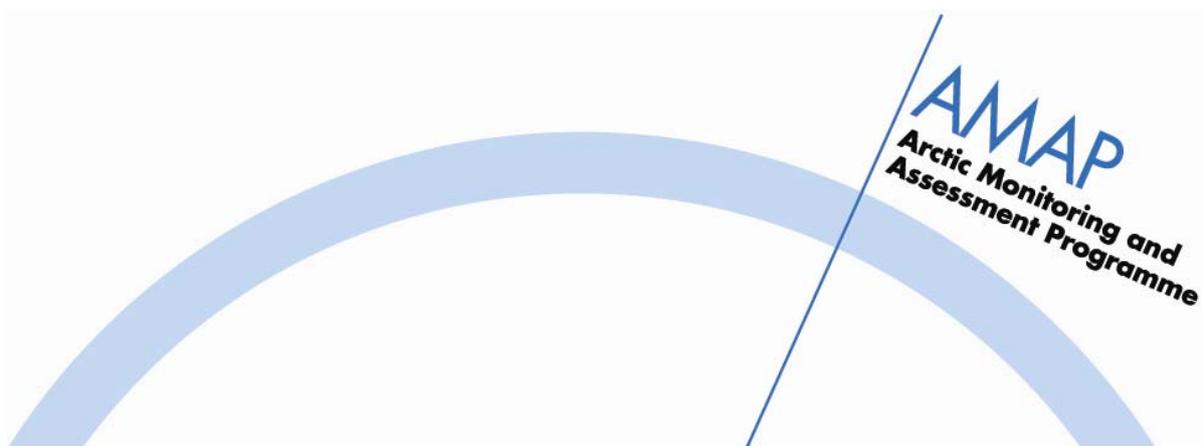


Minutes of the AMAP Extended Heads of Delegation Meeting

Helsinki, Finland, 17-18 February 2005



Minutes of the AMAP Extended Heads of Delegation Meeting, Helsinki, 17-18 February 2005

1. Opening of the meeting

John Calder (AMAP WG Chair) opened the meeting, welcoming the participants, reminding that this was an informal HoDs meeting arranged to consider items of AMAP business, in particular in follow-up to the Reykjavik Ministerial meeting, prior to the full AMAP WG meeting in September.

The meeting agenda is attached as Annex 1 and the list of participants as Annex 2.

A list of Actions arising from the meeting is attached as Annex 3.

2. Update on the situation at Secretariat

Lars-Otto Reiersen (AMAP Executive Secretary) informed the HoDs about arrangements for the funeral of Vitaly Kimstach and steps needed to initiate the process to find a replacement for Vitaly in the Secretariat.

3. Follow up on actions from the WG18 and Reykjavik Extended Board meetings

The Minutes of previous Extended Board Meeting (Reykjavik, 9 November 2004) were reviewed, actions arising from that meeting had been largely completed. An exception was the final publication of the AMAP 2002 Heavy Metals report where due to illness on the part of the publisher the work had temporarily been halted. In the light of this situation, the initial chapters of the report had been published as electronic documents, and a solution to the printing of the final report would be resolved as soon as possible. The HoDs accepted the reasons for this unfortunate additional delay, and wished the publisher, who has contributed so much to the AMAP work over the past 10 years, a speedy recovery.

4. Outcome of the Ministerial meeting in November, proposals for follow-up

John Calder and Lars-Otto Reiersen reviewed the outcome of the Reykjavik Ministerial Meeting and its implications for the work of AMAP.

AMAP Strategic Plan 2004+

Simon Wilson (AMAP Deputy Executive Secretary) introduced the proposed revisions to the the AMAP Strategic Plan document. The AMAP Strategic Plan had been approved at the Reykjavik Ministerial meeting, with agreement that texts would be introduced retrospectively to reflect the Ministerial decisions regarding ACIA and its follow-up. Simon Wilson reviewed proposed insertions, based on texts extracted from the Ministerial Declaration and SAOs reports. The AMAP HoDs agreed to these proposals, and noted two additional technical amendments where texts needed to be corrected.

ACIA

Production of translated versions of the ACIA Overview report

Lars-Otto Reiersen informed the HoDs about progress in the production of translated versions of the ACIA Overview Report. The Dutch language version was published in January, and the German language version is in the final stages of production and should be

published within the next month. The translation of the Russian version of the report is also completed, and plans are underway to finalise this publication for an official release in connection with the Russian ACIA follow-up workshop in St. Petersburg, 30 March – 1 April 2005. Production of Norwegian, Saami and French translations of the ACIA Overview report is underway and these reports will be released later in Spring-2005.

Status of the ACIA scientific report

Lars-Otto Reiersen informed the HoDs that the work on editing of the ACIA scientific report was still not completed, in part due to lack of responses from some lead authors. Also, considerable work is still required on the part of the publisher to finalise the graphics and complete the layout of the report, together with final proofing work, etc. In this context, he informed HoDs that the printed report is not expected now before the summer; however, it is intended that the (fully edited, laid-out) final chapter proofs will be available by the time of the Russian ACIA follow-up workshop in St. Petersburg, 30 March – 1 April 2005.

ACIA Follow-up

John Calder recalled that at the Reykjavik Extended Board meeting, HoDs had been presented with a draft document concerning ACIA follow-up that had been prepared by members of the ACIA AIT, and proposed for submission to the Ministerial meeting. At that time, the AMAP HoDs had concluded that the document was not suitable for presentation to the SAOs and any such proposal should be subjected to a thorough review process by the WGs.

Lars-Otto Reiersen reviewed the ACIA discussions, which had taken place largely behind closed doors, during the Reykjavik Ministerial, and confirmed that, as far as he was aware, no document on ACIA follow-up had not been presented to the SAOs in November. An AMAP proposal to convene an expert group to address ACIA follow-up had not been taken up by the SAOs in their report, but instead, they had referred to the need to establish a ‘focal point’ for ACIA follow-up. It was not clear whether by ‘focal point’ they were referring to an individual or to a group, and whether or not this group was an Arctic Council body or a group that also included other organizations, etc. However, SAOs were expecting that a proposal for this ‘focal point’ would be made to their meeting in Yakutsk in April.

He continued by introducing a new ‘proposal for ACIA follow-up’ that had been drafted as a possible input from the ACIA Executive by Bob Corell. He noted that the ACIA Executive had promised a letter regarding ACIA follow-up to SAOs, originally due in November 2004, and that this was a task that they were still working on. This paper had been distributed to HoDs the previous day. In this context, the HoDs were also reminded of the paper drafted in December by the Chair of AMAP that proposed the establishment of a ‘climate expert group’ under the Arctic Council.

The HoDs held a wide ranging discussion on ACIA follow-up options. The main points of agreement were as follows:

- The objective should not be to establish a group that might resemble a ‘regional IPCC’ but rather a ‘group’ that should work within the existing WG structures.
- It would be necessary to consider potential overlap between the work of any such Arctic Council group with that carried out under organizations such as WMO, and to connect the proposal to external activities such as the IPY. One objective should be to demonstrate to SAOs that these coordination issues were appropriately addressed.
- All the Arctic Council WGs should be involved in the process to submit a proposal to the SAOs regarding ACIA follow-up and ‘focal point’ options. All AC WGs had an

ownership of the ACIA follow-up proposal (even if some more than others would be involved in the practical follow-up work).

- Delivery of two potentially conflicting proposals for ACIA follow-up (one from the ACIA Executive and one from the WGs) would be a source of confusion that would not be welcomed by the SAOs. Any proposal for ACIA follow-up should therefore aim to combine these two initiatives.
- In relation to earlier proposals regarding a joint WG response on ACIA, a related cover letter, and a proposal regarding Terms of Reference for the suggested 'climate expert group', the draft Terms of Reference (in particular parts referring to a plan of action) were considered premature and not consistent with the latest discussions connected to development of a joint proposal. A cover letter would need to be redrafted to reflect the joint WG proposal for ACIA follow-up.
- Concerning proposals for establishing a group to coordinate climate work under the Arctic Council the following points were noted:
 - This coordination group should constitute the 'focal point' referred to by the SAOs.
 - It should act as a clearing body for agreeing how best to implement ACIA follow-up work within the AC WG structures, in a manner that would be consistent with the competence and resources available within the AC structures, and at the same time ensuring coordination and avoiding conflicts between the WGs.
 - As a basis for its work, the coordinating group could consider proposals developed by climate expert groups that might be established to implement climate related programmes, and therefore involve a wide range of relevant experts, including non-Arctic Council partner organizations.
 - The coordinating body should involve the Chairs of the Arctic Council WGs (or their designees), together with a representative of the AC permanent participants.
 - Due to their involvement as a partner in the original ACIA process, participation of IASC in the coordinating group was generally considered appropriate. This however could have a number of possible implications relating to participation of other AC observers involved in climate monitoring and research (WMO, IASSA, etc.) on the coordinating group. As a non-AC body, it was considered that any involvement of IASC should reflect their status as an observer to the Arctic Council.
 - To ensure a functional group (max. size ca. 7-8 persons), national representation on the group, while desirable, was not essential, and an appropriate national balance should be achieved, if possible, through the representatives designated by the WGs, PPs and IASC.

Based on these discussions, an outline proposal was developed during the meeting.

Through their participation in the meeting, this proposal received support from the Chair of PAME, and the CAFF Chair and Executive Secretary. The CAFF Executive Secretary also confirmed SDWG support for this proposal, and was attempting to contact EPPR.

The proposal, supported by the AMAP HODs, was presented as a basis for further discussion by relevant parties (AC WGs, ACIA Executive, IASC, etc.), with the aim of presenting a joint WG proposal to the SAOs at their meeting in April 2005.

Yuri Tsaturov (Russia) provided information on ongoing activities under WMO, and volunteered to represent AMAP at the upcoming WMO workshop concerned with the development of the WMO programme for observations of UV and ozone. The HoDs supported this suggestion.

5. Review of ongoing assessments

Acidification and Arctic Haze

Martin Forsius (Acidification assessment lead) reported on status of the ongoing AMAP assessment of Acidification and Arctic Haze. The assessment was initiated at a kick-off meeting in Helsinki in January 2004. The second meeting of the assessment group will take place in Kilpisjarvi (Finland) during the week of 14-18 March, and this meeting is crucial to ensuring progress in the assessment. The basis for the work in Kilpisjarvi will be the first drafts of the chapters, which are due on 28 February. Eighteen experts are currently registered for the Kilpisjarvi meeting, but so far there are no participants from Canada and Russia. The lack of experts from Russian was considered a particular problem, and attempts to contact relevant experts had not resulted in any responses.

It was recognized that some information for the Russian territories west of the Urals (including the Kola peninsula) would be available through the EMEP network; however, data and information are also needed for, in particular, the Norilsk region, which is not covered under the EMEP work. Also, the question of whether the Far East of Russia is affected by emissions from SE Asia should be addressed in the assessment.

Yuri Tsaturov (Russia) expressed his surprise with regard to the lack of Russian participants for the meeting in Kilpisjarvi and provided the names of two experts from Roshydromet who would join the meeting, one of whom should be able to provide information on the cooperative long-range transport monitoring and assessment programme EANET that is being developed in the Asian sector. This contribution to the was much appreciated. He also volunteered to contact representatives of the Kola branch of Russian Academy of Sciences on his return to raise the matter of their participation in the meeting.

John Calder also volunteered to raise the question of participation of experts from RAS in the assessment during a meeting that he would hold with the Chair of the SAOs in Washington during the next weeks. Per Døvlé provided the name of the contact for the ACAP project on Norilsk and suggested that this person might also be an appropriate expert to involve in the acidification assessment. He was informed that attempts to contact this person had been made, but without any results so far. Per Døvlé agreed to see if he could facilitate the necessary contacts.

Russel Shearer explained that the lack of Canadian participation in the Kilpisjarvi reflected the Canadian view that acidification is not a major issue in Arctic Canada. So far he had not been approached by any Canadian experts requesting funding to attend the meeting. He would follow-up this issue to confirm the level of Canada's participation and input to this assessment.

Lars-Otto Reiersen recalled that a major conference on Acidification was due to be held in Prague later in the year, and that this could provide an opportunity to conduct further work on the preparation and review of the Arctic assessment.

John Calder concluded that the progress appeared to be on track, but reminded the assessment lead of the need to keep to schedule in order to ensure that the intended products could be delivered on time to the Ministerial meeting in 2006.

Oil and Gas Assessment

The co-leads of the OGA, Dennis Thurston and Hein Rune Skjoldal, reported on the progress in the assessment. The assessment, which involves other WGs in addition to AMAP, is being produced by experts nominated by the countries. It currently comprises of 8 chapters and is being prepared according to the 'Prospectus' developed in January 2004. A 'cross-fertilization meeting' involving the leads and key experts from the various chapters of the OGA was being conducted in parallel with the AMAP HoDs meeting in Helsinki. Drafts of all of the main chapters had now been produced and were being reviewed and refined during the cross-fertilization meeting. The discussions during the cross-fertilization meeting were considered a very valuable contribution to the production of the OGA chapters.

Key issues for the assessment coming out of the cross-fertilization meeting were proposals for extending the scope of certain chapters (in particular chapters 2 and 3), possibilities for combining chapters 4 and 5 (on 'sources and inputs' and 'concentrations in the environment'), and concerns regarding the availability of necessary information and data for certain parts of the assessment. It was recognized that some of these items, such as information on oil spills, mitigation and contingency planning, the need for a more detailed description of regulatory systems (required for chapter 3), etc., represent major issues that have the potential to generate much additional work. Greater involvement of EPPR and PAME could provide a potential mechanism to cover some of these issues, however, the HoDs reiterated that the implementation of the OGA requires that contributions are made by experts nominated by countries, and not direct input by individual WGs. Coverage of human health issues was also an outstanding question, with the proposal that contaminant effects be covered in chapter 6 and implications of OGA development on lifestyle factors in chapter 3, but with no experts so far confirmed to contribute to these parts of the assessment.

[Update: It was subsequently confirmed that J. Hameedi (USA) would not be able to lead the human health related part of the OGA, but that he would provide input. It has therefore been proposed that Andy Gilman (Canada) lead the preparation of the human health section and that this section be included as part of chapter 6 - Effects on Biota - which Canada currently leads.]

It was agreed that other contaminants related to oil and gas activities (heavy metals, radionuclides, etc.) should be introduced in the OGA in relation to sources and inputs, but for information on concentrations and effects, readers would be directed to other relevant assessments including those produced by AMAP. Yuri Tsaturov (co-Chair of the AMAP radioactivity group) informed that the AMAP radioactivity expert group could provide information on radioactivity related issues if this was required.

Concerning lack of data and information, gaps exist for Russia in particular (especially with respect to chapters 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7). Lack of information from Russia, as a major player in the Arctic oil and gas activities, but also for some other countries for certain parts of the assessment, could compromise the assessment if this issue is not resolved in the near future.

Lars-Otto Reiersen requested that the ongoing OGA meeting produce a detailed overview of all gaps in availability of national data and information that need to be addressed.

It is envisaged that a further meeting of the OGA assessment group will be required in June (tentatively scheduled to be held in Washington), with the final coordination taking place in connection with the OGA Symposium that is being arranged as part of the Offshore Oil and Gas Conference in St. Petersburg in September. The plan is still to complete the drafting and review process according to the published timetable for the assessment, and to complete all work by February 2005, with the remaining time between then and the Ministerial meeting

for production of the assessment reports. John Calder stressed the need to have both the scientific and overview reports available for the Ministerial meeting in 2006.

Yuri Tsaturov thanked the OGA co-leads for the information presented and reminded the HoDs that gaps still existed for other countries besides Russia, and that effort was needed by all to fill these gaps. Concerning chapters 2 and 4, he noted that Alexander Solovianov, the Russian co-lead for these chapters, was present and that, in spite of lack of additional Russian experts in Helsinki, Russia had committed to deliver material to the OGA. Concerning chapter 4 and 5, he would arrange for relevant data to be sent from Russia in the nearest future; concerning chapter 2, A. Solovianov was the responsible person for providing the necessary data and information. He also agreed to look into possibilities for nomination of Russian experts to contribute to chapters 6 and 7.

Lars-Otto Reiersen raised the possibility that a small mission of the OGA leads to Moscow might be needed in March/April, to clarify the situation prior to the SAO meeting in April, where the issue of data and information gaps could be raised if necessary.

The PAME Chair volunteered to raise the issue of information on legislative and regulatory structures at the PAME meeting, with a view to identifying experts for possible nomination by countries to contribute to the OGA.

The HoDs were informed that issues relating to involvement of the permanent participants in the preparation of the OGA were still not resolved but were a matter of discussion. The IPS Secretariat has been requested to assist in this matter.

Oil and Gas Symposium in September 2005

Lars-Otto Reiersen and Yuri Tsaturov presented the plans for the AMAP (OGA) Symposium, that will be arranged as an integral part of the 7th RAO/CIS Offshore Oil and Gas Conference that will take place in St. Petersburg, 13-15 September 2005. A meeting with the RAO/CIS Offshore 2005 conference organizers had taken place in Moscow in December 2004.

The AMAP Symposium is scheduled for the 14th September (the day following the opening plenary of the main Offshore 2005 conference), continuing to midday on 15th September. The results of the AMAP Symposium will be incorporated in the closing plenary session of the main conference, which will be held on the afternoon of the 15th September.

A price has been negotiated that would allow participants to join the AMAP Symposium for a reduced conference fee of 620 Euro (for non-Russian participants) and 250 Euro (for Russian participants). This fee would cover meeting materials and lunches, etc., but not all the items covered by the fee being charged for participation in the full Offshore 2005 conference (850 Euros). It was hoped that by subsidising participants in the AMAP Symposium, using support for the AMAP Symposium provided by the Arctic countries and sponsoring organizations, the actual fee that experts participating only in the AMAP Symposium would have to pay would be around 250-300 Euros, depending on time of registration. This would be comparable to the fees charged for previous AMAP Symposia and the ACIA Symposium, etc.

AMAP is currently represented by Yuri Tsaturov and Lars-Otto Reiersen on the executive/organising committee of the Offshore 2005 conference. In addition, it is proposed that Yuri Tsaturov and A. Solovianov participate in the programme committee for the conference. However, western experts, from the OGA, are also needed for the programme committee.

The following steps need to be addressed:

- AMAP needs to issue a call for papers and presentations at the AMAP OGA Symposium.
- AMAP needs to obtain proposals for presentations by lead authors of the OGA to be delivered at the AMAP Symposium.
- A proposal for the preliminary programme for the AMAP Symposium needs to be delivered to the organizers of the Offshore 2005 conference **by 21 February** for inclusion in the next announcement/brochure of the Offshore 2005 conference. The detailed programme can be delivered later in the summer.
- A preliminary list of participants for the AMAP Symposium needs to be provided to the organizers of the Offshore 2005 conference **by 1 March** so that these individuals can receive the preliminary programme and registration information, etc. AMAP can provide a list of potential participants at this time, but the conference organizers need to be aware that this is no guarantee of their participation.
- AMAP Secretariat needs to decide the workshare between the AMAP Secretariat and the Offshore 2005 conference secretariat (with related cost implications, etc.).
- AMAP should work on obtaining sponsors for the AMAP OGA Symposium, in order to be able to transfer funds to the Conference organizers.
- An organising committee needs to be established for the AMAP Symposium, and normally this would comprise the leads of the OGA chapters, or at least some of these individuals.

It was agreed that Lars-Otto Reiersen and Yuri Tsaturov would meet to address a number of questions from the Offshore 2005 conference organizers. Lars-Otto Reiersen reported that he had already started to look into possibilities for financial support. It is hoped that the AMAP Symposium will attract some 200 persons, and that this arrangement will provide an opportunity to gather information from experts in the oil industry and emergency response bodies, etc. that are expected to attend the Offshore 2005 conference.

HoDs were also informed that it is planned that an AMAP WG meeting be arranged back to back with the AMAP OGA Symposium in St. Petersburg, probably starting on 16th September, so some HoDs might also attend the AMAP OGA Symposium.

Radioactivity Conference in October 2005

AMAP is a co-sponsor of the '2nd International Conference on Radioactivity in the Environment & 6th International Conference on Environmental Radioactivity in the Arctic and the Antarctic', that will take place in Nice, 2-6 October.

Preparation of the Assessment reports, Financing, etc.

Simon Wilson informed HoDs that because of the decision of the publisher who has produced all the AMAP reports to date, there is a need to find a new publisher to take on the finalisation of the Heavy metals report and the scientific and laymans style reports that will be produced by the OGA and Acidification assessments. As the publisher has also been responsible for graphical production, a new solution for accomplishing this work is needed. In addition, there is an urgent need to identify a scientific author who can take on the work of preparing the laymans style reports, and editors to work on the various reports, as all of these individuals are already making commitments for the period concerned. In order to complete contracts for graphical production work, editing, publishing and scientific writing, etc., the necessary finances for the report production work will need to be available by the summer.

HoDs requested information on the associated costs and Lars-Otto Reiersen agreed to provide these as soon as possible. Countries were requested to provide nominations for candidates to take on graphical production work, scientific writing tasks, editing work and publishing of the reports.

6. Nomination/re-nomination of Leads and National Key experts to the AMAPs expert groups

Lars-Otto Reiersen reviewed the situation with respect to the existing AMAP expert groups; the human health and radioactivity expert groups meet regularly to address work tasks from the WG. The work requested from the POPs expert group (contributions to the PTS project work, the ACAP BFR project work, etc.) has relied largely on the contributions from the co-leads of the AMAP POPs assessment, Cynthia de Wit and Derek Muir. In relation to heavy metals, activities of the expert group have been limited to sub-groups of e.g. the experts involved in atmospheric monitoring (e.g. BAMS study workshop). In all cases, there is a recognition that the groups need to be strengthened with new members, to replace those leaving due to retirement of job changes, and to provide a basis for addressing work tasks that does not put too large a responsibility on too few individuals.

The AMAP HoDs agreed to review the membership of the AMAP expert groups and make new nominations where appropriate, to strengthen these groups, bearing in mind possible cost implications.

7. Developing of workplan for the expert groups, monitoring and assessment activities

The AMAP Secretariat informed that the human health and radioactivity expert groups had prepared draft documents outlining their proposals for future work under AMAP; some of these drafts have been made available to the WG during earlier meetings, but have not been properly considered due to prioritisation of the ACIA work. With the completion of the ACIA assessment, the Secretariat proposed that the next WG meeting should devote time to reviewing the organization and activities of the AMAP expert groups, including any relevant proposals for changes to the AMAP monitoring programme. One possibility would be to reorganize the POPs and Metals expert groups into two new groups on Trends and Effects, that would address both POPs and metals contaminants. Some HoDs supported this proposal and the HoDs agreed to consider this, and other proposals coming from the existing expert groups at the next WG meeting.

The possibility that an update on issues of concern covering mercury and possibly selected 'new' POPs (e.g., BFRs) might be prepared for the 2006 Ministerial meeting was raised. Considerable amounts of new information on mercury have become available since the 2002 assessment was produced, and there may be a call for additional information following the UNEP Governing Council meeting where the UNEP mercury assessment, that was initiated as a result of a proposal by AMP and the Arctic Council Ministers, will be considered.

HoDs agreed that an update, on mercury in particular, may be warranted, and requested the Secretariat to prepare a proposal for how this might be conducted.

8. Reporting of 'old' and new data to the AMAP TDCs

Lars-Otto Reiersen reminded the HoDs of the need to ensure that both new data and old data relevant to the AMAP assessments are reported to the AMAP TDCs. This is to ensure that

relevant data are available for future AMAP assessment activities, in particular regarding assessment of long-term trends.

9. NIPs, Progress in NIP implementation, and Registration of projects in the AMAP PD, etc.

Lars-Otto Reiersen presented an overview of the status of national reporting concerning AMAP NIPs and registration of information concerning AMAP relevant projects and programmes in the AMAP PD (Annex 4). HoDs were requested to review this document and take steps to ensure appropriate information is provided to AMAP and/or registered in the AMAP PD.

Yuri Tsaturov provided an update of Russian activities conducted during 2004 to implement the Russian AMAP NIP.

10. Joint activities with other AC WGs

Lars-Otto Reiersen informed the HoDs about cooperation with other WGs, as follows:

ACAP

PCB project: Following changes in the Russian lead for the project, a planning meeting will be held in mid-March.

BFR project: AMAP Secretariat are engaged in supporting implementation of this project. At a recent project steering group meeting a workplan was agreed, including development of a questionnaire for circulation to collect and compile information on BFR production, use and trade. The AMAP POPS expert group prepared a fact sheet on BFRs in the Arctic and AMAP was requested to finalise this and publish it electronically and, if funding permits, in hard-copy in Russian.

Mercury project: Two reports containing the Russian and Circumpolar countries inventories of mercury emissions have been published. AMAP has been involved in the production of a fact sheet in connection with the ACAP Hg project that has been published in draft form. AMAP have been requested to finalise production of this fact sheet in a professional layout.

Obsolete pesticides: Due to the death of Vitaly Kimstach it is not anticipated that AMAP will be represented at the next project steering group meeting.

Dioxins-Furans: No update information on this project was available.

CAFF

The CAFF Biodiversity Monitoring Programme (CBMP) plan was endorsed at the Reykjavik Ministerial Meeting and CAFF are currently pursuing funding to implement this plan. A steering committee will meet in Canada.

Maria Victoria Gunnarsdottir reported that, although the IPY COMAAR project is viewed with caution by CAFF, they see the CBMP as a possible part of the proposed COMAAR initiative.

EPPR

Yuri Tsaturov reported on coordination discussions within the AMAP radioactivity group to coordinate AMAP and EPPR proposed activities in relation to radioactivity issues – in particular regarding risk assessments of potential accidents. Releases of radionuclides in connection with oil activities is also an issue that was being considered.

AMAP and EPPR have established a cooperation to develop a pilot online GIS system for presenting results and data relating to sources of radioactivity in the Arctic and the EPPR datasets compiled under their 'Circumpolar Map of Oil Resources at Risk from Oil Spills' project. Other WGs have been invited to join in this activity.

HoDs proposed that the idea of GIS interactive communications systems be placed on agenda for the SAO meeting, including the possibility to arrange a seminar involving all WGs.

PAME

The Arctic Marine Strategic Plan has been adopted by Ministers. The PAME activity on Arctic marine shipping needs to be coordinated with the OGA with respect to ensuring the flow and consistency of information relating to oil transport by shipping.

SDWG

HoDs agreed that there is a need to harmonise projects on health that are being organized under the umbrella of AMAP and SDWG. SDWG have requested AMAP to provide a status report on the OGA.

11. International cooperation

UNEP-Chemicals

With minor editorial comments, HoDs approved the draft text of a letter of agreement between the AMAP and UNEP-Chemicals regarding co-operation in the POPs Global Monitoring Programme, and assessment work related to the follow-up of the Stockholm Convention.

UN ECE

HoDs were informed that, through the Secretariat, AMAP had provided input to the first assessment of the effectiveness of the UN ECE LRTAP Convention POPs Protocol which is being prepared by the UN ECE POPs Task Force. AMAP Secretariat will participate in a meeting of the POPs TF that will be held in Rome, 1-3 March.

IPY

Lars-Otto Reiersen reviewed the situation regarding AMAP involvement in the IPY. A large number of project proposals had been submitted to the IPY Committee by the deadline of 14th January, several of which had potential overlap with AMAP activities. Rather than comment on and/or support particular proposals, AMAP had requested a role in the review of the IPY projects to ensure coordination and avoid duplication, etc. The IPY Secretariat had invited discussion on coordination between IPY, AMAP and other international organizations and programmes, etc., at an IPY Open Consultative Forum meeting to be held in Paris, 10-11 March 2005. The next deadline for submission of (updated) proposals to the IPY Committee is mid-June.

Canada requested that IPY be included as an agenda item for the next AMAP HoDs meeting in St. Petersburg.

Of the many proposals, AMAP had noted in particular the COMAAR proposal submitted by the Swedish SAO; the lead for this project is identified as Terry Callaghan. In response to communications received from several HoDs, the AMAP Secretariat had sent a letter to the Swedish SAO expressing certain reservations about the proposed project in advance of the submission deadline. However, in the project proposal, the AMAP WG is identified as one

of the supporting bodies. A number of HoDs reported that their national review of the IPY proposals had indicated similar reservations and concerns regarding the scope, feasibility and potential funding requirements associated with the COMAAR proposal. Funding is proposed to come from Arctic countries, the EU and the NCM, the sources that at present finance most of the AMAP activities (and those of other WGs), which could lead to an undesirable situation regarding competition for the same funds.

Johanas Rodhe (Sweden) provided information about the background to the development of the COMAAR proposal. He informed that the proposal was submitted on behalf of the SAOs, and not by Sweden. A workshop in Abisko in May was intended to clarify and further develop the COMAAR proposal.

In relation to this last point, HoDs noted that the original intention of the proposed meeting in Abisko had been to further develop coordination of AMAP/CAFF monitoring activities, in connection with the request from SAOs and Ministers regarding this work. However, the objective of the Abisko meeting now appeared to have changed to focus on the further development of the COMAAR project proposal. It was agreed that a letter should be prepared to clarify the status of the AMAP-CAFF linkage to COMAAR in relation to Abisko meeting.

Yuri Tsaturov suggested that AMAP might wish to support a proposal that had been submitted by Russia to establish air monitoring at 3 sites in the Russian Arctic as part of the IPY. HoDs expressed their general support for this project. Comments to this proposal and its possible linkage with a proposal submitted by the USA regarding establishing a meteorological observing station at Tiksi were requested.

12. Financial issues

HoDs were requested to look into possibilities to fund core AMAP activities, and in particular look into financing of the OGA Symposium and the production of the OGA and acidification assessment reports, in which connection contracts for graphical production, science writing and editing work, etc. will need to be completed during the summer.

13. Any other business

The next AMAP meeting is planned to take place in St. Petersburg in September, back-to-back with the OGA Symposium. Dates and information regarding practical arrangements will be made available as soon as possible.

Concerning the SAOs meeting, it was confirmed that a planned meeting of WG Chairs in February would no longer take place, however a Chairs meeting may be convened in connection with the SAOs meeting in Yakutsk in April.

Yuri Tsaturov requested that the minutes of the Extended HoDs meeting be sent to the SAO Chair.

14. End of meeting

The meeting was closed at 12:00 on 18th February.

Annex 1: Agenda

AMAP Extended Heads of Delegation Meeting, Helsinki, February 17-18, 2005

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Update on the situation at Secretariat
3. Follow up on actions from the WG18 and Reykjavik Extended Board meetings
4. Outcome of the Ministerial meeting in November, proposals for follow-up, e.g.
5. Ongoing assessments
6. Nomination/re-nomination of Leads and National Key experts to the AMAPs expert groups
7. Developing of workplan for the expert groups, monitoring and assessment activities
8. Reporting of 'old' and 'new' data to the AMAP TDCs
9. NIPs, Progress in NIP implementation, and Registration of projects in the AMAP PD, etc.
10. Joint activities with other AC WGs
11. International cooperation
12. Financial issues
13. Any other business
14. End of meeting

Annex 2: Participants - AMAP Extended Heads of Delegation Meeting, Helsinki, February 17-18, 2005

Country	First name	Last name	Institute name	Mailing address	Direct phone	Direct fax	e-mail	Institute phone	Institute fax
Canada	Russel	Shearer	Environmental Services and Research Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	Rm. 660 10 Wellington St. Hull, Quebec K1A 0H4	+1 819 994 7484	+1 819 953 9066	shearerr@ainc-inac.gc.ca		+1 819 953 9066
Denmark	Frank	Sonne	Danish Environmental Protection Agency Ministry of Environment	Strandgade 29 DK-1401 Copenhagen K	+45 32 66 03 30	+45 32 66 02 01	fms@mst.dk	+45 32 66 01 00	+45 32 66 04 79
Finland	Outi	Mähönen	Ministry of the Environment, Lapland Regional Environment Centre	P.O. Box 8060 FIN-96101 Rovaniemi	+358 16 329 4444	+358 16 310 340	outi.mahonen@ymparisto.fi	+358 16 329 4111	+358 16 310 340
Norway	Gunnar	Futsæter	Norwegian Pollution Control Authority	P.O.Box 8100 Dep. Strømsveien 96 N-0032 Oslo	+47 22 57 34 49	+47 22 67 67 06	gunnar.futsaeter@sft.no	+47 22 57 34 00	+47 22 67 67 06
Norway	Per	Døvle	Norwegian Pollution Control Authority	P.O.Box 8100 Dep. Strømsveien 96 N-0032 Oslo	+47 22 57 34 00	+47 22 67 67 06	per.dovle@sft.no	+47 22 57 34 00	+47 22 67 67 06
Russia	Yuri S.	Tsaturov	Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring	Novovogankovskiy Street 12 123995 Moscow	+ 7 095 252 2429	+ 7 095 255 24 00	tsaturov@mecon.ru	+7 095 252 24 29	+ 7 095 255 24 00
Sweden	Jonas	Rodhe	Environmental Protection Agency	Blekholmsterrassen 36 S-106 48 Stockholm	+ 46 8 69 81 307	+ 46 8 69 81 584	jonas.rodhe@naturvardsverket.se	+46 8 698 1000	+46 8 698 1042
USA	John A.	Calder	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Oceanic and Atmospheric Research R/AR	SSMC3, Mail Code R/ARC 1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910	+1 301 713 2518 ext.146	+1 301 713 2519	john.calder@noaa.gov	+1 301 713 2518 ext. 146	+1 301 713 2519

Country	First name	Last name	Institute name	Mailing address	Direct phone	Direct fax	e-mail	Institute phone	Institute fax
AMAP Secretariat	Lars-Otto	Reiersen	Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme Secretariat	P.O. Box 8100 Dep. N-0032 Oslo	+47 23 24 16 32	+47 22 67 67 06	lars-otto.reiersen@amap.no	+47 23 24 16 30	+47 22 67 67 06
AMAP Secretariat	Simon	Wilson	Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme Secretariat	P.O. Box 8100 Dep. N-0032 Oslo	+31 10 466 2989	+31 10 4662989	s.wilson@inter.nl.net	+47 23 24 16 30	+47 22 67 67 06
CAFF Secretariat	Maria V.	Gunnarsdottir	Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) International Secretariat	Borgir, Nordurslod IS-600 Akureyri Iceland	+354 462 33 50	+354 462 3390	maria@caff.is	+354 462 33 50	+354 462 3390
CAFF Chair	Esko	Jaakkola	Ministry of the Environment	P.O. Box 35 FIN-00023 Government Finland	+358 9 160 39371	+358 9 160 39364	esko.jaakkola@ymparisto.fi		
PAME Chair	Frank	Sonne	See above (Denmark)						

Annex 3: List of Actions arising from the AMAP Extended Heads of Delegation Meeting, Helsinki.

Agenda item	Section	Action	For	By
4	AMAP Strategic Plan	Finalise and publish the AMAP Strategic Plan document	Secretariat	end-February
4	ACIA Follow-up	Represent AMAP at WMO workshop	Yuri Tsaturov	
5	Acidification and Arctic Haze Assessment	Follow up with respective contacts to ensure involvement of relevant experts from Roshydromet (YT), RAS (YT and JC) and Norilsk (YT and PD) in Kilpisjarvi meeting	AMAP Chair and Vice-Chairs	March 15
5	Oil and Gas Assessment	Discuss Canada's proposal that Andy Gilman lead the human health part of the OGA, to be incorporated under chapter 6, and to discuss the possible contribution from the AMAP Human Health experts group.	Secretariat, OGA leads	April 15
5	Oil and Gas Assessment	Produce lists of data and information gaps for communication to SAOs if necessary	OGA leads	April 1
5	Oil and Gas Assessment	Arrange provision of Russian data/information for chapter 4 and 5; look into Russian experts to contribute to chapters 6 and 7	Yuri Tsaturov	April 1
5	Oil and Gas Assessment	Look into possibilities for a mission to Russia to address OGA information gaps	Secretariat, OGA leads	April 15
5	Oil and Gas Assessment	Raise the issue of information on legislative and regulatory structures relative to the OGA assessment at the PAME meeting, with a view to identifying experts for possible nomination by countries to contribute to the OGA	Chair of PAME	PAME meeting, February 22-23
5	Oil and Gas Symposium	Arrange and contribute to arrangements of Arctic OGA Symposium	Secretariat, Yuri Tsaturov, OGA leads	February 21, March 1 (see minutes for details)
5	Preparation of Assessment reports	Prepare budgets for report production.	AMAP Executive Secretary	April 15
5	Preparation of Assessment reports	Nominate possible candidates (individuals/groups/companies) who might be considered for involvement in the report production work, and	AMAP HoDs	April 15

		look into possibilities for funding to support this work.		
5	Preparation of Assessment reports	Contact possible science writers, publishers, graphics production teams and negotiate their involvement in AMAP assessment report production tasks	Secretariat	May 1
6	-	Review and make new nominations for experts to be involved in AMAP expert groups	All AMAP HoDs	August 1
7	-	Request and compile relevant input from the experts groups, and prepare discussion document on possible reorganization of expert groups for consideration at the September WG meeting	Secretariat	June 1
7	-	Prepare a proposal and timetable for producing an update assessment on Hg and possible other relevant contaminants for delivery in 2006	Secretariat	June 1
8	-	Ensure that national data relevant to AMAP are reported to TDCs, including old data	All AMAP HoDs	June 30
9	-	Ensure that information regarding NIPs is provided to the AMAP Secretariat, and that relevant national projects and programmes are registered in the AMAP PD	All AMAP HoDs	June 30
11	IPY	Represent AMAP at IPY Open Consultative Forum in Paris	AMAP Chair	March 10
11	IPY	Include IPY as agenda item for WG19	Secretariat	September 1
11	IPY	(1) Prepare a letter to SAOs/COMAAR organizer to clarify what the objectives of the Abisko meeting is (2) Report to SAOs that (although this venue could be used for informal discussions) the planned workshop cannot now be held in Abisko – hence the planned activities to meet their request regarding coordinating AMAP and CAFF monitoring activities is delayed	AMAP Board	March 31
11	IPY	Provide additional comments on the IPY proposals regarding establishing air/meteorological monitoring stations in Arctic Russia	All AMAP HoDs	June 1

Annex 4: Overview of Status of national reporting with respect to AMAP National Implementation Plans (NIPs) and AMAP PD registrations

	NIP phase 2 (1998-2002)	Progress in implementation of work during 2002/2003	NIP 2004+	Recent update of PD entries	Progress in implementation of work during 2004
Canada	√	national (NCP) reports	√		
Denmark/Faroes/ Greenland	√	√			
Finland	√	national report	√		
Iceland	√		√		
Norway	√				
Russia	√	√			√*
Sweden	√		√	√	
USA	√				

* Provided at Helsinki Meeting