

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA
FINANCIAL MECHANISM COMMITTEE

14 June 2008

Conclusions
Financial Mechanism Committee
38th Meeting - 13 March 2008

1 Meeting agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2 Draft Summary Records and Draft Conclusions of the previous Committee meeting

2.1 Draft Summary Records of Committee meeting of 14 February 2008

The Draft Summary Records of the Committee meeting of 14 February 2008 were adopted.

2.2 Draft Conclusions of the Committee meeting of 14 February 2008

The Draft Conclusions of the Committee meeting of 14 February 2008 were adopted.

3 Grant applications

3.1 Status of GRD production

As at 12 March 2007, the FMO had received 780 applications (approximately EUR 871 million), 447 projects (EUR 559 million) had been approved, 35 (EUR 43 million) rejected and 12 (EUR 14 million) withdrawn. The FMO is currently working on some 260 applications.

3.2 Projects approved/rejected since 14 February 2008

The Committee took note of the list of projects approved/rejected since 14 February 2008.

4 Status of the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism in the Beneficiary States

4.1 Status of implementation in the Beneficiary States

The FMO briefed the Committee on the status of the implementation in the Beneficiary States.

4.2 Annex C Funds

Annex C Funds were discussed under agenda item 4.1.

4.3 Annual meeting: Portugal 2 - 4 April 2008

The draft agenda for the annual meeting scheduled for 2 April 2008 was distributed.

5 Co-operation with the European Commission

The National Expert informed the Committee of the status of the screening.

6 Guidelines, policy and efficiency issues

6.1 State Aid

The FMO presented a draft "Guidelines on FMO's state aid review". The Committee gave some drafting comments.

6.2 Changes to the project reporting in Poland (PIR)

[Note: The FMO prefers not to include this agenda item in the Conclusions.]

7 Administrative issues

7.1 Draft Report to the Standing Committee of the EFTA States

The FMO presented a draft annual report to the Standing Committee.

The Committee gave some drafting comments and will come back with further drafting comments at a later stage. The FMO will prepare a revised version for the April meeting.

7.2 Disbursement forecast

The FMO presented a disbursement forecast.

7.3 Update on web development

The FMO briefed the Committee on the web development.

8 Other issues

The FMO informed the Committee of the EFTA Board of Auditors audit on the financial mechanisms.

9 Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 16 April 2008.

FMO

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Iceland

Mr Kjartan Jóhansson, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Mr Bjarni Vestmann, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Liechtenstein

Mr Pascal Schafhauser, Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the European Union

Norway

Mr Anders Erdal, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *Chairman*

Ms Vibeke Rysst-Jensen, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ms Henriette C. Gulbrandsen, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs