



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research
Draft minutes
Constituting meeting for the new Forum board

8 May 2019: 12:00 to 13:00

Present: Dawit Shawel Abebe, Andrea Winkler, (Ingeborg Haavardstun(observatør), Håkon Bolkan, Mahima Venkateswaran, Gunilla Kulla, Frode Forland, Katerini Storeng, Arne Eide, Bente Moen and Gunhild Koldal (minutes)

26/19 Approval of agenda

Ok

27/19 Welcome by Bente E. Moen, chair of the Forum board 2017-2019

Previous chair of the board explained the routines for the meetings

- Notice of meetings sent in Outlook
- Monthly meetings
- Meeting arena: Skype for Business
- Language is English, both written and spoken
- Forum webpage: <https://forumglobalhealth.w.uib.no/>

28/19 Minutes from the General Assembly April 2, 2019

There were no comments to the minutes from the General Assembly 2019. The minutes will be presented at the next General Assembly for approval.

29/19 Approval of minutes from board meeting March 21, 2019

Minutes approved.

30/19 The secretariat in Bergen

Status, information from Moen

Forum has had their secretariat in Bergen, funded by RCN through GLOBVAC since the start. From 1 January 2019, there is zero (0) funding for Forum.

In 2017, the new virtual network, [Global Health Norway](#), was established. Their board members come from the medical faculties at four universities (UiT, UiB, UiO, NTNU), from the Regional health authorities (Western Norway-, Central Norway-, Northern Norway- and Southern and Eastern Norway Regional Health Authorities) and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health (FHI), a total of nine people.

Global Health Norway's board has budgeted with NOK 200 000 for a secretariat in 2019. Forum benefits from this, as the two secretariats overlap. The members of the secretariat are Ingvild Hope and Gunhild Koldal, together with Bente Moen.

Without funding, Forum will not be able to arrange conferences alone, but will be able to arrange board meetings. Forum board has participated in scientific committees when Global Health Norway has arranged conferences.



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The funding from Global Health Norway is only for 2019.

Forum should work jointly with Global Health Norway, where the two organizations can be of mutual benefit to each other. Forum should also look for other funding sources to find a sustainable way forward.

31/19 The board appoints chair and vice-chair for the Board (Moen and Forland are interested in cooperating on this, but are also open to other suggestions).

Bente Moen has been leader for two periods. It has been many changes in the last period. For instance the establishment of Global Health Norway and transition from institutional to individual membership in Forum.

Suggestion: Bente Moen continues as chair the first year, Frode Forland will be vice-chair, and take over as chair next year.

Conclusion: The board discussed this and unanimously appointed Bente Moen as chair for the first year, with Frode Forland as vice-chair.

The board members are asked to send a photo and a short bio (50 words) to present on the webpage. Send to Gunhild: gunhild.koldal@uib.no by Wednesday 22 May.

What about observers? Forum is free to have observers.

The Board is in favour of inviting observers to the meetings.

Bente Moen will contact the previous observers from Norad, Norwegian Directorate of Health and RCN, and ask if they wish to continue as observers.

32/19 Expectations and thoughts on Forum the next two years.

All board members are asked to give their input.

Presentation/expectation by each board member:

Bente E Moen: professor in occupational health and global health. Leader of Centre for International Health, University of Bergen – works with global health issues every day.

Expectation: Forum is important for Norway – wants to build it up stronger, and gain more members. Work more in relation to policy makers in Norway. Address the situation with reduction in funding for global health research.

Frode Forland: Specialist director for “Infectious Disease Control” at FHI, and assistant professor at UiT in evidence based medicine. Background: GP. Been at FHI since 2010.

Expectation: Forum should be a hands-on network for people interested in global health research. Forum should aim to keep arranging smaller conferences together with Global Health Norway. Be informal, yet pushing toward the government and Norad. Encourage collaboration with the South.

Andrea Winkler: background; neurologist by training. Worked with epilepsy patients in Africa where the interest for global health sparked.

Works with communicable & non-communicable diseases, one health. Digital health. Affiliated with both UiO and University of Munich.



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Expectation: Working in both Germany and Norway, she knows what happens in Germany in global health. Global health paradigm shift. Dichotomy of diseases. New challenges. Digital health. Multidisciplinary. Hope this is interesting for the Forum.

Katerini Storeng: associate professor at Centre for Development and Environment, UiO, and honorary associate professor at London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. She leads the research group “Power and Politics in Global Health”, and the seminar series, Global health unpacked, with monthly events that draw 20-30 participants. Leads “Network for social science” Expectation: align Forum better with other networks, as there are multiple networks in Norway. Clarification of the aims of the different networks. Better alignment of conferences. Radical interdisciplinary. More social sciences.

Gunilla Kulla: Public health nurse. Associate professor, nursing and health science faculty, Nord University. Teaches bachelor and master students. Nord University does not have global health institute or faculty yet, but have people working with global health issues. Gunilla has been active in recruiting new members – there is a lot of interest at Nord University in the Forum.

Dawit Shawel Abebe: associate professor at Department of Nursing and Health Promotion, Oslo Metropolitan University, Oslo Met. Background in public health, mental health, adolescent and mental health in immigrants. Oslo Met has started a global health network, with the aim to make a centre or institute to promote global health in research and education. Expectation: Forum can be a platform for global health issues, non-communicable diseases, and mental health.

Mahima Venkateswaran: PhD-candidate based at FHI, cluster for global health. PhD-study: E-registries. Evaluating health interventions. She is finishing her PhD these days at Centre for Intervention Science in Maternal and Child Health, UiB. Expectation: Looking forward to understanding where Forum stands in relation to other groups in Norway. The board is in a position where it can shape the Forum in relation to Global Health Norway and other channels, and individual membership.

Håkon A. Bolkan: Works as surgeon at St. Olavs Hospital, and has a Postdoc position at NTNU. Experience from non-governmental sector and surgical training in West Africa. PhD from this area in surgical competency. Expectation: Hopes to develop Forum as a platform to influence policy makers in Norway, platform for working towards common goals.

33/19 More members of Forum, how should we go about achieving that?

Status: 129 registered members by 8/5/2019

Plans to make brochure to increase membership. There was a discussion on how to reach new members.

-Use existing channels such as “Women in Global Health” mailing lists. It is important to explain and emphasize what is unique to Forum, and the benefits of membership.

-Social media platforms. Create a Facebook page or –group? Create a Twitter account? This can be effective to reach individuals.

Until next time – decide on social media presence.



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34/19 Globvac conference in 2020; the arrangement is led by NIPH (FHI).

Status by F. Forland.

Frode Forland: There were two bidders, NIPH won. They will cooperate with Centre for Global Health, UiO, led by Andrea Winkler.

Date for the conference is to be decided, but it will most likely be early in the first week of May 2020, to have time for the following PhD-conference later the same week.

Topic: Looking back at the Globvac programme, what has been achieved?

The future of global health research 15 years from now. Andrea Winkler will be leader of the scientific committee.

Congratulations on winning the bid.

35/19 Forum meetings on Wednesdays 1200-1300, does that suit all?

Forum meetings are usually at lunch hours: 1200-1300. We try to keep Wednesdays as meeting day for now.

The secretariat suggest a list of meeting dates for the rest of the year, and present at the next meeting.

Next meeting June 5 1200-1300.