Report from the IASC Action Group on Indigenous Involvement
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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAC</td>
<td>Arctic Athabaskan Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGII</td>
<td>Action Group on Indigenous Involvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>AHDR</td>
<td>Arctic Human Development Report</td>
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<td>AIA</td>
<td>Aleut International Association</td>
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<td>AMAP</td>
<td>Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme</td>
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<td>ASSW</td>
<td>Arctic Science Summit Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFF</td>
<td>Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBD</td>
<td>Convention on Biological Diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPPR</td>
<td>Emergency Prevention, Preparedness, and Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>FARO</td>
<td>Forum of Arctic Research Operators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCI</td>
<td>Gwich’in Council International</td>
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<tr>
<td>IASC</td>
<td>International Arctic Science Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>IASSA</td>
<td>International Arctic Social Sciences Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICARP-III</td>
<td>3rd International Conference on Arctic Research Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICASS</td>
<td>International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICC</td>
<td>Inuit Circumpolar Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITK</td>
<td>Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF</td>
<td>(United States) National Science Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPs</td>
<td>Permanent Participants (of the Arctic Council)</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAIPON</td>
<td>Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North</td>
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<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>Saami Council</td>
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<td>WG</td>
<td>Working Group</td>
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Figure 1: Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic. Note that this map is for illustrative and not reference purposes. Compiled by Winfried K. Dallmann, Norwegian Polar Institute, obtained via the Arctic Council website.
Figure 2: Some of the many definitions of the Arctic.
What do “Arctic” and “Indigenous” mean to IASC AGII?

In all matters, IASC strives for an inclusive approach by “encouraging and facilitating cooperation in all aspects of Arctic research, in all countries engaged in Arctic research and in all areas of the Arctic region.” Rather than defining human and environmental boundaries, IASC tries to bridge those boundaries.

IASC does not endorse any one definition of the Arctic region. There are many different definitions – astronomical, political, meteorological, ecological, and more. Natural systems do not reflect geopolitical boundaries, and often neither do social systems follow such drawn lines. The extent of the Arctic is flexible, dynamic, and context-specific.

Furthermore, in defining Indigeneity, self-identification of Arctic Indigenous Peoples and groups is the appropriate and accepted standard. Recognition of Indigenous groups at some level (regionally, nationally, internationally, etc.) and expression of interest in IASC’s mission is sufficient for inclusion in the IASC community.

It is important to acknowledge that Traditional Knowledge, Indigenous Knowledge, and scientific knowledge\(^1\) are coequal and complementary knowledge systems. With its recommendations, the IASC Action Group on Indigenous Involvement (AGII; see Appendix for AGII Process) encourages and aims to facilitate cooperation in all aspects of Arctic research, Indigenous Knowledge, and knowledge co-production in all countries engaged in Arctic research and in all areas of the Arctic.

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\(^1\) As used here, “Science or Western science is the system of knowledge which relies on certain laws that have been established through the application of the scientific method to phenomena in the world around us. The process of the scientific method [normally] begins with an observation followed by a prediction or hypothesis which is then tested.” Definition from [http://livingknowledge.anu.edu.au/html/educators/02_questions.htm](http://livingknowledge.anu.edu.au/html/educators/02_questions.htm)
Motivation

The Arctic is a homeland to a large number of Indigenous Peoples, who as residents and rights-holders must be consulted and otherwise involved in all aspects of activities in the Arctic. The overall goal should be to work towards self-determination in research priorities. As stated in Article 31 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights on Indigenous Peoples:

*Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts. They also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.*

*In conjunction with Indigenous Peoples, States shall take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of these rights.*

The knowledge of the Arctic’s Indigenous Peoples has evolved over millennia, is a cornerstone for understanding and operating within the Arctic region and has been applied by non-Indigenous people in the course of polar research and exploration. One example of the utilization of Indigenous Knowledge includes the use of sled dogs which opened up capabilities for European polar explorers. Additionally, many research efforts have relied on Indigenous Knowledge to understand wildlife and physical phenomena - contributions that have been unrecognized in research until rather recently.

Indigenous Peoples of the circumpolar north have had limited access to the individuals, institutions, and networks at the science-policy interface. As such, Indigenous Peoples have been less involved in settings where international research agendas are established – agendas that typically drive research at regional and local scales, including but not limited to environmental systems and Arctic social and natural sciences. Therefore, IASC and this Action Group have set out to address the need for greater Indigenous involvement.

Indigenous Peoples of the circumpolar north have called upon the research community to support their interests in self-determination in research by providing for their active involvement within Arctic research institutions so that they can play a greater role in setting research agendas. As such, greater involvement of Indigenous scholars, knowledge holders, organizations, and community researchers is needed across the scope of IASC activities. Successful application of such involvement would allow for an approach to knowledge co-production in which Indigenous Peoples define priorities for research that pertain to their homelands.

The third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP-III) underlined the importance of “creating meaningful and longer-term involvement platforms for ... Indigenous Peoples in international research communities.” It also called for “facilitating knowledge transfer between environmental, socio-economic and traditional and local knowledge” and “making more effective use of traditional and local knowledge by engaging northern and Indigenous communities.”

The Joint Statement from the Second Arctic Science Ministerial reiterated that “science, research, and the knowledge generated by Indigenous Peoples and local communities play an important role.” It also stated that “knowledge stemming from the
long-term experience of inhabiting the Arctic, being Indigenous Peoples ... is indispensable for understanding the Arctic and its changes. We acknowledge that, where appropriate, research in the Arctic has to be carried out ... respecting the values, interests, priorities, cultures, and traditions of Arctic Indigenous Peoples.” The Ministers also expressed that they intend to cooperate by enhancing “multilateral scientific cooperation between Arctic and non-Arctic States [and] Indigenous Peoples...”

The Declaration from the 6th Arctic Leaders’ Summit (November 2019) provides a basis for the dialogue presented here. Specifically, that “Arctic Indigenous Peoples have vast and unique knowledge systems – known as both Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous Knowledge... which is reflected in cultures, values and traditions from across the Arctic and derived from the land and waters themselves.” The IASC Action Group on Indigenous Involvement recognizes these terms and values the input from the Indigenous Peoples, including Indigenous Knowledge holders and scholars. Further, we value research that includes Indigenous perspectives and which promotes culturally appropriate and inclusive scientific approaches to research.

In light of the desire for inclusion expressed by the Indigenous Peoples of the circumpolar north, in addition to commitments made through the Arctic Science Ministerial and ICARP processes and strategic planning, IASC moved forward with these goals of better involving Indigenous Peoples and utilizing Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Knowledge by convening an Action Group on Indigenous Involvement to provide a set of concrete recommendations to the IASC Council that will help IASC achieve its goals.
Considerations and Draft Recommendations

As a contribution to the realization of the IASC strategy 2018-2023, the IASC Action Group on Indigenous Involvement (AGII) makes the following recommendations. The recommendations have been made following a long process of serious consideration by the group and take into account broader consultation and a shared understanding of the issues and opportunities. The AGII has endeavored to align as closely as possible to the tasks and deliverables requested through its original terms of reference (see Appendix), while also making space for evolution of the group’s learning and dynamics.

It is the group's hope that these recommendations can form the basis for IASC’s continued efforts for more fruitful forms of collaboration in active research. This list of considerations and recommendations is provided in no particular order but attempts to bring together in one place the many ideas, insightful suggestions, and deep thinking done by the Action Group, IASC partners, and members of the IASC community. However, recommendations determined to be high priority, either due to ease of implementation and/or importance are indicated by **.

Participation in IASC Activities

The AGII recommends that IASC “mainstream” Indigenous participation in IASC activities:

- Include an Indigenous Knowledge and/or Traditional Knowledge keynote, panel, or dialogue in the opening plenary of each ASSW.**
- Ensure that Indigenous engagement and involvement is planned for in the work plans of the Working Groups.**
- Add a question on Working Group proposal templates to document how each proposal will address Indigenous engagement and collaboration.**
- Encourage and give preference to projects that involve/consult with Indigenous scholars and engage communities.**
- Include "Indigenous Knowledge" sessions / track in all possible conferences organized by IASC (including ASSW Open Science Conferences) to make it possible for Indigenous Knowledge holders/researchers to participate. This should not be limited to social science or humanities sessions, but also all other fields. Paired presentation between scientists and Indigenous community researchers should also be facilitated and encouraged.**
- Consider Indigenous communication approaches and meeting styles in meeting planning.

Representation in IASC

IASC should develop new models of inclusion for Indigenous representation in the IASC Council, Working Groups, and other activities to promote increased involvement at several organizational levels for Indigenous Knowledge holders, scholars, and organizations.

Representation of Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations, communities and governance structures, are important to ensure Indigenous participation and knowledge exchange. This also recognizes that self-governance, self-determination, and self-representation contributes to a more robust environment for dialogue and that establishing a platform that genuinely involves Indigenous voices will enhance IASC.

In addition, expanded Indigenous national representation is important because IASC member nations are able to provide financial support for representatives’ participation in ASSW and other IASC activities. The AGII makes the following recommendations:

- Recognize that Indigenous and Traditional Knowledges can inform the work of IASC by adding formal language to the IASC Handbook and other appropriate documents.
- Consider bringing on an Indigenous scholar into the IASC Secretariat, to be a focal point for many of the recommendations presented here.**
IASC may also want/need to identify a standing committee for Indigenous issues within IASC. This should be explored within the larger context of capacity limitations.

- IASC should invite every member state to nominate and fund an additional Indigenous representative to each Working Group.
- IASC should add two at-large seats to each Working Group which will be supported through allocated IASC funding. These two seats would be available to be filled by any Indigenous person who has provided recommendation letters from their respective communities. Selection of these individuals should be done in consultation among Indigenous leaders within IASC and Working Group leadership.
- The AGII recommends that IASC invite each Arctic member state to nominate up to 2 persons to the IASC Council, at least one of whom would be of Arctic Indigenous heritage.
- The AGII encourages IASC national adhering bodies to consult with the relevant (inter)national Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations when selecting their IASC representatives. (Note: this can include non-Indigenous people representing these organizations, which is another motivator behind a hybrid approach.)
- Explore the interests and possible implementation of inclusion of Permanent Participants of the Arctic Council in involvement in the IASC Council and working groups. IASC should invite the PPs (Permanent Participants) to discuss this. Note that many current PP strategies in engaging with the Arctic Council focus on capacity building (e.g., knowledge holder and youth engagement).

Expertise and Accreditation

- Accreditation is important for many dimensions of participation in IASC including funding, representation, Fellowships, awards and more.
- Indigenous organizations could/should identify “experts” as knowledge holders, community observers (i.e. Arctic residents), or community researchers who have relevant experience.
- Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge holders should be considered based on culturally appropriate criteria. Academic credentials are not required, may vary regionally, and should not be decided by non-Indigenous entities.
- IASC should encourage development of evaluation tools to demonstrate whether a project/initiative has Indigenous Knowledge components. This tool should be developed by Indigenous representatives.
- IASC should create/convene a peer-review process to consider Indigenous Knowledge elements in applicable IASC projects and activities, to be conducted by Indigenous Knowledge holders or Indigenous communities/organizations.

Funding & Resource Implications

Creating space within IASC for Indigenous Peoples to be meaningfully involved will require a sustainable means of funding over the long term. This should involve working with IASC member countries (e.g., expanded membership contributions), IASC partners (e.g., grants, capacity sharing), and Indigenous organizations to establish funds dedicated to the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples within IASC as well as in the broader international scientific community.

- IASC should consider increasing the amount of the member country annual contributions in order to fund the recommendations included in this document. This recommendation is in line with Arctic Science Ministerial declarations and statements which called for increased Indigenous involvement in Arctic science and research.
  - For example, to fund the at-large Working Group members recommended above, an estimated increase on the order of only €1500 would be required of each IASC member country.
• Member states can also be invited to contribute an amount above their annual membership contribution that could be directed to a specific line item – particularly to support Indigenous involvement in IASC Activities.
• To incentivize Indigenous involvement, the AGII suggests that Indigenous engagement be included within IASC’s definition of cross-cutting, which originally required the proportion of the Working Group budgets allocated to cross-cutting activities be increased, and that a proportion of this be required for Indigenous activities. To provide some hypothetical scenarios:
  o 50% of Working Group budgets could be spent on cross-cutting activities rather than the current 40%.
  o Within that, at least 20% should be spent on Indigenous-involving activities (with up to 30% spent on activities that are not necessarily involving Indigenous scholarship).
  o If insufficient proposals are received that involve Indigenous people or Knowledge, then the balance would be used to increase Indigenous participation in the next year’s Working Group meetings, in order to build capacity and constructively and progressively address this issue.
• Expand funding for Indigenous representatives to participate in ASSW and other IASC activities and workshops.**
  o For Indigenous-related activities: Within each activity, a guideline should be provided as to the portion of the budget that should be allocated to supporting Indigenous people.
• Recognizing that scientists are participating in a salaried role and Indigenous Knowledge holders and Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations’ representatives often are not, IASC funds should be able to be used to include compensation and honoraria for those providing Indigenous expertise.**
• Continue and expand the ability to provide for pre-event reimbursement prior to travel for IASC-funded Indigenous participants.**
• Consider multiple rounds of deadlines for Indigenous funding support – both early and late – to welcome a range and breadth of Indigenous participation.

Suggested Initiatives
This section focuses on several specific ways to expand upon and implement the recommendations in this document.

Building IASC’s Network
• It is important that IASC develop and regularly maintain a more extensive contact network of Arctic Indigenous scholars and Arctic Indigenous organizations. This could be done in cooperation with Indigenous partners to build a shared resource.
  o Build a web based “map” of relevant Arctic Indigenous organizations, and in particular the science and educational landscape, including points of contact, interests, goals, and more.
• Increase awareness of IASC within the Indigenous research community by providing more information about IASC’s purpose & goals, opportunities for culturally appropriate involvement, and utilization of Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Knowledge.
• Recognize that there are shared benefits to all participants by effectively working together, while recognizing that in the past, Indigenous Peoples’ interactions with international (scientific) institutions have often had outcomes with negative impacts on Indigenous Peoples and communities.
  • Adhere to and promote culturally appropriate collaborative approaches and methodologies to research with reference to the protocols, guidelines, and
structures already in place in many countries and communities. Incorporate the lessons learned into IASC processes.

Communication & Outreach
IASC recognizes the importance of Indigenous Knowledge and increasing communication among Indigenous people and scientific partners and builds shared understanding that encourages the co-production of knowledge. Possible steps to achieve this suggested initiative include:

- Develop a link and/or dedicated page that discusses Indigenous involvement in IASC. This web portal could (also) communicate or popularize Indigenous Knowledge, highlight scientific activities to be carried out in Indigenous communities, and more.**
- Work with partners to generate open educational resources, translated and published online in Indigenous languages.**
- Provide a list/maps with Indigenous science experts.
- Create a video competition for students (schools, universities) and/or community members to provide short videos that present their Indigenous Knowledge and its contributions to and in cooperation with science.

Glossary Development
Appropriate terminology surrounding all types of knowledge has been problematic, particularly with respect to Indigenous Peoples and their knowledge. It is important to build on prior work that takes into account the experiences and identities of Indigenous Peoples, including different national and cultural differences.

- Develop a glossary of terms to be published as a living document on the IASC website to help with understanding of implications of terms when discussing Indigenous Knowledge.
  - IASC should adapt existing resources (e.g., from Arctic Council Permanent Participants, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and many other sources) to build a comprehensive living glossary.
  - This document can also serve as a start – demonstrating inclusion of multiple terms (e.g., Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Knowledge) and recommending best practices for terminology (e.g., “utilizing” rather than “incorporating” Indigenous Knowledge).

Ethical Principles & Research Protocols
While awareness of research ethics in the Arctic has increased, there remains a need for improved understanding and acceptance of best practices and collaborative methodologies in engaging with Indigenous communities and Indigenous Knowledge and at all stages of research. There is a need for guidance to all scholars (both Indigenous and not) and a key hurdle is the lack of capacity in knowledge co-production.

- IASC should work together with its (Indigenous) partners to develop a set of recommended ethical principles and research protocols for Arctic research, as well as pointing to nationally and regionally appropriate existing guidelines.
  - An initial step would be to compile a list of existing relevant work by other organizations (see Appendix). We note that the Inuit Circumpolar Council has recently initiated a relevant project. Other work by IASC national adhering bodies, IASSA, ITK, US-NSF, ArcticNet, FARO, University of Greenland, and others are important to consider.
  - Another step could be considering a narrower focus – e.g., on particular practical areas, for example, an “IASC Statement on Principles for Utilizing Indigenous Knowledge into IASC Activities”. 
From the standpoint of intellectual property, it is important to engage communities because knowledge is often owned by communities rather than individuals. There are several levels of engagement (individual, community, organizational) and IASC should be doing and encouraging all of these.

- Every year, there should be a training session or tutorial at ASSW on ethical Arctic research guidelines.
- Consider creating an informational or reference guide as a practical tool for engagement with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and/or an information sheet/fact sheet on engagement of Indigenous Peoples and their communities in IASC activities.

**Indigenous Fellowship(s) & Award(s)**

The IASC Medal is awarded annually “in recognition of exceptional and sustained contributions to the understanding of the Arctic.” While this doesn’t explicitly exclude Indigenous Knowledge holders, no Indigenous person has yet received the IASC Medal.

- IASC should consider expanding the evaluation rubric to broaden Medal awards and to facilitate recognition of Indigenous Knowledge holders.**
- IASC should explicitly encourage Indigenous Knowledge holder nominations. **

IASC should consider the establishment of a new award – specifically a team award that recognizes strong collaborative efforts in utilizing Indigenous Knowledge, local knowledge, and meshes that with scientific data and methods and synergistically leads towards a better understanding of the Arctic. This would showcase the importance and benefits of strong, inclusive, collaborative work, bridging traditional silos and publicly and prominently valuing Indigenous Knowledge and collaborative teams.

- IASC could explore that such an award be jointly given by IASC and (an) Indigenous partner(s)
- This could be named after laudable people/figures/phenomenon/etc. who have inspired us in the past.
- All career stages should be welcome.
- Selection / evaluation should be led by Indigenous representatives.
- The also could be a named (keynote) presentation at ASSW or other Arctic meetings which are inclusive of Indigenous and scientific contributions.

**IASC Fellows:** Based on coequal Traditional Knowledge & Indigenous Knowledge and science, IASC should allow for an equal footing of young Indigenous scholars and knowledge holders.**

- The AGII recommends review of the criteria and review processes for IASC Fellows with a group of Indigenous partners.**
- In particular, a modest recommended change would be to change the requirement to Masters or Bachelors level for (Indigenous) Fellows, allowing for experience functionally equivalent to an academic degree.**
- A sixth annual Indigenous Fellow should also be added and placed in the Working Group of their choice. IASC would need to explore review criteria for this, but the recommended purpose is for early career Indigenous scholar career development.**

**Indigenous Network Forums**

- IASC should facilitate the exchange of ideas centered on the voices, knowledge and research priorities of Indigenous Peoples of the circumpolar north regularly at ASSW, which would allow
for an increased number of Indigenous contacts, scholars and knowledge holders to participate in a co-productive manner.

- IASC should encourage similar meetings occurring across multiple international conferences, such as ICASS, ArcticNet, Greenland Science Week, or other Indigenous and scientific conferences and meetings.
  - IASC should facilitate making available complementary funding (e.g., via IASC cross-cutting funding) to create and support these efforts.

Other Recommendations

Indigenous Languages: Supporting Indigenous languages is a central concern to Arctic research, but there is a real gap in language capacity and in the availability of interpreters to conduct the research that needs to be done. Supporting Indigenous languages is at the basis of Indigenous Knowledge; while the language of international science may be English, Arctic knowledge may not be held or communicated most readily in English.

- Protection of language heritage should be a high priority (e.g., translating important documents like ICARP reports, outreach products, etc.). IASC should also encourage support of translation at IASC conferences and activities. Intermediate languages (e.g. Russian) might be a gateway to some Indigenous languages.
- This is a topical gap in coverage within IASC research. The Social & Human Working Group could make it a priority to support projects that involve Indigenous languages.

The AGII also recommends a review study / white paper on how Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous Knowledge and science have worked together. This could be anecdotal or comprehensive, and it could pair with thematic recommendations for IASC. This goal could be attained by collaborative work among multiple science and Indigenous organizations, Arctic Council working groups, or others. It is something to consider in the near future, although more groundwork needs to be completed prior to implementation. The AGII notes that this would be relevant to the award recommendations above.

IASC Secretariat should appoint a point person for Indigenous engagement in IASC activities, programs, Working Groups, and Council. This could be the Indigenous scholar referenced above, or it could be another person. This (externally-funded?) person would play a key role within the IASC Secretariat in promoting implementation of the AGII recommendations.

IASC should regularly review the implementation and effectiveness of these recommendations.

As a final note, working towards implementation of these recommendations: Indigenous people should drive rather than follow the discussion. As a common refrain which has developed among Indigenous Peoples, “Nothing about us without us.”
Appendix: AGII Process

IASC Council agreed up the creation of a Scoping Group on Indigenous Involvement (SGII) at its 2017 Council meeting, with the task of developing Terms of Reference for the work of an Action Group on Indigenous Involvement (AGII), to be considered by the IASC Council at its meeting in Davos, June 2018. This SGII included:

- Thomas Spengler, IASC AWG
- Lee Cooper, IASC MWG
- Warwick Vincent, IASC TWG
- Gail Fondahl (Chair), IASC SHWG
- Violetta Gassiy, IASC Fellow
- Sten Lund, Greenland Research Council

This group successfully drafted the Terms of Reference and suggested the makeup of an Action Group on Indigenous Involvement, including asking for:

**Recommendations to IASC Council to promote better involvement of Indigenous people in IASC activities, accompanied by a discussion of implications / requirements for such involvement** (e.g., budgetary implications, necessary structural changes to governance):

- Identify opportunities for Indigenous participation in IASC activities such as Working Group-sponsored workshops (considering roles, recruitment, desired outcomes of such participation, etc.)
- Assess opportunities for greater involvement in IASC Fellowship program and possible modifications of the program to better serve the needs of Indigenous communities.
- Consider links with ‘incorporating Traditional Knowledge’ and how might practical adjustments be made to Fellowships to include holders of Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Knowledge as well as holders of academic knowledge
- Identify opportunities for Indigenous participation in IASC governance
- Identify other initiatives to better involve Indigenous Peoples in IASC activities
- Develop a set of draft recommendations derived from these opportunities and initiatives
- Carry out consultations regarding the draft recommendations; consider input and revise the recommendations in light of input
- Assess implications (budgetary, structural, systemic) of (revised) recommendations
- Identify potential sources of support for additional costs that fulfilling recommendations would incur (preliminary evaluation)

**Recommendations on [utilizing / learning from] incorporating Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Knowledge into the full breadth of IASC activities and appropriate structural and governance changes to ensure equitable engagement of Indigenous Knowledge systems and knowledge holders in IASC** (This might include for example the development of an IASC Statement on Principles for Incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into IASC activities.):

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2 Earlier IASC documents used the term “incorporate traditional knowledge.” The Action Group has since discussed that many Indigenous partners prefer the implications of “utilizing” or “learning from” and “Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge”, both of which are used in this document.
• Identify the full suite of IASC activities in which Indigenous Knowledge might be effectively incorporated (e.g., workshops, reports,)
• Gather information on best practices for incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into such activities
• Develop a set of draft recommendations for incorporating Indigenous / Traditional Knowledge into IASC activities
• Carry out consultations regarding the recommendations; consider input and revise recommendations in light of input
• Assess implications (budgetary, structural, systemic) of (revised) recommendations.

Approved in 2018, the members of the IASC Action Group on Indigenous Involvement were:
- Sten Lund (Chair), Government of Greenland
- Alona Yefimenko, Indigenous Peoples Secretariat & IASSA
- Aslak Holmberg, Saami Council
- Eva Kruemmel, ICC Canada
- Lee Cooper, IASC MWG
- Liza Mack, Aleut International Association
- Stanislav Ksenofontov, IASC Fellow
- Violetta Gassiy, IASC Fellow
- Warwick Vincent, Former IASC TWG
- Allen Pope (Ex Officio), IASC Executive Secretary

The Action Group would also like to thank the many people who contributed to and consulted on the work of this Action Group, including the following:
- Tayana Arakchaa
- Ellen Avard, Makivik Corporation
- Carolina Behe
- Victoria Buschman
- Jackie Grebmeier
- Marc Meloche
- Andrey Petrov, IASSA
- Federica Scarpa
- Megan Sheremata
- Shin Tabata
- Vito Vitale
- and more, whose names we were unable to capture individually!

After a one-year extension, the Action Group concludes its work by delivering these recommendations to the IASC Council in March 2020.
Appendix: AGII Resources

AGII Members contributed a wide range of resources which informed, address, and could contribute to implementation of the recommendations above:

- “‘There are new species’: indigenous Knowledge of biodiversity change in Arctic Yakutia,” Ksenofontov et al. 2018
- “4 ways to involve Indigenous communities in development projects”
- “A global assessment of Indigenous community engagement in climate research,” David-Chavez & Gavin 2018
- “Elements of Indigenous Style” Appendix A
- “Enhancing engagements by permanent participants in AMAP work”
- “Fisheries” Journal, Volume 44 Number 8, Special Issue on Diversity and Inclusion
- “Incorporate Indigenous perspectives for impactful research and effective management,” Ban et al. 2018
- “Involvement of local Indigenous Peoples in Arctic research — expectations, needs and challenges perceived by early career researchers,” Sjöberg et al. 2018
- “The power of diversity – Being inclusive gives teams a competitive edge in science. It also happens to be the right thing to do,” Nature Vol. 558, 7 June 2018
- “What is Local and Indigenous Knowledge?” – UNESCO
- 2nd Arctic Science Ministerial Report
- 6th Arctic Leaders’ Summit Declaration & Arctic Leaders’ Youth Summit Declaration
- AGU Diversity & Inclusion Strategic Plan
- Arctic Council Kiruna Declaration
- Definition of Indigenous Knowledge, as agreed by the Arctic Council Permanent Participants
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Science and Technology: Action Grid
- First Alaskans Institute – Agreements
- Guidelines for Considering Traditional Knowledges in Climate Change Initiatives - Climate and Traditional Knowledges Workgroup (CTKW)
- Harvard SEAS Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging Strategic Plan
- IASC Strategic Plan
- ICARP-III Final Report
- ICC document on Application of Traditional Knowledge in the Arctic Council (via IPS)
- ICC Utqiagvik Declaration 2018
- Indigenous Peoples and Traditional Knowledge in the Context of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Institut nordique du Québec – Research Guidelines
- ITK: National Inuit Strategy on Research
- Kúlana Noi’i
- Oñati Indigenous Data Sovereignty Communique
- PAME Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Communities in Marine Activities Part I and Part II Reports
- Permanent Participants’ Priorities, as compiled by the IPS
- Polar Knowledge Canada Northern Research Checklist
- The Sámi Arctic Strategy