

PAME II-2015
Annotation to Agenda Item 4.8
AMSA Recommendation II(E)
AOR Final Report Recommendation 3
Aquatic Invasive Species in Arctic Marine Waters Subject to U.S. Jurisdiction

Background

AMSA Report Recommendation II (E) provides:

"That the Arctic states should consider ratification of the IMO International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships Ballast Water and Sediments, as soon as practical. Arctic states should also assess the risk of introducing invasive species through ballast water and other means so that adequate prevention measures can be implemented in water under their jurisdiction."

AOR Final Report Recommendation 3 provides in relevant part:

"Arctic states should also encourage ratification to enable entry into force and implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention and research into ballast water management systems that are effective in colder settings of polar regions."¹

PAME I-2015 adopted a Record of Decision (ROD) under AMSA II(E) "inviting member governments to submit to PAME II-2015 information on the nature, extent and impact of aquatic invasive species within Arctic marine waters subject to their jurisdiction." This paper responds to that invitation.

USA Recommendations

The USA recommends that PAME II-2015 adopt one or more RODs that:

- Invite the PAME Secretariat to contact the CAFF Secretariat to explore the exchange of information on any projects or initiatives undertaken by each Working Group on aquatic invasive species and how PAME and CAFF might collaborate in addressing the threats posed by aquatic invasive species to the Arctic marine environment;
- Invite PAME member governments to inform PAME I-2016 on whether, and if so how,
 - they regulate ship ballast water in Arctic waters subject to their jurisdiction;

¹ Chapter 3 of the AOR Final Report notes: "Recent growth in Arctic regional marine operations and trans-Arctic voyages, as well as evidence of alien and invasive species in the Arctic, highlight the need for ratification and entry into force of the BWM Convention and/or adoption of other domestic prevention measures as more regular summer voyages are conducted in Arctic waters." AOR Final Report, p. 32.

- they are implementing IMO's 2011 *Guidelines for the Control and Management of Ships' Biofouling to Minimize the Transfer of Invasive Aquatic Species* ([Resolution MEPC.207/62, 15 July 2011](#)) in Arctic waters subject to their jurisdiction;
 - they are implementing the IPIECA/OGP *Alien Invasive Species and the Oil and Gas Industry: Guidance for Prevention and Management* (2010) in Arctic waters subject to their jurisdiction; and
 - they are applying any innovative measures to address the threats posed by aquatic invasive species in Arctic waters subject to their jurisdiction.
- Invite the United States to submit a paper to PAME I-2016 on Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) planning as a management tool that provides a structured method to identify risks and focus procedures in natural resource pathways activities to avoid and/or mitigate the unintended spread of aquatic invasive species; and

Encourage Arctic States, other Arctic Council Working Groups, Observers and stakeholders to direct additional resources for purposes of collecting baseline information and gaining a better understanding of the nature, extent, and impact of invasive species in Arctic waters. This information will be indispensable for making future assessments and determining the impact of any future spread of invasive sp