

## Minutes of the Board meeting in Copenhagen 15 January 2024

Present: Per Seltborg (Chair, SSM), Sigurður M. Magnússon (IRSA), Carsten Israelson (DEMA), Pia Keski-Jaskari (STUK), Carol Robinson (DSA), Elísabet D. Ólafsdóttir (IRSA), Ninos Garis (SSM), Teemu Siiskonen (STUK), Kasper Andersson (DTU) and Finn Physant (meeting secretary, FRIT).

Excuses: Ari Leppänen (STUK)

- 1           Opening  
Per opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.
- 2           Practical remarks  
Practical remarks about the meeting were given by the host, Carsten, DEMA. Finn was appointed meeting secretary.
- 3           Approval of the agenda  
The agenda was approved.
- 4           Minutes of last board meeting (2024-06-06)  
The minutes were approved.
- 5           News since last Board meeting
  - a.       Report by the Chairman  
Per noted that everything planned had been prepared for this meeting.
  - b.       News from Board members' organisations  
The members informed each other about relevant news.
  - c.       Administrative news  
No news.
- 6           Financial status  
Finn presented the distributed material: Financial status report and financial programme specification, both dated 17 December 2024. At this date the reserve was estimated to approximately 510,000 DKK. It was concluded that the financial status was as planned. The Board took note of the financial situation.

7 **Contracts**

The following four contracts had been prepared for the board's decision:

- R-part programme manager 2025 with STUK
- B-part programme manager 2025 with DTU
- Secretariat from 1 August 2025 to 31 July 2026 with FRIT and
- Auditing of the accounts for 2024 with Dansk Revision.

All these agreements were approved by the board.

8 **R-part: status**

As follow up from the Advisory Group meeting yesterday the Chair asked for any questions or comments about the R-part status. With reference to the R-status presentation given by Ari during yesterday's AG meeting, the board decided to issue a cancellation letter for an old not finalized activity. The Chair will issue this letter. Remaining questions and comments were handled under meeting item 10.

9 **B-part: status**

As follow up from the Advisory Group meeting yesterday the Chair asked for any questions or comments about the B-part status. Remaining questions and comments were handled under meeting item 10.

10 **CfP 2025 evaluation and funding of new activities**

R-part: The Board confirmed that the maximum funding available for projects should continue to be 600 kDKK, as specified in the "Handbook for NKS applicants and activity leaders". The Board agreed that funding should be awarded to those proposals receiving the highest scores but that it was also important to ensure that the funded programme includes a broad range of topics. To achieve this balance, the Board decided that the following projects should be funded (all amounts in kDKK):

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| FEMMA 2025   | 500 |
| REPoUSSES    | 500 |
| SAFECOM      | 600 |
| CADESU       | 600 |
| NORDIC-Smart | 600 |
| POSEIDON     | 458 |

The total budget for these 6 activities is 3258 kDKK.

B-part: The Advisory Group had at its 14 January meeting recommended the funding of the 7 proposals with the highest scores, which was within the limit of the total 2025 NKS budget, as presented by Kasper as the result of the evaluation process.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Advisory Group including these following 7 activities in 2025 (all amounts in kDKK):

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| PROMORC      | 564 |
| GammaA1_2025 | 444 |
| DRAWN        | 550 |

|         |     |
|---------|-----|
| MoNi II | 366 |
| REMSEM  | 312 |
| EVNUDET | 480 |
| EMFREM  | 340 |

The total budget for these 7 activities is 3056 kDKK.

#### 11 Budget for 2025

Finn Physant presented the distributed budget proposal of 2 January 2025. - This proposal was approved by the Board including an exchange of R-activities for 3000 kDKK with 3258 kDKK. B-activities for 3000 kDKK were exchanged with 3056 kDKK. Furthermore the line "Old reservations..." was adjusted according to the NKS-R status conclusion (meeting item 8). The budget decision is attached to these minutes in appendix A.

#### 12 NKS R- and B-seminar 2025

Kasper presented the draft seminar program and received suggestions for updates and development of the program. Kasper, Teemu and Ari will assure the final confirmations from speakers. With these updates, development and confirmations the seminar is now ready for the next NewsFlash announcement and opening of registrations for participation.

#### 13 The NKS framework

No changes to the frameworks had been suggested. But with inspiration from yesterday's Advisory Group meeting Per suggested that the R- and B-framework documents could be merged into one document. Per will develop a proposal.

#### 14 The evaluation process (both for proposals and final reports)

It was concluded that the new evaluation process used for this and last year's funding did work well. It was realised, also based on the inputs from the Advisory Group, that the PC's next year should prepare as meeting material both the scores and comments to proposals to the Advisory Group and board before the January meetings to ease the decisions. It was concluded that the document "Instructions for evaluators..." should be revised again. Especially additional comments and strengths and weaknesses as comments should be considered.

#### 15 Co-financier involvement in NKS-B projects

The board was in favour of supporting the Vattenfall initiative presented by Mikael during yesterday's advisory group meeting. Carsten and Kasper will participate in the workshop tentatively planned for the day after the R- and B-seminar at Vattenfall's headquarter in Stockholm 23 May 2025. NewsFlashes can be used for workshop purposes including reporting from the workshop.

#### 16 Information activities

Finn presented the document "Short note on status of the website, NewsLetters etc". The running user statistics for 2024 were presented. Since the June board meeting 5 NewsFlashes have been distributed.

The list of addresses to which NKS newsletters are distributed counts more than 450 addresses. A NewsFlash will be distributed no later than a week after this meeting. NKS now has 262 followers on LinkedIn.

17 Strategic discussions

- Preparations for the next contract period (2026-2029)
  - New contract to be signed August 2025. Per asked for proposals for changes. For this work the possibility shall be looked into to work with common documents on a common work platform. Important documents: the agreement itself, the policy document "This is NKS" and "Rules of procedure". This is to be started about 1 March.
- Content and structure of NKS program
  - (this was not discussed)
- Principles for programme funding
  - Per presented a model for future split of contributions from each country/authority. This was a first approach. Per asked for the board members' inputs concerning the future funding split. Per will develop a proposal for the chefsgruppe's meeting in August.
- Structure and forms of the management board
  - With reference to the rotating chairmanship Per asked for candidates to become his successor one year from now.
- Structure of NKS
  - After a short discussion Per concluded that there was no need of changes.

Per suggested a two hours meeting March and/or April before the next board meeting for the continuation of the strategic discussions. The meeting was fixed for Thursday 13 March 12 o'clock CET.

18 Other issues

Elísabet announced that she from this meeting is Geislavarnir's board member. Sigurður will act as her advisor.

19 Next meeting

The next NKS Board meeting is planned as a face to face meeting in Stockholm on 20 May, the day before the seminar, in Stockholm at SSM. The PC's and the Secretariat will also participate. The working dinner is planned for 19 May.

20 End of meeting

Per thanked all participants for a good meeting and especially Carsten and DEMA for the fine meeting arrangements over two days and it was agreed already now to plan for the same meetings January 2026: Working dinner 12 January, AG meeting 13 January and Board meeting 14 January.

Per Seltborg  
Chairman

Finn Physant  
Meeting secretary

Appendices:

A: Budget decision for 2025 dated 15 January 2025

## **APPENDIX A: NKS budget for 2025 - decision 15 January 2025**

| Budgets                                     | Budget for 2025  | Budget for 2025  | Budget for 2024  |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | EUR              | DKK              | DKK              |
| <b>R-part</b>                               |                  |                  |                  |
| Activities                                  | 436.729          | 3.258.000        | 3.377.000        |
| Fee PC                                      | 41.314           | 308.200          | 308.200          |
| Travels PC                                  | 2.011            | 15.000           | 15.000           |
| Coordination/Young scientists' travel       | 2.011            | 15.000           | 15.000           |
| <b>R total</b>                              | <b>482.064</b>   | <b>3.596.200</b> | <b>3.715.200</b> |
| <b>B-part</b>                               |                  |                  |                  |
| Activities                                  | 409.651          | 3.056.000        | 3.018.600        |
| Fee PC                                      | 41.314           | 308.200          | 308.200          |
| Travels PC                                  | 2.011            | 15.000           | 15.000           |
| Coordination/Young scientists' travel       | 2.011            | 15.000           | 15.000           |
| <b>B total</b>                              | <b>454.987</b>   | <b>3.394.200</b> | <b>3.356.800</b> |
| <b>Seminars</b>                             |                  |                  |                  |
| 2025 seminar                                | 20.107           | 150.000          | 0                |
| <b>Seminars total</b>                       | <b>20.107</b>    | <b>150.000</b>   | <b>0</b>         |
| <b>Common</b>                               |                  |                  |                  |
| Common various according to specification   | 24.129           | 180.000          | 180.000          |
| <b>Common total</b>                         | <b>24.129</b>    | <b>180.000</b>   | <b>180.000</b>   |
| <b>Secretariat</b>                          |                  |                  |                  |
| Fee Secretariat                             | 81.434           | 607.500          | 607.500          |
| Travels Secretariat                         | 1.005            | 7.500            | 7.500            |
| <b>Others total</b>                         | <b>82.440</b>    | <b>615.000</b>   | <b>615.000</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                | <b>1.063.727</b> | <b>7.935.400</b> | <b>7.867.000</b> |
| <b>Expected incomes according to app. 1</b> | <b>963.985</b>   | <b>7.191.331</b> | <b>7.319.858</b> |
| <b>Surplus</b>                              | <b>-99.741</b>   | <b>-744.069</b>  | <b>-547.142</b>  |

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Any deficits to be covered by the reserve available for the board, which according to the financial status report of 17 December 2024 is: | 512.308,00        |
| Proposed budget for 2025  | -744.069,00       |
| Present reserve and surplus/deficit   | -231.761,00       |
| Interest income   | 30.000,00         |
| Funding reserved for use in 2024, but not used, will amount to ca.:   | 69.000,00         |
| Gain/Loss due to the development in exchange rates 2024-2025 ca.:   | -130.000,00       |
| Old reservations from before 2023, not claimed, amount to:  | 900.620,00        |
| <b>Total reserve end of January 2025: ca. DKK:</b>  | <b>637.859,00</b> |
| <b>Total reserve end of January 2025: ca. EUR:</b>  | <b>85.503,89</b>  |

## Specification of "Common" for 2025

|                         | 2025          | 2025           | 2024           |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
|                         | EUR           | DKK            | DKK            |
| <b>Common</b>           |               |                |                |
| Reports, materials etc. | 2.011         | 15.000         | 11.875         |
| Bank fees etc.          | 1.005         | 7.500          | 10.000         |
| Equipment               | 1.039         | 7.750          | 10.000         |
| Internet                | 9.383         | 70.000         | 70.000         |
| Auditing, consulting    | 7.339         | 54.750         | 53.125         |
| Information material    | 1.340         | 10.000         | 10.000         |
| Various expenses        | 2.011         | 15.000         | 15.000         |
| <b>Common total</b>     | <b>24.129</b> | <b>180.000</b> | <b>180.000</b> |

## Appendix 1 for budget for 2025

### Pledge for funding in 2025 - Incomes

|                        | Pledge for 2025 | Pledge for 2025  | Actual for 2024  |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
|                        | EUR             | DKK              | DKK              |
| SSM                    | 396.143         | 2.955.225        | 3.056.235        |
| TEM                    | 360.000         | 2.685.600        | 2.683.044        |
| BRS                    | 50.268          | 375.000          | 375.000          |
| GR                     | 13.405          | 100.000          | 100.000          |
| DSA                    | 67.539          | 503.840          | 530.400          |
| <b>Total EUR / DKK</b> | <b>887.355</b>  | <b>6.619.665</b> | <b>6.744.679</b> |

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| SSM contribution SEK | 4.550.000 |
| TEM contribution EUR | 360.000   |
| DSA contribution NOK | 800.000   |
| BRS contribution DKK | 375.000   |
| GR contribution DKK  | 100.000   |

|                        | EUR           | DKK            | DKK            |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fortum                 | 27.500        | 205.150        | 204.955        |
| TVO                    | 0             | 0              | 0              |
| IFE                    | 10.131        | 75.576         | 79.560         |
| Forsmark               | 13.000        | 96.980         | 96.888         |
| Ringhals               | 13.000        | 96.980         | 96.888         |
| OKG                    | 13.000        | 96.980         | 96.888         |
| <b>Total EUR / DKK</b> | <b>76.631</b> | <b>571.666</b> | <b>575.179</b> |

|                           |                |                  |                  |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Complete EUR / DKK</b> | <b>963.985</b> | <b>7.191.331</b> | <b>7.319.858</b> |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| IFE contribution NOK | 120000 |
|----------------------|--------|

### **Exchange rates 2024/25:**

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| NKS 2025: |          |
| DKK       | 100,0000 |
| EUR       | 7,4600   |
| NOK       | 0,6298   |
| SEK       | 0,6495   |
| NKS 2024: |          |
| SEK 2024  | 0,6717   |
| EUR 2024  | 7,4529   |
| NOK 2024  | 0,6630   |