

Agenda item 9 - AOR Recommendations – follow-up Matrix

Background

The Arctic Ocean Review (AOR) Final Report including its Recommendations was PAMEs main deliverable to the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting in May 2013. The AOR Matrix (attached) is based on the PAMEs Work Plan 2013 – 2015 i.e.: *Activities to be added based on the outcomes/findings of the approved AOR and as agreed by SAO in 2013. This will be done by creating a matrix of activities intended to address the recommendations (co-leads: Canada, Norway and USA)*

To facilitate the discussions on how to follow up the AOR Recommendations a Matrix has been developed by dividing them into the following three categories:

- i Actions to be followed up/implemented by PAME (current or future activities)
- ii Actions to be followed up/implemented by other Arctic Council working groups
- iii Actions to be followed up within national implementation processes/policies with possible future requests for reporting on national activities, if needed

Proposed actions at PAME meetings during the 2013-2015 period

PAME II-2013: Discuss and provide initial inputs to the 1st draft of the AOR follow up matrix.

PAME-II 2013: Agree to a revised 1st draft AOR follow up matrix and prioritize as relevant, the follow up including an outline of possible follow up actions and the mechanisms for such follow up. Inform SAOs of the process at their Oct 2013 meeting and seek their guidance, if needed.

PAME I-2014: Agree to a final AOR follow up matrix, including prioritized follow up actions and how these may be followed up/mechanisms. Seek SAOs agreement on the AOR follow-up approach (as agreed by PAME I-2014) at their March 2014 meeting.

PAME II-2014: To finalize the matrix by reaching an agreement on the actions listed and how these may be followed up. As a basis for this decision, PAME members are to indicate lead/co-lead responsibilities and propose follow up actions/projects they see as being a priority for possible inclusion into the PAME 2015-2017 Work Plan. Activities which are not prioritized for follow up by PAME in the period 2015-2017 may be revisited in the work plan for 2017-2019.

Between PAME II-2014 – PAME I-2015: Respective PAME/AOR follow up leads/co-leads to develop project plans for projects for inclusion into the PAME 2015-2017.

PAME I-2015: Agree on work plans as provided by leads for inclusion into the PAME 2015-2017 for submission to the ministerial meeting May 2015

Representatives of PPs will be invited to participate in activities. Synergies and collaboration with activities of the other Arctic Council working groups is important.

AOR Recommendations	Outline of follow-up actions at the global, regional or national level	Method of follow-up i ii, iii
I Indigenous Peoples and Cultures		
<p>(1) The Arctic states in cooperation with the Arctic Council should assist, as appropriate, the Permanent Participants with the documentation of current and historical a) timing and geographical extent of local uses of the marine environment, and b) levels of traditional marine resources harvests, taking into account the differing documentation needs and capacities of Arctic states.</p> <p>(2) The Arctic states should work with Arctic residents to identify and promote effective models for enabling inclusion of traditional knowledge and input into decision-making processes for marine development and sustainable resource management.</p>		
II Arctic Marine Operations and Shipping		
<p>(3) The Arctic states should support work at the IMO and other international organizations with recognized competence to promote and advance safe, secure, reliable and environmentally sound shipping, including through: timely completion and implementation of the Polar Code; efforts regarding training requirements for officers and crew of ships operating in polar waters; adoption as appropriate of ship routing and reporting measures (including vessel traffic services); and discussions regarding enhancement of weather and ice forecasting and nautical charts to aid navigation. Arctic states should also encourage ratification to enable entry into force and implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention and research into ballast water management systems that are effective in colder settings of polar regions.</p> <p>(4) Arctic states should explore the possibility of developing voluntary guidelines and, if appropriate, best practices in implementing such guidelines for sustainable tourism. Moreover, that the role the cruise industry plays in facilitating tourism in the region and the impacts of this industry on Arctic peoples, ecosystems and the environment should be acknowledged. The Arctic Council should also give consideration towards the development of a broader sustainable tourism initiative.</p> <p>(5) Arctic states should explore, within an appropriate time after</p>		

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<p>the mandatory Polar Code has been adopted, collaborative approaches to encourage effective implementation of any future related IMO measures for the Arctic, including the possible development at IMO of port state control guidelines and/or initiatives within existing port state arrangements.</p> <p>(6) Arctic states should support ongoing work at the IMO to address black carbon emissions from international shipping in Arctic waters including considering amendments to MARPOL or other IMO instrument.</p> <p>(7) IMO, to address safety and environmental concerns with respect to other types of vessels that, due to their size, routes, and nature of activity, may not be subject to the Polar Code.</p>		
<p>III Marine Living Resources</p>		
<p><u>Part A: Fisheries Resources</u></p> <p>(8) Fisheries resources should be managed in accordance with the law of the sea, relevant fisheries agreements and modern principles of fisheries management, including the precautionary and ecosystem approaches, also being mindful of the interests of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic.</p> <p>(9) Fisheries resources should be managed based on the best scientific knowledge available, and necessary scientific understanding should be enhanced, including on changes in fish stocks.</p> <p>(10) Fisheries resources in areas beyond national jurisdiction should be managed based on cooperation in accordance with international law to ensure long term sustainability of fish stocks and ecosystems.</p> <p><u>Part B: Marine Mammals and Seabirds</u></p> <p>(11) The Arctic Council should increase collaboration with IMO, IWC and NAMMCO for information sharing and cooperation between their respective working groups and sub-groups on cetacean-related issues such as ocean noise and ship strikes and consider Ecosystem-based Management (EBM). Additionally, Arctic states should consider taking more proactive efforts in the IMO, IWC and NAMMCO on these issues such as by</p>		

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<p>contributing to the IWC ship strike database.</p> <p>(12) Arctic states, to the extent practicable, should continue to create and/or share seabird and marine mammal density and distribution maps, including through common databases such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) CetMap for Cetaceans (http://cetsound.noaa.gov/index.html) and CAFF’s CBird online tools for timely tracking of seabird populations (www.caff.is/seabirds-cbird/seabird-information-network).</p> <p>(13) Arctic states should advance conservation of Arctic marine ecosystems by considering management measures in ecologically significant areas of the Arctic Ocean that Arctic states might pursue at the IMO, building on the results of the AMSA Recommendation II(D) Report on Specially Designated Arctic Marine Areas.</p>		
<p>IV Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas</p>		
<p>(14) The Arctic Council should urge its members to support, as appropriate, efforts in the ISO and other processes to develop standards relevant to Arctic oil and gas operations.</p> <p>(15) Arctic states should move toward circumpolar policy harmonization in discrete sectors such as, e.g., environmental monitoring based on existing studies such as the Arctic Council’s Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines and the EPPR Recommended Prevention Practices report.</p> <p>(16) Arctic Council should promote interactions with the appropriate international treaty bodies on offshore oil and gas issues that address for example discharges, oil spill preparedness and response, and environmental monitoring. This could include coordinating information exchange on reporting, monitoring, assessment and/or other requirements under relevant entities, encouraging inclusion of science and traditional knowledge, and keeping abreast of Arctic-specific developments relevant to the appropriate instruments.</p> <p>(17) Arctic states should further engage industry and regulator involvement, as appropriate, in PAME and EPPR initiatives on</p>		

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<p>offshore oil and gas activity by utilizing existing industry forums, or by convening an Arctic-specific oil and gas dialog for industry and contractor groups.</p>		
<p>V Arctic Marine Pollution</p>		
<p>(18) Arctic states should continue to identify, monitor and assess the combined effects of multiple stressors – inter alia climate change, ocean acidification, shipping, living marine resource use, regional and long-range pollution, and offshore oil and gas exploration and extraction – on Arctic marine species and ecosystems. Support the on-going work under EBM, AMAP and CAFF including the initiative “Adaptation Actions for a Changing Arctic” to achieve this endeavor and strengthen the link between the current known status and future management of Arctic marine species and ecosystems.</p> <p>(19) Arctic states should reaffirm the importance of their engagement in the UNFCCC to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions as a matter of urgency, recognizing the significant potential threats posed to Arctic marine ecosystems and Arctic biodiversity from climate change and ocean acidification identified by AMAP and CAFF. Arctic states should also increase their leadership role in the study of ocean acidification in Arctic waters</p>		
<p>VI Ecosystem-based Management in the Arctic</p>		
<p>(20) Arctic states should recognize, in accordance with the recommendations from the Arctic Council EBM Expert Group and the PAME lead Ecosystem Approach expert group, the importance of the following elements when implementing marine Ecosystem- based Management in the Arctic Council Working Groups: identification of the ecosystem, description of the ecosystem, setting ecological objectives, assessing the ecosystem, valuing the ecosystem and managing human activities.</p> <p>(21) The Arctic Council should promote common understanding and the mutual exchange of lessons learned by periodically convening Arctic Council wide meetings on EBM to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ share knowledge and experiences with respect to management and science across Large Marine Ecosystems; 		

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<p>and ✓ review information on integrated assessments.</p>		
VII Arctic Marine Science		
<p>(22) The Arctic states should promote coordination and collaboration in providing for access to marine scientific research in their marine areas, and the Arctic states should consider developing an Arctic science instrument, inter alia, to facilitate marine scientific cooperation and promote data sharing</p> <p>(23) The Arctic Council could consider directing its working groups to collaborate to developing a list of research gaps and priorities, taking into account the knowledge and process needs for the Arctic EBM intersessional document as well as key global and regional instruments.</p> <p>(24) The Arctic states should improve scientific cooperation and coordination by increasing linkages with relevant organizations, sharing infrastructure and platforms, and facilitating the gathering and exchange of information under relevant agreements.</p> <p>The improvements could be supported by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ developing a network map that identifies the relationships of research/science organizations and governance organizations to Arctic-relevant instruments; ✓ building on science, local and traditional knowledge, and other information gathered to fulfill reporting or assessment obligation. ✓ Informing ecosystem based management approaches. ✓ improving communication between science and policy arms of existing treaties; and, moving toward coordinates assessment, monitoring and reporting, where appropriate, and; ✓ improving data and information management, interoperability and accessibility through mechanisms such as the Arctic Spatial Infrastructure and Sustained Arctic Operating Network (SAON) 		