Programme board for Russia and Western Balkan

Time: **Mondag, 16 June 2008, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**
Place: **Forskningens hus, Stensberggt 26, Oslo**

Present: ***Board Members:*** Chairman Gunnar Jordfald (NILU), Vise-Chairman Olav Refsdal (Vestfold University College), Magny Thomassen (Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB), Karsten Fledelius (University of Copenhagen), Jasna B. Jakobsen (University of Stavanger), Elisabeth Roman (Narvic University College), Frode Lieungh, (Telemark University College)
Observers: Tobias F. Svenningsen (UD)

Apologies: Vivil V. Haraldsen (KD), Harald Sandhåland (UD), Karin Hilmer Pedersen, (University of Aarhus)

Secretariat: Arne Haugen (SIU), Birgit Jacobsen (RCN), Ragnhild Ljosland (RCM)

11/2008 Adoption of agenda

Decision:
The agenda was adopted.

12/2008 Adoption of minutes from meeting 24/1/2008

Decision:
Minutes from the meeting 24 January 2008 were adopted.
13/2008 Conflicts of interest
Decision:
The issue of conflicts of interest was not relevant for the agenda for this meeting.

14/2008 Western Balkan, Monday 20th – Wednesday 22nd October, Beograd

Document: 1 – Proposal to the content of the seminar. 2 enclosures:
- Summing up the challenges
- Proposed program for the seminar

Dokument: 2 – Forslag til vedtak seminaropplegg. 3 enclosures:
- Proposed agreement with organiser
- SAGA TST
- Proposed budget

Decision:
The Programme Board supports the proposed content of the seminar – that will be *communication*. The Secretariat works out a final programme taking into consideration the comments of the programme board. One will see to that all relevant themes will be covered, and all countries taking actively part in the programme will be present. It is the ambition of the programme to create publicity around this seminar.

The seminar will be arranged by SAGA TST, and organised due to the comments of the Programme Board.

15/2008 **Reallocation of funds**

Document: Reallocation of money returned to the Programme by SIU-projects

The Secretariat informed that there are unused funds for the year 2009 of 1 501 000 NOK. The Programme Board will have to consider another utilisation of these funds. Further; 990 816 NOK are returned to SIU from different research projects. Thus; the Programme disposes of approximately 2.5 million NOK for the period 2008/2009.

Decision:

The Programme Board supported the following allocation:

- 150 000 NOK from the 2008 budget (money returned from the SIU-projects) will be distributed on the seminar in Beograd.
- 400 000 NOK from the 2009 budget will be used on the Summer School, Oslo 2009, for students from Serbia, Bosnia-Hercegovina and Kosovo.
- 600 000 NOK from the 2009 budget will be allocated the Final Conference of the Western Balkan Programme and other activities related to the finalisation of the programme.
- 1 500 000 NOK from the 2009 budget will be announced internally on the Western Balkan Programme by the end of the summer 2008. The announcement is supposed to contribute to 1) enforce communication from the projects (both scientifically and towards public authorities); and 2) enforce the projects technically to ensure quality of the scientific results. The Secretariat works out a proposal for the announcement, which will be treated by the Programme Board by e-mail.

16/2008 **Application for prolongation of the project period**

Document. (Was treated before 14/2008).

Decision:

The project is given the opportunity to carry out the finalising activities that are necessary and as described in the letter of 21 of May 2008. Permission will not be given the project for transfers extending the year 2009.

17/2008 **For discussion – handling of Annual Reports to SIU**

Document.

Decision:

The Programme Board expressed satisfaction with the established routines that will be continued.

18/2008 **Vest-Balkan: Protokollføring – Årsrapporter til SIU 2007**

Document: Annual reports to SIU

19/2008 **Information**

- **Reporting from the projects**
- Annual Report / RUSSIA
- Annual Report/ WEST-BALKAN

- Minutes from the annual meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the programme Western Balkan

20/2008 **Any other business**

Next meeting of the Programme Board is to take place on Monday 6th october 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM in the Research Council for treatment of the applications to the announcement early autumn (with deadline ultimo September) and for planning of the seminar in Beograd.