



MULTILATERAL AUDIT OF THE ARCTIC
STATES' NATIONAL AUTHORITIES' WORK
WITH THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

Arctic Council

- **Established 1996**
- **High level intergovernmental forum**
- **Promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among Arctic states with the involvement of Arctic indigenous peoples' organizations**
- **Six working groups**



Arctic Council

- **Members:** Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden and United States
- **Permanent participants:** Six indigenous peoples' organizations
- **Observers:** 12 non-arctic Countries, 9 Intergovernmental or Inter-Parliamentary Organizations, 11 NGOs



The audit

- **Participants: Denmark, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden and United States**
- **Observers: Canada, Finland and Iceland**
- **Coordinators: Russian Federation and Norway**
- **Basis: Strategic Plan, signed by the Auditors General**
- **Process: National reports, joint memorandum**



Audit Objectives

Based on the current environmental challenges and economic opportunities

- **To evaluate the efficiency of the Arctic Council member states within the Council in their respective response to the challenges and opportunities in the Arctic**



Audit Results

- **The Arctic Council has made the Arctic region into an area of unique international cooperation.**
- **Changes in the Arctic have elevated the importance of cooperation in the region.**
- **The Arctic Council has contributed to enhanced cooperation, governance and scientific knowledge.**



Audit Results, continued

The Arctic Council faces the following challenges:

- **The organizational structure**
- **Prioritizing the work**
- **Funding**
- **Follow-up on the voluntary recommendations to the member states**
- **Participation of the indigenous peoples' groups**



Lessons learned

- **A Strategic Plan signed by the head of each SAI is essential to secure a joint framework and resources.**
- **The impact of the joint effort is larger than national audits alone.**
- **Regular meetings of the participants create confidence and respect for the different cultures and audit traditions.**



Multilateral meeting of the participating SAIs in Salekhard (3 - 5 April 2013)



THANK YOU!!!

