Programme Board for Russia and Western Balkan

Time: Tuesday, 24 March 2009, 10 am- 15pm

Place: Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Higher Education, Vaskerelven 39, Meeting room 4th floor

Present:

Board Members: Chairman Olav Refsdal (Vestfold University College), Jasna Bogunovic Jakobsen (University of Stavanger), Elisabeth Roman (Narvik University College), Magny Thomassen (University of Life Sciences), Karsten Fledelius (University of Copenhagen) (Fledelius did not take part in discussions concerning 01/2009, 02/2009,03/2009).

Observers: Tove Lyngra (Ministry of Education and Research)

Apologies: Gunnar Jordfald (NILU), Harald Sandhåland (Ministry of Foreign Affaires), Gro Beate Vige (Ministry of Education and Research), Anette Bull (Ministry of Foreign Affaires), Kari Steenstrup Vaalund (Ministry of Education and Research)

Secretariat: Birgit Jacobsen (RCN), Arne Haugen (SIU), Gro Tjore (SIU), Ingeborg Revheim(SIU)

01/2009: Adoption of agenda

Decision:
The agenda was adopted, with the following amendments:
- *Item 09/2009 to follow after item 05/2009*
- *Two additional items for 11/2009 Information; D) SIU`s seminar in Russia (SIU) and E) the inclusion of Croatia and Macedonia in the Erasmus Charter (Tove Lyngra, Ministry of Education)*
- *Under 13/2009 Any other business; Concluding conference for the Programme for the Western Balkans.*

02/2009: Adoption of Minutes from Meeting on Monday, 6 October 2008
The Minutes was circulated electronically after the Meeting 6 October 2008 and approved.

Decision:
The Minutes were adopted.

03/2009: **Conflicts of interest**

The conflicts of interest were only deemed relevant for the case of BILAT, 04/2009. It was therefore decided that it should be discussed during the introduction of the BILAT-case. Because of the late arrival of the board member Fledelius, 04/2009 was postponed to be addressed after dealing with other items related to the Cooperation Programme with Russia. This way, the Board ensured a minimum number of members to be present, making proceedings of the meeting valid. Upon the arrival of member Karsten Fledelius, it was agreed that Jasna Bogunovic Jakobsen and Elisabeth Roman should not participate during the discussion of the procedures for the handling of the BILAT applications. The Board considered that Jakobsen and Roman were in conflict of interests.

Decision: *The board members Jasna Bogunovic Jakobsen and Elisabeth Roman due to their conflicts of interest should not participate in the allocation of the BILAT- funds. The remaining points on the agenda, however, should first proceed with Jakobsen and Roman present, leaving the handling of BILAT-fund as the final point of the meeting.*

Cooperation Programme with Russia

05/2009 **Visit (monitoring) of projects in Russia.**

Following the Programme Board´s decision to monitor education and research projects in Russia by a visit in 2009 (decision from 27/08) the Secretariat suggested one trip to St. Petersburg with a possible extension to Arkhangelsk. The Board commented this to be too long and ambitious and recommended that the Secretariat should plan for two shorter and separate trips.

Decision:

The Programme Board authorizes the Secretariat to plan for institutional visits during week 20 of 2009 within the financial limits of NOK 150 000. A sum not exceeding NOK 50 000 can be allocated to visits and meetings with projects in Norway. The Secretariat will prepare a template for the institutional visits.

09/2009 **Annual reports, education projects SIU**

The Secretariat presents the reports to the Board. The Programme Board has to approve the transfer of unspent funds. SIU presented in total 7 reports.

CRPU 2007/10001 and CPRU 207/10002 did not apply for transfer and were already approved by SIU. The Board takes notice of the information.

The Programme Board has been asked to **decide** on the following reports:

CPRU 2007/10003
Decision: *The report and the application for transfer of NOK 346 835 are approved.*

CPRU 2007/10004
Decision: *The report and the application for transfer of NOK 106 546 are approved.*

CPRU 2007/10005
Decision: *The report and the application for transfer of NOK 158 000 are approved.*

CPRU 2007/10006
Decision: *The report was not approved. This project will be asked to present more information, and the revised report will if necessary be e-mailed the members of the Board later for approval.*

CPRU 2007/10007
Decision: *The report and the application for transfer of NOK 1862 are approved.*

Cooperation Programme with Western Balkans

06/2009 **Evaluation of the project leader seminar in Beograd**
The Secretariat informed about the seminar and asked for comments from the Programme Board.

Decision: *On basis of the discussion of the Programme Board the Secretariat will prepare a short memo summing up the seminar and lessons learned.*

07/2009 **Publication for the Cooperation Programme with Western Balkan**
The secretariat presented a proposal for a publication for the West Balkan programme.

Decision:

The Secretariat prepares a publication within the financial limits of NOK 240 000.

08/2007 Activity report WB 05/06, follow-up.

Decision: *The project can spend the allocated funds admission of students for the year 2009/10 provided they obtain the necessary accreditation. Failing to do this, the funds shall be returned to the programme.*

10/2007 Annual reports, education projects, SIU

The Secretariat presents the reports to the Board. The Programme Board has to approve the transfer of unspent funds. SIU presented in total 8 reports.

WB 01/06 (the payment for 2009 will be reduced with NOK466, not accounted for in 2008) and WB 02/06 did not apply for transfer and were already approved by SIU. The Board takes notice of the information.

The Programme Board has been asked to **decide** on the following reports:

WB 02/06
Decision:
The report and the application of transfer of NOK 433 588 are approved.

WB 04/06
Decision:
The report and the application for transfer of NOK 60 000 are approved and SIU asks for a revised budget.

WB 05/06
Decision:
SIU has not received the annual report. Upon receipt, the report will be e-mailed to the Board members if necessary.

WB 06/06
Decision:
The report and the application for transfer of NOK 229 586 are approved and SIU asks for a revised budget.

WB 07/06
Decision:
SIU has not received the annual report. Upon receipt, the report will be e-mailed to the Board members if necessary.

WB 08/06
Decision:
The report and the application for transfer of NOK 1 659 228 are approved and SIU asks for a revised budget.

11/2007 Information

A) **Consultative meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affaires (UD) regarding Russia**. The Secretariat (SIU) informed the Board.

B) **Consultative meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affaires (UD) regarding the Western Balkans**. The Chairman informed the Board.

C) **The Research Council´s meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affaires (Seksjon for globale sikkerhetsspørsmål og SUS-landene)**. The Secretariat (RCN) informed the Board.

D) **SIU`s seminar in Russia for institutions and businesses interested in cooperation activities with a Russian partner.** The Secretariat (SIU) gave a report and concluded that the task of organising such a seminar suited SIU very well.

E) **The Erasmus University Charter in EU´s Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) is now open for Croatia and Macedonia.** The two countries can now join the programme´s academic cooperation in higher education, and apply for financial support for exchange of students and staff (only with EU member countries). The Ministry of Education and Research informed the Board.

Decision:
The Board takes note of the information.

12/2007 Next meeting

Decision:
The next meeting will tentatively be held in Oslo, Wednesday, 28 October 2009.

13/2007 Any other business

A Final Conference of the Programme for Cooperation with the Western Balkans was discussed. It was agreed that the Conference should take place in Sarajevo, preferably in February/March 2010, targeting also other

institutions than those involved in the programme, including local, regional and national authorities. Board member Fledelius will do some research, as will the Secretariat.

Decision:
The Secretariat will start planning the conference and will keep the Programme Board abreast of the plans.

04/2009: **BILAT**

The Cooperation Programme with Russia had one announcement of BILAT-funds (2009-2010) with application deadline 11 February 2009. The funds are distributed from the Ministry of Education and Research to the Research Council and comprise NOK 4.8 million for the period 2009-2010. 27 applications were received, whereas one rejected.

Decision:

The Programme Board supports the following applications, allocating in all NOK 4 599 000:

Projectno.	Projectitles	Decision
194427	Aspect in Russian. Formal and contrastive approaches/ UiO, ILOS	275000
194473	Aesthetic ideals and big bodies: a comparative study of Russia and Norway/ Institutt for forbruksforskning	254000
194487	Energieffektivisering for bygninger og infrastruktur i nordområdene/ Høgskolen i Narvik, Institutt for bygning, drift og konstruksjonsteknologi	300000
194476	Bygninger og energibruk i kaldt klima/ Høgskolen i Narvik, Institutt for bygning, drift og konstruksjonsteknologi	185000
194478	Bærekraftig utvikling og logistikk i Nordområdene/ Høgskolen i Bodø, Handelshøgskolen	170000
194511	Bærekraftig utvikling og logistikk i Nordområdene/ Høgskolen i Bodø, Handelshøgskolen	100000
194479	Bærekraftig utvikling og logistikk i Nordområdene/ Høgskolen i Bodø, Handelshøgskolen	200000
194484	Changes in Northern Ecosystem Services: What is the Importance for Resource-Dependent Communities?/ UiTø, Matematisk Naturvitenskapelig Fakultet	264000
194489	Etablering av samarbeid med en eller flere russiske forskningsinstitusjoner vedrørende nordområdesatsingen/ SINTEF	200000
194490	Measuring levels of oil and gas toxins in human populations and individual perceptions of health and security in the Komi republic/ UiTø, Faculty of Social Sciences	223000
194491	Norwegian-Russian Cooperation on estimating the cost structure of the Northeast Arctic Cod fishery in the Barents Sea/ UiO, Matematisk-Naturvitenskapelig Fakultet, Biologisk Institutt	178000
194492	Personlig Gjesterforskerstipend. Ludmila Ivanova, Kola Science Centre/ Nordlandsforskning	136000
194494	Research and education for development and production of ice abrasion resistant offshore concrete structures for oil and gas production/ NTNU, IVT, Institutt for konstruksjonsteknikk	200000
194496	Russian-Norwegian Law: Cooperation in Research/ UiTø, Det juridiske fakultet	200000

194502	Workshop i forbindelse med opprettelse av forskningskonsortium innen nordområde-forskning/ SINTEF - Byggforsk	300000
194507	Multi-criteria assessment of clean energy technologies under uncertainty/ Frisch senteret for samfunnsøkonomisk forskning	112000
194510	Applied basic scientific research in the Barents Sea, with focuson Russian-Norwegian collaboration on taxonomy and ecosystem knowledge/ Norges fiskerihøgskole, Institutt for marin bioteknologi	332000
194513	Cooperation and understanding adapatation to climate change in indigenous societies in the Russian North/ International Centre of Reindeer Husbandry	300000
194515	Enhanced Cooperation between Indigenous Scientists and the Documentation of Traditional Knowledge/ International Centre of Reindeer Husbandry	170000
194516	Intercomparison and knowledge transfer for trace analysis of persistent organic polllutants (POP) in the Arctic environment/ Institutt for luftforskning	300000
194518	Review of new ideas for Norwegian – Russian collaboration in relation to regulation of nuclear legacy management/ Statens strålevern	200000
	Total fordeling av BILAT-midler (kroner)	4599000

The following applications are rejected:

194469
194472
194485
194500
194508