



## **Arctic Environment Ministers Meeting 11-12 October, 2018 Rovaniemi, Finland**

### **Invitation to provide input Guidance for the Working Groups**

**The objective of the Arctic Environment Ministers Meeting is to enable the Ministers to discuss topical environmental issues in the Arctic, and to propose and exchange solutions to them. The output of the Ministerial Meeting will be a “Chair’s summary.” The summary will feed into the Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting in May 2019 and into the future planning of the work of the Arctic Council, as appropriate.**

**The aim of the input process is to ask the Working Groups and Expert Group to identify those primary environmental challenges and issues that will require common solutions in the Arctic. These inputs from the Working Groups will serve as background material for the Meeting.**

**In addition to the Working Groups and Expert Group, the invitation to provide inputs will be sent to the Permanent Participants and the Arctic States. The Chairmanship will synthesize these inputs from WGs, PPs, and States into a preparatory document for the Ministerial Meeting.**

**The environmental focus areas of the Finnish Chairmanship program are:**

**1) biodiversity conservation, 2) pollution prevention, and 3) climate change.**

- Please select 1-3 of these focus areas that are of greatest relevance for your Working Group/Expert Group.
- The input should begin with a summary of the main messages you would like to convey (3-5 lines).
- Within the selected focus area(s), please identify the main environmental challenges and issues that require common solutions in the Arctic.
- Pay special attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (17) and Targets (169) when preparing your inputs. Please note the cross-sectoral character of the SDG Goals and Targets, as there might be relevant targets under several SDGs. You will find the SDG Targets via this link:  
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/11803Official-List-of-Proposed-SDG-Indicators.pdf>
- We encourage you to cooperate and coordinate your inputs with other Arctic Council Working Groups and Expert Group when relevant.
- The inputs should not be longer than 1-2 pages/theme.
- Please add a separate introduction of your Working Group and its main activities (max. 1 page).

*Deadline: by the end of February 2018*

Contacts: Ministry of the Environment of Finland

Henna Haapala

[henna.haapala@ym.fi](mailto:henna.haapala@ym.fi)

tel: + 358 50 3533894

Sari Sironen

[sari.sironen@ym.fi](mailto:sari.sironen@ym.fi)

tel: + 358 50 3303750