

**Joint Statement  
of Aleqa Hammond, Premier of Greenland, and  
Peter Taptuna, Premier of Nunavut  
Nuuk, 2 July 2014**

The Premier of Nunavut, Peter Taptuna, and Premier of Greenland, Aleqa Hammond, met in Nuuk on 1 July 2014.

The Ministers reinforced their commitment to the current cooperation agreement framework established in the year 2000 and expanded in the following years. The documents are an important framework for the building of relations between the Peoples, governments and organizations of the two countries.

Recognizing the fundamental importance of marine resources for Nunavut and Greenland the Ministers agreed that it is in the interest of both countries to continue to work closely together on fisheries and hunting issues, and encourage the expansion of the current level of cooperation on a governmental and corporate level.

Regarding marine mammals and polar bears, it is important to secure collaboration between all the polar bear range states. Greenland looks forward to welcome Nunavut to the next range states' meeting regarding polar bears to be held in Ilulissat in 2015, for the adoption of an international strategy-plan for polar bears. The Ministers also noted the important work done within the Joint Commission on Narwhal and Beluga.

Regarding seals, the Ministers deplored the EU ban on seal products, which despite with its Inuit exception, has negatively impacted both Nunavut and Greenland. With the recent WTO-ruling, the Ministers agreed that it is important now that a solution is found which will actually benefit Inuit communities. Seals are an important sustainable resource, which have cultural and socioeconomic value, both in Nunavut and Greenland.

The Ministers welcomed the air link established between Nuuk and Iqaluit and are encouraged that the proposed 3-year review could show potential results that reflect increased trade and people-to-people exchange between Greenland and Nunavut. The Ministers are open to dialogue on the possibility of further trade links on a commercial basis, where viable.

The Ministers also agreed to examine how to strengthen collaboration on education within the minerals exploration and exploitation area, where they are facing common challenges, environments and need for a greater involvement of the population of both countries in the industry.

The declaration will be followed up on an administrative level between the Government of Nunavut and the Government of Greenland.

Nuuk, 2 July 2014

Aleqa Hammond  
Premier of Greenland

Peter Taptuna  
Premier of Nunavut