



# Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research Meeting

Draft Minutes

17 June 2020 12:00 to 13:00 on Zoom

**Present:** Bente Moen, Nils Daulaire, Jon Øyvind Odland, Elin Yli Dvergsdahl, Gunilla Kulla, Mahima Venkateswaran, Ingvar Evjen Olsen, Andrea Winkler, Frode Forland, Karine Kalsås, Gunhild Koldal (minutes)

**39/20 Approval of agenda**  
Agenda approved.

**40/20 Approval of minutes from board meeting April 22**  
Minutes approved.

**41/20 Summary of the General Assembly held May 27**  
Draft minutes from the GA presented. No comments from the board.  
Minutes will be presented for approval at the next General Assembly.

**42/20 The Forum secretariat (Attachment 3)**  
Forum no longer receives funding for secretariat. When the Global Health Norway secretariat was at UiB, the two secretariats were joint. Now, NTNU has taken over the Global Health Norway secretariat, but not Forum secretariat.

Since there currently is no funding for the Forum secretariat, it seems fair to share the burden.

Andrea will investigate the possibility of relocating to the Oslo-region, involving the UiO, FHI, NMBU, and more.

Elin, Bente and Gunhild will look into the possibility of moving the Forum webpages over to the Global Health Norway-webpages since it is mostly static content. News should be posted on the Global Health Norway -webpages only.

It is also smart to spread the secretariats geographically. Now, Global Health Norway and NRSNGN secretariats are situated at NTNU, so Forum secretariat should be elsewhere.

Traditionally, the Forum secretariat has taken responsibility for practicalities around abstracts and sessions for the annual global health conferences. Global Health Norway discusses at their board meeting whether this is a task they can do.

Forum can also look for funding for the running of the secretariat. Forum will receive some funding from Global Health Norway:  
75 000NOK – this includes 34 000NOK for a board meeting – but according to Elin the funding can be allocated to the secretariat position. This can be considered if we do not have a physical meeting in the autumn.

What needs to be done for Bergen to run the secretariat?  
We will revisit this next meeting



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**43/20**

## **News from the NRS GH**

Not too much activity now. The school had a very good course from [www.forskning.no](http://www.forskning.no) about writing popular science articles.

The courses will continue in autumn – with on campus courses in Oslo and Trondheim. The postponed [PhD-conference](#) related to the Globvac conference will be held at Oscarsborg 28 - 30 September 2020.

The annual NRS GH PhD-conference 2021 will be held in connection with ECTMIH2021.

NRS GH will get their results from the Midterm review in august.

Much of the work at the school has been done digitally the last months. This corona-period has been hard for PhD-candidates. They have not been able to do field work or attend courses for credits.

**44/20**

## **News on the Globvac conference**

The committee for the conference is discussing the dates now:

- 1) 20- 21 April
- 2) 31 May – 1 June

Bente prefers option 1, which gives a little more time between Globvac conference and ECTMIH 2021. Nils indicates that in Tromsø, many dissertations and graduations happen in late May, which means students are present in Norway around that time.

There has been a call for webinars, which will lead up to Globvac-conference. The committee have received 14 proposals and plan to host 1 ½ hour webinars monthly every second Tuesday in the autumn semester.

There will most likely be a one-day NRS GH PhD-day connected to Globvac-conference, with workshops etc.

**45/20**

## **News on the [ECTMIH conference](#) in Bergen 2021**

28/9-1/10 2021 in Bergen.

The board members will soon get an information mail asking to join scientific advisory group for evaluation of abstracts.

There are [7 main tracks](#), in addition, the conference will set one day aside for corona related topics, and there will be a Day Zero on 27/9 for young investigators.

In case of travel restrictions when the conference is held, a plan B will have to be made.

**46/20**

## **Short information from the board members/observers**

Gunilla Kulla: It is now possible to get back into the offices again at Nord University.

Mahima Venkateswaran: Holds a joint position now at UiB and FHI. Data collections are suspended, and field trials have stopped. The epidemic is just about starting in India and



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Bangladesh, so it will not be possible to resume data collections now. There are talks about plan b – how to save the trials.

Andrea Winkler: is now working in a 20 % position at UiO, in Norway. Is deputy director at Centre for Global Health and works mainly on Lancet OneHealth commission. Has launched the commission officially in the Lancet.

Nils Daulaire: Is in US. Reentry to Norway can happen earliest at the end of august. The biggest activity for University of Tromsø (UiT) is the Georgia birth registry, which is currently suspended. UiT will get a new rector in the middle of next year.

Jon Øyvind Odland: a lot of activities going on at NTNU: digital exams, planning the next semester completely digitally.

Frode Forland: a very busy time at FIH. Minister for Minister of International Development Dag Inge Ulstein has visited. There is a focus on different parts of global health, such as preparedness and climate health. Has had visit from director of Norad, Bård Vegar Solhjell, discussing applications.

Has established a forum for global health and environment online meetings. Discussing to expand countries they work with, including Myanmar, India, Uganda. There is a great demand for corona-webinars, which takes up much time.

Bente Moen: UiB will have students on campus in the autumn semester. The challenge is to have large enough teaching rooms. At UiB, people are occupied with Norhed applications. Staff are allowed back in offices now.

Karine Kalsås: RCN has had a call for proposals on health systems - has received 45 applications, are in the process of getting experts assessments.

**47/20**

## **Suggested dates for meetings in autumn:**

August:	26.08.2020
September:	23.09.2020
October:	21.10.2020
November:	18.11.2020
December:	16.12.2020

**48/20**

## **AOB**

The Forum board will plan for a physical meeting in the autumn, - will come back with plans for that.