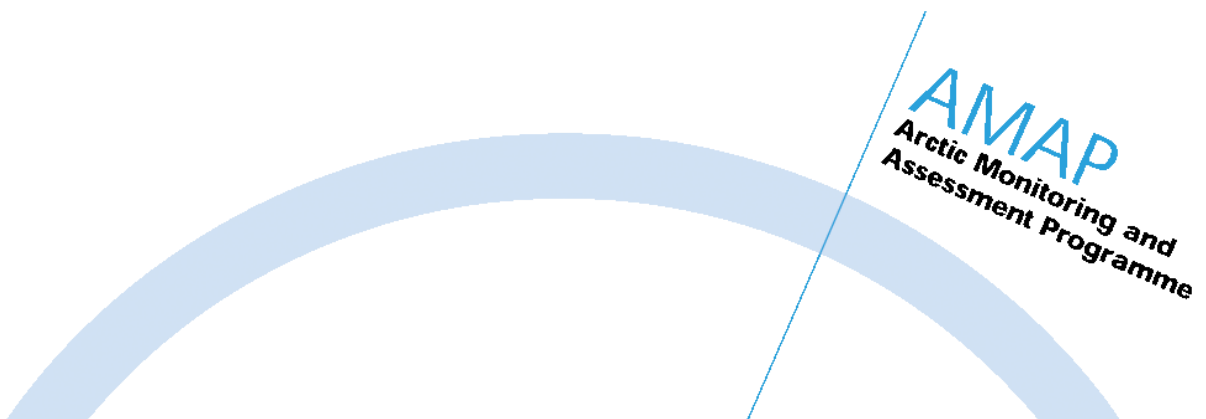


AMAP Report 2011: 3

This report can be found on the AMAP website: www.amap.no

Minutes of the 25th AMAP WG Meeting

Moscow, Russia, October 3-5, 2011





AMAP WG 25 Meeting Participants.

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Minutes of the 25th AMAP WG Meeting Moscow, Russia, October 3-5, 2011

1. Opening of the WG meeting

The AMAP Chair, Russel Shearer, opened the meeting. He referred to the many activities that had occurred since the previous meeting, including the AMAP Conference, the Nuuk Ministerial Meeting and the ACA Scoping Workshop and the need to focus during the WG25 meeting on decision items.

1.1. *Welcome statement*

Alexander Frolov, Head of Roshydromet, welcomed participants to Moscow. Referring to Roshydromet's role as lead agency for AMAP in Russia, he noted the successes of both organizations in their balanced work on Arctic climate and environmental issues. SWIPA and the AMAP work on SLCFs are currently receiving attention in Russia. There is also a focus on follow-up activities including Sustainable Arctic Observing Networks, and the International Polar Decade, and the need to link multiple project initiatives into a sustainable system.

Ambassador Anton Vasiliev (SAO for the Russian Federation) repeated the welcome to Moscow. He reminded the WG that AMAP, in its 20th year, is a backbone of the Arctic Council. AMAP has consistently met the expectations of the AC and that assessments such as the SWIPA and mercury assessments have made a global contribution. The work on SLCFs and oil and gas represents a sound basis for future follow-up, including needs for further research. He noted that today we are seeing the future that was predicted in AMAP's 1998 reports, with increasing human presence, opportunities for resource development and increased shipping, but also challenges such as those due to permafrost thawing. He also referred to the increasing synergies with other groups.

1.2. *Practical information*

Practical information was provided by the Russian AMAP delegation and meeting organizers, Yuri Tsaturov and Alexander Klepikov.

1.3. *Approval of the Agenda*

The draft agenda (Annex 1) was approved, noting that the order of discussion of some items would be rearranged to allow time to concentrate on decision items. An item on Any Other Business was added. The lists of participants and list of documents are attached as Annexes 2 and 3, respectively. Annex 4 contains the list of actions from the WG25 meeting.

1.4. *Actions from last AMAP WG meeting and the Ministerial meeting*

Lars-Otto Reiersen reviewed the actions from the last meeting indicating that these had mostly been completed. A few outstanding items would be discussed under the relevant agenda items during the current meeting.

Paola Alborno (Sweden) presented the priorities for the Swedish Chairmanship of the Arctic Council within the context of the umbrella programme established by Norway, Denmark and Sweden in 2006. Focus areas for the Swedish Chairmanship are:

- environment and climate, especially in relation to oil spills; and short-lived climate forcers and CO₂, as drivers of climate change in the shorter- and longer-terms, respectively;
- the human dimension, with a focus on strengthening the SDWG, gender issues, sustainable development with strong indigenous participation, corporate responsibility, food and water security, AHDR-II;
- seas, including cooperation on civilian shipping operations and environmental protection; and
- a stronger Arctic Council, with the establishment of a permanent AC Secretariat by 2013 and activities under the TF on institutional issues.

The Swedish Arctic Resilience initiative is seen as an integral contribution to the ACA. Mercury and the activities under the UNEP INC were confirmed as a priority for Sweden. Sweden is also planning, in coordination with a Danish initiative, side-events at the UNFCCC COP17. The AHDR-II will be a deliverable in 2015 under the Canadian Chairmanship; Iceland is leading this activity.

The Chair thanked for this information that would help frame the WG discussions. Reporting on the AC WG Chairs meeting held at the end of September, the AMAP WG Chair informed that the SAO Chair had outlined ambitious plans for the Swedish Chairmanship, with a priority on action orientated items and open lines of communication, including more meetings between the SAO and WG Chairs. Guidelines were being prepared for WG progress reporting to SAOs. The next SAO meeting will involve more focused discussions directed at starting to prepare the Kiruna Declaration. Initiatives were also ongoing to make SAO meetings more effective with regard to media outreach, with plans for side events at SAO meetings to allow observers and other groups to present information; though it is not yet clear who the target audiences will be (e.g. local or national media). The AC website is being redeveloped with plans for a web coordination workshop with persons responsible for other AC WG websites. There will also be a greater follow-up on policy recommendations to coordinate and consolidate these and to make the follow-up more effective. A review of past AMAP recommendations should be completed so that these could be (re)introduced to this process.

1.5. Administrative arrangements

Lars-Otto Reiersen introduced Christine Daae Olseng and Jan Rene Larsen, two new Secretariat staff who would be responsible for ACA- and SAON-related issues, respectively, in addition to other AMAP Secretariat tasks.

2. SWIPA: Science and layman reports and the Films

2.1 Status for the production, distribution and Outreach

Morten Olsen introduced a report on the status of the production of SWIPA deliverables and outreach products [WG25/2/1]. The 16-page SWIPA Executive Summary for policy-makers agreed at WG24 was released at the AMAP Conference *The Arctic as a Messenger for Global Processes*, in May, and the version with recommendations for policy-makers was presented to the AC at the Nuuk Ministerial meeting. Three films (*SWIPA: A Changing Environment*, *The Greenland Ice Sheet in a Changing Climate*, and *The New Arctic Reality*) had been produced in 3 and 15 minute versions and were also presented at these events.

The SWIPA Science report (of ca. 550 pages) is reaching the final stages of production with ca. 9 chapters either proofed or going out for proofing. The SWIPA summary report (ca. 120 pages) is in the production stages as is a shorter (16-page) SWIPA simple summary (suitable for general public and educational outreach). The expectation is that these products will be available as electronic documents in November/December and in print by the end of the year. Production of versions of the SWIPA films in several other languages had been delayed due to translation problems however this work was now underway again.

Denmark is producing educational materials for use in Denmark/Greenland/Faroe Islands and has contracted a consultant to assist in this work. If other countries are interested in collaboration in this activity they are welcome to contact the Danish delegation.

In response to a question regarding evaluation of the effectiveness of the SWIPA outreach initiatives, it was noted that this is difficult to measure in a conventional context. SWIPA results had reached international audiences through media (press and TV broadcast) coverage around the time of the May Conference. The AMAP web statistics also indicated strong interest with a ca. 15 times increase in visits during May relative to normal traffic. A longer term goal is to ensure SWIPA results are included in the next IPCC reports, and success in this goal remains to be seen. Follow-up of the SWIPA findings is largely a national responsibility and it is difficult to gauge the success of this from a Secretariat perspective. Results can become apparent in the longer term (over years), as was observed with ACIA, and therefore success should not only be judged on the basis of immediate impacts. The Chair reminded the WG that it is an ongoing challenge and responsibility of the WG members to follow-up on the recommendations of activities such as SWIPA at the national level. Documentation of the value added through national outreach initiatives may be difficult but is useful in demonstrating the effectiveness of outreach activities. If possible this should become a structural element in the AMAP communications strategy that would be discussed later.

Alexander Frolov drew the attention of the WG to a Conference on Problems of Adaptation to Climate Change that will take place in Moscow, 7-9 November <http://www.pacc2011.ru/>.

2.2 Lessons learned from the SWIPA process

Morten Olsen reported that the AMAP Conference in May was very successful in attracting international attention to the SWIPA results, especially since the Nuuk Ministerial Meeting did not provide an adequate opportunity to do this. His review of lessons learned highlighted the requirement for a dedicated lead country role, including allocation of appropriate resource and funding by the lead country to undertake this role. A second factor that needs to be considered in the future when conducting similar work is timing – and in particular meeting deadlines and not scheduling critical activities during field and vacation seasons. Inability to meet timelines had compromised some parts of the SWIPA process.

The SWIPA integration team proved a critical component in ensuring delivery of the SWIPA and the early involvement of filmmakers and communication specialist has been fruitful for the process. Cross-issue integration was started too late in the SWIPA process and made it difficult to follow. The need to identify key messages early in assessment processes was also mentioned.

Norway noted a further lesson associated with institutional commitment; in some cases the expectation of the level of commitment expected from experts engaged in SWIPA did not

always meet their own level of engagement or their possibilities for engagement, or the level of engagement that their institutes were willing to support.

2.3 Follow up priorities of SWIPA

A document on proposed SWIPA follow-up [WG25/2/2] was presented by Lars-Otto Reiersen. Initial suggestions address needs for (1) regular updating of certain components of the SWIPA information, (2) more work cryosphere-climate feedback mechanisms, (3) continued work to improve modeling to project future changes in the cryosphere, and (4) efforts to downscale modeling results. It was proposed to hold a workshop on SWIPA follow-up during the winter of 2012, with the timing to be coordinated with possible further relevant activities connected with Arctic Change Assessment (ACA) and Arctic Resilience Report (ARR) project.

Discussions had also been held with the co-Chairs of the AMAP Climate Expert group concerning possible linkages between the proposed SWIPA follow-up item (1) and the Arctic Report Card.

The proposals as presented were supported by Norway and Finland, noting that extent of the SWIPA follow-up needs to be considered in relation to the resources that will be required for the ACA. The USA also supported the proposals, including the need to also look into how SWIPA follow-up on modeling will fit in with other modeling and scenario development initiatives and work under other organizations. The SWIPA follow-up should support the ACA objectives of moving from curiosity- to use-inspired assessments. Denmark supported the need to coordinate the SWIPA follow-up with utility to users, and other ongoing AMAP activities (such as the work on SLCFs), and also identified the need to refresh the follow-up process through the involvement of younger scientists and new experts. Canada also recognized the need to prioritize limited resources while maintaining the momentum established under SWIPA, and offered to host a SWIPA follow-up workshop in Victoria, BC (tentatively scheduled for February/March 2012), possibly back-to-back with an AMAP HoDs meeting.

2.4 COP-17 involvement

Morten Olsen informed that Swedish Chairmanship intends to arrange a side-event at the UNFCCC COP-17 that will take place in Durban, South Africa the first week in December 2011. Denmark/Greenland will also organize a side-event at the COP-17 that will focus on Arctic climate issues (newest Arctic science, need for adaptation research, and a political statement by the Greenlandic Prime minister). Coordination of these two initiatives is ongoing.

Sweden confirmed that they had applied for a side-event at the COP-17, but that this event was not yet registered in the COP-17 program.

The AMAP Chair led the WG in thanking Morten Olsen for his competent and committed leadership of the SWIPA process.

3 The Mercury report and Films

3.1 *Status of the production and distribution and Outreach*

Simon Wilson presented document [WG25/3/1] summarizing the status of the AMAP mercury assessment report production. The Mercury Summary report (*Arctic Pollution 2011*) was released at the AMAP Conference in May and (with recommendations) presented to the Arctic Council at the Nuuk Ministerial Meeting. The scientific assessment report is undergoing final proofing and would be printed and distributed during the second half of October 2011.

With the completion of these main deliverables of the mercury assessment, the AMAP WG registered their appreciation to the lead countries for this assessment (Canada and Denmark) and to the AMAP mercury Expert Group, and in particular to the co-leads of the assessment, Peter Outridge and Rune Dietz for their efforts in guiding the work to produce a high quality assessment and ensuring its timely delivery.

In addition to the reports, a short brochure summarizing the main findings of the 2011 mercury assessment was distributed at the UNEP Mercury INC-2 meeting in Japan (January 2011). A short (4-minute) film based on the assessment had also been produced, supported by Denmark, and presented at the AMAP Conference and Nuuk Ministerial meetings in May.

Mikala Klint (Denmark) introduced plans to produce an extended version of the film, to include additional content on artisanal and small scale gold mining issues. If available in time, this version could be presented at the INC-3 meeting in Nairobi, Kenya (end October/early November 2011). If this is not possible, the existing film can be shown. Countries were invited to provide additional financial support for this initiative.

3.2 *A new production cooperation between AMAP and UNEP Chemicals*

Referring to the cooperation between AMAP and UNEP-Chemicals during the preparation of the AMAP mercury assessment that had resulted in the '2005 global inventory of anthropogenic mercury emissions', the (2008) UNEP 'Global Atmospheric Mercury Assessment', and a joint UNEP/AMAP technical report that formed the basis for this, Simon Wilson informed that UNEP-Chemicals were planning an update to their report and had approached the AMAP Secretariat for assistance in this connection. AMAP has been requested by the AC to support the UNEP mercury process, and has contributed to various activities in recent years. On this basis, a joint AMAP/UNEP activity had been initiated to prepare an updated (2010) global emissions inventory. In addition, UNEP-Chemicals had requested AMAP Secretariat to manage the project work to prepare updated reports during 2012. The envisaged reports would be similar to those prepared in 2008 but extended to cover aquatic mercury releases, transport and fate. AMAP and associated experts would be responsible for the mercury atmospheric emissions sections, with other groups (the UNEP Mercury Fate and Transport Partnership area and a GESAMP group) contributing the other sections. UNEP had approached a number of potential donors (Canada, Denmark, Sweden, NCM) to secure finances for the work, and AMAP had also received funding (from Norway) to support some of the planned activities. Due to delays in arranging the financing, no contracts had yet been established (neither between AMAP and UNEP nor with sub-contractors) and the work was running behind its planned timeline; however, some activities had begun on the basis of available (AMAP) resources.

Denmark, Sweden and Canada supported the proposal that AMAP engage in this cooperation with UNEP, and indicated that they were in the process of making funding available to

support the work either through UNEP or AMAP. Denmark indicated that AMAPs contribution should focus on the technical components, expressing concern over the potential workload on the Secretariat associated with other project management components. Both Denmark and Sweden requested more detailed project description documentation from UNEP in order to be able to hand over funding. Simon Wilson agreed to communicate this information and request to UNEP-Chemicals.

3.3 Cooperation and production for INC-3 in October and INC-4

The Chair reported on the INC-2 in Japan where the Danish delegation, with SAO approval made a statement on behalf of the Arctic Council and its eight member countries. This statement referring to Arctic health concerns associated with global mercury pollution was well received. He informed the WG that he had raised the issue of a similar intervention by Sweden at the INC-3 meeting with the SAO Chair, and that a draft proposal for a statement will be circulated shortly. AMAP have requested and been granted a booth at the INC-3 meeting where it is planned to distribute the AMAP mercury summary report and show the films.

Mikala Klint informed that Denmark would Chair the EU during the first half of 2012 and had also been requested by the following Chairmanship (Cyprus) to assist in coordinating the EU work relating to mercury. Consequently Denmark would be representing the EU at the INC-4 meeting in Uruguay in June 2012 and for much of the period leading up to the INC-5 in 2013.

The Chair also commented on the value of continuing the support of AMAP for the UNEP work on mercury, and drawing parallels with AMAPs contribution to the Stockholm Convention process indicated that if the INC is successful in negotiating a global agreement on mercury, AMAP may need to consider possible needs relating to supporting an extended global monitoring programme for mercury and possibly contributing to effectiveness evaluations, etc.

Norway informed the meeting that EUs chemical bureau ECHA had the previous week published the full reviewed Norwegian proposal for regulation of phenylmercury substances. The reviewed proposal is available from:

http://echa.europa.eu/reach/restriction/restrictions_under_consideration_en.asp

3.4 Report from the Mercury conference in Halifax (July 2011)

The Chair provided a short report on the International Mercury Conference that took place in Halifax, Canada in July 2011. AMAP and the Canadian Northern Contaminants Program jointly co-sponsored this scientific event that was attended by 800 participants. Several presentations were made at the conference based on the AMAP assessment, and AMAP reports were distributed at an AMAP/NCP booth.

4 AMAP Short Lived Climate Forces (SLCF) report

4.1 Status for the production of the 2011 report

Lars-Otto Reiersen gave a short update on the status for finalization of the technical report on black carbon. This report is in the last round of approval by the co-Chairs Anders Stohl (NILU, Norway) and Trish Quinn (NOAA, USA) and will be printed within the next few weeks. Requests for hardcopies need to be the AMAP Secretariat in hand by 15 October. The secretariat will send out a reminder, including prizes before the deadline.

4.2 The plans for the 2013 reports, Black Carbon, Ozone and Methane

The AMAP SLCF expert group together with the AC SLCF Task Force were requested in the 2011 Nuuk Declaration to continue and expand their work to also focus on methane and tropospheric ozone as well as black carbon and to provide a report to the next Ministerial meeting in 2013. Methane is covered under agenda item 4.3.

Kaarle Kupiainen, member of AMAPs expert group on SLCF, presented the proposed work plan for 2011-2015 [WG25/4.2/1] prepared by co-Chairs in cooperation with members of the Expert Group. So far the SLCF Expert Group has looked at black and organic carbon. In the next phase, they propose to expand the work to include also tropospheric O₃ and other relevant co-emitted SLCF species. Future emission scenarios will be included and they will collaborate and coordinate the work with the AC SLCF Task Force as far as possible. The expert group needs to be expanded with experts on tropospheric O₃. A list of possible candidates was provided, but experts need financial support. The Chair noted that the list of O₃ experts not include experts representing all member countries and emphasised the importance of this.

In the following discussion, the need for coordination with other initiatives was stressed. There are a lot of ongoing initiatives e.g. under the AC, LRTAP, UNEP, IPCC, etc. and it is difficult to get an overview. In addition, a demonstration project initiated by ACAP was mentioned. The AMAP WG therefore requested its expert group to make an overview of ongoing initiatives.

The question of whether the AMAP SLCF expert group and AC SLCF Task Force should be merged into one group was raised, but the Chair explained that the Task Force and the AMAP expert group have different tasks. The Task Force work is on mitigations options while the AMAP expert group are concerned with the scientific and technical background and understanding. It is important that these two groups work together. Any consolidation of these two groups is a decision to be made by SAOs, not AMAP. The Executive Secretary reminded the meeting that AMAP had been asked to look into black carbon 4-5 years ago with two aspects: science and mitigation and that the work was split into two components when the AC SLCF Task Force was established.

The need to prioritize the work and to develop a more detailed work plan and budget was raised by USA. There are too many groups and there are limited recourses. Too much coordination will also take time.

The Chair asked Sweden if there was any additional information from Sweden on the SAOs plans regarding the (re)organization of AC Task forces and working groups. The Swedish delegate informed that she would come back with more detailed information, but that in general, the Swedish Chairmanship will work to ensure that there are not too many groups and that existing groups cooperate.

Norway informed that they have limited budget (about 200.000 USD) for the planned AMAP work on SLCFs. The Executive Secretary stated that the Nordic Council of Ministers will also contribute funding, possibly over the next 2-3 years.

IPS stated that if there is available funding, PPs are interested in doing some work. The Executive Secretary invited PPs to nominate experts.

The Chair concluded that the AMAP Secretariat should try to arrange a teleconference between representatives of ACAP, the AC SLCF Task Force, AMAP SLCF expert group and HTAP before the SAO meeting to further discuss cooperation, get clarifications and discuss how to arrange the future work in the most cost-effective way. The AMAP Chair will talk to the SAO Chair before arranging this telephone conference to get some guidance from him on linkages to the task force, lines of communication and his thoughts about merging groups.

4.3 The establishment of a new AMAP expert group of Methane, co-chairs to be decided

Background paper for discussion, see document WG25/4/3.

The Chair informed that Marjorie Shepherd (Canada) is willing to co-chair this group but that there is a need for nomination of another co-chair and experts to participate.

In the plenary discussion there was general support for the establishment of an AMAP methane expert group as an independent group but with close links to the AMAP black-carbon/ozone group, and for the proposed work. This group also needs to look more into climate feedbacks (in particular related to permafrost thawing). The need for new experts for the methane work was also recognized. It was again stressed that there is a need to coordinate this with other on-going initiatives.

The Chair Russel Shearer concluded that AMAP should support further work on methane and that there is a need for nomination of relevant experts. Russel Shearer asked all countries to consider if they are able to identify a second co-Chair for this work. Further cooperation and coordination would be discussed on the telephone conference with other groups that would be arranged by the AMAP Secretariat (see agenda item 4.2).

4.4 Cooperation on SLCF issues with other international organizations (LRTAP, UNEP and the AC Task Force and the ACAP projects)

See discussion under agenda item 4.2

5 Arctic Ocean Acidification Assessment (AOA)

5.1 Status for the production

The Executive Secretary Lars-Otto Reiersen presented document WG25/5/1 summarizing the status of the ongoing work in the expert group on Arctic Ocean acidification (AOA). The expert group met at the Oceanic Institute in Villefranche-sur-mer, the institute coordinating the EU funded EPOCA project, from 6-8 September 2011. A chapter overview for the 2013 AOA report is given in document WG25/5/2. The 1st draft report has been delayed, but prior to the meeting in September; drafts of 3 chapters were distributed. The 3rd draft will be prepared after the next meeting of the expert group in the second half of February 2012, and this draft will then go for international peer review. The expert group sees the need for a possible update in 2015 due to the fact that information from a lot of ongoing projects will become available after 2013. Lars-Otto Reiersen invited the AMAP HoDs to nominate additional experts to this work and emphasised that not all countries have scientists involved in the writing of this report; currently only Canada, Sweden, Norway and USA are represented.

Netherlands offered to host the next meeting of the AOA expert group in den Haag. Another suggestion was to arrange the next AOA meeting back to back with the AMAP HoDs meeting in Victoria. Denmark stated that they will try to an expert to participate in the AOA work.

In the plenary discussion, Canada and USA expressed concern that the process is still in a data collection phase and not in an assessment phase. Canada also pointed out that there are a lot of actions requested in the document prepared for the meeting [WG25/5/1] and that there is a need for clarification regarding data requirements. In this connection Sweden asked whether the 2013 report should be considered a preliminary report. Lars-Otto Reiersen answered that there is enough information to produce a report in 2013, and that the 2013 report should be considered as the first in a possible series of assessment reports on this important subject.

Denmark proposed that the report be published in an international journal. The Executive Secretary informed that an article for a scientific journal based on the assessment is planned.

The Chair concluded that the AMAP Board will prepare a proposal to clarify the AOA work and action requested.

5.2 Draft content, gaps and actions needed, the financial situation

See agenda item 5.1.

5.3 Plan for the AOA Outreach

Postponed. See agenda item 5.1.

6 The Oil and Gas assessment

6.1 Status for the production of the last volume

6.2 Outreach for the OGA report

6.3 AMAP follow up work related to OGA, updating, coop with ACAP etc.

The work on chapter 6 in the Oil and Gas assessment (OGA) is continuing, however much work, including final technical editing and layout has yet to begin. The draft consists of more than 1000 pages, and a significant part of the document will need to be put on the web rather than in the printed volume.

The AMSA IIC project was discussed and its close relationship with OGA was noted.

The Oil and Gas Assessment Chapter 6 is a major source for information included in the AMSA IIC report. Work on OGA Chapter 6 by the lead author is scheduled to be completed and information available in due time before the draft final AMSA IIC report is to be completed. Final drafts of both reports are expected to be ready by spring 2012.

Denmark stated that they are looking forward to seeing chapter 6 of the OGA and recommends holding the timeline for the AMSA IIC report if at all possible. There are many recommendations from the oil and gas assessment and Denmark raised the question of their follow-up.

Lars-Otto Reiersen suggested that the AMAP Secretariat should make a plan for the outreach promotion of the reports (volume 1-3) and a follow-up plan for OGA based on the table made by Dennis Thurston to the AMAP HoD meeting in February. The meeting supported this.

7 AMSA IIC

7.1 *Status for the production*

7.2 *Outreach, availability of maps, data, etc. and update*

The Norwegian Head of Delegation Per Døvlé, presented a short status for the AMSA IIC work [WG 25/7/1]. He informed that AMAP adopted the proposal from PAME at the AMAP WG meeting in San Francisco in 2010, that there has been some e-mail correspondence prior to this meeting and that a reference group has been established on a national level for this work. The status for the draft report is that Canada and Greenland have finalized their data. There have not been any updates on cultural issues since February, but the authors are working with SDWG on these issues. One challenge for the AMSA IIC process is the delay of finalization of Oil and Gas Assessment chapter 6. This chapter is a major contributor to the AMSA IIC, but the lead author has assured that these processes will be run in parallel. The plan is currently to have a final draft of the AMSA IIC report ready in February 2012 and the report published in early spring. Actions needed from AMAP are to agree with CAFF on who is going to lead the editorial work, and to consider issues relating to compilation of an integrated database for AMSA IIC. He pointed out that these issues needed to be discussed before the joint AMAP/CAFF meeting on 5 October.

Helgi Jensson who represented AMAP at the last PAME meeting informed that Tom Barry and Hein Rune Skjoldal met during the PAME meeting to discuss the database issues, but that he did not know the outcome of these discussions. He also reiterated the importance that chapter 6 of the Oil and Gas Assessment needs to be published before the AMSA IIC report. Iceland stated that AMSA IIC should be a directly deliverable to the process that has begun to develop AMSA IId.

Lars-Otto Reiersen confirmed that AMAP has proposed to take on the AMSA IIC editing work if funding is available. CAFF has also indicated that they have funding available for this work.

Simon Wilson stated that the AMAP Secretariat has still not received the material for OGA chapter 6 and consequently he expressed concern that the OGA chapter 6 report will not be ready this year, and that it was unlikely that it would be completed before spring 2012 and before the planned release of the AMSA IIC report.

In response to a question on whether the AMSA IIC report would undergo a peer review, Lars-Otto Reiersen informed that data from OGA chapter 6 has been peer reviewed and therefore there was no plan for an additional peer review of the AMSA IIC report.

Denmark stated that they are pleased to see the work up and running and informed that there is a national process ongoing to deliver their AMSA IIC data. From their point of view they cannot see how the OGA chapter 6 can be run in parallel.

For the AMSA IIC, both AMAP and CAFF have indicated that they would like to take responsibility for editing work. CAFF Secretariat have also proposed making interactive GIS products based on the AMSA IIC report for release on the CAFF data portal – however AMAP Secretariat had raised some questions in this connection. It was agreed that these matters should be raised during the joint AMAP/CAFF WG meeting (see Annex 5), and that in relation to the question of the editor, the best qualified and cost effective alternative should be used.

AIA informed that they had written a paper for the AMSA IIa process that may be useful also for the AMSA IIc in relation to areas of cultural significance. This has also been shared with CAFF. The Chair welcomed this document from AIA and stated that this would be useful also for the AMSA IIc.

The relation between AMSA IIb and AMSA IIc was also discussed. Denmark stated that AMSA IIc will look at vulnerable areas outside of national jurisdiction while AMSA IIb is currently focussing on areas inside national jurisdiction. Per Døvlé informed that when it comes to accidents, AMSA IIb will both look at areas inside- and outside national jurisdiction.

There was some discussion about a database for data from AMSA IIc. Norway stated that the database issue should be seen as a separate process it should not influence the process to deliver the AMSA IIc report. For Denmark this was a new issue and that there had been no discussion about a metadata base. They also expressed concern about separating the AMSA IIc data from its associated text. Denmark informed that there have been national processes in Canada, Denmark and Greenland on the data delivered, and asked whether this was also so for other countries. Mikala Klint indicated that there may also be a need to update datasets from the OGA chapter 6 to take account of changes in recent years.

Simon Wilson stressed the importance that GIS data needs to be well documented when made accessible on the Internet. He also noted that an Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure (ASDI) project plan had been released on CAFF's webpage in which it was implied that all WGs had been consulted and approved the plan – which as far as he was aware was not the case. Originally a contact group for the ASDI work had been established where he should represent AMAP, however he had not received any information about the published ASDI report.

The Chair informed that this publication of the ASDI project plan has also been an issue raised by several WGs at the WG Chairs meeting in Stockholm 26-27 September. This had indicated a need for some additional discussion in the WGs before the ASDI could be discussed by SAOs. This issue has therefore been taken off the Agenda for the SAO meeting. He also added that in general it seems like a good plan, but that AMAP need a better understanding of what it is. He expressed that AMAP continues to be supportive of the ASDI initiative, but that there is a communication issue that needs to be addressed by CAFF.

The Chair concluded that database and editing are important issues to discuss with CAFF on the joint AMAP/CAFF meeting on Wednesday 5 October. The most cost-effective and qualified person should be chosen for editing the AMSA IIc report. In relation to whether the AMSA IIc would be ready to be released at the IPY 2012 conference, it was concluded that this would need to be evaluated nearer the time.

8 Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

8.1 Status for the report preparation and further plans

Rune Storvold (Norway), Northern Research Institute (NORUT), co-Chair of the Unmanned Aircraft System Expert Group presented information on the work in this group. The group is in the process finalizing the status report starting with the 3rd round of editing shortly. The report will be finalized at the next UAS Expert Group meeting in Helsinki November 29-30, 2011.

The UAS Expert Group will prepare a handbook that will be finished in 2012 that will give scientists a comprehensive tool that will enable them to make safe operations in the Arctic and elsewhere. He stated that the number of users is increasing and that there is a rapid technology development making it cheaper and easier to use. The challenge is that several permits are required in order to operate. Further plans for this group also involves campaign based scientific coordination in selected areas in the Arctic in 2012 and 2013.

Rune Storvold stated that UAS gives us a lot of possibilities. This is an emerging technology that allows us to gather data in an area with few stations. The goal is to provide measurements for others and he wishes to involve other expert groups e.g. SWIPA.

In the plenary discussion the question about if there is a possibility to have some sort of agreement under the Arctic Council in order to reduce the paperwork permission application. Rune Storvold answered that the first goal is to reduce the number of application forms needed to be filled out in the permission application process from six to one. How to go forward with this will be one of the main issues at the Meeting in Helsinki.

Finland informed that the Finnish experience with UAS relates to Antarctica and they welcomed the next UAS Expert Group meeting to Finland.

The Chair concluded that AMAP should support the UAS expert group in their work and asked the UAS expert group to provide a clear plan for the report. He also informed that he would contact the UAS group about deliverables for the SAO meeting and pointed out the impotence of security issues. Rune Storvold informed that security and rescue have not been discussed in the Expert Group at this point.

8.2 Results from the Svalbard workshop and related activities

Rune Storvold (Norway) presented activities conducted at the “Coordinated Investigation of Climate-Cryosphere Interaction”, CICCI, workshop at Svalbard in 2011. Six countries and 9 institutions participated in this experiment. The central goal of the CICCI initiative was to improve the understanding of processes controlling the distribution of black carbon (BC) in the Arctic atmosphere and the deposition to snow and ice surfaces and the resulting climate impacts. A data workshop will be arranged this fall and outcome will be presented at the New-Ålesund Symposium (at NILU) and AUG in San Francisco (Dec. 2011).

Russia thanked Norway for this initiative and for arranging the workshop, which provided a great opportunity to exchange experience and techniques and enhances possibilities for further cooperation. Russia informed about a joint Norwegian – Russian cooperation that is planned at the ice breaker “Lance” next year. Roshydromet will provide data from Russia- “Ice camp” (84 °N 144 °W).

9 AMAP May Conference and the cooperation with APECS

9.1 Summing up, lesson learned and future cooperation (MoU)

Lars-Otto Reiersen gave a brief summary of the AMAP Conference *The Arctic as a Messenger of Global Processes – Climate Change and Pollution* that was held in Copenhagen in May. In general, this conference was a great success that received considerable attention both from international media and politicians. Conference expenses were kept within the budget of 2 Mill. DKR. Morten S. Olsen added that this conference was a strong action that

AMAP should have in mind for the future and that this work was recognized in the Nuuk Declaration.

Lars-Otto Reiersen introduced the 6 recommendations from the APECS workshop that was held in conjunction with the AMAP Conference in May [WG 25/9.1/1]. AMAP has promised to respond to these recommendations, including the proposal that a MoU should be signed between AMAP and APECS based on these recommendations, similar to the MoU established between CAFF and APECS.

In the discussion there was agreement on that there is a need to better involve young scientist in AMAP's future work and to maintain the cooperation with APECS, and that AMAP should look for opportunities to include them in future activities. There was some discussion as to whether AMAP, according to AC rules of procedure, are allowed to sign MoUs with other organizations, and what the value of such a MoU would be. Some delegations also had problems with some of the proposed wording of the APECS recommendations which went beyond what AMAP could incorporate. Delegations therefore agreed that AMAP should not sign a MoU with APECS but that rather AMAP should look into less formalised opportunities to develop its relationship with APECS.

The meeting agreed that AMAP look forward to further cooperation with APECS and that AMAP will try to achieve the recommended actions from APECS in normal actions but that at this time AMAP will not agree on a formal MoU with APECS.

10 ACA and ARR

10.1 Status for the work, the involvement of Stakeholders and other relevant partners, web site, etc.

10.2 Plan for the ACA work, recommendations from the Scoping workshop, content, time schedule, ongoing relevant activities, gaps, the financial situation, etc.

10.3 Recommendations to the SAO meeting in November

Lars-Otto Reiersen introduced the draft ACA proposal prepared for the SAO meeting 8-9 November in Luleå. This document reflects the outcome of the ACA Scoping Workshop held in Oslo 28-30 September. The scoping workshop was attended by 110 participants representing a wide range of expertise, including representatives from all Arctic countries, permanent participants, AC WGs, local governments and representatives of a wide range of stakeholder groups. The proposal has been distributed to all AC WGs before the meeting.

The Chair provided an overview of the document. The document is meant for AC Chair / SAO and is purposely light on science. It reflects on basic principles and is meant to send a message to SAO on the fundamental process. It highlights the new epoch for Arctic assessment being a user-inspired and potentially on-going process that addresses user's needs. The initiative is Arctic Council driven, and the end point is 2017. Further work will be done between the SAO meeting and the meeting of the Council Deputy Ministers meeting to be held in spring 2012. The chair asked the meeting for approval to send the document to the SAOs.

In the following discussion, the delegates expressed satisfaction on the job done, especially the fact that the document had been compiled and made available so shortly after the conclusion of the workshop.

Norway expressed concern that the document on the first page only discussed problems, but not opportunities. Other delegates pointed out that the opportunities mentioned are resource exploitation and tourism. A balance has to be reached. USA agreed that there is a balance between opportunities and risks. USA believed that the proposal is a paradigm shift, where the process is the outcome, not the product. It is a long-term process that should also be sustained beyond 2017.

Finland suggested starting the proposal with defining goals. In addition, Finland asked what the next steps are and emphasized the need for an implementation plan. Following this, the Chair pointed out that some details of the process have not yet been developed. Products are described, but it is too early to talk about the precise products. Priorities will be the next item to consider, but this should be an AC activity involving all working groups.

Sweden noted that the ACA will be developed so that the ARR will feed in to it, showing that there is a strong connection between the two initiatives. The Chair noted that the ARR process also held a scoping workshop in Stockholm – which started off with a discussion of what ‘resilience’ is. The ARR would try to design a project that covered one or more defined geographical areas, reporting in 2015. It is expected that the relation between the ACA and ARR would be further strengthened. The ARR proposal will go to the SAO meeting as well, and will likely go through the same process in terms of approval.

Denmark, supporting previous discussions, however believed that the document must address regionalization issues more, recognizing that there are different kinds of stressors in different regions, as there are stakeholders.

Canada also congratulated on the document and agreed that the ACA represents a paradigm shift. Canada stressed the importance of making the ACA relevant to stakeholders. The document was believed to be useful for communities, people, and governments. Canada wanted first of all to highlight the level of enthusiasm that had been the driver at the scoping workshop, reflecting the inclusiveness of this initiative. A second point to highlight is that the ACA addresses the desire that assessments must be on a timely basis. Thirdly, all AC working groups must be involved and work together as a community. And finally there is a need for new ways to integrate information at new scales. Regional, subregional and local scaling may be necessary.

Timo Seppala (speaking as vice chairman from ACAP) informed the group that ACAP intend to participate in the ACA process but that the role of ACAP is different from other working groups. The Chair appreciated this input and emphasized the importance that ACAP is a part of the ACA. The ACAP vice-chair confirmed that ACAP endorsed the ACA proposal.

USA noted that the organizational framework section required further revision. It was therefore suggested that an implementation team be formed to further consider this aspect. The suggested framework could then be labeled as ‘an example’. Denmark supported this thinking adding that the proposal also needs to consider SAO ownership in this section.

The Chair noted that due to the AC rules of procedure a redrafted version would have to be submitted to the AC Chair/SAO on 7 October. The Chair also noted that the proposal had been circulated to all AC WGs and the AC Chair for comments. Based on the comments received by the deadline from the AC Chair, AMAP, PAME, EPPR and SDWG, a small

group was established to redraft the proposal taking into account all comments received by the deadline.

Following this work a new version was presented. The main differences from the earlier version concerned some reformatting/re-organization of the material to reflect the comments received. The only significant changes concerned the proposal on management structure, where it was suggested that the SAOs establish an ACA Implementation Team to further elaborate specific parts of an ACA implementation plan (including preparing and organizational framework that includes all relevant groups of the AC) prior to the Deputy Ministers meeting in 2012. The new draft was sent out to all AC WG and the AC Chair for information as there would be no time to incorporate new comments. The AMAP WG meeting approved sending the redrafted ACA proposal in this new version to the SAOs.

11 SAON

11.1 *Status for the process*

The document *Plan for the Implementation Phase of SAON* was completed in February 2011. The document included a recommendation on establishing the ‘SAON Council’ which was subsequently renamed ‘SAON Board’, and Tom Armstrong (USA) and David Hik have been appointed Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board, respectively.

The SAON Board is composed of national representatives from the Arctic countries as well as representatives from other participating countries, participating AC Working Groups (WGs), Permanent Participant organizations (PPs) and IASC.

The goal of SAON is to enhance Arctic-wide observing activities by facilitating partnership and synergies among existing observing and data networks, and to promote sharing and synthesis of data and information. SAON will be implemented as a task-based activity, and the implementation plan currently lists 17 multinational tasks (so-called ‘building blocks’). Each task must address the following questions: 1) What do we collect, 2) How do we collect, 3) How do we integrate, and 4) How do we share.

Tom Armstrong presented the work plan and explained the structure of SAON. SAON will be organized as an activity under the co-sponsorship of the Arctic Council (AC) and the Arctic Science Committee (IASC). SAON is meant to be an enabler and empowerer. The SAON’s website is www.arcticobserving.org.

The Chair wished Tom Armstrong luck and looks forward to the outcome of the first Board meeting.

11.2 *Work in progress, Tasks, website, etc.*

11.3 *New Initiatives*

The first SAON Board meeting will be held in Tromsø, Norway, 24-25 January 2012, back to back with the Arctic Frontier conference (<http://www.arcticfrontiers.com/>). The meeting is expected to focus on integration and synthesis issues. Countries that had not yet nominated their members of the board were encouraged to do so. Several countries described their nominations processes and stated that nomination were on the way. The Secretariat was requested to follow up on this.

Progress reports for the SAON tasks were meant to be provided by 1 October 1, 2011. Only a few groups have been provided reports. The Secretariat was requested to follow up on this.

12 AMAP's new web page

12.1 Demonstration and comments

Simon Wilson presented a demonstration of the current state of development of the new AMAP web site. He informed the WG that the work to develop the new web site had been delayed during the start of the year due to other priorities but that the work was now proceeding. He noted that it is now up to AMAP to fill in site content and that the Secretariat would start doing this as soon as possible. The site will be officially released when the first Phase of the development has been completed – planned for the end of the year – and then additional components will be implemented during Phase 2 early in 2012.

The Chair informed the WG about the discussions at the WG Chair meeting September 26-27 about the relationship between the AC web site and other WGs websites. One proposal was that, where possible, the sites should have a common profile to explain, for example, the relationship between AC and WG, and added that this is something that we have to take into account in developing AMAP's website content. Simon Wilson noted that this would be taken into account; however the AMAP website development should not be further delayed in order to wait for decisions on the AC website. The AC Secretariat would send out an invitation to a first workshop on development of websites and AC communication and outreach. The WG requested that Simon Wilson should participate in this activity on behalf of AMAP (see also agenda item 1.4).

13 The AMAP Implementation Plan

13.1 The Assessment strategy; Discussion – status and follow up work of the updated AMAP Guidelines for assessments

13.2 The Monitoring Programme for Trends and Effects of contaminants, climate and human health; Discussion - status and follow up work of the updated AMAP monitoring programme

Lars-Otto Reiersen referred to the expert meeting held in San Francisco 8-10 February 2010 and its follow-up. Two documents describing the AMAP implementation plan were under preparation concerning the AMAP Assessment Strategy and the AMAP Monitoring Programme. Latest drafts of these documents were presented in, respectively, meeting documents [WG25/13/1] and [WG25/13/2]. These documents were not for approval at this stage, but should be reviewed, and comments should be provided to the Secretariat. The monitoring programme document would be further updated by Roland Kallenborn (Norway) and Peter Murdock (USA). A planned expert meeting in Ottawa to develop this document has been cancelled due to problems with participation by relevant experts.

A major challenge for future AMAP work is how to deliver assessments results faster. One possible option is to work together with the Arctic Report Card. The USA noted that this question is also crucial for the ACA.

Iceland noted that ensuring the quality of the data and assessment products is important and this is part of the reason why assessments take time to produce. The USA agreed that the balance between quality and timeliness and responsiveness is important. Quality is paramount, and should never be compromised.

Lars-Otto Reiersen mentioned that the 2011 mercury assessment had been prepared as a question-based assessment, which made parts of the work more efficient.

13.3 The AMAP expert groups; climate, contaminants, human health, etc. Reorganization and re-vitalization and nomination where necessary

Presentations were made by two expert groups: Solveig Dysvik of the AMAP Radioactivity Group presented “AMAP radioactivity group - priorities” and Jan Øyvind Odland co-chair of the AMAP Human Health Assessment Group made a presentation titled “Improvement of human life in the Arctic in a changing climate and environment”.

The presentation of the AMAP Radioactivity Expert Group listed new potential sources of radioactivity to the Arctic, including 1) New potential sources from the nuclear and non-nuclear industry, 2) The Fukushima accident, 3) Climate change with special focus on extreme weather and thawing of permafrost, and 4) Acidification of the oceans. The group’s priority is to: 1) follow the progress of risk reducing actions in the Arctic, 2) extend the monitoring programme and 3) further develop the Radioactivity Thematic Data Centre (TDC).

In the years following the first AMAP assessment, the amount of data delivered to the TDC had declined substantially. The AMAP WG was asked to address this in order to provide a good basis for future assessment work

The AMAP Expert Group on Radioactivity will strengthen the cross disciplinary cooperation by increasing efforts toward assessing combined effects of multiple stressors, taking an ecosystem-based approach. The group will also assess the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on radioecology in the Arctic.

In the following discussion, Russia thanked Solveig Dysvik for the presentation. Russia will monitor radioactivity during a cruise in 2012 and has also organized a cruise look monitor contamination from the Fukushima accident. Russia called on the WG to enhance its activities on assessments of Arctic radioactivity with greater involvement from all arctic countries. They noted that there had been no representative from USA at recent AMAP radioactivity expert group meetings and that US representation was particularly desirable.

The Netherlands commented on the data situation in the radioactivity TDC. The decline in the data submissions after the 1990’s, had created difficulties for the 2009 assessment.

Lars-Otto Reiersen noted that this applies to all assessment related data. Countries have unfortunately appeared to have down prioritized their activities aimed at securing submission of national data. Assessments such as the 2009 radioactivity assessment clearly show that the effort on the decommissioning has been fruitful and the same applies to other contaminants, but data supply is essential for these assessments.

In response to a question from Japan, the Chair informed that the Fukushima accident has not yet been addressed from an Arctic perspective in AMAP radioactivity assessments.

Norway noted that it is increasingly difficult to get experts actively involved in the radioactivity work. The Chair asked e countries to provide (re)nominations of national experts to the Radioactivity group before the next meeting in February.

In the presentation from the AMAP Human Health Assessment Group (HHAG), the group outlined the many factors that affect human health with emphasis on direct exposure, indirect exposure and social and economic disruption. Climate change has an impact on many of these factors. Perspectives on health and well-being in a changing climate cover wide ranging topics such as injury prevention, mental health, life-style diseases, food and water security, energy security, infectious diseases, and contaminants. The group intends to build on existing and ongoing programs, including the cooperation with the SDWG HHEG. The next AMAP HHAG meeting would take place on the Faroe Islands later in October 2011.

Lars-Otto Reiersen noted that there are two expert groups addressing human health in the Arctic, the AMAP HHAG and SDWG HHEG, and noted with satisfaction that in the communication between these groups is improving dialogue. He further asked about the work to update human health components in the AMAP implementation plan document with the hope that this will be an outcome of the Faroe Islands work.

Jan Øyvind Odland noted that a whitepaper exists and that this also fits well with the ongoing work on the ACA.

The Chair noted that any plans for the activities under the AMAP HHAG (including joint activities with the SDWG HHEG) must be provided to the AMAP WG for their review and approval, also to ensure that the WG is informed with respect to coordination issues.

Denmark also emphasized that the planned joint work on food and water security must be approved by both working groups. Denmark further noted that the white paper is from 2009, and probably needs to be upgraded in the light of the new cooperation. Denmark asked if it is relevant to better distinguish the issues that the respective AMAP and SDWG health groups are working with.

Jan Øyvind Odland agreed that the white paper is now 2 years old and must be updated. In respect to the ACA, the component on human health and wellbeing is updated. He promised to complete the white paper update for the February meeting.

Finland asked for clarification on what the next assessment or product of the HHAG would be, and whether this would have implications for monitoring (e.g. if AMAP needs to establish new monitoring and sampling initiatives, and whether more national monitoring activities are required).

Jan Øyvind Odland replied that no additional types of monitoring need to be added. Blood samples are sufficient. Breast milk has been attempted, but has practical implications. However, gaps still exist on the geographical level.

IPS mentioned that the AMAP HHAG and SDWG HHEG have established a planning/expert group with the task to prepare an overview on water and food security and to identify research projects on these matters.

The Chair asked for more information on coordination and the process for review of this initiative, and reiterated that any proposed projects must come through the Working Group.

Mikala Klint (Denmark) noted that she has received the document as a member of the SDWG HHEG. She suggested that the final paper should be circulated within both working groups.

The WG endorsed this suggestion and agreed that the document should be reviewed at the next meeting

As a final remark, Jan Øyvind Odland noted that there is an effort to involve new experts into the expert groups.

The Secretariat was requested to prepare an overview of the current membership of all the expert groups to better allow countries to identify gaps and nominate expert to make the groups active.

The Chair provided a short overview of the current structure and status of AMAP's Expert Groups as a basis for further discussing the AMAP WG structure. The following expert groups are active; POPs, Mercury, Climate, Human Health, Short Lived Climate Forcers, Arctic Ocean Acidification and Radioactivity. The Oil and Gas expert group is dormant and there is a need to consider if it should be activated. The (atmospheric) acidification group is dormant and could probably remain so with its work areas now partly being addressed by other groups. In addition there is SAON Board and the new group on Unmanned Aircraft Systems. The SWIPA group is closing down, but AMAP may need to consider if there is a need for the SWIPA IT to do further work to contribute to e.g. ACA. In addition, there may be a need for a new group on combined effects and an assessment coordination team should be considered. The Chair ended his presentation by asking the meeting if there is a need to adjust the current structure.

Lars-Otto Reiersen suggested that one possibility might be to define an overarching assessment steering structure supported by a multidisciplinary pool of experts that could be called on depending on the work to be done. A steering structure has shown advantages in some past work, e.g. the AMAP Assessment Steering Group (ASG), ACIA steering group, SWIPA integration team, etc.

Denmark noted that no conclusion was reached on this at the San Francisco meeting in 2010. Earlier there has been an open nomination process in contrast to 'fixed membership' expert groups, but it is not obvious how this structure would fit with e.g. an ACA.

The Chair noted that having fixed groups and an expert pool are not necessarily mutually exclusive.

Iceland noted that scientists need a structured way of doing this. Equally important is the flexibility of having access to the best scientist. A balance is needed.

Norway noted that constructing a new steering committee may not be cost-effective. Hiring people from task to task may be more efficient.

The USA asked what the mandate is and noted that this will drive the structure. If ACA is to become a process then one question is whether the current structure would support this. The USA supported the idea of an expert pool, which could also facilitate the recruitment of young scientists.

Canada welcomed the need for a reevaluation of the expert group membership and topics. Some of the groups were established to meet specific needs and these groups should be time

limited. This contrasts with groups engaged in AMAP 'core business'. ACA should help confirm if some groups need to be amalgamated or new ones established.

The Chair noted that in addition to doing work that could contribute to an ACA, some groups are also providing services to other important processes, for example, the mercury and POPs groups whose work feeds into the UNEP INC and Stockholm Convention processes.

Finland noted that there is a need to be flexible on this question in order to be able to close down and establish new groups as needs change.

The Faroe Islands had experience of situations where scientists wanted to contribute, but saw no way to easily 'enter' into the assessment processes, and therefore requested better information on possible routes into the system.

The Chair concluded that a decision will not be made on this stage, but that this is an issue that the Working Group will return to and that the topic should be included on the agenda for the February HoDs meeting.

It was agreed that the Secretariat should develop a document to support this discussion. This discussion paper should also address how expert groups are implemented and function in the various countries and how young scientists could be involved in the work.

To assist the Secretariat in preparing the document, countries were requested to submit a brief (half-page) note describing how their national experts contribute to the AMAP work and the expert groups.

13.4 Arctic Report Card, AMAP's involvement and future cooperation

Lars-Otto Reiersen informed the WG about the meeting held in Boulder, CO, USA in May 2011, and the wish expressed at that meeting that AMAP be even more involved in the production of the Arctic Report Card, in particular in relation to providing support for the peer review process. This could be a useful way to bring AMAP information to a wider public. At the same time, he noted a concern that the expansion of the Report Card to cover pollution and human health issues could result in overlap and duplication with AMAPs own assessment activities.

The USA noted that the Arctic Report Card falls under the Global Research Program, and that that it is currently the subject of a potential conflict with the US Information Quality Act. The USA would provide further information on the outcome of this and would investigate if there are problems with NOAA or any other US institutes Norway was concerned that there is a long way from generation of data through assessment to publication of products. There are calls to speed up the production of results but this is not always straightforward if products are to be sound and properly reviewed, etc.

Lars-Otto Reiersen noted that the SAO chair is particularly interested to see faster delivery of results. AMAP have agreed to provide a peer review on the 2011 Arctic report card, which is expected to come out in November / December.

It was agreed that the WG would further consider how AMAP might engage in and benefit from collaboration on the Arctic Report Card and that a discussion on this should continue at

the next HoDs meeting. This item should therefore be added to the agenda for the February meeting.

14 AMAP NIPs and AMAP PD

14.1 Ongoing and planned National activities relevant for the AMAP and ACA work to be reported online and orally

Simon Wilson informed the meeting that he was not aware that any countries had provided updated NIP documents for the meeting. The AMAP online Project Directory (PD) currently registers about 275 AMAP projects and about 500 other projects. He noted that Sweden has recently updated its registrations in the AMAP PD and called on other countries to do the same. Information is entered/updated in the PD directly by individuals responsible for the projects and appears immediately in the online system.

Norway asked if the SAON projects are in the PD. The response was that for the most part this is not yet the case. Norway further informed that they have established a new monitoring station at Andøya and that a new report on monitoring activities in the Barents Sea has been published. The Norwegian Climate and pollution Directorate (Klif) are in the process revising their monitoring programmes and this will strengthen monitoring of SLCF and climate. They have also established an overall forum for hazardous substances issues and Klif has an annual screening activity for new contaminants in the north that is currently focusing on octyl-and nonyl phenols and pesticides.

The USA and Russia stated that they will provide updated NIPs information to the Secretariat and/or enter it into the PD. From the Russian side this will describe information on expeditions from 2009-2011 to Svalbard and the Russian the North Pole Expedition.

Sweden informed about a coming expedition to Taymir in Russia, a geological project on Svalbard, and (hopefully) an icebreaker expedition to the north of Greenland (including work on plankton, bottom mapping, pollution, etc.). Information is available at the Swedish Polar Institute <http://www.polar.se/>.

Morten S. Olsen confirmed that Denmark will also submit updated project information to the AMAP PD. He asked about possibilities to link Satellite data into the PD and how the PD is used for AMAP and SAON purposes.

Simon Wilson answered that the AMAP PD compiles information about monitoring and research activities; it is not a data archive but includes information about where data are archived and this is supplied to experts engaged in AMAP assessments. At present AMAP use of satellite data is limited, although some AMAP assessments include significant contributions based on satellite data analyses. Originally, the AMAP PD was established to support AMAP Expert Groups in their work, and it could also be used to support SAON work.

The Chair encouraged all countries to submit information about their NIPs to the AMAP Secretariat and to update the project directory on an annual basis, and requested that information should be submitted before the end of 2011. He reminded all delegates that there national programmes are the core of the AMAP circumpolar monitoring programme.

14.2 Priority work proposed by expert groups, e.g. human health, SLCF, etc.
See Agenda item 3 for Mercury, 4 for SLCF, 13.3 for AHHG and radioactivity for 8 for UAS.

15 The CBMP

15.1 *The work in progress*

Four CBMP expert groups have been established: marine, freshwater, terrestrial and coastal. The CBMP is an ecosystem-based site-based network of networks covering species and habitats. The integrated biodiversity monitoring plan that is under development covers synthesis of information and reporting designed to meet management and monitoring objectives on a core set of circumpolar parameters and indicators.

The CBMP was initiated after a meeting in 2005 in Ottawa and started to work on the basis of existing national programs. The different components are in different stages of development.

The Chair noted that CBMP development seems to be going well and appreciate that CBMP is expanding from marine to terrestrial and freshwater. AMAP is also further developing its biological monitoring program and duplication of effort should be avoided. At the national level, however, this usually works well and national coordination was therefore identified as the key to integrating the AMAP and CBMP programmes. In the same way that AMAP experts have been asked to provide input to the CBMP, CAFF experts could contribute to the work to further develop AMAP's biological effects monitoring components. AMAP wants to work with CBMP in a collaborative manner.

Lars-Otto Reiersen noted that the AC has been keen that AMAP and CAFF develop a coordinated monitoring programme, and that work on this has been ongoing for several years. AMAP has received a request to provide expertise for the CBMP terrestrial group meeting that will take place in October 2012, but has not yet received any request concerning the freshwater component.

15.2 *AMAP experts involvement*

15.3 *How to use the programme*

Finland appreciated this description of the CBMP development as a realistic and constructive approach that AMAP could support. Since CAFF is constructing its programme at the same time that AMAP is updating its programme opportunities for coordination exist. Finland expressed concern about how to ensure that there is no duplication of work and that CBMP should not attempt to address pollution monitoring issues. Communication is needed to avoid duplication of effort and Finland repeated that coordination at the national level is essential in this respect. Canada also noted that this is an opportunity to capitalize and to continue in a sustained way. The ACA proposal demonstrates the need for a collaborative effort.

Lars-Otto Reiersen emphasized the need to ensure that the biological effects monitoring that AMAP has already developed is not duplicated in the CBMP.

The Chair noted that biodiversity is an integrating component and that SAON is also a forum for coordination. Denmark supported this.

The role of SAON in this context was discussed. Part of the role of SAON is to facilitate the exchange of data. SAON should provide a forum where experts from AMAP and CAFF can meet, build synergy and fill gaps and avoid duplication should be avoided. The ACA concept implies a need for monitoring across sectors.

AMAP have received requests from CAFF to nominate experts to the CBMP marine group and that AMAP experts would also be needed for the CBMP terrestrial and freshwater groups.

The deadline for this is end of November. The WG agreed that this was a national responsibility and that national experts (rather than AMAP or CAFF experts) should be identified. Some of these experts could then act as liaisons between AMAP and CBMP and serve to ensure appropriate communication. The AMAP and CAFF/CBMP Secretariats should make more efforts to ensure the necessary exchange of documents and information on planned meetings, etc.

16 AMAP's workplan for 2011-2013 and beyond:

16.1 Ongoing and new Monitoring programmes

See point 16.2.

16.2 Ongoing and new Assessment programmes

The Chair informed that several issues on AMAP's workplan have been discussed under other agenda items, that implementation is proceeding according to plan. A number of work items are due to be completed by 2013.

16.3 AMAP's communication and outreach plan

The Chair informed that the AC is working on a communication and outreach plan and that this is one of the main priorities for the Swedish chairmanship. This will also be an issue at the SAO meeting in November. Simon Wilson has been a member of the contact group on this issue and responsible for providing AMAP input into this process to date. He asked whether AMAP should therefore be developing its own communication and outreach plan now or first wait for the AC plan to be finalized? The Chair's recommendation was the latter, in order to have an AMAP communication and outreach plan that is compatible with the overall plan from the AC.

Sweden was asked whether there is any news on the status of the AC communication and outreach plan and replied that they have no more details at this time, but offered to provide more information if needed. The Chair agreed to ask the AC Chair for further information when they would speak later in the week.

Shannon Headland (Canada) informed that the communication and outreach plan is also priority for Canada and that Canada was the only member state who has so far nominated an expert for this work as requested by the Swedish Chairmanship. She encouraged all countries to do the same. See also informed the meeting, that further work will be based on papers developed last year.

USA mentioned that they have developed a US specific communication and outreach strategy that may be useful and offered to distribute this to all HoDs. They also indicated an interest in nominating experts to participate in a small (AMAP) task group to look into AMAP communication and outreach issues.

The Chair encouraged countries to send relevant national plans to the AMAP Secretariat. He then asked the meeting if the way forward is to establish an AMAP task group now or take this step by step starting with gathering national plans.

In the following discussion Norway was supportive to establish an AMAP communications and outreach task group, and informed that they will look into identifying a Norwegian expert to contribute to this work. The USA informed that they have a person available that can

contribute. Finland reminded the WG that this had also been discussed at the AMAP meeting in San Francisco and that Finland had nominated two persons for this work. They will look into reconfirming the availability of these experts. Finland also noted that CAFF has now appointed a media officer in their Secretariat.

Morten S. Olsen (Denmark) suggested that the AMAP secretariat should develop a paper on status on AMAPs work on communication and outreach so far and that a lead country needs to be identified to take this work forward.

Lars-Otto Reiersen stated that this is something that AMAP has struggled with for several years, communication and outreach activities have been developed in connection with specific assessments and attempts have been made to engage PPs in this work. The human health group have done some work in this connection that may be useful.

The USA highlighted the importance of educational material as a component of communication and outreach, especially on climate change issues. A clear understanding of the target recipients and a need for a person working full time on these issues is essential. Denmark added that is important that the AMAP secretariat is involved in this work as well. What is communicated is important. The new AMAP website is the first step in working on communication and outreach and it is important to get the new site released as soon as possible.

The Chair concluded that preparing an outline plan is a good place to start and that he will ask the Secretariat to work on this together with USA to prepare a paper for the HoD meeting in February.

16.4 Special projects; Arctic 2020, ArcRisk, Combined Effects, etc.

A short presentation of the Russian initiative “Arctic Agenda 2020” was given by Yuri Sychev (Russia). He explained that this is an initiative that is cooperation between the Russian Federation and GEF on Sustainable Management in the Arctic. This program is divided into 6 main components; one will be on Siberian Rivers and this is the primary component of interest for AMAP. POPs are not included in this initiative since Russia had not ratified the Stockholm Convention at the time when the proposal was submitted. The total amount of funding for this programme is estimated at about 300 million USD.

Lars-Otto Reiersen made reference to the River Basin Management project component that had been developed by AMAP. He noted that a request for co-sponsoring may be circulated at some point.

Yuri Tsaturov (Russia) agreed with the Lars-Otto Reiersen. He informed that Roshydromet is actively engaged in this project and has provided funding for the project in the past and will continue the support for at least the Siberian River project which is related to AMAP activities. He noted that a workshop had been held in St. Petersburg concerning the River Basin Management project.

Lars-Otto Reiersen called on countries with large northern rivers to consider establishing similar projects that could contribute to a wider scale circum-arctic activity on river basin management. Canada supported this proposal and suggested that the issue of project cooperation in this connection should be revisited at a future AMAP meeting.

The USA noted that funding for a proposed Yukon River basin project had not been allocated, but that if Russia and Canada were interested in developing a collaborative project on (large Arctic) river management this might be reconsidered.

Mikala Klint (Denmark) congratulated Russia for its recent ratification of the Stockholm Convention. She also asked if the Arctic Agenda 2020 presentation could be made available on the AMAP website, and the project's GEF application made available if this is possible.

Lars-Otto Reiersen provided a briefing on the ArcRisk project [WG25/16.4/1] and the NCM combined effects project [WG25/16.5.1].

16.5 Cooperation with AC WGs

Task Force on Ecosystem based management

Lars-Otto Reiersen informed the WG that AMAP is not listed nor invited to attend the planned EBM workshop in Washington 17-18 October, arranged by the EBM Task Force. He therefore asked whether the US HoD was planning to attend and could represent AMAP. The US HoD agreed to do this.

Finland made a reference to the document WG25/16.5/2 and informed that AMAP is not listed in this paper but is identified in the paper from the Nuuk Ministerial that relates to the EBM TF decision. ACA was seen as an activity with potentially strong links to the EBM TF.

The Chair concluded that he would discuss this issue with the AC Chair and ask why AMAP is not included in this work when other WGs are.

PAME

See agenda item 7- AMSA IIc

CAFF

Cooperation with CAFF was discussed at a joint meeting 5 October. See Appendix 5.

ACAP

The Executive Secretary participated at the ACAP WG meeting. See also Agenda item 4.4-SLCF.

SDWG

See agenda item 13- AHHG.

EPPR

Lars-Otto Reiersen will attend the EPPR workshop in Oslo 19-20 October and coordinate with EPPR on issues relating to the Oil and Gas assessment follow-up activities.

The Chair informed that the AC Chair had emphasized the importance of WGs participating in each other WGs meetings during the WG chair meeting in Stockholm 19-20 September.

16.6 Cooperation with international organizations, UNEP, UN ECE/LRTAP, EU, OSPAR, ICES, etc.

Cooperation with other international organizations was discussed under other agenda items see agenda item 3 and 4.

16.7 The International Polar Decade

Yuri Tsaturov (Russia) informed about the status of the IPD initiative. At the IPD workshop 14-15 April 2011, attended by several countries and international organizations, a strategy was identified. WMO has stated that they will support this initiative if supported by other organizations. The IPY 2012 conference will provide good arena for promoting the IPD initiative.

The Chair emphasized that the IPD will be raised at the upcoming SAO meeting and added that AMAP will have lot to contribute if this initiative goes forward. He also informed that there have been some discussions about changing the name. AMAP will continue to get updates on IPD initiative at future meetings.

16.8 AMAP report to the SAO meeting in November

The Chair informed that some changes have been made to the draft agenda for the SAO meeting that affect AMAP. SAON has been removed from the agenda since the SAON Board meeting will not take place until January 2012. SAON will therefore be on the agenda for the SAO meeting in spring 2012. New items on the agenda concern the INC3 and the AOA.

17 Messages from Observing countries on their AMAP related activities.

Tetsuo Ohata, representing Japan, expressed his appreciation to the Chair for inviting Japan to the WG and informed that Japan has delivered a formal application to be an observer to the Arctic Council. He gave a presentation of research and monitoring activities in the Arctic region by Japan. These activities included: work at the monitoring station for CO₂ and methane on Svalbard conducted since 1992, activities in Siberia such as the JAMSTEC (Japanese collaboration with Russia and USA), and Arctic Ocean Climate System Studies. A new Arctic research program titled GRENE-Green Network of Excellence (name still to be confirmed) will run from 2011-2015. This program will be lead by the Japanese Consortium for Arctic Environmental Research, JCAR.

Michele Rebesco (Italy) also expressed his appreciation for the invitation to the AMAP WG meeting. He informed that the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is coordinating work to prepare an overview of Italian activities in the Arctic for submission to the Arctic Council. He also informed that he would look into the availability of Italian experts to participate in AMAP expert groups, in particular identified the methane expert group where his institute is involved in work on methane flux studies from permafrost areas.

Nikolaj Bock representing the EEA informed that they have received a letter from the Swedish Chairmanship about resubmitting their application for AC observership based on the new AC observer criteria, and that the EEA will send in this new application as requested. He also informed about the Arctic Strategy that is under development in the EU. EEA has been active in the field of remote sensing of the Arctic, and have planned to meet with CAFF in this connection. They also hope to be able to access information from groups such as AMAP. An EEA report *An Assessment of Assessment* was released in 21 September 2011 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/europes-environment-aoa>). This report provides a comprehensive overview of available sources of environmental information across the region. He also offered EEAs assistance in SAON.

The Netherlands stated that they will continue their work which has supported a number of AMAP assessments, including GIS and graphical production support. Netherlands is currently updating its information on national Arctic research activities. The Netherlands offered to host the next meeting in the AOA Expert Group in February.

The Chair thanked all observers for sharing information and informed that AMAP expert groups are open to nominations and contributions, also from observing countries.

18 Next WG meeting and upcoming conferences, workshops of interest for AMAP, e.g. The IPY 2012 Conference in Canada – AMAP contribution

The IPY 2012 Conference will take place in Montreal, Canada on April 22-27. There was a discussion on how AMAP would like to contribute to the conference. The Chair provided an overview based on a presentation by Catherine Wilson. AMAP is likely to have a significant presence at the IPY 2012 Conference, including a booth where AMAP products will be distributed, and a number of presentations (in various sessions) related to AMAP assessment work (on SWIPA, mercury and human health in particular). AMAP should strive to showcase all the latest findings on physical, social and health related aspects of the Arctic, including findings relevant to indigenous peoples. He also noted the deadline for abstracts which had been extended to 7 October.

Tom Amstrong (USA) informed that there will be limited participation from US agencies at the IPY 2012 Conference due to limited funding. He recommended that there would be some arrangements through AMAP. He also informed that, together with David Hik, he was working on an abstract on SAON the activities for the Conference.

Morten Olsen (Denmark) informed that Denmark has also used all its available funding for conferences in connection with the AMAP Conference in May. There is a possibility that the Montreal Conference would be used as an opportunity to convene the SWIPA IT. He informed that SWIPA abstracts had been submitted to the conference by AMAP and the SWIPA IT leads and that SWIPA authors have been encouraged to do the same. The Greenlandic Monitoring Centre has submitted abstracts and there will be a side-event on the Greenlandic ecosystem.

The Chair informed that several e-mails have been sent to AMAP researchers to encourage them to submit abstracts and that several AMAP abstracts will be submitted.

Canada stated that they have a significant effort ongoing to host the IPY 2012 Conference and that there will be a number of programs presented at the conference. The IPY Conference is an opportunity for AMAP to showcase its work. He recommended that AMAP present its latest reports at the IPY conference.

Russia informed that they are submitting abstracts and will use the conference for promoting the International Polar Decade and that they will collaborate actively with other international organizations like WMO, UNEP and IUCN.

Lars-Otto Reiersen informed that the health group will be well represented at the conference

Per Døyle informed that Norway, at the moment, does not have any possibilities to provide scientist with funding to support their participation at the Montreal Conference, but that there may be some possibilities in the budget for next year.

Sweden offered to make a contribution (100 000 SEK, approximately 14 000 USD) in order to support AMAP in becoming an official sponsor to the conference IPY 2012.

The Chair summed up the discussions and agreed to send out the list of abstracts and detailed Conference programme when it is available to provide the WG with an overview of who is doing what at the conference. AMAP appears to be well represented at the conference with abstracts submitted by AMAP expert on climate, human health and contaminants; 5-6 AMAP HoDs are also likely to attend. AMAP will set up a booth at the meeting and is a co-sponsor of the event.

Next AMAP WG meeting

The next AMAP meeting will be an extended AMAP HoDs meeting in Victoria BC, Canada, tentatively scheduled for early-February 2012.

The Chair informed that there is an offer from Sweden to host the next full AMAP WG meeting in Stockholm in fall of 2012, most likely in October. The WG agreed to accept these kind invitations from Canada and Sweden.

19 Any other business

Mikala Klint (Denmark) mentioned an IMO conference related to environmental stresses that has been held in Cambridge and may be of interest for ACA. She will circulate minutes from this conference when they are available.

Denmark also briefly informed about the Arctic Strategy for the Kingdom of Denmark. This is the first joint strategy for Greenland, Faroe Islands and Denmark.

Denmark will also take over the Chairmanship in the European Union on 1 January 2012 and will therefore hold the Chairmanship during the INC4 in Uruguay, and has also been requested to assist during the period of the INC5 in 2013.

20 End of the meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 12:15 and encouraged the participants to join the guided tour of the Kremlin that had been arranged by the Russian hosts.

Annex 1

AMAP 25th Working Group meeting **Marco Polo Presjina hotel, Moscow, 3-5th October**

Up Draft agenda (29.09.11)

Regarding requests to the WG, please see the background papers.

Monday 3rd

0900 1. Opening of the WG meeting

- 1.1. Welcome statements
- 1.2. Practical information
- 1.3. Approval of the Agenda
- 1.4. Actions from last AMAP WG meeting and the Ministerial meeting
- 1.5. Administrative arrangements

0930 2. SWIPA: Science and Layman reports and the Films

- 2.1. Status for the production, distribution and Outreach
- 2.2. Lessons learned from the SWIPA process
- 2.3. Follow up priorities of SWIPA
- 2.2. COP-17 involvement

1030 – 1100 Health break

1100 3. The Mercury reports and Films

- 3.1. Status of the production and distribution and Outreach
- 3.2. A new production cooperation between AMAP and UNEP Chemicals
- 3.3. Cooperation and production for INC-3 in October and INC-4
- 3.4. Report from the Mercury conference in Halifax (July 2011)

1130 4. AMAP Short Lived Climate Forces (SLCF) report

- 4.1. Status for the production of the 2011 report
- 4.2. The plans for the 2013 reports, Black Carbon, Ozone and Methane
- 4.3. The establishment of a new expert group of Methane, co-chairs to be decided
- 4.4. Cooperation with other international organizations like LRTAP, UNEP and the AC Task Force and the ACAP projects

1230 – 1330 Lunch

1330 5. Arctic Ocean Acidification Assessment (AOA)

- 5.1. Status for the production
- 5.2. Draft content, gaps and actions needed, the financial situation
- 5.3. Plan for the AOA Outreach

1500 - 1530 Health break

1530 6. The Oil and Gas assessment

- 6.1. Status for the production of the last volume
- 6.2. Outreach for the OGA report

6.3. AMAP follow up work related to OGA, updating, coop with ACAP etc.

1600 7. AMSA II C

7.1. Status for the production

7.2. Outreach, availability of maps, data, etc. and update

1700 8. Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

8.1. Status for the report preparation and further plans

8.2. Results from the Svalbard workshop and related activities

1730 9. AMAP May Conference and the cooperation with APECS

9.1. Summing up, lesson learned and future cooperation (MoU)

1800 End of the day

1900 Reception

Tuesday 4th

0830 10. ACA and ARR

10.1. Status for the work, the involvement of Stakeholders and other relevant partners, web site, etc.

10.2. Plan for the ACA work, recommendations from the Scoping workshop, content, time schedule, ongoing relevant activities, gaps, the financial situation, etc.

10.3. Recommendations to the SAO meeting in November

1030 - 1100 Health break

1100 10. ACA and ARR cont.

1230 - 1330 Lunch

1330 11. SAON

11.1. Status for the process

11.2. Work in progress, Tasks, website, etc.

11.3. New Initiatives

1500 - 1530 Coffee break

1530 12. AMAP's new web page

12.1. Demonstration and comments

1600 13. The AMAP Implementation Plan

13.1. The Assessment strategy;

Discussion – status and follow up work of the updated AMAP Guidelines for assessments

13.2. The Monitoring Programme for Trends and Effects of contaminants, climate and human health;

Discussion - status and follow up work of the updated AMAP monitoring programme

13.3. The AMAP expert groups; climate, contaminants, human health, etc.
Reorganization and re-vitalization and nomination where necessary

13.4. Arctic Report Card, AMAP's involvement and future cooperation

14. AMAP NIPs and AMAP PD

14.1. Ongoing and planned National activities relevant for the AMAP and ACA work to be reported online and oral

14.2. Priority work proposed by expert groups, e.g. human health, SLCF, etc.

1730 15. The CBMP

15.1. The work in progress,

15.2. AMAP experts involvement

15.3. How to use the programme

1800 End of day 2.

1930 WG dinner

Wednesday 5th

0830 16. AMAP's workplan for 2011-2013 and beyond:

16.1. Ongoing and new Monitoring programmes

16.2. Ongoing and new Assessment programmes

16.3. AMAP's communication and outreach plan

16.4. Special projects; Arctic 2020, ArcRisk, Combined Effects, etc.

16.5. Cooperation with AC WGs

16.6. Cooperation with international organizations, UNEP, UNECE/LRTAP, EU, OSPAR, ICES, etc.

16.7. The International Polar Decade

16.8. AMAP report to the SAO meeting in November

1030 – 1100 Health break

1100 16. AMAP's workplan for 2011-2013 and beyond: cont.

17. Messages from Observing countries on their AMAP related activities.

18. Next WG meeting and upcoming conferences, workshops of interest for AMAP, e.g. The IPY 2012 Conference in Canada – AMAP contribution

19. Any other business

20. End of the meeting

1230 – 1530 Tour in the Kremlin, including Lunch

1530 CAFF-AMAP meeting

Co-chaired by Russel Shearer and Evgeny Syroechkovskiy

To provide a status update on the following items and an update on AMAP and CAFF inputs into these various issues.

1. Arctic Council

- a. The Nuuk Ministerial
 - b. The Swedish Chairmanship - *Swedish representatives to CAFF and AMAP*
 - c. The Arctic Change Assessment scoping workshop – *CAFF/AMAP Secretariats*
 - d. Arctic Resilience project - *Swedish representatives to CAFF and AMAP*
 - e. Ecosystem based management Task force – *US representatives to CAFF and AMAP*
2. **AMSA IIC** project on marine sensitive areas - *Project co-lead Inge Thaulow*
 3. **SAON** - *Tom Armstrong SAON Chair*
 4. **Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme** – *Trish Hayes Canada*
 - a. Coordination with AMAP revised monitoring programmes – *AMAP*
 5. **The Arctic Biodiversity Assessment** – *Mark Marissink ABA Chair*
 6. **AMAP Assessments** e.g. Ocean acidification – *AMAP*
 7. **Any other business and upcoming workshops** - *CAFF and AMAP Chairs*
 8. **Joint follow-up and next steps** - *CAFF and AMAP Chairs*

1800 End of meeting

Annex 2

AMAP 25th Working Group Meeting, Moscow, Russia, 3 – 5 October 2011 Final List of Participants:

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|------|-------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|

Annex 3

List of Documents for the AMAP 25th Working Group Meeting

| Ref. | Title | Notes |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| WG25/1/1 | Updated Draft Agenda | Version 19 Sept. |
| WG25/1/2 | Draft WG25 List of Participants | Version 21 Sept. |
| WG25/1/3 | Draft WG25 List of Documents | Version 21 Sept. |
| WG25/1.4/1 | Nuuk Ministerial Declaration | |
| WG25/1.4/2 | Nuuk SAO Report | |
| WG25/1.4/3 | SAO Chair's meeting with Working Group Chairs, Stockholm, 26-27 Sep 2011 Summary | |
| WG25/2/1 | SWIPA status for AMAP WG25, October 4-6, 2011 | Distributed in e-mail 9 Sept. |
| WG25/2/2 | SWIPA Follow-up: Proposal for a scoping workshop | |
| WG 25/3/1 | AMAP Activities on Mercury | Distributed in e-mail 9 Sept. |
| WG25/4.2/1 | AMAP Expert Group on Short-Lived Climate Forcers Work Plan 2011 – 2015 | Version 9 Sept. |
| WG25/4.3/1 | Proposed Scope and Activities for a Methane Expert Group | |
| WG25/5/1 | Arctic Ocean Acidification (AOA) Progress report to AMAP WG 25 in Moscow 3-6.10.11 | |
| WG25/5/2 | Arctic Ocean Acidification (AOA) White Paper Draft Chapter Overview | |
| WG25/6.3 | Proposal Arctic Oil and Gas 2007 Recommendations Matrix Annex (12-16-2010) | |
| WG25/7/1 | AMSA II(C) - Arctic Areas of Heightened Ecological and Cultural Significance. Status Report from Co-Leads of the Project | Version 9 Sept. |
| WG25/9.1/1 | Recommendations from the APECS Shaping the Future of AMAP Workhop, 6 May 2011, Copenhagen Denmark | |
| WG25/9.1/2 | MoU between CAFF and APECS | |
| WG25/10/3 | Meeting of Senior Arctic Officials Luleå 8-9 November 2011 First DRAFT AGENDA | |
| WG25/10.3/1 | Draft ACA Proposal to SAOs Oct. 4 - Updated | |
| WG25/13.1 & 13.2 | Instructions to the Authors and Drafting Groups | |

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| WG25/14.2/1 | AMAP HHAG 35th Meeting Faroe Islands | |
| WG25/16/1 | Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) Work Plan for 2011–2013 with tentative deliverables | |
| WG25/16.4/1 | Status of the NCM Combined Effects Project | |
| WG25/16.4/2 | Status of the EU FP7 project ArcRisk | |
| WG25/16.5/1 | Ecosystem-Based Management for the Arctic Environment Revised Concept Paper for the Senior Arctic Officials | |
| WG25/16.5/2 | Ecosystem-Based Management Arctic Council Expert Group | |
| WG25/16.5/3 | Development of an Arctic Indigenous Marine Use Survey Process | |
| WG25/16.5/4 | Best Practice Prevention (BPP) of marine oil pollution Scoping Workshop: AGENDA draft 20.09.2011 | |
| WG25/16.5/5 | EPPR Working Group Meeting Oslo, Norway, October 21, 2011 | |
| WG25/16.6/1 | AMAP Communication to 35 th Session of the EMEP Steering Board | Distributed in e-mail 9 Sept. |
| WG25/18/1 | Overview of IPY 2012 | Distributed in e-mail 9 Sept. |
| WG25/18/1.1 | Resending: IPY 2012 in Montreal - Call for Abstracts - Deadline - September 30th | Distributed in e-mail 9 Sept. |
| WG25/18/1.2 | Resending and Reminder: IPY 2012 – Possible AMAP Sponsorship | Distributed in e-mail 9 Sept. |
| WG25/18/2 | IPY Prospectus Version 4 April | Distributed in e-mail 9 Sept. |
| WG25/19/1 | Kingdom of Denmark. Strategy for the Arctic 2011-2020 | |

Annex 4

25th Working Group Meeting, October 2011

Action list

| Agenda item | Subject | Action | For | By |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Policy recommendations | Prepare a review of past AMAP recommendations | AMAP Secretariat | 16 January 2012 |
| 3.2 | Mercury | Communicate to UNEP the need for a more detailed project description. | Simon Wilson | 1 November 2011 |
| 4 | SLCF | Send the AMAP Secretariat information about number of hardcopies of the SLCF report required | AMAP HoDs | 15 October 2011 |
| 4 | SLCF | Nominate national O ₃ experts | All | 31 December 2011 |
| 4 | SLCF | Send a request to the SLCF expert group and ask them to make an overview of ongoing activities | | |
| 4 | SLCF | Arrange a meeting between AMAP expert group, ACAP and TF | AMAP Secretariat | Before 8 November 2011 |
| 4.3 | Methane | Nominate national experts and co-chair for the methane group | All | 31 December 2011 |
| 5 | AOA | Develop a proposal to clarify the AOA work and action requested. | AMAP Board | 1 December 2011 |
| 5 | AOA | Nominate national experts for the AOA review | All | 31 December 2011 |
| 6 | OGA | Prepare an outreach plan for volume 1-3 | AMAP Secretariat | 16 January 2012 |
| 6 | OGA | Prepare a plan for the Follow-up work | AMAP Secretariat | 16 January 2012 |
| 8 | UAS | Send out a plan for the report to AMAP WG | UAS Expert Chair Group | 31 December 2011 |
| 9 | APECS | Inform APECS about the outcome regarding the MoU | Lars-Otto Reiersen | 15 November 2011 |
| 11 | SAON | Follow up on the nomination process | Jan-René Larsen | 15 November 2011 |
| 11 | SAON | Follow up on task reports | Jan-René Larsen | 15 November 2011 |
| 12 | Web page | Follow up on the AC website | Simon Wilson | 1 December 2011 |
| 13.3 | AMAP Expert groups | Nominate national experts for the radioactivity group | AMAP HoDs | 16 January 2012 |
| 13.3 | AMAP Expert groups | AMAP HHG to update the white paper and circulate it to AMAP WG and SDWG WG | AHHG | 15 December 2011 |
| 13.3 | AMAP Expert | Send an overview of all | Inger Utne | 16 November |

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| | groups | AMAP Expert groups to HoDs | | 2011 |
| 13.3 | AMAP Expert groups | Put a AMAP Expert Group structure on the agenda for AMAP HoD meeting | AMAP Secretariat | January 2012 |
| 13.3 | AMAP Expert groups | Develop a discussion paper on expert group structure inc. how young scientist can be involved in the work | AMAP Secretariat and Rolland Kallenborn | 31 December 2011 |
| 13.3 | AMAP Expert groups | Countries to submit to the AMAP Secretary, a brief (half–page) note describing how their national experts contribute to the AMAP work and the expert groups. | HoDs | 15 December 2011 |
| 13.4 | Arctic report card | Develop discussion paper on what to do in 2012 and how AMAP will benefit from this | AMAP Secretariat | 31 December 2011 |
| 14.1 | AMAP PD | Update AMAP PD | All | 31 December 2011 |
| 16.3 | Communication and outreach plan | Check out status for the AC Outreach and communication strategy | Russel Shearer | 1 December 2011 |
| 16.3 | Communication and outreach plan | Send relevant national plans to the AMAP Secretariat | AMAP HoDs | 1 December 2011 |
| 16.3 | Communication and outreach plan | Prepare a outline plan for | AMAP Secretariat and USA | 31 December 2011 |
| 16.5 | Cooperation with AC WGs | Attend the EBM TF Workshop in Washington 17-18 October | Thomas A. Amstrong | |
| 18 | IPY 2012 | Send out the list of abstracts and detailed Conference programme when it is available to the WG | Russel Shearer | 1 December 2011 |
| 19 | Any other business | Distribute minutes from the IMO conference | Mikala Klint | When ready |
| Joint AMAP /CAFF meeting | Task Force | Express the concern from AMAP and CAFF that AC are establishing TFs instead of working through existing WG structure | Russel Shearer | SAO meeting |
| Joint AMAP /CAFF meeting | AMSA II(C) | Establish a consultation group for discussing data products | | 15 December 2011 |
| Joint AMAP /CAFF meeting | CBMP | Improve communication between CBMP and AMAP | | 31 December 2011 |

Annex 5

Minutes of Joint AMAP/CAFF Meeting, Moscow, October 5 2011

The joint meeting between AMAP and CAFF was opened by the co-Chairs, Russel Shearer (AMAP WG Chair) and Evgeny Syroechkovskiy (CAFF WG Chair). The meeting provided an opportunity for the WGs to meet each other and coordinate their work, to increase efficiency and avoid duplication. Russel Shearer reminded that, in this connection, coordination at the national level is the key. Due to time constraints a shortened agenda for the joint meeting was approved.

Arctic Change Assessment (ACA) and Arctic Resilience Report (ARR)

Following the Nuuk Ministerial, the Swedish AC Chair requested AMAP to arrange the ACA scoping workshop. This workshop had been held in Oslo, 28-30 September, attended by 110 participants including representatives of all AC WGs (see AMAP WG25 Minutes agenda item 10 for further details). A guiding principle of the ACA is to establish a new approach to the way (AC) assessments are conducted, and a sustained process to respond to the identified need to deliver information on a broader, more diverse range of subjects in a timely, and user-relevant manner.

Based on the outcome of the scoping workshop a draft proposal for the ACA had been developed during the AMAP WG meeting and circulated to all AC WGs and the AC Chair for comments. Comments received from the AC Chair, AMAP, PAME, EPPR and SDWG by the deadline had been addressed and a redrafted proposal would be submitted to the AC Chair / SAOs on 7 October. The need to conduct this work within the short period following the scoping workshop was dictated by AC rules of procedure concerning submission of documents for decisions 30 days in advance of the (November) SAO meeting. The CAFF Chair informed that the CAFF WG had not had time to consider the proposal and so countries should provide their input to SAOs directly. The AMAP Chair drew attention to the main changes introduced in the redrafted proposal as those relating to the management structure. The joint meeting agreed that the ACA will be important for both the AMAP and CAFF WGs future work, and that it should be built in to their future work plans.

The Swedish CAFF representative (Mark Marissink) presented the plans for the Swedish Chairmanship project to produce an ARR. This is a separate activity to the ACA but one that will potentially contribute to the ACA. He introduced the concept of 'resilience' as defined for the ARR and emphasized the importance of 'scale' in this context. An ARR scoping workshop had been held in Stockholm 26-27 September, immediately prior to the ACA scoping workshop, with all AC WGs participating. The results of this work had then been fed into the ACA scoping workshop. An ARR proposal was under development for submission to the (November) SAO meeting. The proposal will set the boundaries for the work and identify thresholds to be considered, the overall goal of the project being to develop proposals on how to increase Arctic resilience.

During the following discussions, national WG delegates were reminded of the importance of clearly communicating to their SAOs the relationship between the ACA and ARR, in particular to explain that these two activities are complementary and not duplicating, and are coordinated.

The relationship between the ACA, AAR and AC EBM initiative was also raised. In this connection the AMAP Chair noted that AMAP had received the EBM concept paper and EBM TF's plan, however AMAP had not received an invitation to the upcoming EBM

consultation meeting in Washington. The CAFF Chair confirmed that CAFF had also not received an invitation to the Washington meeting; the CAFF Executive Secretary informed that the PAME WG were, however, involved in the Washington meeting.

Both working groups expressed surprised not to have been invited to the EBM TF meeting in Washington. The AMAP Chair informed that the AMAP WG had requested the AMAP US HoD to participate in the meeting to act as an AMAP liaison to the process. The CAFF Chair indicated that the CAFF US national representative would attend the meeting to undertake a similar role.

The WGs shared a basic concern about some recent developments in the AC, whereby the tendency of the AC SAOs to establish TFs rather than working through the existing (WG) structures of the AC was giving rise to potential for further duplication and confusion, and the AMAP Chair agreed to bring these concerns to the attention of the SAOs on behalf of the two WGs.

AMSA IIC

Both AMAP and CAFF, together with SDWG are contributing to the AMSA IIC assessment, in response to a request from PAME. Inge Thaulow (CAFF, Greenland) reviewed the work on the AMSA II(C) project. A paper reporting on the AMSA IIC Status, prepared by Dennis Thurston had been presented at both the AMAP and CAFF WG meetings. The project is running behind the originally planned schedule, but a revised timeline has been developed and discussed at the recent PAME WG meeting. The AMSA IIC report is now expected to be ready for peer review at the end of 2011 and completed by spring 2012. The AMSA IIC status paper also included requests to AMAP and CAFF WGs, to inform the AMSA IIC coordination group about the resolution to some outstanding questions concerning editing of the report and compilation of data.

The AMAP Executive Secretary (Lars-Otto Reiersen) clarified the situation regarding contracting of a technical editor for the AMSA IIC report and referred to the AMAP WG discussions on this issue where it had been agreed that the choice should be for the best qualified editor, also taking into account costs. The CAFF WG Chair reported on the CAFF WGs discussions which had concluded that the editor proposed by AMAP should be engaged to conduct the AMSA IIC scientific/technical editing work when the final draft of the report is available in 2012.

On the matter of data compilation, the CAFF Executive Secretary (Tom Barry) reported that he together with some of the AMSA IIC lead authors had held discussions at the recent PAME meeting, and that a proposal concerning compilation of AMSA IIC (meta)data in a database linked to the CAFF data portal was being worked out. The AMAP Deputy Secretary (Simon Wilson) informed the meeting about some of the background discussions that had been held between the AMAP and CAFF Secretariats and AMSA IIC authors on this matter, including concerns relating to making certain AMSA IIC data products (vulnerability maps) publicly available without adequate documentation of the basis for these maps. It was also noted that this is a generic issue not just confined to the AMSA IIC data handling.

The AMAP and CAFF Chairs agreed that there was no need for a decision on this matter at the meeting and proposed that a consultation group (including the CAFF Executive Secretary, AMAP Deputy Secretary and other interested parties) work to further discuss this subject with a view to finding a resolution that is acceptable and addresses all concerns.

A proposal was made to launch the AMSA IIc report at the IPY Conference in Montreal in April 2012. It was agreed that a decision about this should be made nearer the time when it is known whether the final AMSA IIc report will be available in time for this event.

CBMP

Mike Gill (CBMP Secretary, Canada) presented the CBMP, status and plans. He characterized the CBMP as a coordinated network of (local) networks that aims to compile information on trends in Arctic biodiversity, including components on indicators and community-based monitoring. In this context, AMAP is a key partner in developing the CBMP and as a source of information to interpret the observed trends. CBMP is in the third year of its implementation. The CBMP is constructed around four main components: Marine, Terrestrial, Freshwater and Coastal, of which the first three are active. AMAP has contributed to the development of the Marine component. He noted the importance of two-way communication in relation to the development of the CBMP and biological monitoring components of the AMAP monitoring programme.

The AMAP Chair and several delegations congratulated CBMP on its development over the past years, and reiterated AMAPs positive views on mutual collaboration between the AMAP and CBMP programme development.

Requests were made for improving the communication to AMAP of information on what is going on in connection with the CBMP. Several countries stressed the importance of national coordination perspectives, recognizing that all experts engaged in the AMAP and CBMP work are national experts and not AMAP or CAFF experts.

The role of the CBMP as a contribution to the SAON was noted by the SAON Chair, Tom Armstrong. SAON represents a forum for better collaboration on programmes such as the CBMP and AMAP monitoring programme, and programmes run by other organizations; it is also a forum that can foster better WG communication on these subjects.

Future Meetings

Regretting the lack of time to discuss other issues, the AMAP and CAFF Chairs reported on the next planned meetings of their respective groups (CAFF in Salekhard and then possible Chukotka; AMAP HoDs meeting in Victoria, BC tentatively in February 2012, and WG meeting in Stockholm tentatively in November 2012), and closed the joint WG meeting, thanking the organizers for making the meeting possible.