

# Nordic-Baltic Drinking Water Conference

# Facts about the Nordic Region

- 27 million inhabitants
- One of the strongest economies in the world
- High level of education
- Innovative power – creativity
- Welfare – fair distribution
- More than 200 years of peace between the countries

Greenland

Iceland

Faroe  
Islands

Finland

Åland

Sweden

Norway

Denmark



# Nordic co- operation



# Nordic co-operation

- One of the oldest and most comprehensive regional partnerships anywhere in the world
- Insight after the world wars – small countries need to work together
- Nordic Council 1952 – inter-parliamentary forum
- Nordic Council of Ministers 1971 – governmental co-operative forum
- Nordic Culture Fund set up in 1967



# Nordic synergy

- Passport Union (1957)
- Nordic Council prizes
- Integrated labour market (1954)
- Common social rights
- Nordic Language Convention
- Nordic Investment Bank
- The Swan ecolabel
- Common education market
- New Nordic Food
- Keyhole label
- Joint efforts to combat tax evasion



# Helsinki Treaty 1962

The countries must:

- maintain and develop further co-operation in the fields of law, culture, and the economy, as well as transport and communications, and environmental protection.

And they should:

- consult with each other on matters of common interest within European and other international organisations and at conferences.





# Council or Council of Ministers?

- The **Nordic Council** is the forum for co-operation between Nordic *parliamentarians*.
- The **Nordic Council of Ministers** is the formal forum for co-operation between the Nordic *governments*.



# Nordic Council of Ministers 1971





# Nordic Council of Ministers

Prime ministers

Ministers for Nordic Co-operation

Presiding country (rotates)

Secretary General: Karen Ellemann



# Our vision 2030

## A **green** Nordic region

Together, we will promote a green transition of our societies and work towards carbon neutrality and a sustainable circular and bio-based economy.

## A **competitive** Nordic region

Together, we will promote green growth in the Nordic region based on knowledge, innovation, mobility and digital integration.



**The Nordic  
region will  
become the most  
sustainable and  
integrated region  
in the world**

## A **socially sustainable** Nordic region

Together, we will promote an inclusive, equal and interconnected region with shared values and strengthened cultural exchange and welfare.



The Nordic Council of Ministers consists of the Ministers for Nordic Co-operation, **11 ministerial councils** covering different sectors. They are supported by 16 committees of senior officials and a high-level group (digitalisation).



DENMARK



FINLAND



ICELAND



NORWAY



SWEDEN



FAROE ISLANDS



GREENLAND

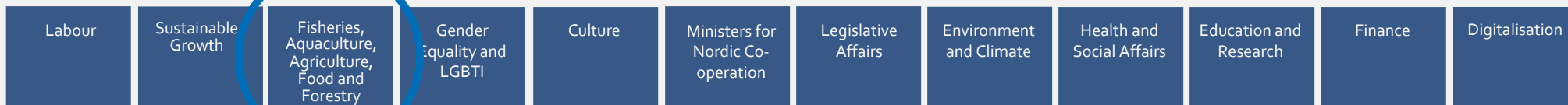


ÅLAND

The **Secretary General** is responsible for the day-to-day running of inter-governmental co-operation.

**12 Nordic institutions and three Baltic offices**

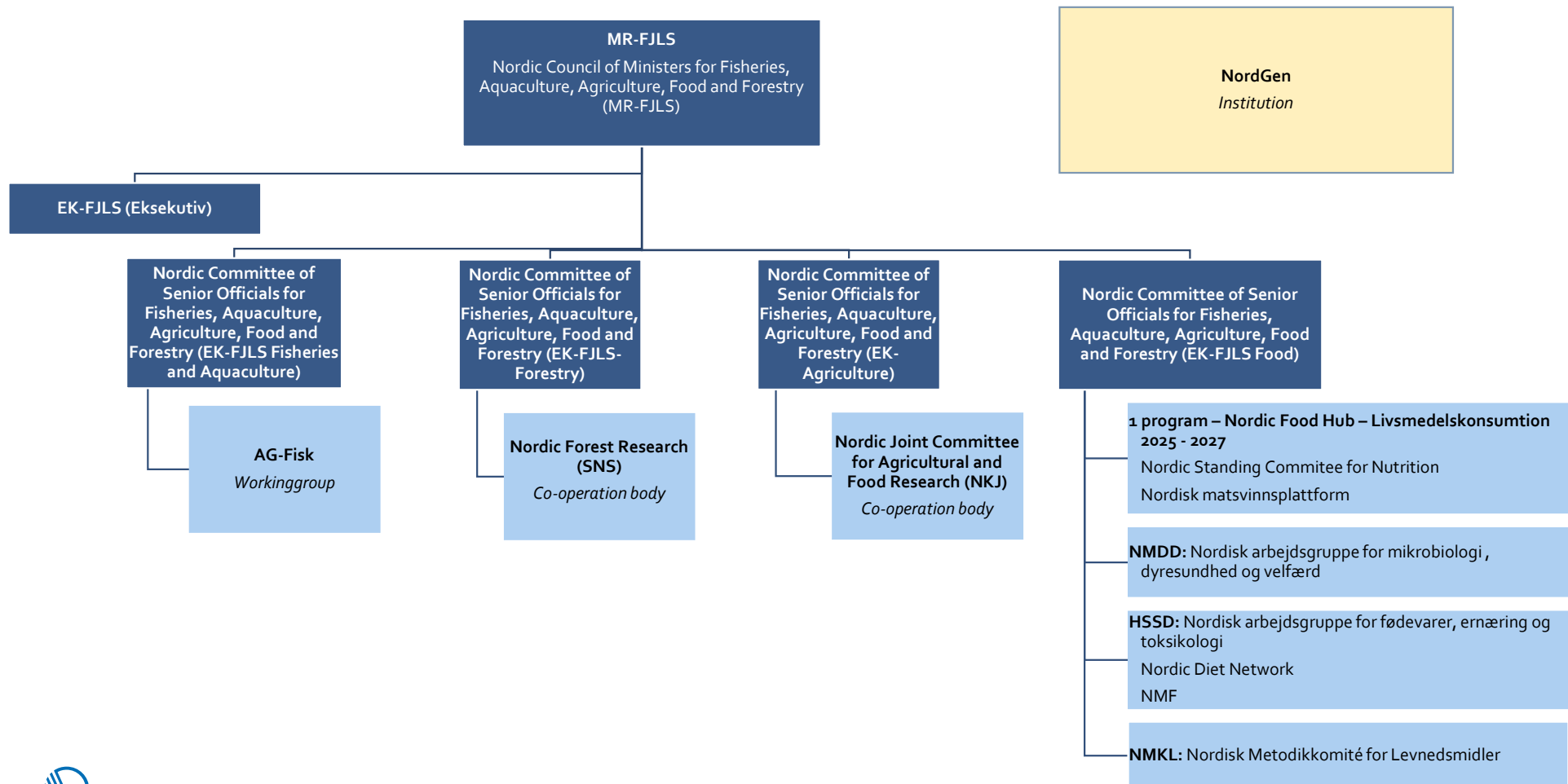
## Nordic Council of Ministers



## Secretary General Secretariat to the Nordic Council of Ministers



# Organizational chart 2025 - 2027



# 50 years of co-operation for better food

- The Nordic co-operation is one of the oldest and most comprehensive regional partnerships in the world
- A strong and established cooperation within food systems
- We fund research, networks, conferences, dialogues and projects, as well as coordinating Nordic political cooperation taking us towards the Nordic Vision 2030





# Karlstad Declaration



# Key points of the Karlstad Declaration

- **Crisis preparedness and resilience:** The declaration highlights the need to strengthen cooperation to manage crises and ensure supply security in the food and water sectors.
- **Food security:** It emphasizes the importance of maintaining stable access to food through resilient supply chains and collaboration between public and private actors.
- **Drinking water:** The declaration recognizes drinking water as a critical resource and stresses the need to ensure access to clean water as part of overall food preparedness.
- **Cross-sector cooperation:** It calls for stronger collaboration between sectors such as agriculture, aquaculture, food, and forestry to enhance overall preparedness and resilience.
- **Knowledge sharing and research:** The declaration underscores the importance of sharing knowledge and experiences, as well as promoting research to improve preparedness and address future challenges.



# Preliminary initiatives following the Karlstad Declaration

- Preparedness exercises in 2024 and 2025
- Initiative to address transboundary climate risks
- One Health and the reduction of antimicrobial resistance



# Nordic cooperation creates real added value

“Together we can do more than each country can achieve alone.”



**Trine Grønlund**

Project Manager for Nordic Food Hub

**[trigro@norden.org](mailto:trigro@norden.org)**

