

7th annual US – Denmark - Greenland Joint Committee Meeting

Fact sheet

The Joint Committee has carried out a review of selected projects under the Joint Committee, with a view to improving the development of future Joint Committee projects by formulating recommended guidelines and best practices for the future formulation, adoption and implementation of joint committee projects.

Representatives of the three parties met in Ilulissat, Greenland 1-2 June 2010. The representatives reviewed the lessons learned and together formulated a way forward. The 8th meeting of the Committee will be hosted by the United States in May/June 2011.

The Committee has agreed on the following way ahead:

Goals: Capacity Building and Human Resources.

The Committee has agreed on the following three priorities for 2010 – 2011 under the headline of “Capacity Building and Human Resources”:

- *Improving access for Greenlandic students to American institutions of learning (including scholarships)*
- *English language training for secondary school and high school (including tools to promote this)*
- *Traineeships – both in the public and private sector and as public-private partnerships.*

Framework

The Committee decided to restructure its work in order to ensure a flexible framework that supports the spirit of the Igaliku Joint Declaration as well as the current priorities and encourages need-driven projects. The new structure is dynamic and may be adjusted to emerging priorities when necessary. The structural framework is subject to review and adjustments as necessary by consensus of the Executive Steering Group.

The new structure is as follows:

Executive Steering Group

The Heads of Delegations along with the national coordinators form the Executive Steering Group. The group is responsible for setting and defining priorities.

Priority group

The priority group is tasked with encouraging initiatives and developing them into viable ongoing projects (including clarifying funding sources and implementing partners); in response to current priorities set forward by the Executive Steering Group. The group should seek ways to engage relevant stakeholders and institutions.

The group is also tasked with developing a list of considerations for project approval.

Once a priority project is approved and underway, it moves to the status group.

The group will have trilateral participation (two from each party).

The Chair of the priority group established 2010 will be Greenland.

New priority groups can be established in accordance with changing priorities.

The Chair leading a priority group should reflect current priorities.

The group is responsible for developing a "Joint Committee Seal of Approval" to be presented at the December 2010 DVC.

Status group

The status group is responsible for monitoring ongoing projects and reporting on status to the Executive Steering group at annual meetings. The status group shall deliver an annual inventory report two months prior to annual meetings.

The group will be permanently chaired by Greenland in order to ensure continuity and stability. The Chair of the status group participates in the priority group to ensure knowledge-sharing between groups. The Chair can encourage building on existing/previous projects if relevant to current priorities.

The status group has trilateral participation. Each country is responsible for a thematic area.

The group may promote projects not included in a priority group.

The group resumes responsibility of monitoring projects when these are listed as ongoing.

Science group

The science group will continue as established with one member from each country.

Project recognition process will be the same for the science group as for the priority group.

The chair will participate in the priority group as well as the status group.

The chair will be Denmark.

Project/ activity recognition

Projects initiated under the Joint Committee framework should in the project design stage provide info on the following issues;

Data sharing, capacity building, economic impact as well as mutual benefits. The project proposal should describe sources of funding; outreach plans; timeframe; and implementing partners.

Outreach

The Committee finds it important to raise the public profile of relations between the US and Greenland and the overall goals of the Igaliku Joint Declaration.

This should be accomplished by an annual report outlining US-Greenland/Denmark cooperation as well as by the development of a “seal of approval”.