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Framework for a Pan-Arctic Network of MPAs; Cover Letter

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Submitted by

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) Working Group

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February 10, 2017

SAO agenda item 3.2.1: Framework for a Pan-Arctic Network of MPAs

The following two documents are submitted under this agenda item for SAO approval:

Arctic Protected Areas: Indicator Report

Building upon the *Framework for a pan-Arctic network of Marine Protected Areas* and information generated by the *Arctic Biodiversity Assessment*, CAFF and PAME jointly developed the *Arctic Protected Areas: Indicator Report* during the 2015-2017 period. Both working groups approved this report at their recent meetings for submission to SAOs for approval. Final layout will be done by the CAFF and PAME Secretariats following the Juneau SAO meeting.

PAME MPA-network Toolbox: Area-based conservation measures and ecological connectivity ("Toolbox Report") (to be submitted as penultimate draft on February 15 as per timeline below)

PAME agreed to the following timeline to finalize the "Toolbox Report" for SAOs and Ministerial approval:

- ✓ February 8: comments on the 2nd draft due.
- ✓ February 15: Deadline for project leads to add key results, as needed, from February 2017 Workshop and address PAME member comments to produce a 3rd draft of the Toolbox Report. Send to SAOs and PAME members.
- ✓ February 28: Deadline for PAME members to submit any final critical comments (e.g. comments limited to the text changes made to latest version) to PAME leads.
- ✓ March 8-9: PAME Chair presents Toolbox Report to SAOs for approval, noting if there are any outstanding issues (per the Feb 28 receipt of comments).
- ✓ March 31: Deadline for project leads to resolve any outstanding issues for Ministerial approval of the Toolbox Report.