



## **SAO MEETING**

**Tromsø, April 12-13, 2007**

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. Opening of the meeting**

- Welcome by Mr. Karsten Klepsvik, SAO Chair
- Opening remarks by Norwegian State Secretary Liv Monica Stubholt

#### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

#### **3. Approval of ad hoc Observers**

Applications from Italy and the People's Republic of China for Observer status in the Arctic Council have been circulated. The Chair received no objections to the applications and has informed Italy and the People's Republic of China that they may participate as ad-hoc observers to the SAO- and WG-meetings until a final decision can be made at the next ministerial meeting.

#### **4. Arctic Council Secretariat**

Presentation of the new secretariat staff and its responsibilities

#### **5. Update on the Arctic Council Working Group activities**

The presentations from all Working Groups should be focused on their follow-up of the Salekhard Declaration, expected deliverables to the next Ministerial and special issues where directions from the SAOs are required.

Each WG may also give short presentations of recently finalized projects.

- 5.1 ACAP
- 5.2 AMAP
- 5.3 CAFF
- 5.4 EPPR
- 5.5 PAME
- 5.6 SDWG

#### **6. Integrated Ocean Management**

Presentation of proposed Norwegian project on Implementation of Integrated, Ecosystems-based Oceans Management in the Arctic, for Arctic Council consideration.

On the basis of the mandate given at the Salekhard ministerial in 2006 (cfr. SAO Report pp 41-42), Norway initiates a project on integrated oceans management. The project will be a joint SDWG – PAME effort, and will report to those two working groups. A planning meeting providing input to this proposal was held in Tromsø 20-21 February 2007. The project has been considered by PAME at their meeting on 6-7 March and will be considered by SDWG at their meeting in April. Based on recommendations from the two WGs, a draft project proposal will be made available before the meeting.

## **7. Follow-up to climate change**

### **7.1 Climate Impact and Adaptation Assessment**

Presentation of a proposal from Norway on the impacts of reduction in sea ice, a changing Greenland ice sheet and varying snow cover and permafrost conditions for AC consideration.

The objective of the proposed project is to provide the Arctic Council with updated and synthesised knowledge about present and future regional and global consequences of rapid changes in sea ice, melting of the Greenland ice sheet, changes in snow cover and permafrost conditions and thereby provide a solid basis for considering adaptation measures. A draft project proposal will be made available before the meeting.

### **7.2 Adaptation**

Presentation of a proposal from SDWG, based on the Salekhard declaration and the symposium on adoption in Norway in June 2006, regarding sharing of adaptation expertise, best practices and possible actions for AC consideration. The project will be considered by SDWG at their meeting in April and a draft project proposal will be made available at the meeting based on recommendations from SDWG.

### **7.3 Other WG projects on climate change**

Presentations by the Working Groups

## **8. AC activities in support for the International Polar Year**

- Report from the IPY Joint Committee meeting in Paris on February 27-28 presented by Mr. David Carlson
- Tour de table on IPY launch events
- Highlights from the the Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW), briefing from IASC
- How can AC assist in ensuring "legacy" aspects of the IPY

## **9. Presentations from delegations, observers and invited guests.**

### **9.1. The Saami people and the work of the Saami Council**

Short presentation by the Saami Council

### **9.2. Global Outlook for Ice and Snow**

Short presentation by UNEP about the assessment of changes in the global cryosphere which will be released on World Environment Day 2007.

### 9.3. Northern Dimension and the Arctic Council

Short presentation on the status of the work of the Northern Dimension and the relevance for the Arctic Council, by Ambassador Percy Westerlund, EC delegation, Norway and Iceland.

### 9.4. University of the Arctic

Short presentation from University of the Arctic

## **10. Organizational/administrative issues**

### 10.1. Organization of the Arctic Council

The Ministers have in The Salekhard Declaration requested the SAOs to examine the organization of the Arctic Council with a view to improve its effectiveness and efficiency. The Arctic Athabaskan Council has prepared enclosed paper, which will serve as a basis for the discussion.

### 10.2 Endorsement of non Arctic Council activities

The Chair and the Working Groups are occasionally asked to endorse non Arctic Council activities (projects, conferences, etc.) either in writing or by use of our logos. The Working Groups will present their practices. Discussion of ways forward. Do we need common guidelines?

## **11. Any other business**