

Date:	March 24th, 2021	Place:	Digital meeting Teams
	Draft Board Meeting Minutes		
Present	From the Board: Andrea Holst-Mjöbäck, Andreas Dybkjær Andersson, Dines Justesen, Flemming Hansen, Karen Jørgensen, Mehmet Aksoy, Mette Winding Top, Sine Jensen, Sofie Lippert, Steen Folke and Stine Krøijer.		
	Alternate: Mette Roerup Others: Kjeld Lanng (Parliamentary Audit) Marie Uldall Thomsen (Parliamentary Audit) From the Secretariat: Julie Koch, Jonas Giersing, Lars Koch, Sisse Egeberg, Thea Hass, Tim Whyte and Ulrik Norup Jørgensen (agenda 5)		
Apologies	Khaterah Parwani		
	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 3rd, 2021**
03. **News from AADK and AAI**
04. **Dashboard**
05. **Annual Report 2020**
06. **Climate Justice**
07. **Strategic Partnership Agreement with Danida (SPAII)**
08. **Strengthened association democracy & engagement**
09. **Report on the rolling political plan 2020 -2021**
10. **Draft rolling political plan 2021-2022**
11. **Council meeting 2021**
12. **AADK take on Strengthened international Solidarity**

13. AOB

01. Welcome and approval of the agenda

Stine welcomed the board members to the Board Meeting.

The agenda was approved without comments.

02. Approval of minutes and matters arising from the Board meeting on February 3rd, 2021

The minutes from the Board meeting on February 3rd were approved with comment regarding correct title for Chair of AA Uganda's Board.

03. News from AADK and AAI

Tim presented the latest news from AADK and AAI.

International:

- *Military coup in Myanmar* - we have tried to strike a balance where we support the country office, but also respect their wishes regarding external communication.
- *Tanzania* - the government has denied Corona, the president refused to be vaccinated and is now deceased, presumably of Corona. We now have the first female president of Tanzania. We follow the development.
- *TCDC* - Makena Mwobobia is new Executive Director.
- *New strategic partnership agreement with Danida* - the program framework is being consulted in the International Committee and partner countries.
- *Federation Leadership team (FLT) AAI* - we have succeeded in getting a youth representative, Collins (employed by AADK), joining the FLT.

National:

- *Significant grant from Velux* - to continue our local democracy efforts with a digital dimension.
- *Campaigns* - we have gradually started up again with few small physical events; welcome party for the children from Moria + Palestine action regarding lack of vaccines in the occupied territories.
- *Policy* - Leave no one behind (LNOB) The efforts that states and others make in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) must, as far as possible, benefit the most vulnerable, which has not happened. We have started an LNOB coalition with, among others, the Women's Council (Kvinderådet). Danish investments in coal and gas - collaboration with DanWatch. There is now a request in the Folketing about Danish investments in fossil fuels. In addition, we will of course continue our commitment to the new development policy strategy.
- *Operations* - Internal climate policy; we have entered an exciting collaboration with other organizations on how we can calculate our green accounts with support from Global Focus. Sewer project on Fælledvej in progress with stage 2. Ongoing revision.

During the following round of questions and comments, the Board received further information regarding the situation in Myanmar.

Questions were also raised about AADK's involvement in the case regarding Danish children in the Syrian prison camps. Other organizations are very active in relation to that agenda and AADK support where it is needed.

Attention was raised regarding that the issue of camps abroad is something we should prepare for.

A renewal of AADK's Collective membership of the UN-Federation (FN-Forbundet) was recommended. The renewal of our membership of UN-Federation was approved by the Board.

04. Dashboard

Prior to the meeting, the Board had received a Dashboard for the period 2018-2020. The Dashboard stems from the strategy and the selected KPIs. All data comes from our internal reporting cycle. Overall, there is good progress. We are particularly proud of the development around private fundraising. In relation to the red markings some points of attention; Development in social media has not been so good as expected. Furthermore, several of the red markers are due to Corona situation in relation to for instants cafés, travel programs and volunteers. In some areas data is missing. Efforts are constantly being made to improve the reporting system.

In the following round of comments and question attention was drawn to among others;

Good development in relation to the global platforms - many countries have been interested in establishing the good concept and several countries in the global south have not been as badly affected by the Corona situation as feared.

In relation to Institutional fundraising, there are unfortunately some funds that have not been offered as expected and a larger expected grant that we did not receive.

The result regarding Just and sustainable economy is not as good as expected. This is partly due to insufficient delivery from the international tax program. In addition, there is a very strong focus on achieving concrete political changes in selected countries, although the target is very ambitious.

The Board is very aware of the development regarding the engagement of volunteers and a positive development is expected when society reopens. New digital platform for collaboration with volunteers must support that development.

Both SoMe and volunteer engagement are important points of attention in the future also in a wider extent than the digital perspective.

05. Annual Report 2020

Prior to the meeting, the Board had received the AADK Chair's preface to the Annual report and a link to the digital Annual report for 2020. At the meeting, Head of Communications Ulrik Norup Jørgensen gave a brief introduction to the digital Annual report 2020.

The Annual report 2020 is based on the same template that was chosen last year. However, there has been a slight edition based on user data. There are 3 stories from our work in DK and 6 stories from our work in the world (last year there were 3 stories from our work outside DK). In the selection of stories, emphasis is placed on stories about young people who have created important changes in the world.

The Board was encouraged to consider whether the Annual report reflects the key issues that the Board wants to communicate from the year 2020 and point out if there is anything missing.

The board members mentioned, among other things;

The wording that the Annual report is structured in relation to the strategy must be changed.

Outdated links must be removed/replaced with updated links.

Stories are chosen based on what has been the focus of the past year. Several Board members called for a few more stories that are not about Corona.

Great satisfaction was expressed in relation to the Chair's preface. It was suggested that some of the important main points from the preface should be exemplified with stories. Can an organization history be included?

It is important that we not only describe all the successes, but also communicate where we have not succeeded so well. Stine will try to weave a non-success story into the preface.

In conclusion, Tim reminded of the resource consumption and that it should reflect the very low number of users who read the Annual Report.

06. Climate Justice

The Board has prior to the meeting received a position paper on Climate Justice. Aiming at a strategic discussion, prior to the meeting the Board was asked to reflect upon whether the position paper is based on the goal regarding sustainable economy in our current strategy in a good way? And does the position paper on Climate Justice lead us in the right direction in relation to the new strategy?

At the meeting, the Board expressed great satisfaction with the position paper on Climate Justice.

Action Aid's climate team has collaborated and commented on the position paper on Climate Justice, which, among other things, has made the paper strong in relation to Climate Justice and north-south issues. Both North and South have worked together from the start. Among other things, there have been studies of what young people want in relation to Climate Justice and it has shown, for example, that there is a big difference between what young people's attitudes and how the consequences are felt in urban and rural areas.

The good connection between local, national, and international level in the position paper was pointed out and emphasized. There was a call for the paper to be shared and given a central position in Action Aid. It is also important that it feeds into our application to Danida.

There was a call for the paper to be translated into Danish, as it must also be included in local campaign work in Denmark.

The position paper should outline some directions that point into the new strategy.

The paper must be updated, in line with Stine's comments.

The position paper on Climate Justice was supported by the Board with bravura!

07. Strategic Partnership Agreement with Danida (SPAII)

Steen Folke provided on behalf of International Committee a briefing regarding SPAII.

Our current SPA expires at the end of December 2021. The hope is to achieve a new SPA at a level similar to the current one. The draft application must be ready by mid-June.

SPA II is an extension of SPAI, which is being implemented in 12 countries, the humanitarian part in 3 countries. In SPAII, it will be possible to work with both humanitarian and more long-

term development together in all the countries, that we work in. It deals with NEXUS, i.e., the connection between humanitarian area and more long-term development work.

Our overall themes are in line with the strategic focus areas of Action Aid. The overall goal will be to fight for greener and more equal societies. Continued focus on young people, especially women for key change agents. Focus on social movements and remarkable struggles that can be used to transform society. In addition, strongly cross-cutting theme regarding civic space.

In the selection of countries, a so-called scoring guide is used, which is currently being consulted in the Federation. There is a good dialogue with the program countries and the program framework has also been in consultation with them.

Finally, regarding nomination of candidates for the AAI Board, proposed candidates has been discussed and the possibilities examined in the International Committee, and it is unfortunately not possible to proceed with any of the proposed candidates.

In conclusion, it was decided that the country election discussion must be conducted in the International Committee. In addition, the International Committee must make a recommendation to the Board regarding SPAll.

The Board thanked for the briefing that was noted.

08. Strengthened association democracy & engagement

The Board had prior to the meeting received a draft project plan for the further work with the Strengthened association democracy and engagement effort with 3 main focuses for the further work:

1. Radical expansion of action opportunities for volunteers and activism as well as clear political change goals
2. Adequate formal democracy
3. Big listening - testing new methods before the next Council meeting.

The Board was encouraged to approve the project plan and the 3 focus areas.

The scope and pace of the roll-out of goal organization around clear change goals were discussed. There was an understanding that it is necessary to start somewhere (around the campaign tracks) and try some things out. However, it was emphasized that the Change Goals must be something that unites the entire association and that the digital platform to be used in the future must be something that both volunteers, Council/Board and Secretariat use to collaborate across.

There was a discussion regarding how concrete action opportunities for volunteers must be and the key point from the collaboration with DeltagerDanmark was reminded concerning that one must dare to make some choices and state clearly which are the goals that we are aiming at.

There are parts of the project plan for which the Board is responsible. It was therefore agreed that the current governance group from the Board, which is currently working with the Council election, supplemented by Sine Jensen, who has been the Board's coordinator on the strengthened association democracy and engagement project and Mette Winding Top, continue with the tasks from the project plan. The group thus consists of Stine Krøijer, Dines Justesen, Andrea Holst-Mjöbäck, Sine Jensen and Mette Winding Top.

The project plan for Strengthened association democracy and engagement was approved with attention drawn to the change goals.

09. Report on the rolling political plan 2020 -2021

The Board had prior to the meeting received a draft report on the rolling political plan 2020-2021. In the preparation for the meeting, the Board was encouraged to reflect on whether the Board has met the objectives of the rolling political plan 2020-2021 and if the draft report reflects the priorities of the Board 2020–2021.

At the meeting, question was raised regarding whether anything has been done in relation to focusing on the causes of refugees. If that is not the case, it must appear in the report. There was support for the fact that it is generally a good idea to include remarks in the reporting on the things we did get to do, for example in relation to quota refugees.

The correctness of the part of the goal regarding anti-discrimination that states that it is mainly refugees and immigrants who feel the consequences of discriminatory policies based on prejudice was questioned. However, the wording of the 2020-2021 rolling political plan cannot be corrected, as it has been adopted by the Council.

Furthermore, it was suggested that a remark should be added in relation to the fact that the volunteer efforts has been difficulty due to the Corona situation.

Comments on the draft reporting on the rolling political plan 2020-2021 can be sent to Stine during the next week.

A final report on the Rolling Political Plan 2020-2021 will be presented to the Board for approval, before it is presented to the Council at the Council meeting.

10. Draft rolling political plan 2021-2022

A draft rolling political plan 2021-2022 was sent to the Board prior to the meeting.

Attention was again drawn to the questioning regarding the correctness of the part of the goal on anti-discrimination that states that it is mainly refugees and immigrants who feel the consequences of discriminatory policies based on prejudice. The following wording was suggested in the 2021-2022 plan:

"Mellempfolkeligt Samvirke skal modarbejde boligpolitik, som diskriminerer på baggrund af f.eks. etnicitet eller social status, og som foreslår radikale indgreb som dobbeltstraf i særlige områder, nedrivning af bygninger som en løsning på at skabe en mere blandet beboersammensætning osv. Det skal vi bl.a. gøre ved på både nationalt og lokalt plan at indgå i relevante alliancer."

[AADK must oppose housing policy, which discriminates on the basis of e.g., ethnicity or social status, and which proposes radical interventions such as double punishment in special areas, demolition of buildings as a solution to create a more mixed composition of residents, etc. We must, among other things, do so by entering relevant alliances at both national and local level.]

Call for addition regarding military investment and armed conflicts as one of the causes of the world's inequalities. Armed conflicts are also the cause of refugee flows. There is an unfortunate link between military investment and development policy. Perhaps the key points regarding military investment be included in the goal regarding development policy in the rolling policy plan for the coming period.

The injustices in relation to Danish citizens who choose to marry other nationalities were also mentioned. However, it was pointed out that the Board will have to prioritize, and that the we should concentrate on issues where we actually expect to be able to make a difference and create important changes.

The importance of us dealing with the camp issue and preparing in order to be well prepared for the discussion was also highlighted.

Furthermore, it remains a challenge for us to connect activists globally, which may also go beyond the digital solutions.

In conclusion, Stine encouraged the board members to share concrete proposals for wording and to send comments during next week.

The Board must discuss and approve the draft Rolling Political Plan 2021-2022 before it is shared with the Council in week 18.

11. Council meeting 2021

Stine presented a status on the ongoing Council election. There are 66 individual candidates for this year's council elections. Last year there were 54 candidates, and the target number was set at 55 this year. Voting opens on Friday 26 March and the target for the number of members voting this year is set at 520 (last year 539 voted). For the collective members, the deadline for line up expires on Thursday this week (March 25th) and so 2 candidates are running for election. There may be a few more candidates among the collective members on the way, but there must be more than 5 candidates running before we have a voting among the collective candidates. Regarding employee representatives 2 candidates must be elected this year.

Regarding Action Days Sisse presented the latest news from the planning group.

The planning group suggested that international thought be given to all tracks, and to the program in general, and that consideration be given to not making an independent separate international track.

The Board agreed that the international should be a part of relevant tracks. However, there was a concern about whether the international focus will not be clear and strong enough without a separate international track.

It was agreed that some of the exciting discussions coming from the current work on the new Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) application should be shared with the Council as part of the Action Days. The International Committee committed themselves to find 1-2 persons from the committee who will take an active part in planning the session on SPA key discussions at Action Days.

Finally, it was settled by the Board, that the Board wants Action days to take place as a physical meeting. Therefore, and with respect and understanding for the work of the planning group, after Easter on April 6th, a decision must be made as to whether we continue with planning Action Days to be conducted on June 5th-6th or if we postpone Action Days to end of August/beginning of September.

12. AADK take on Strengthened international Solidarity

Prior to the meeting, the Board had received a document on international solidarity, which is also a summary of the discussions from the Board seminar in October. Aiming at a strategic discussion, the Board was encouraged to consider whether the document adequately reflects the discussions from the Board seminar and whether it leads us in the right direction going forward.

Tim introduced the document and pointed out that the discussion is a good start for significant reflections related to the new strategy. The document present suggestions regarding who we

should work with, how we should work differently and what we have learned in relation to our campaign work.

There was a general agreement that it is a good document.

Stine shared her reflections on which development activities seem attitude-forming, including the importance of the personal encounter in relation to getting our basic assumptions disrupted.

It was also discussed how to reach out and convince others who do not think the same as us. It is important that we use solid arguments and talk about alternative solutions rather than just shouting: "No!"

It is important that we keep thinking in alliances and that we work with others. We can get better at sometimes standing behind supporting others campaigns and actions – it is also a way to show solidarity.

It is also important that we think about what other action opportunities we offer than to support with an amount.

The document contains some obvious links to key points from the process with DeltagerDanmark and the Story project. It could make the document stronger to highlight those connections explicitly.

It is also really exciting to think further regarding the dialogue with and the influence of politicians, even though there are not many who have a strong international focus with an eye for developing countries.

The Board thanked Tim for a good document that constitutes a good reflection of key issues from discussions at the Board seminar and which also constitutes a good starting point for discussion regarding important tracks for us to pursue in the coming period.

13. AOB

Nothing to report

The meeting closed at 19:45

Adopted during the Board Meeting March 24th, 2021.