

## **THE NORDIC LEADERS' FORUM ON DEAFBLINDNESS**

**(Revised mandate from The Nordic Leaders' Forum in Copenhagen June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009)**

The Nordic Leaders' Forum on Deafblindness consists of leaders for services responsible for staff training, professional development and service provision for persons with deafblindness and their networks.

The Nordic Leaders' Forum should be a collaborative forum - a decision making body rooted in the professional work.

### **The Nordic Leaders' Forum has the following main objective:**

- To execute activities which successively benefit persons with deafblindness in each of the Nordic countries based upon a joint Nordic approach.

### **This is achieved by focusing on:**

- To develop national knowhow about deafblindness and strengthen national services for persons with congenital and acquired deafblindness
- To provide the Nordic work on deafblindness with a distinct and specialized profile
- To secure mutual access to professional resources and expert knowledge
- To contribute in development of expert knowledge on a Nordic level
- To support development of quality in the work on deafblindness
- To support certain services by establishing a joint Nordic platform
- To provide NVC in Denmark with suggestions for their activity priorities

### **These conditions are necessary for success:**

- The meetings in the Nordic Leaders' Forum are devoted to challenges in the professional work and collaboration of mutual interest
- The participants have decision making power concerning resources (staff and finances)
- There is continuity in the meetings. When there is a replacement for a participant, each service is responsible to pass on sufficient information
- Both the hosting party and the participants carry out good preparations for the meetings

### **The meetings are organized this way:**

- The Nordic Leaders' Forum meets once a year, alternately in every Nordic country
- A secretariat is responsible for the planning and for the content of the meetings. The secretariat consists of three persons: One from each of NVC in Denmark, the previous host country and the next host country.
- The secretariat sends the invitation, asking for issues for the agenda, no later than 2 months before the annual meeting
- The host country is responsible for the practical arrangements and for the minutes