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MULTILATERAL AUDIT OF THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

- **Denmark**
- **Norway** (coordinator)
- **Russia** (coordinator)
- **Sweden**
- **USA**
- **Canada**
- **Finland**
- **Iceland**



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The Arctic Council

- **High-level intergovernmental forum**
- **to provide a means for promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States**
- **with the involvement of the Arctic Indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues, in particular issues of sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic.**



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The Arctic Council

Member States: Canada, Denmark (incl. Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States of America.

Permanent Participants: Arctic Athabaskan Council, Aleut International Association, Gwich'in Council International, Inuit Circumpolar Council, Russian Arctic Indigenous Peoples of the North and Saami Council.

Observers: France, Germany, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain and United Kingdom + 9 NGOs



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Outcome objective

- **the audit will generate a positive effect on their respective authority's participation in the Arctic Council**
- **the sum effect for the Arctic Council as an organization, will be equally positive**
- **to ensure that national and international cooperation in the Arctic address the environmental challenges and economic opportunities in the region in a proper manner**



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Framework

- **The multilateral audit will be performed and reported within the legal framework of each participating Supreme Audit Institution.**
- **The results of national audits are to be reflected in a Joint Memorandum.**
- **In the international multilateral audit some of the SAIs will conduct audit activities and prepare factual descriptions on behalf of all the Parties.**



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Audit Objective

- **To describe the environmental challenges and economic opportunities in the Arctic**
- **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, including**
 - **the implementation of Arctic Council recommendations regarding environmental protection and sustainable development in the Arctic and**
 - **the possibility of improving the interaction of Arctic States in this field.**



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Audit Topics

- 1. What is the development and status in the Arctic concerning the environment and economic development and also for the indigenous peoples?**
- 2. To what degree does the Arctic Council efficiently address environmental challenges, economic opportunities and sustainability in the Arctic region?**



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Audit Topics, continued

- 3. To what degree do the Member States implement the Arctic Council's key recommendations and national goals and strategies relating to the environmental challenges and economic opportunities in the Arctic, and to what degree do the Member States ratify and/or comply with key international conventions?**
- 4. Does the Arctic Council fulfill its mission through an expedient and effective organization, structure and work processes?**



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Audit Period

September 2012 – signing of the Strategic Plan

3rd quarter 2012 – 4th quarter 2013 – conducting of the national audit

1st quarter 2014 – drafting of the Joint Memorandum

2nd quarter 2014 – signing and presentation of the Joint Memorandum.



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