

30th Financial Mechanism Committee 2009-14 meeting

24 October 2013

Conclusions

Adopted on 4 December 2013

1 Meeting agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2 Draft Minutes and Conclusions from the previous Committee meeting

2.1 Draft Minutes and Conclusions

The draft Minutes and the draft Conclusions of the Committee meeting of 17 September 2013 were adopted.

3 Director's assessment

3.1 Progress report including: Status of programme decisions, commitments, disbursements and forecasts, DoRIS implementation

The Director briefed the Committee on (i) status of programme decisions; (ii) commitments, disbursements and forecasts and (iii) DoRIS implementation. As at 24 October 2013 147 programmes had been sent to the Donors. 143 had been approved and three rejected/withdrawn. The total commitments were EUR 1.5 billion or 90 % of the total available funds. The disbursement forecast has been reviewed and lowered 20.7 % compared to the June 2013 forecast. As at 15 October 2013 68.5 % (EUR 8.7 million) of the FMO's administrative budget had been spent.

The Director outlined as the main follow-up issues for the FMO: (i) DoRIS and reporting; (ii) the remaining events in 2013; (iii) follow up of the recommendations of the Norwegian Auditor General's performance audit report and (iv) proposal for administrative budget for 2014.

4 Progress report on implementation

4.1 Annual meetings

The Committee discussed in detail the countries (the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, Spain and Greece) for which an annual meeting is scheduled to take place prior to the next Committee meeting

4.2 Progress reports

The Committee discussed the status of implementation and the progress of programmes in the Beneficiary States.

4.3 Red and yellow programmes

The FMO gave the Committee an overview of the programmes flagged red and yellow in the Beneficiary States.

5 Issues for discussion

5.1 Administrative budget 2013 – actual spending per 30 September 2013

The Committee took note of the FMO's report on actual spending as at 30 September 2013.

5.2 Administrative budget 2014 – first draft

The Committee took note of the FMO's first draft for the administrative budget 2014 and requested the FMO to prepare a detailed budget proposal for the December meeting.

5.3 DPP budget 2014 – first draft

The Committee took note of the FMO's first draft for the DPP budget 2014. The Committee requested the FMO to prepare for the December meeting the DPP budget 2014 and an analysis of the DPPs. The analysis would be used as background for the 2014 budget and for further development of the DPP work.

5.4 Annual meeting travel costs for the FMC members

The Committee concluded that as for annual meetings the FMO administrative budget would upon request cover the travel costs of one representative from each of the donor states per meeting.

6 Issues for information

6.1 Events calendar

The Committee took note of the updated list of events

6.2 Performance audit Norway grants

Norway informed Iceland and Liechtenstein about the results and follow-up of the performance audit carried out by the Norwegian auditor general on the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2004 – 2009.

6.3 Risk seminar – conclusions and recommendations

The summary and the follow-up actions from the risk seminar (24 – 25 September 2013) will be on the agenda of the December Committee meeting.

7 Other issues

There were no other issues.

8 Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 4 December 2014 with focus on risk mitigation.

Meeting participants:

Iceland

Kristján Andri Stefánsson, Icelandic Ministry of Foreign

Liechtenstein

Dominik Marxer, Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the EU

Norway

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

Pia Gjesme Holm, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Signe Astrid Engli, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Tom Tjomsland, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

FMO