

## AMU

The Working Environment Committee (AMU; Arbeidsmiljøutvalg) at UNIS currently consists of the following members:

### **From the employees:**

Tove M. Gabrielsen (current chairperson)

Gerd Irene Sigernes

Katharina Månun (safety representative, verneombud)

### **Deputies:**

Ane H. Bjørsvik

Sølvi J Lervik

### **From the employer:**

Helen Flå

Fred S. Hansen

Ingrid Eggenfellner

### **Deputy:**

Gunnar Sand

### **From the safety and health service (Bedriftshelsetjenesten):**

Arne Kooij

The working environment committee should have equal numbers of representatives from employer and employees, and the leadership of the committee alternates between representatives from the employer and the employees. This committee is a meeting place where the employees and the employer can discuss issues related to the health, safety and the working environment and decide on strategies for improvement whenever necessary.

The main task of the working environment committee is to make efforts to establish a fully satisfactory working environment at UNIS. The committee shall participate in planning safety and environmental work and shall follow up developments closely in questions relating to the safety, health and welfare of the employees (WEA section 7-2,1).

The overall responsibility for ensuring a working environment at UNIS that follows the Working Environment Act lies with the employer, whereas it is the duty of the employees to cooperate on the design, implementation and follow-up of the systematic HSE work at UNIS. AMU is a committee outside the normal lines of command at UNIS, and should oversee that the HSE work is performed satisfactorily. The committee has the authority to decide that the employer shall take specific action to improve the working environment to protect the life and health of the employees (within the Working Environment Act).

Typical cases that the working environment committee will consider are:

- 1) Establishment and maintenance of the systematic health, environment and safety work (under WEA Section 3.1),
- 2) Questions relating to training, instruction and information activities that are of significance to the working environment.

- 3) Plans for constructions and other plans that may be of material significance for the working environment,
- 4) Plans related to re-organizations, and
- 5) Reports relating to occupational diseases, occupational accidents and near accidents, seek to find the cause of the accident or disease and ensure that the employer takes steps to prevent recurrence (see more in WEA Section 7.2 Part 2).

The committee will have meetings at least four times every year, and will consider cases that are brought to the committee by the safety representative (verneombud), by the employees, or as part of the regular agenda. The meeting dates, the regular agenda, and the action plan for AMU for 2010 are attached to this email, and the minutes of previous meetings are available in ephorte. If you have any cases that you want AMU to consider, please bring them to the attention of the safety officer (Katharina Månnum) or one of the AMU members at least one week before the scheduled meeting. Meeting agendas and minutes will be available from the same link as above.

Below you will find a link to the Norwegian Working Environment Act in English.

<http://www.arbeidstilsynet.no/binfil/download2.php?tid=92156>

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or cases that you want us to consider.

Best wishes,  
Tove M. Gabrielsen  
Current chairperson