

Minutes of the board meeting in Helsinki 13 January 2015

Present: Sigurður M. Magnússon (Chair), Eva Simic, Jorma Aurela, Ole Harbitz, Steen Hoe, Finn Ugletveit, Nici Bergroth, Kaare Ulbak, Jens-Peter Lynov, Annelie Bergman, Olga German, Timo Vanttola, Atle Valseth, Raimo Mustonen, Karin Andgren, Kasper Andersson and Finn Physant (meeting secretary).

Apologies: Tarja Ikäheimonen.

1 Opening

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The Chair expressed many thanks to the hosts Jorma Aurela and the Ministry of Employment and the Economy. A special welcome was given to Raimo Mustonen, who in this meeting replaced Tarja Ikäheimonen.

2 Practical remarks

Practical remarks about the meeting were given by the Chair and the host. Finn Physant was appointed meeting secretary.

3 Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved. The Chair and Jorma Aurela proposed as agenda item 14: Possible alignment of NKS research activities (B-part) with EURATOM research activities. Everyone agreed to this.

4 Minutes of last board meeting (Copenhagen, 10 June 2014)

The minutes were approved. Actions noted in the appendix of the minutes of the last board meeting will be noted in parenthesis in these minutes.

5 News since last board meeting

a. Report from the owners' group meeting

Jorma Aurela had reported from the meeting of the owners' group at the dinner the evening before the board meeting. There had been three issues on the agenda of the meeting.

1. The financial situation.

The owners of NKS are not in a position to provide more funding for NKS in

2015. Therefore the funding of R&B-activities needs to be reduced to about 3,4 MDKK for each area in order to have a reserve of about 1 MDKK.

2. Chairmanship of NKS.

There is an agreement that Sigurður Magnússon chairs the NKS to the end of 2016. The owners unanimously decided that he would continue as Chair of NKS from 2017 to the end of 2018.

3. Possible alignment of NKS research activities (B-part) with EURATOM research activities.

Jorma Aurela proposed that NKS looks at the possibility to align NKS research activities (B-part) with EURATOM research activities. The owners agreed to address the proposal at the board meeting (see item 14 Other issues).

b. News from board members' organisations

The members informed each other about relevant news.

c. Administrative news

Finn Physant informed the board that the policy document "This is NKS" had been updated according to the decision from the last board meeting. Karin Andgren presented a proposal for harmonization of R-research areas in different texts: "This is NKS", new 2015 folder, "Covered topics", web site NKS-R texts and CfP material (action C). The board took note of this.

Finn Physant noted that the "NKS Administrative Handbook" is still valid and updated. The handbook will be updated if needed.

Finn Physant presented the revision of the "Handbook for NKS applicants and activity leaders" especially the section "Who can apply" (action C). The formulation "The activity should involve organisations from at least 3 Nordic countries" was not found to be sufficiently specific, the intention being that a **proposal** should involve **applicant partners** from at least 3 Nordic countries even though only two countries can be accepted for R-proposals in special circumstances i.e. only competence in two Nordic countries. Further, a request had been made independently by two applicants in connection with writing of proposals for CfP 2015 for more clarity on how to apply proposal templates for proposals for continuation of ongoing activities. It was concluded that the PC's will provide the board with a proposal for revision of the current texts "Handbook for NKS applicants and activity leaders" (with special attention to sections 1.1, 1.4 and 2.4 as pointed out by Finn Ugletveit), "Instructions for applicants" and other relevant CfP material. A proposal for these revisions will be distributed by the end of March 2015 with a deadline for comments of end of April 2015.

It was suggested by Kaare Ulbak, that proposals for continuation of ongoing activities should in the future be required to contain a detailed overview of progress by the time of the new proposal on milestones and deliverables stated in the contract of the ongoing activity.

It was felt that this would enhance reviewers' overview of the potential usefulness of continuation of the activity, and it was agreed that the PC's would address this in the design of proposal forms for CfP 2016 as well as in guidance texts for the call.

6

Financial status

Finn Physant presented the distributed material: Financial status report and financial programme specification, both dated 15 December 2014 and both including the wording "Contracts signed, but not paid" (action B). At this date the reserve was estimated to approximately 1,27 MDKK. Solely due to the last month's development in exchange rates

the reserve must now be calculated approximately 0,41 MDKK lower. – The board took note of the financial situation.

7 Agreements

The following four agreements were prepared for the board's decision:

- R-part programme manager 2015 with Vattenfall
 - B-part programme manager 2015 with DTU Nutech
 - secretariat until 30 June 2016 with FRIT and
 - auditing for the accounts of 2014 with Dansk Revision.
- All these agreements were approved.

8 R-part: status and new activities

The PC-R presented the status of the ongoing activities. The work under NKS-R is progressing according to plan. All activities initiated in 2013 have been finally reported and there are no unfinished activities from earlier years. Twelve final reports for four NKS-R activities have been published since the last board meeting. Two seminars have been carried out since the last board meeting and two seminars will be carried out in January 2015. The PC-R presented the evaluation results and funding recommendation for CfP 2015 - a total of 16 proposals were received. After some discussion, the board agreed to fund the following activities in 2015 (all amounts in kDKK):

LESUN	600
PLANS	400
MODIG	300
L3PSA	340
ADdGROUND	500
DECOSE	460
ATR	300
COPSAR	500

The total budget for these 8 activities is 3400 kDKK.

9 B-part: status and new activities

The PC-B presented a status report for ongoing activities. The activities are progressing well. All activities started before 2014 are finalized. Of the twelve 2014 activities, 7 have been finalized, while 5 are expected to be finalized shortly. In addition to the final reports received from completed activities, a report has been received and published on the NKS website on a new voxel phantom available from NKS phantom library. This extra report describes a (for NKS cost-free) further development related to the 2011 NKS-B activity PIANOLIB. Three NKS-B seminars have been carried out in 2014.

The PC-B presented the evaluation results and funding recommendation for CfP 2015 – a total of 13 (of them 6 continued) proposals were received. After some discussion the board agreed to fund the following activities in 2015 (all amounts in kDKK):

FAUNA	345
NORCON	544
STANDMETHOD	317
EFMARE	408
GAMFAC	417

RAPID-TECH	317
NORCOP-COAST	145
IDEA	181
CONCORE	363
NUFORNOR	363

The total budget for these 10 activities will be 3400 kDKK.

Ole Harbitz suggested that a statement regarding max duration of projects and maximum yearly and total funding, which could be expected for a NKS activity should be included in the instructions for applicants. This should apply to both the R and B areas. The PC's will propose such a statement at the next board meeting.

10 Budget for 2015

Finn Physant presented the distributed budget proposal of 2 January 2015. – Only one revision had been made – the contribution from Fennovoima had been raised to 7,750 EUR according to the confirmation from Nici Bergroth. - All contributions were noted to and confirmed by the owners' and co-financiers' representatives. - Olga German confirmed that the contribution from Forsmark is raised with 3% compared to 2014 (to 13,150 EUR), whereas the contribution from Ringhals will be the same as in 2014 – namely 12,000 EUR. Olga German will soon inform Finn Physant about this year's contribution from OKG (a 3% raise to 12,450 EUR is now expected). - The budget approved by the board is attached in appendix A.

Finn Ugletveit asked for a more readable presentation of the figures concerning the reserve. This new presentation is included in appendix A.

It was discussed, which size the reserve should have. It was decided to take up this question during the June meeting with the auditor's participation.

11 Information activities

Finn Physant informed the board about the status of the new website, which was opened in May 2012, NewsLetters etc. The new website is still considered to be a good everyday working tool. User statistics have now been obtained for more than two years and were presented. There is a clear tendency that electronic news and special events (meetings, seminars etc.) attract more website users. Three NewsFlashes and one NewsLetter have been distributed since the last board meeting including news on the last board meeting, CFP 2015, new reports, upcoming seminars etc. There is a list of approximately 480 e-mail addresses, to which the electronic letters are sent. A new and updated version of the pamphlet "Nordic Nuclear Safety Research" will be published 2015.

12 NKS seminar on current trends in nuclear and radiological safety 2016

A program committee for the NKS seminar 12th-13th January 2016 has been formed. The members are: Patrick Isaksson (SSM), Eldri Holo (NRPA), Ulla Ehrnsten (VTT) and Kresten Breddam (SST). The PC-R presented the outcome of the first program committee meeting. Working title of the seminar is: "Nuclear risk assessment and preparedness: the Nordic view", sub-title: "Lessons learned from Fukushima and how do we proceed". The idea is to include six to seven sessions with different themes/topics. There could be key note speaker(s) for each session + international aspect (e.g. experiences from Fukushima) + presentation of relevant NKS activity(ies). Target group: NKS objective is networking for

the Nordic countries. The target group is both young and more senior professionals, both RnB side and both industry and academia. (I.e. the target group is broad, with focus on Nordic networking). Suggested venue is Finlandshuset in Stockholm.

The seminar outline was discussed by the board. The board emphasized the importance of clear objectives and it was decided that the PCs will present a set of objectives for the seminar at the board meeting in June. Reasons may include:

- Show NKS activities
- Plant new ideas for future activities
- Bring together people interested in the NKS-R and the NKS-B programme

Jorma Aurela expressed a wish for more “selling” topic titles. The board agreed to this and the PCs will present updated topic titles at the next board meeting.

The seminar title is suggested to be updated and include a forward focus. What are the challenges that lay ahead?

It is important to keep a balance between NKS-R related topics and NKS-B related topics and where possible address cross overs. Topics should be chosen in such a way that the programme catches the interest of most of the audience most of the time.

The topic named “stress tests” should be more focused on sharing information on improvements at the Nordic NPPs due to Fukushima.

Other ideas from the board for interesting presentations at the seminar include:

- Are authorities and industry spending too much resources on peer reviews?
- Safety of NPP’s in Northeast Europe. Challenges ahead.
- Fukushima status – today . Why is it so important to continue work on L3PSA and so on. International comprehensive Fukushima report(s) can be presented.

Suggestions of NKS-R projects that can be presented during the session on “Defense-in-depth” are: DeCOSE (steam explosion), ADdGROUND and MODIG

The board wanted an expansion on the safety culture topic.

Can NORCON be finalized before the NKS seminar? The interest will probably be high for this report.

Relevant introductory and summarizing presentations should be held. An idea for an introductory presentation is new builds in the Nordic and near-Nordic region. A summarizing presentation could be on challenges taken up at different IAEA conf/reports or in ICRP work.

The key-note speakers should be highly ranked.

The PCs will organize additional program committee meeting(s) and present an updated and more detailed seminar program at the June board meeting (action F).

13

Request from the Nordic Council of Ministers

The PC-B presented the current status on the request from the Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM) for commissioned project work to identify possible needs for further Nordic collaboration on radioactive waste issues (explicitly excluding wastes from the nuclear industry and emergencies). At the NKS Board meeting in January 2014, it was decided to convey the proposal for consideration of the directors of the Nordic radiation safety authorities. These recommended at their next meeting in August 2014 that the work be undertaken by NKS. Specialists representing the authorities in each Nordic country will thus meet in Copenhagen in the Spring of 2015, and provide an overview of the national situations and discuss whether there are needs for further collaboration. If needs are identified, proposals for new collaboration plans on specific sub-topics will be outlined. On

the background of the results of the meeting, a short recommendation report will be written, including the national accounts as an appendix. Shortly after the Board meeting in January 2015, a contract between NKS and NCM has been signed. NCM will pay NKS 100,000 DKK for the work, which will be used to cover expenses for national experts and direct meeting costs. The directors of the Nordic radiation safety authorities will identify national participants at their earliest convenience, where this has not already been done. A date for the meeting in Copenhagen will be proposed in the near future.

14 Other issues

Possible alignment of NKS research activities (B part) with EURATOM research activities:

Jorma Aurela had proposed at the owners meeting that NKS looks at the possibility to align NKS research activities (B part) with EURATOM research activities and the owners had agreed to address the proposal at the board meeting under agenda item 14 Other issues.

Raimo Mustonen introduced the topic and Jorma Aurela provided further information. The proposal was met with an open mind from the board members and it was agreed to set up a small working group to explore the feasibility and practicality of such an alignment.

Members of the working group are: the NKS Chair, the PC's, Per Strand and Sisko Saloma (to be confirmed by Jorma/Raimo). The Chair requested that Sisko be the secretary of the working group and that her first task would be to develop further the ideas outlined by Raimo and Jorma and submit to the other members of the working group ASAP.

15 Next meeting

Next meeting will be in Copenhagen 12 June 2015.

16 End of meeting

Many thanks for a good meeting were expressed by the chairman – especially to the host Jorma Aurela. Special sincere thanks were given to Finn Ugletveit and Kaare Ulbak, who both are retiring, for their cooperation and valuable contributions to the NKS.

Sigurður M. Magnússon
Chairman

Finn Physant
Meeting secretary

Appendices:

A: Budget decision for 2015

B: Actions from the board meeting

Appendix A - NKS budget decision for 2015 - 13 January 2015

Budgets	Budget for 2015	Budget for 2015	Budget for 2014
	EUR	DKK	DKK
R-part			
Activities	456.768	3.400.000	3.750.000
Fee PC	65.828	490.000	480.000
Travels PC	6.717	50.000	50.000
Coordination	6.717	50.000	50.000
Young scientists' travel	6.717	50.000	50.000
R total	542.748	4.040.000	4.380.000
B-part			
Activities	470.203	3.500.000	4.500.000
Fee PC	65.828	490.000	480.000
Travels PC	6.717	50.000	50.000
Coordination	6.717	50.000	50.000
Young scientists' travel	6.717	50.000	50.000
B total	556.182	4.140.000	5.130.000
Seminar 2016			
Seminar 2016	13.434	100.000	0
Seminar 2016 total	13.434	100.000	0
Translation project			
Translation project	0	0	149.206
Translation total	0	0	149.206
Common			
Common various according to specification	33.586	250.000	250.000
Common total	33.586	250.000	250.000
Others			
Fee Secretariat	86.652	645.000	630.000
Fee Chairman incl. travels	61.798	460.000	450.000
Travels Secretariat	1.343	10.000	10.000
Others total	149.793	1.115.000	1.090.000
TOTAL	1.295.744	9.645.000	10.999.206
Expected incomes according to app. 1	1.163.897	8.663.585	8.856.884
Surplus	-131.847	-981.415	-2.142.322

Any deficits to be covered by the reserve available for the board, which according to the financial status report of 15 December 2014 is ca.:	1.270.000,00
Proposed budget for 2015	-981.414,70
Present reserve and surplus	288.585,30
Funding reserved for use in 2014, but not used, will amount to ca.:	300.000,00
Loss due to the development in exchange rates 2014-2015 ca.:	-410.000,00
Old reservations from before 2012, not used, amount to ca.:	900.000,00
Total reserve end of January 2015: ca. DKK:	1.078.585,30
Total reserve end of January 2015: ca. EUR:	144.901,03

Specification of "Common" for 2015

	2015	2015	2014
	EUR	DKK	DKK
Common			
Reports, materials etc.	3.694	27.500	28.750
Postage, fees	1.008	7.500	7.500
Equipment	2.015	15.000	15.000
Internet	12.091	90.000	90.000
Auditing, consulting	8.061	60.000	58.750
Information material	4.030	30.000	30.000
Various expenses	2.687	20.000	20.000
Common total	33.586	250.000	250.000

Appendix 1 for budget decision for 2015

Pledge for funding in 2015 - Incomes

	Proposal for 2015	Proposal for 2015	Actual for 2014
	EUR	DKK	DKK
SSM	480.209	3.574.480	3.801.980
TEM	340.000	2.530.824	2.536.502
BRS	57.400	427.263	428.221
GR	24.000	178.646	179.047
NRPA	141.004	1.049.580	1.128.885
Total EUR / DKK	1.042.613	7.760.793	8.074.635

SSM contribution SEK	4.550.000
NRPA contribution NOK	1.275.000

	EUR	DKK	DKK
Fortum	25.250	187.951	182.777
TVO	25.250	187.951	182.777
Fennovoima	7.750	57.688	55.952
IFE	12.000	89.323	85.793
Forsmark	13.150	97.883	95.268
Ringhals	12.000	89.323	89.524
OKG	12.450	92.673	90.158
NCM	13.434	100.000	0
Total EUR / DKK	121.284	902.792	782.249
Complete EUR / DKK	1.163.897	8.663.585	8.856.884

Exchange rates 2014/15:

NKS 2015:	
DKK	100,0000
EUR	7,4436
NOK	0,8232
SEK	0,7856
NKS 2014:	
SEK 2014	0,8356
EUR 2014	7,4603
NOK 2014	0,8854

Appendix B

Actions from the board meeting

(if nothing else is mentioned to be taken by the coordination group):

- A. Ref. item 5: the PC's will provide the board with a proposal for revision of the current texts "Handbook for NKS applicants and activity leaders" (with special attention to sections 1.1, 1.4 and 2.4 as pointed out by Finn Ugletveit), "Instructions for applicants" and other relevant CfP material. A proposal for these revisions will be distributed by the end of March 2015 with a deadline for comments of end of April 2015.
- B. Ref. item 5: the PC's would address this (activity continuation) in the design of proposal forms for CfP 2016 as well as in guidance texts for the call.
- C. Ole Harbitz suggested that a statement regarding max duration and funding, which could be expected for a NKS activity should be included in the instructions for applicants. The PC's will propose such a statement at the next board meeting.
- D. Ref. item 10: It was discussed, which size the reserve should have. It was decided to take up this question during the June meeting with the auditor's participation.
- E. Ref. item 11: A new and updated version of the pamphlet "Nordic Nuclear Safety Research" will be published 2015.
- F. Ref. item 12: The PCs will organize additional program committee meeting(s) and present an updated set of objectives and a more detailed draft seminar program at the June board meeting.
- G. Ref. item 13: The directors of the Nordic radiation safety authorities will identify national participants at their earliest convenience, where this has not already been done. A date for the meeting in Copenhagen will be proposed in the near future.
- H. Ref. item 14: The Chair requested that Sisko be the secretary of the working group and that her first task would be to develop further the ideas outlined by Raimo and Jorma and submit to the other members of the working group ASAP.