



**EPPR** Emergency Prevention Preparedness and Response  A Working Group of the Arctic Council

## Progress report from Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR) working group


Arctic Council's SAO meeting in Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada  
October 22 – 23, 2013

Ole Kristian Bjerkemo, EPPR Chair


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## Outline

- Document 6.5.1 Routines for updating of “Operational Guidelines” of the Agreement on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response in the Arctic
- Document 6.5.2 EPPR Strategic Plan of Action
- Highlights from EPPR’s progress report

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## Document 6.5.1 Routines for updating of “Operational Guidelines” of the Agreement on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response in the Arctic

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## Introduction

- Text from the agreement: “The Operational Guidelines will be included among the Appendices to this agreement and be modified as appropriate. In developing and modifying the Operational Guidelines, the parties shall seek input from relevant stakeholders as appropriate.”
- Text from the Operational Guidelines:
  - should be current and take into consideration findings from joint reviews, joint exercises and training, lessons learned, best practices, relevant experience and any other new information.
  - The EPPR Working Group is responsible for updating the Guidelines in consultation with Competent National Authorities, and should establish a system for doing so.
  - The Guidelines should be made available on the Arctic Council website.

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## EPPR’s agreed proposal for approval

- Updating the OG related to administrative issues will be on the agenda at every EPPR I meeting
  - Proposals 14 days ahead of the EPPR meeting
- On biennial basis EPPR will undertake a complete review
  - Proposals for changes 60 days ahead of the EPPR meeting
  - Consultation with Competent National Authorities or other relevant bodies
  - Revised draft circulated to Permanent Participants, other working groups, observers of the Arctic Council, and other relevant stakeholders for consultation
  - Amendments to the OG
  - The final document will be submitted to Senior Arctic Officials for approval

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## Document 6.5.2 EPPR Strategic Plan of Action (1)

- EPPR’s Operating Guidelines states that the main objectives and priorities for the work of EPPR working group shall normally be included in the “Strategic Plan of Action” which is approved by the SAOs.
- *Vision*
- *Guiding Principles*
  - The involvement of Arctic inhabitants
  - Leveraging the initiatives of others
  - Communication with relevant organizations
  - Cooperation with industry

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## Document 6.5.2 EPPR Strategic Plan of Action (2)

*The Strategic Plan Framework*

- **Objective 1:** Define the risk of potential environmental emergencies due to commercial activities, nuclear/radiological material, and natural disasters in the Arctic
- **Objective 2:** Improve prevention measures aimed at reducing accidents which could result in environmental emergencies in the Arctic
- **Objective 3:** Improve emergency preparedness and response programmes at local, national, regional and international levels, including arrangements for mutual assistance, to ensure they are commensurate with the level of risk that exists.
- **Objective 4:** Information sharing

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## Other EPPR projects

- Recommendations from the RP3 summary report
  - Workshop in Tromsø, Norway November 6.-7 to develop a plan for a Circumpolar Marine Environment Risk Assessment (CMERA)
- IMO Manual in Ice and Snow Conditions
  - Co-leads Norway and Canada

**Circumpolar Marine Environmental Risk Assessment (CMERA)**  
Workshop Program 6-7 November 2013, Tromsø

Day 1: 6th November 09:00 – 17:00

- Welcome and introductions, expectations and objectives (Ann-Helene EPPR Vice Chair and DSR)
- Experience and main findings from previous and relevant work
- **Discussion 1:** "Experience from Market Environmental Assessment" by Marie Kvaloy
- **Discussion 2:** "Environmental Environmental Risk Analysis - Health Issues Areas and Status" by Lars Erik Skjerve, WRI, US, etc.

11:00 Coffee break

- **Discussion 3:** "Experience from Risk analysis of Arctic areas around Greenland" by DTU (Danish Technical University, Denmark)
- **Discussion 4:** "Prevention and preparedness aspects" by Trond Liegemyr, Norwegian Coastal Administration, Norway, etc.

12:00 – 12:30 Lunch

- **Workshop 1:** What are the additional risks related to O&G and shipping in the Arctic?
  - How do you estimate what should be included and focused on in an Arctic assessment?
  - What are the main differences?
  - What is unique in the Arctic?
  - What are the main risks to be considered?

12:30 Coffee break

12:30 Presentation of results by each group (Preworkshop)

12:30 Dinner

Version 4, 6th October 2013

Day 2: 7th November 09:00- 16:00

- Experience and main findings from previous and relevant work
- **Discussion 5:** "Regulation of operations and preparation of vessels?" by Pigg, an Eppr on Arctic director AGO (Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators) US, etc.
- **Discussion 6:** "Safety preparations with state of art and experience related to Arctic related to the O&G sector Arctic, US, etc.
- **Discussion 7:** "Methods and main parameters generally used in Environmental risk assessment" by Ole Kristian Bjerkemo, etc.

11:00 Coffee break

- **Group work 2:** "Main Environmental Issues related to O&G and shipping in the Arctic"
  - Main Parameters and key options to be included
  - Comparison/consideration from regulations etc.

Presentation of results by each group (Preworkshop)

12:00 – 12:30 Lunch

- **Scoping the project**
- Scoping of the proposed "Circumpolar Marine Environmental Risk Assessment project" introduction by Eppr Secretariat and DSR
- **Group work 3:** "Setting the context"
  - Scientific, economic, geopolitical, cultural, historical
  - Oil and mining
  - International, inter-agency and strategic planning group etc.?

12:30 Presentation of results by each group (Preworkshop)

- **Summing up, finalising themes and content of the project, 2014**

12:30 Dinner

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## Recommended Prevention Initiatives

- Improve ice management and detection of hazardous sea ice
- Expand investigation into the use of UAVs to monitor oil spills and ice conditions
- AC should catalog all applicable oil and gas standards for Arctic activities and identify differences in the standards
- Undertake a circumpolar marine environment risk analysis
- Undertake oil spill prevention research and enhance regulatory cooperation (e.g. near-miss database)
- Conduct an analysis of existing and emerging shipping lanes and identify gaps in infrastructure and mapping, and implement appropriate measures

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Thank you for your attention!

Ole Kristian Bjerkemo  
Norwegian Coastal Administration  
E-mail: [eppr.secretariat@kystverket.no](mailto:eppr.secretariat@kystverket.no)  
EPPR web site: <http://www.arctic-council.org/eppr/>