

# Report: SAO plenary meeting

Oulu, Finland | 25-26 October 2017

*First SAO plenary meeting during the Finnish Chairmanship*

## Acronyms and abbreviations commonly found in Arctic Council reports

AAC	Arctic Athabaskan Council
AACA	Adaptation Actions for a Changing Arctic (AMAP)
ABA	Arctic Biodiversity Assessment (CAFF, 2013)
ACAP	Arctic Contaminants Action Program (1 of 6 Working Groups)
ACGF	Arctic Coast Guard Forum
ACIA	Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (AMAP, 2005)
ACS	Arctic Council Secretariat
AEC	Arctic Economic Council
AIA	Aleut International Association
AMAP	Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (1 of 6 Working Groups)
AMATII	Arctic Maritime and Aviation Transportation Infrastructure Initiative (SDWG)
AMBI	Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative (CAFF initiative)
AMSA	Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (PAME, 2009)
AMSP	Arctic Marine Strategic Plan 2015-2025 (PAME, 2015)
AOA	Arctic Ocean acidification
AORF	Arctic Offshore Regulators' Forum
ARA	Arctic Resilience Assessment
ARAF	Arctic Resilience Action Framework
ARF	Arctic Resilience Forum
ARIAS	Arctic Invasive Alien Species project (CAFF initiative)
ARR	Arctic Resilience Report
ASTD	Arctic Ship Traffic Data project (PAME initiative)
BCM	Black carbon and methane
CAFF	Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (1 of 6 Working Groups)
CBMP	Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CAFF initiative)
CCAC	Climate and Clean Air Coalition
CLEO	Circumpolar Local Environmental Observers [network] (ACAP initiative)

EA	Ecosystem Approach [to Management]
EG / EGs	Expert Group(s)
EGBCM	Expert Group in support of Implementation of the Framework for Action on Black Carbon and Methane
EPPR	Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (1 of 6 Working Groups)
ERMA	Environmental Response Management Application (EPPR initiative)
GCI	Gwich'In Council International
HFO	Heavy Fuel Oil
ICC	Inuit Circumpolar Council
IMO	International Maritime Organization
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
IPCAP	Indigenous Peoples Contaminants Action Program (ACAP Expert Group)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPS	Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat
LRTAP	UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MOSPA	Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response in the Arctic (2013)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Marine protected area
O&G	Oil and gas
OAR	Open Access Repository
PAME	Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (1 of 6 Working Groups)
POPs	Persistent organic pollutants
PP / PPs	Permanent Participant(s)
PSI	Project Support Instrument
RAIPON	Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North
RRFP	[Arctic] Regional Reception Facilities Plan (PAME initiative)
SAMBR	State of the Arctic Marine Biodiversity Report (CAFF initiative)
SAO / SAOs	Senior Arctic Official(s)

SAOC	SAO Chair (Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials)
SAON	Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks
SAOX	Senior Arctic Officials' executive [meeting]
SAR	Search and rescue
SCTF	Task Force on Enhancing Scientific Cooperation in the Arctic
SDGs	[UN] Sustainable Development Goals
SDI	[Arctic] Spatial Data Infrastructure
SDWG	Sustainable Development Working Group (1 of 6 Working Groups)
SLCFs	Short-lived climate forcers
SLCPs	Short-lived climate pollutants
SWIPA	Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (AMAP)
TF / TFs	Task Force(s)
TFAMC	Task Force on Arctic Marine Cooperation
TFICA	Task Force on Improved Connectivity in the Arctic
TFOPP	Task Force on Arctic Marine Oil Pollution Prevention
TFTIA	Task Force on Telecommunications Infrastructure in the Arctic
TLK	Traditional and local knowledge
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
WG	Working Group
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Welcome remarks

The SAOC opened the plenary meeting. Ms. Päivi Laajala, the Mayor of Oulu, provided welcoming remarks on behalf of the host city.

## 1.2. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

# 2. Read-out of SAO executive meeting

The SAOC provided information on issues discussed in the SAO executive meeting held on 24 October 2017. He noted the following points in particular.

- Ms. Nina Buvang Vaaja was selected as the director of the ACS.
- Terms of Reference for an external evaluation of the PSI were approved.
- There was a discussion of the Finnish initiative to convene a meeting of Arctic environment ministers in October 2018 in Rovaniemi.
- There was a discussion of a possible cooperation with the OECD analyzing the economic impacts of black carbon.
- There was a discussion of developing a strategic plan for the Arctic Council.

# 3. Arctic Council Secretariat update

The newly-confirmed director of the ACS Ms. Nina Buvang Vaaja thanked the SAOs and PPs for entrusting her with the leadership of the ACS. She thanked both the U.S. and Finnish Chairmanships for their cooperation and support during 2017, and expressed readiness to strengthen cooperation with the Working Groups.

She emphasized that the ACS is operating well within its approved budget, and thanked the governments of the U.S. and Canada for recent voluntary additional contributions to the ACS operations. She introduced the 13 employees of the ACS, including two with the IPS and two secondments, one from the Kingdom of Denmark and one from the Russian Federation.

She welcomed the completion of the historical archive ([oaarchive.arctic-council.org](http://oaarchive.arctic-council.org)). On the communications front, she referred to communications activities during the 10<sup>th</sup> Arctic Council Ministerial meeting.

The ACS is now preparing to move to “Fram 2”, the building that will house its new offices. The new offices will have 19 workspaces, fourteen for the ACS and five for AMAP. The move will not interrupt the functions of the ACS.

## 4. Scientific cooperation agreement

Ms. Hanne Fugl Eskjær, SAO for the Kingdom of Denmark, provided an update on the status of ratification of the scientific cooperation agreement, signed in 2017. The Kingdom of Denmark is the depositary for the agreement. Sweden, the United States, and Finland have completed their internal procedures. The remaining States indicated that they will soon complete their internal procedures.

The Kingdom of Denmark is tentatively planning a follow-up event in the fall of 2018, depending on the progress toward entry-into-force of the agreement.

## 5. Arctic Council’s presence at UNFCCC COP-23

Ms. Henna Haapala from the Finnish Ministry of Environment and Ms. Marianne Kroglund, the AMAP Chair, provided brief background on the organizing of the Arctic Council’s official side event at COP23 in Bonn, Germany, scheduled for Monday 6 November. They highlighted this as a good example of cooperation between AMAP, CAFF and the ACS, pointing to both the subject matter and the list of speakers, as well as to the communications materials prepared and distributed for the event.

ICC expressed an interest in providing a speaker for the event, and the Kingdom of Denmark proposed that a “lessons learned” report be prepared afterwards to help in planning of possible future events. Several delegations were emphatic that making the “Arctic voice” heard at such events is important.

The United States asked whether the speakers and presentations had been approved by the national heads of delegation for those Working Groups concerned. The presenters responded that the AMAP board had been engaged, and that the material and speakers would mainly come directly from existing AMAP work. The AMAP Chair also noted that, due to uncertainty about the actual date of the event, it had been difficult to find speakers available on short notice to take part.

## 6. Task Force updates

### 6.1. Task Force on Arctic Marine Cooperation (TFAMC)

Ms. Anita Mäkinen, the Finnish co-Chair of the TFAMC, outlined the mandate of the TFAMC and the details of its work to develop terms of reference for a potential new subsidiary body, as well as recommendations for complementary enhancements to existing Arctic Council mechanisms. The group’s first meeting was held in Helsinki in September of 2017, and the co-Chairs presented a non-

paper at that meeting for the consideration of the group, as well as a road map for future work in 2017-2019.

The TFAMC concluded in its discussions in Helsinki that it is difficult to decide on the optimal form for a potential new subsidiary body without first fleshing out its desired functions thoroughly (“form follows function”). The Task Force also found it premature to discuss complementary enhancements to existing mechanisms without first speaking with the WGs about where they might see opportunities to enhance their own functioning and cooperation on marine issues.

The co-Chairs will draft a new non-paper and a questionnaire to be sent to the Working Groups by the end of October 2017. The deadline for comments concerning the questionnaire will be the end of November and concerning the non-paper mid-December. The co-Chairs will then distribute a revised version of the non-paper prior to the TFAMC meeting to be held in February. The co-Chairs have also decided to attend some of the upcoming WG meetings in order to gather and share information.

During the discussion, several delegations emphasized the importance of including WGs in the proceedings of the TFAMC, including by distributing documents and meeting reports. This was in part important to ensure that the work of any hypothetical subsidiary body would complement, and not duplicate, the work of the Working Groups. Multiple delegations also pointed out the close connection between the work of this Task Force and the strategic planning work taking place in parallel, and noted that the decision to create a new subsidiary body has not yet been taken; the mandate of the TFAMC is to lay out the terms of reference for a *potential* new subsidiary body.

Several States emphasized the importance of the Arctic Council as a preferred body in which to address Arctic marine issues.

The SAOC noted that the SAOs are following the work of the TFAMC closely. He reemphasized the mandate of the TFAMC. That mandate is to prepare terms of reference for a possible new subsidiary body, and recommendations for complementary enhancements to existing Arctic Council mechanisms, and the mandate does not go beyond that.

## 6.2. Task Force on Improved Connectivity in the Arctic (TFICA)

Ms. Marjukka Vihavainen-Pitkänen, the Finnish co-Chair of the TFICA, presented a brief update on this Task Force, although it had not yet met as of October 2017. This work builds on the work of the TFTA, which ran during the U.S. Chairmanship from 2015-2017. The co-Chairs have had initial discussions on a work plan and agenda for the first meeting in Helsinki to be held on 21 November. The goal of the first meeting is to agree on a specific structure for the work plan and report, as well as on appropriate segmentation of user groups according to geography and terrain. The TFICA should focus on making an overview of pan-Arctic geographic gaps in infrastructure, building on the report of the TFTA.

During the discussion, delegates pointed out the value of drawing upon the WGs’ experience related to science, environmental observations, shipping, and emergency response. They also noted the importance of engaging the business community, including the AEC, and cited the numerous ways in which the TFICA’s work on connectivity could provide benefit to Arctic communities.

## 7. Thematic discussion: pollution prevention

### **Background and discussion**

Presenters for this agenda point included the Chairs of three Working Groups — Mr. Ulrik Westman of ACAP, Ms. Marianne Kroglund of AMAP, Mr. Peter Holst-Andersen of EPPR, and the vice-Chair of PAME, Ms. Elizabeth McLanahan — as well as Ms. Henna Haapala of Finland, Dr. Mikael Hildén, the Chair of the Arctic Council's EGBCM, and Mr. Jan Dusik of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). They presented their work related to mercury, SLCPs, persistent organic pollutants, chemicals of emerging concern, marine litter, oil spills, radioactivity, and shipping-related issues including heavy fuel oil (HFO), noise pollution and invasive species.

During the wide-ranging discussion that followed, delegates expressed numerous positive reactions to the presentations. They observed that the breadth of the Arctic Council's work in this area is impressive, and that it demonstrates recent improvements in collaboration between the Working Groups and in contributions from Observers to this work. At the same time, several SAOs observed that this information, as presented, was "overwhelming," and that some steps to focus its presentation could be useful.

Several delegates spoke positively about the numerous avenues of cooperation with other bodies (for example UNEP or the IMO) to address the issue of Arctic pollution. Global actions were seen as vital for the Arctic alongside regional action by the Arctic States. Several delegations emphasized the importance of engaging in dialogue with the business community in reducing pollution.

Russia noted that it is more and more interested to address the issue of pollution and plans strengthened participation in the work of the EGBCM. The U.S. stressed the importance of the work on black carbon for the Arctic and thanked Finland for raising the issue at a high political level.

Several delegates raised the negative effects of pollution on food security for Arctic inhabitants and the importance to communicate the research results in detail and with accuracy, especially in case of traditional foods.

Finally, several Arctic States expressed the wish to seek better and more proactive implementation of the recommendations emerging from this work, in hopes of actually achieving reductions of pollutants, rather than only assessing their state and level of threat to the Arctic environment.

### **Summary / Conclusion**

The SAOC concluded the discussion with thanks to the presenters for providing such a volume of information on both the substance and the process of their work on pollution prevention. He noted a general sense of pride in the room at the work of the Arctic Council in this area. Despite the breadth of the presentations, he noted that nobody said that there was too much work going on in pollution prevention. This discussion would feed into both the Observer special session on the following day, and into preparations for the environment ministers' meeting planned for 2018.



## 8. Update on adaptation and resilience

Working Groups AMAP and SDWG presented their work related to adaptation and resilience, including the AACA project (within AMAP) and the Arctic Resilience Action Framework (ARAF). Mr. Johan Kuylenstierna from the Swedish Environmental Institute, speaking on behalf of SDWG, also reviewed the Arctic Resilience Report and provided a few introductory words about the planned Arctic Resilience Forum (ARF) scheduled for September 2018 in Rovaniemi, Finland. The event is being prepared by the ARAF implementation team. He asked the States, PPs, WGs, and Observers to provide names of individuals who should be invited to the ARF.

Reactions to the presentations were largely positive, and focused in large measure on the value of the AACA and the positive prospects for future work under the ARAF. Some concern was expressed with regard to the complexity of the issue of resilience and adaptation, as well as for the challenges that accompany integrating the resilience work into the work of SDWG. States and PPs were reminded to nominate members for the ARAF implementation team. Some speakers mentioned the opportunity for ARAF to use information and lessons learnt provided by AACA.

The Saami Council spoke strongly about the value of integrating TLK into these processes. Their remarks were supported by other PPs. GCI expressed their concern on the limited resources of the PPs to take part in the Arctic Council's resilience work while their resilience is in practice facing potential major threats, such as the possible opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska for oil exploration with negative impacts on the migratory porcupine caribou herd.

## 9. Update on the Arctic Economic Council

The chairman of the Arctic Economic Council, Mr. Tero Vauraste, began by thanking numerous delegations in the room for their various roles in supporting the AEC during its startup phase. He pointed out that the AEC is mentioned in three places in the Fairbanks Declaration, related to connectivity, infrastructure, and general consultation. He also observed that the small population of the Arctic region means that it's necessary to (1) link with global markets and (2) pursue public-private partnerships to grow sustainable economic development in the region. He also cited the need for stable and predictable regulatory frameworks, and expressed a hope to see a growing contingent of people from the business community engaged with the Arctic Council's proceedings.

He provided an overview of the AEC's forthcoming Arctic business analysis, conducted jointly with the Nordic Council of Ministers, and he pointed out the AEC's current working groups on maritime transportation, telecommunications, and responsible resource development.

During the discussion, most delegations were enthusiastic about the AEC's accomplishments despite its relative youth, and they expressed hope for the future collaboration between the AEC and the Arctic Council as well. Both current Chair Finland (2017-2019) and next Chair Iceland (2019-2021) noted the value of close cooperation with the AEC in preparing their Chairmanship programs, and CAFF thanked the AEC for its willingness to serve on the industry advisory committee for the upcoming Arctic Biodiversity Congress (2018). The Kingdom of Denmark drew attention to the high-level conference 1 December in Copenhagen on the SDGs and the Arctic, where AEC, together with

the Kingdom of Denmark, is a partner. The KoD also mentioned its on-going dialogue with the AEC on developing an analysis on private sector engagement in the Arctic.

Delegates also expressed support for the AEC's plans to seek more global engagement, as well as engagement with the relevant Arctic Council Working Groups, including SDWG. The PPs indicated their hope for a continued focus on growth that benefits traditional economies, and asked how PPs are being engaged. The AEC chairman responded that there are representatives of indigenous businesses both within the AEC's governance committee and within its working groups.

In response to an inquiry about changes in membership targets, the AEC chairman explained an upcoming simplification of membership categories down to two – one for larger companies and one for smaller firms.

## 10. Observer special session

### 10.1. Observer review process

The SAOC provided Observers with an overview of the ongoing review process and the requirements for Observers scheduled for a review during the Finnish Chairmanship (2017-2019). A total of 18 Observers admitted during 2000-2015 will be subject to review. The procedure will be the same as during the U.S. Chairmanship. At the beginning of 2018 the Observers up for review will receive a template which will need to be completed and returned before 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2018. The SAOs will examine and discuss the Observers' submissions and include their conclusions in the SAO report to Ministers in 2019. Any questions related to the process can be addressed to the Finnish Chairmanship or the Arctic Council Secretariat.

### 10.2. Presentation of new Observers

Out of the seven new Observers admitted to the Arctic Council in May 2017, five were present (National Geographic Society, West Nordic Council, World Meteorological Organization, OSPAR Commission and Switzerland). At the invitation of the SAOC they presented their Arctic-related activities.

The **National Geographic Society** combines science and storytelling to further global understanding of topics such as changing polar systems, ocean conservation, marine plastics, and empowering the global community to generate solutions for a sustainable future. As an example of positive cooperation with Arctic States, the expansion of the Russian Arctic National Park with the Franz Josef Land Archipelago was mentioned.

The **OSPAR Commission** stands ready to work with the Council's Working Groups on ocean acidification, transport of chemicals, prevention of pollution and marine litter, and is willing to share its experiences from developing a regional action plan. OSPAR views cooperation with the Arctic Council as fundamental to marine environment protection.

As one of the oldest Arctic cooperation mechanisms the **West Nordic Council** works to promote West Nordic natural resources and culture. The West Nordic Council intends to focus on the work of the SDWG and contribute with expertise on sustainable development, environmental protection and the well-being of the Arctic region's inhabitants.

The **World Meteorological Organization** (WMO) is specialized in weather, climate and water, and hosts the International Panel on Climate Change. The Secretary General of the WMO described global trends related to climate change and pollution. The Arctic is a special area from a climate perspective. Warming in the Arctic increases twice as much as elsewhere and changes in the Arctic have a global impact. Enhanced observation in the Arctic and improved modeling skills can make forecasts more accurate.

As an Alpine country, **Switzerland** is affected by climate change and changes in flora and fauna. Switzerland has experience from Arctic projects in cooperation with several Arctic Council Member States and has connected with AMAP, PAME and SDWG. Switzerland has reached out to PPs and will also host a large Polar scientific conference in Davos on June 15-26, 2018.

Information concerning the **International Council for the Exploration of the Sea** is available at the Arctic Council website.

### 10.3. Work of the Observers on Pollution Prevention in the Arctic

The Observers presented a wide range of their activities related to pollution prevention in the Arctic. Observers listed their active participation in negotiating and implementing international agreements which set standards for pollution prevention such as the Minamata Convention, CLRTAP and the Polar Code. Observers actively participate in a number of research programs in the Arctic which contribute to producing new scientific knowledge about pollution prevention. Some Observers have their own research stations in the Arctic, others work in close cooperation with researchers from Arctic Council Member States. Observers contribute experts to the Working Groups, provide scientific data for reports, finance specific projects and join exercises. A number of Observer States have voluntarily committed to submitting black carbon emission inventories. Observers are actively involved in research and development and finding alternatives to pollutants such as heavy fuel oil, promoting clean vehicles and aiming for green growth and circular economies.

Some Observers stressed the need to ensure research in social sciences and health issues related to pollution prevention. Pollution is a consequence of human activities and its impacts affect human beings.

Observers appreciated the opportunity to share information on their pollution prevention efforts and thus describe their active involvement in this important part of the Arctic Council's work.

The SAOC encouraged the Observers to send their presentations to the Arctic Council Secretariat with a view to make the presentations available for all participants on SharePoint. The SAOC stressed that the Observers' presentations complemented the discussion on pollution presentation during day 1 of the plenary session and illustrated that pollution does not know any boundaries.

## 11. Thematic discussion: education

### Background and discussion

The SAOC introduced the background document on Arctic cooperation in education which briefly described current work undertaken by the SDWG and UArctic.

Ms. Satu Paasilehto from the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture presented Finland's approach to 1) the role of education in general; 2) the role of education at national level; and 3) education as a priority for the Finnish Chairmanship. Finland has received high scores in the OECD PISA reports, but she underlined that education systems need to meet local circumstances and cannot generally be copied from one context to another.

One size does not fit all. Equal access to good basic education is crucial and one of the key goals of Agenda 2030. Likewise, gender equality in education is essential to sustainable development. Digitalization can help provide access but it has to be combined with teacher education and methodological development.

The Chair of the SDWG, Mr. Pekka Shemeikka, provided a brief overview of SDWG's current work on education including on-going projects on teacher education and early childhood education and looked forward to continuing cooperation with States and PPs on developing and sharing best practices.

The president of the UArctic, Mr. Lars Kullerud, presented the educational programs and the current thematic networks that the institutions involved in UArctic, including institutions from Observer States, are hosting. The next UArctic Congress will take place in Oulu and in Helsinki on 3-6 September 2018. Education in the Arctic should be of high quality and relevant for students and communities in the North. Vocational education should receive more attention.

The Chair of CAFF, Dr. Cynthia Jacobson, presented the CAFF education program which has components addressing children, youth, early career scientists and capacity building. The latter component includes co-production of knowledge among scientists and traditional knowledge holders. Dr. Jacobson also discussed the CAFF Youth Exchange Program and reported on a successful immersion week in Iceland (October 2017) in which youth from Alaska, Norway, Yakutia, Singapore and Korea participated in focus groups and in meetings to learn about Arctic organizations and issues from Arctic Member and Observer states.

During the ensuing discussion, several delegates commended the focus on education. The PPs referred to the Ottawa principles on traditional and local knowledge and the need to engage indigenous academics and professionals in knowledge production. The recognition, preservation and promotion of indigenous languages was found to be essential. In the past education has been a traumatic experience for some indigenous peoples, because it has been used as a means of assimilation.

RAIPON shared information on an upcoming congress for native language teachers in Saint Petersburg in November 2017, and ICC provided information on an education summit to take place in Nuuk, Greenland in February, 2018.

## 12. Working Group progress reports

The US SAO expressed appreciation of the 2-pagers produced by Working Groups after their meetings. They gave a useful and timely overview of on-going work. The US asked a question about the role of WWF as co-leader of a project on underwater noise. PAME explained that their understanding of the Rules of Procedure is that Observers can act as co-leads. Further, the much-appreciated WWF contribution to the project was below 50 % of the budget as per the observer manual.

The Canadian SAO informed delegates of an upcoming meeting of the Global Methane Initiative (GMI) in Toronto in April 2018, and that the ACAP is considering having its Working Group meeting take place back to back with the GMI meeting to allow delegates to also attend that international meeting.

## 13. Any other business

Finland announced that the Rovaniemi Arctic Spirit to be held on 14-16 November would be the first major Arctic conference of the Finnish Chairmanship. The conference would bring the UN SDGs closer to Arctic science and development and enable participants to reflect on Arctic cooperation from an Agenda 2030 viewpoint. A symposium on Polar Law is being integrated in to the conference. The conference will take place in Rovaniemi where the first Arctic Ministerial meeting was held in 1991, launching the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS). It was also to be a celebration of Finland's 100-year anniversary.

The AAC informed about a new project on resilience and sustainability involving caribou rangers. While the project is outside the framework of the Arctic Council, its focus on community based solutions, resilience to pesticides, food systems, and loss of biodiversity have applicability to the Council's work.

Norway announced that Arctic Frontiers 2018 would be held in Tromsø on 21-26 January 2018. Norway will invite the SAOs and PP HoDs for a dinner at the beginning of the conference. Observer countries will be invited to an Arctic Frontiers Plus segment dealing with science diplomacy.

The Icelandic SAO, Mr. Arni Thor Sigurdsson, announced that he would take up the function of Ambassador to Finland as of January 2018. He thanked fellow SAOs, PPs, Working Groups and ACS staff for their excellent cooperation and for creating a constructive and peaceful atmosphere.

The SAOC wished the Icelandic SAO all the best in his new function.

The SAOC thanked all participants for contributing to making the meeting efficient and pleasant. The next SAO meeting will be held in Kittilä on 22-23 March 2018. As Kittilä is a ski resort and March is the peak tourist season, the deadline for registration will be earlier than usual. The deadline for registration will be 16 January 2018.