

5th Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting
26 October 2006 Salekhard, Russia

2006 PROGRESS REPORT



PAME

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment



**PROTECTION OF THE ARCTIC MARINE ENVIRONMENT
PAME WORKING GROUP**

**PROGRESS REPORT
2004-2006**

**5th Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting
Salekhard, Russia
October 24-26, 2006**

TABLE OF CONTENT

1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. DIRECTION FROM REYKJAVIK MINISTERIAL DECLARATION.....	1
3. PROGRESS REPORT FOR 2004-2006	1
ARCTIC MARINE STRATEGIC PLAN – IMPLEMENTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS PLAN: 1	
ARCTIC MARINE SHIPPING ASSESSMENT (AMSA)	2
PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES	3
ECOSYSTEM APPROACH.....	3
REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ARCTIC MARINE ENVIRONMENT FROM LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES (RPA):.....	4
THE RUSSIAN NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT FROM ANTHROPOGENIC POLLUTION IN THE ARCTIC REGION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION (RUSSIAN NPA-ARCTIC):.....	5
COLLABORATION WITH GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE ARCTIC COUNCIL.....	5
4. PROPOSED SAO RECOMMENDATIONS TO MINISTERS	6
2006-2008 WORK PLAN:	6
ARCTIC MARINE STRATEGIC PLAN - IMPLEMENTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS PLAN .	6
ARCTIC MARINE SHIPPING ASSESSMENT:	6
PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES	6
ECOSYSTEM APPROACH:.....	6
REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION:	7
5. LIST OF DELIVERABLES TO THE 5TH MINISTERIAL MEETING	7
6. PROPOSED TEXT INTO THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION.....	7
2006-2008 WORK PLAN:	7
ARCTIC MARINE STRATEGIC PLAN:	7
ARCTIC MARINE SHIPPING ASSESSMENT:	7
PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES:	8
ECOSYSTEM APPROACH:.....	8
REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION:	8
7. PAME WORKING GROUP ADMINISTRATION	8
PAME OPERATING BUDGET	8
COMMUNICATIONS.....	8

1. Introduction

The PAME Working Group addresses policy and non-emergency response measures related to the protection of the Arctic marine environment from land and sea-based activities. These measures include coordinated actions, programmes and guidelines, complementing existing international arrangements.

2. Direction from Reykjavik Ministerial Declaration

The 2004 Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting in Reykjavik, Iceland endorsed PAME's future activities as follows:

- **Endorse** the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP) and encourage its implementation through the working groups and other mechanisms and in cooperation with regional and global bodies,
- **Endorse** with appreciation the Arctic Waters Oil Transfer Guidelines and **encourage** Member States and others to disseminate them widely,
- **Request** PAME to conduct a comprehensive Arctic marine shipping assessment as outlined in the AMSP under the guidance of Canada, Finland and the United States as lead countries and in collaboration with the EPPR working group and other working groups of the Arctic Council and Permanent Participants as relevant,
- **Note** that an ecosystem-based management approach underlies the AMSP and **call upon** Member States, Arctic Council working groups and relevant regional and international bodies to further the application of this approach to the Arctic marine environment,
- **Encourage** PAME, through Norway as lead-country, to assess and evaluate existing measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues and develop harmonized guidelines for consideration by States,
- **Support** the continued implementation of the Regional Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (RPA) and **note** the ongoing efforts of the Russian Federation and other Arctic States to implement their respective National Programmes of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment.

3. Progress Report for 2004-2006

PAME's objectives are based on Ministerial mandates as identified in PAME's Work Plan 2004-2006 accompanied by a set of specific actions that have been successfully completed as follows:

Arctic Marine Strategic Plan – Implementation and Communications Plan:

- Several of the specific PAME Working Group activities have been aimed at implementation of the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP) and related follow up to the ACIA.

-
- Canada and Iceland have prepared a Communications Plan for the AMSP which the PAME Working Group is recommending for approval of the Senior Arctic Officials and the Arctic Council.

Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (AMSA)

- The PAME Working Group has the formal responsibility for the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (AMSA) as organized under a ‘Lead County’ system. Canada, Finland and the United States serve as joint-lead countries for the AMSA project (with other Arctic countries taking on a supportive role). The AMSA lead country representatives will engage with the PAME Working Group at critical decision points.
- The PAME Working Group will provide guidance where necessary; and communicate progress and final results of the Assessment back to the SAOs and Ministers.
- The structure of the AMSA Leadership/Management Team is such that Dr. Lawson Brigham/United States serves as the Chair of AMSA, Victor Santos-Pedro of Transport Canada is the Chair of the AMSA Roundtable and Kimmo Juurmaa from Finland as the AMSA Project Manager facilitating the progress of the work plan.
- Project plan has been developed and is composed of 8 Work Packages, some of which may run concurrently: These 8 Work Packages are expected to undergo revisions as the project develops, and as such, the AMSA work plan is considered a “living” document. Major milestones will identify where consultations, endorsement and deliverables to PAME Working Group are planned.
- Organizational structure including oversight group has been established and a concept paper/Terms of Reference has been developed to clarify and expand on the aim of the assessment, nature of the work plan and envisaged actions. The leads have started the process of establishing expert groups for the various work packages in the AMSA Work Plan and Report Chapters.
- AMSA report structure (chapter outline) has been developed.
- 2004 baseline shipping activity data collection is underway and all Arctic states are participating.
- Broad engagement with stakeholders including other Arctic Council Working groups, Arctic research community; maritime community; Arctic parliamentarians. Outreach with Permanent Participants and Arctic communities in Town Hall Meetings is ongoing. Plans for Town Hall Meetings to be held in each Arctic state are being organized by the AMSA Team in collaboration with the Permanent Participants and PAME representatives in the Arctic states.

- Communication efforts are underway: PAME website; brochures; posters; data sharing. The PAME Secretariat provides communication for the AMSA, organizational support, website and ‘post box’ for the coordination and distribution of documents, data etc. brochures are now available in English, Russian, French and Inuktitut (Canada).
- There are clear linkages with the AMAP Oil and Gas Assessment on a number of AMSA tasks such as experts and the application of Large Marine Ecosystem (LME). Collaboration will be explored by e.g. the possibility of sharing data and experts with the Oil and Gas Assessment. SDWG participation in AMSA has been organized and is very valuable to the process. EPPR participation has been initiated.

Port Reception Facilities

- Norway is the lead for the assessment of existing measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues. This project is divided into the following three phases:
 - Phase 1 – Assess availability of and measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated and cargo residues in the PAME region and which regulations and incentives for delivery each country has implemented.
 - Phase 2 – Identify gaps in existing coverage and possible improvements in availability and incentives for delivery
 - Phase 3 – Develop proposal for common guidelines for consideration by States based on the gap analysis.
- Phase 1 has been developed and finalized over the last 2 years. Both the modalities and work on Phase 2 and Phase 3 will be further developed during the next 2 years.

Ecosystem Approach

- The United States is the lead on ecosystem approach and has updated PAME on the status of Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) to Assessment and Management within the context of UNEP Regional Seas. UNEP and NOAA have recently extended their partnership to include the promotion of GEF-LME projects as assessment and management units for UNEP’s Regional Seas Program.
- The revised map has been adopted as a working map of 17 Arctic LMEs acknowledging related work in other fora, in which place-based assessments of the changing states of Arctic LMEs can serve as the framework for ecosystem-based management practices in the Arctic.
- The AMAP Oil and Gas Assessment is using this LME map in their work for descriptive purposes to assess impacts of oil and gas activities in the Arctic. Further, the Arctic LME approach corresponds with the ecosystem approach promoted within the EU Marine Strategy and OSPAR context.

- PAME has discussed the opportunity to develop the LME approach for pilot assessment and management projects for the Arctic, for example the West Bering Sea, the Barents Sea and the Beaufort Sea.
- United States convened a one-day meeting on Arctic-LMEs in Paris July 7, 2005 following the IOC-IUCN-NOAA-UNEP Large Marine Ecosystem Consultative meeting with the aim to start gathering input from Arctic countries and ecosystem experts.
- Both the work and progress on the LME indicators and boundaries is work in progress. Cooperation and collaboration with other working groups of the Arctic Council, particularly AMAP and CAFF has taken place.
- Communication and information sharing on application of LMEs has included a background on the concept of an ecosystem approach by EU (Marine Strategy/eco-regions), EEA, Norway, Denmark and USA.
- PAME is in the process of establishing an LME Experts Group with the aim to consider information requirements including suites of indicators of the changing states of Arctic LMEs as measured against baselines of the five-module indicator approach (productivity/climate; fish and fisheries/marine birds and mammals; pollution and ecosystem health; socioeconomics and governance) to guide effective decision-making.
- The PAME LME Experts Group will work in close cooperation with other experts associated with the activities of AMAP, CAFF and SDWG. Dr. Kenneth Sherman (Director, NOAA-Fisheries, Narragansett, United States) is the chairperson of this Group.

Regional Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (RPA):

- The RPA was developed from 1996-1997 and adopted by Arctic Ministers in 1998. Since then, considerable new information has become available that will be considered for the report on an updated RPA.
- PAME, with Canada as the lead-country in advancing the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (RPA), completed a review of the potential need for amendments to the RPA
- PAME, taking into consideration the report prepared by Canada, has decided that the RPA should be updated and broadened because:
 - The RPA is out of date and updating it would provide a more current account of circumpolar activities and priority RPA issues.
 - The RPA has been used to assist in addressing pollution from land-based activities.

- Arctic Council has used the RPA in reporting to UNEP as an element of GPA.
- Canada, Finland, Iceland and Russia have found the RPA approach helpful in developing their National Programme of Action (NPAs).
- Russia used the RPA to support an application for the GEF/UNEP Russian NPA-Arctic Project funding.
- The objective of this review and update is to look at the existing RPA text with regard to: addressing possible additional priority source categories, taking stock of international developments since the inception of the RPA (including ACIA, AHDR, and ACAP activities), and examining its overall scope and compatibility with the stated needs of the UNEP *Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities* (GPA).

The Russian National Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Anthropogenic Pollution in the Arctic Region of the Russian Federation (Russian NPA-Arctic):

- Russia has reported to PAME on the progress of the GEF/Russian NPA-Arctic Project "The Russian Federation: Support to the National Programme of Action on the Protection of Arctic Marine Environment". This is consistent with the Ministerial Declarations of Iqaluit 1998, Barrow 2000, Inari 2002 and Reykjavik 2004.

Collaboration with groups and organizations within and outside the Arctic Council

- PAME has actively communicated with the other working groups of the Arctic Council on the need to collaborate on forwarding its work plan with their representation present at PAME meetings. This has mainly been on the following activities:
 - Collaboration and apparent synergies with AMAP and CAFF on the ecosystem approach and, all working groups with particular focus on EPPR and SDWG working groups on the shipping assessment are fully recognized. Representatives from AMAP, CAFF, EPPR and SDWG have participated over the last 2 years at PAME meetings for this purpose and in summary emphasized the following:
 - EPPR has emphasized their full support to AMSA activities of relevance to their respective mandate.
 - AMAP has emphasized clear linkages with the AMAP Oil and Gas Assessment on a number of AMSA tasks and the application of Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) and encouraged collaboration such as by possibly sharing data and experts from the Oil and Gas Assessment.
 - CAFF has emphasized the importance of collaboration within the LME work as it has a direct link with their work plan and mandate. This is also directly linked with a number of activities as identified in the shipping assessment.

- SDWG has emphasized collaboration on the socio-economic parts of the shipping assessment and provided an update on this assessment at the SDWG Workshop: Priority Action in Advancing Sustainable Development in the Arctic 13-14 March 2006.
- PAME Secretariat continues to participate in UNEP's annual meetings of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans. Many of the issues and problems addressed by UNEP have relevance to the Arctic marine environment and the implementation of the RPA.

4. Proposed SAO Recommendations to Ministers

The PAME working group makes the following recommendations for SAO/Ministerial consideration to ensure circumpolar protection of the Arctic marine environment.

2006-2008 Work Plan:

- The Arctic Council endorse/welcome PAME's future activities as identified in its 2006-2008 Work Plan.

Arctic Marine Strategic Plan - Implementation and Communications Plan

- The Arctic Council notes the progress PAME and other subsidiary bodies in implementation of the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP) and encourages continued efforts towards meeting the goals and objectives of this Strategic Plan.
- The Arctic Council welcomes and endorses the Communications Plan as developed for the AMSP.

Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment:

- The Arctic Council welcome the progress made by PAME under the guidance of three lead countries (Canada, Finland and United States) on the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment and encourage the active participation of Arctic States and Permanent Participants in the continuation and finalization of this assessment.

Port Reception Facilities

- The Arctic Council take note of Phase I of the assessment on existing measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues and encourage PAME, through Norway as the lead-country, to continue this work and develop proposal for common guidelines for consideration by States.

Ecosystem Approach:

- The Arctic Council endorse the working map of the 17 Arctic LMEs and request PAME to advance the work on the suites of indicators of the changing state of Arctic LMEs based on productivity, fish and fisheries, pollution and ecosystem health, socioeconomics, and governance and encourage PAME, in close collaboration with AMAP and CAFF, to develop the LME approach for pilot assessment and management projects for the Arctic.

Regional Programme of Action:

- The Arctic Council requests PAME, through Canada and Iceland as lead countries, to review, update and expand the RPA where necessary, taking into account new information since 1997. A revised RPA should be completed by 2008.
- The Arctic Council continues to recognize that the Russian NPA-Arctic is an important component of the RPA implementation phase.
- The Arctic Council note the work being done within UNEP's Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans and the GPA Coordination Office on protection of the marine environment and the recognize that these programmes have relevance to PAME's work.

5. List of Deliverables to the 5th Ministerial Meeting

- PAME 2006-2008 Work Plan
- Progress report on the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment and associated brochures/posters.
- Working map of 17 Arctic Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs).
- Phase I of The assessment of existing measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues.
- Communication Plan for the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan.
- A Review of the Need for Amendments to the Arctic Council Regional Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Land Based Activities (RPA)".

6. Proposed text into the Ministerial Declaration

2006-2008 Work Plan:

- The Arctic Council **endorse/welcome** PAME's future activities as identified in its 2006-2008 Work Plan.

Arctic Marine Strategic Plan:

- The Arctic Council **note** with satisfaction the good progress being made in implementing the AMSP and **welcome** the addition of the Communications Plan for assisting in this important work.

Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment:

- The Arctic Council **welcome** the progress made by PAME under the guidance of three lead countries (Canada, Finland and United States) on the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment and **encourage** the active participation of Arctic States and Permanent Participants the continuation and finalization of this assessment

Port Reception Facilities:

- The Arctic Council **take note of** Phase I of the assessment on existing measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues and **encourage** PAME, through Norway as the lead-country, to continue this work and develop proposal for common guidelines for consideration by States.

Ecosystem Approach:

- The Arctic Council **endorse** the working map of the 17 Arctic LMEs, and **request** PAME to advance the work on the suites of indicators of the changing state of Arctic LMEs and **encourage** PAME, in close collaboration with AMAP and CAFF, to develop the LME approach for pilot assessment and management projects for the Arctic.

Regional Programme of Action:

- The Arctic Council **request** PAME, through Canada and Iceland as lead countries, to review, update and expand the RPA where necessary, taking into account new information since 1997.
- The Arctic Council **continues** to recognize that the Russian NPA-Arctic is an important component of the RPA implementation phase.

7. PAME Working Group Administration

PAME Operating Budget

The projected operating budget for PAME for the year 2006 is 16 mill. ISK, up from 15 mill. ISK in 2005. The finances of the PAME Secretariat are provided in the ISK currency as all operational expenditures are in this currency and to avoid the discrepancies reflected in the ISK/USD floating exchange rate. The finances of the PAME Secretariat have been improving due to a positive response from the member countries in increasing their respective annual contributions and paying them in ISK currency.

Communications

The PAME homepage serves as the main outreach and communication tool. All PAME-related reports, brochures, posters and other resources are available on the homepage at: www.pame.is and many are provided in English and Russian. The Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment brochures are now available in English, Russian, French and Inuktitut (Canada).