

Minister
for the Arctic Council



Ministre
du Conseil de l'Arctique

Ottawa, Canada, K1A 0K9

APR 17 2014

Ms. Sara Olsvig, M.P.
Chair
Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region
Folketinget, Christiansborg
1240 Copenhagen K
KINGDOM OF DENMARK

Dear Ms. Olsvig:

Thank you for your letter of April 10, 2014, concerning the meeting of the Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region (SCPAR) of February 24, 2014, and SCPAR's participation at the Senior Arctic Officials meeting in Yellowknife.

I would like to begin by thanking SCPAR for inviting me to speak at your meeting in Ottawa. It was a pleasure for me to outline the priorities of Canada's Arctic Council chairmanship and to meet with members of your group.

As you are no doubt aware, the Senior Arctic Officials meeting in Yellowknife had a very large and time consuming agenda. For this reason, SCPAR's request to deliver a verbal statement could not be granted. Instead, an offer was extended for SCPAR to provide a written update on its activities.

I would like to thank SCPAR for attending the meeting in Yellowknife and for its work on issues of importance to the people of the North. Furthermore, I would like to wish you success in planning the 11th Conference of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region, which will be held in Whitehorse in September 2014. I note that there are many similarities between the Conference's draft program and Canada's chairmanship theme of "Development for the People of the North," with a focus on responsible Arctic resource development, safe Arctic shipping and sustainable circumpolar communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leona Aglukkaq'.

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, P.C., M.P.
Minister for the Arctic Council