

Minutes of the board meeting in Copenhagen 29 May 2012

Present: Sigurður M. Magnússon (chair), Lars Gunsell, Jorma Aurela, Ole Harbitz, Steen Hoe, Tarja Ikäheimonen, Finn Ugletveit, Synnöve Sundell-Bergman, Atle Valseth, Kaare Ulbak, Jens-Peter Lynov, Timo Vanttola, Kasper Andersson, Kaisu Leino, Palle Sundstrøm (auditor – until meeting item 5) and Finn Physant (meeting secretary).

Apologies: Nici Bergroth

1 Opening

The chair opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The chair expressed his warm thanks to the hosts Kaare Ulbak and SIS. Special welcomes were given to the new board members Jens-Peter Lynov, DTU and Timo Vanttola, VTT. A special welcome was also given to the new programme manager Kaisu Leino, Fortum and at the same time many thanks were given to her predecessor Karoliina Ekström.

2 Practical remarks

Practical remarks about the meeting were given by the host Kaare Ulbak. Finn Physant was appointed meeting secretary.

3 Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

4 Accounts 2011

The auditor Palle Sundstrøm presented the distributed material: the Financial statements and the Long-form audit report.

Lars Gunsell pointed out, that the extra contribution from SSM of SEK 160.000 at the end of 2011 was a single extraordinary 2011 contribution. This was made to compensate for not increasing SSM's contribution for 2012.

Finn Ugletveit asked if efficiency improvements from the use of IT was possible. Palle Sundstrøm answered, that there was not much to gain in efficiency from IT use.

With the above comments the board recommended the 2011 accounts for the approval of the owners.

5 Financial status for the current year

Finn Physant presented the distributed material: the Financial status report and the Financial programme specification, both dated 14 May, 2012. The reserve at present was estimated to approximately 1.8 MDKK.

Atle Valseth and Finn Ugletveit asked about a specific line in the programme specification under the R programme, "Activity from 2008". Finn Physant answered, that there were only historical reasons for using this. It was concluded, that this line will be renamed as the line covers all the ongoing activities of the R programme.

6 Minutes of last board meeting (Oslo, 11 January 2012)

The chair noted two misprints in the draft minutes. Under item 13 Fukushima seminar "January 2012" will be exchanged with "January 2013" and in Appendix A Budget decision for 2012 the B-part activities "DKK 3.300.000" will be exchanged with "DKK 3.320.000" according to the actual board decision.

With these corrections the minutes were approved.

7 News since last board meeting

a) Report from the owners' group

Ole Harbitz informed the board that the future chair's contract had been discussed between the owners, as the contract with Sigurður M. Magnússon ends in December 2012. The owners are really happy with the present handling of NKS and want continuation, so the owners' conclusion is to enter a new contract with Sigurður M. Magnússon aiming at a contract period of two plus two years from 2013 to 2016.

Lars Gunsell informed the board about the status of the Swedish board members. Synnöve Sundell-Bergman will leave the board after this meeting, which means that two new members are to be appointed. Lars Gunsell stated that the members will be appointed before the next board meeting.

b) News from board members organisations

The members informed each other about relevant news.

c) Administrative news

The chair gave a summary of the status of the policy and administrative documents. A new "Handbook for NKS applicants and activity leaders" has been written by the PC's and Kasper Andersson made a short presentation of the handbook, which focuses on what can be useful for both applicants and activity leaders. Links have been made to relevant information. The handbook was very well received by the board.

An updated version of the "NKS Administrative Handbook" has been made by Finn Physant, who made a short presentation of the handbook, which now includes an attachment with a run down of the NKS calendar year from an administrator's point of view.

The board members are welcome to comment on the two handbooks until 15 August.

After this document summary the chair indicated that the two handbooks in connection with parts of the website and pamphlet also could cover the need for a policy document.

Lars Gunsell underlined the fact that the Swedish 2008 version of the policy document is still valid and correct. The Swedish version has as an important goal for NKS to contribute to a common Nordic view on nuclear and radiation safety. If this goal is dropped the justification for NKS to have its own research administration will be much weaker. The goal should be kept and made very clear in the pamphlet and other NKS promotional material.

The chair took note of this and concluded that the coordination group for the next board meeting will consider if the policy document should be revised in English and how this important goal can be incorporated into the NKS pamphlet and other promotional material.

8 **R-part: status**

With many recommendations and warm welcome Jorma Aurela presented and introduced to the board the new R-part manager Kaisu Leino from Fortum. Kaisu works as a design engineer and holds a masters degree from Lappeenranta University.

The chair referred to the extensive written status overview from the former programme manager Karoliina Ekström and Kaisu Leino made a brief presentation of the status of the ongoing activities. All projects are running according to plan.

9 **B-part: status and new activities**

Kasper Andersson presented the status of the ongoing NKS-B activities. All new activities are running according to the plan, and all activities that started before 2012 are finalised or nearing finalisation. The PONPP2 activity has still not started since partners have not yet been able to commit the required resources, and no contract has been signed.

10 **Information activities**

Finn Physant informed the board about the website, newsletters etc. – The report part of the new website with filter, search function etc. was finalised during April and the website itself was announced open in a NewsFlash 3 May. Besides this NewFlash two more have been distributed since the last board meeting. The one of 13 January was a short report from the last board meeting and the one of 3 April included B and R reporting with new published reports. A NewsLetter with further news from the programmes was distributed one week before this meeting. – A new updated version of the pamphlet "Nordic Nuclear Safety Research" has been published and was distributed to the board. In connection with the change of programme manager it was concluded that a new pamphlet had to be made and it should be published in due time before the upcoming Fukushima seminar. If new policy statements should be part of this new pamphlet, the coordination group would ask the board to comment on such statements.

11 **Fukushima seminar**

A draft of the NKS Fukushima seminar programme dated 11 May was presented to the board by the PC-B. The draft was well received but at the same time the need for a clear focus and more cross over was stressed.

The following is an extract from the discussion:

There was general support for a key speaker from UNSCEAR but ICRP was also mentioned (Abel González). There was a proposal to consider to have a key speaker that could address what happened at the plant.

The usefulness of having 5 individual presentations (one for each of the Nordic NPP's) was questioned as the presentations might be repetitive.

It was proposed that the order in the programme of topics 2 and 3 should be reversed, so that the discrepancies in Nordic perception and response would be presented prior to suggestions for improvement of co-operation.

It was proposed that risk communication was an issue that merited discussion at the seminar and the importance of adequate measurement and monitoring systems was emphasized. Use

of CTBTO data was mentioned and the question asked if the Nordic measuring capability was sufficient.

It was agreed that it would be useful to present at the seminar a brief overview of NKS activities that have been initiated on the background of the Fukushima accident.

It was agreed that the Swedish radioecologists could hold their seminar in direct conjunction (either before or after) of the NKS seminar but at no cost for NKS. This message will be delivered to Mats Isaksson who had contacted the PC-B regarding this possibility.

SSM will assist with the practical arrangement of the seminar and book a suitable venue that can hold up to 150 participants. NKS will cover the cost of the venue and offer coffee to all participants but neither dinner nor lunch for others than those directly invited to the seminar since there is no registration fee for the seminar.

The possibility of an official press release/conference after the seminar was suggested.

The draft programme will be further developed by the PC's assisted by other members of the programme group in close co-operation with the chair who may involve members of the NKS board in the work. A final draft is to be presented to the board by 1 September.

12 Research activities in 2013

The chair informed the board about this year's call for proposals (CfP). There will be a CfP for both the B- and R-part opening on 1 September with deadline 15 October. The deadline for submission of evaluations from board members will be 15 November and the next coordination meeting will take place end of November.

The board agreed that the budget for each programme's activities is set at 3.5 MDKK.

The chair asked the owners if the funding in 2013 can be expected to be as the funding in 2012 maybe with a raise of 2.5%.

Jorma Aurela stated that the contribution of the Finnish owner for 2013 will be 340.000 EUR - 10.000 EUR more than in 2012

The other owners expressed their hopes for a contribution from their organisations of at least the amount of 2012.

The chair will ask the co-financiers for their 2013 contributions during the summer.

13 Other issues

The chair informed that he had been approached by the NSFS with a request for financial support. NSFS wants to maintain the legacy of Bo Lindell and make his monumental work on the history of radiation protection in 4 volumes available to a larger audience by translation from Swedish to English. One of the volumes deals with the Nordic cooperation in radiation protection since 1950. The cost of the project is estimated to be around 120 000 EUR according to estimates from translation bureaus. NSFS has established a working group with Jack Valentin, chair, Sigurður M. Magnússon, Sisko Salomaa and Wendla Paile with a mandate to formulate the translation process including a time schedule, formulate a model for financing, estimate the costs for a translation including the costs for internet publishing "Print on demand". There will be a project group of at least one member from each of the Nordic countries to oversee the translation and ensure a translation of high quality.

The idea is to make the translation available electronically for free with a "Print on demand" internet publishing at a price. It is proposed that the electronic translation be hosted by the NKS website which will enhance the international visibility of NKS. The NSFS is able to cover 25 % of the translation cost up to 30 000 EUR and asks for financial support from NKS as possible.

The chair reminded the board that NKS had previously supported the NSFS with seed money for the successful Helsinki conference and proposed that NKS would support this activity with 33% of the cost up to 40 000 EUR if NSFS could obtain the remaining funds needed. He then asked for the views of the board members.

There was strong support for the proposal in the board and that this was a decision to be taken by the board directly and not through a CFP process. It was proposed that the Nordic Authorities, especially SSM for historical reasons, be contacted with regard to provide support for the translation. There was also a proposal that Nordic Foundations in all the Nordic countries be contacted. The Danish owner was not in a position to express an official view on the proposal since it had not been discussed at his organization.

The board accepted the proposal of the chair. Further information will be needed from the NSFS prior to any payment from NKS. The chair will inform the NSFS of the outcome of the discussion and act as contact point between NKS and NSFS in this matter.

14 **Next meeting**

Next meeting will be in Stockholm 7 January (dinner) and 8 January (meeting) 2013.

15 **End of meeting**

Many thanks for a good meeting – especially to the hosts SIS – were expressed by the chair. – Sincere thanks were given to Karoliina Ekström for all her work, enthusiasm and cooperation as R programme manager over the latest year. Special thanks were given to Synnöve Sundell-Bergmann for her participation, enthusiasm and cooperation as board member for many years.

Sigurður M. Magnússon
Chair

Finn Physant
Meeting secretary