

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Finland's Chairmanship Priorities:

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

CONNECTIVITY

METEOROLOGY

EDUCATION

Working Sustainably Together

As the holder of the Chairmanship of the Arctic Council in 2017–2019, Finland emphasises the implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change and the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) in Arctic cooperation.

During its term, Finland will strengthen the Arctic cooperation and its continuity as well as raise awareness of its Arctic expertise. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs coordinates the activities of the Chairmanship term in collaboration with other ministries and various stakeholders.

The themes of connectivity and meteorological cooperation are directly related to the administrative branch of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. Environmental protection is also closely linked with the activities within the branch.

The key objectives of the branch for the Chairmanship are related to seizing the business opportunities in the Arctic region in a sustainable manner.

Priorities of the branch are improvements of

- communications,
- marine safety,
- digital transport services and
- utilisation of the weather and conditions data to support operations in the Arctic region.

Finnish expertise at the core of Arctic transport and telecommunications

Shipping will increase in the Arctic. Shipping safety will be improved by paying attention to the IMO Polar Code, the opportunities provided by digitalisation and the challenges of navigation in the Arctic.

Digitalisation provides new opportunities for Arctic transport. Robotization, automation and an intelligent route infrastructure combined with up-to-date and accurate information on the conditions increase the safety of transport and travel in the Arctic.

The aim is to promote the digitalisation of transport applications in the Arctic and increase awareness of the testing services provided by Finland in the digitalisation of transport.

Circumpolar meteorological and oceanographic cooperation will improve public safety, benefit international shipping and air traffic,

and enhance Arctic climate science. Finland proposes to deepen meteorological and oceanographic cooperation among the Arctic States in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization.

Well-functioning communication networks and services are a lifeline for human activities and a prerequisite for economic development in the Arctic.

Finland proposes to continue the Arctic Council's work on telecommunications and explore ways to enhance connectivity and the availability of broadband services in the Arctic. The potential communications technologies include satellite connections, mobile communications systems, low-bandwidth transmission and sea cables. Especially North-East Data Cable would improve connectivity in the Arctic region.



Join Us to Explore Common Solutions

- Arctic Shipping Best Practises Forum 6/2017, London
- Top of the World Arctic Broadband Summit 6/2017, Oulu
- Aurora Summit: Safe and Secure automated transport in all conditions
 1/2018, Olos
- International Conference on Harmonized Implementation of the IMO Polar Code 2/2018, Helsinki/Kemi
- Arctic Meteorology Summit 3/2018, Kittilä
- Challenges in Arctic Navigation and a Road Map to solve these Seminar 4/2018, Olos
- UArctic Congress 2018
 9/2018, Helsinki

The administrative branch of the Ministry of Transport and Communications

- Finnish Meteorological Institute
- Finnish Transport Agency
- Finnish Transport Safety Agency
- Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority

More information: www.lvm.fi/en/arctic-council



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