

SUMMARY REPORT

5TH MEETING OF THE ARCTIC SHIPPING BEST PRACTICE INFORMATION FORUM

16-18 NOVEMBER 2021
ONLINE MEETING



ARCTIC COUNCIL

PAME
Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment

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MEETING SUMMARY

The fifth meeting of the Arctic Council's Arctic Shipping Best Practice Information Forum took place virtually on 16-18 November 2021. This was the first Forum meeting Chaired by Russia. The new Forum Chair is Mr. Sergey Tolmachev, Counsellor, Mission of the Russian Federation to the International Maritime Organization.

Over 180 registrants representing nearly 90 different entities and organizations participated in the three-day meeting. The theme this year was *The Polar Code: Nearly Five Years On*, reflecting both the length of time that the International Maritime Organization's International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code) has been in force and the experience gained in implementing it during that time.

In opening the meeting, Dr. Vitaly Klyuev, Director of the Department of the State Policy for Maritime and Inland Waterways Transport, Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation, emphasized that "the Forum contributes to the consistent and uniform implementation of the Polar Code by all parties which in turn is a prerequisite for safe and environmentally sound shipping in the Arctic."

Addressing the Forum, Dr. Heike Deggim, the International Maritime Organization's Director of Maritime Safety, said: "We greatly value the opportunity to participate in this Forum given its relevance for the ongoing polar work in IMO. I would like to express my gratitude to the organizers of the Forum who have worked hard to establish and run the Web Portal, providing vital information, in quite a leading and unique way, which sets an example for others, to enhance and facilitate IMO's regulatory work."

The Forum was established in 2017 by the eight Arctic States (Canada, the Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden, and the United States) to raise awareness and promote the effective implementation of the Polar Code. The Forum also draws on experience from Antarctica, with representation from that polar region.

The Forum advances awareness and effective implementation of the Polar Code in several ways, primarily through its annual meeting and a dedicated Web Portal - accessible at <http://www.arcticshippingforum.is> - that it maintains and regularly upgrades with authoritative information from intergovernmental bodies and widely recognized industry, non-governmental, indigenous, and academic organizations, pertaining to each and every provision of the Polar Code. This information is of vital interest to those involved in safe and environmentally sound Arctic shipping, including shipowners and operators, regulators, classification societies, marine insurers, indigenous and local communities, amongst others. Forum Participants heard how usage of the Web portal increased by 20.6 % in the past year despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

Presentations by more than 25 experts at the meeting addressed a wide range of topics, including ongoing efforts to advance harmonized interpretations of the Polar Code, reports

on progress made in providing search and rescue and emergency marine response, updates on ice navigation and ice pilotage services, and the latest decision support and communication tools available to facilitate safe and environmentally sound navigation and voyage planning in the Arctic.

Highlights were the live presentation from the bridge of the Swedish Icebreaker Oden in which the Ship's Master and its Chief Officer described operating conditions in the High North as far as the North Pole, and a presentation by Russia's Northern Sea Route Administration highlighting the significant increase in tonnage using the route.

Russia's Sergey Tolmachev, the Forum Chair and Counsellor, Mission of the Russian Federation to the IMO said: "Over the years, the Forum and its Web portal have become an excellent platform for sharing expertise and knowledge on the Polar Code, and together we will be able to make it even more useful for everyone interested in Arctic shipping."

THE FORUM COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- Sergey Tolmachev (Forum Chair, Russian Federation)
- Peter Oppenheimer (PAME Shipping Expert Group Co-Chair, United States)
- Drummond Fraser (PAME Shipping Expert Group Co-Chair, Canada)
- Sverrir Konráðsson (Former Forum Chair, Iceland)
- Michael Kingston (Special advisor to PAME, Ireland)
- Soffía Guðmundsdóttir (PAME Executive Secretary)
- Hjalti Hreinsson (PAME Secretariat)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Forum Coordinating Committee would like to sincerely thank all those who have supported the Forum's development.

To date, the Forum has been maintained by modest financial contributions, and in-kind contributions from the Arctic States. To continue to sustain and strengthen the Forum and meet the expressed interest and need of Arctic shipping stakeholders, additional funds are necessary. The Forum Coordinating Committee have created an Acknowledgements section on the front page of the Web portal where those who have contributed are acknowledged.

Financial contributions may be made by contacting the PAME Secretariat at pameshippingforum@pame.is.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Biographies of all speakers is available [here](#).

PRESENTATIONS

SESSION 1: OPENING SESSION	
Forum Web-Portal update (Michael Kingston)	Link
Shipping in the Polar Code Area - Recent trends (HjalTI Hreinsson)	Link
Update from the IMO (Heike Deggim)	Link
SESSION 2: SUPPORTING AWARENESS, INTERPRETATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLAR CODE	
Interpretation of the Polar Code: Status of the PAME Project (Turid Stemre)	Link
Procedures Related to the Navigation on the Northern Sea Route as an Element of Comprehensive System to Ensure Maritime Safety in the Russian Arctic (Nikolay Monko)	Link
Overview of Insurance Perspective (Neil Roberts)	Link
SESSION 3: SEARCH AND RESCUE & EMERGENCY MARINE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN THE ARCTIC	
Providing Search and Rescue Services in the Arctic Region (Yury Malyshev)	Link
The Arctic Council's Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response Working Group (EPPR) and the role of EPPR's Search and Rescue Expert Group (Benjamin Strong)	Link
Arctic Guardian Exercise in Search and Rescue and Marine Environmental Response in the Arctic (Steve Thompson)	Link
SESSION 4: ICE NAVIGATION AND ICE PILOTAGE IN THE ARCTIC	
Ice Pilotage in the Russian Arctic (Vasily Ilyin)	Link
A Canadian Perspective (Duke Snider)	Link

Live from the Bridge of the Swedish Icebreaker ODEN (Mattias Pettersson & Mats Wisén)	Link
SESSION 5: ARCTIC VOYAGE PLANNING	
Navigation and Information Support of Voyage Planning in the Northern Sea Route: the Case of a Conventional Icebreaker (Nikolay Zelenkov)	Link
Voyage Planning: Forum of Arctic Research Operators (FARO) (Jennifer Mercer)	Link
Swedish Polar Research Secretariat Research expeditions & the Polar Code (Asa Lindgren)	Link
Considerations When Planning for Multi-Ship Ice Management Operations in Polar Waters (Åke Rohlen)	Link
SESSION 6: NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY SERVICE PROVIDERS	
Communications in the Arctic Region (Kyle Hurst)	Link
Collaboration in Arctic Hydrography for Maritime Safety and the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (Geneviève Bécharde)	Link
Sea Ice Information Charts, Data Products, and Forecasts (Florence Fetterer)	Link
SESSION 7: THE HUMAN ELEMENT: TRAINING FOR ARCTIC SHIPPING	
Ice Training (Jarkko Toivola)	Link
IMO Training Regarding Polar Shipping (Milton Baron-Perico)	Link
Development of an Inventory of Ice Training Institutes and Training Courses (Hervé Baudu)	Link
Training of Personnel and Implementation of Research Projects for Arctic Shipping: Admiral Makarov University Perspective (Sergey Aysinov)	Link
SESSION 8: FORUM PARTICIPANTS UPDATE	
WWF's Perspectives on Scope and Implementation of the Polar Code (Jan Dusik & Sian Prior)	Link

Transmitting Current, Relevant Safety and Environmental Information to Vessels Operating in Arctic Waters (Ed Page)	Link
SESSION 9: POLARIS	
POLARIS update and next steps (James Bond and Rob Hindley)	Link

PREVIOUS FORUM MEETINGS

2017:

- **Dates:** 5-6 June
- **Location:** Lloyds Register, London
- [Meeting summary](#)
- [Meeting website](#)

2018:

- **Dates:** 14-15 May
- **Location:** Irish Cultural Centre, London
- [Meeting summary](#)
- [Meeting website](#)

2019:

- **Dates:** 3-4 June
- **Location:** United States Embassy, London
- [Meeting Summary](#)
- [Meeting website](#)

2020:

- **Dates:** 24-25 November
- **Location:** Online virtual meeting
- [Meeting summary](#)
- [Meeting website](#)

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MEETING AGENDA

ARCTIC SHIPPING BEST PRACTICE INFORMATION FORUM



5th ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

16-18 NOVEMBER 2021

Meeting theme: The Polar Code - Nearly Five Years On

PAME
Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment

DAY 1: 16 NOVEMBER

1

OPENING SESSION

14.00

Welcome & Opening Remarks - Russian Federation

Dr. Vitaly Klyuev (Director, Department of the State Policy for Maritime and Inland Waterways Transport, Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation) & Mr. Sergey Tolmachev (Forum Chair)

14.05

Arctic Shipping Best Practice Information Forum Developments

Mr. Peter Oppenheimer and Mr. Drummond Fraser (Co-chairs of PAME's Shipping Expert Group)

14.10

Forum Web-Portal Update (www.arcticshippingforum.is)

Mr. Michael Kingston (Michael Kingston Associates, Special Advisor to PAME)

14.20

Shipping in the Arctic Polar Code Area: Recent Developments

Mr. Hjalti Hreinsson (PAME Secretariat)

14.30

Update from the IMO

Dr. Heike Deggim (Director, Maritime Safety Division, IMO)

14.45

Discussion

2

SUPPORTING AWARENESS, INTERPRETATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLAR CODE

15.00

Interpretation of the Polar Code: Status of the PAME Project

Ms. Turid Stenpre (Director IMO Affairs, Norwegian Maritime Authority)

15.15

Organization of Navigation in the Water Area of the Northern Sea Route, Including the Implementation of the Polar Code

Mr. Nikolay Monko (Acting Head of the Northern Sea Route Administration, the Russian Federation)

15.30

Insurers and the Arctic

Mr. Neil Roberts (Head of Marine and Aviation, Lloyd's Market Association)

15.45

Discussion

HEALTH BREAK

3

SEARCH AND RESCUE & EMERGENCY MARINE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN THE ARCTIC

- 16.00** **Providing Search and Rescue Services in the Arctic Region**
Mr. Yury Malyshev (Deputy Head, Marine Rescue Coordination Center of the Marine Rescue Service of the Russian Federation)
- 16.15** **The Arctic Council's Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response Working Group (EPPR) and the role of EPPR's Search and Rescue Expert Group**
Mr. Benjamin Strong (Chair of EPPR Search and Rescue Expert Group)
- 16.30** **Arctic Guardian Exercise in Search and Rescue and Marine Environmental Response in the Arctic**
Mr. Steve Thompson (Chair, Combined Operations Working Group - Arctic Coast Guard Forum)
- 16.45** **Discussion & Closing of Day 1**

17.00

END OF DAY 1

DAY 2: 17 NOVEMBER

- 14.00** **Opening of the Meeting and Day 1 Recap**
Mr. Sergey Tolmachev (Forum Chair)

4

ICE NAVIGATION AND ICE PILOTAGE IN THE ARCTIC

- 14.05** **Ice Pilotage in the Russian Arctic**
Capt. Vasily Ilyin (Deputy Director for Safety of Navigation of the Russian Federation Federal State Unitary Enterprise - 'Rosmorport', Arkhangelsk Branch)
- 14.20** **Ice Navigation and Pilotage in the Arctic**
Capt. Duke Snider (CEO of Martech Polar)
- 14.35** **Live from the Bridge of the Swedish Icebreaker ODEN**
Capt. Mattias Pettersson (Master, Icebreaker *Oden*), Mats Wisén (Chief Officer)
- 14.50** **Discussion**

5

ARCTIC VOYAGE PLANNING

15.00

Navigation and Information Support of Voyage Planning in the Northern Sea Route: the Case of a Conventional Icebreaker of FSUE "Rosmorport"

Mr. Nikolay Zelenkov (Deputy Director for Maritime Safety of the Russian Federation Federal State Unitary Enterprise "Rosmorport", Murmansk Branch)

15.15

Voyage Planning: Forum of Arctic Research Operators (FARO), The Polar Code, Logistics & Safety

Dr. Jennifer L. Mercer (Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation (USA) & Chair, Forum of Arctic Research Operators (FARO)) & Dr. Åsa Lindgren (Head of Department for the Ship-Based Research Support, Swedish Polar Research Secretariat)

15.30

Considerations when Planning for Multi-Ship Ice Management Operations in Polar Waters

Mr. Åke Rohlen (Chairman of Arctic Marine Solutions)

15.45

Discussion

HEALTH BREAK

6

NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY SERVICE PROVIDERS

16.00

Communications in the Arctic Region

Mr. Kyle Hurst (Director Maritime Safety and Security Services, IRIDIUM)

16.15

Collaboration in Arctic Hydrography for Maritime Safety and the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment

Dr. Geneviève Bécharé (Chair of the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission, Hydrographer General of Canada and Director General for the Canadian Hydrographic Service); Collaborations in Arctic Hydrography to Maritime Safety and the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment)

16.30

Sea Ice Information: Charts, Data Products, and Forecasts

Ms. Florence Fetterer (U.S. National Snow & Ice Data Center Liaison to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)

16.45

Discussion & Closing of Day 2

END OF DAY 2

DAY 3: 18 NOVEMBER

14.00 **Opening of the Meeting, Day 2 Recap and Virtual Group Photo**
Mr. Sergey Tolmachev (Forum Chair)

7

THE HUMAN ELEMENT: TRAINING FOR ARCTIC SHIPPING

14.05 **Ice Training**
Mr. Jarkko Toivola (Chief Maritime Specialist, Director, Waterways, Head of Maritime Unit Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency)

14.20 **IMO Training Regarding Polar Shipping**
Mr. Milton Baron-Perico (Technical Officer, Maritime Safety Division, IMO)

14.35 **Development of an Inventory of Ice Training Institutes and Training Courses**
Mr. Hervé Baudu (Senior Lecturer in Nautical Science, French Maritime Academy)

14.50 **Training of Personnel and Implementation of Research Projects for Arctic Shipping: Admiral Makarov University Perspective**
Mr. Sergey Aysinov (Director of Professional Development Programmes Institute of Admiral Makarov State University of Maritime and Inland Shipping, Russian Federation)

15.05 **Discussion**

HEALTH BREAK

8

FORUM PARTICIPANTS UPDATE

15.25 **Perspectives on Scope and Implementation of the Polar Code**
Mr. Jan Dusik (Sustainable Development Lead, WWF Arctic Programme) & Dr. Sian Prior (Shipping Advisor, Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition)

15.40 **Transmitting Current, Relevant Safety and Environmental Information to Vessels Operating in Arctic Waters**
Capt. Ed Page (Executive Director, Marine Exchange of Alaska)

15.55 **Discussion**

9

POLARIS

16.05

Status Update

Mr. Rob Hindley (Head of Machinery & Structural Design, Aker Arctic) &
Mr. James Bond (Director, Polar Research and Ice Class Ships, American Bureau of Shipping)

16.20

Discussion

10

CLOSING SESSION

16.30

Forum Developments, Next Steps and Discussion

Mr. Peter Oppenheimer and Mr. Drummond Fraser (Co-chairs of PAME's Shipping Expert Group)

16.55

Closing Remarks

Mr. Sergey Tolmachev (Forum Chair)

17.00

END OF MEETING

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