Appendix 1

Summary of 5-year work plan for overview and progress tracking

		Action initiated	Action well advance	Action completed	CEP desires action completed
1	. Environmental Pressure P	riorities	<u> </u>		,
1a.	Introduction of non-native				
	species & wildlife disease				
1a-1	Develop rapid response mechanisms and strategy for use in the instance of NNS and wildlife disease outbreaks.				
1a-2	Identify areas at high risk of wildlife disease and develop a monitoring program for such areas.				
1a-3	Identify biosecurity measures to prevent intra-continental species introductions.				
1b.	Impacts of Tourism and NGO activities and implications of growth and				
	diversification				
1b-1	Develop mechanism enabling rapid considerations of and changes to existing Visitor Site Guidelines when immediate action is required for site management due to particular and urgent				
1b-2	environmental concerns. Develop tools and guidance – in				
10 2	addition to Visitor Site Guidelines to avoid or minimize environmental impacts of tourism and NGO activities.				
1b-3	Discuss and prepare a framework for an environmental monitoring programme to assess the impacts of tourism and NGO activities that will also consider the potential for using sensitivity and carrying capacity to reduce impacts (relevant to action 2a-1).				
1b-4	Develop a framework for pre- assessment of new, novel or particularly concerning activities (also listed as action 2d-4).				
1b-5	Advance recommendations from ship-borne tourism ATME (2010) and the CEP tourism study (2012).				
1c.	Climate Change Implications for the Environment				
1c-1	Implement the Climate Change Response Work Programme, keep it updated and review and revise in light of relevant input and discussions.				
1d.	Long-range and local Pollution				
1d-1	Develop a framework for systematic, standardised and comparable sampling and data collection of pollution in the Antarctic as per Resolution 5 (2019).				

		Action initiated	Action well advance	Action completed	CEP desires action completed
1d-2	Identify appropriate mechanisms for updates on status and trends of pollutants in Antarctica, including a database to share and store information.				compress
1d-3	Assess the need for guidance /regional plan on avoiding pollution.				
2		iorities	I	-	l .
2a.	Facilitating monitoring and state of the environment				
2a-1	reporting Consider objectives for environmental monitoring needed to fulfil the requirement of the				
	Environmental Protocol and develop an initial framework of parameters that based on environmental values and cumulative impact, would require monitoring to meet those				
2a-2	objectives. Identify existing monitoring activities and data available to undertake and report on an initial gap analysis between the existing monitoring portfolio and what is required.				
2a-3	Consider and facilitate the development of possible mechanisms to facilitate access to monitoring data in collaboration with SCAR, COMNAP, CCAMLR (CEMP) and other relevant expert organisations.				
2a-4	Develop a dashboard system or other appropriate mechanism enabling future periodic summary of monitoring activities in order to derive effective measures.				
2b.	Contributing to marine spatial protection and management				
2b-1	Identify needs for spatial marine protection and management measures.				
2b -2	Consider connectivity between land and ocean, and complementary actions that could be taken by Parties with respect to MPAs, incl. providing advice relating to Resolution 5 (2017).				
2b-3	Consider approaches to managing threats to the marine environment (e.g. pollution, wastewater discharge, etc.).				
2b-4	Consider how the protected areas system could be used to address the protection of terrestrial and marine environments from activities not covered by CCAMLR.				
2c.	Systematic approach to the protected areas system				
2c-1	Undertake work to advance actions agreed by the Committee from discussions on the protected areas workshop (2019) as presented in the final report of CEP XXII (para 182).				

		Action initiated	Action well advance	Action completed	CEP desires action completed
2c-2	Develop criteria for assessing the suitability of bird colonies for ASPA designation, including to identify what constitutes 'major colonies of breeding birds' as set out in Article 3.2(c) of Annex V to the Environmental Protocol, and identify IBAs that meet those criteria. (CEP XX (2017) para 157).				
2c-3	Assess the extent to which type locality of species are or should be represented within the series of ASPAs (CEP XXIX (2022) para 160).				
2c-4	Consider criteria for prioritising areas requiring protection based on risk.				
2c-5	Consider further mechanisms for protection of outstanding geological values.				
2d.	Implementing and improving the EIA provisions of Annex I				
2d-1	Develop guidelines for assessing cumulative impacts.				
2d-2	Develop guidance on how to undertake an environmental baseline condition survey.				
2d-3	Progress recommendations from the EIA assessment of effectiveness report (CEP XXIV, para 73).				
2d-4	Develop a framework for pre- assessment relating to new, novel or particularly concerning activities (also listed as action 1b-3).				
2e.	Increasing the understanding of and protecting Antarctic biodiversity				
2e-1	Consider status and threats to Antarctic biodiversity to inform management/protection of Antarctic biodiversity.				
2e-2	CEP to review further scientific advice on anthropogenic impacts on wildlife, and on basis of this consider any need for further management actions or measures.				
2e-3	Consider the risks for disease when developing biodiversity protocols or tools.				
2f.	Repair and Remediation of Environmental Damage				
2f-1	Develop an inventory of past sites of activities.				
2f-2	Develop an action plan with guidance and priority ranking to implement remediation where needed.				
2f-3	Develop a rapid response mechanism to respond to new or emerging issues.				
2g.	Designating and managing Historic Sites and Monuments				

		Action initiated	Action well advance	Action completed	CEP desires action completed
2g-1	Develop criteria for maintenance and management of HSMs, especially in the context of climate change and its impact on the environment, structure and/or objects.				
2g-2	Implement a regular review process of HSMs for effectiveness of management/conservation plans (if relevant) with regard to climate change and its impacts on the special values and potential cleanup.				
2g-3	Further develop criteria for Conservation Management Plans for historic sites, structure and/or objects.				
3. O	perational Priorities				
3a.	Effective Operation of the CEP and Strategic Planning				
3a-1	Use the 5YWP actively to frame the CEP meetings.				
3a-2	Consider opportunities for enhancing the working relationship between the CEP and the ATCM.				
3a-3	Consider opportunities for enhancing broader participation by Members in the work of the Committee.				
3a-4	Implement a regular review of priorities based on ATCM requirements and changing circumstances.				
3a-5	Consider and discuss fundamental issues relating to the overall functioning of the CEP in light of the aims of the Environmental Protocol and the tasks of the CEP described in Art. 12 of the Protocol.				

CEP Five-year Work Plan

1. Environmental Pressure Priorities

1a. Introduction of non-native species & wildlife disease

Context: Antarctica's biodiversity and its intrinsic values are potentially at risk from the introduction of non-native species, derived from a range of sources including human activities. Whilst guidance has been developed to minimise the risk of unintentionally introducing plants and invertebrates to the terrestrial environment, less attention has been given to marine non-native species (NNS) risks and microorganisms. Because of steadily growing human activities in the Antarctic Treaty area and progressing climate change, the risk of non-native organisms arriving and establishing is likely to increase. Further, the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is a new threat to the area which deserves special attention and response measures. Regionality: This issue is of continent-wide importance, but particularly where human activities move between local and biogeographic regions such as in the Antarctic Peninsula region where human activity is increasing and climate is changing rapidly.

Interlinks with:

Climate Change Implications for the Environment; Tourism and NGO activities; Monitoring and state of the environment reporting; Biodiversity knowledge; Implementing and improving the EIA provisions of Annex I; Operating and further elaborating the Antarctic Protected Area system

Objective: Promote prevention measures. Facilitate monitoring of and surveillance for NNS and wildlife disease, particularly in high-risk areas, and ensure that – also through CEP actions – operators have enough information and tools to prevent and respond to NNS and wildlife disease.

Priority Actions

- 1. Develop rapid response mechanisms and strategy for use in the instance of NNS and wildlife disease outbreaks.
- 2. Identify areas at high risk of wildlife disease and develop a monitoring program for such
- 3. Identify biosecurity measures to prevent intra-continental species introductions.

- Review the progress and contents of the CEP Non-native Species Manual (5 years).
- Review reports on implementation and effectiveness of biosecurity measures and the NNS manual (as appropriate).
- Review updates on status of known and new established non-native species (as appropriate).
- Consider the current threat caused by the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) (annually).

1b. Impacts of tourism and NGO activities and implications of growth and diversification

Context: Tourism and non-governmental activities in the Antarctic have grown steadily since they began in the 1950s. The numbers of tourists and tour operators have increased as has the number and geographic spread of sites being visited. The range of activities being undertaken has also diversified. It is recognised that tourism has the potential to result in impacts on the environmental, intrinsic, wilderness, aesthetic, and scientific values of Antarctica. Unforeseen cumulative impacts may also arise. Future development of Antarctic tourism and potential management responses need to be considered in light of the associated environmental implications, also in the context of other pressures being faced in the region, such as climate change. Regionality: This issue is particularly important in the Antarctic Peninsula region, ie. that area of Antarctica where human activity, including tourism, is most intense and growing/expanding and where the climate is changing rapidly. It is also important to maintain awareness of development in land-based tourism.

Interlinks with:

Introduction of non-native species & wildlife disease; Climate Change Implications for the Environment; Repair and Remediation of Environmental Damage; Pollution; Monitoring and state of the environment reporting; EIA provisions; Biodiversity knowledge; Operating and further elaborating the Antarctic Protected Area system

Objective: Facilitate research and monitoring to understand the impacts of tourism and non-governmental activities, seen also in light of other environmental impacts and activities. Through CEP actions provide tools and guidance to avoid or minimize environmental impacts.

Priority Actions:

- 1. Develop mechanism enabling rapid considerations of and changes to existing Visitor Site Guidelines when immediate action is required for site management due to particular and urgent environmental concerns.
- 2. Develop tools and guidance in addition to Visitor Site Guidelines to avoid or minimize environmental impacts of tourism and NGO activities.
- 3. Discuss and prepare a framework for an environmental monitoring programme to assess the impacts of tourism and NGO activities that will also consider the potential for using sensitivity and carrying capacity to reduce impacts (relevant to action 2a-1).
- 4. Develop a framework for pre-assessment of new, novel or particularly concerning activities (also listed as action 2d-4).
- 5. Advance recommendations from ship-borne tourism ATME (2010) and the CEP tourism study (2012).

- Regular review of all existing Visitor Site Guidelines to ensure that they are accurate and up to date, including precautionary updates where appropriate (5 years).
- Regular review of the General Guidelines for Visitors to the Antarctic in collaboration with COMNAP, IAATO and other relevant expert organisations.
- Proactively monitor tourism trends (in collaboration with IAATO and the Secretariat) in order to identify and advise the ATCM on the need for additional management measures.

1c. Climate Change Implications for the Environment

Context: Observations, modelling and global assessments describe significant changes in Antarctic physical and living systems, both marine and terrestrial. Changes in the Antarctic environments and dependent and associated ecosystems are linked to and influence climate change drivers globally. While climate change has global impacts and will contribute to ecosystem disruption and loss of biodiversity beyond the Antarctic region, the impacts on the Antarctic environment itself are also of substantial concern. Climate change may benefit some Antarctic species in the short-term, for example, by expanding the size of ice-free areas available for colonisation, or with warmer waters increasing biological productivity in the ocean. However, the loss of habitat for some species, the threat of non-native species establishing and outcompeting native species, the increasing exposure to re-released contaminants due to melting ice and the loss of natural values are some of the potential negative implications of climate change. Regionality: This issue is of continent-wide importance, although there are substantial variations in the degree of change and associated consequences.

Interlinks with:

Introduction of non-native species & wildlife disease; Monitoring and state of the environment reporting; Biodiversity knowledge; Repair or remediation of environmental damage; Operating and further elaborating the Antarctic Protected Area system; improving the EIA provisions of Annex I; Long-range and local pollution

Objective: To support efforts to monitor, mitigate, prepare for, adapt and build resilience to the environmental impacts of a changing climate and the associated implications for the governance and management of Antarctica through the implementation of the Climate Change Response Work Programme (CCRWP).

Priority Actions:

1. Implement the Climate Change Response Work Programme, keep it updated and review and revise in light of relevant input and discussions.

Regular Actions:

• Consider subsidiary group report, including CCRWP updates (annually).

1d. Long-range and local pollution

Context: Antarctica is one of the cleanest, least polluted places on Earth. However, there is growing evidence that Antarctica is increasingly exposed to chemical stressors, both long-range transport of chemical contaminants and pollutants and local discharges. Some of these chemicals have been detected in the Antarctic environment and can accumulate in the Antarctic biota. Microplastic pollution has also been found in Antarctica, but the presence and effects of microplastics within food webs are still little understood. Similarly, the extent and effects of globally transported pollutants in Antarctica are poorly understood. Regionality: This issue is of continent-wide importance.

Interlinks with:

Climate Change Implications for the Environment; Repair or remediation of environmental damage; Facilitating monitoring and state of the environment reporting

Objective: Facilitate initiatives to systematically monitor and track long-range and local pollution and enable Parties to respond appropriately, including communication to/with relevant local and global organizations. Furthermore, provide guidance and tools to monitor, exchange data, reduce and respond to local and global pollution (primarily chemical and plastic pollution).

Priority Actions:

- 1. Develop a framework for systematic, standardised and comparable sampling and data collection of pollution in the Antarctic as per Resolution 5 (2019).
- **2.** Identify appropriate mechanisms for updates on status and trends of pollutants in Antarctica, including a database to share and store information.
- **3.** Assess the need for guidance /regional plan on avoiding pollution.

Regular Actions:

 Review of the Clean-Up Manual to consider and include local pollution information (as appropriate).

2. Management Response Priorities

2a. Facilitating monitoring and state of the environment reporting

Context: In order to meet the overarching objectives of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty (the Environmental Protocol) to protect the Antarctic environment it is helpful and necessary to develop relevant management actions. These may include actions to understand and report on if and how the Antarctic environment, on a continental, regional and local scale is changing, including understanding how human activities contribute to those changes. Environmental monitoring is fundamental to assessing and understanding change on all scales. Regionality: This issue is of continent-wide importance.

Interlinks with:

Climate change implications; Biodiversity knowledge; Tourism and NGO activities; Repair or remediation of environmental damage; Long-range and local pollution; Operating and further elaborating the Antarctic Protected Area system

Objective: Encourage and facilitate coordinated and systematic monitoring efforts to understand the pressure on and state of the Antarctic environment. Enable reporting on state and trends for key environmental values in Antarctica.

Priority Actions:

- 1. Consider objectives for environmental monitoring needed to fulfil the requirement of the Environmental Protocol and develop an initial framework of parameters that based on environmental values and cumulative impact, would require monitoring to meet those objectives.
- 2. Identify existing monitoring activities and data available to undertake and report on an initial gap analysis between the existing monitoring portfolio and what is required.
- 3. Consider and facilitate the development of possible mechanisms to facilitate access to monitoring data in collaboration with SCAR, COMNAP, CCAMLR (CEMP) and other relevant expert organisations.
- 4. Develop a dashboard system or other appropriate mechanism enabling future periodic summary of monitoring activities in order to derive effective measures.

2b. Considering marine spatial protection and management

Context: The biological and physical processes of the marine and terrestrial environments in the Antarctic Treaty Area are closely connected. Therefore, it is necessary to consider ocean-land connectivity to address protection and management needs. The Environmental Protocol aims to protect the Antarctic environment and associated and dependent ecosystems, which clearly link the continent and the surrounding ocean. While CCAMLR is responsible for marine spatial protection and management under the CAMLR Convention, the ATCM can take decisions within its competence with regard to marine spatial protection and management in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty and the Protocol. Regionality: This issue is of continent-wide importance.

Interlinks with:

Implementing a systematic approach to the protected areas system; Climate Change Implications for the Environment; Biodiversity knowledge; Monitoring and state of the environment reporting; Long-range and local pollution; Operating and further elaborating the Antarctic Protected Area system; Implementing and improving the EIA provisions of Annex I; Non-native Species and Diseases

Objective: Facilitate monitoring, protection and management of marine environmental values in i.a. marine ecosystems, species, processes and areas within the framework of the provisions of the Environmental Protocol.

Priority Actions:

- 1. Identify needs for spatial marine protection and management measures.
- 2. Consider connectivity between land and ocean, and complementary actions that could be taken by Parties with respect to MPAs, incl. providing advice relating to Resolution 5 (2017).
- 3. Consider approaches to managing threats to the marine environment (e.g. pollution, wastewater discharge, etc.).
- 4. Consider how the protected areas system could be used to address the protection of terrestrial and marine environments from activities not covered by CCAMLR.

- Maintain dialogue (or sharing of information) with SC-CAMLR on complementary actions within the competence of the ATCM (Resolution 5 (2017)) (continuously).
- Hold joint CEP/SC-CAMLR workshops to progress spatial protection and management (c. 5 years).

2c. Operating and further elaborating the Antarctic Protected Area system

Context: Annex V to the Environmental Protocol establishes a framework for designating Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPAs) and Antarctic Specially Managed Areas (ASMAs). These areas are intended to support the objective of protecting comprehensively the Antarctic environment. Important work has been done to underpin the development of a representative series of ASPAs, including spatial analyses to identify distinct 'Environmental Domains' and 'Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Regions'. The Antarctic Treaty Parties have agreed that these spatial frameworks are useful references to guide the designation of ASPAs within a systematic environmental-geographic framework, and the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) has recognised the need for a more systematic approach to the development of the protected area system. Regionality: This issue is of continent-wide importance.

Interlinks with: Climate change implications, Tourism and NGO activities, Biodiversity knowledge; State of the environment and marine spatial protection; Implementing and improving the EIA provisions of Annex I

Objective: Assess the effectiveness of the current series of ASPAs with regard to the provisions of Article 3.2 of Annex V and provide advice on the further elaboration of the series of protected areas within a systematic environmental-geographical framework, as well as the managed areas in accordance with Article 4 of Annex V.

Priority Actions:

- 1. Undertake work to advance actions agreed by the Committee from discussions on the protected areas workshop (2019) as presented in the final report of CEP XXII (para 182).
- 2. Develop criteria for assessing the suitability of bird colonies for ASPA designation, including to identify what constitutes 'major colonies of breeding birds' as set out in Article 3.2(c) of Annex V to the Environmental Protocol, and identify IBAs that meet those criteria. (CEP XX report, paragraph 157).
- 3. Assess the extent to which type locality of species are or should be represented within the series of ASPAs (CEP XXIX report, paragraph 160).
- 4. Consider criteria for prioritising areas requiring protection based on risk.
- 5. Consider further mechanisms for protection of outstanding geological values.

- Review of ASPA/ASMA management plans, on the basis of the input from the Subsidiary Group on Management Plans, and proposed new locations (annually).
- Consider the report of the SGMP (annually).
- Maintain and update Protected Area guidance material (continuously).

2d. Implementing and improving the EIA process

Context: The Environmental Protocol requires an EIA to be undertaken prior to an activity occurring in the Antarctic Treaty Area, and applies to almost all scientific, logistical and non-governmental activities that occur in the region. The EIA process is a key tool in helping to meet the Parties' commitment to comprehensively protect the Antarctic environment. The real benefit is the contribution it can make to planning an activity. Building EIA concepts into the processes and procedures for organising an activity from the very beginning increases the rigour of the planning process and greatly improves the identification of alternative, more environmentally friendly options. Increasing pressures on the Antarctic environment (through for example climate change and expanding human activity) means that the management benefits of the EIA tool will be increasingly important. It is therefore important to continue to review and, where appropriate, improve the effectiveness of the Antarctic EIA system.

Interlinks with:

Climate Change Implications for the Environment; Tourism and NGO activities; Biodiversity knowledge; Facilitating monitoring and state of the environment reporting

Objective: Ensure clear guidance to all those responsible for activities in the Antarctic Treaty Area on conducting appropriate assessments of the activities. Assist through guidance material Parties in assessing, authorizing and permitting activities on basis of EIAs. Allow for a continuous improvement of the EIA process, where appropriate, including EIA follow-up and associated monitoring activities to assess the effectiveness of mitigation and management measures.

Priority Actions:

- 1. Develop guidelines for assessing cumulative impacts.
- 2. Develop guidance on how to undertake an environmental baseline condition survey.
- 3. Progress recommendations from the EIA assessment of effectiveness report (CEP XXIV, para 73).
- 4. Develop a framework for pre-assessment relating to new, novel or particularly concerning activities (also listed as action 1b-3).

- Review draft CEEs (as required).
- Review EIA guidelines and consider wider policy advising ATCM on updating, strengthening or otherwise improving existing rules and measures (5 years).

2e. Increasing the understanding of Antarctic biodiversity

Context: Antarctica's biodiversity faces multiple threats. Fundamental knowledge about the environment is required in order to understand changes, impacts, risks, which species are found where, what are their dynamics, etc. While significant advances have been made in recent years, Antarctica's biological and ecological domains remain, to a large extent, unexplored. This hampers the development and implementation of effective management actions to protect biodiversity. At the same time, in accordance with the Environmental Protocol, management action should be considered on basis of the best scientific and technical advice available in keeping with the precautionary approach. Regionality: This issue is of continent-wide importance.

Interlinks with:

Climate change implications; Monitoring and state of the environment reporting; Operating and further elaborating the Antarctic Protected Area system; EIA provisions; Introduction of non-native species & wildlife disease; Tourism & NGO activities

Objective: Keep up to date on status and trends in biodiversity as well as the threats it is faced with and implement and inform relevant management actions.

Priority Actions:

- 1. Consider status and threats to Antarctic biodiversity to inform management/protection of Antarctic biodiversity.
- 2. CEP to review further scientific advice on anthropogenic impacts on wildlife, and on basis of this consider any need for further management actions or measures.
- 3. Consider the risks for disease when developing biodiversity protocols or tools.

Regular Actions:

• Consider the conservation status of Antarctic species at risk due to climate change (in line with CCRWP action).

2f. Repair and Remediation of Environmental Damage

Context: Environmental damage in Antarctica might occur as the result of chemical, physical or biological processes resulting from human activities in the region. Furthermore, it might occur as a result of one-off or irregular activities, emergency situations as well as situations in which the environment has been impacted or degraded over longer periods of time. For example, chemical impacts might arise from pollution events, such as the critical failure of a fuel tank; a coastal shipping disaster, or the slow degradation of abandoned bases; leaking fuel tanks, or presence of waste dumps. Physical impacts might arise from regular foot and vehicle traffic causing tracking, or damage to vegetation, as well as from the establishment and ongoing operation of Antarctic stations and bases. Biological impacts might arise through the introduction and establishment of non-native species (cf. 1a.). The environmental and geographic characteristics of Antarctica means that response actions and approaches used elsewhere may need to be adapted, while taking into account the high standards of environmental protection in Antarctica relative to many other parts of the world. Regionality: This issue is of continent-wide importance, wherever there have been or are human activities ongoing in both marine and terrestrial environments.

Interlinks with: Long-range and local pollution; Climate Change Implications for the Environment; Facilitating monitoring and state of the environment reporting; Introduction of non-native species & wildlife disease

Objective: Facilitate actions to identify, respond to, repair and remediate environmental damage in Antarctica. Furthermore, assess whether all actions that should have been taken with respect to repair and remediation have been taken and promote actions where they still may be required.

Priority Actions:

- 1. Develop an inventory of past sites of activities.
- 2. Develop an action plan with guidance and priority ranking to implement remediation where needed.
- 3. Develop a rapid response mechanism to respond to new or emerging issues.

- Review of the Clean-Up Manual and include new tools as appropriate. Members to work on the development of new techniques or guidelines (5 years)
- Exchange of information on experience with repair and remediation (as appropriate)

2g. Designating and managing Historic Sites and Monuments

Context: Human presence in Antarctica is, seen in the global context, extremely short. Since the first sighting of the continent in 1820, the extent to which humans have left their mark here is relatively limited. In such a context, the limited historical evidence of a connection between man and land becomes extremely visible and special. Parties therefore have given full recognition to the historic sites, structures and objects as part of humankind's cultural heritage. The Environmental Protocol makes the Historic Sites and Monuments (HSM) list the key mechanism for the protection of historic values in Antarctica.

Interlinks with:

Tourism and NGO activities; Climate Change Implications for the Environment; Operating and further elaborating the Antarctic Protected Area system; Facilitating monitoring and state of the environment reporting

Objective: Provide Parties with guidance and support in assessing and managing heritage.

Priority Actions:

- 1. Develop criteria for maintenance and management of HSMs, especially in the context of climate change and its impact on the environment, structure and/or objects.
- 2. Implement a regular review process of HSMs for effectiveness of management/conservation plans (if relevant) with regard to climate change and its impacts on the special values and potential clean-up.
- 3. Further develop criteria for Conservation Management Plans for historic sites, structure and/or objects.

3. Operational Priorities

3a. Effective Operation of the CEP and Strategic Planning

Context: The CEP was established under the Environmental Protocol to advise the ATCM on matters relating to the protection of the Antarctic environment. After more than 25 years of work, the Committee has consolidated itself as a highly relevant and important component of the Antarctic Treaty system. The CEP agenda is normally full and broad and the Committee is in many ways "the workhorse of the ATCM". Focus on strategic planning provides for a focus of CEP activities on the environmental issues requiring the greatest attention.

Interlinks with:

Objective: Ensure that the CEP systematically works to provide advice in implementing the objectives of the Environmental Protocol to the ATCM in a prioritized, strategic and efficient manner, facilitating broader participation by Members in the work of the Committee.

Priority Actions:

- 1. Use the 5YWP actively to frame the CEP meetings.
- 2. Consider opportunities for enhancing the working relationship between the CEP and the ATCM.
- 3. Consider opportunities for enhancing broader participation by Members in the work of the Committee.
- 4. Implement a regular review of priorities based on ATCM requirements and changing circumstances.
- 5. Consider and discuss fundamental issues relating to the overall functioning of the CEP in light of the aims of the Environmental Protocol and the tasks of the CEP described in Art. 12 of the Protocol.

Regular Actions:

• Keep the five-year work plan updated (annually).