



**PAME PROGRESS REPORT TO SENIOR ARCTIC
OFFICIALS**

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Syktyvkar, Russia

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1. DEVELOPMENTS SINCE LAST SAO MEETING, OCTOBER 2005

PAME held its working group meeting in Oslo, Norway 1-3 March 2006 and below is a summary of developments since the last SAO meeting.

Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment

- Preparations of the Arctic marine shipping assessment (AMSA) are underway by the leads (Canada/Finland/USA).
- 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.
- The PAME Secretariat provides communication for the AMSA, organizational support, website and ‘post box’ for the coordination and distribution of documents, data etc.
- An electronic Survey Questionnaire designed to capture all Arctic shipping data for the calendar year 2004 has been developed by a marine contractor funded by Canada. The questionnaire was sent out to all Arctic Council member states on February 6, 2006 with the request to respond by June 15 at the latest. PAME has agreed to the set deadline and to provide the names of their respective designated

point of contact to work with the AMSA lead country representatives and the data collection contractor from Canada.

- The Leads will update the AMSA Work Plan (consists of 8 Work Packages), timeline and major milestones. Major milestones will identify where consultations, endorsement and deliverables to PAME Working Group are planned. The AMSA Work Plan is expected to undergo revisions as the project develops, and as such, is considered a “living” document.
- The leads have started the process of establishing expert groups for the various work packages of the AMSA Work Plan and some work has been initiated on a regional scale within Work Packages 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 covering Russian and Norwegian Arctic.
- An AMSA Roundtable (advisory group) has been established and the Leads are in the process of developing Terms of Reference (ToR) for the selection of experts and duties of the AMSA Roundtables.
- The Leads are in the process of developing a concept paper/ToR for the assessment to clarify and expand on the aim of the assessment and nature of the work plan and envisaged actions, including the expert requirements and resource needs. The purpose is to establish an “institutional” memory for the assessment.
- Working with the Permanent Participants and all the working groups of the Arctic Council is seen as important part of conducting this assessment. The Leads had a constructive dialogue with the representatives present at last PAME meeting from Arctic Councils Permanent Participants and working groups.
- The Leads convened a stakeholder meeting parallel with last PAME meeting with participants from Norwegian institutions. Stakeholder meetings are being planned for other countries.
- The Arctic Council working groups are not tasked with Work Packages of the AMSA Work Plan but rather are requested to nominate experts for specific activities. The outreach capabilities within the IPS structure will be used for the purpose of involving the Permanent Participants in the assessment.
- AMSA communication efforts are underway. AMSA brochure is now available in English, Russian, French and Inuktitut (Canada). The AMSA brochures and two types of AMSA posters can be downloaded from the PAME homepage which currently serves as the outreach and communication tool with background information and resources related to AMSA.
- 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.

Ecosystem Approach

- The 2005 September meeting of PAME agreed to move forward in operationalizing the ecosystem approach within the Arctic for the purpose of providing a more additive and integrated approach in assessing and managing the Arctic marine environment than has been the general practice.
- The final revised map has been adopted as a working map of 17 Arctic LMEs [Iceland and Sweden took a “study reservation” and will provide an answer the soonest], acknowledging related work in other fora, in which place-based assessments of the changing states of Arctic LMEs will 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 Experts Group is in the process of being established 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 Experts Group will work in close cooperation with other experts associated with the activities of AMAP, CAFF and SDWG.
- The Director of the Murmansk Marine Biological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (MMBI RAS) gave an update on their research efforts on impact assessments and linkages with LMEs in the Barents, Kara, Laptev and White Seas.

Port Reception Facilities

- Norway, as lead for the assessment of existing measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues, gave an update on this project which was developed by the Norwegian Maritime Directorate in cooperation with the “Det Norske Veritas” and 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 harmonized guidelines for consideration by States based on the gap analysis.

- This project is progressing towards finalizing Phase 1. The modalities of Phase 2 will depend on the outcome of Phase 1 and Phase 3 on harmonized guidelines will be further explored within Phase 2.
- In order to finalize Phase 1, information is needed from all the Arctic States. So far information has been received from Canada, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands) Iceland and Norway.
- Russia and United States confirmed at the last PAME meeting that information on their Port Reception Facilities is forthcoming. The U.S. provided their information immediately following the last PAME meeting. Russia confirmed that their information be sent in by end of March.

Other PAME-Activities

Regional Programme of Action

- 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) has prepared a draft report, "Review to Examine 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)".
- The RPA was developed more than 10 years ago. The objective of the review is to look at the existing RPA text with regard to: addressing possible additional priority source categories, taking stock of international developments since the RPA's inception (including ACIA, AHDR, 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 Arctic Marine Environment from Land-based Activities* (GPA).
- PAME 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.

AMSP Communication Plan

- Canada and Iceland as the co-leads on the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP), presented a revised version of the draft AMSP Communication Plan.
- The intention is to finalize this Communication Plan within the next 2 months and provide an updated version for endorsement by PAME followed by submission to the SAOs and Ministers in the Fall.
- The leads will also seek inputs from other working groups of the Arctic Council.

Update status of the GEF/Russian NPA-Arctic

- Dr. Ivan N. Senchenya the Project Manager of the UNEP/GEF project - Russian Federation: Support to the National Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment gave an update on its status and noted that the 1st Project Steering Committee meeting had been held in mid-October 2005.
- Mr. Vitaly Lystsov of the Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea (ACOPS) provided an updated of ACOPS progress under this Project over the period July 2005 – February 2006. ACOPS role in the Project is now defined as a “Partner Agency” similar to NEFCO.
- PAME will clarify its further follow-up on this Project at next PAME meeting and decide whether and how this Project will be included in the 2006-2008 PAME Work Plan.

Collaboration with groups and organizations within and outside the Arctic Council

- 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 participated at the last PAME meeting.
- EPPR gave an overview of their activities and emphasized their full support to AMSA activities of relevance to their respective mandate.
- AMAP noted 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 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 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.

2. POSSIBLE DELIVERABLES FOR THE 5TH MINISTERIAL MEETING

- Following is a list of possible deliverables for the 5th Ministerial meeting but details on individual activities are subject to how work proceeds:
 - PAME 2006-2008 Work Plan - The 1st draft of the 2006-2008 PAME Work Plan is under development.
 - 'Historic' Report of 2004 Arctic Marine Activity and a progress report on the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment and associated brochures/posters.
 - Final revised map as a working map of 17 Arctic Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) to serve as the framework for ecosystem-based management practices in the Arctic.
 - Report on Phase I of The assessment of existing measures for port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues (PRF-Norway)
 - Arctic Marine Strategic Plan/Communication Plan developed and distributed.
 - Possible documentation/report on the outline of the updating of the Arctic Council Regional Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Land Based Activities (RPA)".

3. NEXT PAME MEETING

The Director of the Murmansk Marine Biological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (MMBI RAS) offered to host the next PAME meeting in August/September 2006. Detail on exact dates is forthcoming.

4. GUIDANCE FROM SAOS

It is important for the work laid down within the PAME Work Plan that countries secure the involvement of respective country representatives, experts and representatives from the national indigenous communities to ensure a broad and active involvement in the PAME work.