

**RECORD OF MEETING**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Project Steering Group (PSG) Meeting on Arctic Contaminants Action Program (ACAP)**  
**Indigenous Peoples Contaminant Action Program (IPCAP)**  
**Luleå, Sweden**  
**November 7, 2011**

Permanent participant organisations Aleut International Association (AIA), Russian Indigenous Peoples Organisation (RAIPON), Sami Council, Indigenous Peoples Secretariat (IPS), Arctic Council secretariat and country representatives from Finland, Norway, Sweden and USA participated in the meeting.

The PSG discussed the Terms of Reference (ToR) and the mandate of the group. It was agreed that the work of the PSG is both to ensure the Indigenous Peoples' concerns are taken into account in other Arctic Council projects and to facilitate development of projects addressing the exposure to and impacts of contaminants in the indigenous communities.

The PSG recognized that according to the ToR it should elect two co-chairs, one chosen by the PPs and one by the Arctic Member States. The PSG postponed the decision on co-chairs and welcomed proposals as soon as possible, to facilitate successful coordination of the PSG work.

The PSG noted that there was not yet sufficient information available on areas for future work/projects. It was considered necessary to initiate activities to collect information and data for the inventory, as specified in Phase I of the ToR. It was recognized that PPs would require additional resources to approach the indigenous communities for this information. The US has established a process for consulting with indigenous groups, which could be utilized.

The PSG decided to collect information on potential future work areas based on:

- the existing published information on indigenous peoples' contaminants (e.g. Persistent Toxic Substances, Food Security and Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North. Final Report (AMAP 2004) including its recommendations, and other scientific studies)
- previous projects addressing the contaminant and indigenous communities that have been carried out in the Arctic (e.g. US bilateral project on indigenous communities in Chukotka)

The information will be used to identify the key topics where action would need to be taken at the next PSG meeting. The PSG also discussed the preliminary list of criteria for prioritisation. The prioritisation could take into account i.a., adverse effects on health and environment, source characteristics, exposure pathways, inherent properties of contaminants and their occurrence profiles, communities' vulnerability, project transferability to other communities and regions in the Arctic as well as technical feasibility.

The PSG noted that its work in its initial phase will mainly be based on e-mail correspondence but that it would also be useful to arrange future meetings as teleconferences as well as back to back with SAO meetings. The PSG noted, however, the need for interpretation during the future meetings to facilitate effective participation of non-English speaking members. The co-chairs will contact the Arctic Council Secretariat for support.

The PSG noted that only 3 Permanent Participant organizations participated in the first IPCAP meeting. It was also noted that Russian Federation has indicated its willingness to participate, but has not yet nominated an expert. The group asks Russian Federation to nominate its representative to PSG as soon as possible.

Next meeting was tentatively set to take place 26 of March 2012 in Stockholm, Sweden (the day before SAO).