



PAME REPORT TO SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS

Barrow, Alaska – 10-11 October, 2000

CURRENT STATUS

PAME held its semi-annual working group meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark June 5-8, 2000 and the status of the working plan (Attachment I) is on schedule as presented below.

RPA PROGRESS

With respect to the RPA adopted in September 1998 following progress has been made:

RPA Programme support elements

The implementation and programme support elements of the RPA are moving forward and the main updates regarding the RPA progress are as follows:

- Mr. Kenneth Korporal from the GPA Clearing-House has accepted our offer to present the GPA Clearing-House Mechanism at our next PAME Meeting that will be held in Copenhagen June 5-9 this year. Is this an important step towards a possible clearing-house mechanism of the RPA. The GPA office recognizes this as an excellent opportunity to further interact with the members of PAME and to provide a forum to discuss further synergies and potential areas of collaboration between the GPA and PAME

Russian NPA-Arctic

PAME is actively involved in the activities of the GEF PDF-B Project of the Russian NPA-Arctic. The PAME Secretary has attended meetings regarding the preparation of pre-investment studies and the Identification and Characterisation of Hot-Spots. The outcome of these meetings plays an essential role in providing the background work necessary for the IFIs. Other meetings on the Russian NPA-Arctic have been on the transportation mechanisms and review of the legislations that are currently in place. Progress has been made as follows:

- Commitments towards the funding for the three year product have been received from, USA, Canada, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, GPA, GEF, EU and UK – Finland supports this project by contribution through the PAME International Secretariat (Attachment II).

- The Russian NPA-Arctic implementation is envisaged to have three phases:
 - Phase 1 (1999 – 2002). Creates institutional, legal and managerial basis at federal, regional and local levels. Detailed plans for priority hot-spots are developed. Investment portfolio is presented to Partnership Conference;
 - Phase 2 (2002 – 2007). Several priority hot-spots investment projects are implemented and their environmental efficiency is assessed. Means and ways for further improvement in environmental quality are developed; and
 - Phase 3 (2007 – 2015 and beyond). Strict international standards of environmental quality and provision for their implementation are in place for the whole Arctic region of Russia. Significant reduction and elimination of hot-spots. Drastic reduction of incremental hazards to marine and coastal environment.
- PAME Executive Secretary has met with some of the potential IFI's, such as the Managing Director of NEFCO and a Senior Environmental Analyst of NIB to discuss their involvement in this project and the Partnership Conference that is scheduled for mid-2001. Active involvement of NEFCO is in the process of being established by their participation in the May meeting of the Working Group on Pre-Investment Studies which will consist of a one-day seminar/workshop entitled "The Role of Financial Institutions".

The main purpose is to get the input from the IFIs early on in the process and provide a forum for them to introduce their lessons learned from past experiences. This is anticipated to be in a form of a list of "dos and don'ts" which our Russian colleagues can then base their analysis and reporting.

- EBRD has decided to attend the May meeting and participate in this seminar/workshop.
- ACOPS is in contact with the World Bank regarding their involvement at the May seminar/workshop.
- We are still hopeful for the involvement of the AMAP PCB project to become a part of the Russian NPA-Arctic Partnership Conference as there is a good reason for PAME/AMAP to collaborate on projects as they move from assessments to pollution prevention and control projects – and can this be seen as a great opportunity to improve working group coordination approach to GEF and other International Funding Institutions.

ACAP

PAME is continuing its work through a collaborative approach with other working groups on the development of the Arctic Council Action Plan (ACAP). PAME offers two recommendations on ACAP:

- Include EPPR's and PAME's role in risk analysis and pollution prevention
- Portray the RPA as a building block for ACAP

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

Update of the current status of the international conventions and agreements as presented in the 1996 PAME report have been prepared by the secretariat in co-operation with the working group (Attachment III). This work was also in part based on previous work on legal analysis done by CAFF and EPPR.

CIRCUMPOLAR MARINE WORKSHOP

Circumpolar Marine Workshop was held in Montreal, Canada, November 28 – December 2, 1999 and was co-sponsored by IUCN, CAFF and PAME. The goals of this workshop were as follows:

- 1) to look at various ways to develop and implement practical measures to protect the Arctic marine environment and conserve its biological diversity, and
- 2) to facilitate improved collaboration among Arctic countries, indigenous peoples and other stakeholders and organizations.

The main reason for PAME's involvement in the workshop is its commitment to work vigorously for early implementation of the RPA and to focus on practical ways to promote conservation, environmental protection and sustainable development.

The report generated from this workshop will be presented at this meeting and its findings and recommendations will be discussed at the next PAME meeting. PAME will evaluate possible ways forward on the issues raised and recommendations that are related to the Arctic marine environment and that are within the framework of the RPA.

SHIPPING ACTIVITIES

Norway has established a correspondence group on shipping and distributed a snapshot analysis of shipping activities (current and potential) in January 2000.

The scope of the work is to:

1. outline a draft snapshot analysis of shipping activities in the Arctic
2. identify and prioritise the environmental problems related to current and potential shipping activities in the Arctic.

In order to prepare PAME discussions on shipping in the Arctic, the correspondence group will also:

1. identify and assess the adequacy of current measures for addressing the problems identified and identify the possible gaps
2. consider appropriate measures to fill the gaps identified and provide recommended actions.

A questionnaire with request for information has been distributed to the members of the correspondence group with a deadline for reply by March 20, 2000.

A draft report will be produced by the lead country and the report will be distributed by end May with the aim to finalize the report at the next PAME meeting in Copenhagen June 5-9 2000.

OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS GUIDELINES

PAME continues to promote application of its Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines and is currently in the progress of providing comments to WWF on their draft evaluation criteria for the offshore guidelines, i.e. are the PAME guidelines being implemented? If so, to what extent are they followed and working to meet the original objectives?

PROMOTION

There will be an article on the current status and direction of the PAME working group in the next issue of the Arctic Bulletin that is published quarterly by the WWF Arctic Programme (will come out sometime in April). The PAME International Secretariat is also introduced in the "Who is Who" section of the same issue.

OTHER BUSINESS

The PAME International Secretariat is currently working on PAME'S homepage, which can be found on <http://www.grida.no/pame>

The next PAME meeting is scheduled for June 5-9, 2000 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Attachment IV includes compilation of PAME projects that were submitted to the Arctic Council Secretariat in their efforts to increase the cooperation and avoid overlap between the existing working groups and regional organizations.

ATTACHMENT I

OVERVIEW OF PAME WORKPLANS

1999/2000

Clearing House Development/User Needs..... (all)
Establish Correspondence Group on Shipping..... (Norway)
Finalize Russian NPA Arctic..... (Russia)
Support for Russian NPA-Arctic and
Partnership Conference..... (all)
Co-sponsor IUCN Marine Workshop in December..... (PAME/CAFF/IUCN)
RPA Implementation..... (all)

2000

Define Coastal Area
Respond to Marine Workshop Recommendations
Respond to ACAP Proposal
Support the RPA, Russian NPA-Arctic and Partnership Conference
Factual updates for Analysis of International Agreements and Arrangements
Advance Shipping Analysis
Consider Indicators for Oil and Gas Guideline Effectiveness
Develop Proposals for Clearing House
Communication Brochure
Consider improved reporting to SAOs and Ministers
Progress Reports to Ministers on:

- RPA, Russian NPA-Arctic, Partnership Conference
- Shipping Analysis
- Meeting goals and objectives of offshore guidelines
- Status of agreements and additional instruments

2001

Hold Partnership Conference
Collate Shipping Proposals
Collate proposed amendments to PAME Offshore Guidelines
Respond to additional RPA Proposals
Complete update on marine pollution sources

2002

Complete Analysis of International Agreements and Arrangements
Provide recommendations on:

- Adequacy of international agreements and arrangements
- Possible new shipping measures
- Possible amendments to offshore oil and gas guidelines
- Possible new measures for land-based activities

ATTACHMENT II

March 27, 2000

To: PAME Country Contacts

Re: Russian NPA Arctic and the Partnership Conference

In preparation for the upcoming SAO meeting I wanted to confirm that the following information is up-to-date and accurate:

USA:	Year 1: \$150K	Years 2 and 3: \$150K each
Canada:	Year 1: \$50K	Years 2 and 3: amounts to be determined
Sweden:	Year 1: \$80K	Years 2 and 3: amounts to be determined
Denmark:	Year 1: \$70K	Years 2 and 3: amounts to be determined
Norway:	Year 1: \$30K	Years 2 and 3: amounts to be determined
Iceland:	Amount to be determined	
Finland:	Year 1: \$6K ¹	Years 2 and 3: amounts to be determined
UK:	Agreement reached to support the partnership conference; amount to be determined	
European Union:	Still Pending	
GPA:	Year 1:\$50K	
GEF:	\$306K	

¹ Support through the PAME International Secretariat

ATTACHMENT III

Attachment IV

List of completed and ongoing projects and activities of the PAME working group

<i>Projects:</i>	<i>Working Group Designation</i>	<i>Sector/Region</i>	<i>Project Period</i>	<i>Lead Country</i>	<i>Leader</i>	<i>Local Counterpart</i>	<i>Implementing Agency</i>
Update the 1996 report on Analysis of International Agreements and Arrangements	PAME Mandate Nuuk Declaration, Sept 1993	Arctic Region	Update of the PAME 1996 Report – preliminary update by April 2000	PAME working Group and in co-operation with other Arctic Council Working Groups	PAME Secretariat	Not Applicable	All Arctic countries
Current and Potential Shipping Activities – Snapshot Analysis	Correspondence Group mechanism	Arctic Region	On-going – to be finalized by Nov 2000	Norway	Mr. Sveinung Oftedal Ministry of the Environment, Norway svo@md.dep.no		All Arctic Countries
Promote application of the 1997 Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines	Consider indicators for the Oil and Gas Guideline effectiveness	Arctic Countries	On-going and recommend their review in the year 2000	All	Not Applicable	WWF - have provided draft criteria for evaluating the PAME guidelines	All Arctic Countries
Implementation of the Regional Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (RPA 1998):							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circumpolar Marine Workshop in Montreal 	Co-operation with CAFF and IUCN	Arctic Region (as a part of the RPA)	Workshop in Montreal Nov 28-Dec 2, 1999	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Findings to be presented at the SAO meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska Apr 26-28, 2000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to the National Plan of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Anthropogenic Pollution in the Russian Federation -RUSSIAN NPA-ARCTIC 	Co-operation with Russian Federation and ACOPS (as a part of the RPA) Advisory body to the Partnership Conference	Russia PDF-B (GEF Project)	Oct 1999-January 2001 Partnership Conference mid-2001	Russia	ACOPS	Financial Support: USA, Canada, Sweden, Norway, Finland, UK, EU, GPA, GEF	Russian Federation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Clearing-House Mechanism 	As a part of the RPA – UNEP GPA Clearing-House		On-going	PAME working Group	PAME Secretariat	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

