

Board, Centre for Molecular Medicine Norway (NCMM)

Oslo, June 2023

## Minutes from Board Meeting 19 June 2023

Time: Monday 19 June 13:00 -16:00

Place: NCMM meeting room KILO

Executive officer: Ingrid Kjelsvik

	Present	Absent
Professor Jens Petter Berg (UiO/OUS), Chair	X	
Professor Melinka Butenko (UiO), member	X	
Professor Hilde Nilsen (UiO), member	X	
Director Research & Diagnostics Lars Eikvar (HSØ), member	X	
Professor Magne Børset (NTNU), national deputy member	X	
Dr. Torunn Berge (HSØ), member	X	
Professor Ola Myklebost (UiB), national member		X
Senior Adviser Randi Vad (HSØ)		X
Professor Arnaldo Frigessi, deputy member		X
Anthony Mathelier, Associate Director NCMM	X	
Professor Janna Saarela (NCMM), Director	X	

Agenda (O = information item, D = discussion item B = decision item)

**Case 15-23B Approval of minutes from last Board meeting**

Draft minutes from the Board meeting on March were available.

**Decision:** The minutes were approved.

**Case 16-23D Follow-up of SAB recommendations**

The SAB made several recommendations upon their last visit. NCMM has worked to address these in several ways. A draft mission statement for the Centre was presented in the board meeting. NCMM has also started several other activities/ measures, such as a co-funded postdoc scheme, similar to the Scientia Fellowship, with a call that opens in the autumn. The PhD adjunct mentorship programme is being rolled out, the Centre is developing a more comprehensive onboarding process, including a wiki page for new staff. A group of volunteer PhDs and postdocs have formed the NCMM trainee committee to work on scientific/ social topics, a chalk talk series for the group leaders is starting in September. Group leaders will also be invited to give talks as part of the Tuesday seminar series.

**Decision:** The Board discussed the planned measures and took note of the briefing.

**Case 17-23O Reconstruction plans and lab activity**

OsloTech has announced plans for changing the ventilation system and addressing structural issues in house E in Forskningsparken, where NCMM now has the main lab activity. UiO Property Dept. is leading the dialogue.

**Decision:** The Board took note of the briefing and will follow the situation and take action if required.

**Case 18-23O Overview of NCMM's finances**

An overview of NCMM finances after the first 4-month period in 2023 was presented at the meeting by CAO Ingrid Kjelsvik.

**Decision:** The Board took note of the briefing.

**Case 19-23B EVALMEDHELSE**

NCMM is invited to participate in the Norwegian Research Council's evaluation of medicine and health. The main objective of the evaluation of life sciences 2022-2024 is to assess quality and framework conditions for life science research in Norway, as well as the research's relevance for the society. The evaluation shall result in Centre for Molecular Medicine Norway – NCMM recommendations to the institutions, to the Research Council and to the relevant ministries. The previous evaluation of biology, medicine and health subjects happened in 2010/2011. The Board was invited to assess the evaluation's 'terms of reference' and approve the suggested additional KPI's NCMM to be assessed by in the EVALMEDHELSE process:

1. Promoting successful career launches and development for young PIs
2. Bringing international talent to Norway
3. Diversity, gender equality, and inclusion

**Decision:** The Board approved the 'terms of reference' and the additional KPIs.

**Case 20-23O Work environment issue - Personnel case**

**Exempt information cf. §13 Offentlighetsloven**

NCMM was informed of a serious work environment issue in August 2022. The case has been handled at UiO level and a report is written. The Centre Director gave an update in the meeting.

**Decision:** The Board took note of the briefing.

**Case 21-23O Strategy discussion on continuation of NCMM beyond 2024 - update**

NCMM currently is in its third 5-year funding period and receives core funding annually from UiO, RCN and HSØ until the end of 2024. The RCN has communicated that they will not be able to fund NCMM beyond 2024. NCMM has had several meetings with the rectorate at UiO in 2022 and 2023, to discuss the future of the Centre, as well as the renewal of the Nordic EMBL Partnership agreement (2023-2032). The Director presented NCMM to the new Deanship at

MED on March 6, and The Director and Chair of the Board attended a workshop organized by the Rector of UiO on March 17. A workshop to discuss potential new direction and strategy of NCMM as well as renewed UiO funding will be arranged by the rector on June 26. The Centre Director gave an update in the meeting.

**Decision:** The Board took note of the briefing.

**Case 22-23O NCMM applications to NFR INFRA call**

NCMM is leading, and involved in, several applications to Norwegian Research Council's call for national infrastructures, such as the NOR Openscreen, next generation gene therapy measures initiative, national zebrafish initiative and Cryo-EM application. The Centre Director gave an update in the meeting.

**Decision:** The Board took note of the briefing.

Sincerely,

Jens Petter Berg  
Chair NCMM Board

Janna Saarela  
NCMM Director