

**JOINT STATEMENT OF THE INTENT TO FURTHER DEVELOP
MULTILATERAL COOPERATION OF AGENCIES
REPRESENTING COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS**

WE, THE HEADS OF AGENCIES FULFILLING THE FUNCTIONS OF COAST GUARDS OF CANADA, DENMARK, FINLAND, ICELAND, NORWAY, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SWEDEN, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; hereafter referred to as Arctic Coast Guard Forum Members.

RECOGNIZING the advantages to be gained from the multilateral cooperation and coordination.

CONSIDERING the necessity to further develop cooperation and good neighborliness, to foster safe, secure, and environmentally responsible maritime activity in the Arctic.

EXPRESSING readiness to collaborate to facilitate safe and secure maritime activity in the Arctic region ,

BEING DETERMINED to create multilateral cooperation and an interaction mechanism in relevant spheres of coast guard cooperation,

CONFIRM usefulness of engaging the representatives of other national agencies specializing in issues and matters related to coast guard functions, as appropriate,

ESTABLISH an Arctic Coast Guard Forum (ACGF), an independent, informal, operationally driven organization, not bound by treaty, implying possibilities to organize meetings (consultations) of the heads and experts of the Members, exchange of the information of mutual concern, exchange of best practices, ideas and core principles of joint cooperation development, joint practical measures on maintaining safety and security at sea,

REINFORCE the importance of cooperation, mutual understanding, equal partnership, arriving to ACGF decision on the basis of consensus.

WE APPROVE the ACGF Terms of Reference, as the foundation upon which to build the multilateral cooperation mechanism in the Arctic region.

Signed in New London, Connecticut, the United States of America, (in English only) on 30 October, 2015.

FOR THE CANADIAN COAST
GUARD:

FOR THE JOINT ARCTIC
COMMAND - DENMARK:

FOR THE FINNISH BORDER
GUARD:

FOR THE ICELANDIC COAST
GUARD:

FOR THE SWEDISH COAST
GUARD:

FOR THE UNITED STATES COAST
GUARD:

FOR THE NORWEGIAN COAST
GUARD:

FOR THE BORDER GUARD
SERVICE OF THE FEDERAL
SECURITY SERVICE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION:
