

Dear Observer Heads of Delegation,

On behalf of the Norwegian Chairship of the Arctic Council, I am happy to reach out to you in my new capacity as Chair to provide a few updates.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity express my gratitude to all Arctic States and Permanent Participants for the successful 13th Meeting of the Arctic Council held on 11 May 2023. A [statement](#) was unanimously issued by the Arctic States, joined by the Permanent Participants, and the conclusion of the meeting marked the start of the Norwegian Chairship.

With reference to the call for Observer engagement opportunities within the Arctic Council, shared by the Secretariat on 24 March 2023, we would like to extend our sincere thanks for the excellent ideas and proposals which were received. We look forward to discussing these with you in the near future as we continue to progress the calendar of events for the Norwegian Chairship.

My team and I look forward to working together with all Observer states and organizations over the next two years as we work towards the implementation of [Norway's Chairship priorities for the Arctic Council](#).

Sincerely,
Morten Høglund
Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials