

Final Conclusions  
Financial Mechanism Committee 2009-14  
23rd meeting 5 December 2012

## **1. Meeting agenda**

The meeting agenda was adopted with the text in item 6.3 amended: "Formal election of FMC Chair.." should read "Election of FMC Chair..".

## **2. Information from DG Regio**

The national expert from DG Regio informed about the absorption rate for the Beneficiary States as regards to the Structural and Cohesion funding.

## **3. Draft minutes and conclusions of the previous FMC meeting**

The draft minutes and conclusions from the previous FMC meeting were adopted with the following amendment to agenda item 4 on election of FMC Chairman.

New text for the minutes and conclusions:

'The FMO was asked to prepare a draft for "Rules of procedure for FMC for the 09-14 mechanism" for adoption in the next Committee meeting. Following the adoption of these rules, the election of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair will be conducted'.

An additional text was also added to the conclusions, item 8.1 - administrative budget: 'The final budget will be adopted in the next FMC meeting'.

## **4. Director's assessment**

### **4.1 Overall status and priorities**

The FMO briefed the Committee on the status of programming and urgent matters.

## **5. Status of Implementation in the Beneficiary States**

### **5.1 GRD production**

The FMO briefed the Committee on the status and progress in the GRD production.

### **5.2 Country status including Annual Meeting preparations for Slovakia, Spain and Bulgaria**

The FMO presented the status of implementation report country by country and informed the Committee about urgent matters. The Committee discussed and made remarks to the recently held and upcoming Annual Meetings.

### **5.3 Status on commitments and disbursements per country**

The Committee was informed about the current commitments and disbursements per country.

### **5.4 Risk assessment**

The FMO presented an updated document on the risk assessment. The Committee was informed about improvements undertaken in the country risk assessment part of the GRDs. The document will be further amended as a strategic document with focus on the methodology outside the strategy.

The FMO handed out the TI corruption perception index for 2012. The index was discussed and comments made.

## **6 Issues for adoption**

### **6.1 Administrative budget for FMO 2013**

This item was discussed in the Committee meeting for the Financial Mechanisms 2004-09 and the discussion covered both 2004-09 and 2009-14 Financial Mechanisms.

With minor comments the FMO administrative budget 2013 for the FM2009-14 was adopted.

### **6.2 Rules of Procedure for the Financial Mechanism Committee**

The proposal for amended Rules of Procedure for the Financial Mechanism Committee was adopted.

### **6.3 Formal election of FMC Chair and Vice-Chair**

Mr Anders Erdal from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs was proposed as Chairman of the Committee and Mr Kristján Andri Stefánsson from the Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs as Vice-chairman of the Committee. The proposal was adopted by the Committee.

### **6.4 FMC and Annual Meeting calendar 2013**

The draft FMC meeting calendar including Annual Meetings was adopted for 2013 with amendments suggested.

### **6.5 Budget and plan for evaluations 2013**

The budget and plan for evaluations 2013 were adopted as proposed.

## **7 Issues for discussion**

### **7.1 Romania – status EU funding**

The Committee took note of the update from FMO about the recent developments in Romania with regards to suspension of EU funding.

## **8 Issues for information**

### **8.1 Status work plans for bilateral funds at national level**

The FMO briefed the Committee on the status in the various countries for the work plans for bilateral funds at national level.

### **8.2 Communication and events 2013**

The FMO gave a short overview of main events in the spring.

### **8.3 Feedback from the Hate Speech conference, Budapest, 27-28 November 2012**

The FMO provided feedback to the Committee from the conference.

## **9 Other issues**

There were no other issues discussed.

## **10. Next meeting**

The next Committee meeting is planned for 16 January 2013.

### Participants:

Anders Erdal, Chairman, NMFA  
Ingrid Schulerud, NMFA  
Steinar Hagen, NMFA  
Tom Tjomsland, NMFA  
Henriette Gulbrandsen, NMFA

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

Kristján A Stefansson, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs  
Tomas Brynjolfsson, Icelandic Mission to the EU (part of meeting)

Observer: Aud Hellstrøm, Minister Counsellor, Mission of Norway

For agenda item 2: Per Mannes, DG Regio

The FMO