

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA
FINANCIAL MECHANISM COMMITTEE

06 July 2009

Conclusions
Financial Mechanism Committee
47th Meeting - 04 March 2009

1 Meeting agenda

Agenda item 6.3 "Review of the amounts set-aside for appraisal, monitoring and evaluation" was deleted. A NMFA briefing on Visegrad 4 meeting was added under agenda item 7 "Other issues". The agenda was adopted with these changes.

2 Draft Summary Records and Draft Conclusions of the previous Committee meeting

2.1 Draft Summary Records of the Committee meeting of 21 January 2009

The Draft Summary Records of the Committee meeting of 21 January 2009 were adopted.

2.2 Draft Conclusions of the Committee meeting 21 January 2009

The Draft Conclusions of the Committee meeting of 21 January 2009 were adopted.

3 Grant applications

3.1 Status of GRD production

As at 3 March 2009 the FMO had received 1388 applications (EUR 1,402 million), 858 commitments (EUR 866 million) had been made, 91 (EUR 83 million) applications had been rejected and 41 (EUR 39 million) applications had been withdrawn. The FMO is currently working on almost 400 projects, of which 100 are reserve projects. Applications from all Beneficiary States were received by the deadline of 31 January 2009. The FMO completed the IRRs and launched the screening requests by mid-February.

3.2 List of approved/rejected projects since 21 January 2009

The Committee took note of the list of approved/rejected projects since 21 January 2009.

4 Status of the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism in the Beneficiary States

4.1 Status of the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism in the Beneficiary States

The FMO briefed the Committee on the status of implementation in the Beneficiary States.

4.2 Annex C Funds

Annex C Funds were discussed under agenda item 4.1.

4.3 *Review on energy saving in Poland*

The Review of Energy Saving in Poland had been sent formally to the FMO on 29 January 2009. The Committee values the use of reviews for documenting results and learning for the future. The findings and recommendation of the report will provide important input for the future funding in this area.

4.4 *Review of Cultural heritage in the Czech Republic*

The FMO had received the final draft of the review of cultural heritage in the Czech Republic on Friday 27 February 2009. The report will be sent formally to the FMC by written procedure.

5 **Co-operation with the European Commission**

The National Expert informed the Committee of the status of the screening.

6 **Guidelines and policy issues**

6.1 *Risk assessment concept and practical guidance*

The FMO presented the draft document titled "Risk assessment concept and practical guidance". The memo gives a comprehensive description of the FMO's continuous risk management work already in place.

The Committee adopted the document. The document should be made public excluding the technical annex.

6.2 *Final commitment option, funds*

The FMO presented a memo summarising the measures taken to allow the donors to commit any funds remaining un-committed close to the commitment deadline to existing funds. The Committee took note of the memo.

6.3 *Review of the amounts set-aside for appraisal, monitoring and evaluation*

Agenda item 6.3 "Review of the amounts set-aside for appraisal, monitoring and evaluation" was deleted.

7 **Other issues**

The NMFA briefed the Committee on the Visegrad 4 meeting that took place in Bratislava on 20 February 2009.

8 **Next meeting and annual meeting planning for 2009**

The next Committee meeting was scheduled for 1 April 2009.

FMO

FMO, FMO, *Secretary*

Iceland

Mr Bjarni Vestmann, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Liechtenstein

Mr Thomas Bischof, Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the European Union

Norway

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

Ms Hilde Berit Eide, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr Steinar Hagen, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ms Vibeke Rysst-Jensen, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs