

## **IPCAP PSG Meeting Decision Sheet**

The IPCAP PSG met in Sopot, Poland at the Institute of Oceanology on September 9, 2014. Representatives were present from: Finland, Norway, Sweden, the USA, the Russian Federation, AIA, Poland, South Korea, NEFCO and the Arctic Council Secretariat. . RAIPON joined the proceedings via Skype. Timo Seppala chaired the meeting, outlining the need to discuss project proposals to invigorate the work of IPCAP. It was also agreed that some basic operating procedures be discussed.

### **Project Proposals under Development**

1. RAIPON and the RF introduced a potential project proposal to host an International Conference in the second half of 2015, exploring the impact of contaminant exposure on indigenous communities in the Arctic. The conference should be a high-level event with broad participation in order to explore focused themes and exchange best practices from around the circumpolar region. The PSG agreed that the conference agenda must fit within the mandate of IPCAP. The conference would bring together representatives from indigenous communities, PPs, government and science experts, NGOs and business interests. It was agreed that IPS and the newly inaugurated Arctic Economic Council (AEC) should be approached for assistance, both substantive and financial. Eligibility for PSI funding will be further explored when developing the project proposal.

**Conclusion:** RAIPON and the RF will complete the ACAP Project Proposal Template by September 30, 2014. The PSG will then comment on the project proposal. Once agreed the proposal will be put forward to ACAP for final approval.

2. AIA presented an overview of a project entitled “Community-Based Black Carbon Assessment and Mitigation Project” This project team, which includes AIA, Arctic Alliance, Alaska Native Science Commission, and the University of Alaska-Fairbanks, proposes a pilot phase that would: assess local black carbon emissions sources in a representative sampling of Arctic Alaskan and Russian villages; provide a broad characterization of public health risks; explore cost-effective short and long-term mitigation options; assess and, where possible, strengthen local capacities to identify, mitigate and prevent black carbon pollution; create a tool communities can use to assess local black carbon emissions and health risks; educate local communities and decision makers about black carbon emissions and associated risks to communities; and evaluate the applicability of this approach to other circumpolar Arctic communities in a possible second phase.

PSG members welcomed the project proposal, noting that it has meaningful links to Arctic Council priorities. Sweden has already earmarked funds to support initial planning activities. Additional funds may be available through the NEFCO-administered Swedish Trust Fund. It was agreed that AIA would complete the ACAP Project Proposal Template by September 30, 2014. The PSG will then comment on the project proposal. It was suggested that the PSG on SFLC also be included. Once agreed the proposal will be put forward to ACAP WG for final approval.

### **Workflow Guidelines for the IPCAP PSG**

3. The PSG agreed on a number of general guidelines for future work of the IPCAP PSG.
  - Project leads are to prepare proposals as outlined in the ACAP Project Proposal Template. PSG Co-Chairs will circulate project proposals for comments for a period of

four weeks. The PSG will then approve the revised project and send the project to the ACAP WG for approval.

- Project proposals can be approved intersessionally.
- Work within the IPCAP PSG will continue intersessionally by email and teleconference. Meetings of the PSG should, whenever possible, be organized back-to-back with other meetings, such as ACAP WG or SAO meetings. This is to ensure cost efficiency and to maximize participation by Permanent Participants and Member States.

It was noted by AIA, current Chair of IPS, that IPCAP will be on the agenda of the IPS Board meeting in October 2014. The IPS Chair is hopeful that the other PPs will join the IPCAP PSG. The ACAP Secretariat offered to facilitate communication with PPs in this regard.