

Meeting Minutes

NordForsk 82nd Board Meeting
June 3rd, 2025, Teams

Board Members

Risom, Jesper	Independent Research Fund Denmark (Chair)
Vauhkonen, Jussi	Research Council of Finland
Jónsdóttir, Guðbjörg Andrea	Ministry of Culture, Science and Higher Education, Iceland
Sølvará, Annika	Faroese Research Council (Vice Chair)
Hagfeldt, Anders	Nordic University Cooperation (NUS)
Vistad, Rune	Research Council of Norway
Halgrimsen, Håkon	Nordic Council of Ministers' secretariat (observer)
Lindell, Johan	Swedish Research Council

NordForsk Administration: Arne Flåøyen, Bjørnar Komissar (staff representative), Mikael Heimonen, Guttorm Aanes, Kristin Andersen, Bodil Aurstad (secretary, minutes)

Apologies: Bo Nygård, Local Government of Åland Islands (observer), Petar Cavala, Nordic Council of Ministers' secretariat (observer)

01 BM 25/1293 **Approval of the agenda. Any conflict of interest to be announced**

The chair opened the meeting and asked if there were any suggested changes in the agenda or conflicts of interest that had not been reported prior to the meeting.

Action: The agenda was approved, and the meeting confirmed no conflicts of interest.

02 BM 25/1294 **Quorum**

The Board has quorum when at least 50% of the board members are present. The Board noted quorum with all members present at the meeting.

Action: Quorum was confirmed.

03 BM 25/1295 **Approval of the minutes from the Board meeting 19 March 2025**

The Board had received written draft minutes with the possibility to suggest revisions prior to the meeting. No revisions were suggested.

Action: The Board approved the minutes.

04 BM 25/1296 **Funding Decision Sustainable health and social care systems for elderly**

The Board was reminded of the background of the initiative and informed about the call process and the results. Based on the scientific review by the panel and the call committee's assessment of the projects' potential for Nordic added value and contribution to call aims, the call committee has recommended funding of five projects within

the current call budget. The call committee prioritised three projects on a reserve list in the event that additional funding would come available.

Action: The Board decided to fund the following five research projects through the call “Sustainable health and Social care for the elderly”:

- 222159, Building Sustainable Care Systems for Older People in the Nordic-Baltic Region, 14 999 947 NOK.
- 223139, Continuous Healthcare in Osteoporosis Case-finding, 14 666 424 NOK.
- 224738, Promoting Healthy Aging of Sámi and Inuit Elders Through Co-Designed Digital Health Tool, 14 999 999 NOK.
- 225819, LOCALCARE - Strategic municipal leadership for active aging and care in the local community, 14 829 888 NOK.
- 217878, Developing a Nordic Model for Harm Reduction: Sustainable Health and Social Care for Older Adults with Substance Use Problems, 14 958 059 NOK.

The funding of these five projects amount to an investment of 74 454 317 NOK which is in line with the call budget and the ambitions of the call.

The Board decided to put the following projects on a reserve list that can be funded in the event that additional national funding should come available. The list is in the order of priority.

- 226198, ROBOTS as Welfare Technologies and Actors for ELderLY Care: A Nordic Model for Integration of Advanced Assistive Technologies, 14 990 957 NOK
- 223818, Determinants of Demand and Supply of Elder Care: Pathways to Sustainable Care Systems, 15 000 000 NOK
- 224319, Artificial Intelligence tool for treatment of Age-related Macular Degeneration - Development, Implementation and Ethical Aspects, 15 000 000 NOK

The Board delegated to the NordForsk director to decide on additional NordForsk funding within the 1/3 limitation should additional national funding be made available.

05 BM 25/1297

Disruptive technologies

The Board was reminded of the background of the initiative.

Action: The Board decided to support the initiative with up to a maximum of 1/3 of the total Nordic call budget. The Board delegates to the NordForsk Board Chair and Vice Chair to decide on the maximum contribution of funding within the 1/3 limitation, should the initiative raise support from a minimum of three Nordic national funders.

06 BM 25/1298

Audit of NordForsk 2024

NordForsk submitted the annual report with annual accounts to the Nordic Council of Ministers on 14.02.2025. After the Board approved the annual

report and signed the annual accounts, the [National Audit Office of Norway](#) issued an audit report which was sent to the Nordic Council of Ministers on May 23rd, 2025. There were no remarks in the audit report. In parallel with the financial audit, the National Audit Office of Norway also conducted an audit of how internal control is documented.

Action: The Board was informed.

07 BM 25/1299

Information from the administration

The director gave a brief reminder of the information which was presented in writing in the documentation to the Board meeting.

Action: The Board was informed.

08 BM 25/1300

Information from the Nordic Council of Ministers

Håkon Halgrimsen, secretariat of the Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM), updated the Board on recent developments.

- [Joint statement by the Nordic Prime Ministers and Heads of Government on quantum technologies: Laying the foundation for future Nordic advancements](#)
- [Joint statement by the Nordic Prime Ministers and Heads of Government on cooperation for enhanced crisis preparedness and resilience – The Nordics: United and Strong](#)
- NCMS' [response](#) to the consultation on Transfer of administrative tasks within Nordic research cooperation.

Action: The Board was informed.

09 BM 25/1301

Information about Director's decisions

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

Action: The Board was informed.

10 BM 25/1302

Information from Board members and observers

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

Action: The Board was informed.

11 BM 25/1303

Any other business

N/A

Action: N/A

12 BM 25/1304

Status recruitment of new Director of NordForsk

The board members and observers were informed. The NordForsk staff left the meeting prior to this agenda item.

Action: The Board was informed.