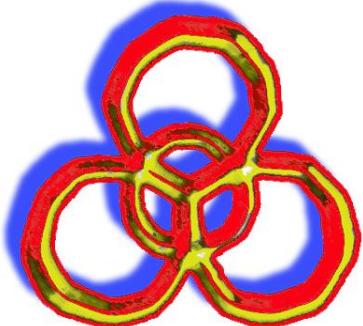


Status of the Indigenous Marine Environment in the Arctic



Saami Council
Camilla Brattland
PhD Candidate

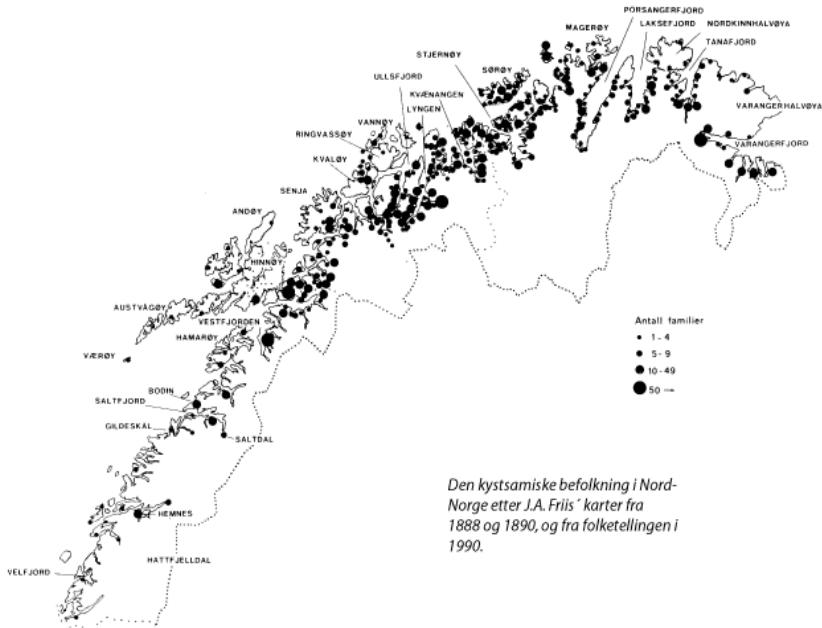
Centre for Sami Studies, University of Tromsø



Outline

- 1) Summarize status and emerging trends of the AME and the relevant governance context from the indigenous perspective
- 2) Highlight possible omissions in the Draft AOR report
- 3) Key relevant international and regional agreements pertaining to IPs
- 4) Are there actions or measures that can be undertaken to help secure the health and productivity of the AME?
 - Mainly a Sami perspective

AOR report omissions



- No special human dimension and indigenous peoples' perspective, no coastal habitats perspective in the AOR report
- Of the 4 mill inhabitants in the Arctic, IPs are especially vulnerable to changes and have different values and priorities for the AME
- Disturbance, harvest levels and allocations, self-determination significant issues in oceans management for IPs (Huntington in the Best Practices Report, 2009)

Additions

- Chapter 2.6: Traditional economic activities (hunting and fishing)
- Participation in commercial marine industries in indigenous areas
- Marine co-management arrangements with indigenous organizations /governments (could be included under 4.6)
- Already some good examples (cf. Beaufort Sea?)





- Integration of indigenous peoples' knowledge (LEK/TEK) and science (4.4)
- Ex. Mapping of spawning grounds, nursery areas, migration routes for fish and marine mammals

Relevant international and regional instruments

- Disputed indigenous rights to marine resources (chapter 3)
- 2010 UN Report on indigenous fishing rights in the seas with case studies from Australia and Norway (Carsten Smith and Michael Dodson)
- UNDRIP (right to natural resources)
- ICCPR art. 27(material basis for culture and right to special measures)
- ILO no. 169 (ownership over and participation in use, management and conservation of resources)
- Nordic Saami Convention – fundamental right to fishing and use of coastal and fjord areas (dependent on Norwegian statute on indigenous fishing rights in the sea)

Measures to ensure healthy and productive AME



- Ecosystemsbased management: mapping and monitoring of vulnerable areas, zoning and establishment of protected areas (follow up on CBD)
- AMSA Survey on indigenous marine use
- Identify vulnerable indigenous use marine areas in the Arctic (Areas of Heightened Ecological and Cultural Significance)
- Development of marine conservation and management categories to include these
- Commercial and traditional fisheries, salmon, aquaculture some of the issues

Conclusion



- Supporting traditional marine use is keeping the AME healthy
- Little knowledge of exactly how and to what degree different indigenous communities are vulnerable or not
- Which key species/areas are most important for indigenous communities in the LMEs