



**Arctic Marine Strategic Plan**

**Update at PAME II 2014 Meeting,  
Whitehorse, Canada  
September 16-18, 2014**

# Background/ rationale



- Dramatic changes in the Arctic marine environment
- Marine environment central to the social, cultural, economic basis of the region and its inhabitants
- Range of marine-related efforts in the Arctic Council
- Ministers called for a strategic plan (2004) to provide some direction and coherence to support the sustainability of the AME

# Background/Rationale for a new AMSP



- Most strategic actions from the AMSP 2004 completed (e.g. AMSA, AOOGG, LME, AOR)
- New information available, and concepts evolved, e.g. EBM
- 2011 AC Ministers called for PAME to lead the development of a new, revised AMSP
- 2012 – consultations and outreach conducted, WGs

# AMSP Workshop in Reykjavik June 2013



- First scoping workshop with initial discussions based on a "zero" draft
- Representatives from Arctic countries, PPs, working groups and organisations, including observers
- Some key outcomes from the workshop: need for coordination within the AC on EBM; involvement of other AC Working Groups essential; AMSP must be forward looking (e.g. 10 yrs) to provide direction.

# AMSP - Collaboration with Working Groups



- AMSP is an **Arctic Council product** and it is important to coordinate the revision process with other Arctic Council working groups.
- Letter sent 16 Sept. 2013 to other Arctic Council Working Groups Chairs to engage Working Groups.
- PAME recognizes the interlinkages between follow-up actions under the AOR, AMSA, ABA and other processes with the AMSP strategic actions and urges coordination between these processes.

# Development of AMSP



- 3<sup>rd</sup> draft distributed in January 2014
- Range of comments received over the winter and summer months
- 4<sup>th</sup> draft distributed in mid-August in preparation for the September workshop

# AMSP- Overall goals (draft)



1. Improve knowledge of the Arctic marine environment, and continue to monitor and assess and monitor the current and future impacts on Arctic marine ecosystems.
2. Conserve and protect marine biodiversity and ecosystem function to enhance resilience and the provision of ecosystem services.
3. Promote value creation through safe and sustainable use of the marine environment, taking into account cumulative environmental impacts and minimizing risks of negative impacts from human activities.
4. Enhance the well-being of Arctic communities and strengthen capacity to adapt to changes in the marine Arctic.

# AMSP Strategic Actions



- A key component of the AMSP is the strategic actions, which are intended to inform the marine related activities of the AC Working Groups for the next 10 years.
- Input is still needed to refine and focus the strategic actions, and to ensure they are sufficiently forward looking to span the 10 yr period of the new AMSP.
- Strategic actions in the earlier drafts of the AMSP have been largely based on recent AC report recommendations (AOR, EBM, RP3 Report, AMSA, SWIPA, ABA, AOA, etc)



# Key Comments from Workshop



- References to knowledge need to consistently include both science and traditional knowledge
- References to “value creation” need to be clarified/modified
- Better sense of use is needed as a basis
- Emphasis on EBM & integrated assessments
- Actions need to find balance between high level and prescriptive
- Greater emphasis on how Working Groups can work together for implementation

# Shipping Experts Input



- Update of shipping info/traffic
- Study of shipping in the high seas area (e.g. identifying vulnerable areas *vis a vis* shipping)
- Inventory from land-based sources of pollution
- Advance study on air emissions from ship

# Timeline/Next Steps



- Written comments from workshop submitted **asap**
- New version distributed mid-October
- Comments due by end of November
- New version by mid-December
- PAME meeting early February
- SAO review early March
- Ministerial the end of April 2015



**Thank You**

**PAME**