

Minutes from NordForsk 69th Board meeting

9-10 June 2022

Rosersberg

Present:

Board Members:

Björck, Jonas	The Swedish Research Council Forte (Chair)
Helgadóttir, Ragnhildur	Science and Technology Policy Council of Iceland
Risom, Jesper	Independent Research Fund Denmark
Danielsen, Kristin	The Research Council of Norway
Haanes, Vidar	Nordic University Cooperation (NUS) (Item 4-7)

Observers and guests:

Waller, Jonas	Nordic Council of Ministers
Vistad, Rune	The Research Council of Norway
Walls, Mari	Nordic University Cooperation (NUS)

Not present:

Vauhkonen, Jussi	Academy of Finland
Sølvará, Annika	The Faroese Research Council
Springfeldt, Christina	Nordic Council of Ministers
Mattila, Johanna	Åland University of applied sciences
Knudsen, Marianne	NordForsk Administration (staff representative)

Present from the NordForsk Administration:

Flåøyen, Arne
Aanes, Guttorm
Heimonen, Mikael
Herou, Anna
Bjarnar, Siri (Minutes)

This Board meeting was the last meeting for Kristin Danielsen, Ragnhildur Helgadóttir and Vidar Haanes. The three new members Rune Vistad, Margrét Helga Ögmundsdóttir and Mari Walls will be formally appointed 15-16 June by the Senior Officials Committee for Education and Research (EK-U).

01 BM 22/1112 Approval of the agenda. Any conflict of interest to be announced

The Chair opened the meeting. No conflicts of interest were noted.

The Board agreed to add after item 3 a tour de table with information from the Board members and observers.

Action:

The agenda was approved.

02 BM 22/1113 Quorum

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

Action:

The Board noted quorum with 5 of 6 board members present.

03 BM 22/1114 Approval of the minutes from the Board meeting on 31 March 2022

The Board had the chance to make corrections and changes to the minutes prior to the meeting. No further modifications were suggested.

Action:

The minutes were approved.

04 BM 22/1115 Information from the Board members and observers

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

Action:

The Board was notified.

05 BM 22/1116 Employee survey NordForsk administration

An employee survey was performed by Stamina Census at NordForsk, Nordic Innovation and Nordic Energy Research in the winter of 2022.

Director Arne Flåøyen presented the survey results concerning NordForsk to the Board. There was a high positive score on all parameters. The score in the 2022 survey shows an improvement since 2019 in 15 out of 16 over-arching parameters. The survey shows that the overall satisfaction of the employees is good and there is little variation within the answers given by the responders. No special measures are proposed to ensure improvement.

Action:

The Board was notified about the survey's main results.

06 BM 22/1117 External evaluation of NordForsk

The Danish Technological Institute has conducted an evaluation of NordForsk, based upon the evaluation mandate given by the Senior Officials Committee for Education and Research (EK-U). The evaluation focused on the period from 2018 and following, and the overall objective has been to provide information and new knowledge which serve to maintain and improve the level of Nordic research cooperation.

Arne Flåøyen presented the main findings to the Board. The evaluation will serve as background for the Board's strategy discussions.

Action:

The Board was informed of the main findings and recommendations.

07 BM 22/1118 Evaluation of the performance of NordForsk and the Director

The Board annually evaluates the performance of NordForsk and the Director.

Action:

The Board discussed the matter without representatives from the NordForsk administration present.

o8 BM 22/1119

NordForsk Strategy 2023 – 2026

NordForsk's current strategy ends in 2022 and a new strategy should be developed for the years 2023-2026. The Board was invited to discuss strategic questions of relevance to the development of the new strategy for NordForsk.

Action:

The Board discussed policies, relations, topics and areas of particular importance and relevance for the Board. The NordForsk administration will draft a first version of the new strategy prior to the Board meeting 13 October.