

DRAFT
NKS(25)4
3 June 2025

Minutes of the Board meeting in Stockholm, 20 May 2025

Present: Per Seltborg (Chairman, SSM), Carsten Israelson (DEMA), Pia Keski-Jaskari (STUK), Carol Robinson (DSA), Elísabet D. Ólafsdóttir (IRSA).

Meeting items 1-15: Sigurður M. Magnússon (IRSA), Ninos Garis (SSM), Teemu Siiskonen (STUK), Kasper Andersson (DTU) and Finn Physant (meeting secretary, FRIT).

- 1 Opening
Per opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.
- 2 Practical remarks
Practical remarks about the meeting were given by the host, Per. Finn was appointed meeting secretary.
- 3 Approval of the agenda
The agenda was approved.
- 4 Minutes of the last board meeting (2025-01-15)
The minutes were approved.
- 5 News since last board meeting
 - a. Report by the chairperson. Per reported about some quite active months since the last board meeting in January including two board meetings and a coordination meeting with the PCs and secretariat about preparation to this meeting. Preparations for the R- and B-seminar had been made and work on the governing documents had been initiated on the shared folder opened by Elísabet at IRSA.
 - b. News from our organization. Each board member presented news from their organizations.

- c. It was suggested, discussed and then decided that “NKS Administrative Handbook” will be one the governing documents and to be updated as needed.

6 Financial issues

- Signing of the accounts 2024.

The accounts for 2024 had already been signed before this meeting. For the first time the complete signing had been done electronically.

- Financial status: Financial status report and financial programme specification, both dated May 2025.

Finn presented the Financial status report and financial programme specification dated 12 May 2025. After the activity cancellation decision at the January board meeting DKK 491,000 had been transferred to the reserve. The reserve at present is estimated to approximately DKK 600,000 / EUR 80,000 – in accordance with this year’s budget decision at the January board meeting.

The board took note of the financial situation.

7 Status of NKS R activities

Teemu presented the status report for NKS R activities dated May 2025. KTH requests changes to the NKS-R contract template. A contract negotiation is expected and the future for the NKS-R contract must be considered – especially which version to be used for next year’s new activities. Per had before this meeting initiated the handling of this request in SSM’s legal department, which will handle this matter with KTH. Per will present the final draft contract for the board members before the contract is approved.

The board already before this meeting had decided not to publish the activity report from the activity cancelled during the January board meeting. Per informed the board that SSM probably decides to publish this report.

The board took note of the status of the R activities.

8 Status of NKS B activities

Kasper presented the status report for NKS B activities dated May 2025. The board took note of the status of the B activities.

9 Call for Proposals 2026 and expected funding of NKS 2026

- CfP plan and expected funding.

Call for Proposals for 2026 will open on Monday 1 September and close on Wednesday 15 October. Evaluations are to be received by Friday 14 November 2025.

The board members expressed the expectation of funding at the same level in 2026 as in 2025 except from Finland, where the situation may become clearer in connection with the Chefsmöte on 20 August.

- CfP documents.

The document “Evaluation process for the Nordic Nuclear Safety Research Programme (NKS) - Instructions for evaluators” was approved.

The document “Handbook for the Nordic Nuclear Safety Research Programme (NKS) - Guidelines for NKS applicants and activity leaders” was presented and discussed. Kasper will together with Carsten present the final document for the board in due time before upload to the website of this year’s CfP documents on 1 August.

The document “Framework programme of the Nordic Nuclear Safety Research Programme (NKS)” was approved. Per and Carol will consider how to merge this document together with the policy document.

10 **NKS R and B seminar 2025**

Kasper reported about the positive interest in the seminar with about 100 registered participants. Kasper made a run-down of the final seminar program. Kasper will today distribute all the seminar presentations to the seminar chairperson/respective board member preparing for tomorrow’s seminar start.

11 **Co-financiers and NKS-B CfP**

Kasper informed the board about the upcoming workshop on 23 May arranged by Vattenfall. Positive interest has been shown by 36 registered participants. Carsten and Kasper will be workshop speakers and Kasper and Finn will distribute minutes from the workshop to the board.

12 **Information activities**

Finn provided information on the website, statistics, NewsFlashes, LinkedIn etc.

13 **The new agreement**

Per presented the “Agreement on the Nordic Nuclear Safety Research Programme (NKS)”. After some discussions it was agreed that Per will finalize the agreement in co-operation with Carol and comments from the board. Especially Per will investigate the possibility of including financial commitments in the agreement. The document is to be finalized in due time before the Chefsmöte 20 August.

- 14 Principles for programme funding
Per presented the document “Principles for funding of NKS”. Per will finalize the document with inclusions of history background from Sigurður and reasons for funding from Carol and Carsten. The document is to be finalized in due time before the Chefsmöte 20 August.
- The discussions of governing documents also included the documents:
- “Policy for the Nordic Nuclear Safety Research Programme (NKS)”, which will be developed by the board.
- “Rules of procedure for the Nordic Nuclear Safety Research Programme (NKS)”. Carol makes proposal for Kasper to comment (cc Per).
- 15 The Nordic strategy paper
The “Nordic Strategy Group Report” was presented by Carol. The report is under finalization and an action plan is under preparation. Carol and Carsten stressed that there in this context could be important roles for NKS for the future.
- 16 To be iterated by the board members
- 17 Other issues
- Any other business.
- 18 Next meeting
- 19 End of meeting

Per Seltborg
Chairman

Finn Physant
Meeting secretary