

THE ARCTIC COUNTRIES COLLABORATE FOR NORTHERN HEALTH AND WELL- BEING

The mutual collaboration of Arctic countries which also includes the indigenous peoples of the Arctic is advancing as regards promoting health and wellbeing issues within the frames of the Arctic Council. Activities relating to the Arctic region are gaining momentum and at the same time raising the Arctic Voice for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg this August.

In connection with a meeting of the Working Group for Sustainable Development that will be held in Oulu, Finland on May 14th an expert meeting on Arctic health issues will also take place. This gives an opportunity for IUCH representatives and other regional experts to express their opinion on how the health-related activities of the Arctic Council should be developed further. We hope this kind of collaboration could also continue in the future.

On the following pages of this present issue we can read about the health-related activities and plans of the Arctic Council by the Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials at the Arctic Council. This might be the beginning of a wider-ranged exchange of opinions regarding the concept of mutual northerness and its advocates and officials. This journal will speak for this kind of discussion also in the future.

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