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# IPS UPdate

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## Editorial

**I**n this issue the reader will find information about recent and forthcoming conferences, as well as outlines of such prospects and initiatives in which we feel that the organisations of indigenous peoples will play a key role in the future. We have in mind here not least the preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which encompasses a series of conferences and workshops scheduled for this and next year. The time is short, and each and every one of us - even if we may be just common regular people - have a role and a responsibility in making our own contribution to sustainable development issues. It is the IPS' assessment that indigenous peoples' participation, not only in the regional process, but also in the global process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development is essential. And IPS is willing to facilitate in any possible way contributions of Indigenous Peoples Organisations' of the Arctic.

This autumn brings about a greater wealth of various meetings than any autumn before. The Arctic Council's working group on the Protection of the Marine Environment in the Arctic (PAME) will confer in Moscow to review international instruments to protect the Arctic marine environment, discuss the progress of the Russian NPA-Arctic project, Arctic shipping issues etc. Simultaneously, the Offshore Oil and Gas Workshop will be conducted. The meeting will be attended by national representatives, Indigenous Peoples Organisations and experts.

The Joint EU-Russia-Canada-US Workshop will meet in Brussels, Belgium, from October 25 to 27. The workshop will address a range of northern issues, one of which is a commitment to strengthen co-operation in the Arctic in three globally-important fields: sustainable economic development, environmental protection and Arctic research.

Finally, meetings of the Arctic Council will commence in Helsinki early in November. On November 1, the Canadian government will conduct a Workshop on Capacity Building. In the first issue of our UPdate we shared some thoughts on capacity building and traditional environmental knowledge. In addition to what was said there, we would like to stress the relevance of the results of this workshop to the future of the

Arctic Council and its working groups, Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic and their communities.

We expect the Permanent Participants to double their usual representation at these meetings.

Good news is that the US Department of State has allocated 10,000 US dollars to the participation of Indigenous Residents of United States in activities of the Arctic Council. On behalf of the Arctic Athabaskan Council, Aleut International Association, the Gwich'in Council International and Inuit Circumpolar Conference we would like to express our appreciation and sincere gratitude to the US State Department for this contribution to the activities of the Arctic Council's Permanent Participants.

We wish to thank everyone who sent us their wonderful feedback and congratulations, suggestions and remarks to the first edition. We were pleased to receive your subscription orders again and again.

*Alona Yefimenko*

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## Late August CAFF and AMAP Meetings in Sweden

The second Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Board Meeting of the year took place in Uppsala August 29-30 2001. All the Arctic Council Nations were present with their national representatives. The Permanent Participants (PPs) were represented by Mr Pavel Sulyandziga from the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples in the North (RAIPON) and Mr Duane Smith from Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) Canada. Gunn-Britt Retter attended the meetings for Arctic Council Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat (IPS.)

The meetings started Wednesday morning, and was led by the CAFF Chair Mr Sune Sohlberg, who used the opportunity to thank everybody involved in the process of finishing and presenting the CAFF Overview Report: 'Arctic Flora and Fauna - Status and Conservation'. CAFF has received a lot of positive response on the book. Next, the Chair explained the activities since last meeting in April, and on question from RAIPON, he stated that the process for preparing the World Summit on RIO +10 in Johannesburg has started but he acknowledged that there is still a lot of work to do in this scope.

CAFF has many activities going on in the Arctic, and the status reports for these were presented at the meeting, such as: Circumpolar Protected Area Network (CPAN), Circumpolar Marine Workshop (CMW) recommendations, Circumpolar Seabird Working Group (CSWG), and Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP). The latter including nine networks, two of which visited the meetings. The leader of the Arctic Char network pointed out the lack of response from the Saami and from Russia on his request regarding the network. These activities and further work were discussed during both meeting days.

In the long-term scenario of the CBMP, IPS and PPs will be offered a seat, together with a joint CAFF/AMAP (Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme) group, in the proposed future co-ordination of an Integrated Arctic Monitoring Program.

Thursday afternoon, RAIPON delegate Mr Pavel Sulyandziga presented the status of the ongoing 'Sacred Sites' project in Russia. He started off by summing up three results achieved so far. The project has raised interest beyond expectations from the outside world, other peoples and local authorities. There have been created networks on the basis of the work, and different native people and also the researchers with interest in the field have united on their own initiatives. The preliminary worries that the native people would like to protect their sacred sites by not telling about them, has not come true, rather they have been very eager to tell about the sites, and even people who were not initially contacted have offered to help with information. The project has also lead to capacity building for the people connected to RAIPON. The

project has put pressure on making some legislative agreements for the Yamal-Nenets.

One of the big challenges in the project is the long distances in Russia; it is difficult to get to the far side to meet the right people. This has inter alia led to delay in the progress of the project; the analysis phase should have started now, but will not be able to start until September/October. Sacred Sites is a pilot project, and is meant to be a model for later projects.

Another project planned for Russian Arctic is the 'Integrated Ecosystem Approach to Conserve Biodiversity and Minimize Habitat Fragmentation in the Russian Arctic', also known as ECORA. The Chair Mr Thor Larsen delivered the progress report of the project. This is a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) project which is only in its preparatory phase. A document is being prepared for GEF in order to apply for funding for the full project. In this phase the fact-finding-mission is a major work and their main task. The six Arctic administrative regions involved are: Murmansk, Yamal-Nenets, Taimyr, Yakutia/Sakha and Chukotka, but to implement the full project, two or three model areas will be selected. The project is also meant to provide an overview of protected areas, other international projects and best practises, in addition to a review of current legislation and a program for training of e.g. staff. Mr Larsen finished off by kindly encouraging everyone to provide any in kind contribution to the project.

Thursday morning the meeting continued with the a discussion on co-ordination with other Arctic Council (AC) and Northern activities, and the floor was given to guest Ms Miliza Malmelin, the secretary of Sustainable Development Working Group, (SDWG). She pointed out four ongoing and planned projects in SDWG that could be of interest also for CAFF. Those four are 'Sustainable Reindeer Husbandry', 'Timberline Forest', 'Freshwater Fishery Management in the Barents Region and 'Comparative Analysis of Coastal Fishery Management Systems'. The latter two have not started yet, because of difficulties with funding and finding people to work on them.

Mr Prestrud arrived late Thursday afternoon and the meeting continued after a long coffee break. Mr Prestrud highlighted some new developments in the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) process. All drafting groups are now established; Mr Henry Huntington is the lead author of Chapter 9: Indigenous Perspectives and Mr Mark Nuttall is the lead author of chapter 11: Subsistence.

At the joint CAFF/AMAP meeting in Stockholm Friday August 31, item 3 invited to discussions on the ACIA policy document, a document which is to be presented for the Ministerial in 2004. The meeting set up a workgroup, where ICC's Mr Duane Smith got the opportunity to participate, to draft a concrete document on how to provide policy recommendations to Arctic Council for action to respond to

scientific findings of ACIA. The outcome was some food for thought for this stand alone document.

The ACIA GEF concept was also discussed at the joint meeting. As it is not clear from the project concept how indigenous peoples will be involved and how the idea of integrated ecosystem management would be realised in the project, RAIPON proposed to establish an 'Arctic Indigenous Peoples Climate and Ecosystem Change Network' to implement this. RAIPON's proposal will be incorporated into the document. The meeting in Stockholm adjourned Thursday afternoon.

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## Overview of Arctic Flora and Fauna

**In June this year CAFF delivered a colourful and extensive report on the Arctic biological diversity. With this overview report, CAFF has managed to present the current situation in the Arctic in an accessible way, both for scientists and non-scientists. Maps, diagrams and photographs, together with informative boxes and an accessible text, provide the reader an overview of the ecological, conservation and human dimensions of the Arctic.**

At the 10th anniversary of Arctic Environmental Co-operation in Rovaniemi in Finland, June 11, 2001, the Arctic Council working group *Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna* - CAFF released a 'book-length' report, *Arctic Flora and Fauna: Status and Conservation*, that presents an overview of the natural environment in the Arctic. It describes the trends and status of the flora and fauna in the circumpolar region, which will provide guidance for the conservation needs and indicate some areas of concern. In short; the book attempts to outline what is known, while also illustrate how Arctic ecosystems work. The report describes the uniqueness, vulnerability and special adaptations of Arctic species and ecosystems, and emphasise the cultural and social value of the renewable resources in the Arctic, in particular for indigenous communities and tourism.

Indigenous Peoples have contributed to the outcome themselves, by having representatives involved in the editorial team and in reviewing chapters in the report. In addition, some of the boxes are written by representatives from indigenous communities. Like in previous AMAP reports, one chapter is dedicated to the Arctic humans, who

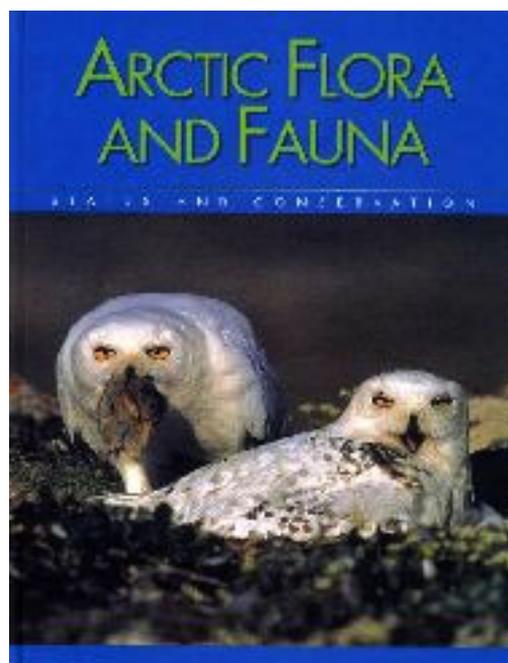
are seen as an important part of the environment. The chapter highlights the importance of living resources for Arctic People today.

Snorri Baldursson at the CAFF Secretariat on Iceland says that the report has been very well received. He thinks people, in particular non-specialists, find it informative and nicely done. This is positive, since a major aim with the report was to reach a broad audience. Despite all the praise for the report, there are some more critical voices as well. Some find the report too descriptive instead of being analytic, which might make it difficult for CAFF to use it as a natural springboard for further work.

To follow up on this report, the challenge for CAFF working group will be to develop recommendations for action based on the findings in the report for the Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials and thereafter for the Arctic Council Ministerial in fall 2002.

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The book can be ordered from Earthprint - <http://www.earthprint.com>,  
from NHBS - <http://www.nhbs.com>,  
and from World Conservation Bookstore <http://www.iucn.org/bookstore>.  
It costs approximately \$30 US.



## New ICC-relations to the official Chukotka

by Mads Faegteborg, ICC Denmark Representative

The president of Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) Mr. Aqqaluk Lyngge headed a five-man delegation, which in Anadyr on the Chukotka Peninsula on August 16<sup>th</sup> 2001 negotiated a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) through with the new governor of Chukotka, Mr. Roman Abramovich and the president of the Indigenous Peoples' Association of Chukotka, Ms. Irina Khomitskaya.

The Chukotkan delegation consisted among others of governor Abramovich, Member of the State Duma Vladimir Etylin, 1<sup>st</sup> vice-governor Andrey Gorodilev, three other vice-governors, several head of offices, the director of the representation in Moscow Irina Degtyar, the mayor of Anadyr Viktor Khvan, the president of the Indigenous Peoples' Association of Chukotka Irina Khomitskaya, the chairman of the Yupik Society Lyudmila Ainana as well as several other leading personalities of the Chukotkan society.

The ICC delegation consisted of Aqqaluk Lyngge, the vice-presidents of Alaska and of Chukotka Dennis Tiepelman and Lyubov Otrokova, the board members Carl Christian Olsen (Pujo) and Tatyana Kharchenko, the Denmark representative Mads Faegteborg, and Charlie Johnson, who is commissioner of the Bering Strait Regional Commission and former vice-president of ICC-Alaska.

Vice-governor Gorodilev expressed the visions of the new government of Chukotka: "We have reached a level, where our visions reach further than just proclaiming them", and continued by telling about the many years of stagnation that Chukotka has been in. "The time is up for us to meet in a true partnership between the regional and the local. This includes creating the necessary preconditions for increased self-determination of the local communities. But this is not a top to bottom steered process, where only the government takes initiatives. We necessarily need to involve all parties, and of course also the indigenous peoples. We are counting on within a couple of years to have created a society where all citizens participate on equal conditions. Therefore we are welcoming the initiative of ICC. It is important that international organisations wishes to involve themselves into the problems that we are dealing with in our region."

At large the ICC delegation was satisfied with the draft for a MOC, but suggested a few paragraphs strengthened. This met no problems at the Chukotkan side, and the three parties hereafter signed the MOC.

In the morning of August 18<sup>th</sup> the Council of Elders had arranged a meeting. The main purpose of the meeting was to give a briefing on what the possibilities of the MOC would mean to the indigenous peoples of Chukotka. Concrete projects were not discussed because the situation was quite new, and it was agreed that the cooperating parties in Chukotka should try to identify some specific projects, and that ICC on the other hand should try to identify potential donors for upcoming projects in Chukotka.

*Mads Faegteborg*



Signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the three parties: the government of Chukotka, Indigenous Peoples' Association of Chukotka, and ICC (Foto: Mads Faegteborg).

## Climate Change and Canadian Inuit

By Terry Fenge, Strategic Counsel to the President of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference Canada.

"The world can tell us everything we want to know. The only problem for the world is that it doesn't have a voice. But the world's indicators are there. They are always talking to us."  
Uitsak Tarkiasuk

"Without the hunter-gatherers, humanity is diminished and cursed; with them, we can achieve a more complete version of ourselves."  
Hugh Brody

In the past 40 years, annual temperatures in the Canadian western Arctic have climbed by 1.5 degrees C while those over the central Arctic have warmed by 0.5 degrees C. According to the Canadian federal Department of the Environment, a global doubling of carbon dioxide emissions could cause temperature increases of nearly 5 degrees C in summer and 5-7 degrees C in winter over the Canadian Arctic mainland. Global models of climate change project significant and pronounced changes in temperature and precipitation in high latitudes. Worst case scenarios project massive thinning and depletion of ice cover in the Arctic and northward migration of permafrost boundaries with potentially worldwide climatic impacts and as yet poorly understood but potentially devastating social, cultural, and economic consequences to the region's Indigenous peoples, particularly Inuit.

Inuit have a well earned reputation for resilience in the face of externally induced economic and social change. But resilience has limits, and in the face of broadly accepted climate change scenarios many Inuit are asking two questions: might the long-term impacts in the North of global climate change erode fatally their hunting and gathering way of life? and, if so, what does the future hold for Inuit as a people?

### The Policy Challenge

The Arctic was barely mentioned at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. Political and scientific developments in the last ten years suggest that the Arctic is, politically speaking, coming of age, and that its inhabitants, particularly its Indigenous peoples, could, in concert with the Arctic states exert significant influence in future global debates, including those on climate change. The 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), billed as Rio plus 10, may air Arctic perspectives on a number of globally important issues. Voices from the Arctic must be heard by the international community if Arctic perspectives on climate change are to be fully considered in global decision-

making. In light of its ongoing Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA), the Arctic Council can orchestrate these voices, and there is ample precedence that it should.

In May 2001 more than 100 states convened in Stockholm under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to sign a legally-binding global agreement to reduce the use and eliminate the generation and emission to the environment of key persistent organic pollutants (POPs) including dioxins, furans, PCB, and DDT. Arctic data generated in Canada by the Northern Contaminants Programme, and though the council's Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) followed by political resolutions adopted by the council played an important part in persuading UNEP to sponsor negotiations.

The Arctic states, aided by northern Indigenous peoples, spoke frequently in the global POPs negotiations on Arctic perspectives stressing the health implications to Indigenous peoples of eating traditional "country food" laced with POPs emitted to the environment in tropical and temperate lands but brought to the Arctic via global air currents. The resulting convention singles out the circumpolar Arctic and Indigenous peoples--the first global convention to do so. There is every reason to believe that Arctic voices and Arctic perspectives can help persuade global decision-makers to strengthen their commitments to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases that most scientists believe is at least a contributing cause of current climate change.

### Climate Change and Traditional Knowledge

To the media in North America and western Europe, climate change in the Arctic conjures up images of thinner and fewer Polar bears. This is all very well, but the image needs to be broadened to include Indigenous peoples whose very cultures are at risk as a result of climate change. The most compelling way to do this is to publicize globally the traditional ecological knowledge of Inuit and other Arctic Indigenous peoples about the current and growing impacts of climate change and its potential future ravages. The ACIA could be highly instrumental in doing just this. The following case indicates the type of information and perspective that Inuit might bring to this exercise.

### Sachs Harbour, Banks Island

In 1999 the Winnipeg-based International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and the Inuvialuit community of Sachs Harbour, Banks Island, Northwest Territories, initiated a project to record and illustrate community observations of climate change. The resulting video in which Inuvialuit quietly but with firm authority point out what is happening to their immediate environment was shown with apparently telling effect to delegates at the 2000 climate change negotiations in The Hague, negotiations that nevertheless failed to agree on how best to implement the

Kyoto Protocol to reduce emission worldwide of greenhouse gases.

Community residents reported all manner of commonplace climate change-related environmental alternations, beginning in the mid to late 1980s: melting permafrost resulting in beach slumping; increased snowfalls; longer sea ice-free seasons; new species of birds and fish--barn owls, mallard and pin-tailed ducks, and salmon--near the community; a decline in the lemming population, the basic food for Arctic fox, a valuable harvested species; and generally a warming trend. That the consistency of kerosene and fuel oil no longer resemble milk and jelly in mid-winter is the compelling indicator of that trend offered by long-time resident Andy Carpenter.

Rosemary Kuptana, also a long-time community resident and member of the board of IISD, pointed out that environmental indicators used for generations to predict weather and aid hunting and travel over sea ice, no longer worked reliably. With weather patterns, temperature, and precipitation increasingly unpredictable and the shape and look of the land becoming unfamiliar, it is increasingly difficult for Inuvialuit to read the land and follow the seasons.

### Conclusion

What does this case illustration suggest? Much of the impact of climate change on Inuit will be channeled through ecological changes to which they will have to adapt. Already Inuit hunters are altering their hunting patterns to accommodate changes to the ice regime and distribution of harvested species, both marine and terrestrial, that appear to be the result of climate change. We can hypothesize significant change to the extent and intensity of land and resources used by Inuit from those documented in the 1970s in the superb three-volume Inuit Land Use and Occupancy Project. Projecting likely changes to hunting and gathering should be significant component of the ACIA, and this information should then be used by Arctic states singly and collectively in international meetings on environment and sustainable development to illustrate the Arctic dimension of this most global of issues.

*Terry Fenge ([tfenge7006@home.com](mailto:tfenge7006@home.com))*

### Nature and Peoples of the North

The small Danish NGO Nature and Peoples of the North (Natur og Folk i Nord) has launched a Homepage at the Internet. The Homepage is not completed, but so far some texts in Danish, English, Russian and Greenlandic are available. Here is also to be found the latest news on the Arctic Youth Conference in Nuuk, August 2002. The Homepage is sponsored by the Danish Environmental Protection Agency, and can be seen at: <http://www.arctic-peoples.dk>

## The 53<sup>rd</sup> International Whaling Commission Meeting London, England July 18<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> 2001

By Nuka Moeller, advisor  
ICC Head Office - Greenland

The Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) sent me to observe both the International Whaling Commission working group meetings that took place from 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July and the plenary sessions that took place from the 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July 2001. I was able to attend most meetings, concentrating on those directly concerning Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling and other key issues.

IWC has existed for 55 years, the last 16 of which it has maintained a ban on commercial whaling. The 53<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the IWC were characterized by the usual differences by 'like-minded' nations who were in favour of sustainable commercial whaling and those against it. Iceland, Japan and Norway together with several Caribbean Islands and sometimes Denmark, formed an opposition to the mainly European countries together with Australia and New Zealand, who took, mildly speaking, a more rigid approach to the whaling issues.

### Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling

IWC regulates aboriginal subsistence whaling of four member countries that conduct whaling with IWC approval: the US (taking bowhead whales in Alaska), Denmark (taking fin and minke whales in Greenland), the Russian Federation (taking gray and bowhead whales in Siberia), and St. Vincent and the Grenadines (taking humpback whales).

A report was presented by the Scientific Committee, with additions and corrections that had been made during the preparatory meeting. The 3 main topics presented here were: (1) Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Scheme, (2) Review of Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Catch limits, and (3) Catches by Non-Member Nations. Besides, a sub-committee document, (IWC/53/AS 1) Documentation of Greenland Whaling 1979-2000, prepared by the Greenland Home Rule Government, was attached to the report.

The first topic dealt with Aboriginal Whaling Management Procedure (AWMP) and Aboriginal Whaling Management Scheme (AWMS). Primary topic for discussion was selection of a recommended Strike Limit Algorithm (SLAs) for the Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas bowhead whales.

Denmark (Greenland) together with the IWC was strongly urged by the Scientific Committee to (1) fund planning for an annual series of inshore surveys starting late summer 2002 for producing a relative abundance index. (2) That preliminary simulation studies should be conducted. (3) Annual

programme of satellite tagging together with the inshore surveys be started in 2002.

Denmark supported these views from the Scientific Committee. In regards to Aboriginal Management Scheme it was noted that 'phase-out' rules could be implemented (progressive lowering of the quota in absence of survey data).

USA, Denmark and Russia requested more time to consider this new concept on Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling, since they have some reservations and have to think about the rationale behind this topic. It was mentioned that the harsh Arctic climate is not an easy field in which to conduct surveys, and that only half of the surveys that have been conducted until date, have succeeded, due to the environmental challenges that the Arctic poses.

The Scientific Committee also pointed out that it has never been able to provide satisfactory scientific advice on either fin or minke whales off Greenland, due to lack of data relating to both stock structure and abundance, this inability to provide advice was deemed to be of great concern from the Scientific Committee, especially in regards to fin whales, since best available dates back to 1987. The SC therefore urged continued funding of the research.

Already at the working group meetings the Scientific Committee pointed out that they, in order to establish an overall abundance estimate, need material from research before Strike Limit Algorithms can be determined. Preferably there should be inshore surveys in West-Greenland, with a detailed survey plan developed and given to inter-session meetings for evaluation. A large biopsy sampling is also necessary, which requires large numbers, but has not been possible as yet. Another requirement is satellite tagging, which was deemed not to be an easy task, but could do well with few individuals.

Denmark responded by providing a listing of submissions it had made in previous years, and also agreed that there is a need for further research and would honour its commitments in this regard.

### **Canada**

Even though Canada resigned from the IWC in 1981, it was noted on the topic 'catches by non-member nations' that Canada had landed one bowhead whale in the Eastern Canadian Arctic on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2000. The animal was from the Hudson Bay/Foxe Basin stock. The abundance estimate for this stock was evaluated to be at least 485 animals. Canada has put a TAC (Total Allowable Catch) from this stock of 1 animal in three years.

Austria and Germany expressed their disappointment with the taking of the bowhead in the Eastern Arctic and called upon the Canadian Government to stop allowing further catches. It was obvious that Canada's role was a source of controversy among animal rights activist's organizations attending as

observers to the IWC, they had made available several in-depth publications regarding the matter.

### **Russia/Siberia**

During the ICC General Assembly in Nuuk in 1998 a concern was raised that gray whales caught in Siberia had a strong medicinal taste. Nobody knew whether this was due to pollution or disease, and there was an inquiry whether ICC could do an independent study on this. In IWC circles these whales were called the "stinky" whales. This matter was also brought up both during the working group meetings and at plenary. Russia would continue surveys on the issue, and said at the WG meeting, that they had had no information this year on contaminated whales.

There was a discussion on wording in this matter, whether it was appropriate to use the word 'contaminated' rather than 'strong' smelling. It was decided to use the latter in the absence of any reliable data on possible contamination. A joint Russian Federation/USA project will investigate this issue using established protocols and procedures off the community of Lluughraq (Lorino) where 10 – 20 harvested gray whales would be sampled. Japanese scientists also showed an interest in participating in these studies.

### **The Makah**

A point of interest from an ICC perspective is Austria's query on the latest developments on the Makah hunt in 2001 while gray whales were discussed. USA provided the information that based on a court decision the Makah hunt had been closed in June 2000 with no whales taken that year. Information was later given from the World Council of Whalers based in Canada, that this court decision had been revised again. The initial lawsuit filed against the US government by whale rights groups had demanded that a formal Environmental Assessment should be made before the hunt could begin again, thus the treaty protected right to go whaling was closed by court ruling last year.

This month (July 2001) an Environmental Assessment was released, which resulted in a court ruling, which meant an expansion of Makah whaling territory. Before the Assessment, whaling had been limited to the open ocean, now hunt can be conducted close to land where there are calmer waters. This expansion gives the Makah greater flexibility in deciding where to go whaling.

Austria's Commissioner went further to ask whether the Environmental Assessment had taken into account the cultural, subsistence and nutritional need for the Makah, to which the US Commissioner replied that the Assessment had taken that into account. This resulted in heavy lobbying from some NGO's who claimed that the Assessment was riddled with deceit and deception, since they claimed that the assessment did not mention the Makah tribe's nutritional need.

Another topic, which has interest from an indigenous perspective, deals with the interests of the Maori, the

indigenous population of New Zealand. The Government of New Zealand has a firm position against commercial whaling and supports the South Pacific Whale Sanctuary. However, the Government of New Zealand, who convened a meeting of South Pacific environmental leaders in Apia, Samoa earlier this year, had not extended an invitation to the Maori to attend. The Maori, who owns 40 percent of New Zealand's commercial fisheries, support the right of indigenous peoples and coastal communities to utilise marine mammals in a sustainable manner.

#### Press

The British media took a mainly pro-activist perspective to the IWC, both in the printed and visual media. Channel 4, as an example, used the term 'slaughter' where we would have used 'catching' of whales, in its coverage of the Commission meeting.

CNN had a direct transmission with the Iceland Commissioner during the first couple days about the controversy of its membership. 'The Independent' had a few articles mainly covering the Japanese whaling and its use of vote buying by using overseas aid to buy support from small nations for its campaign to legalize whaling.

ICC's President was interviewed by the BBC World during a direct half hour transmission in the evening regarding Aboriginal Whaling on July 29<sup>th</sup> 2001.

The KNR (Greenland Radio and TV) interviewed a host of people on TV during the Commission meeting, including the observer (myself) from ICC, where the focus was on ICC's role in the IWC meetings. The KNR journalist Marie Simonsen, related to me that she had tried to make an interview with Greenpeace and IFAW (Internat'l Fund for Animal Welfare) on their position on Aboriginal Whaling, but they had declined to take any position on this issue for her interview.

The KNAPK (Hunters and Fishermen's Association in Greenland) Chairman, Leif Fontaine, was interviewed to 'The International Harpoon' on July 25<sup>th</sup> with the heading 'Greenland Whalers Demand: The Right to be Commercial'. The article focuses mainly on why Greenland shouldn't hunt whales commercially, the same way its neighbouring countries does. Hunting gear etc. is expensive and has to be paid through the hunt itself. In the article Leif Fontaine also expressed a desire of independent representation at the IWC, like the present situation in NAMMCO, where Greenland have its own voice and does not sit under someone else's flag.

Another interesting interview appeared in the 'Tohora', the newsletter of the Council of Whalers, which was circulated during the IWC meeting. It was an interview with Ingmar Egede (former Executive Council Member) titled: "The Inuit case for whaling". In short the interview dealt with the reflections about the establishment of a Southern Pacific

Whale Sanctuary, and how the outside world knows next to nothing about life in the Arctic, and about the situation of the indigenous people living there, and how this ignorance have affected the people of the North making them suffer socially during the campaigns against sealing.

#### Next meeting

The 54<sup>th</sup> International Whaling Commission meeting 2002 is scheduled to take place in the city of Shimonoseki (pop. 250.000) in the South-Western part of Japan from April 25<sup>th</sup> until May 25<sup>th</sup>. The Plenary itself will be from May 20<sup>th</sup> until the 24<sup>th</sup>.

It is expected that the Scientific Committee will have clearer recommendations for aboriginal subsistence whaling in the 54<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. ICC Head Office is at present planning on sending two people for the meeting. There was already discussion about holding the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting in Germany.

*Nuka Moeller*



## Preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe regional preparational process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg next year has recently culminated with the adoption of the Statement of the UNECE Ministerial Meeting in Geneva on the 24th and 25th of September. The Arctic, in this context, is considered a subregion - and, as the Arctic Council has argued, a rather overlooked one at that - of the UNECE region. The UNECE region comprises most of what used to be the first and the second world, that is, the Countries of Europe, North America, and the former Soviet Union.

The preparational process has been a regular agenda item on the various Arctic Council meetings held this year. Among other things, the UNECE regional assessment report<sup>1</sup> was reviewed, which led to the conclusion that the Arctic so far has been given too little attention in the regional as well as global Agenda 21 implementational context. Thus, following the Arctic Council SAO meeting in June in Rovaniemi, the conclusions regarding the neglects of the UNECE report

<sup>1</sup> Assessment of Progress in Sustainable Development Since Rio 1992 for Member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Prepared by UNECE, Committee on Environmental Policy.

were forwarded to the UNECE. Also, some coordination of efforts was agreed upon by Arctic Council members and Permanent Participants (PPs). As a result of these initial efforts the first drafting of the Ministerial Statement included 3 or 4 references of special relevance for the Arctic Council and the Permanent Participants.

### UNECE regional process

As a follow-up on this, the Arctic Council arranged an Arctic informal consultative meeting in Geneva on September 2nd. Member states, observers, and Permanent Participants were invited to this meeting, the purpose of which were to discuss possible contributions of these parties to the UNECE Open-ended Drafting Group Meeting, on September 3rd and 4th. Reflecting the coordinated efforts of these two meetings, an Arctic paragraph was presented, later to be included in the finalised Ministerial Statement.

To sum up on participation, the Saami Council was represented at all of the UNECE drafting meetings. At the early September meetings in Geneva, ICC-Greenland, RAIPON, and IPS were also represented. At the last of the drafting meetings, as well as at the event itself, the Ministerial Meeting of September 24th and 25th, the Saami Council and ICC-Canada were represented. As these organisations were there in capacity both as Permanent Participants of the Arctic Council and as Arctic Indigenous Peoples' Organisations in their own right, their contributions to and influencing of the deliberations leading to the finalised Ministerial Statement, likewise would be partly their own, and partly Arctic Council coordinated.

### UNECE Ministerial Statement

The recommendations of the Ministerial Statement for the WSSD are divided into a global and a regional chapter. References to indigenous peoples can be found in both, though most of them in the global chapter, and mostly as contained in the formular "indigenous and local communities". References are concentrated around paragraph 11 which is exclusively devoted to the indigenous/local category. It is also referred to in the following paragraph 12, the Arctic paragraph. In the preceding paragraph, paragraph 10, a reference to sustainable management of natural resources was influenced by SC, ICC and RAIPON.

The idea of indigenous peoples representing the local dimension, subsumed under or reappearing beyond the national dimension, so to speak, gets clearly spelled out in paragraph 24 which deals with "Local Agenda 21" strategies and with the unruly category of *major groups*<sup>2</sup>. Remarkably, the term "indigenous peoples" that was used in the draft versions of this paragraph, here in the finalised Statement has

<sup>2</sup> The major groups section of Agenda 21 contains chapters on women, children and youth, indigenous people, non-governmental organisations, local authorities, workers, business and industry, the scientific and technological community, and farmers.

been changed to "indigenous people(s)", which, supposedly, constitutes a compromise between national priorities and those of the indigenous peoples themselves.

Paragraph 39 - in the regional priorities chapter - which deals with the incorporation of the social dimension into sustainable development, in the earlier drafts contained a reference to "policies regarding indigenous and local communities". In the adopted document, due to a proposal of the involved PPs, it was changed to "politics of indigenous and local communities". In general, by having in this fashion references to indigenous concerns replace paternalistic expression of concern *about* indigenous affairs, the involved IPOs/PPs succeeded in significantly improving the Ministerial Statement.

A few years ago, in their review of Agenda 21 from an Inuit perspective, the ICC complained, that indigenous peoples were being used as symbols of sustainable development, and that Agenda 21 included no actual concessions to indigenous rights. However, as also the recently adopted Ministerial Statement can testify, the fact and value of symbols with regard to promoting peoples' concerns should not be underestimated. One of the great messages of Agenda 21 is that sustainable development is about people, and sustainable development in the Arctic is in many respects primarily about Arctic indigenous peoples.

Furthermore, modest and subordinated to national priorities as the indigenous imprint will necessarily be, indigenous concerns - rather as was the case with the UNECE regional assessment report - still feature more conspicuously in the Statement than does the Arctic Council's. As mentioned above, the indigenous peoples' organisations were present in Geneva in a twofold capacity, viz. as PPs and as Arctic IPOs, though most effectively, perhaps, in the latter capacity. Likewise, the Arctic states, being in effect so much more than Arctic, were there in several capacities. And the concerns of the Arctic Council's member states seemed not very closely connected with those of the same states in their national and UNECE member capacities.

### Arctic subregional perspectives

The Arctic Council, in order to influence the WSSD process more effectively, probably should clarify the ways in which it wants the subregional Arctic dimension to intersect with the global, regional, national, and, not least, the local dimension associated with the IPOs/PPs. For example, the Arctic Council has stressed the significance of science for decision making, but it did not, with respect to the text of the Ministerial Statement, consider the rôle of traditional knowledge. As it turned out, due to the interventions of the IPOs, a reference to traditional knowledge got included in paragraph 31 of the Ministerial Statement alongside science as a sustainable development tool.

Even though the Arctic Council and the Permanent Participants were able to mutually support each other in the

UNECE preparational process, still it seems that their efforts should have been better coordinated and in better time. Thus, IPS, perhaps also due to having been left out of the Arctic Council structural review, was in effect not requested, nor given any mandate, to involve itself in the regional process. Therefore it was able to participate only in the above mentioned Arctic informal consultative meeting and the following Open-ended Drafting Group Meeting. Even so, it was made clear that the potential of IPS for facilitating Arctic Council-Permanent Participants coordination ought not to be disregarded.

In accordance with official Arctic Council and UNECE statements, IPS considered indigenous peoples participation in the regional process essential. And just as the regional process is supposed to feed into the global process, so the indigenous involvement in the regional process must logically be extended into the global process for the WSSD. IPS, presumably, could profitably be included also in the global preparations. However, as IPS has no mandate to engage in international processes outside of the Arctic, it will be able to assist in the further WSSD process only if it gets suitably mandated by Permanent Participants and the Board of IPS.

Regarding the need for coordinated efforts, the recent decision of the Arctic Council Sustainable Development Working Group to appoint an additional vice-chair from among the Permanent Participants can be seen as a step in the right direction. The idea of having an indigenous second vice-chair was re-introduced at the April SDWG meeting in Rovaniemi by the head of the Danish-Greenlandic delegation, former IPS Executive Secretary Ms. Tove S. Petersen.

### Global preparations for the WSSD

Three Preparatory Committee meetings - so-called PrepComs - will precede the event of the WSSD in Johannesburg in September 2nd to 11th. The first PrepCom was held around May 1st this year. The second and third will take place in New York on January 28th to February 8th and March 25th to April 5th, respectively. The fourth - ministerial level - PrepCom according to schedule will take place in Indonesia on May 27th to June 27th. In addition, some preliminary meeting activities are likely to take place in Johannesburg prior to the Summit itself.

The process as organised by the Commission on Sustainable Development involves representatives of the category of major groups, including indigenous peoples, mainly in two ways, viz. as participants in so-called multi-stakeholder dialogues and as organisers of various informal side events. Apart from the possibility of finding oneself in very good company here, one may also see in this arrangement a measure for "boxing up" contributions from the major groups. However, the Permanent Participants should also participate in the capacities discussed above, viz. as contributors to the regional, and sub-regional preparations.

The extent of their participation, of course, will depend on the course taken by the Arctic Council and on the decisions to be made at the up-coming SDWG and SAO in Finland. A lot will probably be determined there regarding the realisation of the noble intentions of gaining recognition for the Arctic in the Global context. The need for it certainly is there, as one needs only point to the resistance so far encountered to having references to the Arctic included in the Agenda 21 context. And, just as evidently, all associates of the Arctic Council can come together in demonstrating the relevance of Arctic concerns to the sustainable development of the globe.

*eg*

### Links

<http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/default.htm>

<http://www.unece.org/env/rio+10/welcome.html>

### IPS Update

The Arctic Council Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat (IPS) was established in 1994. The main task of IPS is to facilitate the involvement of Arctic indigenous peoples' organisations - the Permanent Participants - in the Arctic Council, particularly with regard to sustainable development, the environment and traditional knowledge.

The indigenous peoples' organisations approved as Permanent Participants in the Arctic Council are

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

The board is presently made up of one representative from each of the Permanent Participants and from three member countries of the Arctic Council, among them a representative of the Danish Government in its capacity as the main funding agency.

### IPS Staff

Alona Yefimenko, Technical Advisor (ay)  
 Erik Gant, Technical Advisor (eg)  
 Gunn-Britt Retter, Technical Advisor (gbr)  
 Laila Chemnitz, Administrative Secretary (lc)

### IPS Update editor

Erik Gant

### IPS

Pilestraede 52, DK-1016 Copenhagen K  
 Telephone: +45 3369 3498  
 Facsimile: +45 3369 3499  
 e-mail: [ips@ghsdk.dk](mailto:ips@ghsdk.dk)  
 Web-site: <http://www.arcticpeoples.org>

## An interview with the AIA President Mike Zacharoff

The Aleut, or unangan as they call themselves, have their own language and culture, and live on the islands of the Aleutian chain, including the Kommandorskye Islands of Russia, the Pribilof Islands of the Bering Sea, and the Alaska Peninsula on the North American mainland. The Aleut people have lived on their land for at least 8000 years, having survived in the harsh land by being skilful hunters, especially on the sea. Sea lions, seals, whales and fish were important sources both for food and clothing, and later for trade. Also harvesting on land for eggs, birds and plants were important for their diet. During the 19th century, however, some Aleuts were separated from their native lands by Russian fur traders who forced them to settle on new islands to harvest sea mammals for the Russian American Fur Company. Today the descendants form Aleut population in Russia. During and after the Second World War, military activity caused huge relocations of Aleut villages, which has influenced every aspect of Aleut society today. Nevertheless, in 1998 the Aleut International Association (AIA), the firsts formal organisation of all the Aleut people was formed.

*gbr:* What is the Aleut International Association (AIA)?

*mz:* The Aleut International Association (AIA) was created to represent Aleuts in Russia and Alaska, and derived from the Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association (A/PIA) in Alaska and

who represents the interests on the Russian side, work together and work out which goals to pursue, in terms of coordinating the monitoring of pollution of mammals, seals, birds, fish and so on. The A/PIA secretariat in Anchorage, Alaska, provides technical assistance for AIA.

*gbr:* What is AIA's main focuses?

*mz:* It is the monitoring of the air quality and of the oceans in the region. There is also a project on blood going on. It is a monitoring program to check levels of contaminants in peoples blood, this project involves an U.S. medical team. We have applied for funding from the State Department for Alaska to help keep this project going.

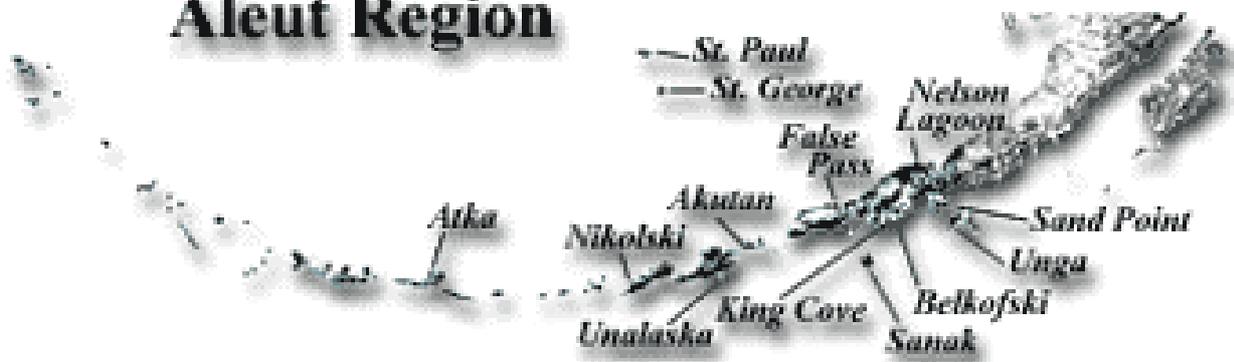
*gbr:* Where does the AIA get its funding from?

*mz:* For the first phase, when AIA was established, we got funding from Norway to start up the work, subsequently we got funding from Canada. Now AIA is awaiting funding from Alaska, which is promised, but not yet received. In addition, we will apply for grants from suitable sources.

*gbr:* How would you describe AIA's relation to the Arctic Council?

*mz:* Great, the Arctic Council has been to a tremendous help for AIA, and in particular the Scandinavian member states have been very helpful. AIA has also contact with the neighbour organisations Gwich'in Council international and Arctic Athabaskan Council. AIA participates mainly in Arctic Council meetings, and in particular in the Arctic Monitoring

### Aleut Region



the Association of Peoples in the North - Aleut District, Kamchatsky Region, in Russia. It was founded because of the concerns about the pollution in the waters and the air represent.

*gbr:* How is AIA organised?

*mz:* In addition to the president, AIA consists of a vice-president, a secretary, and two board members. AIA represents 3000 people located in 13 villages on the Aleutian Islands. One representative from each of these villages is represented in the A/PIA board, which appoints the five members of the AIA board. The AIA board meet once a year, however, we would like to meet at least three times a year, but it depends on funding. That means that the board to an large extent has to cooperate by e-mails. Me, being from the Alaskan side, and the vice-president, Mr. Vladimir Dobrynin,

Assessment Programme (AMAP) activities, and seldom in other kinds of meetings.

*gbr:* Do you think enough emphasis is put on the economic and cultural needs of indigenous peoples in the regional and global sustainable development process?

*mz:* The AIA has just started its work, and is in a learning process; when a new thing is learnt - something new pops up. I think excellent work is done in Europe, and that can be a model for us.

*gbr*

## Entry word: Obschina

The tribal obschina is a self-governing organisation of the residents of indigenous villages, settlements and other territorial units in the Russian North. It is characterised by collective ownership of the means of production, collective economic management, and full or partial self-governance.

Changes in the social and economic policies of the Russian government in the early 1990s, embodied in new acts and decrees, such as the Enterprises and Enterprise Activity Act, the Farming Act etc., have been directed towards restructuring the Soviet economic system. This development has led to a sharp decrease in government aid to producers in industry and agriculture. Most enterprises already were in a state of declining production and crisis. At the same time, the government practically suspended its special protectionist policies towards the indigenous peoples of the Russian North, which had offered certain benefits to the indigenous population. In the 1920s small nations were exempted from all direct federal and local taxes and duties in order to improve their economic condition. The indigenous peoples were also exempted from procuring hunting licenses and from age limitations. Regular supplies of food, industrial goods and necessities for hunting, herding, and fishing were delivered all the year around. The state did not only supply various types of aid, including financial aid, it also determined how and in which directions the indigenous peoples should develop hunting, fishing and other types of economic activity, and it defined policies in the field of language and culture as well. All this has deprived the indigenous peoples of the North of the right to make their own choices, and choked their private initiative. In the 1960s indigenous collective farms started to be transformed into state farms (sovhoz).

During the dividing-up of sovhoz-kolhoz (state and collective farm) property in areas mostly populated by indigenous peoples of the North the question arose as to which, primarily economic, structures, would inherit the property rights to the state reindeer herding, fishing and hunting farms and, in particular, become owners of the right to the land itself. In other words, to whom exactly should the material and technical resources, especially the land, be handed over to? In some places, tribal obschinas became such owners. They consist mostly of representatives of indigenous small nations and ethnic groups of the Russian North, engaged in traditional trades, such as hunting, reindeer-herding, fishing and gathering. Sometimes founding an obschina, i.e. its registration, is necessary only as a prerequisite for receiving a license to utilize the territory for the above purposes.

Let us take the obschina of Even hunters as an example. For two years they have been trying to register their title to the hunting grounds traditionally used by their ancestors, their parents, and themselves. According to the decree on granting hunting grounds on a contestual basis, preference is given to indigenous persons living in the territory that is being

claimed. Moreover, despite preference being given, the above decree demands from the users of the hunting rights that they have means of transportation (snowmobiles, motorboats, all-terrain vehicle etc.) and specialists in the science of hunting, and that they guarantee investments in the hunting industry of the region. Necessary documents include the preparation of an environmental feasibility study and reaching agreements with landowners and the committee on the land, water and forest resources of the territories on the conditions for handing over the said territories and so forth. As a rule, a certain territory or aquatory is usually claimed by several companies, which for a number of years have arranged hunting trips for foreigners and are resident where the contest is being held. On the other hand, the abovementioned obschina always seems to be short of some documents or others, or they have become obsolete because they did not have transportation to get them submitted in time. That is why Even hunters resort to poaching. Some reindeer herders have introduced a two or three year moratorium on reindeer slaying, so the herd can grow larger. In that way they will receive more subsidies from the government (subsidies are granted for each reindeer). With no state supplies and no jobs, the local population feed themselves and their families with what they procure by poaching, and they still solemnly believe that sometime their obschina or hunting company will be registered.

Despite the fact that a Federal Act exists on the general principles for setting up obschinas of the indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation, the process of setting up such obschinas remains a difficult and - at times - a practically impossible task in the distant areas of the Far North. This can be explained by a number of reasons: the ignorance of both civil servants and indigenous peoples in legal matters, fear of loosing control over strategically important territories, delays in processing paperwork, fears of the indigenous peoples of making decisions and taking responsibility for them, etc. It is not easy to find qualified lawyers and competent consultants. As has been pointed out by Mr Vladimir Kryazjkov, adviser to the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, it is necessary to educate people in legal matters, organize seminars with qualified lawyers, publish commentaries to legislation, educational aids, and guidebooks that would help the indigenous peoples understand current legislation.

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### OCTOBER

- 1-5**                    **Bering Sea Summit 2001, Egan Center, Anchorage, Alaska**  
 Contact: Suzanne Marcy, Phone: +907/271-2895, Fax: +907/271-3424,  
 e-mail: [marcy.suzanne@epa.gov](mailto:marcy.suzanne@epa.gov)
- 2**                        **Arctic Connection - Seminar for opinion leaders, political decision-makers, journalists and researchers in Espoo, Finland**  
 Contact: Hanasaari, Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre, FIN-02100 Espoo, Finland  
 Fax: +358 (0) 9 467291
- 4-7**                    **NENETS Convention, Groningen, The Netherlands**  
 Contact: Arctic peoples Alert, Zusterstraat 58 B, NL 2512 TN, The Hague, The Netherlands  
 Fax: +31 (0) 70 388 2915,  
 e-mail: [arctica@planet.nl](mailto:arctica@planet.nl)
- 9-11**                  **PAME Meeting, Moscow, Russia**  
 Contact: PAME Secretariat, Hafnarstraeti 97, 600 Akureyri, Iceland  
 Tel./fax. +354 461 1355/+354 462 3390,  
 e-mail: [pame@ni.is](mailto:pame@ni.is)
- 25-27**                **Joint EU-Russia-Canada-US Workshop, Brussels, Belgium**  
***A Common Approach to Collaborative Technological Research for Arctic Development***  
 Location: Conference Centre Albert Borschette Brussels, Belgium  
 Contact: [stanley.morris@jrc.it](mailto:stanley.morris@jrc.it)
- 25-27**                **Indigenous Peoples: Our Place in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Alaska, Federation of Natives, Anchorage, Alaska**  
 Contact: AFN office: Tel: +1.907.274.3611, Fax: +1.907.276.7989

### NOVEMBER

- 1-2**                    **Arctic Council Capacity Building Workshop, Helsinki, Finland**  
 Contact: Ram Shankar, fax: +1-819-953-2590,  
 e-mail: [shankarra@inac.gc.ca](mailto:shankarra@inac.gc.ca)
- 3-4**                    **IPS Board Meeting, Espoo, Finland**  
 Contact: Arctic Council Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat  
 Tlf: +45 33 69 34 98, Fax: +45 33 69 34 99  
 E-mail: [ips@ghsdk.dk](mailto:ips@ghsdk.dk)
- 5**                        **Arctic Council SDWG (Sustainable Development Working Group) Meeting, Espoo, Finland**  
 Contact: Arctic Council Secretariat, Helsinki, Finland  
 Tel./Fax.: +358 9 1341 6187 / +358 9 1341 6120  
 E-mail: [johanna.lammi@formin.fi](mailto:johanna.lammi@formin.fi)  
 Web-site: <http://www.arctic-council.org>
- 6-7**                    **Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials (SAO) Meeting, Espoo, Finland**  
 Contact: Arctic Council Secretariat, Helsinki, Finland  
 Tel./Fax.: +358 9 1341 6187 / +358 9 1341 6120  
 E-mail: [johanna.lammi@formin.fi](mailto:johanna.lammi@formin.fi)  
 Web-site: <http://www.arctic-council.org>

### Meetings            2002

#### JANUARY

- 21-24**                **ACIA Conference / Workshop, Tromsø, Norway**  
**Impacts of POPs and mercury on Arctic Environments and Humans,**  
 Registration deadline: 1 November 2001  
 Contact: AMAP Secretariat, Oslo, Norway  
 Tel./Fax.: +47 23 24 1630 / +47 22 67 6706  
 E-mail: [AMAPcon@npolar.no](mailto:AMAPcon@npolar.no)  
 Web-site <http://www.nilu.no/niluweb/sevices/amapconf/>

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS Continued

- 28- 8.2**            **The World Summit on Sustainable Development, Preparatory Committee II, New York, UN Headquarters**  
 Contact: Johannesburg Summit Secretariat, United Nations Major Group Relationships  
 2 United Nations Plaza. 22nd Floor  
 New York, NY, 10017  
 Tel: +1-212-963-8811, or +1-212-963-7255, or +1-212-963-8429  
 Web-site: <http://www.johannesburgsummit.org>
- 28- 8.2**            **Working Group on the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Geneva, Switzerland**  
 Contact: UN Centre for Human Rights and Biodiversity Convention,  
 Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland,  
 Tel. +41 22 917 9000, Fax. +41 22 917 9016
- Date Unknown**    **EPPR meeting, Cordova, Alaska, U.S**  
 Contact: EPPR Secretariat  
 E-mail: [miliza.malmelin@vyh.fi](mailto:miliza.malmelin@vyh.fi)
- MARCH**
- 25-5.4**            **The World Summit on Sustainable Development, Preparatory Committee III, New York, UN Headquarters**  
 Contact: Contact: Johannesburg Summit Secretariat, United Nations Major Group Relationships  
 2 United Nations Plaza. 22nd Floor  
 New York, NY, 10017  
 Tel: +1-212-963-8811, or +1-212-963-7255, or +1-212-963-8429  
 Web-site: <http://www.johannesburgsummit.org>
- APRIL**
- 10-11**            **CAFF Board Meeting, Iceland**  
 Contact: CAFF Secretariat, Akureyri, Iceland  
 Tel./Fax.: +354 462 3350 / +354 462 3390  
 E-mail: [caff@ni.is](mailto:caff@ni.is)  
 Web-site: <http://www.grida.no/caff>
- MAY**
- 14**                **Arctic Council SDWG (Sustainable Development Working Group) Meeting, Oulu, Finland**  
 Contact: Arctic Council Secretariat, Helsinki, Finland  
 Tel./Fax.: +358 9 1341 6187 / +358 9 1341 6120  
 E-mail: [johanna.lammi@formin.fi](mailto:johanna.lammi@formin.fi)  
 Web-site: <http://www.arctic-council.org>
- 15-16**            **Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials (SAO) Meeting, Oulu, Finland**  
 Contact: Arctic Council Secretariat, Helsinki, Finland  
 Tel./Fax.: +358 9 1341 6187 / +358 9 1341 6120  
 E-mail: [johanna.lammi@formin.fi](mailto:johanna.lammi@formin.fi)  
 Web-site: <http://www.arctic-council.org>
- 20-24**            **54th International Whaling Commission Plenary, Shimonoseki, Japan**
- Date Unknown**    **16th AMAP Working Group Meeting, Faroe Islands**  
 Contact: AMAP Secretariat, Oslo, Norway  
 Tel./Fax.: +47 23 24 1630 / +47 22 67 6706  
 E-mail: [lars-otto.reiersen@amap.no](mailto:lars-otto.reiersen@amap.no)  
 Web-site: <http://www.amap.no>
- 27-7.6**            **The World Summit on Sustainable Development, Preparatory Committee IV, Indonesia**  
 Contact: Contact: Johannesburg Summit Secretariat, United Nations Major Group Relationships  
 2 United Nations Plaza. 22nd Floor  
 New York, NY, 10017  
 Tel: +1-212-963-8811, or +1-212-963-7255, or +1-212-963-8429  
 Web-site: <http://www.johannesburgsummit.org>

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS Continued

## JUNE

**16-20**      **The 5th International Conference on Environmental Radioactivity in the Arctic and Antarctic, St. Petersburg, Russia**

Contact: NRPA - Arctic Radioactive Conference 2002  
 Fax: +47 67 14 54 44  
 E-mail: [arctic@nrpa.no](mailto:arctic@nrpa.no)

**Date Unknown**      **Partnership Conference for the Protection and Development of Marine and Coastal Environment of the Arctic Region of the Russian Federation.**

Contact: ACOPS Secretariat, London, UK  
 Tel./Fax: +44171 799 30 33/+44 171 799 2933  
 E-mail: [acopsorg@netcomuk.co.uk](mailto:acopsorg@netcomuk.co.uk)  
 Web-site: <http://www.acops.org>

## AUGUST

**1-3**      **13th Inuit Studies Conference, Anchorage, Alaska  
 Voices From Indigenous Communities; Research, Reality & Reconciliation**

Contact: Gordon L. Pullar, Department of Alaska Native & Rural Development, University of Alaska Fairbanks  
 Tlf.: 00-1-907-279-2700  
 E-mail: [g.pullar@uaf.edu](mailto:g.pullar@uaf.edu)

**25-27**      **4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Regions, Norway**

Web site: <http://www.grida.no/parl>

**Date Unknown**      **CAFF IX Meeting, Abisko, Sweden**

Contact: CAFF Secretariat, Akureyri, Iceland  
 Tel./Fax.: +354 462 33 50 / +354 462 33 90  
 E-mail: [caff@ni.is](mailto:caff@ni.is)  
 Web-site: <http://www.grida.no/caff>

**Date Unknown**      **Youth Conference, Nuuk, Greenland**

Contact: Nature and Peoples of the North, Copenhagen, Denmark  
 Tlf.: +45 33 13 02 92, Fax.: +45 33 32 09 92

## SEPTEMBER

**2-11**      **World Summit 2002 (Rio +10), Johannesburg, South Africa**

Web-site: <http://www.johannesburgsummit.org>

**25-27**      **2nd AMAP International Symposium on Environmental Pollution in the Arctic, Rovaniemi, Finland  
 Presentation of the assessments for the 3rd Ministerial meeting of the Arctic Council**

Contact: AMAP Secretariat, Oslo, Norway  
 Tel./Fax.: +47 23 24 1630 / +47 22 67 6706

## OCTOBER

**7-8**      **Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials (SAO) Meeting, Inari, Saariselkä, Finland**

Contact: Arctic Council Secretariat, Helsinki, Finland  
 Tel./Fax.: +358 9 1341 6187 / +358 9 1341 6120  
 E-mail: [johanna.lammi@formin.fi](mailto:johanna.lammi@formin.fi)  
 Web-site: <http://www.arctic-council.org>

**9-10**      **3rd Ministerial Meeting of the Arctic Council (+SAO meeting), Inari, Saariselkä, Finland**

Contact: Arctic Council Secretariat, Helsinki, Finland  
 Tel./Fax.: +358 9 1341 6187 / +358 9 1341 6120  
 E-mail: [johanna.lammi@formin.fi](mailto:johanna.lammi@formin.fi)  
 Web-site: <http://www.arctic-council.org>

**Date Unknown**      **Women in the Arctic Conference, Finland**