

Integrated Ocean Management in the Arctic Ocean Review

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How can the AOR contribute to a meaningful discussion of Integrated Ocean Management?

- AOR overall objective: “to provide guidance to Arctic Council Ministers as a means to strengthen governance in the Arctic through a cooperative, coordinated, and integrated approach to the Arctic marine environment.”

Working with the AOR Structure

- Phase 1: Compile information on status and trends, and on “global and regional measures relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of the Arctic marine environment.”
- Methodology: discussion of international instruments focused on facial characteristics -- geographic scope, state party status, adequacy of objectives, functional mechanisms.

AOR will need an innovative approach to deal with IOM

- Integrated ocean management (IOM) and associated concepts such as ecosystem-based management (EBM) and marine spatial planning (MSP) are relatively new techniques that are still evolving.
- Often seen as supplementary to sectoral approaches
- Few specific obligations or references in facial text of existing legal instruments

Why ‘bend the rules’ for IOM?

- Significant and growing international interest (WSSD, UNGA, CBD calls)
- National efforts among Arctic nations:
 - Norway: Integrated Management Plan for the Barents Sea
 - Canada: Beaufort Sea LOMA
 - U.S.: Obama Administration Oceans Policy
- Arctic Council cooperative initiatives;
 - EPPR/CAFF “Areas at-risk” mapping

How can AOR best approach IOM?

- Note High-level International Guidance:
 - WSSD Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (Secs. 30, 32, 36)
 - UNGA Resolutions (61/105) re: sustainable fisheries
 - CBD (Marine & Protected Area Work Programs; Goals for work re: Marine and coastal protected areas; SBSTTA comments)
 - UNFSA

How can AOR best approach IOM?

- Explore specific objectives & efforts under relevant international instruments:
 - CBD 2012 MPA target
 - Identification of EBSAs; science guidance
 - UN/FAO
 - Reykjavik Declaration; VME guidance
 - IMO
 - Authority to designate PSSAs
 - MARPOL process to designate special areas for protection

How can AOR best approach IOM?

- Note emerging technical guidance re: IOM, EBM, MSP, etc.
 - CBD IMCAM (Integrated Marine and Coastal Management Approaches)
 - UNESCO Marine Spatial Planning Initiative
 - U.S. Final Recommendations of the Interagency Ocean Policy Taskforce, Part 4: The Framework for Effective Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning

How can AOR best approach IOM?

- Focus on practical questions:
 - To what extent are IOM approaches and guidance reflected in current national planning and management efforts in the Arctic?
 - What are the difficulties or obstacles that impede adoption of IOM approaches?
 - Could a more synthetic approach including MSP offer benefits in efficiency and improved outcomes?

How can AOR best approach IOM?

- Examine potential roles that the Arctic Council and its working groups could play in facilitating IOM approaches:
 - Information sharing
 - Encourage coordinated approaches, baseline measures, indicators
 - Develop common standards and principles
 - Forum for scientific problem identification, best practices, review & assessment
 - Aggregation of data and trend analysis