



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Board meeting by phone January 13th, 2012, 12.00 – 13.00

Minutes

Present:

Inger B. Scheel
Graziella Van den Bergh
Rune Nilsen
Hans Hadders
Akhtar Hussain
Kristin I. Sandberg
Ottar Mæstad
Therese M. Istad
Kårstein Måseide
Åse-Marit Kristiansen
Joar Svanemyr
Harald Siem

Absent:

June Steen
Jon Øyvind Odland
Atle Fretheim
Ingvild Hope
Johanne H. Iversen

Inger Scheel, who is the acting head for the Forum until the election in September, opens the meeting.

News from the members:

Akhtar Hussein has received an award by the Diabetic Association of Bangladesh for his long-term efforts in diabetes research. Hussain has also recently been elected as the leader of the International Diabetes Federation.

Rune Nilsen has been appointed to Honorary Doctorate at the University of Science and Technology (UCT), Omdurman, Sudan.

Kristin Sandberg has got a new position, at UiO, Centre for Development and the Environment.

Inger Scheel has been elected as the president in FESTMIH.

01/12 Approval of the agenda

Inger suggests to rearrange the agenda (due to Akhtar leaving early), we will discuss 04/12 first; the Globvac conference, and issue 06/12 and 07/12 will be postponed until next meeting.

Joar Svanemyr will give some information about NORHED and the white paper on Global



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Health during issue 08/12 “Any other business”.

Agenda approved with these changes.

04/12 GLOBVAC conference 26/27 September (Attachment 3)

The board members have received a draft programme for the conference – this programme is based on suggestions sent to Åse-Marit Kristiansen – the planning committee has not yet discussed it. There are both plenary and parallel sessions – the parallel sessions worked out really well in the last conference.

- The structure of the programme is based on three thematic pillars:
 - 1) the blue pillar represents innovation in the more traditional sense, such as innovation in technology
 - 2) the pink pillar represents “social determinants for health” etc
 - 3) the green pillar represents the status for the global health education and research today, future needs of innovation and plans for the future in this thematic area.

Feedback from the board:

Positive feedback from everyone on the structure of the programme, the three-way thematic division is well received.

Some of the thematic areas which were especially well received are;

- non-communicable diseases (NCDs)/ chronic diseases – Akhtar Hussain will be able to suggest speakers in this area.
- maternal health and reproductive health – even more focus on this theme would be welcome. Could also be connected to NCD. Akhtar could come up with some suggestions for speakers. Joar Svanemyr has also been involved in work on this topic in NORAD, and also on human rights and equity/priorities in relation to maternal Health – Joar could come up with suggestions for topics and speakers in this thematic field.
- rehabilitation/disability – important that this perspective is included, very often the focus is on acute illnesses etc.
- Future of health education –Hans Hadders will mobilize to involve students, both medical students but also students in other health related topics.
- Fruitful discussions can emerge at the intersections between the different thematic areas.
- opening for papers is a very good idea and should be followed up

Suggestions for improvement:

More focus on the research evaluation from RCN – what needs to be done in relation to the national ambitions for global health research in Norway. This should perhaps be given more time in the programme.

Arvid Hallèn (RCN) will give a presentation “Prospectives for global health after the 2011 evaluation of biology, medicine and health research” – and this presentation will be followed up by parallel sessions where there will be room for such a discussion.

- Length of the presentations; each presenter should be given more than 6-7min, fewer speakers on each theme to avoid delays and everyone rushing through their presentations.
- Some of the sessions already seem fully booked, each session should allocate some time for



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free papers for researchers to present their work

-It might be a good idea to have a plenary session at the end of the conference, to gather the participants and sum up the discussions etc.

-Suggestion of a session based on a large project of human rights and reproductive health (NORAD)

-Should discuss if there is a way of drawing some lines between Innovation and Social determinants in a clear way in a session

Åse Marit Kristiansen will bring the feedback from the Forum to the meeting in the planning committee which will take place at Tuesday 15th January.

Action point 04/12:

Further suggestions to the programme can be sent to Inger/ Therese.

02/12 Approval of minutes, Board meeting 4th of November 2011 (Attachment 1)

Info: Globvac - RCN will ask for a new application from the Forum, with a deadline in the middle of April.

The Minutes were approved.

03/12 Annual plan:

a. Suggested meeting schedule:

i. Phone meetings at the second Friday each month from 12:00 to 13:00
EXCEPT August – which will be at the third Friday.

Approved

ii. Board meeting and subsequent General Assembly 25/9 – the evening before the GLOBVAC conference in Trondheim.

Approved

iii. One “physical” meeting during first the first half-year at a date decided by the board – Suggestion: **11th of May 2012 in Oslo**

Approved

b. Activities/tasks (Attachment 2: An extract of the RCN-application)

03/12 b – postponed until next board meeting.

05/12 Lancet – UiO Commission (Attachment 4 and 5). How can the Forum contribute?

3rd of February; seminar «Mobilisering for globale helseutfordringer» – the Forum will give a presentation at this seminar.

Kristin Sandberg is a part of the resource group in the Commission, Harald Siem is in the secretariat. The leader of the Commission, rector at UiO, Ole Petter Ottersen, do not want this commission to be a UiO project, they want to involve other institutions nationally. Some



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Forum members note that research environments outside Oslo perhaps should have been invited to contribute at an earlier stage.

The main focus for the commission is what affects health outside the health sector? Quite a few of those involved in the commission do not have a background in health.

Action point 05/12

After the seminar the board should discuss what and how the Forum could contribute to the commission.

06/12 Election Committee

Postponed until next meeting.

07/12 FESTMIH

Postponed until next meeting.

08/12 Any other business

-Harald Siem: The Global health publication, there are still a few copies left, contact Harald to order.

-Joar Svanemyr:

-NORHED: Fact Sheet II ready, with a timeline for 2012 deadlines, see:

<http://www.norad.no/no/tilskudd/s%C3%B8k-st%C3%B8tte/h%C3%B8yere-utdanning-og-forskning/norhed>

-The white paper on Global Health will probably be presented to the Secretary of State at 20th January. This presentation will be followed by a conference or seminar about the white paper, probably in February.



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Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research
Board meeting by phone February 10th, 2012, 12.00 – 13.00
Minutes

Present:

Hans Hadders
Inger B. Scheel
Kristin I. Sandberg
Rune Nilsen
Harald Siem
Therese M. Istad
Nina Dalen
Ottar Mæstad
Graziella Van den Bergh
Jon Øyvind Odland

Absent:

June J. Steen
Akhtar Hussain
Åse Marit Kristiansen
Kårstein Måseide
Unni Silkoset
Ingvild Hope
Joar Svanemyr
Atle Fretheim
Johanne Iversen

AGENDA

09/12 Approval of the agenda

- *Approved*

10/12 Approval of minutes, Board meeting 13th of January 2012 (Attachment 1)

- *Approved*

11/12 Election Committee

- *The Board agrees that board members who are not up for elections can serve on the election committee*
- *New committee: leader: June Steen, members: Rune Nilsen and Jon Øyvind Odland*
- **Action points**
 - *Therese informs June that she has been elected to lead the committee*
 - *Therese sends information on procedures*

12/12 Annual plan:

Activities/tasks (Attachment 2: An extract of the RCN-application)

- *The Board has several projects and tasks to carry out in this period. In addition we may decide to contribute to the UiO – Lancet Commission. We need to establish a series of working groups to take responsibility for each project and each task:*



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- *To make sure that not the same people keep on taking on responsibility for all tasks*
- *To ensure that we sustain our democratic spirit*

Each group should formulate a short mandate (a one-pager) for its operation for several reasons

- *To add precision to what we do and to make sure we are all on the same page*
 - *To be used in the description of the Forum's activity plan in the NFR proposal*
 - *To be used as documentation of the work we actually carry out*
- *The tasks are described in Attachment 2, with a few additions marked by an * below:*
 1. A working group to further develop the NFGHR website. There is a need for a website that can provide better opportunities for information exchange, collaboration and interaction.
 - *Group leader: Therese. Group members: Kristin and Inger. Ottar may possibly find someone for light technical support in CMI*
 2. A working group to explore the possible ways a common research school in global health can be established
 - *Group leader: Jon Øyvind. Group members: Jon Øyvind will recruit from each of the large Universities. Rune will act as consultant*
 - *Stortinget has allocated funds for new national research schools; application deadline will be 30 May 2012.*
 3. A working group to follow up NFGHR declaration on Climate and Health
 - *Inger has recruited Gunnar Kvåle to take on the leadership for this group.*
 4. * NFR proposal:
 - *Group leader: Inger. Member: Ottar + the full Board for comments*

Other planned activities are:

1. To discuss with relevant government agencies how NFGHR can provide insights and comments to relevant policy problems in the field
 - *Jon Øyvind takes this on. He will assemble the group. Inger will follow the group closely and contribute if asked.*
2. Increase the international relations between Norwegian research institutions and potential partners in Europe as well as in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, through the representation in FESTMIH
 - *Inger functions as president of the FESTMIH Board*
3. To continue to advocate for increased resources for global health research, and for evidence-based policies in the Norwegian foreign aid efforts.
 - *Closely related to activity number 1. Will be handled by the same group*
4. To take part in the planning and implementation of the GLOBVAC yearly conference, as well as contribute to the scientific committee
 - *Scientific Committee. All members of the Board will be responsible for recruiting one person to review abstracts, or act him/herself as a reviewer of the abstracts. The reviewer should have the competency level of an associate professor (PhD), and have the necessary skills to evaluate relevance and quality of conference abstracts. NTNU are welcome to*



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volunteer for the scientific committee. Inger will inform them during the next meeting.

13/12 Globvac Conference 2012

- *There were no NFR representatives present.*
- *Therese informed on developments*
- *The process for establishing a scientific committee is decided upon*
- *NFR asks for suggestions for a top speaker on NCDs. 20 minutes on “the changing pattern of disease burden”. Ole Frithjof Norheim is suggested, and supported by the Board.*

14/12 Lancet – UiO Commission on Global Governance for Health

- *Harald reports from the Seminar Friday 3rd. Several suggestions for new developments: Common seminars and courses, Nordic Journal on Global Health*
- *Kristin suggests, as a follow up of Rune, to establish a task force within the FORUM.*
Action point:
 - *Kristin will write a concept note to the Board with the assistance from Unni G and Inger.*

15/12 White paper on Global Health (Attachment 3)

- *All are encouraged to attend the launch of the White paper on Global Health*
- *Rune summarizes his impression of the White Paper:*

The white paper is a unique and important document and should have a great impact on both Norwegian Development Assistance, the Health sector priorities in Norway and for the health sector part of the Universities and University Colleges in Norway. With the fact that research and research based knowledge are given great importance in the White Paper.

There is a paradox with 2 elements:

1. The White Paper underscores that research and research based knowledge are to be the foundation for the political decisions in the field. In spite of that the Ministry of Education and Research (KD) is hardly seen as partner in the White Paper. On the Norwegian arena Global health has become very much a task by Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NORAD and weakly seen through the mandates given to the institutions reporting to Ministry of Health and Care Services and Ministry of Education and Research.

2. Very little focus on the fundamental importance and roles of the Higher Education and Research Institutions in Low and Middle Income Countries. The need of capacity building, leadership development and partnership with institutions in Norway or other High Income Countries are fundamental.

- *Ottar underlines that the fact that Research and research based knowledge are given great importance in the White Paper. However, he agrees that there is a lack of coherence.*

16/12 Any other business



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Board meeting by phone March 9th, 2012, 12.00 – 13.00

Minutes

Present:

Ingvild Hope, UiB
Hans Hadders, HiST
Inger B. Scheel, Kunnskapssenteret
Kårstein Måseide, RCN
Unni Silkoset, Norad
Therese M. Istad, UiB
Ottar Mæstad, CMI
Unni Hirdman Rørslett, RCN
Graziella Van den Bergh, HiB
Jon Øyvind Odland, UiT
Kristin Ingstad Sandberg, UiO

Absent:

Rune Nilsen, UiB
June Jacobsen Steen, UiA
Harald Siem, Helsedirektoratet
Nina Dalen, HiB
Akhtar Hussain, UiO
Atle Fretheim, Kunnskapssenteret
Joar Svanemyr, Norad
Johanne Helene Iversen, Norwegian Medical Students Association (NMSA)
Åse-Marit Kristiansen, RCN

News from the members:

Unni H. Rørslett replaces Kårstein as coordinator of the GLOBVAC programme, while Kårstein is engaged in NORAD (Dept. for Global Health, Education and Research) from April 2012 until August 2013. Unni is welcome to serve as observer on the Forums Board meetings during this time.

17/12 Approval of the agenda

-Approved with 3 items to 22/12 - Any other Business

18/12 Approval of minutes, Board meeting 10th of February 2012 ([Attachment 1](#))

-Minutes approved. Item 12/12, 13/12, 14/12 and 15/12 are followed up as new items in March 9th agenda.

-All action points are carried out.

19/12 Hearing, [White paper on Global Health](#) – Stortinget, 23 March at 08:30-12:00

- will be an open hearing, more info at [Stortingets website](#)



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Jon Øyvind informs the Board on the open consultation on the Whitepaper on Global Health organized by Utenriks- og Forsvarskomiteen. This is an important opportunity to voice the Forum's agenda.

Ottar and Kristin volunteered to participate, and in addition Inger got the Board's support to ask Gunnar Kvåle to represent the Forum. Jon Øyvind will register and guide the participants.

Action points:

- *Inger initiates the process*
- *Jon Øyvind registers the Forum for the hearing within March 16th*
- *Inger contacts Gunnar to ask if he is willing to represent the Forum*
- *The full group study the whitepaper and start an e-mail discussion (CC the board)*
- *The group produce a summary of items to discuss during the 5 minutes allowed during the hearing*

20/12 New RCN application, deadline for re-submission; 18th April 2012.

- There is no reason to believe that GLOBVAC will decline to continue its funding of the Forum activities for the years ahead upon submission of an appropriate proposal. However, for the time being, the Forum has no liquid assets. CIH/UiB has kindly offered to forward the costs of running the secretariat until further funding has been secured, but we will cancel the "physical" Board meeting planned for May 11th since we cannot guarantee the coverage of the expected travel costs for delegates. The preliminary date for the meeting in Oslo is now 8th of June.
- We established 4 working groups during the last meeting and added one additional working group (Task force for the Commission on global governance for health). Please refer to 12/12 in the [Minutes from Board Meeting February 10th 2012](#). A short project description (1-2 pages) from each working group will constitute the substance of the NFR-proposal, and each working group leader is asked to develop a short description within **March 25th**. One of the five project descriptions has been developed and will be circulated for comments shortly.
- Kårstein indicate that the GLOBVAC board will process the proposal within a few weeks after submission.

Action points:

- *Therese locates previous proposals from the archives to be used for reference when writing the new proposal*
- *Inger initiate the process with Ottar starting next week*
- *All Group leaders submit a 1-2 page project description of the planned group work within March 25th*
- *A draft proposal will be circulated (very) shortly before next board meeting April 13th*

21/12 GLOBVAC Conference 2012

Globvac has sent invitations to many of the proposed plenary speakers, and awaits responses. The next meeting in the Conference planning committee will be conducted March 15th.



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Call for abstracts to the conference, [open for submission at the Globvac website](#) now – deadline for submission; 1 May 2012.

The board agreed to recruit 1-2 persons to serve on the scientific committee for GLOBVAC 2012. So far we have 2 persons on our list.

Action points:

- *All Forum members send the name(s) of 1-2 persons to Therese. The reviewer should have the competency level of an associate professor (PhD), and have the necessary skills to evaluate relevance and quality of conference abstracts. Please note thematic field(s) in relation to the program headings and a very brief description of methods competency (ex qualitative, quantitative, epidemiology etc) within next board meeting (**April 13th**)*
- *The Globvac call for abstracts will be announced on the website and in the next Forum newsletter.*

22/12 Any other business

NORAD informed on two new funding opportunities.

- [M-health Alliance](#) **Deadline: March 26, 2012**
- [Saving lives at birth](#) **Deadline: April 2, 2012**

NORAD informed on the NORHED program: Deadline for proposals delayed to June 2012, main call in September 2012. First possible installment planned for early 2013. Health, Equity and Development is included as a theme. Please see more at [the SIU/NORHED website](#).

Kårstein informed on the outcome of the GLOBVAC call (first round) – RCN received 125 applications. The call for full proposals is now open, deadline April 18, 2012 – more at [the Globvac website](#).



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Minutes

Board meeting by phone April 13th, 2012, 12.00 – 13.00

AGENDA

Present:

Inger B. Scheel
Hans Hadders
Ottar Mæstad
Kristin I. Sandberg
Johanne H. Iversen
Therese M. Istad
Harald Siem
Unni H. Rørslett

Absent:

Rune Nilsen
June Steen
Graziella Van den Bergh
Jon Øyvind Odland
Akhtar Hussain
Ingvild Hope
Unni Silkoset
Joar Svanemyr
Åse-Marit Kristiansen

News from the members:

On behalf of the Forum, Inger will meet representatives from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation at the 17th of April. Members of the Forum are welcome to suggest topics for discussion.

23/12 Approval of the agenda
- *Agenda approved*

24/12 Approval of minutes, Board meeting 9th of March 2012 ([Attachment 1](#))

Item 19/12: Hearing, White paper on global health – summary from the board members who participated in the hearing; Useful and interesting experience for the Forum, less formal arena than expected and the discussion was characterized by dialogue. The deadline for submitting a final note to the committee is 16th of May. More info at [Stortingets website](#).

Action point: The Forum could write a note to the committee and/or a feature article (kronikk) and try to get it published before 16th of May. Kristin and Inger will initiate the process.

- *Minutes approved. Item 20/12 and 21/12 are followed up as new items in April 13th agenda.*
- *All action points from the meeting 9th of March are carried out.*

25/12 Scientific Committee for GLOBVAC 2012 (Attachment 2)
-Each board member recruits 1-2 persons to serve on the scientific committee.

Action point:

Decide on a leader for the committee, and set some criteria for the evaluation of the abstracts.



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-Abstracts for posters: change of submission deadline date; postponed to 15th of May.
See the [Globvac conference web page](#).

26/12 New RCN application, deadline for re-submission; 18th April 2012

- a) Contributions and comments from the board members for the application; strengths and weaknesses (unused possibilities) of the Forum. The comments will be incorporated in the application wherever relevant.
- b) Follow up on the working groups:
 - Task force for the Commission on global governance for health
Kristin, Inger and Unni Gopinathan will develop a working plan for the task force. The group has looked into different kinds of Open Access Research Platforms – platforms for discussion and cooperation. Johanne (NMSA) has also been working with this in other areas and knows a few pilot projects on this – she could also contribute to the task force.
 - Development of the NFGHR website (incl. a platform for interaction, see Attachment 3 for examples of Research Forums on Facebook): A project description has been written, and will be attached to the RCN application from the Forum.
Johanne will join this group in the further work.
 - Establishment of a common research school in global health
Group leader not present at this meeting.
 - NFGHR declaration on Climate and Health
Group leader not present at this meeting.

27/12 Any other business



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Board meeting by phone May 11th, 2012, 12.00 – 13.00

Minutes

Present

Inger B. Scheel, Kunnskapssenteret
Hans Hadders, HiST
Kristin I. Sandberg, UiO
Graziella Van den Bergh, HiB
June J. Steen, UiA
Unni Silkoset, Norad
Kårstein Måseide, Norad
Unni H. Rørslett, RCN
Åse-Marit Kristiansen, RCN
Therese M. Istad, UiB
Ingvild Hope, UiB

Absent

Jon Øyvind Odland, UiT
Rune Nilsen, UiB
Akhtar Hussain, UiO
Ottar Mæstad, CMI
Harald Siem, The Norwegian Directorate of Health
Johanne H. Iversen, Norwegian Medical Students Association (NMSA)

28/12 Approval of the agenda

Agenda approved

29/12 Approval of minutes, Board meeting 13th of April 2012 ([Attachment 1](#))

Action point: Follow –up of item 19/12 (meeting 9th of March), the white paper on Global Health: Newspaper chronicle as a Forum submission: The white paper will be discussed in the Storting 29/5. The Board government observers support the suggestion that of a Forum chronicle to stimulate the responsible Departments to follow up on their intentions as described in the White paper.
→ Those interested in contributing to a chronicle should contact Inger.

Minutes approved.



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30/12 GLOBVAC 2012

- Scientific Committee (see Attachment 2)
 - The Scientific Committee is complete, with 13 members. Inger has developed a flow chart for the evaluation which will be distributed to the committee members.

- Update from RCN
 - Progress according to plan, the programme is almost finished and [RCN's conference website](#) will be updated with more information next week (week 20).
 - All Forum members must urge researchers to submit abstracts before the deadline May 15th.

31/12 Meeting with representatives from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (Attachment 3 and 4)
-Inger informed from the meeting with BMGF, and minutes from this meeting are available. The Board indicated that they would be interested in meeting with the representatives if they choose to attend GlobVac 2012.

-Forum members who have project descriptions, ideas about research activities etc. which they want to present to BMGF can contact Francesca Boldrini, and she will put them in touch with the appropriate people in the Foundation.

-Kårstein had also met with the Foundation in other business, and suggests that the representation of BMGF in the Public/Private Partnerships (PPP) session at the Globvac Conference 2012 may be of interest.

32/12 Funding/ Applications/ Final Report RCN

Application for the Forum was submitted to GlobVac April 18th, with great help from the Secretariat, and the group leaders of the "Task forces". Response can be expected within next week. The last period's Final report was submitted May 4th.

33/12 Board meeting in June: Oslo?

The board meeting stipulated in Oslo for June was cancelled due to the Forums state of inliquidity. The Board has met every month in 2012, and the practical need for a face-to-face meeting is not precarious. Kristin suggests that we have an extended Board meeting with dinner in September in connection to the GlobVac conference.

→ The phone meeting at 8th of June will still be arranged.

34/12 Any other business

- The Forum's General assembly: To be held at the first day of the conference **26th of Sept**, immediately after the programme closes, before dinner is served (changed from earlier decision at the [board meeting in January](#)).
Board meeting: The evening before the Conference (**25th Sept**).

- Election Committee, new board: The committee chair, June, is on track. She will consult Nils Gunnar about procedures.



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research
Board meeting by phone June 11th, 2012, 12.00 – 13.00

Minutes

Present:

Kristin I. Sandberg
Jon Øyvind Odland
Inger Scheel
June Steen
Akhtar Hussain
Graziella Van den Bergh
Harald Siem
Rune Nilsen
Ingvild Hope
Therese Istad

Absent:

Hans Steinsland
Unni Silkoset
Unni H Rørslett
Åse-Marit Kristiansen
Kårstein Måseide
Ottar Mæstad
Johanne H. Iversen

35/12 Approval of the agenda
Approved

36/12 Approval of minutes, Board meeting 11th of May 2012 (Attachment 1)
Approved

37/12 RCN application and Forum projects (Attachment 2)

The Forum is granted a one year extension of its activities, totaling NOK 490.000 for 2012. However, a revised proposal with a revised budget must be submitted within a month. The Globvac Board asks for a meeting, September 27th, where the format of future application is to be discussed. A new application is to be submitted by November 15th 2012.

Points from the discussion:

- The Forum is an example of the type of research community that best is financed through a round sum rather than project financing, with detailed requirements to results and deliverables. The format of the Research Council standard application, as well as the format for reporting are developed to suit project proposals, not network activities where hard deliverables sometimes are difficult to define (for example; responding to current events and changes in policy and other arenas, exchange of information, discussions to share and enrich our understanding of current events related to global health research and education).



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- The RC format is also better suited to projects with an institutional base, than a democratic academic society where board members, including the leader are elected for a two-year period, and are more likely than not to be replaced within the funding period. The organization does not allow for a line of command as is the case for “regular” research institutions.
- A general research proposal to the Globvac programme has a development cost of about NOK 100.000 +. How can we avoid multiple revisions?
- The activities of the last (2012) proposal were shaped into small projects in an effort to accommodate the Globvac Board’s requests. Does the required format in practice impact on the Forum’s purpose and scope of work? Should we view this as an opportunity to change and develop, or as inappropriate detailing of our collaborative society based on volunteerism?
- Is it feasible to change the Forum into a project organization? Are members and their institutions willing to bear the consequences? Is this a road we want to take considering our current role?
 - Home-institutions must be willing to give mandate to the representatives on the board to spend the required time and efforts
 - Board members must prioritize time on the cost of meriting activities
 - RCN must expect higher budgets
 - The secretariat must grow
 - Can we respond to current events with the flexibility we need in a new structure

Conclusion:

- The Forum is grateful to receive the funding needed to carry out our activities also in 2012
- The Forum is pleased that the Globvac Board has invited to a meeting to discuss the application requirements.
- Inger to ask the Globvac Administration for guidance to the June revision requirements
- The Forum has established itself as an important “actor” in global health in Norway. Its future role, shape and functions of the Forum to be discussed when we meet in person, bringing in the actors from NORAD, Hdir and the Research council.

38/12 Election committee Forum

Head of the election committee, June Steen has prepared the letter asking for candidates – she will send this to Therese and Ingvild. The committee will investigate if/how NTNU can be included in the board.

The Secretariat will distribute the letter to all relevant institutions. All board members should follow up and encourage candidates to register.

39/12 GLOBVAC

- Scientific Committee/ Abstracts
The Secretariat has received about 50 abstracts which has been sent to the committee for review. Most abstracts are now reviewed.
Action point: prepare a recommendation for the GlobVac organizing committee – Inger to initiate this?



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40/12 Report from the conference "["A World in Transition – Charting a New Path in Global Health"](#) Hillary Clinton attended and gave a talk on the American initiative "["Saving mothers, giving life"](#)" in which the Government of Norway is a partner. See and hear the main speeches at the [Government's web page](#) and read [Clinton's speech at the US Department of State website](#).

Action point: Jon Øyvind attended the conference, and he will write a feature article as a response to the discussions there. This could perhaps be published as a Forum supported article. Jon Øyvind initiates the process.

Report from the Deans national meeting

Harald, Rune, Jon Øyvind, Inger and Unni Gopinathan participated.

Jon Øyvind and Rune both presented talks. Their speeches have been distributed to the Forum members, and you can also view them here:

- 1) [Odland - Det nordlige perspektivet for utdanning og forskning - Circumpolare initiativer](#)
- 2) [Nilsen - Global Helse i med. utd. og praksis](#)
- 3) [R. Nilsen - Global Helse -erfaringer fra UiB](#)

Action point: E-learning, prepare a database/ well of global health topics – tape the good lectures on this topic. Perhaps use iTunesU. Rune will follow up on this.

41/12 Offer from the journal Tropical Medicine and International Health (through FESTMIH)
Does this journal offer open access?

Action point: Inger to look into this. The item is postponed until next board meeting.

42/12 Any other business

Akhtar: UiO will host the world congress on prevention of diabetes in 2014. Akhtar is the congress president and is involved in the organizing of the congress. There will be a committee with representatives from the different institutions – the Forum could perhaps also be represented in the committee – we will get back to this in the next meeting.



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Board meeting by phone August 24th, 2012, 12.00 – 13.00

Minutes

Present:

Inger B. Scheel
Rune Nilsen
Jon Øyvind Odland
Harald Siem
Unni Silkoset
June J. Steen
Kristin I. Sandberg
Graziella Van den Bergh
Therese M. Istad

Absent:

Ahktar Hussain
Hans Hadders
Ingvild Hope
Ottar Mæstad
Atle Fretheim
Unni H. Rørslett
Åse Marit Kristiansen
Kårstein Måseide
Johanne H. Iversen

43/12 Approval of the agenda
Agenda approved

44/12 Approval of minutes, Board meeting 11th of June 2012 (Attachment 1)
item 37/12 – will be followed up in item 45/12 today
item 40/12 – E-learning; Rune is working on this
Suggestions regarding e-learning etc:

-Konrad Flemming, Copenhagen School of Global Health, has been working with e-learning, recording of lectures, sharing them online, across borders – perhaps the project group “Task force on the National research school for global health” should contact him for advice on how to proceed with this.

- UiT; a Classfronter project has just started, the students will present two assignments in Classfronter, the assignments will be in English. If this is successful, UiT would like to share it online with other institutions etc.

-UiO: Has initiated an open lecture series called Global Citizen; the lectures are filmed, and will be made available online – could be linked to from the Forum website.

More info [at UiO web](#)

Minutes approved



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

45/12 Forum contract 2012 – approved by RCN (Attachment 2)

This item is also discussed in relation to next item; the Forum must decide on which direction to go, what issues we should work with etc. before the meeting with the GlobVac board.

46/12 Election committee Forum – Committee members to inform about progress.

(Attachment 3 – Overview of Candidates)

-June informs the Board; the majority of the institutions have sent in their proposals for candidates. Those who are missing will be notified, and asked to submit proposals.

-Unni Silkoset informs the Board that Kårstein Måseide will represent NORAD as observer in the Forum, with Unni as deputy.

Action point: The election committee distributes the proposal for a new board to all Forum members, at the latest 2 weeks before the General Assembly.

47/12 GLOBVAC, Trondheim

- Updated programme (Attachment 4)
- General Assembly 26th September – preparations
Preparations for an agenda:
 - Nils Gunnar sends earlier agendas to Inger
 - Important to go through the activities of the forum – as an information item
 - Policy and setting the agenda in the global health field is important for the Forum, recent important events in this field should be discussed at the general assembly
- Board Meeting evening, 25th September – At Kristin's house (tbc)
- Meeting with GlobVac Board – who should participate?
 - Inger and Therese will participate.
 - If Jon Øyvind attends the conference he will participate. If not, one more representative from the Forum should attend the meeting.

48/12 Any other business

FESTMIH:

Are preparing their 2013 conference in Copenhagen in September

The Society is open for proposals for sessions.

Action point: If anyone in the Forum have ideas for sessions, send an e-mail to Inger
Jon Øyvind might develop a proposal for a session on «Polar Health»

When planning the Norwegian conference, GLOBVAC, for next year, have to take into care so that there is not too much overlap between the two conferences – perhaps collaborate with FESTMIH and develop programs that will contribute to each other.



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Board meeting, November 22nd, 2012, 10.00 – 13.00
University of Oslo

Minutes

Present:

Elin Yli Dvergsdal, NTNU
Hans Hadders, Sør-Trøndelag University College
Akhtar Hussain, University of Oslo
Graziella Van den Bergh, Bergen University College
Ottar Mæstad, Independent (CMI)
Inger B. Scheel, The Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services
Therese M. Istad, University of Bergen (Secretariat)
Kristin Ingstad Sandberg, Independent (UiO)
(Participated through phone)

Absent:

Rolv Terje Lie, University of Bergen
Anne Husebekk, University of Tromsø
Observers (not invited to this election meeting)

Presentation of the new board

The board members present introduced themselves.

49/12 Approval of the agenda

Agenda approved

50/12 Approval of minutes, Board meeting 24th of August 2012 (Attachment 1)

Minutes approved (on the condition that also the members of the former board who attended the meeting approve, the minutes will be distributed to them).

51/12 Election of chairman and deputy to the Board, 2012-2014

(Attachment 2; Board members 2012-2014)

Former chairman, Inger Scheel, presented the procedures for the election.
Kristin B. Sandberg participates through phone.

The board members proposed candidates for the chairman position (through secret vote, in writing):

Inger B. Scheel
Kristin I. Sandberg
Elin Y. Dvergsdal

Sandberg and Dvergsdal withdraw their candidature.
Inger B. Scheel is elected as chairman by acclamation.

Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research
Centre for International Health, University of Bergen
P.O. Box 7804, 5020 Bergen, Norway



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Two candidates were suggested as Vice President / Deputy chair of the board through secret vote: Kristin I. Sandberg and Ottar Mæstad. The board members cast their votes on these two candidates through secret ballot.

The election result was:
Kristin I. Sandberg 3 votes
Ottar Mæstad 4 votes

Ottar Mæstad was elected Vice President of the Forum / Deputy chair of the board.

Item **52/12** RCN Application 2013-2015 (Attachment 3: Grant letter from RCN) and item **53/12** "Future of the Forum" were discussed together.

After a meeting with the GlobVac board, the Forum has reached an agreement on how to report, there will be annual written reports in addition to annual meetings with oral updates directly to the GlobVac board.

Support for the Forum 2013-2015

The Forum has been granted 600 000 NOK in support from GlobVac for the period 2013-2015. The board discussed if the Forum need other financial sources in addition to GlobVac, to avoid vulnerability. Agreed to invest in defined projects, the website etc. rather than having a large operating budget. For this, the funding from GlobVac is sufficient.

The GlobVac conference, Bergen 2013

Discussed the topic for the conference, have to agree on something that will gain interest both among researchers and students.

The students' pre conference in Trondheim was very well received – this became an introduction to the field of global health and the students got more out of the main conference after this pre conference.

How academically "heavy" should the conference be? In Trondheim there was a good balance between presentations on clinical work and research, innovation, the business sector and the academic research environment.

As it is today, there are quite a few of the best researchers that do not participate in the conference. Maybe some of them should be invited as keynote speakers, presenters etc.

There has to be time and opportunity to meet other researchers, networks etc. A few suggestions for this is "meet the Professor", "speed dating", round-table talks and discussions, longer pauses between presentations etc.

One example on how to engage the audience is from the Resource Centre in Bergen, where they organize breakfast seminars; 2 researchers discuss a topic with a chairman who asks questions to the researchers and also asks the audience for input and questions.



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Forum projects 2013

-The website

-Seminars? To make the Forum more visible. Can take place in Oslo, Trondheim, Bergen, Tromsø or elsewhere. Topics can be research in general, how to stimulate research in low-income countries, how to contribute to capacity building in the South?

Interdisciplinary invitations.

-The research projects database – The board should discuss the use of the database, and how (and if) we should continue to use it.

-Feature article in newspapers, journals etc?

54/12 Any other business

-Hospital trusts (Helseforetakene)

The Hospital trusts have some funding for research, including global health research. They could be invited to name a representative as an observer member in the Forum. Elin Dvergsdal is a member of [“Nasjonal samarbeidsgruppe for helseforskning” \(NSG\)](#), and will look further into this possibility.