PAME REPORT

Agenda Item 4.2 ~ Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines

ARCTIC COUNCIL
NORWEGIAN CHAIRMANSHIP
2006-2008

23-24 April 2008

Svolvær, Norway

Mr. Chris Cuddy ~ PAME Chair

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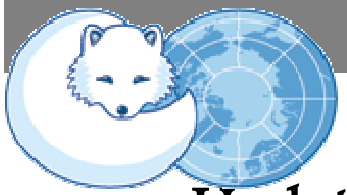
PAME Activities and Proposed Ministerial Deliverables



- Update of the Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines – Agenda Item 4.2
- Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment Report (AMSA) – Agenda Item 6.1
- Update of the Regional Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (RPA)
- Progress Report on Ecosystem Approach – Large Marine Ecosystems (LME Expert meeting of the PAME Study Group in Montreal (Québec, Canada), May 13-14, 2008)
- The main item of PAME business for this SAO meeting will be to outline the proposed processes and timelines for finalizing PAME deliverables, including SAO reviews, in the Fall 2008 and early winter 2009.

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Update of Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines

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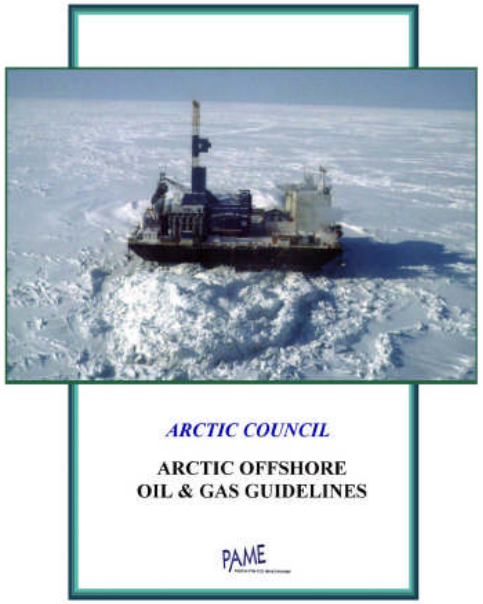
- The 2002 Guidelines recommend voluntary standards, technical and environmental best practices, management policy, and regulatory controls for Arctic offshore oil and gas operations.
- Workshop in Miami 7-8 December 2008 with over 20 participants representing PPs, countries and organizations.
- Comments have been received on the Guidelines before, during, and after the workshop. These have been incorporated into a draft revised version which is available on the PAME homepage.



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Update of Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines

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General comments on the Guidelines:

- Addition of technical and regulatory issues related to operations, such as use and disposal of chemicals, and socioeconomics issues.

- Widening the scope of the Guidelines to include: toxic chemicals listing, prescriptive vs. performance based regulatory regimes, use of risk assessment methodologies, and strategic regional planning.

- The "operational" aspect of the Guidelines should be maintained, but moving toward setting goals should be a part of the new Guidelines.

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Guidelines ~ Proposed Timeline

ACTION	TIMELINE
Revised Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines posted to PAME website for comment	March 13, 2008
Comments on Guidelines due to PAME Secretariat and posted on website	May 1, 2008
Guidelines (March 13 version) discussed/revised during PAME Meeting based on comments received by May 1 and additional comment made at PAME Meeting.	May 31 ~ June 3, 2008
US-led Electronic Working Group continues to revise Guidelines.	June 3 ~ Fall 2008
Fall PAME Meeting finalizes Guidelines and seeks Working Group approval of Guidelines.	Fall 2008
Fall SAO Meeting reviews and approves the Guidelines.	Late Fall 2008
Spring Ministerial Meeting adopts the Guidelines.	April 2009

Key Challenges for RPA

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- Update existing 1998 RPA vs. new Programme
- RPA is only one component of Integrated Ocean Management (shipping, disposal at sea, oil and gas)
- Arctic States, working groups and PPs full engagement in the process of updating the RPA

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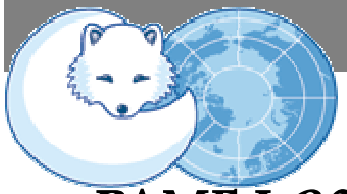
RPA ~ Proposed Timeline

ACTION	TIMELINE
Distribute to PAME WG and SAO's (as an information item for SAO meeting)	Early April
Penultimate draft distributed to PAME and other Working Groups	Early May
PAME meeting – final approval / endorsement of penultimate draft	June
Address any final comments recommended from PAME	Late June
Forward final version to SAO's for Approval at Fall Meeting	Fall
PAME Secretariat to prepare / print new RPA document	Late Fall / Winter 2009
2009	
Forward new RPA to Arctic Ministers for Approval at Spring Meeting	Early Spring

PAME Process up to 2009 Ministerial



- PAME I-2008 meeting (May/Jun 2008/St. John's Newfoundland): Initial information and discussions on the findings to date and possible scope and approach to recommendations. Agreement on steps to develop non-technical recommendations.
- PAME II-2008 meeting (28-30 Oct 2008/Finland): Develop preliminary findings and recommendations for SAO meeting in fall 2008 (Nov). Decide on what to table at the Fall SAO meeting for approval.
- SAO meeting in Nov 2008: Seek guidance/comments on findings/recommendations and Ministerial deliverables
- Nov 2008 - Jan 2009: Finalize findings/recommendations and other Ministerial deliverables
- Feb 2009 seek final approval of submissions to ministerial, including recommendations
- Mar –Apr 2009: Preparations and printing of Ministerial deliverables

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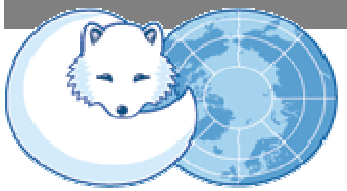

Questions/Directions from SAOs

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