

9th of February, 2013

To: PAME HoDs, PPs, Observers, AC WGs and invited experts

Subject: Draft Arctic Ocean Review (version 9th of Feb. 2013)

In preparation for our discussions at the upcoming Working Group meeting of PAME in Finland (12-14 February), please find attached the current draft of the Arctic Ocean Review (AOR). The document has undergone intense review and negotiation since the last AOR workshop in September and it is important that Working Group participants see the latest version.

A brief presentation at the PAME meeting will provide a summary of how the draft has progressed to date and what remains to be finalized. In addition to some formatting and editorial work that is ongoing, there remains a few notable components to be resolved by State and Permanent Participant representatives, namely: which Opportunities for action from the chapters will be chosen to populate the final chapter 9 on Conclusions and Recommendations; the narrative of the Executive Summary; and, recent country comments on Chapter 4 – Living Marine Resources (attached as separate document).

Negotiators have made good progress on agreeing to the vast majority of the text, including action or advisory language, and what remains is largely a case of choosing between existing options, including for the final chapter. No significant new material is expected and negotiators will be using the PAME meeting to resolve the last remaining issues.

As we know, very little time remains for the submission of documents to the Ministerial and we are looking forward to a productive PAME meeting in Rovaniemi.

Sincerely,

On behalf of the AOR lead Countries, Canada, Iceland, Norway, Russia and the United States

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Attachments:

Draft AOR report, version 9th of Feb, 2013 Chapter 4: LMR/Part A: comments/suggested changes as provided by Norway