

FIN3R Board meeting

Zoom, September 27th, 2023, 12.30 – 14.00

Participants:

Eero Lehtonen, Chair of the Board

Dario Greco, Coordinator

Mikko Airavaara, Reduction Director

Vootele Voikar, Refinement Director

Satu Kuure, Reduction Advisor

Anna Vallius, Financial Administrator

Brian Mphande, Refinement Advisor

Johanna Åhlgren, Refinement Advisor

Reetta Hinttala, Reduction Advisor

Sara Sladakovic, Communication Officer

Purpose of the meeting: Meeting was held with an aim to provide updates on work of different groups, their progress in the activities and plans until the end of the year. Discussing upcoming Annual Symposium and financial planning for the upcoming period took a place as well.

Agenda:

1. **Approval of the meeting minutes:** the previous board meeting was held in June 2023, and the meeting minutes were approved now without objections.
2. **Update on past and present activities:**
 - Coordination team: activities have been good this year, currently the organization of the annual symposium of Finnish Society of Toxicology in April 2024 is a focus. As agreed in the meeting (more information in section 4), FIN3R will finance coffee break for the event, followed by the session on mechanistic toxicology models, chaired by Dario Greco. Session will cover the 3R principles. Additional presentation of the FIN3R will take place in the meeting, where advertisement of the activities will take place. Confirmation of the budget for the upcoming year is not official, yet it is expected for the budget to be approximately as big as in 2023. An idea to organize meeting and sessions where public, activists and politicians could come and discuss the importance of the work of FIN3R has been discussed. Some of the board members have been working on this, participating in the Pledge for science meeting held in Brussels (May 2023), hosting the activists (May 2023), reporting in the media about the progress in the field (continuously). Besides this, it is important to take an organized action and send a unified message to the target group. It is important to include politicians on national, and local level, from all the parties. This would be one of the priorities to organize during 2024, as well as merging 3Rs, and approaching them together and not individually. Balance between animal and

non-animal models is important and should be present. However, some of the targeted events could be present. More discussion on these topics will take place during the next meeting.

- Refinement team: presentation of the FIN3R activities has been ongoing as part of the FinnGMice tour in the last months. Few webinars have been organized, with satisfactory attendance rates, and few more are planned until the end of the year. National animal welfare network body is under construction and needs more development. It is expected to have the results of the survey by the next meeting. The certificates of attendance have been distributed to all the participants, indicating a number of hours one has participated for. In the future, this would be a standardized way to issue certificates.
 - Reduction team: the efforts have been put on organization of the annual symposium. The program is finalized and the advertisement on the social media will start soon. As well, 3R-seurant aryhym has been established in collaboration with TOKES. After the meeting in the following weeks there will be more information about the common goals.
 - Replacement team: webinar has been organized during August, together with Finnadvance. Participation was satisfactory. Speakers were national and international experts, FIN3R board members and parliament members. In the program, all R have been represented nicely.
3. **Annual Symposium:** annual symposium takes place on November 6-7, at Helsinki University, Meilahti campus. Registration form and program are finalized, and advertisement would start soon. The program consists of three sections, focusing on each R and Power Analysis workshop. Speakers come from Finland, and outside, as well as outside the FIN3R board.
4. **Financial reports:** money for the Symposium organization has been allocated, around 10 000 euros. However, more funds are available for different costs. Some of the suggestion on how the money can be used is: printing more of the advertisement materials, preparation of the materials and 'gifts' for the FIN3R's booth at the upcoming ScanLAS meeting (in Tampere) and organizing a kick-off meeting for the Finnish Animal Welfare Body. It is important to organize all the activities by the end of November (December is too late). Financing of the coffee break of the Finnish Society of Toxicology's Annual Symposium should be possible, considering that the budget remains approximately the same. Other board members support the idea.
5. **Other issues:**
- Next meeting of the FIN3R board: next meeting of the board will be organized in person in Tampere, in the second half of November (place and time to be defined). The meeting will be a final meeting of the year; hence it will be an opportunity to summarize the activities of the year and present progress. Each of the directors should prepare a report presenting their own activities (number and type of events, number of participants etc.). as well as coordinator and social media officer. In the other half of the meeting, a plan of activities for 2024 will be formulated. More information about the meeting will be send via email.

Meeting has been adjourned at 13.35.