

The Arctic: Alaskan and Circumpolar Perspectives

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Drue Pearce
Senior Policy Advisor
Crowell & Moring, LLP

ARCTIC REGION



U.S. Arctic Policy Today

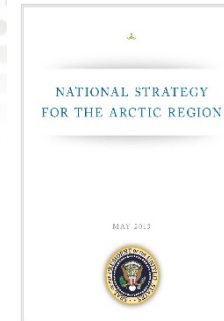
•The Obama administration shaped U.S. Arctic policy by up-dating President George W. Bush' s National Security Presidential Directive (NSPD) 66 of January 2009.

•Goals of President Bush' s NSPD-66:

- Meet national and Homeland security needs
- Strengthen international governance
- Resolve outer continental shelf/boundary issues
- Promote international scientific cooperation
- Prioritize maritime transportation
- **Promote economic and energy issues**
- **Ensure environmental protection and conservation**



President Obama's National Strategy for the Arctic Region (2013)



Strategic Priorities:

- Advance U.S. security interests – evolve Arctic infrastructure and capabilities.
- Pursue Responsible Arctic Region Stewardship – **protect Arctic environment and conserve its resources**; employ scientific research to increase understanding of the region.
- Strengthen International Cooperation – advance collective interests; promote shared Arctic state prosperity; work toward U.S. accession to UNCLOS.
- Develop an “integrated Arctic management” – holistic approach to Arctic decision-making through balance of economic, environmental protection, and cultural values.

Note: no economic or energy development mention

Arctic Council

- First steps in 1991 when eight Arctic countries signed the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS).
- Formally established in 1996 through the Ottawa Declaration; Canada served as the first Chair. AC Chairmanship rotates every two years.
- The most prominent and visible Arctic institutional actor.
- Original primary function was international cooperation in the areas of environmental protection and sustainable development.
- Senior Arctic Officials (SAOs) meet every six months in the Chair's country.
- At the end of their Chairmanship, every Chair hosts a Ministerial meeting, which is the culmination of the Council's work for that period.

Member States:

United States, Canada, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, and Denmark (Greenland and Faroe Islands)



Members of the Arctic Council

Member States (Ministers and Senior Arctic Officials)

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|---------|---------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
| USA | Canada | Iceland | Greenland | Norway | Sweden | Finland | Russia |
| | | | Faroe Islands | | | | |

Permanent Participants

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Aleut International Assoc. | Saami Council | Gwich'in Council Int'l | Arctic Athabaskan Council |
| | Inuit Circumpolar Conference | RAIPON | |

Working Groups

| | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| ACAP | AMAP | CAFF | EPPR | PAME | SDWG |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|

Observer Countries and Observer Organizations

Visit www.arctic-council.org for a complete listing

Arctic Council Permanent Participants

- Arctic Athabaskan Council (AAC)
- Aleut International Association (AIA)
- Gwich'in Council International (GCI)
- Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC)
- Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON)
- Saami Council (SC)



- Approximately 500,000 of the 4 million Arctic inhabitants belong to indigenous communities.
- Permanent Participants have full consultation rights in connection with the Council's negotiations and decisions.

Working Groups

- Arctic Contaminants Action Program (ACAP)
- Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP)
- Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)
- Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR)
- Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)
- Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG)



Working Group Chairs at the 7th Ministerial Meeting in Nuuk, 2011

It is the role of the working groups to execute programs and projects mandated by the Arctic Council Ministers as stated in Ministerial Declarations.

Each Member state has a Head of Delegation for each Working Group.

Each Working Group has a specific mandate under which it operates, has a Chair, has a Management Board or Steering Committee, and is supported by a Secretariat.

Working Group Management Boards are typically comprised of representatives of national governmental agencies of the Arctic Council Member States, connected to the mandates of the Working Groups; and representatives of the Permanent Participants.

Observer States and Observer Organizations are likely to attend Working Group meetings and participate in specific projects. In addition, Working Groups regularly have invited guests, or experts attending their meetings.



Role of Observers

- Primary role is to observe the work of the Arctic Council.
- Make relevant contributions through their engagement in the Council, primarily at the level of Working Groups.
- May propose projects through an Arctic State or a Permanent Participant but financial contributions from observers may not exceed the financing from Arctic States.
- Observers may make statements and provide views on issues under discussion in the Council's subsidiary bodies and may also submit written statements at Ministerial meetings.
- 2013 Kiruna Ministerial adopted Arctic Council Observer Manual to strengthen work of subsidiary bodies.

Twelve Countries Have Observer Status

France
Germany
The Netherlands
Poland_
Spain
United Kingdom
People's Republic of China
Italian Republic
State of Japan
Republic of Korea
Republic of Singapore
Republic of India

Note the Absence of the European Union; application was defeated by Canada due to the fur seal ban.

Eleven Non-Governmental Organizations Have Observer Status

Advisory Committee on Protection of the Seas (ACOPS)

Arctic Cultural Gateway

Association of World Reindeer Herders (AWRH)

Circumpolar Conservation Union (CCU)

International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)

International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA)

International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH)

International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)

Northern Forum (NF)

University of the Arctic (UArctic)

World Wide Fund for Nature-Global Arctic Program (WWF)

Canadian Agenda for their Chairmanship

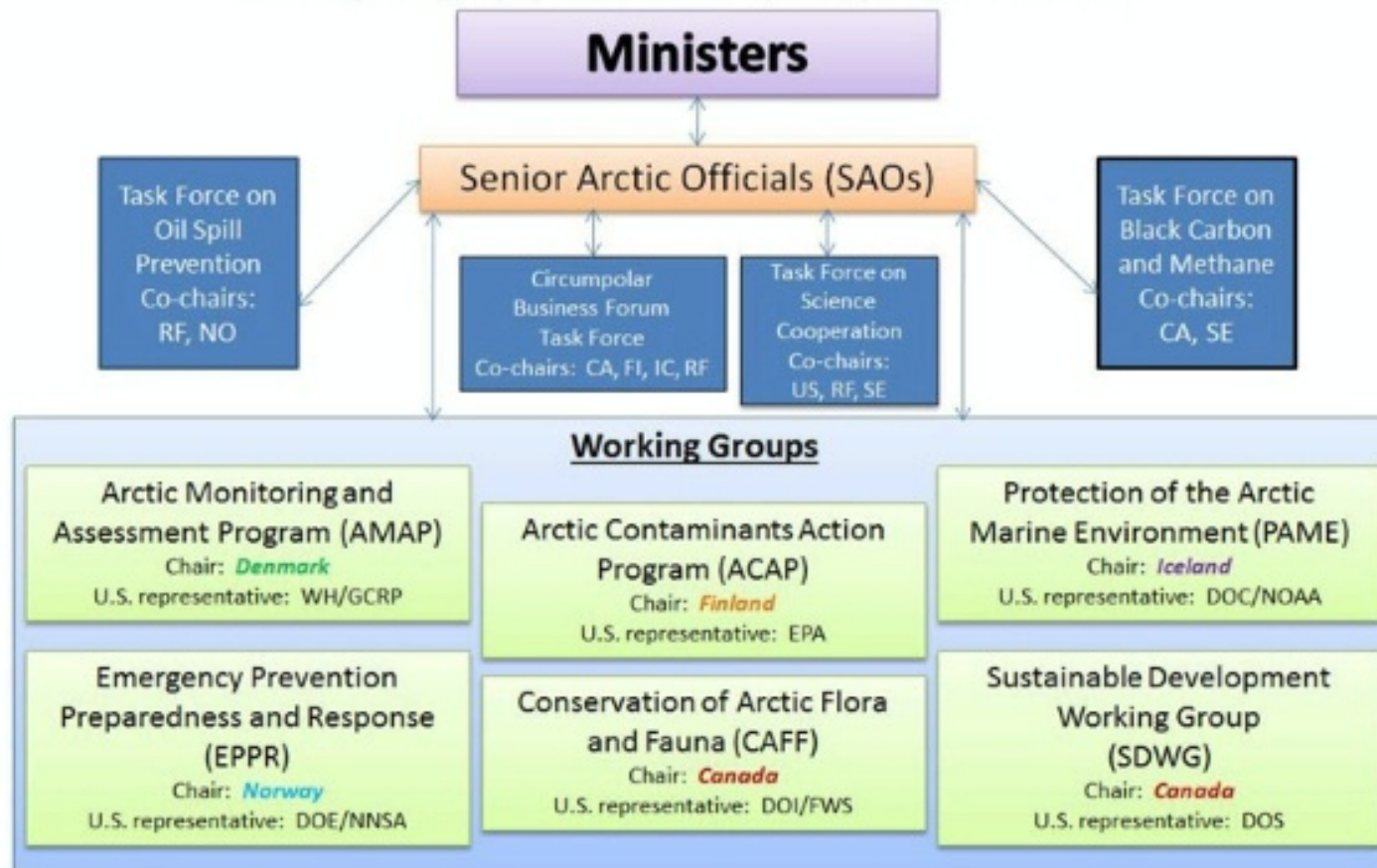
- The Canadian Chairmanship (2013-2015) theme is “Development for the People of the North” with focus on responsible Arctic resource development, safe Arctic shipping and sustainable circumpolar communities.
 - Establish the Arctic Economic Council to foster economic development.
 - Establish guidelines for sustainable tourism and cruise-ship operations.
 - Continue to encourage development of a Polar Code.



Arctic Council Structure

2013 – 2015 Chairmanship: **CANADA**

Six indigenous groups ("Permanent Participants") participate at all levels



Task Forces During Canadian Chairmanship

Appointed at the biennial Ministerial Meetings, Task Forces are active until they have produced the desired results on specific issues.

- Task Force on Arctic Marine Oil Pollution Prevention (TFOPP)
- Task Force on Black Carbon and Methane (TFBCM)
- Scientific Cooperation Task Force (SCTF)
- Task Force to Facilitate the Circumpolar Business Forum (TFCBF) – became the Arctic Economic Council (AEC)



Arctic Economic Council

- Organizational meeting held in Iqaluit, Nunavut September 1-3, 2014.
- Member nations and Permanent Participants have each named their 3 Business Representatives.
- U.S. Business Representatives were not chosen by the State Department. Rather, with SAO consent, they were chosen by the Executive Committee of the Alaska State Chamber in collaboration with the Cochairs of the Alaska Arctic Policy Commission.
- AEC will be governed by 42 member Board and 4 member Executive Committee. Initial Executive Committee: Canada (chair), Finland, ICC (Alaska), Russia. Norway has offered to host the Secretariat.
- Board will decide how to incorporate other businesses. Focus is on SMEs and VSMEs and work is expected to be completed by working groups.

Arctic Economic Council

- Five Overarching Themes for the Initial Work of the AEC:

1. Establish strong market connections between the Arctic states;
2. Encourage public-private partnerships for infrastructure investments;
3. Create stable and predictable regulatory frameworks;
4. Facilitate knowledge and data exchange between industry and academia; and
5. Promote the use of Traditional Indigenous Knowledge, stewardship and a focus on small business.

- U.S. Business Representatives:

Gail Schubert, BSNC

Bruce Harland, Crowley

Lori Davey, Fairweather

Tara Sweeney, ASRC, ICC (Alaska)

Jennine Elias Jordan, Gana-A'Yoo, LLC, Arctic Athabaskan Council (Alaska)

Arlene Gunderson, Aleut International (Alaska)

Thomas Mack, Aleut Corporation, Aleut International (Alaska)

AEC INITIAL PROJECTS

- Stewardship in the Arctic proposal by the Saami Council will be led by Tara Sweeney, ASRC.
- Maritime Transportation proposal by the Danish Shipowner's Association and Aleut International Association will be led by Tero Vauraste, Arctia Shipping and Evgeny Ambrosov, SOVCOMFLOT.
- Responsible Resource Development proposal by AEC Canada will be led by Tom Paddon, Baffinland Iron Mines.
- Interactions Between Industries in the Arctic proposal by AEC Norway will be integrated into the Responsible Resource Development proposal.
- Business Scenarios 2040 proposal by AEC Norway, lead not yet determined.
- Renewable Energy proposal by AEC Canada still under development.

U.S. Chairmanship (2015-2017)

U.S. Leadership

- Secretary of State **John Kerry** will be the Chair of the Council
- Special Representative for the Arctic Admiral **Bob Papp** will be the Coordinator of the Chairmanship
- **Fran Ulmer** will be Special Advisor on Arctic Science and Policy
- The Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials has not been named, will be American.
- **Julie Gourley** will be the U.S. Senior Arctic Official

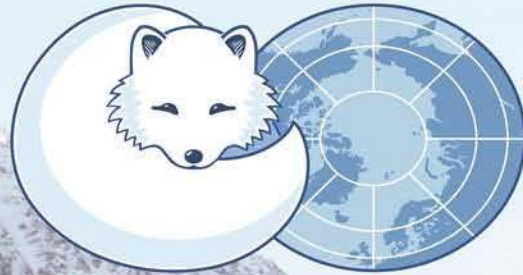
Public Outreach:

- Outside the Arctic Council, the U.S. will conduct a wide-spread, intensive public outreach campaign.
- The goal is three-fold:
 1. To educate the US public about why the Arctic matters and its strategic importance to our country;
 2. To educate the public about climate change impacts in the Arctic and how they are affecting our country; and
 3. To educate the rest of the world about how the Arctic affects them.



• ARCTIC COUNCIL

- United States Chairmanship
• 2015 - 2017
- *One Arctic: Shared Opportunities, Challenges and Responsibilities*



ARCTIC COUNCIL

United States Chairmanship
2015 - 2017

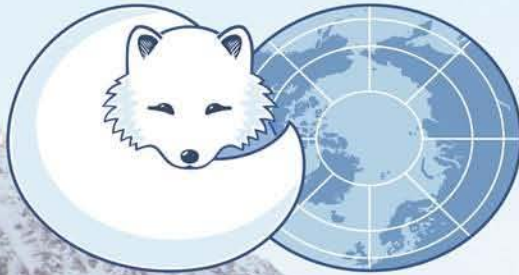
*One Arctic: Shared Opportunities,
Challenges and Responsibilities*

The Chairmanship Brand

“One Arctic: Shared Opportunities, Challenges and Responsibilities”

Borrowed “One Arctic” from ICC 2014 General Assembly – shows unity among the Arctic States and peoples

“Shared Opportunities, Challenges and Responsibilities” shows that that all of us, not just the Arctic States, share in responsibly managing the region



ARCTIC COUNCIL

United States Chairmanship
2015 - 2017

*One Arctic: Shared Opportunities,
Challenges and Responsibilities*

Three Overarching Goals

Continue strengthening the Council as an
intergovernmental forum

Introduce new long-term priorities into the Council

Raise Arctic and climate change awareness within
the United States and across the world



ARCTIC COUNCIL

United States Chairmanship
2015 - 2017

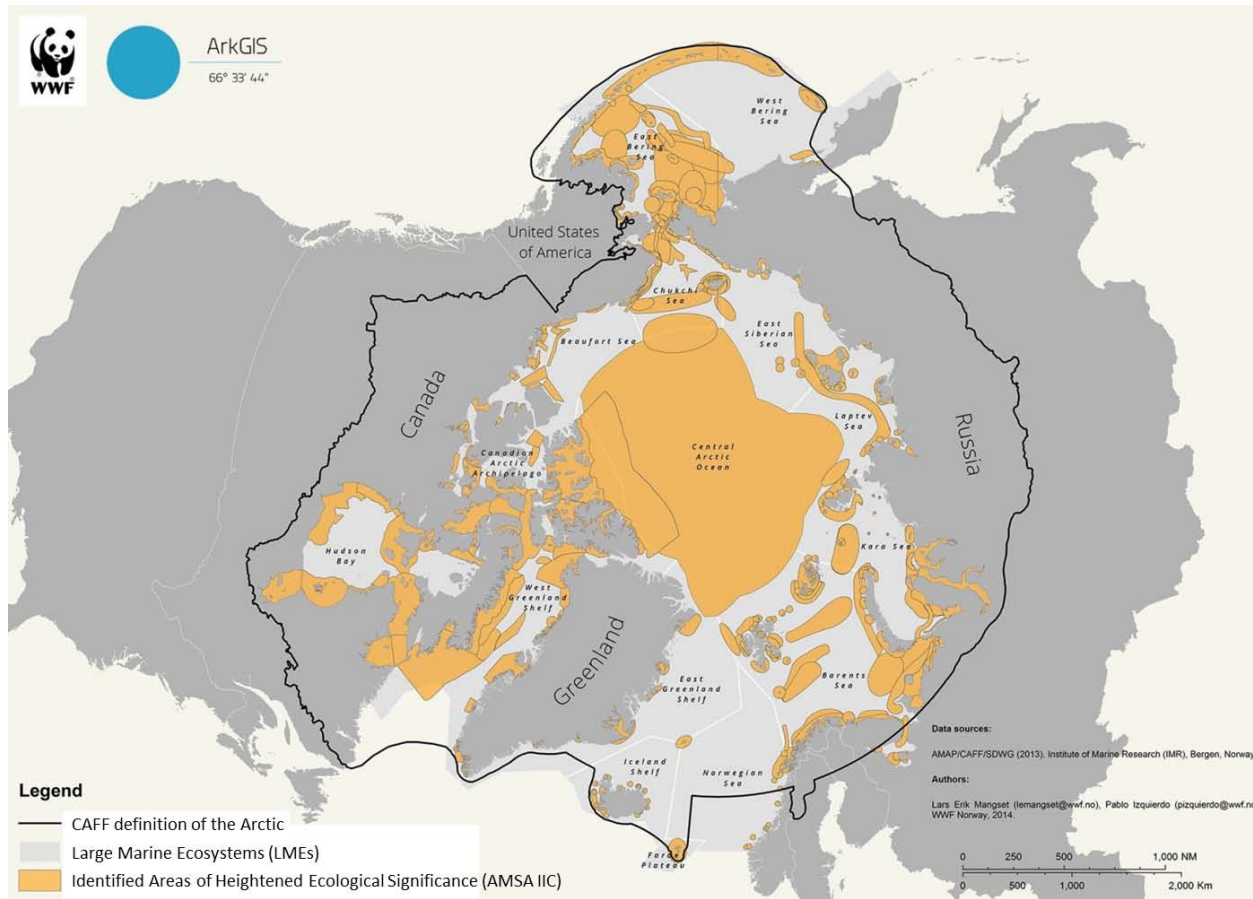
*One Arctic: Shared Opportunities,
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Organizational Thematic Areas

- Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change in the Arctic
- Stewardship of the Arctic Ocean
- Improving *Economic* and Living Conditions (emphasis added)

WHY SHOULD ALASKANS CARE?

PAME Working Group *Framework for a Pan-Arctic MPA Network* Project



THE ARCTIC: ALASKAN AND CIRCUMPOLAR PERSPECTIVES

Thanks for your Interest!

For more information, contact

Drue Pearce
Senior Policy Advisor
Crowell & Moring LLP
1029 West Third Avenue, Suite 550
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
907.865.2600