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# Progress Report to PAME I-2015

## Group of Experts on the Ecosystem Approach to Management

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DRAFT 21 January 2015

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## **Background**

PAME established in 2007 an expert group on the Ecosystem Approach to Management (the EA-EG). This was broadened in 2011 to become a PAME-led joint expert group with participation also of other Arctic Council working groups (AMAP, CAFF and SDWG). Norway and USA are co-lead countries for the theme 'Ecosystem Approach to management' (EA) under PAME. The work of the EA Expert Group is carried out according to a work plan as part of the agreed PAME Work Plan for 2013-2015 (Annex 1).

The co-leads presented a progress report on the EA work to the PAME II-2014 meeting in Whitehorse, Canada, 16-18 September 2014. The outcome of the discussion at PAME on the EA item as reflected in the RoD is included as Annex 2.

## **Revised Terms of Reference**

A new draft Terms of Reference (ToRs) 2015 – 2017 for the EA-EG is attached for consideration. A first draft version of ToRs was presented at the PAME II-2014 meeting. According to the RoD, the PAME secretariat sent the draft ToRs to the other Arctic Council WGs (AMAP, CAFF, SDWG) for their consideration and comments by 15th of November. The ToR were revised in response to comments received from AMAP and Norway. Consultations with SDWG occurred twice in 2014 and are currently ongoing. The draft ToRs are presented for adoption as supportive of the draft work plan 2015-2017 submitted to this meeting (PAME I-2015).

## **EA Coordination Activities**

The relevant RoD of the PAME-I 2014 reads, "*PAME welcomes the progress report on the work of the Ecosystem Approach expert group (EA-EG) and noted the importance to further advance the coordination effort of a common approach to the work of the Arctic Council on EBM in the marine part of the Arctic.*" The EA-EG led or contributed to five meetings July – December 2014 in order to advance coordination of a common approach to EA within the Arctic Council. Coordination activities supported by the grant from the Oak Foundation are denoted (Oak).

### *SDWG Meeting in Yellowknife (Oak)*

At the invitation of the SDWG secretariat one EA member (Skjoldal) attended the SDWG meeting in Yellowknife, 18-19 October 2014 to learn from, and to engage and inform about the activities of the EA-EG and to identify possible areas of mutual interest.

### *ICC Quadrennial Meeting in Inuvik (Oak)*

One EA member (Mundy) attended the Inuvik 2014 on July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting to learn from, and to engage and inform PPs from the circumpolar ICC. ICC leaders from around the Arctic identified management issues and solutions. Informal discussions on coordinating EA implementation were held with the SDWG chair (Wark). Follow up discussions on the 4<sup>th</sup> EA Workshop recommendation for a joint US/Canada transboundary monitoring project in support of EA in the Beaufort Sea were held with DFO Winnipeg (Newton) management.

### *Inuvialuit Game Council in Whitehorse (Oak)*

Following the PAME II 2014 meeting EA member (Mundy) attended the Council Meeting in Whitehorse on September 17<sup>th</sup> to learn about current management issues for living resources in the marine and terrestrial areas of the western Canadian Arctic. The opportunity was taken

to inform and engage members of one of the primary management bodies of Canada's Inuvialuit Settlement Region, ISR. Contacts for future follow-up were made with the ISR Secretariat (Snow) and past IGC chair (Gilman). IGC members and secretariat were invited to participate in the EA workshops in 2015 and 2016 to bring a ground-level management perspective to implementing EA in the Arctic.

#### *EBM Workshop in Trondheim (Oak)*

Three EA members (Skjoldal, Mundy, Coon) participated in the workshop on December 1<sup>st</sup> to review progress on implementing EA since Kiruna. The workshop report can be downloaded [here](#). The report contains preliminary analyses of the implementation of the recommendations of the EBM expert group, adopted by the Council in 2013 at Kiruna, by the working groups (see report figures 1 and 2), as well as the level of expected participation of the working groups in the five elements of EA implementation identified by the EA-EG in its EA brochure on the PAME web site.

#### *Arctic Biodiversity Congress in Trondheim*

Following the EBM workshop, two presentations were made at the Congress (2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> of December) by EA member (Mundy), *Ecosystem Based Management: Biodiversity, Resilience, and Beyond* in the session convened by an EA member (Sommerkorn) entitled 'Beyond Arctic Biodiversity Conservation; Ecosystem Stewardship and Resilience', and *Implementing the Ecosystem Approach (EA) in the Arctic* in the session 'Ecosystems and Fisheries: Understanding Cumulative Effects and Managing Change'. Informal discussions on coordinating EA implementation activities of work groups were held with CAFF (Larsson), AMAP (Olsen), and SDWG (Klassen).

### **PLANNING FOR 5<sup>TH</sup> EA WORKSHOP IN 2015**

The draft workshop prospectus is found in Annex V. The workshop has been discussed to some extent with all working groups and is planned with a focus on the issue of setting ecological objectives as part of the EA. It is designed with a view toward a sixth EA workshop in 2016 which may be part of an international conference on all aspects of implementing EA in the Arctic with multiple work groups and other entities as sponsors.

### **SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM THE 2013 – 2015 WORKPLAN**

#### *EA concept paper and brochure*

A Draft Concept paper was prepared in early 2012 and circulated to participants of the 2nd EA Workshop in Stockholm (22-23 March 2012) and to the members of the EA Expert Group. The Draft Concept paper was also made available to the Arctic Council Ecosystem-based Management (EBM or EA) experts group for use in their work. The Draft Concept paper has also been used as a source of information in the drafting of the chapter on EBM/EA of the AOR (Arctic Ocean Review) Phase II report. A final version of the Draft EA Concept paper was presented to PAME I-2013. A short version of the EA Concept paper, the 'EA brochure', was also presented to PAME I-2013.

After final editing the 'EA brochure' was published as a PAME product available at the PAME web site.

### Revision of the Arctic LME map

The revision of the Arctic LME map was completed in May 2013 and defines 18 Arctic LMEs (Fig. 1). A report describing the revision process, the boundary changes, and a brief explanation of the rationales behind each of the current boundaries was prepared, printed and approved by PAME for consideration at the Ministerial Meeting in Kiruna, Sweden, in May 2013. The revised map of the Arctic LMEs was adopted by the Arctic Council Ministers at the Kiruna meeting. The LME Report may be downloaded from the PAME web site:

<http://www.pame.is/arcticlarge-marine-ecosystems-lme-s>

### 3rd EA workshop on 'data issues' Reykjavik, Iceland, 10-11 June 2013

The topic for the workshop was 'data issues' such as availability, access, management etc. in relation to the need for data to conduct integrated assessments. The workshop addressed these issues from the perspectives of single LMEs and the pan-Arctic scale. A report from the workshop has been prepared and is available at the PAME web-page

(<http://www.pame.is/reports>)

### 4th EA workshop, Vancouver, Canada, 16-18 June 2014

The 4th EA workshop was planned and organized by a planning group consisting of the two co-leads and members from Canada, AMAP, CAFF, PAME and WWF. The workshop reviewed progress on development of Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) and related EA aspects with focus on two Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs), the Barents Sea and the Beaufort Sea. It was attended by 22 participants from five countries (Canada, Iceland, Japan, Norway and USA).

### EA 'Road map'

A short discussion note (2 pages) called "Road map" for EA work in the Arctic was included as an annex (annex 6) to the EA Progress Report to PAME I-2014 meeting. The document highlighted two aspects which should be discussed and considered in relation to the EA and IEA work in the Arctic:

1) Work carried out inside and outside of the sphere of the Arctic Council, and 2) Work carried out at the scales of LMEs and pan-Arctic.

### Oak Foundation project to establish a Community of Practice on EA in the Arctic

The Oak Foundation is supporting a project 'Implementing the Ecosystem Approach to Management (EA) in the Arctic: Building the Circumpolar Community of Practice' run in association with the EA-EG and managed by the PAME secretariat. The goal of the project is to support implementation of the ecosystem approach to management (EA) in the Arctic marine environment through development of a functional Community of Practice (CoP) specializing in Arctic EA.

The project aims to consolidate gains in knowledge base relevant to EA by establishing a web-based inventory of relevant information products such as papers and reports on EA and components such as IEA, objectives etc. The project also aims to create a CoP by identifying and establishing communications among specialists from relevant agencies of the Arctic States, the circumpolar indigenous communities, and non-governmental entities.

See the document [PAME \(I\)/14/8.0/Supplement to the EA Progress Report – IEAA Web content for further explanation.](#)

*Map information – areas of heightened ecological significance, habitats and human activities*

Two of the items on the work program (Annex 1) relate to mapping and spatial map information on areas of heightened ecological (and cultural) significance, human uses and habitats. There has been limited work on these items by the EA-EG so far. We had a presentation on the general issue of marine spatial planning in relation to the EA at the Vancouver workshop (by Erik Olsen, IMR, Norway). We also had some discussion on these items but of limited scope since they were peripheral to the main focus areas for the workshop.

At the workshop it was noted that there are at least three different thematic information layers that are relevant and of interest in the context of IEA and EA:

- i) the identified areas of heightened ecological and cultural significance identified in the AMSA II report by AMAP/CAFF/SDWG,
- ii) coastal and marine habitats,
- iii) human activities (infrastructure, usage areas, etc.).

We will continue work on these items, specifically in relation to the broader issue of IEA (how to use spatial information on important areas, habitats and human activities in an assessment context). These spatial items should be considered in the revised EA work plan for 2015-2017.

**ANNEX 1 - REVISED EA WORK PLAN 2015-2017**

*Refer to document: [PAME\(I\)/15/7/EA/draft revised EA Work Plan items 2015-2017](#)*

**ANNEX 2 - PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE 2015 – 2017**

*Refer to document: [PAME \(I\)/15/7/revised draft ToR for joint EA-EG-version 14 January 2015](#)*

### **ANNEX 3 – RoDs FROM PAME II-2014 ON ECOSYSTEM APPROACH**

- ✓ PAME welcomes the progress report on the work of the Ecosystem Approach expert group (EA-EG) and noted the importance of making this a joint group with active participation of other Arctic Council working groups (AMAP, CAFF and SDWG in particular). PAME Chair/Secretariat to contact the other working groups to encourage their active participation.
- ✓ PAME welcomes the report from the 4<sup>th</sup> EA workshop in Vancouver 16-18 June 2014 and notes the progress on development of Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) for the Barents Sea and the recommendation to develop a transboundary EA/IEA pilot project in the Beaufort Sea LME.
- ✓ PAME welcomes the planning of a 5<sup>th</sup> EA workshop on the topic of setting ecological objectives and notes the importance of a planning group being established with participation of other Arctic Council working groups (AMAP, CAFF, SDWG) and Permanent Participants. Plans for the workshop will be presented for approval at the next PAME meeting (PAME I-2015).
- ✓ PAME welcomes the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the EA-EG and agrees that these should be sent now by the PAME secretariat to the other Arctic Council WGs (AMAP, CAFF, SDWG) for their consideration and comments by 15<sup>th</sup> of November. An updated version of the ToR will be prepared by the EA co-leads for approval at the PAME I-2015 meeting.
- ✓ PAME notes that the membership of the EA-EG should be broadened to include an active network of experts on EA including IEA, ecological objectives and ecosystem evaluation. PAME representatives are encouraged to coordinate nominations of experts with their national representatives to ensure an adequate breadth in expertise of nominated members to the EA-EG. Nominations should be sent to the PAME secretariat by 15 December 2014.
- ✓ The EA co-leads, in cooperation with the EA-EG members, to develop items for consideration at PAME I-2015 for inclusion in the PAME 2015-2017 Work Plan.

**ANNEX 4 – EA-EG current membership 2015 – 2017 (version 27 Jan 2015)**

Members	Ecosystem Approach Expert Group
	<p align="center"><b>Co-leads: Norway and USA</b></p>
Canada	<p>Martine Giangioppi: (<a href="mailto:Martine.Giangioppi@dfo-mpo.gc.ca">Martine.Giangioppi@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a>)</p> <p>Justin Turple: <a href="mailto:Justin.Turple@dfo-mpo.gc.ca">Justin.Turple@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a></p> <p>Cc. Renee Sauve: <a href="mailto:Renee.Sauve@dfo-mpo.gc.ca">Renee.Sauve@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a></p>
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Observers / Working groups / experts	<p>Martin Sommerkorn/WWF: <a href="mailto:msommerkorn@wwf.no">msommerkorn@wwf.no</a></p> <p>Working Groups contacts: AMAP/Lars Otto Reiersen: <a href="mailto:lars-otto.reiersen@amap.no">lars-otto.reiersen@amap.no</a></p> <p>AMAP/Jon L Fuglestad: <a href="mailto:jon.fuglestad@amap.no">jon.fuglestad@amap.no</a></p> <p>CAFF/Kari Larusson: <a href="mailto:kari@caff.is">kari@caff.is</a></p>

**ANNEX 5 – DRAFT PROSPECTUS FOR 5<sup>TH</sup> EA WORKSHOP**

[PAME \(I\)/15/7/draft prospectus for 5th EA Workshop](#)