

42nd Financial Mechanism Committee 2009-14 meeting

1 July 2015

Conclusions

Adopted 10.9.2015

1 Meeting agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2 Draft Minutes and Conclusions from the previous meeting

2.1 Draft Minutes and Conclusions from the previous meeting

The last sentence of "4.1 Amendment of the Regulation (funds for bilateral relations)" in the Minutes and in the Conclusions should read: "The Standing Committee of the EFTA States confirmed on 10 June 2015 the amendments to the Regulation decided by the Committee on 7 May 2015."

"5.1 Hungary – Follow-up of the NGO Fund (HU05) audits" in the Conclusions should read as follows: "The Committee discussed the follow-up of the NGO Fund (HU05) audits."

The Minutes and the Conclusions of the Committee meeting of 7 May 2015 were adopted with the above amendments.

3 Director's assessment

3.1 Progress report

The Director briefed the Committee on the overall state of play including programme and country progress, disbursements, reporting and communication and upcoming events.

4 Issues for adoption

4.1 Council of Europe budget 2016

The Committee approved the budget proposal for 2016 for the Council of Europe.

5 Issues for discussion

5.1 Hungary

The FMO briefed the Committee on the status of implementation and on the follow-up of the meeting of 23 June 2015 between the Hungarian authorities and the Committee.

5.2 Status of implementation

Following the Committee's decision of 7 May 2015 a letter outlining the three options that could be taken to enhance implementation and results was sent to the Beneficiary States on 26 May 2015. The FMO briefed the Committee on the measures taken to ensure a coordinated process on the exceptional extensions of the final date of the eligibility of selected projects. The Committee took note of the FMO's briefing.

5.3 Results of the NGO evaluation and proposed follow-up

The Committee took note of the results of the NGO evaluation.

5.4 EBOA Audit

The Committee authorised the FMO to send the documentation requested in the letter of 17 June 2015 to the EFTA Board of Auditors (EBOA).

6 Issues for information

6.1 Update of the risk assessment

The Committee took note of the risk assessment update.

6.2 Summary of 2014 annual reports from Donor Programme Partners

The Committee took note of the report.

6.3 Administrative budget 2015 – actual expenses as at 30 March 2015

The Committee took note of the FMO's report on actual expenses as at 30 March 2015.

7 Beneficiary States

7.1 Critical issues

The FMO informed the Committee about critical issues in the Beneficiary States.

7.2 Annual meeting dates for autumn

The Committee took note of the annual meeting dates planned for autumn 2015.

8 Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 10 September 2015.

List of participants

Iceland

Ms Thóra Magnúsdóttir, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr Angantýr Einarsson, Counsellor for Finance and Economic Affairs, Embassy of Iceland

Mr Andri Júlíusson, First Secretary, Embassy of Iceland

Mr Unnur Orradóttir Ramette, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Liechtenstein

Mr Dominik Marxer, Counsellor, Liechtenstein Mission to the EU

Norway

Mr Anders Erdal, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Chairman)

Ms Lise Kleven Grevstad, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr Tom Tjomsland, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ms Ingjerd Haugen, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ms Torill Johansen, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (part of the meeting)

FMO - Secretary