Conclusions Norway Grants Management Meeting 2009-14 7th meeting 28 August 2012 in NMFA, Oslo

1. Meeting agenda

The draft meeting agenda was adopted with the following amendment: Country status for Romania and Bulgaria under item 4.2.2, and update on the Sofia seminar under item 5.2. were discussed first.

2. Draft Minutes and Conclusions from the last meeting

The Draft Minutes from the previous meeting were adopted with an amendment to the text in 4.2.2.

3. Follow up issues

Capacity in the FMO was discussed. The FMO informed about their on-going recruitment process.

The preparations for the seminar "Living in diversity" 4 October 2012 in Cyprus should be prioritized.

The issue regarding finalisation of co-financing in the Czech Republic was discussed.

4. Issues for discussion

4.1 Director's assessment

The item was not discussed separately.

4.2 Status of implementation

4.2.1 Status and process in the GRD production

The FMO presented a document including a rolling plan for GRD production this autumn, and the process for preparing GRDs to the Donors was discussed.

4.2.2 Country and sector status including Annual Meetings preparations

The FMO presented the status of implementation in the Beneficiary States and issues related to Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic were discussed.

The FMO also briefed the NMFA on the status of the research programmes. A minimum of 20 % should set aside in each programme for social science and humanities.

4.2.3 Risk strategy and the methodology for the risk assessments

NMFA presented the new Senior Adviser Andreas Danevad who will coordinate the work on risk strategy and methodology in the NMFA from now on.

The FMO presented a document with an evaluation per country and per programme and underlined that this is still work in progress. The NMFA handed out a note including a global perspective on risk identification, mitigation and communication. A total of 13 measures was suggested and discussed in the meeting.

4.2.4 MoU follow-up issues

The FMO was reminded to use the NMFA's overview and follow up memo from the MoU negotiations when preparing the GRDs.

4.2.5 Bilateral issues

The FMO bilateral team was commended for their active approach with the national bilateral funds and the DPPs. The NMFA underlined the importance of keeping the triangle contact between the Embassies, the FMO and the NMFA.

The NMFA informed about the relevance of including activities under the use of bilateral funds where the research institution sector would participate.

Integration of bilateral indicators and measures in the programmes to be further discussed between the NMFA and the FMO.

4.2.6. Information issues including events in 2013 and 2014

An updated overview of outreach events for 2013 and 2014 was presented and specific comments were made to the main events.

The Annual Report for 2011 was well received by the NMFA.

4.3 Priorities for autumn 2012

This item had already been covered under other discussions in the meeting.

5 Issues for information

5.1 Co-financing

This item was covered under item 3.

5.2 Update on the Risk Management seminar in Sofia (11 September 2012) and the Hate speech conference in Budapest (27-28 November 2012)

Details of the Risk Management seminar and Hate speech conference were discussed.

5.3 Status on upgrade of <u>www.eeagrants.org</u>

The FMO informed about the status of the upgrade of EEA and Norway Grants website. The FMO plans to have the new website ready in December.

5.4 List of Focal points

The NMFA took note of the updated list of Focal Points distributed for the meeting.

6. Other issues

The NMFA informed about the new Norwegian National Expert in DG Regio.

7. Next meeting

The NMFA will revert with a date for the next Norway Grants management meeting.

Meeting attendees:

- From NMFA: Steinar Hagen Ingrid Schulerud Vibeke Rysst-Jensen Andreas Danevad Marianne Berg Haaland Henriette Gulbrandsen
- Part of meeting: Anders Erdal Mette Jøranli Tom Tjomsland Christian G Halvorsen

From FMO: Stine Andresen Rune Vistad Inger Stoll Birthe Westerby Kristin Hauge (part of meeting) Zsolt Toszegi (part of meeting)