EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA
FINANCIAL MECHANISM COMMITTEE 2004-2009

13 July 2011

Conclusions
Financial Mechanism Committee 2004-2009
67th Meeting - 19 May 2011

1 Meeting agenda

The meeting agenda was adopted. The Committee decided to discuss agenda items 3.2 through 3.5 prior to 3.1.

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

2.1 Draft Summary Records from the previous Committee meeting

The draft summary records of the previous meeting were adopted.

2.2 Draft Conclusions from the previous Committee meeting

The draft conclusions of the previous meeting were adopted.

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

3.1 Status of implementation

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

3.2 Greece I - Audit report follow-up and further actions to be taken in general

The FMO gave a short update on the process of handling projects at risk of non-completion in Greece. The Committee took note of the information.

3.3 Greece II - Suspension of Payments

The FMO presented a recommendation to suspend all payments to Greece with immediate effect and provided the Committee with background information for the recommendation. Based on this information, the Committee agreed to suspend payment of funds to Greece. The Committee also agreed on the conditions that should be fulfilled prior to lifting the suspension.

3.4 Romania - Location of the Focal Point

The FMO briefed the Committee on the status of organizational location of the Focal Point in Romania and suggested procedures for amending the Annex A to the Memorandum of Understanding. The Committee took note of the information and agreed to the procedures suggested by FMO.

3.5 Slovakia - Audit report follow-up

The FMO informed the Committee that a draft report on the allegations of mismanagement in the Focal Point

had just been received. The Focal Point has received a written apology and a withdrawal of allegations from the Project Promoter.

The Committee requested the FMO to present its recommendation on further action for decision in the next Committee meeting.

4 Administrative issues

4.1 Statement of actual expenses FMO 2010

The FMO briefed the Committee on the actual expenses for 2010 for the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms. The Committee took note of the briefing.

4.2 Statement of actual expenses FMO Jan-Apr 2011

The FMO briefed the Committee on the actual expenses from January to April this year for the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms. The Committee took note of the information.

4.3 Status of disbursement

The FMO briefed the Committee on the status of disbursement. The Committee took note of the information.

4.4 Updated disbursement forecast for 2011 and 2012

The FMO presented an updated overview of estimated disbursements for 2011 and 2012. The FMO also presented its estimates for the unused funds (amounts committed by the Donor States which will not be disbursed and remains unabsorbed). The Committee took note of the information and asked the FMO to provide a new disbursement forecast by the end of the summer 2011.

5 Other issues

No other issues were discussed.

6 Next meeting

The next Committee meeting is planned for 29 June 2011 in Brussels.

FMO
FMO, FMO, *Secretary*

Iceland
Mr Eythor Benediktsson, Icelandic Mission to the European Communities

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

Norway
Mr Anders Erdal, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *Chairman*
Mr Steinar Egil Hagen, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Tom Tjomsland, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ms Vibeke Rysst-Jensen, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs