

Minutes from NordForsk's 55th Board meeting Stockholm, Sweden, 13 March 2018

Present:

Board Members:

Danielsen, Kristin	The Research Council of Norway (Chair)
Björck, Eva	Swedish Research Council
Agerhus, Gitte	Ministry of Higher Education and Sciences
Helgadóttir, Ragnhildur	Science and Technology Policy Council of Iceland
Haanes, Vidar	Nordic University Cooperation (NUS)

Observers and guests:

Nilsen, Tor Martin	NordForsk Secretariat (staff representative)
Sølvará, Annika	The Faroese Research Council
Waller, Jonas	Åland University of Applied Sciences

Not present:

Maijala, Riitta	Academy of Finland
Holmgren, Daniel	Nordic Council of Ministers
Nymand, Josephine	Greenland Research Council

Present from the NordForsk Secretariat:

Flåøyen, Arne
Hovden, Eivind
Minge, Marianne Aastebøl (Minutes)

01 BM 18/845 Approval of the Agenda. Any conflict of interest to be announced

The Chair opened the meeting.

Action:

The agenda was approved

02 BM 18/846 Quorum

The Board has quorum when at least 50% of the Board members, i.e. three members, are present.

Action:

The Board noted quorum with five board members present.

03 BM 18/847 Approval and signing of the Minutes from the Board meeting 13 December 2017

The minutes were approved by the Board and signed by the Chair.

Action:
The minutes were approved and signed

04 BM 18/848

NordForsk Annual report and Annual accounts

Kristin Danielsen and Arne Flåøyen presented the issue. NordForsk submitted an Annual Report with Annual Accounts to the Nordic Council of Ministers on 15 February 2018.

Action:
The Board approved the Annual report and Annual accounts.

05 BM 18/849

Updated financial prognosis 2018 - 2022

Arne Flåøyen presented the issue. The prognosis is estimated based on the approved Budget with actions 2018, and adjusted continuously in response to new financial agreements on co-funding of new and existing programmes, and plans for spending.

Action:
The Board was notified.

06 BM 18/850

Process for development of new NordForsk strategy 2019-2022

Arne Flåøyen presented the suggested plans for the upcoming process of developing a new NordForsk strategy. The Board gave some inputs to the process, and underlined the importance of involvement from NordForsk and the Nordic Council of Ministers.

Action:
The Board approved the suggested plans for the development of the new NordForsk strategy.

07 BM 18/851

Funding decision: Societal security

Eivind Hovden presented the issue.

Action:
The Board decided to fund three projects:

- 87180: Nordic Multiagency Approaches to Handling Extremism: Policies, Perceptions and Practices, with up to 9.5 MNOK.
- 88041: Gender equality, Diversity and Societal Security, with up to 9.5 MNOK.
- 88043: The challenge from terrorism in the Nordic countries: An analysis of citizens' reactions, policy responses and legitimacy, with up to 9.5 MNOK.

08 BM 18/852

Results from the project "The Nordic List"

Gunnar Sivertsen (Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Education) and Vidar Røeggen (The Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions) presented the results from the NordForsk funded project "The Nordic List".

Action:
The Board was notified.

09 BM 18/853

Implementation of NordForsk gender policy

Arne Flåøyen presented the implementation of the NordForsk gender policy.

Action:
The Board was notified.

10 BM 18/854

Open invitation – status

The Board members presented the current ongoing initiatives in their organisations.

- Personalised medicine. Funded by NordForsk in December 2017. (Innovationfund Denmark)
- Strategic programme on interdisciplinary research (Independent Research Fund Denmark)
- Smart cities and urban development (The Research Council of Norway)
- Digitalisation of the public sector (The Research Council of Norway)
- Research on research and innovation (The Research Council of Norway)
- Common platform for cooperation for countries outside of the Nordic region, e.g. Japan. (The Research Council of Norway)
- Nordic languages and digitalisation (Rannis, Iceland)
- Sustainable tourism (Formas, Sweden)

Action:
The Board discussed the different initiatives. The Board will discuss the process for selection between different Expressions of interest as a part of the process of developing the new strategy.

11 BM 18/855

Information from EK-U on the recruitment process of NordForsk director

Kristin Danielsen informed that EK-U has made new guidelines for future recruitment processes of the NordForsk director.

Action: The Board was notified.

12 BM 18/856

Preparations for the NordForsk – NordHorcs meeting 14 March

Action: The Board discussed the issue.

13 BM 18/857

Board Meetings 2018

Action: The next Board meeting will take place 26-27 June. The time and place for the Board Meeting in October will be set after the date and place for the NordHorcs October meeting is decided. The Board meeting in June 2019 was decided to take place in Greenland.

14 BM 18/858

Information from the Nordic Council of Ministers

Christina Springfeldt informed that the Nordic Council of Ministers has selected digitalisation, mobility, and initiatives outside of the Nordic countries as their priorities in their budget for 2018.

Action: The Board was notified.

15 BM 18/859

Information about Director's Decisions

The information was presented in writing in the documentation to the Board meeting.

Action: The Board was notified.

16 BM 17/860

Information about decisions on delegation from the Board

The information was presented in writing in the documentation to the Board meeting.

Action: The Board was notified.

17 BM 18/861

Information from the Secretariat

The information was presented in writing in the documentation to the Board meeting.

**Action:
The Board was notified.**

18 BM 18/862

Information from Board members and observers

The Board members gave a short update from their respective country/organisation.

**Action:
The Board was notified.**

19 BM 16/863

Any other business