

2012/3/SSGEF01 A Conference on “Acidification of the Arctic Ocean and Northern Seas: Trends and Consequences” will be held during 6-8 May 2013, at Bergen, Norway with the Arctic Council’s Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) and ICES as Conveners.

A Scientific Committee will be established partly based on the lead authors of the assessment and partly based on nominations from scientific organizations.

Lead authors (and members of the Scientific Committee) are:

- Howard I. Browman, Institute of Marine Research, Norway;
- Lars-Otto Reiersen, AMAP, Norway
- Rashid Sumaila, UBC Fisheries Centre, Canada;
- Richard Bellerby, Norwegian Institute for Water Research and Bjerknnes Centre for Climate Research, Norway;

The ICES representatives on the SSC are Jon Ólafsson (Iceland) and John Pinnegar (UK) who will solicit science contributions from ICES member institutes.

Supporting Information

Priority:	<p>AMAP and ICES have over the last 20 years had a close cooperation related to monitoring and assessment of the Arctic areas. ICES is also operating the AMAP Thematic Data Centre for environmental data gathered by the Arctic countries and observing countries.</p> <p>AMAP is currently preparing a scientific assessment of the status, trends and effects of Arctic Ocean Acidification on marine ecosystems and fisheries.</p> <p>As a part of the communication of the results of the assessment, AMAP and the Institute of Marine Research in Bergen are planning an international Conference on the Acidification.</p> <p>The assessment will be delivered to the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting that will take place in Kiruna, Sweden, 15th May 2013. The conference will showcase the AMAP assessment findings but will also be an open scientific conference inviting presentations from other organizations and scientists working on relevant issues to introduce the latest developments in this rapidly evolving field of science.</p>
Scientific justification:	<p>The assessment is being produced by an international expert team. Topics covered by the assessment include: marine acidification chemistry and its relationship to CO₂ emissions, acidification trends in the Arctic Ocean and Northern Seas, implications for the regions marine ecosystems, potential consequences for Northern fisheries and Northern communities. Based on this scientific assessment, AMAP will prepare proposals for actions for the Arctic Council, including policy-relevant findings and the identification of gaps in knowledge and recommendations regarding future research, monitoring and assessment work.</p>
Resource requirements:	<p>ICES funding is requested for ICES conveners and early career scientists attendance.</p>
Participants:	<p>The conference is and open scientific conference inviting presentations from other organizations and scientists working on relevant issues. All Arctic Council members are also members of ICES.</p>
Secretariat facilities:	<p>The AMAP Secretariat will serve as Conference Secretariat. However, any assistance from the ICES Secretariat is appreciated..</p>
Financial:	<p>Up to 5K Euro is required for funding ICES conveners and early career scientists attendance.</p>

Linkages to advisory committees:	There is no direct linkage to ACOM. However, ocean acidification will be of increasing importance for the entire North Atlantic region and relevant parameters will become part of regular ecosystem assessments.
Linkages to other committees or groups:	<p>The ICES Science Committee has decided to define the role of ICES in the Arctic in cooperation with those organizations who are already active in the field with a view on expanding its activities.</p> <p>The ICES Science Plan (2009-2013) addresses “Sensitive ecosystems (deep-sea coral, seamounts, Arctic) as well as rare and data-poor species”.</p> <p>ICES Annual Science Conference 2012 in Bergen, Norway, focuses on sustainable aquaculture and polar research.</p>
Linkages to other organizations:	Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
Publication of proceedings	A book of Abstract is planned to be produced and handed out at the opening. A proceedings is not planned.