MINUTES* of the 2020 Meeting of the Assembly of UArctic

February 25-26, 2020 / Copenhagen, Denmark (Approved)

Hosted by members: Copenhagen Business School, and Ilisimatusarfik / Univ. of Greenland.

* In accordance with procedures, the draft minutes were shared with the Executive Committee of the Council (Toyon) and UArctic's Senior Leadership Team (Ma-Mawi) for comments; and then shared with all members and meeting participants for review and approval.

Minutes: These are minutes of the 2020 meeting of the Assembly of UArctic, previously known as Meeting of the Council. In these minutes each meeting agenda item is presented in order of the original agenda, even though they may have been dealt with out of sequence during the meeting. The minutes contain web links to proposal decisions, presentations, and background documents. The focus of the minutes is on the final decisions; and where relevant, an overview of the views expressed during discussions are included.

Confirmation of Meeting Records: The Chair of the Assembly of UArctic and the two examiners elected in the meeting, confirm that the records for the 2020 meeting of the Assembly of UArctic, held in Copenhagen, Denmark from February 25 to 26 are complete and accurate. Signed confirmation.

Participation: Over 80 participants attended the meeting, with 52 individual UArctic member institutions and organisation represented from 13 different countries.

Event photos: Photographs from each day of the Assembly program are available for download (until July 2020) from the following link www.cutt.ly/uarctic

Presentation from the 1st day (Feb-25):

1) **UArctic – DAFSHE Funded Project Presentations**

   Project 1: Thematic Network on Arctic Sustainability and Social Responsibility.
   Presenter: *Karin Buhmann*, Professor, Copenhagen Business School

   Project 2: Sustainable Tourism Development in the Nordic Arctic
   Presenter: *Chris Horbel*, Associate Professor at University of Southern Denmark

   Project 3: Global ecological and economic connections in Arctic and sub-Arctic crab fisheries.
   Presenter: *Brooks Kaiser*, Professor, University of Southern Denmark

   Project 4: Thematic Network on Collaborative Resource Management.
   Presenter: *Finn Danielsen*, Ecologist, Nordisk Fond for Miljø og Udvikling / NORDECO

2) **UArctic Project Call for Networking Activities on Arctic Research and Education 2020**

3) **Nordic Council of Ministers /** Presentation on Nordic Arctic Cooperation

ASSEMBLY MEETING - BUSINESS

Agenda items:

1. **Opening of Assembly Meeting**

   Presenter: *Peter Sköld*, Acting Chair of the Board

2. **Introduction to Meeting Rules: Validity, Rights, Proposals and Voting Procedures**

   Presenter: *Liisa Holmberg,* Acting Chair of the Assembly

   Document: Board decision – Call for Meeting of the Assembly 2020

   Presentation: Introduction to Meeting Rules - 2020

3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda and Selection of Examiners** (Action item)

   Presenter: *Liisa Holmberg,* Acting Chair of the Assembly

   Documents: [Proposal 3 - Decision]
   [2019 Council Meeting Minutes]
   [Finnish Associations Act 1989-503]

   Decisions: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of:

   a) Accepting the proposed agenda for the 2020 Meeting of the Assembly of UArctic.

   b) Selecting member representatives ***Svein Harald Sønderland*** of Kings Bay AS, and ***Janne Näkkäläjärvi*** of Sámi Education Institute as Examiners for this meeting.

4. **Approval of Membership Registry** (Action item)

   Presenter: *Liisa Holmberg,* Acting Chair of the Assembly

   Documents: [Proposal 4 - Decision]
   [Summary and list of Current UArctic Members]

   Decision: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of approving the list of 210 registered UArctic members.

5. **Approval of UArctic Constitution & UArctic Bylaws** (Action item)

   Presenter: *Liisa Holmberg,* Acting Chair of the Assembly

   Documents: [Proposal 5 - Decision]
   [UArctic Constitution]
   [UArctic Bylaws]
   [UArctic legal entity – General FAQ]

Decisions: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Approving the UArctic Constitution as the principle governing document of the legally registered UArctic ry.

b) Approving the updated UArctic Bylaws, and agrees that this document serve as an operation guideline for UArctic, while the UArctic Constitution shall take precedence over all legal interpretations and procedures.

6. Election of Assembly Officers (Action item)

Presenter: *Outi Snellman,* Secretary of the Nominations Committee

Document: [Proposal 6 - Decision]

Decision: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of electing the acting Officers of the Assembly, ***Liisa Holmberg***, ***Ljubov D. Radnaeva***, and ***Lindsay Whaley*** for the remainder of their respective elected terms as officers.

7. UArctic Board

Presenter: *Outi Snellman*, Secretary of the Nominations Committee

7.1 Election of the Board Chair (Action item)

Documents: [Proposal 7.1 - Decision]

[Charter of Association – UArctic ry]

Decision: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of electing the acting Board Chair, ***Peter Sköld*** for the remainder of his previously elected term to the Board.

7.2 Election of Board Members (Action item)

Document: [Proposal 7.2 - Decision]

Decisions: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Electing the acting members of the Board, ***Jouko Niinimäki***, ***Elena Kudryashova***, ***Karen Barnes***, ***Sergey Aplonov***, ***Magnús Tumi Guðmundsson***, ***Lene Kielsen Holm***, ***Anne Husebekk***, ***Evon Peter***, ***Robert Sauvé***, and ***Ross Virginia*** for the remainder of their respective elected terms on the Board.

b) Electing ***Gary Kachanoski*** as member of the Board of UArctic, for a third and final three-year term (2020-2023).

c) Electing ***Frederik Paulsen*** as member of the Board of UArctic, for a second three-year term (2020-2023).

d) Accepting the nomination and electing ***Mikhail Pogodaev*** as member of the Board of UArctic for an initial three-year term (2020-2023).

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7.3 Election of Board Student Representatives (Action item)

Documents: [Proposal 7.3 - Decision]

[Call for Board Student Nominations 2020]

Decisions: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Electing the acting Board Student Representatives of the Board, ***Laurie-Ann Lines*** of the University of Alberta, and ***Kamila Faizieva*** of the Industrial University of Tyumen for the remainder of their respective elected terms on the Board.

b) Accepting the nomination and electing ***Giuseppe Amatulli*** of the Durham University, to serve as Student Representative on the Board of UArctic for a fixed three-year term (2020-2023).

c) Thanking Board Student Representative, ***Anastasia Sokolova*** of the Siberian Federal University, Russia for her contributions as Board Student Representative (2017-2020), and wish her success in all future endeavours.

8. Assembly Committees

8.1 Election of Nominations Committee Members (Action item)

Presenter: *Outi Snellman*, Secretary of the Board of UArctic

Documents: [Proposal 8.1 - Decision]

Decisions: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Electing the acting members of the Nominations Committee, ***Lena Maria Nilsson*** (Chair), ***Yury A. Sumarokov*** and ***Mauri Ylä-Kotola*** for the remainder of their respective elected terms on the committee.

b) Accepting the nomination and electing ***Gail Fondahl*** as member of the Nominations Committee for an initial three-year term (2020-2023).

c) Accepting the nomination and electing ***Sven D. Haakanson Jr.*** as member of the Nominations Committee for an initial three-year term (2020-2023).

d) Joining the Board of UArctic in thanking ***Barry Scherr*** for his dedication and important contributions to UArctic as member and Vice-chair of the Nominations Committee (2014-2020).

8.2 Election of Indigenous Issues Committee Members (Action item)

Presenter: *Outi Snellman*, Secretary of the Nominations Committee

Documents: [Proposal 8.2 - Decision]

[Rules of Procedure – Indigenous Issues Committee]

Decision: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of electing the acting members of the Indigenous Issues Committee, ***Kirk D. Anderson***, ***Gwen Healey***, ***Beth Leonard***, ***Eeva-Liisa Rasmus-Moilanen***

and ***Johan Mathis Turi*** for the remainder of their respective elected terms on the committee.

9. Report from the President

Presenter: *Lars Kullerud,* UArctic President

10. UArctic Strategic Plan 2030 – Process update

Presenter: *Lars Kullerud,* UArctic President

11. UArctic Finances

11.1 Election of Auditing Firm (Action item)

Presenter: *Outi Snellman*, Head of the UArctic International Secretariat

Document: [Proposal 11.1 - Decision]

Decision: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of electing the professional financial services firm **KPMG International** to undertake audits of UArctic's financial accounts, for an operating term of three years 2020 to 2023.

11.2 Approval of Membership Fee Structure (Action item)

Presenter: *Lars Kullerud*, UArctic President

Document: [Proposal 11.2 - Decision]

Decision: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of approving the membership fee structure which has been in place since 2014, and supporting the implementation principles presented.

11.3 Approval of Finance Report 2019 (Action item)

Presenter: *Lars Kullerud*, UArctic President

Documents: [Proposal 11.3 - Decision]

[UArctic Finance Report 2019]

[Overview of UArctic Financial Reporting and Budgeting 2019-2020]

Decision: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of approving the UArctic Finance Report 2019, thus concluding the 2019 expenditure cycle.

11.4 Verification of Income and Expense estimates 2020 (Action item)

Presenter: *Lars Kullerud*, UArctic President

Documents: [Proposal 11.4 - Decision]

[UArctic Income and Expense estimates 2020]

Decision: Following a request for moving the income and cost estimates from the footnote to the actual proposed income and expense estimates 2020, the members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of verifying and supporting the proposed UArctic Income & Expense estimates 2020.

Correction: During the April 2020 meeting of the Board of UArctic, a formality mistake to Assembly agenda item on the operating budget 2020 was identified. The correction / clarification makes clear that the Board has the sole responsibility and authority to approve the budget, while the role of the Assembly is to verify the income and expense estimates presented in the budget (i.e. the Assembly can review the order of magnitude of the numbers, and have the right to question and comment, but does not have the responsibility to decide on or approve the budget). The request by the Assembly was dually noted by the Board, and all related Assembly and Board documents were updated / corrected accordingly.

11.5 Authorization for a Fundraising Campaign (Action item)

Presenter: *Lars Kullerud*, UArctic President

Document: [Proposal 11.5 - Decision]

Decision: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of authorizing UArctic's administration to undertake a fundraising campaign, and to proceed in applying for a money collection permit from Finnish authorities.

12. UArctic Membership

12.1 Introduction of New Member Applicants 2020

Presenter: *Liisa Holmberg,* Assembly Chair

Document: [Summary of Member Applicants 2020]

Presentations: [Algoma University]

[The Yellow Tulip Project]

[Glasgow Caledonian University]

[Liaocheng University]

[Southern University of Science and Technology - Department of Ocean Science and Engineering]

[Trinity Centre for the Environment]

[Wuhan University]

12.2 Approval of New Arctic Members (Action item)

Presenter: *Lindsay Whaley,* Assembly Secretary

Documents: [Proposal 12.2 - Decision]

[Application - Algoma University]

[Application - College of New Caledonia] – application deferred to 2021

[Application - Finlandia University] - application deferred to 2021

[Application - The Yellow Tulip Project]

Decisions: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Accepting **Algoma University** as Arctic / Higher education institution members of the University of the Arctic.

b) Accepting **The Yellow Tulip Project** as Arctic / Other organization member of the University of the Arctic.

c) Accepting to defer the Arctic membership applications from **College of New Caledonia** and **Finlandia University**, and invites the applicants to send a representative to present their institution at the next meeting of the Assembly in 2021.

12.3 Approval of New Non-Arctic Members (Action item)

Presenter: *Lindsay Whaley,* Assembly Secretary

Documents: [Proposal 12.3 - Decision]

[Application - Glasgow Caledonian University]

[Application - Liaocheng University]

[Application - Southern University of Science and Technology - Department of Ocean Science and Engineering]

[Application - Trinity Centre for the Environment]

[Application - Wuhan University]

[Application - Grandview Institution] - application deferred to 2021

Decision: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Accepting **Glasgow Caledonian University**; **Liaocheng University**; **Southern University of Science and Technology - Department of Ocean Science and Engineering**; **Trinity Centre for the Environment**; and **Wuhan University** as Non-Arctic / Higher education institution members of the University of the Arctic.

b) Accepting to defer the Non-Arctic membership application from **Grandview Institution**, and invites the applicant to send a representative to present their institution at the next meeting of the Assembly in 2021.

13. UArctic Thematic Networks

Presenter: *Kirsi Latola*, Director of UArctic Thematic Networks Office

13.1 Introduction to proposed New Thematic Networks / Presentations

Link: [Guidelines for Establishing New Thematic Networks]

Presentations: [Ageing and Gender in the Arctic]

[Arctic Transport and Logistics]

[BEBO – Future of Reindeer Husbandry]

[Climate Justice in the Arctic]

[Gender in Arctic Knowledge Production]

[Herbivory]

[Human Adaptation in a Changing Arctic]

[POPs & Chemicals in the Asian Arctic]

13.2 Approval of New Thematic Networks 2020 (Action item)

Documents: [Proposal 13.2 - Decision]

[Application - New TN on Ageing and Gender in the Arctic]

[Application - New TN on Arctic Transport and Logistics]

[Application - New TN on BEBO – Future of Reindeer Husbandry]

[Application - New TN on Climate Justice in the Arctic]

[Application - New TN on Gender in Arctic Knowledge Production]

[Application - New TN on Herbivory]

[Application - New TN on Human Adaptation in a Changing Arctic]

[Application - New TN on POPs & Chemicals in the Asian Arctic]

Decisions: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of supporting the evaluation by the UArctic Thematic Networks Leadership Team and approving the provisional establishment of the following networks:

Thematic Network on Ageing and Gender in the Arctic, hosted by the University of Lapland, Finland

Thematic Network on Arctic Transport and Logistics, hosted by Nord University, Norway

Thematic Network on BEBO – for the future of Reindeer husbandry, hosted by the Sámi Education Institute, Finland

Thematic Network on Climate Justice in the Arctic, hosted by Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland, UK (new member applicant 2020)

Thematic Network on Gender in Arctic knowledge production, hosted by the University of Oulu, Finland

Thematic Network on Herbivory, hosted by the Agriculture University of Iceland

Thematic Network on Human Adaptation in the Changing Arctic, hosted by North-Eastern Federal University, Russia

Thematic Network on POPs and Chemicals of Emerging Concern in the Asian Arctic, hosted by the Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT), China

14. Invitation to join the Friends of UArctic (Action item)

Presenter: *Outi Snellman*, UArctic Vice-President Organization

Document: [Proposal 14 - Decision]

Web-link: [Current list of Friends of UArctic]

Decisions: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Acknowledging the dedication and commitment of ***Minister Lauri Tarasti***, and thanking him for helping guide the development of UArctic's legal structure.

b) Calling on the Board to support the invitation of ***Lauri Tarasti*** to the Friends of UArctic.

15. Approval of Plans for the next Assembly Meeting 2021 (Action item)

Presenter: *Outi Snellman*, UArctic Vice-President Organization

Documents: [Proposal 15 - Decision]

[Summary of UArctic Meetings 2005-present]

Presentation: Assembly Meeting in Portland, Maine, USA 2021

Decisions: The members of the Assembly voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Accepting the weeks of June 7 or June 14 as the time-frame for the next annual Assembly meeting in 2021, as proposed by the co-hosts the **University of New Hampshire**, the **University of Maine**, the **University of New England**, the **Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University**, the **University of Southern Maine**, and **Dartmouth College**.

b) Requesting that the local planning committee work closely with the UArctic International Secretariat and the International Planning Committee on defining a program for the 2nd annual meeting of the Assembly of UArctic.

Confirmation: As required by UArctic's Constitution, *an annual Assembly of the association will be arranged each year at a time from April to July, on a date specified by the Board*. Hence, during their April 2020 meeting, members of **the Board approved the proposed dates of June 2 to 4, for the next annual meeting of the Assembly of UArctic in 2021.**

16. Information on UArctic Congress 2020

Presenter: *Outi Snellman*, UArctic Vice-President Organization

Web-link: [UArctic Congress 2020 homepage]

17. Announcements – none presented.

Adjournment of Meeting

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