

<p>Draft Conclusions Financial Mechanism Committee 2009-14 16<sup>th</sup> meeting 7 December 2011</p>
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## **1. Meeting agenda**

The meeting agenda was adopted.

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

The NMFA asked for two amendments to be included in the draft minutes. The amendments entailed inclusion of an extra paragraph in item 6.1 regarding the NGO programme and a specification of event dates under item 9.4. The draft minutes and conclusions from the previous FMC meeting were then adopted.

## **3. MoU update**

### ***3.1 Update from the MoU Coordinator***

FMO distributed an updated status overview of the MoU process.

The MoU coordinator of the NMFA briefed the Committee on the status country by country of the Beneficiary States where signing is not yet completed.

The Committee took note of the briefing.

Information on agenda item 3.2 MoU follow up issues was included during the update under item 3.1.

## **4. General progress**

### ***4.1 Director assessment of urgent matters and risk issues of special importance***

The FMO presented their view on urgent matters and included also agenda item 4.2 Priority tasks for spring 2012 in this presentation.

The Committee took note of the briefing.

### ***4.3 Risk management***

Ernst and Young have delivered their draft report on the review of Risk Management in the EEA and Norway Grants 2009-14. FMO is looking into the findings and will revert to the Committee at a later stage with information.

### ***4.4. Bilateral relations***

The NMFA proposed to the Committee new formulations regarding the bilateral relations objective. The suggestions represent work in progress and the FMO was asked to develop further by including this in the preparations for the bilateral guidelines.

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

### ***5.1 Status of implementation***

The FMO went through the status of implementation country by country.

The Committee took note of the information.

### ***5.2. Risk analysis of the Beneficiary States***

The Committee did not discuss the contents of the distributed risk analysis in detail, but discussed and agreed that the status of implementation document can also include risk analysis and follow up of high political important programmes when needed.

## **6. Programmes and Fund Operators**

### ***6.1 NGO Programme state of play and plan 2012***

NGO programmes will be implemented in all 15 BS. The FMO also presented the work programme for 2012.

The Committee took note of the information.

### ***6.2 FMO workload 2012***

The FMO presented an overview of the workload ahead for FMO. The Committee asked to include a timeline for donor participation in the overview and took note of the presentation.

### ***6.3 Programme proposal submission deadline***

The FMO has indications that more countries will not meet the programme proposal submission deadline. The Committee discussed how such an issue should be handled and decided to give FMO the authority to issue a new deadline when delay in the Programme proposal submission deadline is justified. For high priority programmes, the Donors shall be consulted.

## **7. Guidelines and policy issues**

### ***7.1 Amendments to the Regulation after BS consultation***

The FMO presented suggested amendments to the Committee.

The Committee approved the amendments to the Regulation and recommended that the FMO proceed with the confirmation by the Standing Committee of the EFTA States.

Furthermore, the FMC approved the amendments to Annex 9 (POM) to the Regulation, and that the amendments to Annex 9 enter into force on the date of the confirmation by the Standing Committee of the EFTA States of the changes to the Regulation.

### ***7.2 Evaluation plan 2012***

The FMO presented a joint evaluation plan for the FMs 2004-09 and 2009-14 in the 2004-09 Committee meeting where it was also adopted.

## **8. Administrative issues**

Agenda items 8.1 and 8.2 and were discussed in the Committee meeting for the FMs 2004-09 where the administrative budget for 2012 was approved.

### ***8.3 Delegation of tasks to FMO***

FMO presented a list of tasks to be delegated and tasks to remain with the FMC.

The Committee agreed to the general approach and asked the FMO to revert to the issue in the next FMC meeting.

### ***8.4 Preliminary forecast of estimated payments in 2012***

The FMO presented a preliminary forecast of estimated payments for 2012. A more detailed analysis and prognosis will be provided by 5 January 2012.

## **9. Communication and events**

### ***9.1 Gender based violence conference in Bratislava 29 November***

The FMO briefed the Committee on the results from the *Regional Conference Effective ways to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence* in Bratislava 29 November 2011.

The Committee took note of the information.

### ***9.2 Workshop Focal Points 8 December***

The FMO informed the Committee about the upcoming workshop for focal Points in Brussels 8 December 2011.

The Committee took note of the information.

### ***9.3 Greece – launch event PA 15***

FMO briefed the Committee on the launch of the asylum program in Greece on 1 December 2011.

The Committee took note of the information.

### **9.4 Priorities 2012**

The FMO presented an overview of priorities for the Information and Communication work in 2012.

The new Communication and Design manual was also distributed to the Committee members.

The Committee took note of the information.

## **10. Other issues**

### ***10.1 Development of DoRIS – status update***

The FMO informed the Committee that the first release of the new IT system for grant management was operative. The next release is scheduled for March 2012 and the last release for July 2012.

The Committee took note of the information.

## **11. Next meeting**

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for 25 January 2012.

List of participants:

Norway

Anders Erdal, NMFA, Chairman

Ingrid Schulerud, NMFA

Vibeke Rysst-Jensen, NMFA

Steinar Hagen, NMFA

Tønnes Svanes, NMFA

Liechtenstein

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

Emilia Breuss, Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the European Union

Iceland

Kristjan Stefansson, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

FMO

FMC Coordinator