# **Second Session of Pan-Arctic Regional Climate Outlook Forum (PARCOF-2)**

**30 October 2019**

The second Session of PARCOF (PARCOF-2) was held as a virtual meeting. Invitations were sent to those who participated in PARCOF-1, including representants from WMO, meteorological institutes, shipping industry, organizations representing indigenous people, and key decision makers. They were encouraged to sign up at the ArcRCC Network web pages, <https://arctic-rcc.org/>, and take part in the preparations online before the meeting. A total of 39 participants joined the meeting.

Helge Tangen chaired the meeting and gave an introduction. A climate seasonal summary for October 2017 to March 2018 to was presented by Vasily Smolianitsky, Gabrielle Gascon and Rick Thoman. Temperature, precipitation and sea ice extent were described for this time period. Long-range forecast (LRF) was presented by Marko Markovic and Adrienne Tivy. This presentation included forecast and verification for summer (June, July and August) 2018, and seasonal outlook for winter (November, December and January) 2018/2019. The seasonal summary of summer 2018 and outlook for winter 2018/2019 gave the basis for the consensus statement, which was collaboratively prepared before PARCOF-2, and then presented by Eivind Støylen. The seasonal summaries and outlooks, and the [consensus statement](https://arctic-rcc.org/sites/arctic-rcc.org/files/presentations/consensus-statements/PARCOF-2-Consensus-Statement-October2018.pdf), are made available on the ArcRCC Network web pages, <https://arctic-rcc.org/>. Lene Østvand gave a quick walkthrough of the web pages, and presented an update on the data services.

A short Q&A session was included in the PARCOF-2 agenda. Some feedback were given: a calibration procedure could be included to improve the LRF. Also, the different plots now cover different areas and use different color scales. This should be changed so that it will be easier to compare seasonal summaries and outlooks and do verification in the future. There were also some questions and clarifications on sources in the presentations, and if anyone can sign up at the web pages.

Vasily Smolianitsky gave some final thoughts on the meeting. Good progress in numerical modelling has been made. We need to take note that the LRF is not only for the Arctic ocean, but also for other seas like the Barents Sea. The experiences from the Eurasian side is that the forecasts are very useful to the users. For the future we should ensure that the same reference periods are used for the work that is done. It could also be useful to include more information on type of atmospheric process, wind patterns, and sea ice dynamics, and also include information from YOPP.

Helge Tangen rounded up the meeting, concluding that it is very exciting to have so many participants. He also encouraged everyone to give feedback on the virtual meeting. Thanks were given to everyone who contributed, and to WMO for arranging using the BlueJeans system.

After PARCOF-2, there was no feedback from anyone outside the ArcRCC Network, but the meeting was evaluated by people from all nodes. Technically, the meeting worked well. The presenters should be extra careful when it comes to the language they use, e.g., avoid acronyms and too specific terminology. It may be harder to ask questions during a virtual meeting than a physical one, to clarify terms that are not well known outside the meteorology community. Virtual meetings may work best for people who have participated in physical PARCOF’s before and are familiar with the concept. This should be taken into consideration before sending invitations to upcoming virtual meetings.

The presentations from PARCOF-2 can be found at <https://arctic-rcc.org/parcof-2-presentations>.