The Arctic Ocean Review (AOR)

- The AOR is a country-led project under the marine Working Group of the Arctic Council
- The co-leads are Canada, Iceland, Norway, Russia and the US
- The final AOR report will be presented to Arctic Council Ministers in the Spring of 2013
- The AOR is a Review not an assessment, i.e. it will be based on existing information, studies and assessment work
The AOR is a multi-phased project that will:

- Provide an overview of the status of the Arctic marine environment (AME)
- Review the trends and pressures influencing the health and productivity of the AME
- Consider the key global and regional instruments, frameworks and measures that relate to the conservation and sustainable use of the AME
- Analyze options to strengthen the regulation and management of activities in the AME, and provide advice to Arctic Council Ministers
Goals of the AOR

- Demonstrate Arctic States’ stewardship efforts in the Arctic marine environment

- Provide guidance to decision-makers as to strengthening the regulation and management of activities in the AME through a cooperative and coordinated approach
Rationale

- It is timely to have a review given the climatic, economic, environmental and socio-cultural changes occurring in the Arctic, and the trends resulting in increasing pressures on the marine and coastal environments.

- The Arctic Council, through PAME, has a policy role to identify and respond to trends, and help provide advice on how to address growing pressures affecting the quality of the Arctic marine environment.
Phase I

- Survey the status and trends related to the health and productivity of the AME
- Compile information on the key global and regional instruments, frameworks and measures
- Engage in communication and outreach
- Prepare a first draft of a Phase I report as a basis of discussion for expert workshop;
- Finalize Phase I Report for Arctic Council Ministers on existing status, trends, instruments/measures and identify issues of focus for Phase II
Phase II

- Building on the work conducted in Phase I - conduct analysis to identify potential improvements in regulation and management

- Conduct an international conference to gather and assess options for ensuring the health and productivity of the AME within the existing overarching framework, e.g. UNCLOS

- Develop the AOR Report with advice to Arctic Council Ministers as to measures to strengthen the regulation and management of activities in the AME
AOR Activities & Products

- Launching project
  - Project Plan, governance structure, Project Manager, Project Expert Group, Phase I work plan

- Communication and Outreach
  - Developed Plan, AOR brochure, presentations, connecting with Working Groups, PP, and national outreach efforts

- Phase I Report
  - Summarizing status, trends, instruments and measures relevant to the health, productivity and use of the AME
AOR Activities & Products

- **Expert Workshop Report**
  - Consultations at workshop key to developing Phase I Report

- **International Conference and Report (Phase II)**
  - Development of options

- **AOR Report**
  - Including guidance to Arctic Council Ministers
AOR Workshop

Contribute to the development of the Phase I Report, this entails commenting on and contributing to a description of:

- Status of the AME and emerging trends
- Status and trends of the main sectoral activities
- The key instruments, frameworks and measures
- Modern management approaches relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of the AME
Thank You