



General Assembly 2013

16 October 2013, 17.15 -18.45 hrs
Hotel Scandic Bergen City

Minutes

1 Welcome and opening

The General Assembly was opened by the Head of the Board, Inger B. Scheel.

2 Election of chair for the meeting

Nils Gunnar Songstad was suggested chair of the General Assembly. The General Assembly approved the suggested chair.

3 Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved

4 Approval of Minutes from General Assembly 26 September, 2012, Trondheim

Correction: on page 3 in the minutes, heading of the table is to be changed from 2010-2012 to 2012-2014. The minutes were approved with the correction above.

5 Activities of Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Activity report 2012-2013

The Global policies report and seminar

Inger Scheel invited medical student Andrea Melberg to present the project *Global Policies*. The Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research has worked with ten Norwegian medical students on a project on interdisciplinary cooperation among actors working within the field of global health in Norway. This work has resulted in the report [*Komplekse utfordringer krever samarbeid på tvers. En kartlegging av perspektiver fra forskningsinstitusjoner og organisasjoner i det norske global helsemiljøet*](#) presented at a seminar 2 October 2013. The report has received much interest, and participation at the launch seminar was very good. On behalf of the students involved in the project, Melberg expressed interest in a continuing collaboration with the Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research.

The climate and health symposium

This one-day symposium 3 May 2013 at Centre for International Health, UiB was organised by researchers from different units at UiB, and former board member Gunnar Kvåle was one of the main initiators, see www.uib.no/cih/en/seminar/2013/04/symposium-on-climate-and-health-at-cih



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

National research school in global health research

Board members from NTNU have recently taken on the responsibility of leading this project.

Website

The secretariat is working with Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) on improving and updating the website of Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research.

Changes in the Forum board

The composition of the board until the 2014 General Assembly:

Board member	Deputy	Institution
Akhtar Hussain	Johanne Sundby	University of Oslo
*Bente Moen	Karen Marie Moland	University of Bergen
*Sameline Grimsgaard	*Tore Jarl Gutteberg	University of Tromsø
*Elisabeth Darj	*Elin Yli Dvergsdal	NTNU
Hans Hadders	Birthe Loa Knizek	Sør-Trøndelag University College
Graziella Van den Bergh	Nina Dalen	Bergen University College
Inger B. Scheel	Frederik Frøen	The Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services/ The Norwegian Institute of Public Health
Kristin Ingstad Sandberg	Jagrati Jani-Bølstad	Independent
Ottar Mæstad	Ann Louise Lie	Independent

*= new members

The board members from UiB, UiT and NTNU; Lie, Husebekk and Dvergsdal respectively have withdrawn from the board due to other obligations. New board members, Moen, Grimsgaard and Darj have been appointed.

Elin Y. Dvergsdal is now the substitute from NTNU (instead of Magnus Steigedal) and Tore Jarl Gutteberg replaces Solrunn Hansen as the substitute from UiT.

The changes in the board were approved by the General Assembly.

The election committee for next year's election will be informed to start working on getting candidates for the new board to be elected at the 2014 General Assembly.

Economy report 2012-2013

Project period: 1 January – 31 December 2012

Funding received: 490,000 NOK

Total expenses: 409,097 NOK

Project period: 1 January – 30 September 2013

Funding received: 600,000 NOK

Total expenses to date (30 September 2013): 300,142 NOK



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

The General Assembly was informed that updates to economy report had been received from the Research Council of Norway shortly before the General Assembly. The presented report however gives a correct overview of the expenditures since the last General Assembly. The General Assembly approved the economy report with the reservation above.

6 Future of the Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

The General Assembly was invited to discuss the opportunities for development of the Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research.

Inger B. Scheel introduced the topic on whether the activities of the Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research should continue with work on a voluntary basis or should professionalize the organization. The Forum is effective and useful, but is constrained by the time limitations most organizations based on voluntary efforts are faced with. The many strengths and opportunities (for instance a recent offer to the Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research to take over and run *The journal of health diplomacy* www.GHD-net.org) raises the question of considering employing a 'secretary-general'. The GLOBVAC Board as funder is supportive to this idea.

The General Assembly welcomed the discussion but requested more discussion in the board and that a concrete proposal should be presented at a later General Assembly.

7 Information from the General Assembly's members and observers

Suggestions for topics to the GLOBVAC conference 2014 can be sent to therese.istad@cih.uib.no.