

**Work Programme  
Subgroup for Hot Spot Exclusion**



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

0. List of Abbreviations ..... 3

1. Introduction ..... 4

2. Background ..... 4

3. Mandate ..... 4

4. Priorities and Activities ..... 5

5. Methods and Prerequisites for the Subgroup’s work ..... 6

6. Members and Observers ..... 7

**0. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

AFA:	Assigned Federal Authority <sup>1</sup> = the Federal Russian Authority which the Ministry of Nature Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation assigns to initiate the procedure (Steps 1,2 and 3) of exclusion of a particular hotspot
AA:	Addressed Authority, = the federal or subject level authority found addressed for the exclusion of a particular hotspot to conduct the Steps 4,5 and 6 of the exclusion procedure as defined in the TF Final Report.
ACAP:	Arctic Contaminants Action Programme
AMAP:	Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme
BAT:	Best Available Technologies
BEAC:	The Barents Euro Arctic Council
BEAC	
WGE:	The Working Group on Environment, one of the organs under BEAC
BEP:	Best Environmental Practices
BHSF:	Barents Hot Spot Facility
CPESC:	Cleaner Production (CP) and Environmentally Sound Consumption
HEG:	Regional Hotspot Exclusion Group
Minpriroda:	Ministry of Nature Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation
NDEP:	Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership
NEFCO:	Nordic Environment Finance Corporation
NPA Arctic:	National Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment
PSI:	Project Support Instrument
RF:	Russian Federation
Rosprirodnadzor:	
	Federal Agency for the Control of the Use of Natural Resources RF
SHE:	The Subgroup on "Hot Spots" Exclusion, appointed at the BEAC WGE meeting in Kiruna on April 21, 2010 in follow of the recommendations of the Declaration of the Ministers of Environment at the BEAC WGE Meeting in Tromsø on February 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2010.
TF:	The Ad hoc Task Force on Elaboration of Procedures and Criteria for Exclusion of Barents Environmental "Hot Spots"

---

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Subgroup on Hot Spots Exclusion (SHE) of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council's Working Group on Environment (BEAC WGE) was established in 2010 and serves as the central driving force and co-ordinator in the work to launch adequate action projects aimed at the exclusion of the 42 Barents Euro Arctic environmental Hot Spots, listed in 2003 (the List). The operative work for exclusion of the environmental Hot Spots from the List requires thorough effort from Hot Spots owners, regional authorities and other stakeholders.

The Work Programme 2014-2015 guides the efforts of the SHE in facilitating the exclusion of environmental Hot Spots from the List in accordance with the group's mandate and the Criteria and Procedures described in the Final Report to the Ministers of Environment (2010). The Work Programme follows the recommendations of the Declaration of the Ministers of Environment from the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 Inari meeting, in particular the recommendation to continue implementation of abatement measures at the Hot Spots.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

The Barents Environmental Hot Spot List was prepared on behalf of BEAC by a joint AMAP/Russian Expert Group in 2003 as an update of a study on Barents Environmental Hot Spots originally compiled on behalf of the Nordic countries in 1995. The List consists of 42 Hot Spots representing what was at the time considered the most urgent areas of concern related to pollution sources in the Russian Barents region, along with proposals for 52 investment projects aimed on mitigation of the negative environmental impact.

After the establishment of the Barents Environmental Hot Spot List, progress was made at some of the Hot Spots. Since there was no formally defined procedure for exclusion of the Hot Spots from the List or criteria for when a Hot Spot could no longer be regarded as a Hot Spot, there was a need to define such criteria and procedures.

During the Swedish chairmanship, 2010-2011, much effort was put to develop the criteria and the Hot Spot Exclusion Procedure. Regional Hot Spot Exclusion Groups (HEGs) were established in all of the five Barents region subjects of the Russian Federation. Mandates for the HEGs were elaborated and group work started successfully. The Hot Spots, primarily selected for exclusion were reviewed in accordance with the Exclusion Procedure adopted in Tromsø in February 2010. Three Hot Spots were excluded from the list at the meeting of the Barents Ministers of Environment in 2011: Mercury-containing waste, Murmansk (M-8); Stocks of obsolete pesticides, Republic of Karelia (K-10) and Stocks of obsolete pesticides, Arkhangelsk (A-10).

During the Finnish chairmanship, 2012-2013, an assessment of the Barents Hot Spot List was carried out to describe the state of all 42 environmental Hot Spots, originally included in the List. Three Hot Spots were excluded from the List at the ministerial meeting in 2013: Arkhangelsk Heat and Power Plant, Arkhangelsk (A2); Handling of Mercury-Containing Wastes, Nenets Autonomous District (N4) and Gas emissions from Kondopoga pulp and paper combined mill, Republic of Karelia (K1).

## **3. MANDATE**

The Barents Ministers of Environment acknowledged the need to prioritize and initially focus on certain Hot Spots in order to ensure tangible results, and therefore also encouraged further efforts to:

Explore possibilities to develop and implement projects together with the Subgroup on Cleaner Production and Environmentally Sound Consumption (CPESC Subgroup) as well as with the NEFCO Barents Hot Spot Facility (BHSF),

Strengthen and build on the work of existing regional working groups on “hot spots” in the republics of Komi, Karelia and in Arkhangelsk, Murmansk Oblast and Nenets Autonomous District,

Explore possibilities for synergies with the work carried out in the Arctic Council, including its Project Support Instrument and NPA Arctic, and other sources of financing,

Rise awareness about the Barents Environmental “hot spots”,

Safeguard the development of an information system about the Barents Environmental “hot spots” list as part of the Barents Euro Arctic Councils web site by the end of 2010.

Review the criteria and procedure for hot spot exclusion before the 2011 Ministerial meeting.

## DECLARATION

According to the Inari Declaration from 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013, *the Environment Ministers:*

*noted with appreciation* the results reached in ten years of cooperation on "hot spots", and *acknowledged* increased regional engagement and the work done in the Russian parts of the Barents Region, as well as the progress at many of the "hot spots";

*assented* to the exclusion of the following Barents environmental "hot spots" from the list: Arkhangelsk heat and power plant (Arkhangelsk-A2), Handling of mercury-containing wastes (Nenets-N4) and Gas emissions from Kondopoga pulp and paper combined mill (Karelia-KI); and *encouraged* further application of the Hot Spots Exclusion Procedure approved at the ministerial meeting in Tromsø in 2010 at the remaining 36 "hot spots" and continued implementation of abatement measures at these "hot spots";

*encouraged* the WGE to consider the need to update the existing "hot spots" list in order to focus abatement measures on solving the most acute environmental problems; to complement the work on "hot spots" a sectoral approach should be developed;

*welcomed* the contribution of NEFCO and its Barents Hot Spots Facility and the Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership in the work aimed at "hot spots" exclusion, and *encouraged* implementation of relevant environmental investment projects and further exploration of possibilities for synergies within the framework of the BEAC WGE and the Arctic Council, including its Project Support Instrument, and other sources of financing;

*encouraged the SHE* to enhance information and dissemination of the results of the work with the "hot spots".

## 4. PRIORITIES AND ACTIVITIES

The goal is to exclude all remaining 36 “hot spots” from the List. The Ministerial declaration from 2013 confirms that the short-term objective is to continue implementation of abatement measures to reach the goal.

The exclusion process is entirely carried out on Russian territory and thus is subject to existing environmental legislation and regulation system of the Russian Federation.

## SUBGROUP PRIORITIES AND ACTIVITIES UNDER THE RUSSIAN CHAIRMANSHIP

SHE Subgroup identifies the following main objective for its work until the next BEAC WGE Ministerial Meeting:

*SHE priorities for 2014-2015 are:*

1. Implementation of the Hot Spot Exclusion procedure in 5 constituent entities of the Russian part of the Barents region;
2. Promotion of the development and implementation of relevant environmental investment projects at the hot spots in the constituent entities of the Russian part of the Barents region together with NEFCO, NDEP and other financial institutions;
3. Introduction of the sectorial approach in HS Exclusion procedure and further exclusion of the Hot Spots from the Barents List;
4. Strengthening the involvement of regional HEGs in the implementation of HS Exclusion procedure;
5. Supporting the implementation of the Action Plan on Climate Change for the Barents Co-operation by continuing and strengthening efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and short-lived climate pollutants at the Hot Spots

*The SHE activities include:*

- 1) Updating of the General Exclusion Plan and prioritizing the Hot Spots for support activities
- 2) Defining of the support activities (re Priority 2) for Hot Spots and sectors using experience from previous projects
- 3) Development and facilitation of the Exclusion Procedure Steps 3-6 at prioritized Hot Spots
- 4) Raising awareness among relevant stakeholders and general public about the Barents Environmental Hot Spots and work on their exclusion from the List
- 5) Continuation of the productive co-operation and synergies with other institutions within the Barents and Arctic Council co-operations, incl. the BEAC WGE CPESC Subgroup, NEFCO (BHSF), NDEP, NIB, ACAP, AMAP, PSI, National Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (NPA Arctic), and other potential organisations for co-operation and co-financing.

## **5. METHODS AND PREREQUISITES FOR THE SUBGROUP'S WORK**

### ROLES AND APPROACHES

The key role of SHE is to facilitate the exclusion procedure, to promote and support the work of the HEGs and demand progress, however always recognising the fact that primarily Ministry of natural resources and environment of the Russian Federation and Rosprirodnadzor of RF and the Appointed Authority (AA) in each region of RF have the main responsibility for the "Hot Spots" and that SHE should identify and enforce appropriate ways of supporting also the officials in this work.

The activities conducted under the auspices of SHE will engage both the subgroup itself but also to an increasing extent the regional Hot Spot groups.

### METHODS OF WORK

The principles for conducting joint work in SHE are presented below:

- A)** SHE will have physical meetings back to back with the WGE meetings and meetings with HEGs and, in addition, telephone/video meetings.
- B)** SHE should make decisions by consensus and all decisions made shall be reflected in the Minutes from the meetings.
- C)** SHE may develop and agree on a plan of activities, Work Plan 2014-2015. This Work Plan may be annexed to the Work Programme 2014-2015. The Work Plan and Work Programme may be changed during operation and (major changes) submitted to WGE for approval. All documents from SHE should, if not otherwise decided, be posted on the BEAC webpage to secure availability and transparency.
- D)** Participation in SHE is open to federal and regional authorities in the Barents Region. Finland, Norway, Russia and Sweden should appoint members to the subgroup. Representatives from indigenous peoples organizations and other relevant organizations, including NGOs and institutions may participate as observers in SHE.
- E)** SHE will be co-chaired by Russia, as a chair of WGE BEAC in 2014-2015, and Norway up to September, 2014. After Norway SHE will be co-chaired by Sweden
- F)** Reports and recommendations from SHE will be submitted to the WGE for approval.

## RESOURCES AND FINANCING

The work conducted within SHE will require appropriate allocation of resources, both from the participants in SHE for conducting the work and for supporting actions (meetings, seminars, support and advisory role to the implementation of the Procedure) required for the facilitation. Resources for preparation and implementation of concrete action projects at the Hot Spots will require efforts from both Hot Spot owners and Russian authorities. SHE will assist in the work to identify additional funding sources and prepare such projects. Projects and activities in the Work programme will be addressed as time, resources and opportunity permit.

## **6. MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS**

### **Members of the Subgroup on Hot Spot Exclusion**

**Ms. Maria Dronova (co-chair)**, WGE Chair, Adviser

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

Ul. Bolshaya Gruzinskaya 4/6

123995 Moscow, Russia

E-mail: [dronova@mnr.gov.ru](mailto:dronova@mnr.gov.ru)

Tel: + 7 499 254 40 63, + 7 985 292 19 75

**Mr. Ivan Popov (co-chair)**, Deputy Head of the Department

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry of Arkhangelsk Region

Ul. Vyucheskogo 18

163 000 Arkhangelsk, Russia

E-mail: [ivanecolog@yandex.ru](mailto:ivanecolog@yandex.ru)

Tel: + 7 8182 65 19 95 , +7 911 511 54 10

**Mr. Åke Mikaelsson, (co-chair)** Programme Coordinator

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

106 48 Stockholm, Sweden

E-mail: [ake.mikaelsson@naturvardsverket.se](mailto:ake.mikaelsson@naturvardsverket.se)  
Tel. +46 10 698 1679; +46 70 910 4813

**Ms. Anne Berteig (co-chair until Sept,2014)**, Senior Adviser  
Norwegian Environment Agency  
P.O. Box 5672 Sluppen  
7485 Trondheim, Norway  
E-mail: [anne.berteig@miljodir.no](mailto:anne.berteig@miljodir.no)  
Tel. +47 99 62 84 07

**Ms. Emma Nurmi**, Senior Adviser  
Finnish Environment Institute  
P.O. Box 140  
00251 Helsinki, Finland  
E-mail: [emma.nurmi@ymparisto.fi](mailto:emma.nurmi@ymparisto.fi)  
Tel: +358 295 251 464

**Ms. Nadezda Maslova**, Assistant Programme Coordinator  
Swedish Environmental Protection Agency  
106 48 Stockholm, Sweden  
E-mail: [nadezda.maslova@naturvardsverket.se](mailto:nadezda.maslova@naturvardsverket.se)  
Tel.: +46 10 698 1559; +46 76 115 1884

#### **Observers to SHE**

**Mr. Mihail Martynenkov**, Deputy Head of Department  
Federal Supervisory Natural Resources Management Service  
E-mail: [m.martynenkov@mail.ru](mailto:m.martynenkov@mail.ru)  
Tel. + 7 499 766 20 39

**Mr. Henrik G Forsström**, Senior Adviser  
Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO)  
E-mail: [henrik.forsstrom@nefco.fi](mailto:henrik.forsstrom@nefco.fi)  
Tel. +358 10 618 0638

**Mr. Jaakko Henttonen**, NDEP Manager  
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development  
E-mail: [henttonj@ebrd.com](mailto:henttonj@ebrd.com)  
Tel. + 7 812 703 55 25

**Ms. Tuuli Ojala**, Adviser  
International Barents Secretariat  
E-mail: [tuuli.ojala@beac.st](mailto:tuuli.ojala@beac.st)  
Tel. + 47 48 291 457

**Mr. Ruslan Butovskiy**, Head of Department  
All-Russian Institute of Ecology  
[rbutovsky@rambler.ru](mailto:rbutovsky@rambler.ru)  
+7 916 6863891