



Agenda item 4.7 (b) AMSA II(H) – Reduced Air Emissions

This agenda item is based on the PAME 2013-2015 Work Plan item under AMSA II(H) follow-up i.e.:

PAME will monitor and support IMOs work related to black carbon, in particular as it relates to the Arctic and explore synergies for supporting other Arctic Council efforts on black carbon. PAME also encourages continued scientific research related to black carbon emissions including with respect to a technical definition of black carbon and appropriate measurement methods and control measures.(co-leads: Finland, Norway, Russia, USA)

The Arctic Council established a Task Force with reference to the Kiruna Declaration:

***Decide** to establish a Task Force to develop arrangements on actions to achieve enhanced black carbon and methane emission reductions in the Arctic, and report at the next Ministerial meeting in 2015.*

Canada and Sweden are the co-chairs of the new Task Force for Action on Black Carbon and Methane (TFBCM) and the first meeting will be held in Canada, in Whitehorse, Yukon, from September 17-19, 2013.

The background and Terms of Reference for this task force is detailed in the SAO Report to Minister 2013, Section 5 i.e.:

There is increasing awareness that addressing Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP) offers the opportunity for substantial health benefits for Northerners as well as near-term climate benefits.

Addressing SLCP is a priority for the Arctic Council and work has been proceeding under the Arctic Council to investigate opportunities for reducing emissions of black carbon, methane and tropospheric ozone in order to protect climate and public health. Under the Tromsø Declaration (April 2009), the Arctic Ministers established a Task Force on Short-Lived Climate Forcers (SLCF). The Task Force was initially asked to focus on black carbon, and it delivered its recommendations for mitigation in 2011. It received a mandate for further work under the Nuuk Declaration (May 2011) and has now completed its work on black carbon and methane, delivering its recommendations in May 2013. In addition, AMAP has provided scientific reviews on the impacts of these SLCPs, and ACAP has also done work in the area.

SAOs have considered the appropriateness of moving forward on SLCP to bolster efforts to achieve substantial SLCP emissions reductions and encourage information sharing and recommend that the Ministers establish a Task Force to develop arrangements on actions to achieve enhanced reductions of black carbon and, in some cases, methane emissions in the Arctic, and report at the next Arctic Council Ministerial meeting in 2015.

The Terms of Reference of the Task Force are as follows:

Name: Task Force for Action on Black Carbon and Methane (TFBCM)

Structure and composition: The Task Force will consist of representatives from the Arctic States and Permanent Participants. The Task Force should be administratively supported by the Arctic Council Secretariat. Experts from relevant Arctic Council working groups, (AMAP, ACAP, etc.), as well as from academia, international, or other organisations, may be invited to provide advice and guidance to the Task Force, as required. The TFBCM will have two or three co-chairs from among the countries' nominees for representatives.

Timeline: The first meeting will take place shortly after the 2013 Arctic Council Ministerial meeting. Recommendations will be reported to the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting in 2015. MM08-15 May 2013-Kiruna, Sweden SAO Report to Ministers

Tasks: The Task Force could consider the following:

- ✓ *Discussion, identification, and consideration of further coordinated efforts on science or other work that could be required and consideration of findings from current scientific work.*
- ✓ *Discussion/consideration of a common vision for emissions reductions and consideration of benchmarks or targets.*
- ✓ *Discussion/consideration of development of national action plans or mitigation strategies shared with Arctic States and ideas for what could be included as part of these plans or strategies.*
- ✓ *National emission inventories of black carbon and how such efforts would relate to and possibly leverage similar emission inventory efforts under LRTAP.*
- ✓ *Identification and sharing and promoting information and best practices (such as those related to mitigation and technologies) available for relevant pollution sources in the Arctic States and the polar region.*
- ✓ *Promotion of collaborative measures with the private sector.*
- ✓ *Discussion/consideration of recommendations from the current SLCF TF.*
- ✓ *Other forums: The Task Force should propose ways in which the Arctic States could engage in appropriate fora and initiatives to achieve black carbon reductions that benefit the Arctic climate.*
- ✓ *An international cooperative arrangement.*
- ✓ *Other areas, as deemed appropriate by the Task Force.*

SAO guidance: The Task Force should provide regular updates to SAOs and seek guidance as needed.

Resources and budget: Meetings are hosted on a voluntary basis, and meeting costs are financed by the host country. Other member states may propose hosting meetings. Travel costs and accommodation will be covered by participating delegations.

Action by PAME II-2013

- ✓ Consider opportunity to propose PAME projects to support the PAME work plan and/or the Arctic Concil TFBCM.