

NFOG BOARD MEETING

Minutes 3/2010

I.

Place: Park Inn Copenhagen Airport

Time: Wednesday 17.11.2010, 09.30-12.00

Present: Göran Berg (President), Thea Lousen (Treasurer) Tone Skeie-Jensen (Secretary General), Aila Tiitinen (SGY), Charlotte Hasselholt Søggaard (DSGO), Ulf Högberg (SFOG), Bjørn Backe (NGF), Hulda Hjartardóttir (FÍK), Alexander Smáráson (Scientific Committee), Peter Secher (Webmaster), Alda Birgisdóttir (NFYOG), Reynir T. Geirsson (Acta Chief Editor), Peter Hornnes (President NFOG-Congress 2010), Knut Hordnes (President NFOG-Congress 2012), Pia Teleman (SFOG Vice President), Marie Bixo (EC Chairman)

- 1. Opening of the meeting** Göran Berg (GB) opened the meeting. Each participant gave a short introduction.
- 2. Approval of the agenda** The agenda was approved with minor adjustments.
- 3. Approval of the minutes from the NFOG Board meeting 2/2010** The minutes were approved.
- 4. Report from NFOG 2010** Peter Hornnes (PH) gave a presentation of the Congress regarding participation, accommodation and budget (a copy of the presentation and budget was handed out). The total expenditure amounted to 3.040.401,- DKK. The total income amounted to 3.728.401,- DKK, leaving a positive balance of 687.999,-. 1/3 of the surplus goes to NFOG, but due to the subtraction of expenses the local committee has had, the amount NFOG receives is 98.051,- DKK. PH pointed out that the e-poster session was not very successful, and that the costs were high. Concern was raised about the limited Swedish participation. An effort will be made to get participation from key colleagues at the different Nordic departments prior to the next Congress. An increased use of colleagues outside of the Board for chairing sessions was suggested. The budget was accepted, but there were some additional questions from the Board that were raised after PH had left. GB will send a letter to PH with the questions needing clarification (concerning subtractions of expenses to avoid double "counting").
- 5. NFOG 2012** Knut Hordnes (KH) gave a presentation of the preliminary plans made for the next Congress in Bergen. (See attachment)
So far there is no scientific program or budget. A close collaboration with the NFOG Scientific Committee is planned. TL intends to work closely with the organizing committee on the budget. KH emphasised the importance of engaging the Nordic gynecological community, and there will be ads in the National Bullitins to encourage the members to suggest topics of interest. The EBCOC Congress is held the same spring as the NFOG Congress, and is competing for participants from the Nordic countries. At present one does not see a need to change the year of the NFOG Congress to odd years.
- 6. Educational Committee** In understanding with the members of the EC Marie Bixo (MB) from Sweden was elected the new EC Chairman. In addition to MB, the Committee consists of A. Shokouh-Amiri (Denmark), K. Jónsdóttir (Island), J. Nakling (Norway) and K. Mäbibalio-Anttila (Finland).

7. Presentation of the Educational Course 2010 MB gave a presentation of the Copenhagen course on PCOS. The scientific program had been planned by Eszter Vancy who also recruited lecturers.

The topic for the 2011 course will be Chronic pelvic disorders, and the preliminary dates are November 9.-10. The EC suggested moving the meeting to Stockholm, but TL informed that NFOG has a contract with Park Inn also for 2011.

The budget for this years meeting was presented with a negative balance of approximately 80.000,- DKK. The negative balance is mainly due to the fact that there were only 140 paying participants, and not 200 as was budgeted for. In addition there were no sponsors. HH suggested a longer program for the next meeting, the extension being made on day 2.

It was **voted by the Board** and decided that for the coming educational meetings the EC member in the country where the meeting is held is in charge of sponsorcontacts. It was also **voted by the Board** and decided that the next meeting will be held in Copenhagen, but that the location for 2012 will be decided at a later Board meeting.

8. ACTA Reynir T. Geirsson (RG) presented the Chief Editors report. This year much time and effort has been put into the change of publisher to Wiley-Blackwell. A change that gives ACTA new possibilities with regards to distribution and collaboration with other publications within the Wiley-Blackwell system. Among other things, ACTA plans to present a new webpage.

New national editors are Jorma Paavonen, Torbjørn Eggebø and Christina Gemzel, replacing Risto Erkkola, Per Bergsjø and Ian Milsom, respectively. Nils Udbjerg has had his period prolonged for 2 years. A new secretary must be hired as Eva Christina Stern is retiring.

RG asked for the Boards permission to advertise for an Assistant Chief Editor. There was some discussion about the fact that this would lead to a budget deficite. A possible way of reducing the deficit can be to reduce the sums budgeted for the national editors. It was **voted by the Board** and decided that the matter of new Assistant Editor should be discussed at the Editorial board meeting in February of 2011, and that a proposal with necessary budget changes should be presented at the next Board meeting in April. A decision will then be made by the Board.

II.

Place: Park Inn Copenhagen Airport

Time: Thursday 18.11.2011, 10.00-18.00

Present: Göran Berg, Thea Lousen, Tone Skeie-Jensen, Aila Tiitinen, Charlotte Hasselholt Sögaard, Ulf Högberg, Bjørn Backe, Hulda Hjartardóttir, Alexander Smárason, Peter Secher, Reynir T. Geirsson, Alda Birgisdóttir, Marie Bixo, Pia Teleman

GB presided over the meeting.

9. Economy, budget and accounts Thea Lousen (TL) presented the NFOG budget for 2010-2012, decided at the General Assembly in 2008.

At first the Editorial Expenses for ACTA until Nov. 2010 were presented. So far the result does not exceed the estimated budget for 2010 of -1.219.000,-DKK.

Budget and result until Nov. 2010 was presented for Committees and Initiatives. It has not been budgeted with a deficit for the EC for 2010, and the deficit of this years Educational Course will be covered by the Board reserve. It has been budgeted with an EC deficit of 150.000,- DKK for each of the next 2 years.

The budget for Additional costs has by Nov. a result of -149.789,- DKK, exceeding the 2010 budget of -141.000,- DKK.

The NFOG & ACTA budget showed a surplus of 500.000,- DKK. According to the bylaws 66% of the surplus will be transferred to the Fund.

10. Scientific Committee Alexander Smáráson (AS) went through the bylaws for the NFOG Fund. He pointed out that some changes in the text of §7 should be suggested for the next General Assembly, to make the text more clear.

The SC had received 34 applications, and 27 were funded. The minutes from the SC meeting gives the details behind the decisions made. The allocations will be announced on the web site.

The Board discussed what principles should decide the amounts that were allocated, as few of the applicants received the full amounts they applied for. It was also discussed whether the event had to take place after the grant was given. A vote was made.

It was **voted by the Board** and decided that the bylaws state that the application has to be approved by the SC before the event applied for takes place. Further it **voted by the Board** and decided that the SC are fully trusted in their evaluations of the applications, and in deciding the amount of money they give as grants.

The deadline for the next application to the NFOG Fund is March 1st, and the Board will receive the list of given and refused grants decided by the SC prior to the next Board meeting.

11. www.nfog.org. Peter Secher (PS) informed that the web page will be updated after discussion with the new publisher for ACTA. The thesis registration is not recruiting as one hoped for, and there have been no new entries after the NFOG Congress. The national societies are asked to make an effort in approaching their University Hospitals in order to get an arrangement ensuring that a new thesis will be reported to the NFOG webmaster.

12. NFYOG Alda Birgisdóttir (AB) reported that there has been one meeting held since the Congress. The course during next year's meeting in week 38 in Stockholm, will be on 1st trimester ultrasound. AB informed the Board that NFYOG has lost its sponsor (Novo Nordisk), and that they will seek to find a new sponsor as soon as possible. NFYOG is planning to enter the web site, and they are exploring ENTOG collaboration. Increased focus is put on the training situation for candidates in gyn.obst.

13. EBCOG PH asked to be excused from attending the meeting due to other appointments. Information will be found in the President's Newsletter attached to the minutes.

14. FIGO Seija Grenman was unable to attend the Board meeting. Information will be found in the FIGO-NEWS attached to the minutes.

15. News from the national committees Ulf Högberg (SFOG) informed that work with systematic reviews in areas like cesarian section, incontinence and prolonged labour are in progress. Guidelines regarding safe deliveries have been finished.

Bjørn Backe (NGF) informed that NGF has been involved in the ongoing national discussion about small obstetrical units, and their ability to render safe healthcare to the population in rural areas. The key issue is centralisation in order to give safe and equal healthcare. NGF is involved in ongoing work with national guidelines.

Aila Tiitinen (SGY) informed of the attempt to unite the different subgroups of the Finish gyn/obst society within their annual meeting. Further SGY is presently involved in auditing the training hospitals. EBCOG instructions are being used for the audit. Also in Finland there is an ongoing discussion about the safety of small obstetrical units.

Charlotte Sögaard (DSOG) informed of the ongoing restructuring of Danish hospitals, leading to specialists being fired. There is a lack of specialists in certain parts of the country, and a surplus in

others. The shortening of time required for specialisation introduced some years back now seems to have resulted in reduced skills for new specialists. DSOG is trying to assess the number of specialists needed pr year in Denmark. DSOG is also working towards making national guidelines, while the health authorities want to import guidelines from the UK that are not adapted to Danish conditions. Hulda Hjartardóttir (FÍFK) expressed concern that the difficult financial situation in Iceland will result in fewer specialists returning to the country after specialisation abroad. A survey has been made that supports this concern. FÍFK is also concerned about the quality of the small obstetric units. A twinning project is planned between FÍFK and Malawi.

16. The assignment of Per Olof Janson to wrighting the history of NFOG and ACTA GB informed of the preparatory proceedings. The request is approximately 25 pages that will be published in the anniversary number of ACTA in 2011. The budget proposal received by the Board needs to be revised. GB will write to POJ informing that the Board is positive to the history being written, but that a revised budget will be needed before the next Board meeting, when a final decision can be made.

17. SFOG initiative for statement and call of action UH informed the Board that Denis Mukwege MD, from Congo, was present at the Swedish annual meeting giving a lecture on the work done in Congo to surgically repair women raped during the war. Initiative is taken by SFOG for a statement and call of action being sent to the UN and EU regarding this large problem. SFOG wants support from the other Nordic societies and NFOG. UH will send the statement and call for action to the national societies and to the Board members. The NFOG Board will discuss possible support by mail.

18. Visit to RCOG RG has suggested that the Board should hold a meeting in London, visiting the RCOG. The main aim of the visit will be to get ideas from RCOG for the further work of NFOG. The Board was positive to the proposal, and RG will contact RCOG to clarify the possibility of meeting with one of their members. The matter will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

19. Coming Board meeting The next meeting will be in Stockholm on April 7.-8. CS raised the matter of separate voting members meeting, and GB will contact Seya Grenman before planning such a meeting.

20. Other business No matters were presented.

Göran Berg
President of NFOG

Tone Skeie-Jensen
Secretary General