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## Summary of Progress on PAME Activities

PAME's first biennial meeting of 2018 (PAME I-2018) was held in Quebec City, Canada from 12-14 February following pre-meetings of PAME's five thematic expert groups on 11 February (shipping, marine protected areas, ecosystem approach, marine litter and resource development).

### Framework for a Pan-Arctic Network of MPAs

Finland presented a draft proposal for the development of a fact sheet related to Arctic marine climate change impacts. PAME will discuss the proposal with other Working Groups on how to collaborate and coordinate across Working Groups with the aim to develop a joint Working Group proposal to be made available in advance of their Fall 2018 Working Group meetings.

The final reports from the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> MPA workshops were summarized by Finland, Sweden and the USA. Canada and ICC presented updates on the planning of the 4<sup>th</sup> workshop to focus on Exploring Best Practices for Indigenous Involvement in, and Indigenous Led, Marine Protection in the Circumpolar Arctic Ocean, scheduled for the last week of November 2018.

PAME will coordinate with CAFF for a joint session on the Arctic Council's marine protected area efforts at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Arctic Biodiversity Congress in October 2018.

### Ecosystem Approach to Management

The development of EA guidelines was discussed and presented at the Joint PAME EA expert group/ICES 6<sup>th</sup> EA Workshop on Ecosystem Approach Guidelines and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment in January 2018 and at PAME I-2018. PAME agreed to next steps for developing these guidelines for implementing the ecosystem approach to management in the Arctic following the six-element EA framework. This work will be done in consultations with members of the EA expert group (EG) and circulated to all relevant WGs (AMAP, CAFF, PAME and SDWG) for their input. Furthermore, an outline for a session on the draft EA guidelines will be submitted for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Arctic Biodiversity Congress in October 2018 in addition to circulating the draft EA guidelines to all relevant session leads for incorporation into session actions, as relevant.

PAME was informed about work of the ICES/PICES/PAME Working Group on Integrated Ecosystem Assessment in the Central Arctic Ocean (WGICA) and notes the next meeting to be held in St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, 24-26 April 2018.

PAME emphasized efforts to strengthen the communication between the EA-EG co-chairs and the relevant working groups by attending their respective working group meetings for outreach purposes and to inform members about progress, and seek input, as relevant.

### Protection from Invasive Species

PAME and CAFF have agreed to form a joint Coordination Group to guide implementation of the Arctic Invasive Alien Species Strategy and Action Plan (ARIAS) and provide recommendations to both Working Groups regarding potential implementation actions and progress on activities. A revised final report summarizing Arctic examples for Coastal Monitoring of Arctic Invasive Alien Species will be made available to the PAME-CAFF joint Coordination Group as background information for their work.

### Arctic Offshore Resource Exploration and Development

The Resource Exploration and Development Expert Group (REDEG) reported on progress on Part II of the *Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities (MEMA) Project*. Its database has been significantly expanded. REDEG presented a preliminary timeline and table of contents for the final report. The projects' co-leads plan to engage in broader indigenous outreach, including in Russia, and will consider options for future project outputs beyond the report and executive summary, which may include an information handbook. The co-leads will discuss with SDWG and others regarding project follow-up for future use of MEMA products.

PAME noted the relevance of the evolving work of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) in particular the development of Regional Environmental Management Plans (REMP) and draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area.

Finland presented an update on the Arctic EIA project and REDEG noted the importance of involving indigenous peoples early in the process, developing trust, and building relationships for successful and meaningful engagement.

### Desktop Study on Marine Litter, including Microplastics, in the Arctic

The five co-leads (Iceland, Norway, Sweden, AIA and OSPAR) gave a summary of progress to date, including the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the desktop study, literature submissions, communication/outreach material, timeline and a draft agenda for a marine litter workshop (June 2018).

The co-leads will continue to work closely with other Arctic Council working groups, in particular ACAP, AMAP, CAFF, and SDWG and encourages active engagement with relevant experts, observers and international organizations.

### Arctic Shipping Best Practice Information Forum Second Meeting - 14-15 May 2018 (London, UK)

The second meeting of the Arctic Council's Arctic Shipping Best Practices Information Forum will take place 14-15 May 2018 in London. Invitations to this meeting with additional details will be sent by early March.

The purpose of the Arctic Shipping Best Practice Information Forum is to support effective implementation of the IMO's Polar Code by making publicly available on a dedicated web portal information relevant to all those involved in safe and environmentally sound Arctic shipping, including vessels owners/operators, regulators, classification societies, marine insurers, and indigenous and local communities.

## PAME-related Events 2018

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	May	June	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.
6 <sup>th</sup> EA Workshop 9-11 Jan. Seattle, USA	PAME I-2018 Quebec City, Canada  The International Conference on Harmonized Implementation of the Polar Code 22 Feb, Helsinki, Finland	SAO meeting 21-23 Mar. Levi, Finland	2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Arctic Shipping Best Practice Information Forum 14-15 May, London, UK	Marine litter workshop Akureyri, Iceland (TBC)	ASTD workshop Reykjavik, Iceland (TBC)	PAME II-2018 Vladivostok, Russia  Invasive species workshop (Sept/Oct-TBC)	SAO meeting Oct 31-Nov 2 Rovaniemi, Finland  2 <sup>nd</sup> Arctic Biodiversity Congress 9-11 Oct. Rovaniemi, Finland	4 <sup>th</sup> MPA Workshop Canada (TBC)

### Arctic Marine Shipping

PAME, aided by its Shipping Expert Group, advanced several projects and initiatives to promote safe and sustainable navigation in the Arctic. These include a key projects to update the 17 Ministerial-approved Recommendations contained in the 2009 Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (AMSA) Report in consultation with all other Arctic Council Working Groups and Task Forces.

PAME approved the Arctic Shipping Best Practice Information Forum's Methods of Operations and Eligibility Criteria for Information to be Posted to the Web Portal. Proposed launch of the Forum's web portal is planned at the next Forum meeting (13-14 May 2018), which will take place immediately prior to the 99<sup>th</sup> Session of IMO's Marine Safety Committee. The Forum was established by PAME in 2017 to support effective implementation of the IMO's Polar Code.

PAME also made progress on the four projects related to heavy fuel oil (HFO) on its 2017-2019 work plan:

- **HFO Phase IV (a):** *Collect and Report on Information on use of Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) in the Arctic.* Most Arctic States have submitted recent data regarding their flagged commercial vessels and/or vessels that navigate in waters within the Arctic subject to their jurisdiction that burn HFO.
- **HFO Phase IV (b):** *Collect, Report and/or Review Information about On-Shore use by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities of HFO.* PAME approved a field survey developed by the USA, AIA and CCU to gather information on the extent to which indigenous communities rely on HFO to fuel on-shore power and heat generating units as well as ships that use HFO as fuel to deliver supplies and provisions. AIA will distribute the field survey in the coming months. This is a project in collaboration with SDWG.
- **HFO Phase IV (c):** *Prepare an IMO Information Paper Summarizing PAME's Work on HFO.* A paper drafted by Canada and co-sponsored by every other Arctic States was submitted to IMO on 31 January 2018.
- **HFO Phase IV (d):** Explore the Environmental, Economic, Technical and Practical Aspects of the use by Ships in the Arctic of Alternative Fuels. Norway has commissioned DNV GL to prepare a report on this topic. An interim status report was presented at PAME I-2018.

Furthermore, PAME has invited ACAP, AMAP and the Expert Group on Black Carbon and Methane to submit to PAME short summaries of their work related to black carbon, especially as it pertains to shipping.

PAME provisionally approved the Polar Code information brochure prepared by Finland and the Russian Federation. The information brochure is intended for distribution by Arctic States to increase awareness of, and compliance with, IMO Polar Code requirements. PAME adopted a ROD encouraging Arctic States and Observer States to continue to work towards a harmonized and effective implementation of the Polar Code.

PAME approved the joint project with EPPR on Safe and Low Impact Shipping Corridors and the Canada/OSPAR/WWF project proposal on: Underwater Noise in the Arctic – "State of Knowledge Report."

PAME decided to follow up on the paper recently submitted to IMO's Marine Environmental Protection Committee by all Arctic States (MEPC 72/16, Regional Reception Facilities Plan (RRFP) – Outline and Planning Guide for the Arctic). PAME also encouraged Observer States that are members of or have consultative status at the IMO to voice their support for the paper as appropriate.

Significant progress has been made to operationalize the Arctic Ship Traffic Data (ASTD) Project, with voluntary financial contributions received from most Arctic States, requisite equipment purchased, and data streams being incorporated. The ASTD web-portal will be launched later this year.

PAME received responses from seven Observers to the survey developed for the project on "Developing an Approach/Framework for more Systematically Engaging with Observers on PAME's Shipping Related Work". The USA will synthesize the responses and develop a summary report, including a proposal for a workshop to take place in 2019.

PAME has invited all its members to submit to PAME II-2018 meeting draft shipping related project proposals for potential inclusion in PAME's 2019-2021 Work Plan. In so doing, PAME requests its members to ensure that project proposals are consistent with and advance the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (2015-2025), the AOR Final Report (2013), and/or the AMSA (2009). PAME also requests that members explore joint working group opportunities and remain mindful of focusing PAME's shipping related work on the highest priority issues.

### Observers at the PAME I-2018 Meeting

Four Observer States were represented at the meeting i.e.: Germany, the Republic of Korea, Japan and the United Kingdom. Nine Observer Organizations were represented i.e.: Northern Forum, UNEP, OSPAR, UNEP, WWF, OCEANA, CCU, IUCN and EU/EEA.

#### PAME Administration for Next Meeting

The Russian Federation has offered to host the next PAME meeting (PAME II-2018) in Vladivostok in September 2018 (exact dates TBC).



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