

Act on the Natural Resources Institute Finland (561/2014)

Section 1 – *Scope of activities*

- (1) The purpose of the Natural Resources Institute Finland is to promote competitive economic activities and welfare based on the sustainable use of natural resources and the viability of rural areas.
- (2) The Institute operates within the scope of activities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Section 2 – *Tasks*

- (1) The task of the Natural Resources Institute Finland within its scope of activities is to:
 - 1) engage in scientific research and development activities;
 - 2) produce information and expert services in support of societal decision-making and action by public authorities;
 - 3) engage in knowledge and technology transfer;
 - 4) produce statistics within its scope of activities, unless this is the task of another authority;
 - 5) maintain registers needed in the activity;
 - 6) manage tasks relating to the preservation of the diversity of genetic resources;
 - 7) promote international cooperation;
 - 8) manage other tasks laid down for it in the law or under it;
 - 9) manage tasks specifically assigned to it by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
- (2) The Natural Resources Institute Finland functions as a statistical authority referred to in the Statistics Act (280/2004).

Section 3 – *Organisation and management of the Natural Resources Institute Finland*

- (1) The organisation of the Natural Resources Institute Finland is comprised of national units subject to performance responsibility and operations covering the whole scope of activities of the Institute. For managing the statistical tasks the Institute has an independent unit subject to performance responsibility which is, with regard to the organisation, separated from the management of other tasks.
- (2) The Natural Resources Institute Finland is led by the President and CEO. The President and CEO is responsible for the performance and efficiency of the Institute and approves the Rules of Procedure of the Institute.
- (3) The Government appoints a Board to support the strategic steering of the activity of the Natural Resources Institute Finland. In addition, the Institute may appoint advisory boards necessary for managing its tasks.

Section 4 – *Appointment and qualifications of the President and CEO*

- (1) The President and CEO is appointed by the Government.

- (2) The qualifications required for the President and CEO are a higher university degree, diverse experience required for the task, and leadership skills and experience proven in practice.

Section 5 – *Power of decision*

- (1) The President and CEO decides on matters pertaining to the Institute, unless otherwise provided. By the Rules of Procedure power of decision of the President and CEO may be transferred to another public servant. In individual cases the President and CEO may assume the power of decision on a matter which under the Rules of Procedure would otherwise be decided by a subordinate.

Section 6 – *Concluding agreements and donations*

- (1) The Natural Resources Institute Finland may conclude agreements to manage research, survey and statistical tasks within its scope of activities as well as to implement research programmes. The Institute may use experts within the limits of its budget.
- (2) The Institute may conduct surveys and studies within its scope of activities and provide other expert services against a charge.
- (3) The Institute may accept donations for its activity.

Section 7 – *Charges*

- (1) The Act on Criteria for Charges Payable to the State (150/1992) applies to charges collected for products and services provided by the Natural Resources Institute Finland.

Section 8 – *Further provisions*

- 1) Further provisions on directing, tasks and decision-making of the Natural Resources Institute Finland and the appointment, tasks and power of decision of its Board are issued by Government Decree. Provisions on the staff and titles of the Institute are also laid down by Government Decree.
- 2) Further provisions on the organisation of the activities and tasks of the Natural Resources Institute Finland, location of its offices and power of decision are issued by the Rules of Procedure.

Section 9 – *Entry into force*

- (1) This Act enters into force on 1 January 2015.
- (2) This Act repeals the Act on the Agrifood Research Finland (1395/1997), Act on the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute (1131/1987) and Act on the Finnish Forest Research Institute (1114/1999).
- (3) After the entry into force of this Act a reference to an act referred to in subsection 2 in another act or decree means a reference to this Act. Similarly, after the entry into force of this Act a reference to the Agrifood Research Finland, Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute or Finnish Forest Research Institute means the Natural Resources Institute Finland.

Section 10 – *Transitional provisions concerning the management of tasks*

- (1) The Natural Resources Institute Finland continues the activity of the Agrifood Research Finland, Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute and Finnish Forest Research Institute. Matters pending at these institutes upon the entry into force of this Act, commitments and

agreements in force and the rights and obligations arising from these are transferred to the Natural Resources Institute Finland.

- (2) Matters of the Information Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry pending upon the entry into force of this Act concerning the activity as a statistical authority referred to in section 2(2) and other statistics produced by it as well as price monitoring of agricultural products, commitments and agreements in force and the rights and obligations arising from these are transferred to the Natural Resources Institute Finland.
- (3) However, the commitments and agreements referred to in subsections 1 and 2 above are transferred to the Natural Resources Institute Finland only if not otherwise provided by their content.

Section 11 – *Position of staff when establishing the Natural Resources Institute Finland*

- (1) Provisions on the position of the staff with a public-service employment relationship are laid down in sections 5 a –5 c of the Public Servants Act (750/1994).
- (2) Staff of the institutes referred to in section 10(1) above and of the Information Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry managing tasks referred to in section 10(2) with a contractual employment relationship are transferred to the service of the Natural Resources Institute Finland upon the entry into force of this Act. A person with a fixed-term employment relationship is transferred to the service of the Natural Resources Institute Finland for the duration of the fixed-term employment relationship.
- (3) With regard to the benefits relating to the employment relationship of the transferred staff the employment relationship with the State is considered to continue uninterrupted.
- (4) A person with a contractual employment relationship may be transferred without his or her consent if the transfer takes place within or to his or her travel-to-work area. A travel-to-work area refers to an area specified in Chapter 1, section 9 of the Unemployment Security Act (1290/2002).
- (5) In other respects, what is agreed in the collective agreements or the law applies to the terms and conditions of the contractual employment relationship.