

Minutes from the Board Meeting of the Innovation Fund Denmark's Board on 5 December 2024, 10.30-17.00

Present from the Innovation Fund Denmark Board:

- Anders Eldrup
- Henrik J. Andersen
- Christian Ketels
- Peter Holme Jensen
- Charlotte Rønhof
- Philipp Schröder
- Mette Glavind
- Sine Reker Hadrup
- Henrik Breitenbauch

Present from the secretariat:

- Cecilie Brøkner
- Ole Sinkjær
- Søren Asp Mikkelsen
- Michael Friis Lindinger
- Sidsel Hougaard (agenda item 5)
- Martin Søndergaard (agenda item 5)
- Lars Zederkof (agenda item 6)
- Marie Friis Madsen (agenda item 6)
- Cecilie Juhl
- Cecilie Würtz Krog (referent)

1.1 Welcome and update from chairpersonship

Minutes from item 1.1 are not published, as the information is confidential

1.2 Conflict of interest

Prior to the meeting, all BoD members had declared potential conflicts of interest in relation to: Agenda item 5.7 - Grand Solutions extension requests and Agenda item 6.4 - New members for the assessment and panel committees for Innoexplorer, Innofounder, Innobooster and Industrial Researcher. Conflict of interest regarding Innomissions has previously been decided for Anders Eldrup, Henrik J. Andersen, Mette Glavind and Charlotte Rønhof.

At the meeting, Legal Officer Cecilie Würtz Krog ran through all declarations and asked each board member, if they had anything to add to their previous declarations cf. Rules of Procedure §31, subsection 2 and 3.

Anders Eldrup declared no additional potential conflict of interest.

Christian Ketels declared no additional potential conflict of interest.

Henrik J. Andersen declared no additional potential conflict of interest.

Peter Holme Jensen declared no additional potential conflict of interest.

Charlotte Rønhof declared no additional potential conflict of interest.

Sine Reker declared no additional potential conflict of interest.

Philipp Schröder declared no additional potential conflict of interest.

Mette Glavind declared five potential conflicts of interest in relation to agenda item 6.4 (new members for the assessment and panel committees for Innoexplorer, Innofounder, Innobooster and Industrial Researcher).

Decision: Mette Glavind left the board meeting while the rest of the board decided that Mette Glavind is in conflict of interest on five potential members on agenda item 6.4.

Henrik Breitenbauch declared one potential conflict of interest in relation to agenda item 6.4 (new members for the assessment and panel committees for Innoexplorer, Innofounder, Innobooster and Industrial Researcher).

Decision: Henrik Breitenbauch left the board meeting while the rest of the board decided that Henrik Breitenbauch is in conflict of interest on one potential member on agenda item 6.4.

1.3 Approval of agenda and participants

Decision: The board decided to approve the agenda and participants

2. Strategic outlook

Minutes from item 2 are not published, as the information is confidential

3. IFD Strategy

Michael Friis Lindinger presented the foundation's ambition for the use of artificial intelligence, and Cecilie Brøkner presented the new roundtable discussions on sustainability.

4. Finance

Minutes from item 4 are not published, as the information is confidential

5. Strategic Research Committee

5.1. Research-related ministerial advice

On the June meeting the board decided new guidelines. It was subsequently discovered that some institutions have a two-phased application process. All received applications must be assessed by the foundation. The supplement to the guidelines clarify that the foundation assists with research assessments in phase one only, in cases where the requesting ministry has a two-phased evaluation process. .

Decision: The board decided to approve the supplement to the existing guidelines for research-related ministerial advice.

5.2. Innomissions - distribution of funding for 2024 and status on Missions

Søren Asp Mikkelsen presented a status on the MIAB conference, which were very successful in bringing missions, MIAB and BoD together, and thereby delivering on some of the recommendations from the AIR meetings earlier in 2024 and creating a better understanding of mission oriented work, and the new impact frame work.

Søren Asp Mikkelsen presented a status on the Missions, including an overview of the timeline for the transition to the new governance model, and which partnerships have signed the Investment Agreement for 2023 and thereby stand ready to execute under the new governance.

Søren Asp Mikkelsen presented the two models for distribution of the investment on Innomission call 2024 and the overall scores of the four applications. The investments have to be reduced for all applications to fit with the available budget, which both models take into account. Model 1 rewards only the significantly better proposal and was recommended by the secretariat.

The board discussed the models and agreed that model 1 was preferable. The board also discussed the differences in the level of applied funds for B-activities.

Decision: Anders Eldrup, Henrik J. Andersen, Mette Glavind and Charlotte Rønhof had left the room due to conflict of interest, while the board discussed and decided on 2024 funding. The board decided to approve model 1 including guidelines for reduced funding, including for B-activity budgets.

Decision: Anders Eldrup, Henrik J. Andersen, Mette Glavind and Charlotte Rønhof had left the room due to conflict of interest, while the board discussed and decided on drafting a reply to the two missions.

5.3. 2025 Innomissions: Guidelines and call text

Søren Asp Mikkelsen presented the draft guidelines and call text for 2025 for the four green Innomission partnerships.

Decision: The board approved the draft call text and guidelines for the 2025 call for the four green Innomission partnerships.

5.4. Status on 2024 Grand Solutions

Søren Asp Mikkelsen provided a brief status of the phase 2-application process on Grand Solutions and investment decisions by the committees. The committee meetings at the end of November went very well with only minor challenges that were solved. There were obviously learnings that needed to be brought into the 2025 program enabling the 2025 program to be fine-tuned. Representatives of the board will meet the committee chairs at the end of January.

Søren Asp Mikkelsen also gave an overview of the ranking and scores of each call.

5.5. Termination of contract of committee member in Grand Solutions committee

Minutes from item 5.5 are not published, as the information is confidential

5.6. 2025 Grand Solutions: Guidelines and call text

Søren Asp Mikkelsen presented an overview of the draft guidelines and call texts for the six calls in Grand Solutions 2025. The timelines for the Grand Solutions 2025 calls was also provided suggesting that calls would be launched in January and the two-phased process concluded earlier in 2025 as compared to 2024, primarily to provide more time for applicants.

The board discussed the draft call texts and suggested a few minor adjustments and clarifications.

Decision: With few additions and clarifications, the board approved the six draft call texts and guidelines for the 2025 Grand Solutions programme.

5.7. Change requests of Grand Solutions projects

Decision: The board approved the change requests.

Break

6. Innovation Committee

6.1. Results from oversight audits 7/8 November 2024

Henrik J. Andersen provided an overview of the results from the audits 7-8 November 2024.

6.2. Innobooster: Adjusted Governance and EIC-plug in scheme

6.2.1. Adjusted governance model

Decision: Based on the presentation from Marie Friis Madsen, the board decided to approve the proposed adjusted governance and assessment criteria for the Innobooster Programme

6.2.2. Innobooster as plug-in to the EIC Accelerator

Decision: Based on the presentation from Lars Noesgaard Zederkof, the board decided to approve the proposed implementation of Innobooster as plug-in to the EIC Accelerator

6.3. Approval of formal documents for the startup&SME programmes

Decision: Based on an introduction from Henrik J. Andersen, the board decided to approve the changes to the guidelines for the following programmes: Innoexplorer, Innofounder, Innobooster and Industrial Researcher, the guidelines for the plug-in scheme for EIC Accelerator and the extension of the delegation for Missionsbooster until 1 January 2027.

6.4. Approval of new members for the assessment and panel committees

Decision: Mette Glavind left the room due to conflict of interest, while the board decided on five members for various committees.

Decision: Henrik Breitenbauch left the room due to conflict of interest, while the board decided on a member for the Industrial Researcher Committee.

Decision: The board decided to approve the suggested members for the Innobooster Assessment Committee, the Innobooster Panel Committee, the Innofounder Assessment Committee, the Innofounder Panel Committee, the Innoexplorer Panel Committee and the Industrial Researcher Committee.

6.5. Information on grants since last BoD meeting

The board was informed about the distribution of grants since last BoD meeting in the areas of International Collaborations and Start-up and SME. Ole Sinkjær added that there will be a more thorough presentation on the next board meeting. The board took note of the information.

7. State of the nation

7.1. Update on the organization

Minutes from item 7.1 are not published, as the information is confidential

7.2. Processing of potential complaints

Minutes from item 7.2 are not published, as the information is confidential

7.3. 2025 BoD annual wheel

Cecilie Brøkner presented the annual wheel, which gives an overview of the key decisions and milestones for 2025 in the foundation. For each board meeting, important and relevant items are listed in the wheel. Regular agenda items, such as strategy and complaint overview, will also be on each agenda.

8. BoD circle of trust

The secretariat left the meeting while the board discussed confidential topics.

8.1 BoD evaluation 2024

9. Meeting ends