

**Minutes of the 3rd FINSKEN co-ordination meeting
18 December 2000, Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki**

Present:

Tim Carter, chair	FEI-1
Martin Forsius	FEI-2
Milla Johansson	FIMR
Kirsti Jylhä	FMI-1
Kimmo Kahma	FIMR
Jari Kaivo-oja	FFRC
Tuomas Laurila	FMI-2
Johanna Rissanen	FEI-1
Sanna Syri	FEI-2
Heikki Tuomenvirta	FMI-1
Juha-Pekka Tuovinen	FMI-2
Ilona Bärlund, secretary	FEI-1

1. Opening and welcome: The chairman opened the meeting and introduced the new FINSKEN member Ilona Bärlund (FEI) who will temporarily substitute Riku Suutari (FEI).

2. Co-ordination update

- a) **Minutes of the 2nd FINSKEN co-ordination meeting** were approved.
 - b) **Finance:** Johanna Rissanen reported on the state of project funding and reminded Partners that they can obtain their funding for 2001, as previously, by sending a bill to FEI by 31 January.
 - c) **Brochure:** By the time of the meeting the brochure had still not arrived but is due within a few days. The brochure is printed in Finnish and English and will be sent out with the questionnaire. Multiple copies will also be distributed to all Partners. **ACTION: FEI-1**
 - d) **Questionnaire:** Ilona Bärlund presented the latest version of the questionnaire, which will be sent out as a Finnish, Swedish or English version. Some additions to the recipients' list have been made concerning mainly Swedish-speaking Finnish organisations. The total number of the recipients is at present 584 and their distribution across different organisations was presented. **ACTION: FEI-1**
 - e) **WEB site:** The WEB site should be completed and running at the beginning of 2001. The site will contain background information about the project, downloadable documents and the scenarios themselves. There was discussion of how links to other institutions should be constructed and how much information should be centralised to the FEI site. **ACTION: FEI-1**
 - f) **Annual Report:** An annual report will be written but it was pointed out that the Finnish Academy only requires a short report. The achievements of each group will go into this report written by FEI-1. **ACTION: FEI-1**
- AND PARTNERS**
- g) **Announcement:** There will be a FIGARE climate meeting in Turku on 6-8 June 2001.
 - h) **Workshop:** In order to present the preliminary results of the project and to receive direct feedback a workshop will be planned. The main target audience will be the persons returning the questionnaire (see agenda point 5)

3. Status reports Written reports were received from four of the six subprojects.

- a) Progress with socio-economic scenarios was presented by Jari Kaivo-oja (FFRC). Issues raised during discussion:
 - A written report will be prepared.
 - There is a consistency problem.
 - No tradition in long run modelling raises methodological questions.
 - Extension of historical data on economic growth: Finland is a latecomer in industrialisation and thus the development during the period 1890-1997 has been fast. Extrapolation to the future on this basis might lead to too fast development.
 - The use of expert judgement: should the scenarios be presented to e.g. organisations or should they be processed internally. One possibility would be to get feedback during the planned workshop. Another target audience could be the Committee of Climate Change. It was discussed if an even broader audience, e.g. policymakers, would make sense.
 - The focus is on modelling energy sources and their scenarios.

- The socio-economic situation determines how vulnerable Finland will be in the future to climate change. Consumption could be used as an indicator.
- There is a scale issue since IPCC reports global scale scenarios, but national and regional scale scenarios can be quite different.
- The number of scenarios must be constrained. It was discussed whether a minimum, maximum and best guess scenario would form a good entity. It was pointed out that a best guess scenario might direct the user too much. One way would be to analyse all the scenarios first and to choose then but this process is time consuming.

ACTION: FFRC

b) Progress with climate scenarios was presented by Heikki Tuomenvirta and Kirsti Jylhä (FMI-1). Issues raised during discussion:

- The latest regional simulations from the Rossby Centre will be available in autumn 2001.
- There is a need to find out which kind of weather data is required and at what resolution. It is hoped that information from the questionnaire will provide some answers to this.
- It was discussed how the scenarios should be presented. Scatter plots give general data. Raw data would be more detailed and has implications for data handling capacity.
- There have already been requests for scenarios, e.g. from forest researchers.
- The WEB-site can be used to present maps as well as information on changes, uncertainties and differences between models. It was discussed how requests should be handled: can this project provide enough information or should requests be directly forwarded to e.g. the Rossby Centre. Heikki Tuomenvirta pointed out that Rossby Centre would be interested in contacts and that there should be no copyright problems if they receive information about the intended use of the scenarios and that the Rossby Centre is properly referenced.
- The applicability of the German Grosswetterlagen for describing circulation patterns was discussed, and it was pointed out that they do not apply for the Finnish region.
- The sea level scenarios will require information on weather types from the climate scenario group.

ACTION: FMI-1

c) Progress with sea-level/wind wave scenarios was presented by Kimmo Kahma (FIMR). Issues raised during discussion:

- It was suggested that the focus of scenarios should be the risk of high water.
- It was stated that the probability of high water will be considered but that the economical part has to be dealt with somewhere else.
- It was also stated that the wave climate will not change so much that it can cause damage since the coast lines are well protected. The changes in wave height will be more important for shipping than for coastal constructions.
- The uncertainty issue has gained importance with the recognition that upper level estimates of sea-level rise pose a threat to some coastal regions of southern Finland.

ACTION: FIMR

d) Progress with surface ozone scenarios was presented by Tuomas Laurila (FMI-2). Issues raised during discussion:

- Information on tropospheric change can be acquired from global models run in Oslo.
- Climate change should be included in the ecosystem model for establishing threshold exposures.
- Projections for 2010 are available using policy scenarios, but longer-term projections will require use of global models. Two options were discussed. One concerns regionalising information from global models already run for the SRES scenarios for the IPCC (e.g. STOCHEM model from the UK). The second option concerns using the transfer matrices generated by the AIRCLIM project for SRES-based emissions scenarios to compute ozone concentrations over Europe using the EMEP (Oslo) model.

ACTION: FMI-2

e) Progress with S, N and VOC scenarios and impacts was presented by Martin Forsius and Sanna Syri (FEI-2).

Issues raised during discussion:

- A written report is to be prepared.
- AIRCLIM can give input to the ozone work via the EMEP-model.
- It was noted that the difference between the results from BAU-, KIO1- and KIO2- scenarios was very small.
- "Current policies" types of scenarios until 2010 can be used for short-term scenario work within FINSKEN. For the long-term work other sources, such as AIRCLIM, are needed.
- It was pointed out that FFRC and FEI-2 should consult closely on the scenarios that should be taken into account regarding energy options.

ACTION: FEI-2

4. Development and release of interim scenarios

The types of information to be released at the mid-phase of the project were discussed. One method would be to hold a workshop. Current trends could be emphasised, as this work is ongoing or has been completed by Partners. Preliminary scenarios can also be presented, where these are available. Updating of the information from the SILMU project should take place (for example, for the climate and CO₂ scenarios). The FIGARE climate workshop in June 2001 in Turku could be used to present parts of the FINSKEN work. However, an extra day devoted to FINSKEN scenarios during the FIGARE workshop cannot easily be arranged as there are already other activities planned adjoined to the workshop. It was concluded that the interim scenarios need more discussion in a dedicated workshop.

ACTION FEI-1 AND PARTNERS

5. Future plans and timetable

Workshop: It was decided to organise a FINSKEN workshop during April or May 2001. Several items need clarifying:

- programme
- invited speakers (SRES, AIRCLIM, other projects?)
- target audience (also others than researchers)
- funding (possibility to receive something from FIGARE?)
- location (probably in Helsinki)

ACTION: FEI-1

Reports: It was decided to add the progress reports to the WEB site. Some partners indicated a need to modify their report presented at the meeting. It was pointed out that publications and theses are a major evaluation criterion for the Academy. A list of publications and degrees should be attached to the progress report that each partner delivers. Tim Carter will send a short report to the Finnish Academy.

ACTION ALL PARTNERS AND FEI-1

Timetable: FEI-1 will draw up a timetable for the remainder of the project based on the progress reports and when the Workshop dates have been fixed.

ACTION FEI-1

6. Any other business

It was pointed out that it would be good if FINSKEN was mentioned in any publications being planned or submitted, if some connection to the project exists.

ACTION: ALL PARTNERS

Timothy Carter
chairman

Ilona Bärlund
secretary