

Mistra Urban Futures

Minutes Board Meeting No. 23

9-10 March, 2017

Mistra Urban Futures, Läraregatan 3, Göteborg

Participants:

Thomas Rosswall (Chair)
Roberto Sánchez-Rodríguez (Vice-Chair, via phone, 9th March)
Olivia Bina
Lyla Mehta
Hans Ristner
John Robinson
Caroline Wanjiku Kihato

Ex officio:

Johan Edman, Mistra (via phone, 10th March)
Anna Ledin, GC Chair (via phone)
Fredrik Nilsson, Chalmers
Nayoka Martinez-Bäckström, Sida
(via phone, 10th March, items 14-16)
Stephen Agong, KLIP (9th March)
Margareta Forsberg, GOLIP
Magnus Johansson, SKLIP
Beth Perry, SMLIP
Warren Smit, CTLIP
David Simon, Director

Invited participants:

Sara Borgström, KTH Royal Inst. of Tech.(item 6)
Henrietta Palmer, Deputy Scientific Director
Cecilia Örnroth, Secretariat
Jan Riise, Secretariat
Maria Hallin, Secretariat (item 5)
Helena Söderbäck, The Göteborg Region
Association of Local Authorities (item 20)
Helena Lindholm Schultz, GU (item 20)

Apologies

Katarina Pelin

1. Opening of the meeting

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

The Chair welcomed Margareta Forsberg, new director of the Gothenburg Platform, Viveka Blomgren, new head of admin, and thanked Cecilia Örnroth warmly for all the work and support over the past few years, wishing her good luck with her new position at Chalmers.

Johan Edman and Nayoka Martinez Bäckström would join the meeting on Friday 10 March; Stephen Agong is excused from Friday's session, due to a ministerial meeting in Kenya.

Helena Lindholm Schultz and Helena Söderbäck will join on Friday 10 March for item 20.

The Chair, Thomas Rosswall, reported briefly on his familiarisation visits to Cape Town and CTLIP as well as Kisumu and KLIP.

2. Approval of the agenda and potential conflicts of interest

The Chair invited the members to review the agenda and to suggest any additional issues that might be discussed under #17, Any other business, and to inform about any potential conflict of interest. The Chair would not take part in the discussions of #13, regarding the election of a new chair from 2018. Roberto Sanchez Rodriguez chair this item.

Decisions:

To approve the agenda as circulated; and
To note the declared conflict of interest and its resolution.

3. Minutes from previous meeting and matters arisi

Minutes from the meeting on 23 November 2016 were circulated and approved by the Board electronically.

As discussed at the November 2016 meeting, the ongoing re-organization at Chalmers may affect the Centre. Since then, a few meetings have been held with the President and First Vice-President of Chalmers to discuss the matter. The current status can be summarised as follows:

- During the implementation of the re-organization, the position of Mistra Urban Futures directly under the rectorate will not change. However, at some future date the management of Chalmers wants the Centre to be located within a department. From the Centre's perspective, this would be a very unfortunate and regressive development, as the Centre was specifically established in its current way in terms of the Mistra Agreement and especially to reflect its strategic role across the university and with the Consortium partners. It could not operate effectively if seen both internally and externally to form part of a single department and its associated processes.
- The Centre has been informed that Chalmers Ventures AB, established recently to gather the entrepreneurship activities at Chalmers, wishes to take over the office premises of Mistra Urban Futures. The Centre would then be relocated to Johanneberg Science Park (JSP). Until now no formal discussions on this matter have taken place. During the repairs to the flood damage in the office at Läraregatan 3 in February – March, the Secretariat and GOLIP staff were temporarily located at JSP. The JSP premises are modern and provide a lot of daylight, but geographical location, atmosphere, visual identity and work environment were seen as major disadvantages compared to current facilities, which were purpose-designed with MUF to meet the Centre's distinctive needs and combinations of activities.
- Chalmers has decided to change its funding model to Mistra Urban Futures from 2017, contributing more in-kind and less in cash than till now. The total sum should remain approximately the same. The contribution will be directed through the Area of Advance (AoA) Building Futures, with the intention to further strengthen the collaboration with the AoA and with the university departments. The Centre sees a risk that co-ordination with the AoA when assigning researchers from Chalmers will complicate GOLIP's project establishment and decision-making process. However, the First Vice-President and Head of AoA Building Futures have assured us that this will not generate conflicts of interest or an additional layer of control over project or researcher selection but should be

seen as a way of further strengthening the engagement of the Chalmers research community.

Fredrik Nilsson informed the Board about the organisational changes within Chalmers regarding the departments and that the Areas of Advance will be subject to investigation and possible structural changes; the report is due in summer 2017. The Board discussed the situation and agreed on an expression emphasising the mutual interests of Chalmers and the Centre.

Decision:

To note the previously approved minutes from the Board meeting on 23 November 2016; To note the mutual interest of Chalmers and Mistra Urban Futures in continuing and further developing a strong and mutually beneficial partnership. To that end,

- The Board emphasizes the vital importance of Mistra Urban Futures being recognized as a university-wide priority and programme, as is the case in the current placement.
- The Board notes that the current offices were created specifically for the use of Mistra Urban Futures and have been developed as an important part of its identity and branding, and
- The Board recognizes the significance of engaging more Chalmers researchers in the programme

4. Progress update from Director and LIP Directors

The Director and each of the LIP Directors gave brief updates on main progress. As there was a 2-day LIP Directors' planning meeting immediately preceding the Board meeting, the annotated agenda information was complemented accordingly.

As far as the Centre is concerned, the main thrust of work since the November Board meeting has revolved around the Chalmers reorganization reported above, and strategic developments reported as separate items on the agenda, namely the comprehensive QME framework, the proposal on the Stockholm Node, scoping on new potential partnerships in Asia and Latin America, and post-2019 visioning.

LIP updates:

The **CTLIP** activities are all going well.

Lately there has been a focus on interacting and engaging with other LIPs, not least regarding food and urban food security, thus strengthening the KLIP- CTLIP collaboration. Cultural Heritage and Public Finance are new areas. The new partnership with the City of Cape Town is finally in place and two researchers will be 'embedded' in the City working on transit-orientated development (TOD).

CTLIP hosted a very good visit by a Sida delegation (Nayoka Martinez-Bäckström, Annika Johansson, Cecilia Skinner) from 7th to 9th February 2017.

In **GOLIP** many projects were completed in 2016 and a number of bridging projects were discussed and in some cases initiated. However, the work at the platform was affected by the absence of a LIP Director between 30 Oct and 9 January. The platform is now in the process of working on its future orientation and at the same time revising the project portfolio. In dialogue with the Consortium Council, it has become obvious that there is a need for GOLIP to find and communicate a clearer profile and identity. In this process, the relation between research – practice, local – international as well as the management model need to be discussed. It is also important to secure the development of running projects and investigate in what areas new projects are desired. A workshop with the

Consortium Council in March will be a starting point for defining a plan where these issues will be handled.

Margareta Forsberg, as new GOLIP Director, has visited all Consortium members and compiled a list of six themes to work on: 1. Steering and management of the LIP. 2. Usefulness and impact – what does Mistra Urban Futures provide? 3. Relationship academy – practice. 4. Relationship local – international. 5. Processes of starting a project. More transparent project selection and start processes. 6. Identity of the Platform and what it actually offers Consortium members.

In **KLIP**, the lead researchers are working closely with practitioners drawn from City of Kisumu/County Government, private and civil society as co-investigators. The focus of the local research activities is on improving the livelihood of the citizenry of Kisumu.

Solid waste management at Kachok dumpsite (working with the youth) and Kibuye (working with women) have been identified as flagship sites in addition to Dunga Beach and Miyandhe Beach. In partnership with Kisumu City, the beach management units (informal), and private stakeholders are directly involved in tackling how best the vast lake water can be sustainably utilised for the good of the City. KLIP has developed a comprehensive research utilisation plan that brings into perspective the networking of Dunga and Miyandhe for livelihood support with focus on food security, capacity development, community outreach, tourist products and water sport and games. SKLIP has been approached to become an international partner, to provide additional perspectives on Solid Waste.

The recruitment of the Deputy Director is to be concluded at the latest by 30th March 2017. Three post-docs have been identified and are already working with the lead researchers. Four PhD students have also been identified for the three TRACKS and Core Processes. This effort goes into enhancing the scientific capacity of the Platform. The Trustees are in discussion with the City and the Kisumu County Government on the long term sustainability of the platform. Both City and the County Governments benefit from KLIP in terms of urban knowledge, policy intervention, data on urban matters and intellectual capital. However, the strike at the universities makes it hard to conclude the hiring processes at the moment.

SKLIP is hosted by Malmö University. A steering committee has now been established, with representatives from central management levels at Malmö University, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Lund University and City of Malmö. All four have agreed to support the LIP with financing (cash and/or in-kind) until 2019. A working group has been established with representatives from those four organizations as a support to the Director. During 2016, the Region's long-term engagement was discussed at a political level in the committee for regional development. The committee decided not to support SKLIP financially (with the votes 7 – 8). New forms of collaboration with other regional authorities, first and foremost the Skåne Association of Local Authorities (which gathers all municipalities in Skåne) have been established. A part-time co-ordinator to assist the Director is being appointed. The political discussions about the SKLIP at the regional level have complicated and delayed the establishment of city partnership agreements in addition to Malmö.

So far, SKLIP has established five main projects related to two TRACKS: Socio-ecological change and Socio-spatial change, which involve various degrees of co-production and

collaboration with municipalities, the Skåne Association of Local Authorities and two private real-estate companies.

The **SMLIP** reports positive progress on the development and embedding of the platform within its new host institution at the University of Sheffield, including the recruitment of new co-ordinators (Nick Taylor-Buck and Sophie King, sharing a full time post), PhD students and the enrolment of key strategic university departments and personnel. Three post doc positions have been advertised in the last few weeks. The two nodes of the SMLIP, in Greater Manchester and Sheffield City-Region, are being developed in order to build on existing, and forge new, links with city-regional partners and community groups. This includes developing academic networks to support emerging areas of work, for instance around the Urban SDGs, migration, housing and poverty reduction. Comparative work across the TRACKS has gathered pace, with physical and virtual meetings taking place between LIPs to discuss existing collaborations and new funding proposals.

Local authorities have been reluctant to discuss participation at the moment, as the first mayoral elections take place in early May (Manchester and Sheffield being among the first city regions to increase local governance through devolution).

The Board discussed the progress updates, noting the significance of the comparative projects as a cornerstone for the future, and the need to focus on the 'what', i.e. the aggregated output and expected impact of the work, and keeping in mind that the 'what' in trans-disciplinary studies may also be the 'how'.

Decision:

To note the updates from the Director and the LIP Directors, and
 To ask for a document briefly describing the comparative studies along with an updated matrix, as input for a continued discussion at the next meeting.

5. Financial outcome 2016

The closing balance of 2016 was in total MSEK 8.5 higher than budgeted for the Mistra and Consortium funding, mainly relating to lower expenditures than expected.

The minimum funding to each LIP for Phase 2 was decided in the Strategic Plan 2016-2019 and is included in the collaboration agreements, therefore unspent funds in a LIP will remain in that LIP's budget, but carried forward to 2017-2019. Of the MSEK 8.5 in the closing balance of 2016, MSEK 5.2 was underspending in the LIPs (mainly SKLIP, GOLIP and SMLIP) due to delayed expenditure in the allocated budget lines on new research appointments and new project inception, due to staff turnover and illness, in particular.

Four components were discussed during the LIP Meeting prior to the board meeting as possible activities for allocation of additional funding, i.e. from the 3.3 mSEK surplus 'outside LIPs' and the strategic reserve for 2017:

- Increasing research capacity, not least to make up for lost time
- One more LIP directors' physical meeting in between this and November meeting
- Workshops to kick-start comparative projects, especially if linked to writing external funding applications
- Build a coherent training module on co-production, alluding to external demand as well as need to build capacity internally when expanding or changing staff.

The Board discussed the outcome and the suggested allocation of funds to additional activities during 2017. As far as the LIP surplus is concerned, it was agreed that it is basically a time frame issue; plans and activities remain, but will take place later than in 2016.

The capacity of LIPs and Centre to actually increase spending was discussed; being already well into 2017 produces a need to get operations going quickly, if 2017 targets are to be met. The value of additional analyses, such as quarterly/tercial expenditure and rolling consumption sheets were discussed.

Decisions:

To note the surplus in the financial outcome of 2016; and
To approve in principle the suggested four activities for additional allocation of resources, asking the Director to provide a budget for these activities for the next meeting.

6. Final report on establishment of Stockholm node

The Chair welcomed Sara Borgström to the meeting; Sara (previously at SRC) is now working at KTH Urban Landscape and Governance and also as coordinator for a proposal for a node in Stockholm.

The final feasibility report is a proposal for a Stockholm node (SNOD) within Mistra Urban Futures. It presents the rationale, proposed institutional partnership and initial research foci, which comprise a mixture of local project work to facilitate the building of the partnership and broader activities with and for the Centre, which focus on methodological developments, joining the Urban SDG/New Urban Agenda project and utilisation of the social-ecological expertise within the partnership. Details of the latter still require further discussions with the existing LIPs.

The Board discussed the report and proposal, and the Chair thanked Sara Borgström for taking part in the meeting to present it.

7. Establishment of Stockholm node

Based on the feasibility report and the presentation during agenda item 6, the Board discussed the establishment of the Stockholm node.

It was agreed that the feasibility report provided the necessary background and other information to make a decision.

Decision:

To establish a node in Stockholm, as suggested in the feasibility report.

8. Results of bibliometric study

An annual bibliometric study of the academic footprint of Mistra Urban Futures was requested by Mistra, and the Board had decided at an earlier meeting that it should be presented in conjunction with the Annual Report for 2016.

A bibliometric study for 2015 and 2016, including the publications listed in the bibliometric study in December 2014, has been carried out by the Chalmers Library. Approximately 90 academic publications, mainly articles in peer-reviewed journals, have been analysed with regard to metrics such as citations and collaboration. The number of peer-reviewed articles normally constitutes about 20-25% of the total number of Centre publications.

The academic footprint of the Centre, as measured by the metrics of the published articles, is satisfactory; the articles published in 2011-2016 have generated more than twice the average number of citations for publications in comparable fields of research.

The concerns expressed by Mistra, Sida and the Board regarding the scientific output, as reflected in the Board meeting minutes of September 2015, also relate to the number of academic publications. Increasing this number is an ongoing process. This includes various interventions such as writing workshops and more clearly defined expectations and commitments on academic publications in the planning of each project.

However, while the Board fully supports the aim to increase the academic publications, it also emphasises the need to rethink 'excellence' and 'impact' as central contributions of Mistra Urban Futures. The Board agrees that the Centre can make important contributions to the increasingly urgent debate – inside and outside academia. This also implies that bibliometric figures should always be presented in combination with other impacts and outputs, thus also building a new practice of communication, in line with the nature of the Centre and its programme.

The Bibliometric study will be presented by the Chair and the Director at a meeting with Mistra Foundation 14 March in Stockholm.

Decision:

To note the results of the bibliometric study and the ongoing efforts to increase the quality and number of academic publications; and
To recommend that note is taken of the conclusions in the report, which should be acted upon in a suitable way.

9. Approval of Annual Report 2016

The Annual Report 2016 will be published online towards the end of March, with texts, video clips, images and other graphic elements. It will follow the list of contents as decided at the previous Board meeting.

Texts, video clips and scripts have been produced 'in-house' in Gothenburg, Sheffield-Manchester and Skåne and are being commissioned locally in Kisumu and Cape Town, documenting both LIPs and selected projects and activities.

The background document contains texts and some images following the list of contents previously decided. The texts are – when applicable - based on transcripts of the actual interviews, but shortened and adapted to written language. It is thus not a complete representation of the content, as the video clips provide more information.

The Board discussed the oral presentation and the content, with a recommendation to include some additional material, presenting a narrative of the achievement highlights during 2016 connected to vision and mission of the Centre, and how activities relate to the overall strategies.

Decision:

To delegate final approval of the Annual Report to the Chairman of the Board, before submitting to Mistra, Sida and the Consortium by 31 March 2017

To request the LIPs to focus on results and impacts in their written sections and

To request that narrative/story on achievements be added in the context of the strategies, mission and vision of the Centre.

10. Approval of QME framework including risk matrix

Based on discussions during the Board meetings in September and November 2016, external consultations with Sida and another organisation facing similar challenges, as well as extensive discussion in the LIP Directors' forum and the Secretariat, an integrated Quality Management and Evaluation (QME) Framework has been developed.

The focus in the framework is on demonstrating impact. The indicators presented during the November Board meeting have been revised, mainly based on detailed feedback from Sida but also based on the Board discussion. A risk assessment has been conducted within each LIP as well as in the LIP Directors' meetings and finalised during the LIP Directors' meeting on 7-8 March.

The QME Framework was presented:

- Annual activity planning
- Objective, milestones
- Formative evaluation. Our learning, correlating with the core processes and reflecting on the work we do. Developing a programme theory on our own work.
- Outcome and impact narrative.
- Risk management

The Board commended the considerable work undertaken and discussed the QME Framework, emphasising the need to include benchmark measures and to connect to existing literature and knowledge on societal impact of research as well as to the Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) concept in Europe.

Decision:

To approve in principle the QME framework and risk assessment, and to follow up specific recommendations at the next meeting.

11. New overseas partners

Scoping work by the Secretariat has now reached the point where initial decisions need to be made on with which potential new partners in Asia and Latin America to pursue negotiations towards appropriate forms of agreement. As discussed previously, based on our experience to date, establishment of full LIPs or even nodes in parts of the world where very different conditions exist, will take too long, especially since Phase 2 is already under way. Hence more limited partnerships are proposed, based on particular projects or TRACKs, at least initially. In relation to the resources from Sida for new partnerships, this approach will also enable greater flexibility and the potential establishment of more than one partnership in each continental region. By utilizing existing partnerships and networks engaged within a country and across several countries, we also have the potential to draw on and develop co-productive work in several cities of diverse size, character and relevance.

The documentation and presentation were discussed by the Board. It was noted that the actual work of selecting and adding new partners might not be for the Board to decide on,

as it is already in the Strategic Plan for Phase 2 and the proposals are essentially for project-level partnerships. Board members expressed the significance of carefully weighing costs and resources against the potential benefits of expanding the network of partners.

Decisions:

To note the results of the scoping study for new potential partnerships in Asia and Latin America,

To confirm the intention to form more limited new partnerships than LIPs or nodes and to note that these do not require Board approval; and

To approve in principle the suggested expansion with limited partnerships within allocated resources, but expressing caution with respect to the allocation of time and resources to such an expansion.

12. Scenarios for post-2019

To assist the Centre and Consortium Council in visioning and progressing an appropriate post-2019 strategy, particularly as regards the balance between Swedish and non-Swedish LIPs and nodes/partners, a scenario discussion paper has been developed by the Director. It sketches three scenarios to indicate the spectrum of possibilities, although other intermediate combinations of the elements are entirely possible. Each scenario was outlined briefly with some discussion on governance and financial implications.

The Board discussed the scenarios and additional comments by the Director concerning relationships with partners in Sweden and internationally. The Chair noted that the scenarios form part of a more extensive process, which includes issues concerning the vision and mission for the Centre as a whole, as well as the ambitions and plans of the Gothenburg Consortium – some of which are considered within other items of this meeting's agenda.

Decision:

To request the Director and LIP Directors to discuss and propose a Vision and Mission for the programme post-2019 at their next physical meeting; and that this will be a key item on the agenda of the next meeting.

13. Discussion on new Chair from 2018

The discussion was chaired by the Vice-Chair. The current Board was appointed for 2016 and 2017. The Chairman has informed Chalmers and the Board that he will not be available for further re-appointment. The Board members were asked to discuss criteria for and an appropriate profile of the new Chairman, keeping in mind that the most important task for the Board in 2018-2019 will be to prepare for the Centre's third phase, without Mistra funding. Chalmers, in consultation with Mistra and the Consortium, appoints the Chair.

The Board discussed the profile and criteria for a new Chair, and the following characteristics were mentioned (without any rank order)

- Swedish-speaking person with good networks and understanding of the Swedish funding environment
- Senior researcher
- Experience in governmental work and funding
- Transdisciplinary competence and experience
- Active contributor to the Centre
- Legitimacy and credibility

- Knowledge and experience of international development work

Decision:

To share with Chalmers the discussed criteria and profile of the Chairman of the Board 2018-2019.

14. Board Members' duties in relation to Mistra's statutes, policies and guidelines

The role of the Board is defined in the agreement between Mistra and Chalmers.

The Centre host is responsible for ensuring that the Centre Board as well as the Centre Director have knowledge about Mistra's statutes, guidelines and policies. Mistra's representative presented the main features of the documentation at the meeting. This exercise should be iterated annually, since the documents are being updated and approved by Mistra's Board in December every year.

From the Mistra statutes: "The Foundation shall promote the development of strong research environments of the highest international class with importance for Sweden's future competitiveness. The research shall be of importance for finding solutions to important environmental problems and for a sustainable development of society. Opportunities for achieving industrial applications shall be taken advantage of."

No relevant issues or questions were identified by the Board.

Decision:

To note the information from Mistra on their statutes, policies and guidelines

15. Review on Internal Steering and Control

A review of the Centre's internal management and control systems, which is a condition in the Chalmers-Sida agreement (paragraph 6.5), is planned to be conducted in the 3rd quarter of 2017 at Sida's expense. The terms of reference (ToR) are under development and a draft was tabled at the meeting. The standard ToR are being tailored to suit Mistra Urban Futures to take account of the fact that some aspects are already covered by the annual Sida audits. The review will be performed by an external auditor.

Generally this kind of review forms part of the risk assessment that Sida conducts prior to deciding on its support to an organisation. In the case of Mistra Urban Futures, Sida conducted a review of the internal management and control during 2012/2013, which covered the set-up of the Secretariat only. For this phase the evaluation will look at the Secretariat and two LIPs, possibly GOLIP and KLIP. The review is expected to provide recommendations that would be relevant both for the remainder of this current phase as well as planning for post-2019.

The standard ToR have been shared with Mistra, who sent Sida some suggestions which will be taken in to account in the final version.

Decision:

To note the information and to ask Board members to communicate comments on the ToR and possible concerns to the Director for collation and transmission to Sida.

16. Next meetings

The following are the previously agreed dates for Board meetings in 2017:

#24: 13 June – phone meeting (4-6pm, CET)

#25: 13 September – phone meeting (4-6pm, CET, COP 2018 outline)

#26: 16 November – physical meeting in Kisumu, in conjunction with the second Annual International Conference, to approve the COP and budget 2018

However, in the light of discussions during this meeting (e.g. item #6) it was decided to try to find a date for a LIP Directors' meeting as mentioned in May or early June, in order to report at the 13 June Board meeting.

Decision:

To note the dates for the remaining Board meetings in 2017.

17. Any other business

18. There were no other business

19. Closed meeting with Director

The Board had a closed meeting with the Director to discuss the meeting, the documentation provided and possible ways of making futures meetings more engaging and productive.

20. Closed meeting without Director

The Board met in closed session.

21. Joint meeting with the Consortium Council

This discussion was chaired by Anna Ledin and Thomas Rosswall. The MUF Board Chair welcomed Helena Lindholm-Schultz, University of Gothenburg, and Helena Söderbäck, Gothenburg Region Association of Local Authorities to the meeting, and handed over the Chair to Anna Ledin (via speakerphone), explaining some of the background, including the following issues:

- Mistra Urban Futures' post-2019 strategy, with special reference to the scenario background document, which has been discussed by the Consortium Council and MUF Board.
- Further strengthening of GOLIP, including links to Consortium partners and current associate partners as well as researchers at Chalmers and Gothenburg University.
- The role of LIP in a national landscape with special reference to the government platform for sustainable urban development led by Boverket (National Board of Housing, Building and Planning), which is being conducted together with the Swedish Energy

Agency, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth as well as the Swedish Transport Administration. Boverket was previously an Associate Member of the Consortium Council. The possibilities could be explored how Mistra Urban Futures can contribute knowledge to the platform building on the UN Habitat New Urban Agenda.


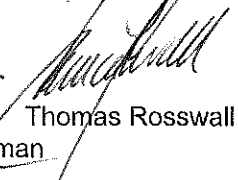
Anna Ledin thanked the Board for inviting the Consortium Council to the meeting, explaining that the Consortium Council sees itself as the regional partner, and a local platform that can be strengthened by the international Centre.

The Board and the Council representatives discussed how researchers from the local universities may be attracted to the trans-disciplinary work by the platform and the Centre – and how that may be made more visible; what would such an offer look like? There is a need to minimise organisational hassle and other possible obstacles for participating researchers, to make the engagement attractive. These and other issues are to be discussed at a 'Future Workshop' 15-16 March in Gothenburg.

Experiences from Mistra Urban Futures' platforms in Sheffield-Manchester and Cape Town were shared: in the UK the collaboration between institutions has been valued by participating researchers, and in Cape Town a 'new generation of urban researchers' comes from city officials writing up their experience and knowledge at the University for scientific articles.

It was agreed that several questions need further discussion, such as the issues regarding a Swedish national presence, which is dependent also on governmental decisions regarding the future of the existing national platform (Boverket, the National Board of Housing, Building and Planning). Meanwhile, it was agreed to arrange a meeting with all LIPs and Node, as soon as possible and according to a previous decision (agenda item #5), to work on the vision, mission and plans for all Platforms.

Date: 15 May 2017 Date: 2 May 2017

David Simon Thomas Rosswall
 Director Chairman