

ARCTIC EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

Summary of Principals' Meeting March 5, 2024

Overview

On March 5, 2024, the Arctic Executive Steering Committee (AESC) held its eighth Principals' Meeting in the Biden-Harris Administration. Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Deputy Director for Climate and Environment in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), chaired the meeting, standing in for Dr. Arati Prabhakar. Monte Hawkins, Senior Director for Transborder at the National Security Council, represented the President's National Security Advisor, Jake Sullivan, who serves as AESC Vice Chair.

The meeting included:

- Opening remarks by Jane Lubchenco and Monte Hawkins
- Discussion of the recent changes in the geopolitical circumstances facing the Arctic Region
- Review of initial progress by Departments and Agencies in giving effect to the [Implementation Plan](#) for the 2022 [National Strategy for the Arctic Region](#)
- Presentation on the work of the Task Force on the Northern Bering Sea Climate Resilience Area
- Presentation on the work of the Arctic Resilience Working Group
- Update on creation of a budget cross-cut for Arctic research by the Federal Government

Background

President Obama created the AESC through [Executive Order 13698](#) and directed it to

provide guidance to executive departments and agencies and enhance coordination of Federal Arctic policies across agencies and offices, and, where applicable, with State, local, and Alaska Native tribal governments and similar Alaska Native organizations, academic and research institutions, and the private and nonprofit sectors.

Next AESC Meeting: The AESC intends to hold its next meeting in the second quarter of 2024.