Revised Draft PAME Work Plan to be inserted into the SAO Report to Ministers (3 pages)

The Content of the shorter version of the work plan 2015-2017 as instructed by the Canadian Chairmanship as follows:

Summary work plans for 2015-2017.

* + List of individual projects and activities in the following order:
		- Arctic Council Chair Priorities.
		- Other Working Group Priorities.
	+ The following information should be included:
		- Confirmed lead/co-leads.
		- Rationale and overall objective (including cross cutting activities and other international processes as well as communications and outreach)
		- Main activities.
		- Timeline and budget, including start date, meeting schedule and end date.
		- A bullet (up to 140 characters) showing how the plan will benefit people in the Arctic Region.

# Summary work plans for 2015-2017.

The 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.

# Benefit to people in the Arctic Region

A bullet (up to 140 characters) showing how the plan will benefit people in the Arctic Region (to be included).

# List of individual projects and activities

## Arctic Council Chair Priorities.

**Thematic Area 1:** Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change, *Arctic Climate Adaptation and Resilience*. This representa collaborative effort among working groups and entails Cross-cutting activities which will be identified intersessional by SAOs following the 2015 Ministerial meeting.

**Thematic Area 2:** Stewardship of the Arctic Ocean, *Marine Protected Areas:* Enhance PAME‘s work to develop a Pan-Arctic Network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). Proposed next steps and follow-up activities with reference to section 6.1 Near Term Actions 2015-2017 of the [approved] Framework for a Pan-Arctic Network of MPAs by SAOs/Ministers in April 2015*. Leads: USA, Canada, Others?*

**Thematic Area 2:** Stewardship of the Arctic Ocean, *Regional Seas Program (RSP) for the Arctic Ocean.* 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 which 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. *Leads*: *USA, others?*

## Other Working Group Priorities

### Follow-up activities of AMSA Recommendations

**(Refer to Agenda item 4 at PAME I-2015 for updating individual activities and projects)**

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). *Leads: USA.*

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. *Leads: Sweden, Canada, USA.*

AMSA I(B) – IMO Measures for Arctic Shipping: Work is nearing completion at the IMO on a mandatory Polar Code with a target entry into force date of 2016. Support that work by fostering and promoting intensified collaboration among Arctic States. Support efforts to implement the Polar Code. Monitor and report to PAME on the status of the Polar Code and its implementation. *Leads: 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. *Leads: Norway, USA*
* Project analysing how burning HFO as fuel may lead to engine problems and incidents. *Leads:* *Norway, USA*

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.. *Leads: Canada, Denmark, USA*

***AMSA I(D)-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.

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. *Leads: Denmark, USA, Other?*

***AMSA II(D)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.

The main task include: 1. Identification of the region. The Arctic region should be defined as in the Polar Code, when it is adopted; 2. Identification of the nature of the unique practical circumstances and challenges that affect the ability of port states in the defined area to provide adequate port reception facilities; 3. A forward looking cost/benefit analysis will be undertaken and documented as part of the need to demonstrate a compelling need for regional port reception facilities arrangements (RA). The Arctic RRFP will identify stakeholders and include consultations with them and communicate information to IMO. *Leads:* Russia, USA; *Project Team:* members of the RRFP Correspondence Group (including Canada, Finland, Kingdom of Denmark, Russia and USA). *Timeline:* the project will start in the beginning of 2015 and it should be finalized by the end of 2016. *Budget:* XXX (in-kind and financial contributions)

Follow-up activities on Oil Spill ***Prevention (AMSA II(F)), Reducing Air Emissions (AMSA II(H)) and Infrastructure Deficit (AMSA III(A)*** are based on the outcome of the Task Force on Arctic Marine Oil Pollution Prevention (TFOPP); updates on IMOs work with respect to black carbon *(lead: Norway);* and updated information by Arctic states on e.g. studies and assessments, both existing and ongoing, on ship air emissions (in particular black carbon) in the Arctic, methodologies for measuring emissions, and the effect of such emissions on the Arctic marine environment; and regular updates and status on infrastructure aspects such as the IMO's GISIS Port Reception Facility database (PRFD) *(Leads: USA and Russia)*

***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. *Leads: US, Russia, Norway, PAME Secretariat*

***AMSA implementation progress report***: Prepare 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. *Leads*:Canada, Finland, USA

### Follow up on the Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines (2009) (Refer to Agenda item 8 at PAME I-2015 for updating individual activities and projects)

New Project on ***Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities (new project proposal):*** This is a cross-cutting shipping and oil & gas project and addresses AMSA II (B) – Engagement with Arctic Communities. 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.*

Arctic indigenous people and local communities will benfit from a comprehensive study of existing ways for meaningful engagement in Arctic marine activities that are affecting them. This includes best practices for offshore oil and gas, shipping, and coastal development activities. A second phase devoted to updating and enhancing Arctic Council guidance will not only benefit local inhabitants, but also industry and governments in furthering cooperation, collaboration, and involvement of local communities in these activities. Timeline and budget: Phase I 2015-2016 at estimated 145.000USD (estimated in-kind and financial contributions). *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. *Lead****:*** *PAME Oil and Gas Contact Group.*

***Cross-cutting efforts and activities*:** 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. *Lead***:** PAME Oil and Gas Contact Group

***Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Regulatory Resource (Website):*** Regular updates by the PAME Secretariat with inputs and reviews of web-links and updated information from Arctic Council countries. *Lead***:** PAME Oil and Gas Contact Group and the PAME Secretariat.

***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. *Leads: Various*

***Follow-up to the Framework for a pan-Arctic Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Network Project (Refer to Agenda item 6 at PAME I-2015 for updating individual activities and projects*:** Refer to the U.S. Chairmanship program, Thematic Area 2 on Stewardship of the Arctic Ocean, *Marine Protected Areas.*

[Project proposal by WWF]

***Ecosystem Approach to Management (Refer to Agenda item 7 at PAME I-2015 for updating individual activities and projects):*** The work of the Joint Ecosystem Approach (EA) Expert Group (EA-EG) is based on the (to be agreed) ToR and is structured according to the six identified elements in the framework for implementation of the EA and will include activities such as:

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

*Leads: Norway, USA*

[Project proposal by WWF]

### Project Proposals by WWF:

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. (refer to a separate document).

Project title: 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. (refer to a separate document).

### Information outreach, capacity building and efforts to increase cooperation and collaboration with Arctic Council working groups and international/regional organizations.

Liaise and exchange information with relevant organizations and programs (e.g. UNEP Regional Seas Programme) regions, and other regional programs; Encourage activities and proposals from Permanent Participants, Review work plans of other AC WGs to identify areas for cooperation and respond accordingly; and 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). *Leads: PAME Chair/Secretariat*