

INORMS Council Meeting

Minutes of the Online Meeting held on 1 February 2024, 14h00-15h30 UTC time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87999818096?pwd=WVU4YXBEM01jOUdUcVZNYmQ1UjRMUT09>

First Name	Last Name	Association	Attendance
Beate	Knight	ACU	Attended
Jenni	Johnson	ARMA/ attending in capacity as Working Group Chair	Attended
Lorna	Wilson	ARMA	Attended
Alasdair	Cameron	ARMA	Apologies
Annemarie	Vastenhouw-van der Linden	ARMA-NL	Attended
Tania	Bezzobs	ARMS	Apologies
Maria	Zollo	ARMA	
Carlos	Teixeira	BRAMA	Attended
Dominique	Michaud	CARA	Apologies
Rongping	Mu	CASSSP	Attended
Annedorte	Vad	DARMA	Apologies
Stine	Skipper	DARMA	Attended
Dipti	Pandya	EARMA	Attended
Nik	Claesen	EARMA	
Emma	Lythgoe	EARMA	Attended
Anu	Juslin	Finn-ARMA	Attended
Katrina	Steinack	FORTRAMA	Attended
Hulda	Proppé	ICEARMA	Attended
Shukor	Abd Razak	MyRMA	Attended
Kris	Monahan	NCURA	Attended
Kathleen	Larmett	NCURA	Attended
Karen	Eck	NORDP	Attend (first half of meeting)
Kim	Patten	NORDP	Attended
Patrick	Reurink	NARMA	Attended
David	Russell	PraxisAuril	Apologies
Kate	Harris	RMAN-J	Attended
Makiko	Takahashi	RMAN-JA	Attended
Emilia	Nhalevilo	SARIMA	Attended
Gloria	Greene	SRAI	Attended
Evan	Roberts	SRAI	Attended
Dembo	Kanteh	WARIMA	Apologies

Preliminaries:

- 1.1 Attendance and apologies received per the above summary
- 1.2 Agenda confirmed by council
- 1.3 Minutes of the last meeting held on 26 October 2023 approved by Jenni Johnson
Seconded by Dipti Pandya and Gloria Greene

1. Organisational Development Document & Governance Taskforce Draft

The need for the Organisational Development document came about because of continues inputs from members for support of developmental work done by member associations ie requesting support /endorsement of documents and projects. This lead to the discussion around whether change is needed within the current INORMS structures and administration.

One of the key factors is that council members change continuously, and continuity/ historic references can become problematic.

Written input was received from ARMS and NCURA (per below) on the current document, and queries & concerns shared by a few council members for clarity pre-meeting.

After much discussion and inputs from council it was agreed that the Working Group (WG chaired by Jenni Johnson) will work through the documents and separate suggestions made into short term, attainable goals and changes vs long terms projects, and how to implement it, as well as suggestions made that will not be implemented. It was agreed that members prefer to continue with the informal structure at INORMS as setting up more formal structures will be costly, time consuming and potentially cause conflict of interest for board members serving both on their association boards and INORMS council. It was agreed that some of the short term suggestions could be implemented to improve matters without changing INORMS structures as such. This will be discussed at the next WG meeting on 20 February 2024.

Other Suggestions shared for consideration:

To be clear on our added value as INORMS beyond our own associations

To use the council platform to network and share experiences and gain insight into how other associations function

A Madrid statement may be considered / INORMS 2025

Botswana Statement:

The Botswana Statement (Jan Anderson) will be adapted once a few revisions are made and placed on the website

2. Other Matters

The Dropbox folders used until 2023 to store past documentation needs to change, past minutes, reports and any other important historic information must be stored in a google drive for handover to EARMA June 2025, SARIMA to start this process

As council members change continuously an introductory document should drafted and shared with new members

Due to time constraints, feedback from the WG, REG, RAAAP will be done at the 23 April Hybrid Meeting in Odense
The 2023 REG written feedback report was shared with council pre-meeting

ARMS Feedback:

Organisational Development Document	Governance Document	Botswana Statement	CoARA Action Plan
The ARMS Board supports the general recommendations to appoint a contact person within the INORMS Council for each of the themes; to issue a call for individuals; or teams to take forward activity and projects and project leads to report into INORMS Working Group on	The ARMS Board supports in-principle the proposal for a formal governance structure of INORMS to work on restructuring and facilitating effective decision making and financial stability for INORMS. The ARMS Board noted that while this will be a very challenging	The ARMS Board supports the Botswana statement and noted that this is a good example of international collaboration. However, the statement could be refined further to better emphasise its	Thank you for sending through the proposed CoARA Action Plan. As you know, ARMS represents three regional areas – Australia, Singapore, New Zealand and near surrounds. Many of our member research institutions are working towards approaches that are consistent with the intent of the CoARA

<p>progress.</p>	<p>exercise, given the multiple member organisations that will be represented under this new governance structure, it supports a new formal structure which includes a Board of Directors, a Constitution and Bylaws to enable legitimacy in decision making by the INORMs leadership.</p> <p>The ARMS Board noted that in establishing the task force, greater clarity on the selection and appointment of members is needed.</p> <p>Further, our Board of Directors also wish to reiterate that each Society continues to retain its own independence in decision making under this new governance framework for INORMS.</p>	<p>purpose and intent and we note that it requires some additional editing before it is released to the general INORMS community.</p>	<p>commitments, however there is significant diversity across our member institutions.</p> <p>In that regard, at least some of the governments of our member institutions are adopting a metrics-informed approach. While our member research institutions and our society may not necessarily agree with these directions, we have no choice but to comply with whatever metrics-based assessment frameworks are established (eg see Statement of Expectations 2022 from the Minister for Education: https://www.arc.gov.au/about-arc/our-organisation/statement-expectations-2022).</p> <p>If the Action Plan is intended to recognise the challenges that institutions face when their national bodies are moving in a different direction, it could be more explicit in this regard. Or to put another way, we can't endorse an Action Plan that may put our institutions at odds with the national governments that assess research.</p> <p>If that is not the intent, but rather an approach where the Action Plan practically recognises these challenges, and encourages an approach that allows our researchers and institutions to work towards an approach that is consistent with CoARA, then the Action Plan is endorsed.</p>
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NCURA Feedback:

Governance:

- At the NCURA Board of Directors November 2023 meeting, Ara Tahmassian presented the proposed INORMS change in structure and governance. After much thoughtful discussion, the Board believes that the current informal structure should remain.
- It was noted that good non-profit governance dictates that when a member represents their organization on another association's "board," their allegiance must remain with their organization. Having an INORMS Board of Directors with voting members from its member associations may present a conflict-of-commitment.

Botswana statement:

- Recommendation that references to personal names be removed and the statement to compliment the Hiroshima Statement that is located on the INORMS website

