

Meeting of Senior Arctic Officials
DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA
28-29 November 2007
Narvik, Norway

Meeting convenes at 09:00

1. Welcoming Remarks

2. Introduction to Narvik and Social Events

3. Introduction of new SAOs, PPs and Observers

4. Approval of the Agenda

5. Approval of New Observers (10 minutes)

Background: Ad-Hoc Observer applications circulated for comment and approval ahead of this meeting. The EEA is attending as a member of the EC delegation.

- European Commission will give a 3 minute statement

Action: Approval of the European Commission as an ad-hoc observer.

6. Approval of Draft Report of Minutes and Record of Decisions of the SAO Meeting, 12-13 April 2007, Tromsø, Norway.

Action: SAOs are requested to approve the Draft Report of Minutes and Record of Decisions of the SAO Meeting, 12-13 April 2007 in Tromsø, Norway.

<i>Documentation:</i> Draft Report of Minutes and Record of Decisions of the SAO Meeting, 12-13 April 2007, Tromsø, Norway. Last updated 18 November 2007. Doc #: 11/07-6.0

7. Update on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Action Plan (SDAP)

Background: In Salekhard, Ministers noted with appreciation approval of the mechanism to implement the SDAP. All working groups were encouraged to use the SDAP framework to identify gaps and define measures to eliminate those gaps and to continuously update the data base adherent to the mechanism.

Action: For information purposes.

<i>Documentation:</i> Updated SDAP Table of Actions. Doc #:11/07-7.0
--

8. Presentations from Working Groups (items requiring SAO decision or guidance)

8.1. ACAP (30 minutes)

ACAP will present 4 projects requiring SAO action

8.1a ACAP Indigenous Peoples Community Action Initiative (10 minutes)

Background: In Salekhard, Ministers welcomed the new ACAP Initiative to develop partnerships with the Permanent Participants to identify and remove local sources of contamination and improve environmental conditions in indigenous communities. We have completed two demonstration projects in the Nenets Autonomous District with RAIPON and in Fort Yukon, Alaska with Gwich'in Council International to remove PCBs and pesticides. We have expanded the initiative into Chukotka with RAIPON and Aleutian-Pribilof Islands Association (APIA – a US member of AIA) to analyze and remove drums of toxic and hazardous waste from two coastal villages, which show high PCB-contamination in the blood of the local residents.

Action: SAOs and Permanent Participants are invited to support and comment on the recommendation to expand this work to other indigenous communities through more active participation of the PPs and the IPS in the development, coordination and reporting of these initiatives.

8.1b Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy (IHWMS) (5 minutes)

Background: In Salekhard, Ministers encouraged cooperation between ACAP and the Russian Federation to develop an IHWMS to accelerate progress of ACAP projects in the Arctic, specifically the PCB and Obsolete Pesticides projects. The IHWMS also supports the Ministers objective for ACAP to further the implementation of the Stockholm and LRTAP Conventions. ACAP is now in the process of developing the Terms of Reference for this initiative to include the possibility of up to two demonstration projects in the Russian Arctic to validate this strategy. Russia has volunteered to fund the development of the IHWMS at an estimated cost of up to \$1.04 Million USD.

Ref. discussion also under agenda item 17.1.

Action: SAO's are asked to support this financial contribution as a Russian contribution to the funding objectives of the Project Support Instrument. This funding will directly further the objectives of the Salekhard Ministerial Declaration and the ACAP PCB and Obsolete Pesticides Projects.

8.1c ACAP Cleaner Production Program at Norilsk Nickel Company - This presentation may be given by a representative from Norilsk Nickel. (5 minutes)

Background: ACAP developed a model Cleaner Production Program at Norilsk Nickel Company, a significant emitter of pollutants in the Arctic.

ACAP reported on the successful completion of this model demonstration project at the Ministerial meeting in Reykjavik on 24 November 2004. This ACAP Cleaner Production Project has been awarded the highest Russian Environmental Award - - the "Vernadsky" Diploma by the Russian Duma. A critical measure of success for this project was the sustainability of the cleaner production initiatives by Norilsk Nickel after ACAP completed its model demonstration project. In 2007, Norilsk Nickel completed it's 5th Cleaner

Production Program, resulting in significant additional measurable environmental achievements.

Action: For information and agreement by SAOs to continue Cleaner Production Initiatives as an effective approach to reduce contaminants in other industrial sectors.

8.1d Work with non-Arctic countries that are sources of significant Arctic contamination (3 Minutes)

Background: Results of AMAP and other international monitoring programs have demonstrated that some significant sources of Arctic contamination arise from non-Arctic countries. This suggests that ACAP should expand its focus and work to include countries that are not members of the Arctic Council to more effectively reduce and eliminate pollution of the Arctic - the ACAP mandate.

Action: SAOs are requested to support the wider participation of non-Arctic countries with significant sources of contamination to the Arctic, so that actions can be taken to address these contaminants.

Documentation: ACAP Progress Report to SAOs [Doc#: 11/07-8.1](#)

8.2. AMAP (20 minutes)

8.2a Workshop on the application of Unmanned Aircraft Systems

Background: AMAP Climate Expert Group has recommended that AMAP organize a workshop on the application of Unmanned Aircraft Systems to science and environmental issues in the Arctic.

Action: SAOs are requested to express their views on this recommendation, and, if appropriate, assist AMAP in identifying key experts and sources of travel support for the experts to attend the workshop.

8.2b Non-CO2 drivers of climate change

Background: AMAP Climate Expert Group has also recommended that AMAP look further into the situation regarding non-CO2 drivers of climate change (i.e. black carbon, tropospheric ozone, methane) and their potential effects on the melting of Arctic ice and snow. A workshop on this topic was held in Oslo 7-8 November and AMAP will inform SAOs of its major conclusions. At its next meeting, AMAP will consider how to respond to the workshop recommendations and may propose specific action at the SAO meeting in early 2008.

Action: SAOs are requested to express their initial views on the role of the Arctic Council in work on non-CO2 drivers, and, if appropriate, assist AMAP in identifying key experts who could help AMAP define future actions.

Documentation: AMAP Progress Report to SAOs [Doc#: 11/07-8.2a](#); Black Carbon Initiative Report [Doc#: 11/07-8.2b](#); Oslo Meeting Recommendations [Doc#: 11/07-8.2c](#)

8.3. CAFF (15 minutes)

Background: CAFF will present progress on the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment (ABA). The ABA was endorsed by the Arctic Council Ministers in Salekhard 2006. The ABA is part of CAFFs follow-up to the biodiversity-related recommendations set forth in the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment. The ABA will provide a synthesis of the most current scientific research and Traditional Ecological Knowledge on Arctic biodiversity. This information is necessary for governments, organizations, and peoples of the Arctic region to help ensure the sustainability of Arctic biodiversity and Arctic communities.

Action: SAOs are requested to consider the possibility to identify country co-leads, and consider possible future funding commitments.

Documentation: CAFF Overview of Presentation [Doc#: 11/07-8.3a](#). CAFF Progress Report to SAOs [Doc#: 11/07-8.3b](#). The Arctic Biodiversity Assessment Workplan and Financial Strategy [Doc#: 11/07-8.3c](#).

8.4. EPPR (25 minutes)

Background: In this report, EPPR will present the outcomes from their last meeting in Svalbard 23-26 April 2007, and the main priorities of the EPPR WG in 2008.

As announced in the EPPR report to the SAOs in April, the work to improve the “Circumpolar map of natural resources at risk from oil spills” has started up. Based on discussions with AMAP and CAFF, EPPR will suggest arranging a workshop early in 2008 on circumpolar maps. The workshop should include representatives from the different AC WGs and other relevant external parties. The results from the workshop will be presented at the next SAO-meeting.

Action: SAOs are requested to endorse EPPRs workplan for 2007 – 2009 updated at the EPPR meeting in April 2007. The SAOs are also requested to comment on the approach for future development of Circumpolar maps.

8.4a Progress report on Russian initiative on system of emergency prevention in Port Varandey (3 minutes)

Background: This new Russian project "An accident prevention and safety systems development in economic and infrastructural projects in Arctic" was presented in Tromsø at the April 2007 SAO meeting, and discussed at the EPPR WG meeting in Svalbard. Now we can inform about the progress of the project and activities in 2008. It is planned to organize full scale exercise on Varandey oil terminal in Barents Sea to prevent possible emergencies.

Action: For information and guidance from SAOs on continuing work, and invitation for other countries to join the project.

Documentation: EPPR Progress Report to SAOs [Doc#: 11/07-8.4](#)

8.5. PAME (15 minutes)

Background: PAME will report on general progress and identification/confirmations on collaborative efforts with other AC working groups on PAME-related activities; progress on

updating the 2002 Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines and an announcement of an upcoming workshop on this issue; progress on the Ecosystem approach work (LMEs) and linkages with current work of other working groups of the Arctic Council (e.g. the AMAP Oil and Gas Assessment); general milestones and upcoming meetings.

Action: For information purposes.

Documentation: PAME Progress Report to SAOs [Doc#: 11/07-8.5](#)

8.6. SDWG (15 minutes)

Background: The SDWG met in Vadsø, Norway from 30 October to 01 November. Many issues from the SDWG meeting are separate information items on the SAO agenda and will not be reviewed in detail by the SDWG Chair during his report. Part 3 of the SDWG Report contains items that require SAO decision or guidance.

Action: SDWG items identified for SAO decisions or guidance include approval of a new project on a Circumpolar Information Tool Kit on Minerals, and Oil and Gas for Indigenous People and Northern Communities (Lead country: Canada)

Documentation: SDWG Progress Report to SAOs [Doc#: 11/07-8.6a](#)

8.6 b. Russian proposal for a project on satellite system development for the Arctic region

Background: This item was submitted directly to SAOs by Russia for their consideration. The Arctic Council Member States are being asked to participate in defining basic technical parameters of the mentioned above system with the view to get the system running in order to serve the needs of Arctic Council Member States for aviation and marine fleet management, urgent meteorological monitoring, and organization of radio and TV broadcasting. The major part of the project is supposed to be financed by the budget of the Russian Federation, partial financing for the system building is expected to come from the interested Arctic states.

Action: The SDWG received a technical presentation on this matter at its Vadsø meeting in late October. The request to put this item on the SDWG agenda, and the brief documentation which accompanied this request, were not received within the 90 days required by the SDWG procedures for submission of new proposals. The SDWG therefore treated this as an information item. If this item is to be submitted as a formal proposal at a future SDWG meeting, it will be necessary to receive it on a timely basis in the format required by the SDWG procedures.

Documentation: SDWG Progress Report to SAOs [Doc#: 11/07-8.6a](#); Russian Proposal on satellite system development [Doc#11/07-8.6b](#); Circumpolar Information Tool Kit on Minerals, and Oil and Gas for Indigenous People and Northern Communities [Doc#: 11/07-8.6c](#)

THEMATIC AREAS

9. Climate Change

9.1. Progress report on Climate Change and the Cryosphere – Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic - SWIPA (AMAP to present – 15 minutes)

Background: Project is now referred to as SWIPA – Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic. 3rd draft implementation plan is hereby submitted to SAOs for review. This draft includes: a) Proposal for management, structure and responsibilities; b) Deliverables; c) List of contents for all sub-projects; d) Time schedules for the different sub-projects; e) List of important IPY projects, national and international programs of interest to establish a close cooperation with; f) Names of experts proposed as lead-scientists and contributing scientists (this list is being updated based on several new proposals received over the last few days); g) Financing.

Action: SAOs are requested to approve the project to move forward.

Documentation: Climate Change and the Cryosphere: SWIPA Draft Oct 27 2007
Doc# 11/07-9.1a; Letter to SAOs Oct 28 Doc# 11/07-9.1b

9.2. Presentation on Adaptation project – (SDWG to present -10 minutes)

Background: Norway, as the lead country on this project, prepared a project proposal which was approved by SAOs in July. Status report of this project will be presented.

Norway will give a short status report on the EALAT project on reindeer herding adaptation to climate change. (5 minutes)

Action: For information purposes.

Documentation: Project update on VACCA: Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Arctic. Status report from the Project Coordinator 26 September 2007 written for the SDWG meeting Doc#: 11/07-9.2a; VACCA Project Proposal Doc#: 11/07-9.2b

9.3. Presentation on Climate Change Sound Water Management and Ice Conditions of Large Siberian Rivers – proposal by Russian Federation (10 minutes)

Background: At the SAO Meeting in Reykjavik in 2004, the results of the Regional Project "Dialogue on Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in Water Management and Flood preparedness at the Lena Basin" implemented with AMAP in 2002-2004 were reported and approved.

At the same period, at the Ministerial Meeting, the RF and UNEP/GEF delegations agreed on the necessity to continue and expand the Project for several large Siberian rivers in the format of the GEF medium-sized project with the active participation of AMAP.

During the next three years, AMAP and UNEP/GEF have been preparing this in close cooperation with the Russian team. The Project provides for obtaining the assessments of Social and Economic consequences of the changes due to global climate changes in river runoff and ice conditions, water pollution and pollutants transport to the Arctic Ocean for the basins of Lena, Ob and Northern Dvina Rivers as well as for developing recommendations on the adaptation of separate social and economic components including the problem of life activities of indigenous population mostly addressed to regional administrations. At present, the Project is ready to be submitted to UNEP/GEF.

Action: For information purposes. SAO's are requested to support the Project especially in terms of studying the possibilities of co-financing.

10. Energy

10.1. AMAP Oil and Gas Assessment (*total presentation time is 3.5 hours*)

- i. Summary of key scientific data in chapters 2-6. 10 minutes per chapter (this is a quick guide to the basic facts) (*50 minutes*)
- ii. Summary of chapter 7, the science conclusions and recommendations - (this is the summation of the science by the authors themselves) (*30 minutes*)
- iii. Summary of the Overview report and the key findings - (this is the integrated summary of the science organized around key findings rather than science disciplines) (*30 minutes*)
- iv. AMAP's conclusions and recommendations - (this is the view of the AMAP WG based on the science) (*30 minutes*)
- v. Tentative schedule for presenting Oil and Gas Assessment at international meetings and conferences: 1) Arctic Frontiers 2008; 2) Russia Offshore 2008 Conference in Moscow; 3) Alaska Forum on the Environment, Anchorage (*10 minutes*)
- vi. Discussion – (*60 minutes*)

Background: Presentation of the key scientific data within the Science Report, Overview Report, and key findings and recommendations. These presentations will be made by some of the leads of, and key scientists involved in, the preparation of the OGA. There will be time for discussion and questions.

For the wider release of the OGA, AMAP has previously informed the SAOs of plans to present the findings of the OGA at suitable events in North America, Scandinavia, and Russia - to facilitate out-reach within each of the geographical areas where Arctic oil and gas activities are taking place. The Arctic Frontiers Conference (which AMAP will co-sponsor) in Tromsø, January 21-25, 2008 represents an ideal opportunity to present the scientific results of the OGA in one of these regions - and to have an open scientific discussion of the results. The Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs has already confirmed that he will attend this conference, and this therefore provides an opportunity to 'hand-over' the printed version of the Overview report to the Chair of the Arctic Council.

In addition to the Tromsø conference, there are two potentially interesting events in February in the other regions: the Russia Offshore 2008 Conference in Moscow (February 6-7) and the Alaska Forum on the Environment, Anchorage (February 11-14), where AMAP has been

invited to present the results of the OGA. AMAP would therefore appreciate the support of the SAOs for this plan for communication of the OGA results.

Action: SAOs are requested to review the results presented at the meeting, and to offer guidance and comments on the release of the Oil and Gas Assessment, specifically at the three main events mentioned above.

Documentation: Electronic version of the AMAP Oil and Gas Overview report (containing the approved texts and preliminary graphical content/layout, and including the Executive Summary with conclusions and recommendations). Text of scientific chapters will be available as electronic files, complete in terms of information content, but in most cases not yet subject to technical/linguistic editing. (*Limited distribution via email only*)
For documentation on Arctic Frontiers, refer to <http://www.arctic-frontiers.com>.

10.2. Outcomes of the Arctic Energy Summit (*SDWG to present –5 minutes*)

Background: The AES conference was held in Alaska 15-18 October 2007. An Arctic Energy Action Team is being formed to address common problems related to the development and deployment of energy in the Arctic.

Action: For information purposes.

Documentation: Arctic Energy Summit's Technology Conference Post Conference Report [Doc# 11/07-10.2a](#); AES Panel Sessions (attachment A) [Doc# 11/07-10.2b](#); Arctic Energy Action Team (attachment B) [Doc# 11/07-10.2c](#)

10.3. Discussion on preparation of the Energy Report to Ministers (*SDWG to present 10 minutes*)

Background: Salekhard Declaration: Welcome the increased co-operation in the field of energy, reflected in various AC projects, and endorse energy, including renewable energy and environmentally friendly technologies, as an important component of the AC cooperation, addressing energy issues and their impact on human life and the environment, and request the SDWG to report on this activity to the AC Ministerial session in 2008, and to identify activities that the Arctic Council could consider for future implementation.
Presentation by SDWG.

Action: SAOs are requested to discuss implementation of the Ministers request and provide further directions to the SDWG.

Documentation: SDWG Progress Report to SAOs [Doc#: 11/07-8.6a](#)

11. Oceans

11.1. Progress report on Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (*PAME to present- 20 minutes*)

Background: PAME was tasked by Arctic Council Ministers at the 4th Arctic Council meeting in November 2004 to conduct a comprehensive and integrated Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment.

The AMSA Data Survey for 2004 Arctic shipping data are in final stages and preparations on chapter writing are underway. The development of scenarios of plausible future Arctic marine activity in 2050 and 2020, and associated narratives, is proceeding well. Permanent Participant Town Hall Meetings are underway and an AMSA survey has been sent by RAIPON to many communities in the Russian Arctic and data collection continues.

Action: SAOs are requested to take note of the status of the project and provide further guidance.

<p><u>Documentation:</u> Reference is made to the Scenarios for the Future brochure (English and Russian versions) Doc# 11/07: 11.1a; the AMSA brochure Doc# 11/07: 11.1b, and the AMSA status report Doc# 11/07: 11.1c</p>

11.2. Progress report on Best Practices in Ecosystems-based Oceans Management in the Arctic (BePOMAr) (*SDWG to present – 10 minutes*)

Background: Best Practices in Ecosystems-based Oceans Management in the Arctic (BePOMAr), being led by Norway, is a joint SDWG – PAME effort, and progress will be reported to those two working groups. Work on the project is proceeding. The SDWG will receive a status report at their meeting in Vadsø on 30 Oct-01 November. A status report of this project is presented for SAOs in Narvik.

Action: For information purposes, and for SAOs to note progress and provide comments.

<p><u>Documentation:</u> Final project proposal BePOMAr Doc #: 11/07-11.2a; PAME-SDWG Progress Report on BePOMAr Doc #: 11/07-11.2b</p>

11.3. Regional Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (RPA) (*PAME to present – 10 minutes*)

Background:

PAME was tasked by Senior Arctic Officials and Ministers in the fall 2006 to review, update, and expand the RPA. Canada and Iceland are co-leads on this project.

Next Steps include the preparation of a Workshop Report to confirm messages from the RPA Workshop held in Iceland 25 September, and proceeding with drafting of a new RPA. This will be brought forward in January 2008 to PAME, AC Working Groups and Permanent Participants and key workshop participants. An evolved RPA Document will be presented to SAOs (as an information item) at the April 2008 meeting, with the final draft to SAOs in Fall 2008. The final updated RPA document will be presented to Ministers in Spring 2008.

Action: For information purposes.

Documentation: PAME Progress Report Update on RPA Workshop Report [Doc # 11/07-11.3a](#); Cover letter to SAOs regarding final RPA Workshop Report [Doc # 11/07-11.3b](#); RPA Workshop Report 25 Sept 07 [Doc # 11/07-11.3c](#)

11.4 Report on resolution recently passed by the U.S. Senate on the subject of an Arctic fisheries management agreement. US SAO to present (5 minutes)

Action: For information purposes

Documentation: Senate Arctic Resolution [Doc # 11/07-11.4](#)

12. Human Development

12.1. Progress report on coordination of human health initiatives (AMAP and SDWG to present- 15 minutes)

Background: *Salekhard Declaration:* Ministers welcome the heightened importance placed on human health in the Arctic by the formation of a cluster of health projects, and endorse action necessary to create further synergies and strategic directions in Arctic human health. Human health activities have tended to be concentrated in the AMAP and SDWG, though recently other Working Groups, such as ACAP, are also engaging in human health activities. SDWG-AMAP-ACAP discussions are proceeding on health issues. These Working Groups will provide a progress report on activities since the SAO meeting in Tromsø in April 2007.

Action: SDWG input: Based on the discussions in Vadsø, the SDWG struck an ad hoc task group to develop, by December 2007, Terms of Reference for a SDWG human health group. The objective is to establish a SDWG human health group by mid- January 2008. Canada and USA agreed to co-lead this task group.

The SDWG Chair undertook to advise other Working Group Chairs of SDWG's interest in continuing to work to reach agreement, by mid-December 2007 if possible, on an approach for collaboration. It is proposed that Arctic Council Working Group human health representatives [and other stakeholders] meet in mid-February 2008 to develop a framework for common actions on circumpolar health issues within the Council.

12.2. Presentation on ECONOR (*SDWG to present – 20 minutes*)

Background: The first phase of the ECONOR project was finished by the end of 2006 (ECONOR I), and a second phase for 2007/2008 is currently running (ECONOR II). Some main results will be presented from the first project report - "The Economy of the North". The SAOs has asked for a presentation of ECONOR I at the Narvik meeting.

Action: For information purposes.

<p><u>Documentation:</u> ECONOR I Report Doc # 11/07-12.2; The Economy of the North full report can be found at http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/00/00/30/sa84_en/</p>

12.3. Presentation on SLiCA (*SDWG to present - 20 minutes*)

Background: At the SAO meeting in Tromsø, April 2007, SAOs requested a presentation of the SLiCA project. The Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic, or SLiCA, is an international joint effort of research and indigenous people to measure and understand living conditions in the Arctic. SLiCA is an IPY project and part of the Arctic Human Health Initiative. SLiCA results consists of a three-part report: (1) Overview; (2) Tables; (3) Questionnaire which can all be accessed on the SLiCA website. Some main results from SLiCA will be presented.

Action: For information purposes

<p><u>Documentation:</u> SLiCA Report Doc # 11/07-12.3; Refer to SLiCA Website http://www.arcticlivingconditions.org/</p>
--

12.4. Project on evaluation of current exposure to POPs among Indigenous peoples of the Russian Arctic and development of a strategic program on reduction of the health risks involved. Project proposal presented by Russian Federation (*5 minutes*)

Background: At the SAO Meeting in 2006, the results of UNEP/GEF medium-sized project "PTS, Food Security and Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North" were reported and approved. At the same meeting, taking into account the importance of the outcomes obtained in the course, it was recommended to continue the study of the problem within the framework of a follow up study of the heavily exposed mother/child pairs and adult cohorts to characterize temporal trends in the PTS exposure experienced by indigenous peoples of Russian Arctic.

The Project provides for capacity building of environmental, educational and health care units serving indigenous communities in the Russian Arctic to implement new strategies and methods of monitoring and remediation of heavily polluted areas and, thus, to

improve the prevention of adverse health effects associated with the exposure to persistent contaminants. At present, the Project is ready to be submitted to UNEP/GEF.

Action: SAO's are requested to support the Project, especially in terms of studying the possibilities of co-financing.

13. Monitoring

13.1. Progress report on establishment of a Sustained Arctic Observing Network (SAON). Report from the Stockholm workshop 12-14 November (AMAP to present - 15 minutes)

Background: An initiative strongly mandated in the Salekhard Declaration under four separate paragraphs.

Salekhard Declaration: Request the SAOs to direct the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP) to cooperate with other AC working groups and relevant scientific bodies in continuously reviewing needs and gaps in climate monitoring in the Arctic so that coordinated action might be taken to ensure the full realization of a comprehensive Arctic observing network.

Salekhard Declaration: Urge Member States and other entities to strengthen monitoring and research efforts needed to comprehensively address Arctic change and to promote the establishment of a circumpolar Arctic observing network of monitoring stations with coordinated data handling and information exchange for scientific data, statistics and traditional knowledge as a lasting legacy of the IPY (and as the evolving Arctic component of the Global Earth Observing System of Systems, GEOSS).

Salekhard Declaration: Urge all the Member countries to maintain and extend long term monitoring of change in all parts of the Arctic, and request AMAP to cooperate with other AC Working Groups, IASC and other partners in efforts to create a coordinated Arctic observing network, that meets identified societal needs.

Salekhard Declaration: Approve the participation of the Arctic Council in the Group on Earth Observations and in the GEO System of Systems to provide further input into the coordination of monitoring and assessment activities in the Arctic.

The first of three SAON workshops has been scheduled for 12-14 November, in Stockholm Sweden. The first workshop will address the question: Are current Arctic observing and data and information management activities sufficient to meet users' needs? This presentation will report on the first of these workshops.

Action: SAOs are requested to offer input on additional involvement of the Arctic Council in this process.

Documentation: SAON Initiating Group [Doc#11/07-13.1a](#); www.arcticobserving.org

13.2. Progress report on the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CAFF to present - 20 minutes)

Background: The CBMP is CAFF's primary response to the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment's (ACIA) recommendation to expand and enhance long-term Arctic biodiversity monitoring. In Salekhard, Ministers reiterated the importance of long-term monitoring of Arctic biodiversity and endorsed the continued development of the CBMP. The CBMP has IPY endorsement and its potential to constitute the biodiversity component of SAON is being considered. The CBMP's *Five Year Implementation Plan Overview* document was endorsed by the Senior Arctic Officials at their April 2007 meeting in Tromsø, Norway.

Action: The CBMP, currently led by Canada, receives funding from a number of sources, but requires more to achieve full implementation. Commitments from other countries to the program are being sought in order to ensure full implementation.

Documentation: The CBMP progress report presentation and the Five Year Implementation Plan Overview document. [Doc# 11/07 – 13.2](#)

13.3. Report on coordination between AMAP and CAFF to strengthen monitoring activities (AMAP and CAFF to present-10 minutes)

Background: AMAP and CAFF have monitoring mandates. 18 September 2007, CAFF and AMAP held a joint meeting to discuss a Coordinated Monitoring Effort. A Green Paper was approved at this meeting. Its purpose is to explore how AMAP and CAFF can look for opportunities to coordinate their monitoring programs to further strengthen understanding of the processes driving change across the Arctic, the effects of these changes on Arctic ecosystems, and to identify possible actions to compensate for, or reverse the effects of these changes. This cooperation will be implemented through National Programs that fulfill AMAP and CAFF mandates. A list of projects selected for inclusion in the joint effort has been developed.

Action: CAFF and AMAP will report on the current status of the Coordinated Monitoring Effort, for information purposes.

Documentation: Status Report for the AMAP-CAFF Coordinated Monitoring Effort
[Doc #: 11/07-13.3](#)

13.4. Presentation by Aleut International Association on Bering Sea Sub-network (BSSN) (AIA to present – 10 minutes)

Background: The Bering Sea Sub-Network: International Community-Based Environmental Observation Alliance for Arctic Observing Network (BSSN) is an International Polar Year collaborative research initiative led by the Aleut International Association and funded by the National Science Foundation.

Climate change, human activities and natural variability are affecting Bering Sea's natural resources, and this will be the first time local observations of the changes will be collected

simultaneously in the geographical area spanning across the Bering Sea and including diverse indigenous communities: Aleut, Chukchi, Koryak, and Yupik.

Aleut International Association will provide a status report on the recently funded project: Bering Sea Sub-Network (BSSN): International Community-Based Observation Alliance for Arctic Observing Network (AON).

Action: For information purposes.

14. IPY

14.1. Report from the proceedings of the IPY Joint Committee 6th session in Quebec 24-26 October *(Swedish SAO to present-10 minutes)*

Background: The Swedish SAO is the Arctic Council representative to the IPY Joint Committee and will provide a report on this meeting. The letter submitted as documentation for this item, is signed by the co-chairs of the IPY Joint Committee. This letter is shared with the members of the AC to start a discussion on how the AC can best address and respond to the concerns raised in the letter from the IPY JC, and contribute to the legacy of improved conditions for international scientific cooperation on Arctic issues.

Action: For discussion of legacy and information purposes.

<p>Documentation: Letter from ICSU/WMO Joint Committee for IPY 2007-2008 Doc #: 11/07-14.1</p>

14.2. US-proposed Arctic Council/Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting joint event at the ATCM 50th Anniversary Meeting spring 2009 *(US SAO to present-5 minutes)*

Action: For information purposes.

<p>Documentation: Arctic Council and the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting Doc #: 11/07-14.2</p>

15. Update from IPS – Indigenous Peoples Secretariat *(15 minutes)*

Background: The IPS Chair, Patricia Cochran, will give the SAOs an overview of the current standing in the Indigenous Peoples Secretariat, and will present the challenges facing the Secretariat. This issue will be broadly discussed in the IPS Board meeting to be held 27 November in Narvik. A report to SAOs will be prepared, following this meeting, which will include requests to SAOs.

Action: Pending preparation of report to SAOs.

16. Presentations from Observers and Invited Guests

16.1. Presentation by International Arctic Science Committee (10 minutes)

Background: Dr. Volker Rachold, Executive Secretary, IASC, will provide an update on current IASC activities and how they relate to the Arctic Council.

Action: For information purposes.

16.2. Presentation by UArctic (10 minutes)

Background: The presentation by Lars Kullerud will give a very brief overview of new achievements, in particular focusing on upcoming events and actions that could be relevant to the work of the SAO's and the Arctic Council working groups and programs. Further, the presentation will address the need for further strengthened cooperation among Arctic states in Science and Higher Education.

UArctic established the UArctic Rectors' Forum in March 2007. The next Rectors Forum will be organized in Rovaniemi, Finland, on February 27-29, 2008 in cooperation with the Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region. The SAOs are invited to send a representative to this meeting.

Action: The Board of UArctic meets at the end of October. UArctic will have a concrete request to the SAOs after this time.

<p>Documentation: UArctic Progress report to SAOs Doc #: 11/07-16.2a; UArctic Annual Report 2006 Doc #: 11/07-16.2b</p>
--

16.3. Presentation by Tom Melius, Alaska Regional Director, US Fish and Wildlife Service on the meeting of the five polar bear "range states" held in June 2007 (15 minutes)

Background: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) hosted a meeting of the five polar bear "range states" in June 2007. It was the first such meeting in about 25 years and was considered to be very productive. The five countries discussed a number of issues concerning the state of the polar bear, and shared scientific data and information. The meeting was not convened under the auspices of the multilateral 1973 Polar Bear Agreement, but rather as an informal gathering of the range states. The participants did agree, however, to recommend to the Parties to the 1973 Agreement that there be regular meetings of the Parties in the future.

Action: For information purposes

<p>Documentation: Polar Bear Range States Meeting Summary Doc #: 11/07-16.3</p>
--

16.4. Presentation by UNESCO World Heritage Center (10 minutes)

Background: The World Heritage Convention (WHC) has been ratified by all the eight Arctic states. Norway has in its chairmanship programme said that it will initiate a dialogue with the World Heritage Convention and explore opportunities for co-operation under the Arctic Council. Such co-operation could include improved management of existing World Heritage Sites and the identification and nomination of new World Heritage Sites in the Arctic.

The UNESCO World Heritage Centre has been invited to the SAO meeting to present an overview of the existing World Heritage sites in the Arctic, the tentative lists of potential sites, and possibilities for further cooperation. The World Heritage Centre will hold a 2-day expert meeting immediately following the SAO meeting to discuss nominations and cooperation in the Arctic for the World Heritage List.

Action: SAOs are invited to discuss possibilities for Arctic Council cooperation on World Heritage in the Arctic. Norway will present a project proposal to the next SAO-meeting.

Documentation: For further information on the World Heritage Convention and World Heritage Center activities, please visit <http://whc.unesco.org>

17. Administrative Issues

17.1. Update on PSI – Project Support Instrument – presentation from NEFCO

Background: NEFCO's managing director, Mr. Magnus Rystedt, will give an update on the PSI – Project Support Instrument. *Ref. also discussion under agenda item 8.1b.*

Action: For information purposes. SAOs are requested to discuss further implementation of the PSI given the information presented by NEFCO.

17.2. Discussion on effectiveness and efficiency of the Arctic Council

Background: SAOs requested in April, 2007, that the effectiveness and efficiency of the Arctic Council should be regularly reviewed and should be a standing item on the agenda. The Norwegian Chairmanship has prepared a draft discussion paper to highlight the progress that has been made to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Arctic Council and includes recommendations for further steps that might be taken.
Introduction by Norway.

Action: SAOs are requested to discuss further actions to improve effectiveness and efficiency of the work of the Arctic Council.

Documentation: Refer to Draft Discussion Paper by the Norwegian Chairmanship: Improving Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Arctic Council. [Doc # 11/07-17.2](#)

17.3. Funding of PP participation in WG meetings

Background: In Salekhard, Ministers requested SAOs to continue to explore ways and means, including funding, to better ensure Permanent Participants' active participation and full consultation in the Arctic Council and to continue dialogue on this issue within the Arctic Council.

Action: SAOs are requested to discuss possible further action related to funding for the participation of Permanent Participants in the work of the Arctic Council.

17.4. Use of WG logos and endorsements

Background: This issue was discussed briefly at the SAO meeting in Tromsø in April 2007. A clearer definition of policy and procedure for use of the Arctic Council logo and Working Group logos has emerged. Possible modification to the AC Rules of Procedure may be needed. A draft discussion paper will be prepared over the next few months by the Norwegian Chairmanship, and this subject will be taken up at the spring 2008 SAO meeting.

17.5. Dates of upcoming SAO meetings

- i. Spring 2008 SAO meeting tentatively scheduled for Svolvær, Lofoton Islands, 23-24 April 2008
- ii. Fall, 2008 SAO meeting tentatively scheduled for Longyearbyen, Svalbard 8-9 October 2008
- iii. April-May 2009 Ministerial

18. Any other business

18.1. Update from Danish SAO on 5-party Ministerial Conference in Ilulissat, Greenland, May 2008.