



Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research

Norwegian Forum for Global Health Research Meeting

Draft minutes

26 August 2020 12:00 to 13:00 on Zoom

Present: Bente Moen, Gunhild Koldal, Elin Yli Dvergsdal, Jon Øyvind Odland, Gunilla Kulla, Katerini Storeng, Frode Forland, Zlata Turkanovic, Dawit Shawel Abebe, Ingvar Evjen Olsen, Nils Daulaire, Arne H. Eide

49/20 Approval of agenda
Agenda approved.

50/20 Approval of minutes from board meeting June 17 (Attachment 1)
Minutes approved.

51/20 Relocation of the Forum secretariat - status
After the last board election, the agreement was that Bente Moen would be chair of the board the first year of the elected period, with Frode Forland as deputy chair. They would swap role for the last year of the elected period. Since Forland is heavily involved in the corona related work at NIPH, they suggest that Moen continues as chair. This has consequences for the secretariat which is located at UiB. The secretariat will stay at UiB the remainder of this election period.
Forum will not keep their own webpages but move to Global Health Norway this autumn.

At the next election, Bente Moen will not continue as chair. The secretariat will have to move as well.

52/20 Planned physical board meeting for Forum in October.
Should we plan for that or only have digital meetings this semester?

The board agrees that we postpone a physical meeting and keep board meetings on Zoom this autumn.

We can arrange a larger member meeting 18 November. We need a strong scientific programme to attract an audience. The board should think about topics and inform about it at the September meeting, 23/9 (next meeting is changed to 15/10, and we plan for a meeting for members 18/11)

53/20 Possible topic for Forum this semester: Stimulate to digital meetings with partners in south.

In this new situation with fewer travels, we need to keep contact with our partners around the world digitally.

Forum can discuss how to best stay in contact:

- share experiences, positive and negative
- look at possibilities and limits to the digital communication
- interface between technique and culture
- how do we mingle digitally



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We try to find persons who are experts on the area, to come and share their knowledge and experience with us – maybe in the member meeting

54/20 New position for John Arne Røttingen; try to invite him to meet with Forum board?

<https://www.forskningsradet.no/om-forskningsradet/pressekontakt/pressemeldinger/?id=17890382>
<https://khrono.no/rottingen-gar-fra-forskningsradet/508585>

Invite John Arne Røttingen to a larger digital board meeting. This requires that we have issues to discuss with him. He will start in his new job in December. We can also invite the Minister of International Development, to inform about Forum's activities.

55/20 News from the NRSRGH

At the NRSRGH board meeting Tuesday 25 August, it was decided that the PhD conference will not be on site at Oscarsborg, but a two-day digital conference, 3 hours pr day. There was around 30 registered, and some of them would not attend.

There will be a new programme board meeting this week.

NRSRGH works on creating a PhD course in infection control with Øyunn Holen. This will be a digital course and will be available either this autumn or next spring.

56/20 News on the Globvac conference 8. September

New dates for the Globvac conference are 20-21 April, at the Hub in Oslo. Time will tell how the arrangement will be. It might be scaled down some to reduce travel, and instead include a possibility for digital attendance.

Leading up to the conference, there will be a monthly webinar with presentations selected from submitted abstracts. It will be 4-5 presentations and discussion.

The first webinar will be on September 8, and then every second Tuesday of the month. In the new year, the presentations will be from Globvac projects.

Some of the Forum board members will be asked to chair the webinars.

<http://www.globvac2020.com/>

57/20 News on the ECTMIH conference in Bergen 2021

It is difficult to plan the ECTMIH conference when we do not know the how the corona situation will be a year from now. There are extra meetings with the FESTMIH board to decide whether it should go on site, digitally or a hybrid.

58/20 News from RCN (working group)

Working group – info

Zlata informs that the working group works on a first draft of a new plan, which will be discussed in a meeting 4 September. After that, the group will discuss input and create a second draft. There might be more information from this work by the next board meeting.

59/20 Short information from the board members/observers

Ingvar: It will be interesting to see what will happen at Norad and UD when John Arne Røttingen takes over as ambassador for global health. Norad focuses on NCD's now, including mental health.



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https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/departementene/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/betterhealth_summary.pdf

Norad has signed framework agreements with different environments with start in August.

The Norhed applications are being assessed now, and the results are expected in November with start-up of new projects in January 2021.

Dawit: no news at OsloMet currently.

Arne: SINTEF, together with NTNU, will host their annual European strategic summit digitally this year. It is usually in Brussels. There will be a session on post covid research and a session on global health administered by Arne. John Arne Røttingen will be one of the keynote speakers.

There is ongoing work to register interest towards the EU-African partnerships. This might give an opportunity to have influence on programme texts - Arne is lead on this internally in SINTEF now. SINTEF has been awarded a larger contract with WHO on collection of data from 25 countries to make an assisted technology report.

Zlata: RCN is in the EU-Africa partnership general assembly. This is a continuation of EDCTP. RCN will recommend partners for this partnership to the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research.

Frode: NIPH works on a larger application for Norad, collects projects from different areas including eg. climate and health systems. Collaborations with more countries than before, including Nepal, Uganda, Sri Lanka. There is appointed a new UN ambassador in Geneva.

Status: 800 000 are dead from corona. In comparison: 1.6 million die from tuberculosis each year. Over 800 000 die from aids each year. It is important to remember there are other diseases that kill many people still, and to maintain emergency preparedness for more than the corona virus.

Katerini: The research group is busy with start-up of new projects. Has received network support to continue seminar series. Will create two PhD courses on pandemics with start in 2022 and 2023. Involved in a Centre of Excellence application.

Jon Øyvind: This semester we offer a full digital master's programme in global health. 50 students were accepted, of those 36 are participating. So far it has functioned well.

Gunilla: involved in project application with NTNU and Gjøvik omsorgssenter. Topic: older migrants. Professor Eva Robertson will hold a digital course in inter? communication.

Nils: still in US, unable to travel to Norway now. No activity reported from UiT.

Bente: UiB has students on campus. At CIH there are 26 students on site and 6 online due to quarantine. High focus on infection control.

60/20

AOB



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The meeting in October will be on the 15th (Thursday) and not on the 21st as first planned, to avoid arrangements by Women in Global Health and the Global Health Day in Trondheim.