



# NFU

NORSK FORENING FOR UTVIKLINGSFORSKNING

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## NFU General Assembly 2008

Time: Thursday 27.11.2008, 18:00 – 19:00.  
Venue: Auditorium D10, Dragvoll campus  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim

### *Agenda*

#### **1. Constitute meeting and approve agenda**

- Election of General Assembly Chair and two Reporters
- Approval of agenda

#### **2. NFU Annual report 2008**

#### **3. NFU Audited Accounts 2008**

- Accounts for 2008: period 01.10.2007 – 31.10.2008.
- Audit report for 2008

#### **4. NFU Annual Conference 2009**

#### **5. Incoming business**

(none)

#### **6. NFU Membership fees 2009**

#### **7. Work plan and Budget for 2009**

#### **8. Elections**

- NFU Board, Nomination Committee and Auditor.

**NFU General Assembly 2008**  
**Item 2. NFU Annual report 2008**

## **NFU Annual Report 2008**

(Covering the period October 2007 – October 2008)

### **1. General**

The current “year” cover the period October 2007 – October 2008. The General Assembly is as a rule conducted in connection with the Annual Conference and we have for that reason adopted flexible business years for reporting and accounts. NFU membership follows the calendar years.

### **2. The NFU Board members 2008**

The NFU General assembly 2007 was held at 06.11.2007 at Chr Michelsens Institute, Bergen. Minutes were published at the NFU web: [www.nfuf.no](http://www.nfuf.no). Following this meeting, the composition of the NFU Board has been as follows:

#### Board members:

*Håkon Fottland*, Semut, University of Tromsø (chair), (not on election)  
*Morten Bøås*, Fafo, Oslo, (not on election)  
*Tale Baadsvik*, Norwegian University for Science and Technology (NTNU), (not on elect)  
*Siri Bjerkreim Hellevik*, NIBR, Oslo (not on election)  
*John McNeish*, CMI, Bergen (not on election)  
*Kristen Nordhaug*, Oslo University (new, prev. deputy)  
*Vibeke Wang*, Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen  
*Poul Wisborg*, Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (new, prev. deputy)  
*Guro Aandahl*, SUM, University of Oslo, (not on election)

#### Deputy board members:

*Anders B. Asphaug*, Department of Geography, NTNU, Trondheim (special deputy for  
Siri Bjerkreim Hellevik, and contact for Annual Conference 2008)  
*Camilla Brautaset*, Dept. of History, University of Bergen  
*Marit Haug*, NIBR, Oslo  
*Marit Solstad*, Bodø University College  
*Frode Sundnes*, Noragric - Norwegian University of Life Sciences

#### Election Committee:

*Olav Stokke*, NUPI, Oslo (new)  
*Asuncion Lera St. Clair*, University of Bergen (new)  
*Randi Kaarhus*, Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (not on election)

#### EADI representative:

*N. Shanmugaratnam*, Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (not on election)

#### Auditor:

*Hans Jørgen Oppi Christiansen*, SUM, University of Oslo

### **3. NFU Board meetings**

The NFU Board has in the period met 1 time in Trondheim (11.02.2008). All elected members and deputies were invited to the meeting. In addition the Board has consulted issues on email.

### **4. NFU Members**

By 31.10.2008 NFU had a total of 174 members paying membership fees (165 at 31.09.2007). Out of these, 26 are student members and retired persons.

## **5. Work plan 2008 and progress:**

### **5.1 Work to arrange the NFU Annual Conference 2008**

We thank the Norwegian University of Science and Technology for taking a firm lead in realising this event.

### **5.2 Promote the Forum for Development Studies**

NUPI, in co-operation with NFU and with financial support from the Research Council of Norway, publishes the *Forum for Development Studies*. The Journal is published twice a year with *Olav Stokke* (NUPI) as Editor. Tor Arve Benjaminsen has been the representative of the NFU Board in the Editorial committee. The journal seeks currently to attract a wider Nordic and international readership.

NFU has worked to extend the subscription basis for the publication, as well as sought to promote it in the other Nordic countries.

By the end of the period we received information that NUPI has decided to out-source its publications, including the three journals (*Forum for Development Studies*, *Internasjonal Politikk* and *Nordisk Øst-Forum*). Agreement had been reached that from the 2009 editions, these three journals will be published by the Norwegian University Press, Oslo. Also, there are negotiations with Routledge to take over the publishing of the *Forum for Development Studies* as from 2010, and possibly with 4 issues per year. The structure and selection of the Editorial Committee is under development.

Most significantly, *Olav Stokke* (NUPI) has decided to step down as Editor by the end of 2008 after 35 years in that position. The NFU Board forwards thanks for all efforts, initiatives and professional advice from the Editor within our academic field during all those years.

NUPI is in the process of appointing a new editor.

### **5.3 Participate in national initiatives to improve conditions for development research**

NFU Board members has participated in several national initiatives, among them the *Fagråd for utviklingsstudier*. One has seen the need to co-ordinate efforts to address the publications-ranking. So far, initiatives has not been made in the name of NFU.

### **5.4 Announce the NFU prize and the NFU Master Thesis Competition 2007-08**

This has not taken place.

### **5.5 Work to improve the website and the flow of information on development research**

The website has been maintained and updated. Further improvement on this field is possible.

### **5.6 Work with the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI) through the Norwegian Executive Committee member and at the EADI conference in June 2008**

The Norwegian representative to the EADI ExCo, *N. Shanmugaratnam*, Noragric, was re-elected at the EADI General Assembly in Geneva, June 2008. The Norwegian Research Council supports the participation.

He has participated at a conference in Brussels on 'The EU, Africa and China: Towards trilateral dialogue and cooperation' and at EADI ExCo meetings.

Further, the ExCo has formalised the Working Group on Environment & Development, which was set up just before the General Conference, where he functioned as the convenor. Hopefully, colleagues from Noragric and other Norwegian institutions concerned with Environment & Development will be interested to join this Working Group. Also he is engaged in establishing a new EADI Working Group on Conflict & Development, in which several EADI colleagues have shown interest.

### **5.7 Follow-up the Nordic co-operation initiative and submit an application for Nordic networking to NORFORSK**

NFU has submitted applications to NordForsk for seed-funds for a project: *Nordic Development Research Co-operation* at the deadlines both in March and September.

From the application abstract:

The Nordic associations for development research apply to NordForsk for seed funds to:

- Create a Nordic arena for development research, north-south research co-operation and for the dissemination of Nordic approaches in this field

The arena that we seek to establish will:

- organise tri-annual Nordic development research conferences, rotating between the Nordic countries
- support a high-level Nordic Journal for Development Research
- Supply web-based information to and from the Nordic development research community

The applicants are

- The Norwegian Association for Development Research (NFU)
- The Association of Development Researchers in Denmark (FAU)
- The Finnish Society for Development Studies
- The development research community in Sweden, represented by the Swedish Network of Peace, Conflict and Development Research

Unfortunately, our applications have not received funding.

### **5.8 Liaise with Norwegian Forum on Global Health Research: information, cross-links, NFU-conference, etc.**

This has not been carried out efficiently.

## **6. The NFU Annual Conferences**

The NFU Annual Conference 2007 was hosted by the Christian Michelsen Institute (CMI), Bergen during the days 05-07 November 2007. The conference theme was: *Making Institutions Work for the Poor?*.

The NFU Annual Conference 2008 is hosted by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim during the days 27-28 November 2008. The conference theme is: *Globalisation: Nation States, Forced Migration and Human Rights*

The NFU Annual Conference is supported by the Research Council of Norway / the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## NFU General Assembly 2008

### Item 3. NFU Accounts 2008

Start of financial year: 01.10.2007  
End of financial year: 31.10.2008

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Accounts</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Membership fees	75 000	75 330,00	
Interest	100	148,81	
<i>Total income</i>	<u>75 100</u>	<u>75 478,81</u>	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Board meetings	36 000	6 866,40	1
"NFU-news"	-	-	
Forum for Development Studies	30 000	-	2
Homepage	10 000	3 372,00	
EADI	2 000	2 059,38	
NFU-prizes	15 000	5 000,00	3
Honorarium auditor	2 000	600,00	
Nordic co-operation	20 000	-	4
Miscellaneous	2 000	-	
Bank fees	300	112,00	
<i>Total expenses</i>	<u>117 300</u>	<u>18 009,78</u>	
<b>Result</b>	<u>-42 200</u>	<u>57 469,03</u>	

<b>Balances</b>	
Incoming balance 30.09.07	116 723,52
Outgoing balance 31.10.08	174 192,55

#### Comments

1. We have only held one board meeting this year
2. The bill for Forum from NUPI has not come yet
3. NFU MA-thesis prize for 2007
4. One has primarily awaited the NordForsk applications

#### Note:

The accounts have not been presented for auditing and the Auditors report is as a consequence not available.

**NFU General Assembly 2008**

**Item 4. NFU Annual Conference 2009**

**Application by:**

(none)

Contacts with

- Centre for Intercultural Communication (SIK), Stavanger and the University of Stavanger
- University of Agder

**NFU General Assembly 2008**

**Item 5. Incoming business**

(none)

**NFU General Assembly 2008**

**Item 6. NFU Membership fees 2009**

The following membership fees are suggested, being same as for 2008:

- Full membership NOK 400
- Student members, retired persons NOK 200

## NFU General Assembly 2009

### Item 8. Work plan and Budget for 2009

#### Proposed Work plan 2009:

The work plan (with the specification and additional point):

- Work to arrange the NFU Annual Conference 2009
- Promote the Forum for Development Studies
- Participate in national initiatives to improve conditions for development research
- Announce the NFU prize and the NFU Master Thesis Competition 2008-09
- Work to improve the website and the flow of information on development research
- Work with the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI) through the Norwegian Executive Committee member and at Directors meetings.
- Follow-up on the Nordic co-operation initiative

#### Proposed Budget 2009:

	Accounts 2008	Budget 2009
<b>Income</b>		
Membership fees	75 330,00	75 000
Interest	148,81	100
<i>Total income</i>	75 478,81	75 100
 <b>Expenditure</b>		
Board meetings	6 866,40	36 000
"NFU-news"	-	-
Forum for Development Studies	-	30 000
Homepage	3 372,50	10 000
EADI	2 059,38	4 000
NFU-prizes	5 000,00	15 000
Honorarium auditor	600,00	2 000
Nordic co-operation	-	20 000
Miscellaneous	-	2 000
Bank fees	112,00	300
<i>Total expenses</i>	18 009,78	119 300
 <b>Result</b>	 57 469,03	 (44 200)
 Incoming balance 01.11.2008		 174 192,55

## NFU General Assembly 2008

### Item 9. Elections- proposal 2009

(presented at the meeting)