

Agenda Item 4.2 - AMSA Recommendation I(B) by USA

PAME II-2015
Annotation to Agenda Item 4.2 (f)
AMSA Recommendation I(B)
AOR Final Report Recommendation 7
Pleasure Craft and Yacht Safety in the Arctic

Background

AMSA Report Recommendation I(B) provides in relevant part:

“That the Arctic states, in recognition of the unique environmental and navigational conditions in the Arctic, decide to cooperatively support efforts at the International Maritime Organization to strengthen, harmonize and regularly update international standards for vessels operating in the Arctic.”

AOR Report Recommendation 7 provides that:

“Arctic states could consider approaches, including at IMO, to address safety and environmental concerns with respect to other types of vessels that, due to their size, routes, and nature of activity, may not be subject to the Polar Code.”

USA Recommendations

The United States encourages all States that flag pleasure craft that sail in the Arctic regularly to evaluate and where necessary or appropriate, take steps to enhance the safety of pleasure craft in the Arctic while at the same time promoting sustainable Arctic marine tourism.

The USA more specifically recommends that PAME member governments:

- (1) adopt a ROD reiterating this encouragement;
- (2) invite a representative of a pleasure craft association or an individual who has extensive experience sailing pleasure craft in the Arctic or Antarctic to make a presentation on Arctic pleasure craft safety and opportunities for enhancing such safety;
- (3) invite a PAME member government expert – perhaps from a Transport Ministry or a Coast Guard -- to make a presentation on national government experience with pleasure craft safety in Arctic waters subject to its jurisdiction;
- (4) explore the possibility of developing a PAME work plan project that would more comprehensively assess existing and projected pleasure craft activities in the Arctic, identify existing international, industry and other stakeholder standards, policies and recommendations that pertain to Arctic pleasure craft safety and the prevention of pollution from such craft in the Arctic, and evaluate whether there are opportunities for PAME to help enhance pleasure craft safety and pollution prevention, for example by supplementing or suggesting amendments to those standards, policies and recommendations; and
- (5) explore the possibility of developing a PAME ROD that would recommend IMO consideration of pleasure craft safety in Phase II of the Polar Code.