

*Arctic Invasive Alien Species (ARIAS): Strategy and Action Plan*  
CAFF/PAME Implementation Coordinating Group (ICG)  
Terms of Reference – *23 August 2018*

**Action requested by PAME II-2018: For approval**

**Note:** This document has also been sent to CAFF for their review/approval so National representatives to PAME should take care to coordinate their national reviews with their CAFF counterparts

**Background:**

Globally, invasive non-native species are considered the second most significant threat to biodiversity after habitat loss. These are species introduced by human activity that flourish and spread in their new environment and threaten native species and ecosystem functions.

The *Arctic Invasive Alien Species (ARIAS) Strategy and Action Plan*, produced by CAFF and PAME, was adopted at the May 2017 Arctic Council Ministerial. It sets forth the priority actions that the Arctic Council and its partners are encouraged to take to protect the Arctic region from a significant threat: the adverse impacts of invasive alien species. These priority actions span terrestrial, aquatic, and marine ecosystems. The actions take environmental, cultural, and economic perspectives into consideration, including drivers, impacts, and response measures. The priority actions are divided into three categories:

- Inspire urgent and effective action in order to: raise awareness of the unique opportunity that the Arctic Council and its partners have to inspire the urgent and effective action necessary to protect the Arctic from invasive alien species.
- Improve the knowledge base for well-informed decision making in order to: improve the capacity of the Arctic Council and its partners to make well-informed decisions on the needs, priorities, and options for preventing, eradicating, and controlling invasive alien species in the Arctic by improving the knowledge base.
- Undertake prevention and early detection/rapid response initiatives in order to: protect Arctic ecosystems and human well-being by instituting prevention and early detection/rapid response programs for invasive alien species as a matter of priority.

The *ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan* addresses both short-term and long-term challenges and opportunities. Achieving its goals is dependent upon cooperation. The *ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan* includes close coordination and cooperation between Arctic Council working groups, and the Arctic Council will need to look to government agencies and industries for support and participation. Its implementation may also necessitate that the Arctic States cooperate to promote the goals in relevant international and regional fora.

Further information can be found via the [CAFF](#) and [PAME](#) websites.

## I. General Provisions

### a. Mandate –

- i. ARIAS Implementation: CAFF and PAME, under the overall direction of the Senior Arctic Officials, will coordinate the *ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan* implementation through an Implementation Coordinating Group (ICG). They will incorporate those actions that relate to their mandates into their work plans, as appropriate. Reports on progress of the implementation of the *ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan* will be submitted by CAFF and PAME to the Senior Arctic Officials and Arctic Council Ministers every two years.

### b. Guidelines and Procedures –

- i. Activities of the ARIAS ICG shall conform at all times to the Arctic Council Rules of Procedure, as adopted (1998) and revised (2013) as well as to the Working Group Common Operating Guidelines (2016).

### c. Structure and Organization –

- i. The CAFF and PAME Working Groups appoint the co-chairs for the ICG; currently, the ICG is being led by the U.S. for the CAFF Working Group and Canada for the PAME Working Group.
- ii. Participation in the ICG shall be open to Arctic States, Permanent Participants, accredited Observers, and other Arctic Council working groups. Following consultation with and/or suggestions from the ICG members, the ICG co-chairs may invite experts to participate in ICG meetings.<sup>1</sup>

## II. Purpose

- a. The ICG shall assist with, and provide guidance on, the implementation of the *ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan* at the Arctic regional scale, taking into account international actions to strive for synergies and collaborative efforts.<sup>2</sup>
- b. The work of the ICG will be inclusive of all taxonomic groups, invasion vectors/pathways, and Arctic ecosystems.
- c. The ICG will provide recommendations to the CAFF and/or PAME Working Groups on implementation of ARIAS priority actions, as well as other relevant regional/international priorities.
- d. In developing its work plan, the ICG will evaluate the relevance of *ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan* priorities to other Arctic Council Working Groups and coordinate where appropriate.

## III. Activities/Outputs

- a. Prioritize *ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan* actions for near-term implementation across the Arctic

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<sup>1</sup> See attached Annex I for list of ICG members at the time of adoption of the Terms of Reference.

<sup>2</sup> This includes coordination with all relevant stakeholders and communities as identified and outlined in the *ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan*.



- b. Create and, as needed, update a general timeline for process management
- c. Develop a joint PAME/CAFF template for project proposals and progress tracking
- d. Distribute a call for proposals relevant to the agreed on priority ARIAS action(s)
- e. Develop and/or propose projects to PAME and/or CAFF for inclusion in each working group's "Work Plan" (noting the possibility of a Joint Work Plan)
- f. Form project-specific task teams and associated strategic plans, as needed
- g. Submit ICG progress reports to biennial CAFF and PAME meetings

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ICG Member Roster

As of August 22, 2018, the current roster of members for the ARIAS ICG is as follows:

Country	Name	Role	Email
Canada	Maya Gold	Co-Chair	maya.gold@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
	Coral Deshield		coral.deshield@canada.ca
	Kim Howland		kimberly.howland@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
US	Jamie Reaser	Co-Chair	jamie_reaser@ios.doi.gov
	Sarah Veatch	Providing Co-Chair Support	sarah_veatch@ios.doi.gov
	Jeanette Davis		jeanette.davis@noaa.gov
	Gilbert Castellanos		gilbert_castellanos@fws.gov
	Aaron Martin		aaron_e_martin@fws.gov
Iceland	Jónas Jónasson		jonas.jonasson@hafogvatn.is
	Pawel Wasowicz		pawel@ni.is
Norway	Cecilie von Quillfeldt		cecilie.von.quillfeldt@npolar.no
	Marthe Margrethe Haugan		marthe.margrethe.haugan@miljodir.no
Sweden	Erland Lettevall		erland.lettevall@havochvatten.se
	Melanie Josefsson		melanie.josefsson@naturvardsverket.se
Kingdom of Denmark	Inge Thaulow		toch@bios.au.dk
	Tom Christensen		ingt@nanoq.gl
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Finland	Johanna Niemivuo-Lahti		johanna.niemivuo-lahti@mmm.fi
	Maiju Lehtiniemi		maiju.lehtiniemi@ymparisto.fi
AIA	Bruce Wright		brucew@apiai.org
	Nadine Kochuten		nadine_907@hotmail.com
ICC	Carolina Behe		carolina@iccalaska.org

A current list of ICG Members is posted online at: XXX