainable development of the Arctic marine environment (e.g. provide a periodic watch briefs on IMO projects and ISO Arctic Standards). PAME recognizes that coordination and collaboration with all subsidiary bodies of the Arctic Council is important in forwarding common objectives of respective work plans on the protection of the Arctic marine environment.

ACTIONS:

Actions	Activities	Lead
1. Information outreach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Provide AMSP progress reports to the Arctic Council with assistance of all Arctic Council subsidiary bodies.➤ Information exchange with UNEP Regional Seas Programme regions, and other regional programs.➤ Website/Clearing House update.	PAME Chair/Secretariat PAME Chair/Secretariat PAME Chair/Secretariat
2. Build the capacity and engagement of indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants. <i>(From section 7.6 in the AMSP)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Develop a communication plan to support understanding and involvement in implementation of the AMSP. <i>(From Section 8.0 in the AMSP)</i>➤ Promote oceans education and training related to best operating practices through appropriate institutions such as the University of the Arctic <i>(From section 7.6.1 in the AMSP)</i>	CANADA ICELAND PAME Chair/Secretariat

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