



# General Assembly 2017

## Minutes

14 March 2017, 15.20 - 1700

Radisson Blu Royal Garden, Trondheim

### **1 Welcome and opening**

Bente Moen, chair of Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research opened the General Assembly. During the meeting, there were about 40 attendants.

### **2 Appointment of Chair for the meeting**

Bente Moen suggested Nils Gunnar Songstad as Chair for the meeting, The suggested chair was approved by the General Assembly.

### **3 Approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved with one suggested change. The General Assembly approved to make the changes in the Statutes as a separate agenda item (number 6).

### **4 Approval of minutes General Assembly 21 April 2016, Bergen**

The minutes were approved.

### **5 Annual Report from the Board 2016**

In addition:

Activity report from the board 2016-2018 (attachment 3)

Economy report 2016 (attachment 4)

Bente Moen presented the annual report from the Board. Bente Moen walked the general assembly through the highlights of 2016. Especially the conference in Bergen 20-21 April 2016 and the annual meeting with the global health seminar in Tromsø [insert date]. Another highlight is that the Norwegian Research School of Global Health has successfully been established. Elisabeth Darj and Elin Yli Dvergsdal have been vital in this process. The Research School now has more than 100 members.

Bente Moen gave a briefing about the financial situation of Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research. Funding has been secured for the next two years.

Bente Moen informed the General Assembly about the progress of establishing Norwegian Institute for Global Health (NIGH). NIGH was formally established in 2016, and the first meeting was in January 2017. The secretariat of NIGH is at University of Bergen.



## Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

It is important the Forum and NIGH find ways of working together. The General Assembly raised many questions on this. Should the Forum continue in its present form aside NIGH? Should the Forum start taking member fees? Should the Forum merge with NIGH? Is there room for two networks like this? NIGH has decided that all institutions are obliged to contribute with funding. The role and participation of research institutes (such as SINTEF, FAFO, CMI and others) was also discussed.

The General Assembly agreed upon that the mandate from HelseOmsorg21 is that the two shall merge into one. The Forum will use the two next years on this process. The Board will establish a working group with this process as main agenda.

### **6 Changes in the Forums Statutes**

Based on experiences from earlier elections to the board, the Forum Board decided to suggest to remove the requirement "Each sex shall be represented with minimum of 4 members." under Article V. Board. The General Assembly approved the change but suggested that the intention to secure an adequate gender balance should be included in the revised Statutes.

### **7 Election of new board 2017 – 2019**

The chair of the General Assembly, Nils Gunnar Songstad, presented the election regulations and the election committee 2017. Kristin Ingstad Sandberg, member of the election committee explained the process of contacting universities, university colleges and other institutions with global health research activities. Universities and other institutions suggested candidates to the board. However, none of the university colleges responded to the letter from the election committee. Therefore, the election committee suggested that candidates suggested by other institutions with global health research should be elected to the two seats reserved for the university colleges. The General Assembly approved the suggestion from the election committee.

The General Assembly approved the suggested candidates from the universities

<b>Board member</b>	<b>Deputy</b>	<b>Institution</b>
Erik Anda	Turid Wæhler	UiT The Arctic University of Norway
Bente Elisabeth Moen	Karen Marie Moland	University of Bergen
Elisabeth Darj	Elin Dvergsdal	NTNU
Johanne Sundby	Kristin Braa	University of Oslo

The General Assembly also approved the suggested candidates from other institutions with activities with global health research

<b>Board member</b>	<b>Deputy</b>	<b>Institution</b>
Frode Forland	Anne Bergh	Norwegian Institute of Public Health



# Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Stine Hellum Braathen	Arne H. Eide	SINTEF
Anne Hatløy	Tone Sommerfelt	FAFO

Independent board members were elected as follows:

<b>Board member</b>	<b>Deputy</b>
Sheri Lee Bastien (Norwegian University of Life Sciences)	
Miriam Christ (Norwegian Medical Students' Association)	Gunilla Kulla (Nord University)

The General Assembly did not elect a deputy of Sheri Lee Bastien. In order to fill this position the secretariat of Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research was tasked to identify a deputy member during the GLOBVAC conference. Jagrati Jani-Bølstad suggested and asked Viva Combs Thorsen, Department of Community Medicine and Global Health, University of Oslo.

## **8 New election committee**

Kristin Ingstad Sandberg, Jagrati Jani-Bølstad, Hans Hadders

## **9 Information from the General Assembly**

The first conference for Norwegian Research School is on 16 March at Stiklestad. The next event in the research school is the supervisor seminar in Oslo, 20-21 April 2017:

<https://www.ntnu.edu/nrsg/for-supervisors>

The next Norwegian Forum for Global Health research conference is in Oslo, March 2018. University of Oslo and NIPH are the hosts.

Turid Wæhler represented the Forum at FESTMIH. They asked if the Forum could arrange a session at the next conference in Antwerp, and host the next conference in 2019. The Forum will address this at the next Board meeting.

NTNU invites all to the next Global Health Day, 24 October 2017.