

Nils Johan Heatta  
Director, Sami Broadcasting  
Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK)



Born in Kautokeino in Sapmi in 1954. Living in Karasjok.

Has worked as sound and video engineer. Director for the Sami Broadcasting in Norway since 1985. NRK Sami Radio is a part of the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK). As director for the Sami division he is automatically member of the management of the NRK company. As director Heatta is dealing with journalistic and technical subjects and he is responsible for managing NRK Sami Radio economics and administration. Today Sami Radio has a staff of 72.

Heatta has been active in the collaboration between the Sami radio and Tv stations in Finland, Sweden and Norway. He has been central in establishing the daily Sami TV newsprogram which is broadcasted in Sweden, Finland and Norway.

In 1998 Heatta was asked to help the Russian Samis to get their own radiostation and in 2000 Heatta initiated a project to restart Sami radio broadcasts on the Kola Peninsula. The station in Russia will start the broadcasts December 19<sup>th</sup> this year.

NRK Sami Radio in Karasjok has established an editorial office for indigenous affairs. Three journalist are now working with a project with the aim to increase news and other tv and radio programmes in both the Sami broadcastings and also on the national network in NRK. This project will describe and strengthen the journalist's knowledge on indigenous societies and subjects. Another aim is to establish a network of sources for the journalistic work and we will also try to establish a common website (extranet) for exchange of news and programmes between indigenous stations.