

Date:	April 1th, 2020	Place:	Digital meeting in Teams
	Draft Board Meeting Minutes		
Present	From the Board: Anders Hamming (AH), Andreas Dybkjær-Andersson (ADA) (agenda 5-12), Flemming Hansen (FH), Helle Munk Ravnborg (HMR), Karen Jørgensen (KJ), Khaterah Parwani (KP) (agenda 3-12), Mahmoud Ismail (MI), Rasmus Kjær Slot (RKS), Sine Jensen (SJ), Steen Folke (SF) and Stine Krøijer (SK)		
	Others: Marie Uldall Thomsen (MUT) (Parliamentary Audit) (1-9) Kjeld Lannig (KL) (Parliamentary Audit) Anton Baare (AB) (FAC) (agenda 1-3)		
	From the Secretariat: Jonas Giersing (JGI), Julie Koch (JK), Nora Christiansen (NCH), Ole Damkjær Nielsen (ODA) (agenda 5), Sisse Egeberg (SE) and Tim Whyte (TRW).		
Apologies	Asger Narud (AN) (Alternate)		
	Minute –Taker: Sisse Egeberg		
	The meeting was conducted in Danish		

Agenda

01. Welcome and approval of the agenda
02. Approval of minutes and matters arising from the Board Meeting on February 5th, 2020
03. Update on the Corona-situation
04. Dashboard
05. Annual Report 2019
06. Light touch strategy review
07. Report on the rolling political plan 2019-2020
08. Draft rolling political plan 2020-2021
09. Dialogue with Parliamentary Audit
10. AA Internal Audit Report
11. Council meeting 2020
12. AOB

01.		Welcome and approval of the agenda
		Stine welcomed the board members to the digital Board meeting. The agenda was approved without comments.
02.		Approval of minutes and matters arising from the Board Meeting on February 5th, 2020
		The minutes from the Board Meeting on February 5 th , 2020 were approved with the following comments and corrections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marie Uldall Thomsen (Parliamentary Audit) did not participate in the Board meeting on February 5th - Regarding the annual report, it was approved to make a less comprehensive digital model. At the same time, expectations were expressed regarding stories from the global South to be disseminated via other media and channels. - With regards to the discussion about the linking struggles paper from the working group, several board members highlighted the importance of becoming better at connecting struggles, ex from national to international level, if we want to work more as a social movement in the future. This was one of the key conclusions from the discussion. - In relation to AAI General Assembly, a smaller AAI group has been established by the AADK Board prior to the AAI General Assembly.
03.		Update on the Corona-situation
		<p>Tim gave an update regarding the corona situation and the expected impact and consequences to AADK and the partner countries.</p> <p>In general, there have been three main priorities in handling the situation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Taking care of the safety and health of all employees and volunteers at home and abroad 2. To ensure that we can continue to function and work as an organization 3. Responding nationally and internationally to the crisis. <p>All employees have been asked to work at home since Friday, March 13th. There is one confirmed case of Corona virus among the secretariat staff and several others who are suspected to have been ill with Corona. We have worked hard to secure HR guidelines, new IT platforms and support for team leaders and employees. It is very impressive how good people have been in adapting to new (digital) ways of working, even though many must balance work, family and children on a daily basis.</p> <p>We have closed our cafes in Aarhus and Copenhagen, as well as Globalhagen Kitchen on Fælledvej and follow the authorities' recommendations. Hotel bookings are also closed. The activities of Global Contact have been shut down as we do not send young people out into the world in the current situation. At the time of the announcement recommending Danes return to Denmark we had over 200 volunteers around the world. Global Contact succeeded in assisting almost all volunteers to return home to Denmark within a short</p>

	<p>period of time. We are awaiting the last four from Peru, who are expected to arrive in DK within a few days.</p> <p>The closure costs a considerable sum for AADK per month. Therefore, of course, we also have a look at the financial side of the situation, including the government assistance packages (Hjælpepakkerne). The large assistance package requires that 30% of employees are in danger of being let go - this is not the case for AADK after all. However, the assistance package is activated in relation to Globalhagen Kitchen. There are currently some discussions about customized packages that may be relevant to us in the context of the social sector and international work. We are keeping us updated on the development.</p> <p>The Corona crisis has been compared in several respects, among other things in the press, to the Spanish flue, which affected all countries, but was most devastating in India, where 17-18 million people died. This corresponds to 6% of the total population! The virus particularly hit India hard, due to pre-existing food shortages, poverty and a terribly inadequate health care system. These are conditions that we know well from several of the countries we work with. For most people it is now clear that we are facing a humanitarian crisis of historical dimension.</p> <p>Together with the partner countries, we have created an overview of what activities we can undertake to respond to the Corona situation. It is primarily about youth-led response, where we support people themselves in making local responses to the situation. The second big track is about digital responses, where we observe many young people also being active. We have also engaged in Denmark regarding the situation, among other things in relation to the issue of debt moratorium and more generally in the question of how the stimulus packages governments are planning can support green and just transitions locally, nationally and internationally.</p> <p>It is positive that the preliminary result for the financial statements 2019 is better than expected. It is also possible that The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is creating alternative opportunities for flexibility and new resources to respond to the crisis.</p> <p>The Board thanked for the information and for the dedication with which the situation had been handled. .</p>
04.	Dashboard
	<p>The Board had prior to the meeting received a Dashboard providing an overview of the current status on the strategic goals.</p> <p>Jonas Giersing from the Secretariat presented agenda 4 related to agenda 6 Light touch strategy review, where adjustments of three objectives are proposed.</p> <p>The dashboard presented to the Board is created on the basis of the known indicators. It provides the opportunity to compare 2019 figures with both 2017 and 2018. At the bottom of the dashboard there is links for video and other communication about our work and results.</p> <p>In the following discussion, the board members discussed among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Several Board members questioned whether it is okay to adjust the targets - Figures for 2020 were requested, but it is still too early to include them. - Questions were also raised to what lies behind the number of members and contributors being lower than target and also lower than last year. This is because the number consist of the sum of two figures; Permanent supporters/members with minimum one payment within the past 12 months + those who have given a

		<p>single contribution over the past 12 months. The figure therefore also depends on whether there have been any major crises/situations that have caused many on-off donations. There is no real decline in permanent supporters/members, but in fact a small growth if you look at that figure separately.</p> <p>The Board took note of the information.</p>
05.		<p>Annual Report 2019</p> <p>The Board had prior to the meeting received a link to the draft Annual report 2019. At the meeting Ole Damkjær Nielsen from the Secretariat presented the draft 2019 Annual Report (Årsberetningen) and provided a quick guide to the reading.</p> <p>During the following discussion the Board members stressed among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The combination between check dots and stories works well. The check dots may be a little too quantitative. Too little attention is paid to what our work and efforts has changed in the world. A check dot concerning political influence, in the sense of moving political agendas, was requested. - In the intro it says that you can click at the indicator overview and the dashboard is displayed, but the function does not work. - The documentation that we have reached 1,200 Danes a day on average was requested. The figures were obtained from our SoMe reporting systems. - The video focuses mainly on our national work. It was suggested either to supplement with more content from our international work or to explicitly state that the video focuses primarily on our national work. Challenges in getting content of high quality from other Action Aid countries were mentioned. - It was suggested to place the chairwoman's report earlier in the annual report. - It was also suggested to include results from the federation, such as the Youth Community of Interest, where AADK has contributed to a significant part of the result. - Proposal for the inclusion of more layout from a graphic designer. <p>Overall, the board approved of the content and selection of stories. Ole thanked for input and comments, which were taken note of.</p>
06.		<p>Light touch strategy review</p> <p>According to decision at the Board meeting on February 5th, a “light-touch review” of the strategy should be conducted, which proposes small improvements to selected indicators in order to clarify the direction and what is being measured. For the Secretariat, it has also been about making the connection between our three circles clearer to others as well as making it clear that we expect a change within all three circles. All proposed amendments appeared in track changes in a document sent to the board prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The Board was asked to approve the proposed changes to the strategy and decide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whether the Board agrees with the proposed new wording 2. Whether the Board agrees with the proposal to downgrade the following three specific target figures under Organizational Objective 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The target for the number of paying members is adjusted from at least 30,000 to at least 28,000 - The number of volunteers and activists is from at least 3,000 to at least 2,300

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of volunteer stays and activity camps for young people is reduced from 2,000 annually to 1,500 annually at the end of the strategy period <p>3. Whether the adjustments made in light touch review must be made available to the Council.</p> <p>The Board did not support the suggested changes on page 2, which is called "How we do it" as this was seen as an unwelcome conflation of organizational goals for MS and strategic goals for the world around us In addition, the Board did not support the suggested adjustments at the indicator level in relation to the shift from measuring people's empowerment and perception of change to observed institutional change or the clarification that the change we are measuring in the organizing circle relates to the 6 indicators for organizational change in the strategy.</p> <p>Regarding the suggested adjustments to the individual goals, varying opinions were expressed, but the board approved of the reduction of targets We can adjust the number of members and Global Contact, but it is more critical in terms of adjustment of the target of active members. We should continue to strive towards being the best at creating space for active engagement.</p> <p>It was suggested to consider including climate in the strategy if adjustments to the strategy are to be made. However, it was agreed that climate can still be included within the current Objective 2.</p> <p>The adjustment of indicators proposed may be included.</p> <p>All changes must be presented to the Council.</p>
07.	Report on the rolling political plan 2019-2020
	<p>Prior to the meeting, the Board had received a draft report on the rolling political plan for 2019-2020.</p> <p>The draft reporting was reviewed point by point and the following comments derived:</p> <p>Objective 2) It should be written more clearly that the Board is aware of the challenges and that the work on objective 2 has not succeeded.</p> <p>Objective 3) The source of the claim that we are one of the civil society organizations that have the greatest interaction at SoMe must be clear.</p> <p>Objective 4) Regarding the changed of priorities among foundations, it should be made clear how this is related to fundraise for some of our activities. In addition, it must be made clearer what some of the challenges are in relation to Objective 4. This should be included in the chairwoman's report at the Council meeting.</p> <p>Objective 6) It was questioned whether the investment in Aarhus was the reason for postponing active support for the activities in Odense and Aalborg. A reminder was made regarding the decision at the Board Retreat in September 2019 to focus on establishing a Global Platform in Aarhus in 2020. It was agreed that the description of the activities in Odense and Aalborg should be a separate point in the reporting on Objective 6. Cooperation with other organizations at the political level must also be added.</p> <p>Objective 7) It should be added that it is an advantage in relation to the Corona situation that we have been able to use the electronic platform (Teams) to be able to communicate and continue to conduct Board meetings.</p>

	<p>Objectives 11 and 12) It was noted regarding the reporting on Objective 11 and 12 that there is a lack of focus on what the Board has done concerning the objectives. However, in the following discussion, it was supported by several Board members, that there should not be stressed a distinction between the Board's and the Secretariat's results, as AADK is a politically governed organization and ultimately both are responding to the Council's instructions.</p> <p>It was agreed that Stine will review the draft reporting on the rolling political plan and rewrite it in accordance with the above inputs and comments. In general, there should be a focus on adding a little more self-critical reflection, among other things, in relation to the involvement of volunteers and the Council. An editorial review is made so that the Board's focus during the period also becomes clearer.</p>
08.	<p>Draft rolling political plan 2020-2021</p>
	<p>The Board had received a draft of the rolling political plan for 2020-2021 prior to the meeting. This year, a new format has been chosen with the purpose of creating a rolling political plan which is more focused on the political priorities in the external agenda for the coming year than an extended strategy plan for the entire organisation. The draft political plan 2020-2021 thus describes which parts of the strategy the Board particularly intend to focus on in the period. Furthermore, fewer objectives appear in the new format. This is due to a purpose of creating a clearer focus from the start.</p> <p>Overall comments on the new format:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support for the plan focusing on external political goals was expressed - Strong focus on reaching out and engaging our members and people who would like to engage in our work was called for. - Reflections on the Corona situation and the influence on our work especially in relation to the development policy was called for. - Clarification of our commitment to Action Aid was asked for. It was also proposed to establish an ActionAid committee in addition to the 2 proposed committees in the draft rolling political plan for the coming period. - Content on cooperation with other organizations should be added. - Reflection on whether the new format will be overall and general. <p>The following comments occurred from a review of the draft rolling political plan:</p> <p>Objective 1) Climate justice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attention should be paid to language so that we do not appear opportunistic in relation to the climate theme. - Opposition between young and old must be deleted. - Content on renewable energy should be added. <p>Objective 4) Governance review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Objective 4 should be renamed as: "Styrkelse af foreningsdemokrati og engagement" (Strengthening organisation democracy and engagement). <p>It was agreed that Stine will review the draft rolling political plan 2020-2021 and rewrite it in accordance with the above inputs and comments. Attention will be drawn to the language usage concerning climate justice and the title of objective 4 will be changed to "Styrkelse af foreningsdemokrati og engagement" (Strengthening organisation democracy and engagement). Furthermore, overall reflections on the Corona crisis and the consequences for our work will be added. With regard to proposals for the establishment</p>

	<p>of a committee on Action Aid, the members, who are also international representatives on other Boards of Action Aid countries, constitute a natural group together with the international representative of the Board, and no further assessment should be conducted.</p> <p>The draft rolling political plan 2020-2021 was approved with the above comments and proposed amendments.</p>
09.	<p>Dialogue with Parliamentary Audit</p> <p>The Board had prior to the meeting received a draft report from Parliamentary Audit.</p> <p>At the meeting Kjeld Lanng from Parliamentary Audit provided a quick introduction to the report, which he called a critical but loving report.</p> <p>The Board was impressed with the report and thanked the Parliamentary Audit for the work. The report is systematically structured with several recommendations easy to address.</p> <p>Several board members also stated that they took the report very seriously as it outlines some sore points that the board has failed to resolve. For example, the attendance at board meetings has not been good enough.</p> <p>A phrasing with regards to the boards support to the Contact Group was questioned, and Parliamentary Audit clarified that maybe support was the wrong word.</p> <p>The report will be sent to the Council prior to the Council meeting, and then it can form the basis for the work on strengthening the association democracy in our organization through a governance review. Parliamentary Audit must be involved in relation to the Governance review.</p> <p>The framework must be worked on in relation to the election of the Board, the Contact Group and the Parliamentary Audit at the Council meeting.</p> <p>There proposed amendment to the Articles of Association concerning clearer distinction between the work of FAC and Parliamentary Audit was supported by the Board.</p> <p>Furthermore, it was noted that Julie Madsen has left Parliamentary Audit with immediate effect as she has been employed at AADK</p>
10.	<p>AA Internal Audit Report</p> <p>Prior to the meeting, the Board had received a cover note with an appendix in the form of a summary. In the cover note, there is a link to the report itself after AA Internal Audit's visit in November. It is recommended that the specific discussion of Governance related recommendations is taken in connection with the upcoming governance review. The rating we received in connection with AA Internal Audit is the second highest degree, and the Secretariat is satisfied with the score.</p> <p>Regarding the recommendations on governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are some recommendations regarding FAC, both regarding competencies and reporting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a point about the number of board meetings where we in AADK have twice as many board meetings than usual in Action Aid. - Recommendation on fundraising, possible setting up of fundraising committee or withdrawal of fundraising competencies in the FAC. <p>Follow-up actions are presented in the report. It is noted that the report and action points have been prepared before the Corona situation.</p> <p>There Board agreed on that the report is predominantly positive, which is noted.</p> <p>There was support for the release of governance related recommendations for the upcoming Governance review. In relation to recommendations regarding FAC, we must respond relatively quickly before the Council meeting by outlining the right competences. Inclusion of audit competencies were proposed. Regarding the recommendations on Fundraising, this could be interpreted as be a standard organizational form, which is used in many other Action Aid countries and some may wish for us to also use the same set up in AADK. In any case, the board agreed, it would be good to have some strong skills in fundraising in our Council because we are so dependent on fundraising in our work. Overall, however, it is important that we see the recommendations in relation to the kind of organization we are in AADK.</p>
11.	Council meeting 2020
	<p>Stine provided a brief status of the ongoing Council election process. There are 54 nominated candidates among the individual members and 40 new council members must be elected.</p> <p>The line-up among the collective members has not yet been completed, but 3-5 candidates are expected.</p> <p>The Council meeting is still planned to be taken place at 6th-7th June, but it may be necessary to postpone it due to the Corona situation. According to the statutes, the Council meeting must be held before September.</p> <p>The Board thanked the Contact Group for a very fine program. There was strong support from the Board for the entire program, as well as an encouragement to prioritize social interaction in relation to the dinner and party Saturday. The volunteer community should be involved.</p> <p>The draft program for the 2020 Council meeting was approved by the Board.</p> <p>The Board decides on any postponement of the Council meeting if necessary.</p>
12.	AOB
	<p>Stine informed that Mary Consolata Namagambe resigns from the Board at her own will. Stine is in dialogue with alternate Asger Narud.</p>

The meeting closed at 19:10

Adopted during the Board Meeting April 1th, 2020.