

**Minutes of the 71st
UNU-FTP board meeting
held on December 1st, 2011 at 10:00**

Present: Jóhann Sigurjónsson (chairman) (JS)
Tumi Tómasson (TT)
Ögmundur Knútsson (ÖK)
Guðrún Pétursdóttir (GP)
Erla Kristinsdóttir (EK)
Sveinn Margeirsson (SM)
Hermann Ingólfsson (HI)
Þór Ásgeirsson (took minutes) (TA)

The chairman welcomed the board and called the meeting to order.

1. Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes approved

2. Matters arising

- TT informed the meeting that one of the fellows had to be expelled from the training programme due to improper conduct. The group as a whole is doing well. Project proposals are being written and proposal presentations are under way. It is expected that four fellows will stay at Holar and one fellow from the QM line will spend a short time there in relation to his project. Three fellows will do their projects in Isafjordur. One of the FT fellows has to return home due to visa problems but he finished his project proposal and it is expected that he will do part of the project work in his home country and then return to Iceland next year to finish his project. There will be four fellows doing their project work at MRI and five at MATIS.
- TT informed the meeting that a total of eight short courses were held in partner countries 2011, which is a record. The courses are: Stock assessment in St. Vincent in cooperation with CRFM, Management and leadership for directors of Area Fishermen Association in Malaysia, Aquaculture for extension officers and two courses on quality management in Uganda, aquaculture course in Vietnam in cooperation with NACA and NhaTrang University, quality management course in Namibia in cooperation with NAMFI, management of small scale aquaculture enterprises in Mozambique in cooperation with University of Eduardo Mondlane. Several other courses are in preparation for 2012.
- TT informed the meeting that TA has just returned from Mozambique attending a WaterNet symposium where he participated in a session devoted to UNU activities in sub-Saharan Africa and presented a paper on the activities of the UNU-FTP in the region. Also presenting their papers were directors of UNU-INRA (Ghana), UNU-INWE (Canada), UNU-Flores (Dresden, Germany) and UNU-VIE (Bonn, Germany).

3. Visit of the rector of the UNU

HI informed the meeting about the visit of Prof. Konrad Osterwalder, the UNU rector. The main purpose of his visit was to learn about the Icelandic programmes and explore future status of the Icelandic programmes within UNU. In addition to visiting all of the Icelandic programmes and talking to the directors of the host institutes, several meetings were held with the programme directors and representatives from the MFA. The UNU rector met also with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. At a concluding meeting it was agreed that a joint working group would work towards:

- Recommendations on the establishment or incorporation of the UNU Icelandic-based programmes as an integral part of the UNU
- Ensuring that the processes for the selection and appointment of the director and the programme directors of the Icelandic programmes follow UNU practice and guidelines.
- A collaborative, partner-based approach to the development and adoption of long-term strategic plan of the Iceland-based programmes.

The group, consisting of representatives of the UNU, MFA and the three UNU programmes in Iceland, is to finish before July 1. 2012.

The meeting agreed that the programme directors should select the representative of the programmes and who ever will be selected must explore all views of the matter. The meeting also agreed that the working group should pay special attention to the financial cost of such new arrangement.

4. *Internal evaluation – implications and changes to be made to the programme*

TT informed the meeting that the internal/self evaluation report has now been formally submitted and presented to the board. What is still missing is the peer review from the UNU, and UNU has not yet responded to that. The main results of the evaluation are:

- a) The training component of the programme is considered good.
- b) Long-term strategy is needed regarding the short courses.
- c) The connection between the scholarship recipients and the UNU-FTP should be more and the recipients should be integrated more into the UNU-FTP activities.
- d) The selection strategy of partners or partner countries needs to be revisited and sharpened.

TT also introduced briefly a concept of a 12 months Master of Applied Science degree/programme, followed by a discussion by the board, where the research project would be carried out in the fellows country. Such a new programme could fall within the strategy of the UNU.

The board agreed to have TT following up on the peer review of the internal evaluation report with the UNU.

5. *Work plan for 2012*

TT presented the plan of activities for 2012. Estimated budget is about 168 million IKR and income from other sources than the Iceland government will be negligible. The number fellows will be 20 on four lines of specialization, Stock Assessment, Fisheries Policy and Planning, Quality Management, and Management of Fisheries Companies. Around 6-8 short courses will be either planned or implemented. Some of the courses will be developed in cooperation with ICEIDA.

6. *AOB*

- a) HI introduced a report from MFA on development aid for 2009/10.
- b) Graduation of the UNU-FTP will be March 7.

There being no further business, the chairman thanked the board and closed the meeting at 12:00 and announced that the next meeting will be on **February 16 at 10:00**