



Aleut International Association, Inc.  
(AIA)

RESOLUTION NO. 100908

**REQUEST TO THE CHAIRMAN OF SENIOR ARCTIC COUNCIL OFFICIALS TO ENDORSE  
THE BERING SEA SUB-NETWORK AS AN ARCTIC COUNCIL PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Aleut International Association, Inc. (AIA) is an Alaskan Native not-for-profit organization with members consisting of the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc., an Alaskan regional not-for-profit tribal organization (U.S.) and the Association of Indigenous Peoples of the Aleut District of the Kamchatka Region in Russia (ANSARKO); and

WHEREAS, the Aleut International Association, Inc. is a permanent participant of the Arctic Council;  
and

WHEREAS, AIA exists to advocate for Aleut and other indigenous peoples' interests in the Arctic while bringing new opportunities for environmental, social and economic improvements in the Aleut region and in the Arctic through international programs that promote continuity of culture and protect resources needed to sustain it; and

WHEREAS, the Aleut people depend upon marine resources of the Bering Sea as a vital component of our culture and local economy; and

WHEREAS, dramatic changes in the health, abundance and distribution of the marine resources of the Bering Sea impacted by the climate change and human activities have been documented for the past decade; and

WHEREAS, AIA showed its stewardship in developing a program, entitled Bering Sea Sub-Network, an International Community-based Observation Alliance for Arctic Observing Network (BSSN,) for indigenous communities to monitor changes and share information they observe; and

WHEREAS, BSSN received full support from the Alaskan communities of Gambell, Togiak, Sand Point; Russian communities of Kanchalan, Tymlat and Nikolskoye; regional organizations: Kawerak, Inc., Bristol Bay Native Association, the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association in Alaska, U.S., and Chukotka Association of the Indigenous Peoples of the Far North, Kamchatka regional Union of Tribal Fishers, and the Association of Indigenous Peoples of the Aleut District of the Commander Islands, Russian Federation; and

WHEREAS, BSSN is endorsed by the International Polar Committee as IPY project;

WHEREAS, BSSN is approved by the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna working of the Arctic Council as a component of the Circumpolar Biodiversity Programme; and

WHEREAS, BSSN science plan responds to interdisciplinary approach where biological, physical, and social sciences interact to improve understanding of large scale environmental changes in the Arctic by looking at both the physical and human dimensions of change and its impact, thus touching upon the issues relevant to all working groups; and

**THE ALEUT INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**Permanent Participant of the Arctic Council**

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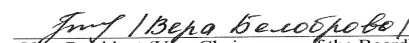
WHEREAS, all working groups of the Arctic Council would benefit from cooperation with the Network and co-locating their activities in BSSN villagers; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Aleut International Association, Inc. requests Senior Arctic Officials of the Arctic Council to endorse BSSN as an Arctic Council project for the benefit of all AC working groups.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 10 day of October, 2007

  
President (Chairperson of the Board)

ATTEST:

Secretary   
Vice President (Vice Chairperson of the Board)