



**Ninth Meeting of the
CAFF International Working Group**

CAFF IX

Summary Report

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1. Welcome and Introduction

The meeting began with a welcome and introduction by Sune Sohlberg, CAFF Chair. There was then an opening statement and introduction by Terry Callaghan, the Director of the Abisko Research Station.

Address of the Chairman

Sune Sohlberg welcomed participants and gave an overview of CAFF's work; and preparations for the upcoming Arctic Council Ministerial meeting in October in Inari, Finland, which the Chair will attend. CAFF and the entire Arctic Council (AC) has been reviewed during past two years. This review of the AC groups has taken time, but CAFF's work has become better known during the review process. Snorri Baldursson is concluding as Executive Secretary of CAFF after 6 years, and Magdalena Muir was welcomed as the incoming Executive Secretary. Tiina Kurvits is also leaving the Secretariat to return to her position at Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and the Chair thanked Canada for supporting this secondment. The Chair also thanked the US and Kenton Wohl for taking on the next chair of CAFF. After US, Finland and Esko Jaakola will be next chair. Sune Sohlberg, the current Chair, confirmed that he would be available to help during the transition.

Brief Statements by Permanent Participants

Duanne Smith, ICC, Canada

It was noted that Sheila Watt-Cloutier is the new chair of the ICC, but that she is currently in Johannesburg at the WSSD. The Executive Council of the ICC is addressing issue of participation in all AC working groups.

Ritva Torikka, Saami Council

The Saami Council was recently reorganised, and has an arctic and environmental department with a part-time co-ordinator to coordinate future participation. There is a continuing focus on reindeer herding and consultations, and a steering committee for land use in Finland, including an investigation on reconciling reindeer herding and logging. Information is important, and better communication of CAFF's work would be appreciated.

Mikhael Todyshev, RAIPON

Thanks were provided to CAFF for its joint work with RAIPON, especially over last two years, and RAIPON is looking forward to next CAFF session. The important first step was the initiation of Sacred Sites project, and RAIPON is looking forward to presentation of the final report at the Ministerial meeting in October. For the next session of CAFF, RAIPON would like to continue work on Sacred sites, with the second phase being a circumpolar conference. RAIPON is also interested in community-based monitoring, especially integrated social and ecological monitoring and work on indigenous knowledge in biodiversity.

Report of Chairman and Secretariat (CAFF IX 1-1)

The Chair indicated that recommendations from overview report have been prepared and adopted by the SAOs. The Sacred Sites report was finished. The ECORA project is moving forward, though waiting for final funding approval at this time. Remaining challenges include the biodiversity monitoring project, and other flora and fauna projects. CAFF is looking forward to the completion of the arctic vegetation map. Cooperation with other AC Working Groups is an ongoing issue. CAFF has had meetings with AMAP, and is also cooperating with SDWG and taking part in their meetings. PAME has participated in CAFF meetings, and CAFF at the PAME meetings. The Chair has also attended an IPS meeting.

Snorri Baldursson, the Executive Secretary of CAFF, tabled the report of the CAFF Secretariat. ECORA has been a big effort for the Secretariat. The Sacred sites project is also a good project, and the CAFF web site has been revised. The Executive Secretary issued thanks to CAFF for its collaboration over last 6 years, to Tiina Kurvitts for her work over last 18 months at Secretariat, to Olga Palsdottir, and to Lyuba Anisomova who finished at the Secretariat last year.

2. Adoption of the Agenda (CAFF IX 2-1)

The Chair of the CAFF Flora Group will present on Friday morning. With this change, the agenda was adopted.

3. Presentation on the Arctic Council Review Process (CAFF IX 3-1)

All AC Working Groups are retained after the AC Review Process, and the importance of Secretariat support was recognised. Knowledge of the state of the Arctic environment and biodiversity will be strengthened over the coming years, and there was acknowledgment of CAFF's work in the overview report on Arctic Flora and Fauna: Status and Conservation. The SAOs commented on the relationship between CAFF and the SDWG. The Chair noted that there was no duplication between the work of the two groups, but that each must continue to be aware of each other's activities. The Chair thanked Iceland for its continuing support of the CAFF Secretariat.

4. Introduction of Arctic Council Ministerial Documents: CAFF Input to SAO Report to Ministers and Inari Declaration, CAFF Recommendations for Conservation (CAFF IX 16-2 and 16-3)

The CAFF Secretariat had provided comments to the AC Secretariat on the draft Inari Declaration. It had also agreed to provide comments on the Inari Declaration and SAO Report by the end of this meeting. The CAFF Working Group appointed a drafting committee for meeting decisions and revisions to these Ministerial documents. Comments were finalized during the CAFF IX meeting for the CAFF Input to the SAO Report and the Inari Declaration, and are provided in appendices to this report.

5. Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) (CAFF IX 5-1 and 5-2)

Discussion:

A status report was provided for the ACIA process. Three documents are to be delivered to AC Ministerial in Iceland in October 2004: which are the scientific assessment, the synthesis document, and a policy document with recommendations. First drafts of the Scientific Report are due this fall, with an internal review process to identify gaps in the chapters. The Assessment Integration Team (AIT) is composed of the Executive of ACIA and the ACIA Secretariat, AMAP and the AMAP Secretariat, CAFF and the CAFF Secretariat, the Saami Council, IPS, and others. The AIT's role is to write first chapter report, to draft the synthesis chapter, and to oversee the overview document with the scientific journalist. Work on policy document will start in early 2003. It was noted that it was important that CAFF come in at an early stage for the ACIA Scientific Report. There was discussion about the differences between the various chapters, and the best way to provide comments. There was also a discussion of policy development, and reporting to SAOs. There was also a formal presentation and discussion of status of chapter 6 on terrestrial ecosystems by the lead author, Terry Callaghan.

There was then a presentation on "Strategy for the preparation of the ACIA policy document." CAFF and AMAP will be preparing the policy document closely with the scientists. This process will begin at workshop being held in late March 2003. The drafting team must be appointed fall 2002, and start work in January 2003. There was a presentation on the ACIA Timeline, and the "Plan for Preparation of the ACIA Policy Document", followed by discussion regarding the CAFF review of the ACIA documents.

Decision:

- There was a decision that CAFF, through the ACIA Assessment Steering Committee, should continue to coordinate the development and review of the ACIA scientific report and overview.
- There was the decision that CAFF, in cooperation with AMAP, should lead in the preparation of the ACIA Policy Document group. The incoming Chair of CAFF, Kenton Wohl, will undertake this role with the ACIA policy document, with the assistance of the CAFF Secretariat, and with access to necessary expertise within the CAFF Working Group.

6. Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN) (CAFF IX 6-1 to 6-4,6-6)

Discussion:

The CPAN Group met on Tuesday, August 27 in Abisko, prior to the CAFF IX meeting. CPAN had held a meeting in Anchorage in February 2002. There was an acknowledgement of the need to better engage the Permanent Participants, and that CPAN would be renewing efforts in this direction over the coming months.

There was a discussion of a number of matters, including the Sacred Sites project and presentation of final report by RAIPON; and the CPAN items for inclusion into the 2002-2004 Work Plan. The Compendium of Ecologically Important Marine Areas identified as one of the higher priorities for CAFF. It was recognised as a valuable product, and would help focus more work in CPAN on the marine element. US/NOAA has agreed to take co-lead with Canada on this item. CPAN Country Updates are based on five thematic areas identified for CAFF. Draft prepared and circulated among expert group. There are still some data gaps in the report, which will be submitted to the next meeting of CAFF Management Board.

The draft brochure, Full Value of Protected Areas, was then discussed. At the CPAN meeting in Anchorage in 2002, it was decided to prepare brochure, which was endorsed by CAFF Management Board in April 2002. This text went out for review in July 2002, and identified as deliverable for AC Ministers in October. The document will be published in English with 2-page Russian summary. Canada will pay for printing, and layout and design completed in such a way that countries can readily translate it into other languages.

A number of other matters were highlighted as a priority for CPAN and for inclusion in the CAFF Work Plan. These include:

- i) complete CPAN country updates by next CAFF Management Board meeting
- ii) provide advice to ECORA and other relevant IEM projects, as requested
- iii) prepare scientific paper or workshop on protecting large unfragmented areas (Canada proposed), and discuss at next meeting of CPAN experts group
- iv) investigate opportunities to cooperate with AC capacity building initiative
- v) develop brochure and poster based on full values of protected areas report
- vi) prepare proposal for workshop on a compendium of marine areas
- vii) update CAFF list of multilateral projects for Sept. 2003
- viii) establish ongoing coordination with other CAFF groups by CAFF X

There was then a presentation on the Sacred Sites project by RAIPON. In 2000-2001, RAIPON in cooperation with CAFF and IPS have implemented a project on sacred sites. Protection of sacred sites is urgent in Russia, and the life of indigenous peoples is directly connected with sacred sites. Mihkael Todyshev is the coordinator of project, working with regional coordinators, and assisted by project committee. Funding is provided by the Danish Environmental Protection Agency.

The first phase of the project dealt with museums, and a search for relevant publications. Jointly with international organizations, RAIPON then developed a questionnaire for participants. One of the positive things in this project was cooperation of indigenous peoples with indigenous researchers, as more than 100 indigenous people participating in this project. 286 sacred sites discovered in Yamalo-Nenets area. All sites have been mapped; and mainly located around reindeer migration routes. In Koryak area, 86 sacred sites revealed, which are mostly near fishing areas on rivers. Researchers recorded interviews on video, which were transcribed. Recommendations have been drafted based on this project, and discussed with indigenous participants of project. They include that:

- The project should be extended to all regions and districts where indigenous people of Russia live.
- For visiting sacred sites, increased funding should be available to encourage research, and assist in enacting legislation.
- To make this legislative tool effective, it was noted that it was necessary to have expertise on protected areas.
- It is also necessary to produce a publication to disperse methodology to the Russian public.
- Last, it is necessary to organise an international circumpolar workshop to evaluate this project, and to discuss how to include other indigenous people in this project.

The CAFF Secretariat also provided a short update to the Sacred Sites Project, which had an international component to it. This summer, the project committee hired an international consultant to provide an international section and thematic analysis of results. A draft of this work was provided for the CAFF IX meeting. There are two final products – a RAIPON product, and a joint CAFF/RAIPON/IPS product (which includes the international section and thematic analysis). At the April board meeting, the RAIPON report was in Russian and English. Now there is an international report, or the joint CAFF/RAIPON/IPS product, which will be circulated, with mid-September for a response. This report will then be presented at the Ministerial meeting.

Russia indicated that it supports this project, and would like to see work continued and have results that should be incorporated into scientific and legislative documents to conserve biodiversity in protected areas and sacred sites. Support proposal for workshop and continue collaboration of Russian ministry and RAIPON. The Chair noted that this is a RAIPON project, with support of IPS and CAFF. It is a pilot project, and something that could be used within and outside of Russia. The Chair also noted that is one of the best examples of capacity building.

Decisions:

The following decisions were made at CAFF IX in relation to CPAN activities:

- By 2003, complete country updates on recent protected area establishment, management and legislative initiatives.
- Organize a workshop to discuss the ecological value of protecting large unfragmented areas and prepare proceedings from that workshop.
- For 2003, prepare a proposal for a workshop to assemble existing data sets and identify additional data needs for a Compendium of Ecologically Important Marine Areas.
- Analyse regional and international agreements and evaluate their potential to contribute to CAFF's protected areas initiatives by CAFF X.
- Organize a circumpolar workshop and prepare a technical report on outcomes and recommendations on the Indigenous Sacred Sites project.

7. CAFF/GEF ECORA Project (CAFF IX 7-1 to 7-3)

Discussion:

ECORA is a GEF and GRID-Arendal project, and Russia is only eligible country. GEF has very complex process, with three year investment in time. Nature of project is to create integrated management approach, which incorporates environmental and economic factors. Major outcomes are integrated ecosystems management strategies and plans, and intent that results be transferrable to Russia and throughout arctic. There was a presentation of the project brief, and the proposed publication of two of the PDF-B Reports as part of the CAFF Technical Report Series. Funding in the amount of 1.125M for PDF-A and B in 1999-2002. The main phase is 2003-2008 where there is funding of \$6.88 MUS, where \$3M US is from GEF. There was a discussion of project organisation and the current status of project. As of August 19, 2002, project cleared for entry into GEF work program, and very complimentary remarks. The next step is internalising the project documents. There was a discussion on CAFF and CAFF Secretariat involvement in project implementation, with this discussion being contingent upon a positive GEF Council's decision. Discuss model areas, and selection process, and CAFF involvement in all stages of this project.

Decisions:

The following decisions were made at the CAFF IX meeting in relation to the ECORA project:

- CAFF's involvement in ECORA main phase was discussed and confirmed at August 27, 2002 management board meeting.
- It was agreed that the Norwegian national representative will continue as the CAFF representative on the Executive Screening Committee for the ECORA project.
- There will be the completion of detailed project planning and the beginning of implementation of the main phase of ECORA, subject to confirmation of funds from the Global Environmental Facility.
- There is the need to confirm the role of CAFF and the CAFF Secretariat, which will occur over the fall of 2002.

8. Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Network (CAFF IX 8-1 to 8-4)

Discussion:

There was a presentation of April workshop results and the European Union work with respect to CABNET, and the ARCBIONET. There was also a presentation of status of CAFF and AMAP collaboration. Last, there was a discussion on followup in the Work Plan 2002-2004, and with funding agencies such as the EU and NSF. Some matter were discussed in detail.

In February 2000, CAFF and AMAP held a workshop in Iceland to discuss general concept of biodiversity monitoring, which resulted in the decision to start monitoring networks. It was acknowledged that this would be a challenging task, as it will only be the beginning of tackling biodiversity monitoring. The intent is to build up networks of experts (char, seabirds, waders/shorebirds, geese, ringed seal, polar bear, plants/ITEX, and reindeer) with coordinators for all eight networks. Most of these

groups have met at least once among themselves, and a coordination meeting was held in Akureyri in April 2002 to initiate discussion on the networks and finalise funding proposal for the European Commission. The application was finalised and submitted on April 17, 2002, but not successful. In the summer 2002, an Expression of Interest was sent to the 6th Research Framework, and better success was hoped for here.

Decisions:

At the CAFF IX meeting, it was decided to:

- Develop a framework for a circumpolar biodiversity monitoring program, which will include community-based monitoring; and that Iceland, as the lead for this project, would continue, with the assistance of the CAFF Working Group, to seek the resources required for implementation, focusing on the EU and the NSF.
- Co-ordinate the CAFF biodiversity monitoring program with the AMAP contaminants monitoring program and other global monitoring initiatives to support ACIA and other assessments.

9. CAFF Flora Work (CAFF IX 9-1 to 9-2)

Discussion:

There was a report and recommendations from the Chair of the CAFF Flora Group (CFG), and discussion on the follow-up in the CAFF Work Plan 2002-2004. There was a review of action items under the CAFF Work Plan 2000-2002, with three of four items completed. The Circumpolar Arctic Vegetation Map is nearly complete and should go to press Dec. 2002. For the CAVM, the main recommendation to the national representatives is to encourage its distribution. There is a question whether to label it as part of the CAFF Technical Report Series or start new CAFF Map series. Any comments on the map can be e-mailed to Stephen.

The PanArctic Flora Project will be revising the "Atlas of Rare Plants of the Arctic", where this group runs in parallel to the Flora Group. The CFG is interested in having the second international workshop on classification of Arctic vegetation. The proposal for the arctic vegetation map came out of first one ten years later. It is hoped to hold the workshop in July 2004 in Greenland, and CAFF endorsement may assist with funding. The CFG would like to build links to CPAN, and perhaps see vegetation used more in designating CPAN areas. For example, CPAN could use special habitats, (e.g., sand dunes); disjuncts; rare species; and good examples of rare and common communities.

The list of rare endemic plants of Russia has been revised by Boris Yurtsev and published as a CAFF Technical Report. Many reports on Russian plants are only available in Russian, and Russian colleagues will try to translate them into English for broader dissemination.

During discussion, the point was made that CAFF other maps (e.g., CPAN) and might not be appropriate to start new series. It was noted that more of Iceland should be included on the map, which now only shows northern portion. The concern was also expressed whether the CFG has covered all the important flora conservation considerations that CAFF needs to consider, as the monitoring portion may not be fully considered, and the need to recognize and prioritize issues, even if they can not all be dealt with immediately. The issue was raised of the documentation of the traditional use of flora. Last, the issue was raised of threats to arctic vegetation, including climate change.

Decisions:

At the CAFF IX meeting in relation to the CAFF Flora Group, it was decided that:

- The Circumpolar Arctic Vegetation Map should be completed and distributed.
- A checklist of Arctic lichens and bryophytes should be initiated as an essential first step to the assessment of rare taxa.
- The Panarctic Flora Checklist should be completed, and a revised Atlas of Rare Vascular Plants of the Arctic should be initiated based on the checklist.
- The report on the monitoring of local flora (presence and abundance) in Russia should be reviewed, including evaluating its circumpolar application.
- Subject to funding, it was agreed to plan and host in Greenland a second International Workshop on the Classification of Arctic Vegetation.
- A process to gather and incorporate traditional knowledge pertaining to the use and conservation of arctic plants would be scoped out by the CFG, in cooperation with Permanent Participants.
- A CAFF Flora Group Workshop would be held in 2003 to assemble experts and distribute information on ongoing activities.

10. CAFF Seabird Group (CAFF IX 10-1 to 10-2)

Discussion:

There was a report from the CAFF Seabird Group, which now called the Circumpolar Seabird Group (CBIRD). Murres are the largest concern, and there is a new initiative looking at murre population trends relating to climate change. It appears that if sea surface temperature becomes either too warm or too cool, there is a decrease in murre colonies. There is also a new seabird poster and brochure. CBIRD fulfilment of the prior CAFF Work Plan 2000-2002 was discussed. The next meeting will be in January 2003 in Tromso.

There was a discussion of whether WCMC help with technical reports, and make them available as web-based interactive reports that could be updated as needed. Funding would be needed for this approach, but it could be sought jointly. There was a discussion of the seabird monitoring network and which species to monitor. Most monitoring tends to take place on the breeding grounds in the colonies. The possibility of monitoring birds at sea has been discussed, but it is more difficult and less consistent. However, monitoring at sea can record species that are not at colonies, so that it makes a good compliment to colony monitoring. It is also possible to use harvest data as a tool, and check rare species through Christmas bird counts.

Decision:

At the CAFF IX meeting in relation to the CAFF Seabird Group, it was decided that:

- A CAFF Technical Report on Birds of Arctic Conservation Concern would be completed and include identification of their migration routes and wintering areas and applicable conservation instruments
- There would be a report and review on seabird gillnet bycatch initiatives.
- The CAFF Technical Report No. 5, Seabird Harvest Regimes in Circumpolar Nations would be updated.
- Implementing would continue for action items in the “Circumpolar Eider Conservation Strategy and Action Plan” and “International Murre Conservation Strategy and Action Plan”.
- The framework for a circumpolar seabird monitoring network would continue to be developed by the group.

11. AC Capacity Building Strategy**Discussion:**

The concept behind this strategy has changed since the last SAO meeting. It comes from SD framework document of Barrow declaration, with the aim of increase capacity at all levels of society. Finland and Canada supported a workshop on capacity building in Finland, with a preliminary draft tabled for consideration by CAFF in April 2002. This draft included proposal for pilot project, and CAFF had concerns with implementing those projects. The next iteration was tabled in May 2002, and the pilot projects were withdrawn. Instead, it was decided to pursue a different approach, and Canada was given the mandate to do a review of best practices and AC projects. Canada has offered to host the Sustainable Development Secretariat. When this Secretariat is in place, it will undertake this work. It was noted that capacity building is important to SAOs, and that ECORA is good example of capacity building, which should be highlighted in Ministerial documents.

In discussion, it was noted that CAFF will continue to observe capacity building initiatives, and that most of CAFF work could be included under this criteria. It was also noted that CAFF is likely be approached again in this review but some of this information is already available.

Decision:

No decision is required at this time.

12. Relations with Observers and AC Working Groups**Discussion:**

Other AC Working Groups are invited to report to the meeting, and discuss issues of joint interest. No representatives or submissions were made from other AC groups at CAFF IX. Observers (IUCN, UNEP, WWF-Arctic Programme, others) are invited to report to the meeting on issues of joint interest. Some reports follow.

UNEP/WCMC and UNEP Grid-Arendal emphasised that they appreciate working with CAFF, and are mainly contributing with GIS support. WCMC has undergone major changes in recent years and are now UNEP's main biodiversity centre. UNEP GRID-Arendal is the main polar centre for UNEP. WCMC noted they would like to continue working and supporting CAFF initiatives, including CPAN and monitoring, and probably seek role in the ECORA project. There are some areas which they want to strengthen such as climate change and water birds. They especially want to strengthen work on Arctic data, and interface with many different data windows.

There was also a presentation by Stuart Chape on the State of the Parks report, and the approach that WCMC is taking to World Protected Areas Information Management. The WCMC updates the UN list of protected areas every 5 to 10 years, and current list is 14th version. WCMC is seeking partners for information and funding, and started strategic planning process with partners. The main partners are IUCN, UNEP, and WCMC, but many other partners being brought into the process. WCMC would continue to maintain the database with links to other UNEP databases, and many uses are envisioned for the database. It is hope that CAFF and CPAN can provide case studies for the report, including the RAIPON sacred sites report.

The IUCN presented on the IUCN Arctic Strategy and Programme Development. The Arctic Resolution was adopted by the IUCN Council in May 2002. Its aim is to develop financial viable approaches that assist Arctic countries, indigenous people, and the private sector to conserve nature in the Arctic. It will build on existing capacity, and be implemented over three years. Two regional programs are being developed for Barents and Chukotka, and preparing documents to present to the Barents Council at an October meeting. It was noted that some of the projects could add value to ECORA and address gaps in field information. The World Parks Congress is a joint initiative between IUCN, WCPA, and UNEP. IUCN is working on the designating next year as the "Year of Protected Areas" in Russia, which was adopted by the way through the system.

The WWF thanked CAFF for the ability to attend CAFF IX and to participate in CAFF activities.

The Chair of CAFF noted that the Netherlands have been great supporters of CAFF, and have supported attendance of parties to CAFF IX. Netherlands and Wetlands International have been involved in monitoring, and had also sent information on their programs. Sincere thanks were provided to the Netherlands.

Decision:

No decision is required.

13. CAFF Recommendations and Future Initiatives

Discussion:

At the CAFF meeting in Iceland in April, the Artic Flora and Fauna Recommendations, based on the Artic Flora and Fauna Status and Conservation, were finalized. In Finland in May, the Recommendations for conservation were adopted by the SAOs. The Recommendations were presented.

Decision:

It was noted that the CAFF Work Plan 2002 to 2004 is a record of future initiatives of CAFF over the 2002 to 2004 period.

14. CAFF Outreach Activities

Discussion:

There was a discussion on how to ensure that the CAFF message is heard. One option is through the CAFF web page, and providing links to the sub-groups to the web page. Some discussion around how to improve communication and that important, but always a function of resources and time. It was noted that everyone can ensure that CAFF links are made within each country's relevant web sites.

Decision:

No decision is required.

15. CAFF Work Plan 2002-2004

Discussion:

The CAFF Work Plan 2002 - 2004 was finalized and approved during the meeting, and will be subsequently submitted to SAOs for approval. The CAFF Work Plan 2002-2004 is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

Decision:

The Work Plan 2002-2004 was approved by CAFF IX.

16. Reporting to SAOs and Ministers

Discussion:

There was discussion on draft report of SAOs to the AC Ministers, and revisions were suggested for portions pertaining to CAFF. There was discussion on the Inari Declaration, and revisions were suggested for portions pertaining to CAFF.

Decision:

The CAFF Input to the SAO Report to Ministers is the record of decision on this matter, and attached as an appendix to these minutes. The CAFF Input to the Inari Declaration is the record of decision on this matter, and is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

17. Review of Draft Meeting Report and Record of Decisions

Decision:

The CAFF Work Plan 2002-2004 is the central record of decision for CAFF IX.

18. Any Other Business

No other business.

19. Close of meeting

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – CAFF IX Participants List

<p>Aevar Petersen Icelandic Institute of Natural History Hlemmur 3, P.Box 5320 IS-125 Reykjavik</p> <p>Tel: +354 590 0500 Fax: +354 590 0595 Email: aevar@ni.is</p>	<p>Bas Oosenbrug Government of Northwest Territories X1A 358, Yellowknife, NWT Canada</p> <p>Tel: +1 867 873 7760 Fax: +1 867 873 0293 Email: bas_oosenbrug@gov.nt.ca</p>
<p>Berit Lein Directorate for Nature Management Tungasletta 2 N-7485 Trondheim Norway</p> <p>+47 73 58 08 21 +47 73 58 05 01 berit.lein@dirnat.no</p>	<p>Boris Yurtsev Komarov Botanical Institute Russian Academy of Sciences Prof. Popov Str. 2, St. Petersburg, 197376 Russia</p> <p>+ 7 812 543 83 67 VolodyaR@north.bin.ras.spb.ru</p>
<p>Stuart Chape UNEP/WCMC 219 Huntingdon Road Cambridge CB3 0DL U</p> <p>Tel: + 44 1223 277 314 Fax: + 44 1223 277 136 Email: stuart.chape@unep-wcmc.org</p>	<p>Christoph Zöckler UNEP/WCMC CB3 0DL Cambridge UK</p> <p>Tel: + 44 1223 277 314 Fax: + 44 1223 277 136 Email: crisroph.zoeckler@wcmc.org.uk</p>
<p>Dag Vongraven Norwegian Polar Institute Polarmiljosenteret N-9296 Tromsø Norway</p> <p>Tel: +47 77 75 05 00/0638 Fax: +47 77 75 05 01 Email: Dag.Vongraven@npolar.no</p>	<p>David Irons U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1011 E. Tudor Road Anchorage, 99503-6199 Alaska USA</p> <p>Tel: +1 907 786 3376 Fax: +1 907 786 3641 Email: david_irons@fws.gov</p>
<p>Duane Smith Inuvialuit Game Council (ICC) P.O. Box 2120 XOE OT0 Inuvik, NT Canada</p> <p>Tel: +1 867 777 2828 Fax: +1 867 777 2610 Email: IGC-C@jointsec.nt.ca</p>	<p>Ellen Fritts Alaska Department of Fish and Game P.O. Box 25526 Juneau, 99802-5526 Alaska USA</p> <p>Tel: +1 907 465 4105 Fax: + 1 907 465 4759 Email: ellen_fritts@fishgame.state.ak.us</p>
<p>Esko Jaakkola Ministry of the Environment P.O. Box 35 FIN-00023 Valtioneuvosto Finland</p> <p>Tel: +358 9 160 39371 Fax: +358 9 160 39364 Email: esko.jaakkola@ymparisto.fi</p>	<p>Gerard C. Boere International Programma Co-ordinator Wetlands International P.O. Box 471 NL-6700 AL Wageningen</p> <p>Tel: + 31 70 378 5591 Fax: + 31 70 378 6146 Email: boere@wetlands.agro.nl</p>

<p>Gunn-Britt Retter Arctic Council Indigenous Peoples Secretariat P.O. Box 2151 Pilestræde 52 DK-1016 Copenhagen K Denmark</p> <p>Tel: +45 33 69 34 26 Fax: +45 33 69 34 99 E-mail: gbr@ghsdk.dk</p>	<p>Heikki Eronheimo Metsähallitus Finnish Forest and Park Service P.O. Box 8016 FIN-96101 Rovaniemi Finland</p> <p>Tel: +358 205 64 7696 Fax: +358 205 64 7670 Email: heikki.eeronheimo@metsa.fi</p>
<p>Henry Huntington Huntington Consulting / Marine Mammal Commission 23834 The Clearing Drive Eagle River, AK-99577 USA</p> <p>Tel: + 1 907 696 3564 Fax: + 1 907 696 3565 Email: hph@alaska.net</p>	<p>Jan-Petter Huberth Hansen Directorate for Nature Management Tungasletta 2 N 7485 Trondheim Norway</p> <p>Tel: + 47 73 58 08 29 Fax: + 47 73 58 05 01 Email: jan-p.huberth-hansen@dirnat.no</p>
<p>Jeanne Pagnan Twin Dolphin Consulting 53 Brouage, Aylmer J9J 1J5 Quebec, Canada</p> <p>Tel: +1 819 777 1767 Fax: +1 819 777 1767 Email: jpagnan@compuserve.com</p>	<p>Jim Johnston Parks Canada 4th Floor 25 Eddy Street Gatineau Quebec, Canada K1A 0M5</p> <p>Tel: +1 819 994 3013 Fax: +1 819 992 5883 Email: Jim.Johnston@pc.gc.ca</p>
<p>Kent Wohl U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503 USA</p> <p>Tel : +1 907 786 3503 Fax : +1 907 786 3641 Email: kent_wohl@fws.gov</p>	<p>Kevin McCormick Environment Canada Northern Conservation Division 5204-50th Ave. Yellowknife, Canada X1A 1E2 Canada</p> <p>Tel: +1 867 669 4760 Fax: +1 867 873 6776 Email: kevin.mccormick@ec.gc.ca</p>
<p>Larry Carpenter Wildlife Management Advisor Council (NWT)</p> <p>Tel: +1 867 777 2828 Fax: +1 867 777 2610 Email: wmac-c@jointsec.nt.ca</p>	<p>Magdalena AK Muir CAFF Secretariat Hafnarstræti 97, 600 Akureyri Iceland</p> <p>Tel: +354 461 3352 , Mobil: +354 895 1357 Fax: +354 462 3390 Email: magdalena.muir@caff.is</p>

<p>Martin Raillard Manager Environment Canada, 21782 Alaska Highway Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A C87 Canada</p> <p>Tel: +1 867 667 3909 Fax: +1 867 667 7962 Email: martin.raillard@ec.gc.ca</p>	<p>Mats Ekenger Ministry of the Environment SE-10333 Stockholm Sweden</p> <p>Tel: +46 8 405 2243 Fax: +46 8 10 3807 Email: mats.ekenger@environment.ministry.se</p>
<p>Mats-Rune Bergström Länsstyrelsen I Västerbottanslän 901 86 UMEA Sweden</p> <p>Tel: +46 90 1073 52 Fax: +46 90 1073 41 Email: mats-rune.bergstrom@ac.lst.se</p>	<p>Mette-Astrid Jenssen Greenland Homerule Department of Environment and Nature P.O. Box 1619 3900 Nuuk Greenland</p> <p>Tel: +299 396 717 Fax: +299 325 286 Email: maje@gh.gk</p>
<p>Michael Todyshev RAIPON P.O. Box 990 117415 Moscow Russia</p> <p>Tel: +7 095 396 5594 Fax: +7 095 938 9527 Email: mtodishev@mail.ru</p>	<p>Pål Prestrud Director, CICERO, University of Oslo P.O. Box 1129 Blindern N-0318 Oslo Norway</p> <p>Tel: +47 22 85 87 53 Fax: +47 22 85 87 51 Email: pal.prestrud@cicero.uio.no</p>
<p>Peter Nielsen Greenland Homerule, Department of Environment and Nature P.O. Box 1614 DK 3900 Nuuk Greenland</p> <p>Tel: + 299 34 67 15 Fax: + 299 32 52 86 Email: PEN@gh.gl</p>	<p>Ritva Torikka Saami Council Petronellantie 16 99870 Inari Finland</p> <p>Tel: + 358 166 72 611</p> <p>Email: ritva.torikka@yle.fi</p>
<p>Robin Tuttle National Marine Fisheries Service 1315 East-West Highway 20910 Silver Spring, Maryland USA</p> <p>Tel: + 1 301 713 2282 Fax: + 1 301 713 2313 Email: Robin.Tuttle@noaa.gov</p>	<p>Snorri Baldursson Executive Secretary CAFF Hafnarstraeti 97, IS-600 Akureyri Iceland</p> <p>Tel: +354 462 3350 Fax: +354 462 3390 Email: snorri@caff.is</p>
<p>Stanislav Belikov Russian Institute for Nature Protection Znamenskoe-Sadki. Moscow, 113628 Russia</p> <p>Tel: +7 095 423 84 44 Fax: +7 095 423 23 22 arctos@glasnet.ru</p>	<p>Stefan Norris WWF Kr. Augusts gate 7A P.O. Box 6784 St. Olavs plass N-0130 Oslo Norway</p> <p>Tel: + 47 22 03 65 02 Fax: Email: snorris@wwf.no</p>

<p>Stephan Talbot U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1011 East Tudor Road 99503 Anchorage Alaska USA</p> <p>Tel: + 1 907 786 3381 Fax: + 1 907 786 3905 Email: stephen_talbot@fws.gov</p>	<p>Sune Sohlberg CAFF Chair The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency S-106 48 Stockholm Sweden</p> <p>Tel: +46 8 698 13 36 Fax: +46 8 698 14 02 Email: Sune.Sohlberg@naturvardsverket.se</p>
<p>Suzanne Bolton National Marine Fisheries Service 1315 East West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910 USA</p> <p>Tel: +1 301 713 2363 (122) Fax: +1 301 713 2313 Email: Suzanne.Bolton@noaa.gov</p>	<p>Tamara Semenova RAIPON P.O. Box 990 119415 Moscow Russia</p> <p>Tel: +7 095 396 5594 Fax: +7 095 938 9527 Email: tams@online.ru</p>
<p>Tiina Kurvits Fisheries and Oceans Canada 200 Kent Street, Ottawa, ON Canada, K1A 0E6</p> <p>Tel: +1 613 990 1575 Fax: +1 613 990 8249 Email: kurvitst@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</p>	<p>Yulia Gorelova IUCN office for CIS Countries 17, Marshal Vasilevsky 123182 Moscow Russia</p> <p>Tel: +7 095 190 70 77 / +7 095 190 16 04 Fax: +7 095 490 58 18 Email: jvg@iuen.ru</p>
<p>Vladimir Pishchelev Ministry of Natural Recourses Kedrova 8/1, Moscow Russia</p> <p>Tel : +7 095 125 5688 Fax :+7 095 125 52 09 Email : vpischelev@mnr.gov.ru</p>	



Appendix II: CAFF IX Agenda

CAFF IX 2-1

CAFF IX, Abisko, August 28-30, 2002

Draft Annotated Agenda

Tuesday, August 27

14:00 – 18:00 CAFF Heads of Delegation meeting

19:00- Reception hosted by NN (t.b.d)

Wednesday, August 28 - DAY 1

08:30 - 10:00 (1) Welcome and introduction

- Opening statement by NN (t.b.d)
- Chairman's address
- Brief statements by Permanent Participants
- Chairman's and Secretariat Report

(2) Adoption of the Agenda

(3) Presentation on the Arctic Council Review Process

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee break

10:30 – 11:00 (4) Introduction of Arctic Council Ministerial Documents: CAFF Input to SAO Report to Ministers; Inari Declaration; CAFF Recommendations for Conservation

→ Note: the purpose of this Item is only to introduce these documents to the WG for review and later adoption

- Appointment of a Drafting Committee to keep track of meeting decisions and revisions to Ministerial documents

11:00 – 12:00 (5) Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA)

- Status of ACIA Scientific Report – Terry Callaghan
- The ACIA Timeline
- Presentation of the "Plan for Preparation of the ACIA Policy Document"
- Discussion and decisions regarding CAFF review of ACIA, (identification of reviewers), CAFF member in the Policy Document drafting group.

→ Note: The work on the ACIA Policy Document will commence at a large ACIA synthesis meeting in the U.S. in the week of March 10-17, 2003. The ACIA Scientific Report will be subjected to CAFF, AMAP, IASC review in late spring of 2003.

- 12:00 – 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 – 15:00 (4) Cont. Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA)
 (6) Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN)
- Report and recommendations from the CPAN Group
 - Note: the CPAN Group will meet Tuesday, August 27
 - Sacred Sites project – presentation of final report by RAIPON
 - Discussion on status and CPAN items for inclusion into the 2002-2004 Work Plan, including any follow-up on the Sacred Sites Project
- 15:00 – 15:15 Coffee break
- 15:15 – 17:30 5) Cont. Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29 – DAY 2

- 08:30 – 10:00 (7) CAFF/GEF ECORA Project:
- Presentation of Project Brief
 - Publication of PDF-B Reports as CAFF Technical Report Series
 - Note: I.e. Activity 6 “Overview of International Projects in the Russian Arctic”, and Activity 8 “Circumpolar Review of Best Practices”
 - Discussion on CAFF/CAFF Secretariat involvement in Full Project implementation.
 - Note: Direct involvement by CAFF/CAFF Secretariat in project management and implementation will cost significant staff time. This discussion will be contingent upon a positive GEF Council's decision.
- 10:00 - 10:30 Coffee break
- 10:30 – 12:00 (8) Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Network
- Presentation of April workshop results and the European Union work (the CABNET, and the ARCBIONET)
 - Presentation of status of CAFF/AMAP collaboration
 - Discussion on follow up in the 2002-2004 WP, and with funding agencies such as EU and NSF
 - Note: The discussion will be contingent *inter alia* upon EU's response to the CABNET application, and any calls already made by EU for proposals to the 6th Research Framework.
- 12:00 - 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 – 15:00 (8) Cont. Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Network
 (9) CAFF Flora Work
- Report and recommendations from the CAFF Flora Group
 - Discussion on follow-up in CAFF WP 2002-2004
- 15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break
- 15:30 – 17:30 (10) CAFF Seabird Work
- Report and recommendations from the CSWG
 - Discussion on follow-up in CAFF WP 2002-2004

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30 – DAY 3

- 8:30 - 10:00 (11) AC Capacity Building Strategy
- Presentation
 - Discussion on CAFF follow-up
- (12) Relations with Observer organisations
- AC Working Groups (AMAP, ACAP, EPPR, PAME, SDWG) are invited to report to the meeting on issues of joint interest.
 - Observers (IUCN, UNEP, WWF-Arctic Programme, others) are invited to report to the meeting on issues of joint interest
 - Discussion on follow-up
- 10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break
- 10:30 – 12:00 (12) CAFF Recommendations and future initiatives
- Presentation of Recommendations
 - Presentation of any new ideas for CAFF work items
 - Discussion on implications for the CAFF WP 2002-2004
- (13) CAFF outreach activities (homepage, booklets, etc)
- Discussion on how to ensure that the CAFF message is heard
- 12:00-13:30 Lunch
- 13:30-15:00 (14) CAFF Work Plan 2000-2002
- Review and adoption
- (15) Reporting to SAOs and Ministers
- Deliverables to SAOs and Ministers
 - Review and adoption of CAF input to SAO Report to Ministers and the Inari Declaration
- 15:00-15:30 Coffee break
- 15:15-16:00 (14) Cont. Reporting to SAOs and Ministers
- (16) Review of Draft Meeting report/Record of Decisions
- (17) Any other business
- (18) Close of meeting
- 19:00- Official CAFF Dinner

Saturday, August 30

09:00 – Excursion in the Abisko area

Sunday, August 31

10:00 Bus departs for airport

Appendix III: CAFF Input to Inari Declaration

INARI DECLARATION

on the occasion of the Third Ministerial Meeting
of

THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

Ministers representing the eight Arctic States, convening in Inari, Finland, for the third ministerial meeting of the Arctic Council,

Reaffirming the commitment of the Governments of the Arctic States to work together to promote sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic region,

Acknowledging the character of the Arctic Council as a unique partnership among Governments and organizations representing indigenous people(s) (groups) and communities in the Arctic,

Referring to the special features of the Arctic environment as an indicator of global environmental problems, such as climate change and long-range trans-boundary pollution, and the importance this information may have in international fora,

Noting with pleasure the strengthened role of the Arctic Council as an international voice for the circumpolar region, reflecting the ongoing dialogue involving national Governments, indigenous organizations, regional authorities, scientific experts, and civil society,

Noting with satisfaction the work of the Arctic Council Working Groups, the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR), Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) as well as the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) and the Action Plan against Pollution in the Arctic (ACAP),

Hereby:

ARCTIC COUNCIL AS A PARTNER IN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

1. Declare that the Arctic States, in view of the intensified need for global action, will continue to collaborate closely in international fora on environmental protection and sustainable development issues of importance to the Arctic, (and when appropriate, request the Arctic Council to deliver jointly agreed Arctic messages,) and **acknowledge** the role of Arctic indigenous organizations in developing Arctic Council policies of global significance,

2. Welcome closer cooperation between the Arctic Council and the European Commission as a practical and efficient way of organizing work for the Arctic Window of the EU's Northern Dimension, (and

encourage the European Union to prepare a Northern Dimension Action Plan for the years 2004 -2006 , which will give appropriate attention to the northernmost parts of the Northern Dimension region);

welcome the contributions to Arctic cooperation by non-arctic observer countries as well as scientific institutions, international organizations and NGOs

note with appreciation the financing and expertise provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), UNEP-Chemicals, the Nordic Environment Financing Corporation (NEFCO) and look forward to working with International Financing Institutions, such as the World Bank Group, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Nordic Investment Bank (NIB),

3. Note with satisfaction the inclusion of Arctic concerns in the Plan of Implementation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, especially those pertaining to eradication of poverty among indigenous communities, addressing the impact of climate change, the campaign against POPs and other pollutants, oceanic issues, as well as sustainable use of natural resources, and

reassert the role of the Arctic Council as a regional partnership for environmental protection and sustainable development with the firm aim of contributing to the implementation of the Johannesburg outcomes.

HUMAN CONDITIONS IN THE ARCTIC

4. Acknowledge the need to reinforce circumpolar cooperation to promote sustainable economic growth in the Arctic regions as the basis for enhanced prosperity and welfare ; and to this end

welcome the proposal to develop an Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR) that will contribute to a comprehensive knowledge base for the Arctic Council's Sustainable Development (and direct that indigenous traditional knowledge be fully used in this project);

acknowledge the significant contribution of the Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic (SLICA) to that knowledge base;

emphasize the need to integrate gender equality and youth in all efforts to enhance human living conditions;

note the Council's successful efforts to expand ecological and cultural tourism through circumpolar cooperation for the benefit of local communities

4 A

take note of the recommendations of the participants in the Taking Wing—Conference on Gender Equality and Women in the Arctic;

recognize the crucial role of women in developing viable Arctic communities;

emphasize the urgent need to take action against all violence against women in the Arctic and encourage efforts to break the silence surrounding this serious problem; and

urge SAOs to integrate consideration of women's perspectives into the work of the Council;

4B

encourage continued cooperation on health issues, including assessing the relationships between pollution and health, sharing information on the incidence of infectious diseases, evaluating telemedicine as a method of overcoming long distances, and new initiatives to address the effects of domestic violence on women's health, the exchange of information on promoting healthier lifestyles, and the role of education and training in improving the health and well being of children and youth;

5. Emphasize the significance of circumpolar transportation infrastructure, including aviation, marine transport and modern telecommunication services, for enhancing sustainable development in the Arctic, (bearing in mind the huge impact climate change may have on infrastructure in the Arctic,)and

(intend to continue to enhance Arctic aviation and explore and enhance new opportunities for marine and surface transport, taking into consideration gradually evolving permafrost and sea ice changes and subsequent needs for appropriate environmental protection,)

agree to explore ways and means to establish and re-establish aviation links and to strengthen telecommunication services in the Arctic region.

FURTHER ACTIONS AGAINST POLLUTANTS

6. Welcome with appreciation the AMAP 2002 State of the Arctic Environment Report, **endorse and adopt** its recommendations (Annex 1), and **commit** to take them into consideration in their policies and programmes to reduce pollution in the Arctic,

note the actions taken since the publication of the previous AMAP report, including the adoption of the Aarhus Protocols on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and on Heavy Metals, and the Stockholm Convention on POPs and emphasize their early entry into force, recalling that their progressive character allows for the inclusion of new substances on the basis of scientific findings,

welcome UNEP's global assessment of mercury and international efforts to outline and consider policy options, express concern about increasing mercury levels in some parts of the Arctic documented in the AMAP Assessment Report, and agree to intensify our efforts to achieve global cooperation to address the manmade sources of mercury pollution,

reconfirm their readiness and will to continue, further develop and implement the Action Plan to Eliminate Pollution of the Arctic, welcome with appreciation the report on Phase 2 of the project for phase-out of PCB use and management of PCB-contaminated waste in the Russian Federation, and adopt proposals for implementation of Phase 3, and further implementation of the other ACAP-projects?? (need to see these proposals!!)

encourage further implementation and updating of the Arctic Regional Plan of Action and support Russia (member countries) in its (their) efforts to implement its (their) National Plan(s) of Action,

reconfirm our will to work with Russia to facilitate that country's efforts on adherence of international and regional pollution regulations, and to this end **welcome** multilateral and bilateral financial support of these efforts, (with special emphasis on the projects derived from the National Plan of Action for Protection of Marine Environment and Action Plan to Eliminate Pollution of the Arctic.)

recognize that existing and emerging activities in the Arctic warrant a more coordinated and integrated strategic approach to address the challenges of the Arctic coastal and marine environment and agree to develop a strategic plan for protection of the Arctic marine environment.

7. take note (of the declining levels of anthropogenic radionuclides in the Arctic environment with the exception of technetium-99 and iodine-129 originating from reprocessing plants.) (more general language has been requested)

intend to continue civil cooperation with Russia to improve the safety and security of nuclear power installations and nuclear waste sites,

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

8. welcome with appreciation the CAFF report Arctic Flora and Fauna, Status and Conservation, and

endorse and adopt the recommendations arising from this report as a strategy for future biodiversity conservation work of the Arctic Council (Annex 2),

emphasize the significance of circumpolar cooperation aimed at promoting the conservation **of biodiversity and unfragmented habitats and promoting the** sustainable use of renewable marine resources, migratory wildlife, forests and other natural resources.

recognize that effective conservation of many circumpolar species and other natural resources requires close cooperation with non-arctic states.

recognize that enhanced monitoring of biodiversity at the circumpolar level is required to detect the impacts of global changes **on biodiversity** and to enable Arctic communities to effectively respond and adapt to these changes.

take note of recommendations generated by projects on timberline forests, sustainable reindeer herding, **and sacred sites** and encourage further dialogue among stakeholders on this basis;

recognize the potential for the development of oil, gas, and minerals in many Arctic regions to contribute to the local standard of living and **emphasize** the importance of responsible management of these resources, (including emergency prevention), with the aim to ensure environmental protection and sustainability in the development of local communities.,

consider the ecological and other impacts of natural resource development, and undertake, as appropriate, strategic assessments,

acknowledge the need to pay particular attention to the effects of development and the use of natural resources on the traditional sources of livelihood of indigenous communities.

CLIMATE CHANGE

9. (note with concern the ongoing significant warming of most of the Arctic, and recognize that the impacts of global warming with increased possibilities of extreme weather events will have large consequences in the Arctic, and that the Arctic can act as an early warning of global climate changes, and to this end)

welcome with appreciation the good progress of the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) and the significant progress in evaluating and synthesizing knowledge on climate variability and change and increased ultraviolet radiation, and underline its importance as a future input to the global process on climate;
note the methodology of incorporating indigenous knowledge and perspectives into the Assessment,

welcome the international recognition of this ground-breaking project at the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

emphasize the importance of continuing national, regional and international discussions on the consequences of climate change with the aim of enhancing early capacity building to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change,

(recognize the increasing importance of prevention of and response to emergencies originating in climate variability and change.)

(intend to reinforce the dialogue between the Arctic states on climate policy recommendations that help deal with vulnerability and adaptability in the Arctic and contribute to a common understanding on how to deal with global warming, Kyoto and other potential international instruments.)

(CAPACITY BUILDING)

10. recognize capacity building as an important part of circumpolar cooperation ,
urge all subsidiary bodies of the Arctic Council to take capacity building into account in all their activities;

recognize the need to support the capacity building of Permanent Participants, children and youth, and women;

recognize the usefulness of information and communications technology in circumpolar capacity building efforts; and

welcome the good progress of the University of the Arctic (UArctic) and encourage appropriate authorities in the Arctic states to increase their efforts to secure financing of the core activities of the UArctic.

Welcome ECORA as an integrated ecosystem approach to the management of natural resources wherein individuals and communities improve their capacity to make responsible decisions about their natural environment.

CALL FOR EFFICIENCY, PRIORITIZATION AND INTERACTION

11. endorse the recommendations in the Senior Arctic Officials' report on the review of the working structures of the Arctic Council (Annex 3)

emphasize the importance of interaction with the sub-regions, assisted by the Northern Forum,

take note of the recommendations issued by the 5th Conference of Arctic Parliamentarians and welcome continuous cooperation with and support from the Standing Committee

welcome the enhanced cooperation with regional bodies, such as the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC) and the Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS) and call for continued coordination to enhance synergies and avoid duplication of work,

grant the observer status of the Arctic Council for the period of time until the 4th Ministerial Meeting:

12. Welcome with appreciation the report of the Senior Arctic Officials, note with appreciation the progress made by the Council's subsidiary bodies and adopt the SAO recommendations as included in the report, including the working mandates for the Working Groups and other subsidiary bodies (Annex 4),

welcome with appreciation the continuing offers of Norway to host AMAP and ACAP secretariats, of Iceland to host CAFF and PAME secretariats, of the USA to host ACIA secretariat, of Denmark to host IPS, and welcome with appreciation the new offer of Canada to host a permanent secretariat for the SDWG and provide a temporary secretariat for EPPR, and encourage all partners to assist the hosts in financing the secretariats.

13. (placeholder for thanks to the out-going host of the Council)

14. Welcome and accept with appreciation the offer of Iceland to chair the Arctic Council during the period 2002 – 2004 and host the 4th Ministerial Meeting in 2004.

APPENDIX IV: CAFF INPUT TO SAO REPORT TO MINISTERS

2.2.2. CAFF (CONSERVATION OF ARCTIC FLORA AND FAUNA)

CAFF is the principal biodiversity forum of the AC, working on a variety of projects related to the monitoring, research, sustainable use, and conservation of shared Arctic species and habitats. Since 1998, the CAFF's work has been guided by the Strategic Plan for the Conservation of Arctic Biological Diversity, as further defined through directions from the AC. The Second Ministerial Meeting in Barrow, Alaska, 2000, endorsed several activities for CAFF 2000-2002, following five main themes: Integration and information sharing; Monitoring of Arctic biodiversity; Species conservation; Protected areas; Biodiversity conservation outside protected areas. More information can be found on CAFF's home page at [http:// www.caff.is](http://www.caff.is). CAFF's work plan is available as this report's annex 6.

2.2.2.1. CAFF Progress Report 2000-2002

a) Integration and information sharing

In June 2001, CAFF published a major overview on the state of Arctic biodiversity, *Arctic Flora and Fauna: Status and Conservation*. The report has since been widely distributed within the Arctic and has received much attention. Building on the report's conclusions, CAFF has forwarded policy recommendations to the Arctic Ministers (*Arctic Flora and Fauna: Recommendations for Conservation*) regarding needed actions to conserve and ensure sustainable use of Arctic flora and fauna (Annex 5). These are discussed in section 2.2.2.2.

b) Monitoring of Arctic biodiversity

As a first step in developing a comprehensive program to monitor circumpolar biodiversity, CAFF has established expert networks to harmonize circumpolar observations, data gathering, and analyses for eight key species and species groups (Arctic char; reindeer/caribou; shorebirds/waders; geese; Arctic vascular plants; polar bear; seabirds; and ringed seal). Raising operational funds for the networks from Arctic governments has been a challenge. With

support from the Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM), the network coordinators met with CAFF representatives in April 2002 to assess progress and develop a strategy to expand, link, fund, and make the networks functional in a cohesive program. An Expression of Interest was prepared and submitted to the European Union (EU) as a forerunner to a funding application to the 6th EU Research Framework.

CAFF and AMAP held a joint meeting in Stockholm in August 2001 to discuss further coordination of CAFF/AMAP monitoring activities and agreed to begin work towards an Integrated Arctic Monitoring Program in the fall of 2002, after the 3rd Arctic Council Ministerial meeting.

The CAFF Secretariat and Iceland, as the lead country for biodiversity monitoring within CAFF, have been collaborating with the U.S.-led GLOBE program to develop a GLOBE-Arctic protocol on Seasonal Markers (i.e., monitoring indicators of seasonal change). This protocol, which complements GLOBE – Arctic “POPs protocol”, was presented at a GLOBE workshop in Akureyri, August 7-12, 2002.

c) Species conservation

Within fauna conservation, the focus of CAFF continued to be on migratory birds, and primarily seabirds. The CAFF Circumpolar Seabird Group has continued to coordinate the circumpolar implementation of the CAFF eider and murre conservation strategies and action plans. Key initiatives for seabird conservation include: a common eider colony map to document the circumpolar distribution and abundance of eiders; a thick-billed murre population model to predict future changes; murre banding plans; and a murre climate change paper as an information item. To link with identified global threats to migratory birds, the group is also developing proposals for preparing: a List of Birds of Arctic Conservation Concern and threats posed to them on the wintering and staging grounds; an updated assessment of seabird bycatch in gillnets in the circumpolar region; and a follow-up to the CAFF Technical Report No. 9 *Seabird Harvest Regimes in Circumpolar Nations* (2001), especially with respect to improved seabird harvest monitoring in Russia.

The CAFF Flora Group will complete the Circumpolar Arctic Vegetation Map in early 2003, a major scientific undertaking that provided a common legend and language for the ecosystems of the Arctic. The Group has prepared specific recommendations for CAFF regarding flora conservation priorities and is developing proposals on a checklist of arctic lichens and bryophytes; a second international workshop on the classification of arctic vegetation to be held in Kangerlussuaq, Greenland; and a revised Atlas of Rare Vascular Plants of the Arctic.

d) Protected areas

The CAFF Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN) Group has completed a public education booklet on the Full Values of Arctic Protected Areas. The report presents a number of case studies to demonstrate the range of values arising from protected areas and increase the awareness of the benefits of protected areas locally, nationally, and globally.

CPAN is also completing a report detailing protected area activities in each of the circumpolar countries over the last 5 years (CAFF Habitat Conservation Report No. 10). Further, following a Ministerial request to enhance the marine component of CPAN, the group is preparing a project proposal to develop a compendium of maps, overlays, and supporting text to identify ecologically important marine areas in the circumpolar Arctic to support the establishment of protected areas and other protection measures in the marine environment.

With financial support from the Danish Environmental Protection Agency (DEPA), a RAIPON/CAFF/IPS pilot project to map and identify the Conservation Value of Sacred Sites of indigenous peoples is being implemented. The first phase of the project, completed solely with the participation of indigenous peoples, has already had a positive impact on legislative work in the model areas of Kamchatka/Koryak and Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrugs. Other regions of northern Russia are interested in conducting similar research. A project report is available in Russian with an Executive Summary in English. The second phase of this project foresees the organization of a circumpolar workshop, and the preparation of a CAFF Technical Report analyzing the project outcomes and recommendations.

e) Biodiversity conservation outside protected areas

Since 2000 CAFF has been intensely engaged in the development phase (PDF-B) of a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Environment Facility (GEF) project entitled ‘ECORA. An Integrated Ecosystem Management Approach to Conserve Biodiversity and Minimise Habit Fragmentation in Three Selected Model Areas in the Russian Arctic’. The project will contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through the implementation of integrated ecosystem management strategies and action plans. Key components of the project are biodiversity and socio economic inventories and assessments training programs for local people legislative administrative and institutional capacity building specific conservation measures and pilot activities to test integrated ecosystem management approaches.

A full Project Brief was completed, submitted and subsequently approved by the GEF Secretariat in August 2002 for entry into the GEF work program. The UNEP Programme Coordination Committee lauded the project “as one of the finest examples of a comprehensive, well-written and argued project proposal that the committee has ever reviewed.” Numerous comments were made as to the innovative nature of the project and many individuals found it “an exciting opportunity.” The proposal now goes to the next GEF Council meeting to be held in October 14-15, 2002 in Beijing for approval. The main phase of ECORA, which will be initiated in early 2003, will operate with a 6.9 million USD budget, 3 million from GEF and an additional 3.9 million cash and in kind co-funding from Russian local governments and industrial stakeholders, other Arctic States, and the Nordic Environmental Finance Corporation (NEFCO).

Two reports from the PDF-B phase: “A Circumpolar Review of Best Practices for Integrated Ecosystem Management” and “Review of Projects Relevant for Biodiversity Conservation and Use of Biological Resources in the Russian Arctic”, will be published as CAFF Technical Reports Nos. 11 and 12, respectively.

CAFF, together with AMAP and IASC, is overseeing the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA), and a CAFF representative is serving as vice-chair of the Assessment Steering Committee. The incoming CAFF Chair will represent CAFF on the ACIA Policy Document drafting committee. Issues concerning the ACIA are available in this report's chapter 2.2.7.

2.2.2.2 Arctic Flora and Fauna: Recommendations for Conservation

A series of recommendations for conservation was prepared based on the main themes and conclusions of *Arctic Flora and Fauna: Status and Conservation* (Annex 5). The recommendations are intended to guide not only the future work of the Arctic Council but to serve as a resource and inspiration for others active in Arctic conservation. There are 11 recommendations organized under the themes of Conserving Arctic Species, Conserving Arctic Ecosystems and Habitats, Assessing and Monitoring Arctic Biodiversity, Global Issues, and Engaging Society. Future CAFF work will be organized around these five themes. The recommendations are:

- ω Identify threats to Arctic species of common conservation concern, and implement necessary conservation measures for those species that currently lack concerted international action.
- ω Assess the scope and impacts of non-endemic species in the circumpolar Arctic and develop appropriate response strategies.
- ω Identify important freshwater, marine and terrestrial habitats in the Arctic and ensure their protection through the establishment of protected areas and other appropriate conservation measures.
- ω Promote an ecosystem approach to resource use and management in the circumpolar Arctic, through, *inter alia*, the development of common guidelines and best practices.
- ω Promote activities that identify and classify Arctic species and ecological processes to better understand Arctic ecosystems.
- ω Build on national and international work to implement a program to monitor biodiversity at the circumpolar level that will allow for regional assessments, integration with other environmental monitoring programs, and comparison of the Arctic with other regions of the globe.
- ω Assess the interaction between global changes and Arctic biodiversity, and develop strategies to address negative impacts.

- ω In co-operation with non-Arctic states, strengthen conservation measures for those migratory species that lack adequate protection outside the Arctic
- ω Document and incorporate the full range of values of Arctic natural resources into decision-making.
- ω Promote formal and public education, including outreach to non-Arctic countries, on the values, conservation, and sustainable use of Arctic natural resources.
- ω Encourage the participation of Arctic indigenous peoples, local communities, and schools in conservation and monitoring of Arctic species and ecosystems.

2.2.2.3 CAFF Work Plan 2002-2004

CAFF's Work Plan for the years 2002-2004 is available as this report's Annex 6.

The SAOs recommend Ministers:

- To approve the progress report of CAFF 2000-2002 and endorse the Work Plan for the 2002-2004.
- To endorse the CAFF Recommendations for Conservation as listed above.
- To acknowledge the progress made on the integrated ecosystem management project ECORA, and to reconfirm its request for CAFF to participate in and for Arctic states to support ECORA.
- To encourage CAFF, in cooperation with the other working groups, to enhance monitoring of biodiversity at the circumpolar and regional levels to detect the impacts of global changes and to allow Arctic communities to respond and adapt.

Appendix V: CAFF Work Plan 2002 – 2004

I. INTRODUCTION

The CAFF Work Plan for 2002-04 specifies actions agreed upon by the eight Arctic Council members states to be undertaken during the period in cooperation with Permanent Participants, Arctic Council Observers, and other interested parties. The CAFF Work Plan 2002-2004 follows the format of and represents steps toward implementing the strategic document, “Arctic Flora and Fauna : Recommendations for Conservation”, which has been submitted for endorsement at the Third Arctic Council ministerial meeting in October 2002. Work Plan items are carried out in a cooperative fashion under the leadership of an assigned lead country or countries. Work Plan items will be implemented by CAFF X, unless an earlier date is provided.

CAFF recognises the need for capacity building in the Arctic region, where rapid changes in globalisation, climate change, transitional economies, and growing pressures on ecological and culture resources require the development and application of new approaches and new solutions. In implementing its work plan, the CAFF program will make efforts to actively contribute to capacity building agenda of the Arctic Council. CAFF will also enhance efforts to communicate its work and the results of CAFF projects to ensure that communities, regional organisations advancing the, national audiences and international organisations are aware of CAFF’s work, and the contribution of these efforts to the well being of Arctic residents and the conservation of Arctic flora and fauna.

II. WORK PLAN

1. Conserving Arctic Species

Flora

- 1.1 Complete and distribute the Circumpolar Arctic Vegetation Map. *Lead: US.*
- 1.2 Initiate a checklist of Arctic lichens and bryophytes as an essential first step to the assessment of rare taxa. *Lead: Iceland.*
- 1.3 Complete the Panarctic Flora Checklist, and initiate a revised Atlas of Rare Vascular Plants of the Arctic, based on the checklist. *Lead: Norway.*
- 1.4 Review report on the monitoring of local flora (presence and abundance) in Russia, including evaluating its circumpolar application. *Lead: US and Russia.*
- 1.5 Subject to funding, plan and host in Greenland a second International Workshop on the Classification of Arctic Vegetation. *Lead: Greenland with assistance of US.*
- 1.6 Scope process to gather and incorporate traditional knowledge pertaining to the use and conservation of arctic plants. *Lead: US and Permanent Participants.*
- 1.7 Hold CAFF Flora Group Workshop in 2003 to assemble experts and distribute information on ongoing activities. *Lead: US.*

Fauna

- 1.8 Complete a CAFF Technical Report on Birds of Arctic Conservation Concern, including identifying their migration routes and wintering areas and applicable conservation instruments. *Lead: US in cooperation with UNEP/WCMC and Wetlands International.*

- 1.9 Report on seabird gillnet bycatch initiatives, and complete a review on this issue. *Lead: US and Canada.*
- 1.10 Update CAFF Technical Report No 5, Seabird Harvest Regimes in Circumpolar Nations for CAFF X *Lead: US*
- 1.11 Continue implementing applicable action items in the “Circumpolar Eider Conservation Strategy and Action Plan” and “International Murre Conservation Strategy and Action Plan”. *Lead: Canada and US.*
- 1.12 Continue to develop a framework for a circumpolar seabird monitoring network. *Lead: US and Iceland.*

2. Conserving Arctic Ecosystems and Habitats

- 2.1. By 2003, complete country updates on recent protected area establishment, management and legislative initiatives. *Lead: Canada.*
- 2.2. Organize a workshop to discuss the ecological value of protecting large unfragmented areas and prepare proceedings. *Lead: Canada*
- 2.3. For 2003, prepare a proposal for a workshop to assemble existing data sets and identify additional data needs for a Compendium of Ecologically Important Marine Areas. *Lead: US.*
- 2.4. Analyse regional and international agreements and evaluate their potential to contribute to CAFF’s protected areas initiatives by CAFF X. *Lead: US and Finland.*
- 2.5. Organize a circumpolar workshop and prepare a technical report on outcomes and recommendations on the Indigenous Sacred Sites project. *Lead: RAIPON and Russia.*
- 2.6. Complete detailed project planning and begin implementation of the main phase of ECORA, subject to confirmation of funds from the Global Environmental Facility. *Lead: Russia, Norway and UNEP GRID-Arendal.*

3. Assessing and Monitoring Arctic Biodiversity

- 3.1. Develop a framework for a circumpolar biodiversity monitoring program, which includes community-based monitoring, and seek the resources required for implementation. *Lead: Iceland and Permanent Participants.*
- 3.2. Co-ordinate the CAFF biodiversity monitoring program with the AMAP contaminants monitoring program and other global monitoring initiatives to support ACIA and other assessments. *Lead: US and Iceland.*

4. Global Issues

- 4.1 Through the ACIA Assessment Steering Committee, continue to coordinate the development and review of the ACIA scientific report and overview. *Lead: Norway and Canada.*
- 4.2 In cooperation with AMAP, lead in the preparation of the ACIA Policy Document group. *Lead: US.*

5. Engaging Society

- 5.1 Develop a brochure and poster based on the publication “Protected Areas of the Arctic: Conserving a Full Range of Values”. *Lead: Canada, US, and WWF.*

CAFF PUBLICATIONS:

Arctic Flora and Fauna – Status and Conservation (2001)

Arctic Flora and Fauna – Recommendations for Conservation (2002)

CAFF Habitat Conservation Reports (HCR):

- No.1 The State of the Protected Areas in the Circumpolar Arctic (1994)
- No.2 Proposed Protected Areas in the Circumpolar Arctic (1996)
- No.3 National Principles and Mechanisms for Protected Areas in the Arctic Countries (1996)
- No.4 Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN) Principles and Guidelines (1996)
- No.5 Gaps in Habitat Protection in the Circumpolar Arctic (1996)
- No.6 Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN) Strategy and Action Plan (1996)
- No.7 Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN) Progress Report 1997 (1997)
- No.8 Summary of Legal Instruments and National Frameworks for Arctic Marine Conservation (2000)
- No.9 Gap analysis on the Russia Arctic (2000)
- No.10 Protected Areas of the Arctic: Conserving a Full Range of Values (2002)

CAFF Technical Reports:

- No.1 Incidental Take of Seabirds in Commercial Fisheries in the Arctic Countries (1998)
- No.2 Human Disturbance at Arctic Seabird Colonies (1998)
- No.3 Atlas of Rare Endemic Vascular Plants of the Arctic (1999)
- No.4 Global Overview of the Conservation of Arctic Migratory Breeding Birds Outside the Arctic
- No.5 AMAP/CAFF Workshop on Climate Change, Rovaniemi. 24-25 March 1998 (1998) (1999)
- No.6 CAFF/AMAP Workshop on a Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program, Reykjavik 7-9 Feb, 2000: Summary Report
- No.7 Workshop on Seabird Incidental Catch In the Waters of Arctic Countries, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia 26-28 April 2000; Report and Recommendations
- No.8 CAFF Workshop on Conservation of Migratory Arctic Birds, Songli, Norway, 10-11 September 2000: Summary Report
- No.9 Seabird Harvest Regimes in the Circumpolar Nations (2001)
- No.10 Proceedings of the First International conservation of the Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Flora Group Workshop: 2002
- No.11 The Conservation Value of Sacred Sites of Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic: A Case Study in Northern Russia
- No.12 Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program – CBMP) Coordination Meeting, Akureyri, Iceland, April 11-12, 2002

CAFF Strategies

- Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN) Strategy and Action Plan (1996)
- International Murre Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (1996)
- Circumpolar Eider Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (1997)
- The Co-operative Strategy for Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Arctic Region (1997)
- Strategic Plan for the Conservation of Arctic Biological Diversity (1998)

Program Management and Meetings

- CAFF Report to Ministers 1996 (March 1996)
- CAFF Report to SAOs 1997 (June 1997)
- Report of the Working Group 1992-1993 (1993)
- Third Meeting of the CAFF International Working Group (CAFF III), Reykjavík 1994: Proceedings (1994)
- Fourth Annual Meeting of the CAFF International Working Group (CAFF IV), Moscow 1995: Summary Report (1996)

Fifth Annual Meeting of the CAFF International Working Group (CAFF V), Rovaniemi 1996: Summary Report (1997)

Sixth Annual Meeting of the CAFF International Working Group (CAFF VI), Nuuk 1997: Summary Report (1998)

Seventh Meeting of the CAFF International Working Group (CAFF VII), Yellowknife 1999: Summary Report (1999)

Eighth Meeting of the CAFF International Working Group (CAFF VIII), Trondheim 2000: Summary Report (2000)

Ninth Meeting of the CAFF International Working Group (CAFF IX), Abisko, 2002: Summary Report (2002)

Circumpolar Seabird Working Group Bulletin, Vol 1-2, (1995-1996)

CAFF Newsletter Vol 1-2 (1995-19)

For further information and additional copies contact:

CAFF INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Hafnarstraeti 97

600 Akureyri

ICELAND

Telephone: +354 462 3350

Fax: +354 462 3390

Email: caff@caff.is

Internet: <http://www.caff.is>

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