2nd Draft PAME Work Plan – long version

2015-2017

Below is a revised draft of the PAME Work Plan 2015-2017 based on comments received on previous version.

The aim of the PAME I-2015 meeting is to update the work plan as reflected in decisions on respective ongoing and new activities. Final agreed versions of project plans for new activities will be annex to the work plan.

**Action requested by PAME I-2015**

**Review, update, confirm co-leads and agree to a final version of the PAME 2015-2017 Work Plan for submission to SAOs in March and Ministerial meeting in April.**

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| **Color codes used to highlight new project proposals** | **Source of new project proposals** |
|  | U.S. Chairmanship Priorities |
|  | New proposed projects by AC countries and/or PPs |
|  | New proposed projects by AC observers |
|  | New proposed project by the PAME Secretariat |

# Preface

The purpose of the PAME Work Plan is to provide a frameworkfor PAME´s work related to the protection of the Arctic marine environment for the period of 2015-2017. PAME‘s Working Group activities are based on its mandate to address policy and non-emergency pollution prevention and control measures related to the protection of the Arctic marine environment from both land and sea-based activities. These measures include coordinated action programs, assessments and guidelines, complementing existing legal arrangements.

The PAME Working Group provides a unique forum for collaboration on a wide range of Arctic marine environment issues and consists of National Representatives from the Arctic Council states responsible for its work in their respective countries and Permanent Participants organizations representing Arctic indigenous peoples. Additionally, the Arctic Council working groups, accredited observers and other relevant organizations contribute to the on-going work of the PAME Working Group.

The PAME Working Group generally meets twice a year to assess progress and advance its work. PAME is headed by a chair and vice-chair, which rotate among the Arctic countries and is supported by an International Secretariat. PAME reports to the Senior Arctic Officials, and through them, to the Ministers of the Arctic Council that meets every two years. PAME`s work plan is approved by the Ministers.

# Introduction

IntroductionThe PAME Work Plan 2015 – 2017 was developed according to: PAME`s mandate; priorities identified by the Arctic Council Chairmanship; direction provided in Ministerial declarations; follow-up on actions and relevant recommendations from Arctic Council projects and the revised Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (2015-2025) which outlines the overall direction of the Arctic Council for the protection of the Arctic marine environment. PAME Working Group activities are aimed at implementation of the revised Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP) in addition to policy follow up to the scientific and other relevant assessments of the Arctic Council.

# PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

# OBJECTIVE I:

**Improve knowledge and respond to emerging knowledge of the Arctic marine environment [consider if needs to be updated]**

# BACKGROUND:

[Following text is from the 2013-2015 PAME Work Plan and should be updated to reflect the activities].

Arctic marine activities are likely to expand as a result of increased resource demand and improved marine access. This increased activity will increase risks to the environment and its ecological processes. In this regard the Arctic Council encourages the development of suitable national and international regulations and measures to reduce risks and potential negative impacts associated with shipping and other activities in Arctic waters. In addition, development of appropriate infrastructure is encouraged in order to support safe shipping and resource extraction in the Arctic.

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| Follow-up activities of AMSA Recommendations (Refer to AMSA Matrix in IIII) |
| **Actions** | **Activities** | **Lead(s)** |
| ***AMSA I(A) – Linking with International Organizations:*** | PAME to continue to monitor and, as appropriate, identify opportunities to engage and collaborate with international organizations on issues of common interest to advance implementation of the AMSA Recommendations and other Arctic Council-related Shipping Recommendations (e.g. AOR Final Report). PAME in cooperation with the IMO and World Maritime University (WMU) will convene an International Conference on *Safe and Sustainable Shipping in a Changing Arctic Environment* (ShipArc 2015) 25-28 August 2015. | USASwedenCanadaUSA |
| ***AMSA I(B) – IMO Measures for Arctic Shipping*** | IMO has adopted the Polar Code and related amendments to make it mandatory. PAME, through its member governments, supported IMO’s effort for implementation and will continue to do so until the Code will entry into force, targeted in 2016. PAME will contune to fostere and promote collaboration among Arctic states. | All Member states |
| ***New Project Proposals from Norway*** [These are possible projects pending funding and final approval.]: | * case study of accidents with ships using HFO (as a follow-up to the HFO Phase II and IIB Reports) and an assessment of the environmental impact of spills.
* Project analysing how burning HFO as fuel may lead to engine problems and incidents.
 | NorwayUSANorwayUSA |
| ***AMSA I(D) – Strengthening Passenger Ship Safety in Arctic Waters*** | Continue to monitor and support IMO initiatives to strengthen passenger ship safety and work with the passenger ship industry and other stakeholders in the identification and augmentation of best practices for safe and sustainable Arctic cruise tourism.  | CanadaDenmarkUSA |
| ***Follow-up to the Arctic Marine Tourism Project (AMTP)*** | Details on specific activities to be identified intersessionally following the approval of the AMTP by ministers in April 2015.  | Lead(s)??? |
| ***AMSA II (B) – Engagement with Arctic Communities*** | ***New Project Proposal -*** Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine ActivitiesRefer to *Follow up on the Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines (2009)* below and Annex XX. |  |
| ***AMSA II (D) -Specially Designated Arctic Marine Areas*** | Continue to explore a number of interim steps before pursuing any actions relevant to IMO on Specially Designated Arctic Marine Areas and continue to seek current ship traffic data from the high seas area of the Central Arctic Ocean.  | DenmarkUSAOther? |
| ***AMSA II (D) – Specially Designated Arctic Marine Areas – New Project Proposal*** | Development of Arctic Regional Reception Facilities Plan (RRFP): An Arctic RRFP will be prepared as a long term solution, meeting the challenges facing the expected increases in shipping for the foreseeable future. The aim is to allow for the environmentally sound management of ship´s waste and ensure that ships can comply with MARPOL in the Arctic. While the important work of the Polar Code and other bodies continues, this project does not attempt to circumvent any other work and is in keeping with established principles and existing IMO/MARPOL guidance and will compliment any work being undertaken by IMO or other bodies. This project will list all types of ships and the needs of each type of ship and identify the route(s) and ports of call for ships in the region. This plan will be specific to one or more regions of the Arctic taking into consideration relevant circumstances to ensure that ships transiting Arctic regions can comply with all applicable provisions of MARPOL. Consideration will be given to applicable international regulatory schemes with special attention to the Polar Code, when it comes into force; other IMO Guidance; ISO Standards; and National, state, and local regulations. Refer to Annex X for details on project plan, including timeline and budget. | RussiaUSACorrespondence Group/Project Team (including Canada, Finland, Kingdom of Denmark, Russia and USA). |
| ***AMSA II(F) – Oil Spill Prevention*** | Possible follow-up projects based on the outcomes of the TFOPP | ??? |
| ***AMSA II(H) – Reducing Air Emissions*** | PAME will explore how best it could use information it compiles on emissions (especially black carbon) from ships in the Arctic and their effects on the marine environment, including in cooperation with other working groups. | ??? |
| ***AMSA III(A) – Addressing the Infrastructure Deficit*** | Regular updates and status provided on infrastructure aspects such a s sthe IMO‘s GISIS Port Reception Facility database. | USRussia |
| ***AMSA III(B) – Arctic Marine Traffic Systems*** | Continue to pursue opportunities for updating the Arctic ship traffic data contained in the AMSA Report (data collected in 2005) for use in studies, assessments, trend analyses, and the development of recommendations that enhance Arctic marine safety and support protection of Arctic people and the environment etc. | USRussiaNorwayPAME Secretariat |
| ***AMSA III(B) - project proposal for Arctic Shipping Data Service (ASDS):***  | ASDS will build on the AMSA 2005 data and collect Arctic shipping data (e.g. annually) via AIS data collection. It will provide a platform for analyzing shipping activities in the Arctic and its interactions with environmental protection measures and trends such as changing sea ice conditions, technical advancements and new regulations such as the IMO Polar Code. The objective is to Provide a framework to improve and expand access to a shipping activity database recognizing that there is a need to shorten the time between detection of changes, reporting and effective policy response. Refer to Annex X for details on project plan, including timeline and budget. | PAME SecretariatPAME shipping expert group |
| ***AMSA implementation progress report*** | Continue to provide AMSA Shipping Progress Implementation Report for submission to the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting in 2017. This report will also address progress on other Arctic Council shipping mandates and recommendations. Further development of the Shipping matrix to include all shipping-related recommendations and record progress/status as noted above. | CanadaFinlandUSA |
| Follow up on the Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines (2009) |
| ***Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities*** | This is a cross-cutting shipping (refers to AMSA II(II)-Engagemetn with Arctic Communities) and oil & gas project.This project will compile and assess existing documents and summarize their main aspects, principles, and processes. The project will cover all Arctic marine and coastal activities, including shipping (vessel activity), offshore oil and gas activities (i.e. surveys, drilling rigs, support vessels, etc.) and coastal infrastructure development (i.e. ports, support facilities, supply and response depots, waste reception facilities, etc.). The information to be compiled will come from Arctic Council documents and reports, national legal regimes and guidance of Arctic states, guidelines and declarations from communities and indigenous organizations, international instruments, and guidance from industry, NGO’s and other stakeholders. Main activities include: *Finding and Compiling Information; Documenting Best Practices and Lessons Learned; Workshop on Best Practices and Lessons Learned; Narrative Report.*Timeline and budget: Phase I 2015-2016 at estimated 145.000USD (estimated in-kind and financial contributions). Refer to Annex XX for details on the project plan. | *Leads****:*** USA, Aleut International Association (AIA).*Project Team:* PAME Oil and Gas Contact Group, PAME Shipping Expert Group. |
| ***New Project Proposal (need further development*** | The Oil and Gas Contact Group is to consider possible updates to the AOOGG 2009 (Chapters 4 and 6), for PAME I-2015 meetings consideration for inclusion to the 2015-2017 PAME Work Plan. The Oil and Gas Contact Group will respond as appropriate to AMSP Strategic actions and Themes and Projects of the 2015-2017 United States Chairmanship. | PAME Oil and Gas Contact GroupPAME Oil and Gas Contact Group |
| ***Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Regulatory Resource (Website)***  | Contiunation of regular updates by the PAME Secretariat with inputs and reviews of web-links and updated information from Arctic Council countries.  | PAME Oil and Gas Contact Group and PAME Secretariat |

# OBJECTIVE II:

**Determine the adequacy of applicable international/regional commitments and promote their implementation and compliance [consider if needs to be updated]**

# BACKGROUND:

[Following text is from the 2013-2015 PAME Work Plan and should be updated to reflect the activities].

Increasing human activity in the Arctic Ocean and activities in new areas pose challenges to its health and warrants an ecosystem approach to integrated ocean management to maximize environmental protection and sustainable use of the marine environment including related to shipping, oil and gas development, fisheries, coastal zone development, and other ocean‐related activities. The Arctic Council has an opportunity to provide international leadership on the global sustainable development agenda through adoption of the ecosystem based approach to management of the Arctic marine environment, consistent with existing legal framework.

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| **Actions/Themes** | **Activities** | **Leads** |
| Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change, *Arctic Climate Adaptation and Resilience*. (Thematic Area 1 under the U.S. Chairmanship) | Cross-cutting | Lead(s)???? |
| Stewardship of the Arctic Ocean, *Regional Seas Program (RSP) for the Arctic Ocean* (Thematic Area 2 under the U.S. Chairmanship) | Analyze the usefulness or applicability of a Regional Seas arrangement (RSA) for improved oceans governance. An RSA might be a useful vehicle to improve Arctic Ocean managment and could serve as a mechanism to coordinate and enhance scientific research and potentially to manage increasing human activity in the Arctic Ocean, including by promoting safe and secure maritime operations.Initiation of discussion of an RSA will start after the 2015 Ministerial meeting and will include the development of a project plan to include a phased approach where the 1st Phase will be to initiate discussions of an RSA.Details on specific activities to be identified intersessionally after its approval by ministers in April 2015.  | USACanada??Others?? |
| Stewardship of the Arctic Ocean, *Marine Protected Areas:* (Thematic Area 2 under the U.S. Chairmanship)Enhance PAME‘s work to develop a Pan-Arctic Network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). | Proposed next steps (as per section 6.1 Near Term Actions 2015-2017 in the MPA Framework document): 1. Develop communications tools for a general audience to expand public understanding and support for Arctic MPAs and MPA networks.
2. Describe how this Framework will be implemented within the context of ecosystem-based management, including available options for institutional arrangements securing stakeholder participation..
3. Develop a consistent approach for achieving ecological network design properties (e.g. representativity, replicated ecological features, adequate and viable site size and density, and connectivity), for example by aligning habitat classification schemes used in different areas of the Arctic to identify the major habitat types within each Large Marine Ecosystem or other management region that could be represented.
4. Refine and map the existing draft inventory of MPAs, “other effective area-based conservation measures” and MPA networks, in order to identify opportunities to apply network design properties such as, representativity, replication, and connectivity at the pan-Arctic scale.
5. Identify types of important marine areas for protection at the pan-Arctic scale based on common criteria, goals, or objectives developed by the MPA-EG, as well as identify areas/species in need of joint conservation measures.
6. Identify practical measures to addressing change in the Arctic through adaptive management of MPA networks, including developing options for management measures designed to address changing conditions (e.g. special management for marginal ice zone, seasonal MPAs, etc).
7. Develop and communicate options to muster resources for financing Arctic MPAs and MPA networks, including addressing comprehensive and sustained stakeholder engagement.
8. Identify the range of benefits that MPAs and MPA networks have for sustaining livelihoods and ecosystem services to Arctic indigenous peoples and local residents, especially in light of supporting social-ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to rapid Arctic change. Communicate these benefits to Arctic decision makers.
 | USACanada??Others?? |
| Project proposal by WWF (refer to a separate document) | An inventory of area-based conservation measures for achieving effective long-term conservation of Arctic biodiversity in networks of marine protected areas. | Proposed project team:PAME EA-EG, WWF. |
| Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (2015-2025)  |
|  | Implementation plan to be developed during the period 2015-2017 and the aim is that specific activities will become integral part of future PAME work plans as approved at the biennial Arctic Council ministerial meetings.  | Various |
| Ecosystem Approach to Management  |
| Onoing activities based on the work of the Joint Ecosystem Approach (EA) Expert Group (EA-EG) as per the (to be agreed) ToR EA activities are structured according to the six identified elements in the framework for implementation of the EA. | 1. Contribute to development of ecological objectives: Convene a workshop (the 5th EA workshop) on the issue of ecological objectives, summer 2015; Prepare a scoping white paper on the issue of developing Ecological Objectives by Arctic States, PPs, and AC working groups – Autumn 2015 (PAME II-2015 and other WGs); and prepare a Report "Status of Setting Ecological Objectives in the Arctic" for the SAO meeting spring 2017 (By LMEs, by Work Group).
2. Follow up actions on Integrated Ecosystem Assessments: Consider methodological developments in IEA in collaboration with ICES (ICES WGs on IEA for Barents Sea, Norwegian Sea) and other relevant organizations; Contribute to/review progress in the development of Transboundary Beaufort project; Review and report on progress on work on IEA in other Arctic LMEs (e.g. Barents, Bering, Chukchi, Beaufort, Baffin) including experiences from AMAP AACA-C and CAFF CBMP; and prepare a Status Report “Work on Integrated Ecosystem Assessments of Arctic LMEs” – Autumn 2016/Spring 2017
3. Implementation of EA in the Arctic: Convene a workshop (possible 6th EA workshop) or conference on the status of implementing the EA in the Arctic – spring/summer 2016; Prepare a workshop report or conference proceedings – Autumn 2016; and prepare a 2017 Report to Ministers "Status of Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Management in the Arctic" (By LME, by Work Group)
4. Consider issues of scale in EA: Prepare a scoping document on the relationships between the specific ecosystem (LME) scale and the wider pan-Arctic (and global) scale(s) – Autumn 2015; and prepare a scoping document on use of information on identified areas of heightened ecological and cultural significance for assessment and management purposes within LMEs – Spring 2016.
5. Supporting activities: Support development of a network of experts (community of practice) working to implement EA in the Arctic; and support development of a bibliographic resource that identifies key works in EA and IEA.
6. Reporting: The EA-EG will provide half-yearly progress reports on the work to PAME and the other AC WGs
 | NorwayUSA |
| Project Proposal by WWF(refer to a separate document) | Project Proposal for EPPR and PAME 2015-2017 work plans:Project title: Linking Ecosystem-Based Management and Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas decision-making Project Overview/Objective: The objective of this joint EPPR/PAME project is to identify national approaches to the use of the Ecosystem Approach in offshore oil and gas decision-making related to oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response. |  |

# OBJECTIVE III:

**Facilitate partnerships, programmes and technical cooperation and support communication and outreach both within and outside the Arctic Council.**

# BACKGROUND:

There is a need to continue coordinating work with other working groups of the Arctic Council, regional and international organizations and programmes, local authorities and indigenous organizations in an effort to promote capacity building, sharing of information on the state of the Arctic marine environment.

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| **Actions** | **Activities** | **Lead** |
| 1) Information outreach and efforts to increase cooperation and collaboration with international/regional organizations. | Liaise and exhange information with relevant organizations and programs (e.g. UNEP Regional Seas Programme) regions, and other regional programs. | PAME Chair/Secretariat |
| 2) Build the capacity and engagement of indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants.  | Encourage activities and proposals from Permanent Participants.Strive for the development of outreach and communication efforts and plans for PAMEs activities (e.g. through updates on the PAME homepage, brochures, roll-up stands and other communication material). | PAME Chair/SecretariatPermanent Participants |
| 3) Collaborations with AC Working Groups | Review work plans of other AC WGs to identify areas for cooperation and respond accordingly. | All |

# ANNEXES

* Annex I – AMSA Shipping Matrix
* Annex II - Development of Arctic Regional Reception Facilities Plan (RRFP)
* Annex III - Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities – Narrative Report
* [add new project plans following approval by PAME I-2015]