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## **SAO Meeting 8-9 March 2017 For information: MEMA Part I Report**

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### Submitted for Information: MEMA Part I Report

The MEMA project set out to “take stock” of existing engagement practices through compiling, comparing and analyzing recommendations, guidelines, requirements, protocols, and policy statements on engagement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in marine activities from the Arctic Council, governments, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, industry, academia, and non-governmental organizations. The project was to generate a database with this information, an analysis, and report and conduct a Workshop on lessons learned and best practices for engagement. Much of this has been done, but more work is needed. Therefore, PAME is submitting the Part I MEMA Report dealing with Arctic Council recommendations and policy as a useful reference and important cornerstone for the completion of the project in the 2017-2019 Finnish Chairmanship.

This Part I MEMA Report concentrates on the recommendations, guidance and policy statements of 18 Reports and II Ministerial Declarations of the Arctic Council on indigenous and local community engagement. It is based on a compilation of the text of these which are contained in an online Annex to the report posted on the PAME Website ([www.pame.is](http://www.pame.is)). The report uses the results of a preliminary analysis of many documents from multiple sources that outlines some major components and elements for meaningful engagement as a way to view the Arctic Council recommendations in a more useful context than simply arranging them according to reports and declarations from whence they came. Final layout will be done by the PAME Secretariat following the Juneau SAO meeting.

While the 2015-2017 PAME workplan called for focusing on both indigenous peoples and local communities, initial work has uncovered information mainly on the former. PAME intends to further discuss whether the final project will stay limited to solely indigenous peoples or fulfill the original project mandate.