

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA
FINANCIAL MECHANISM COMMITTEE

27 October 2009

Conclusions
Financial Mechanism Committee
51st Meeting - 16 September 2009

1 Meeting agenda

The agenda was adopted.

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

2.1 Draft Summary Records of the previous Committee meeting

The draft Summary Records of the previous Committee meeting were adopted.

2.2 Draft Conclusions of the previous Committee meeting

The draft Conclusions of the previous Committee meeting were adopted.

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

3.1 Status of implementation

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

3.2 Status of disbursements

The FMO briefed the Committee on the current status of disbursements. The FMO will request the Focal Points to provide updated disbursement forecasts.

3.3 Status of irregularities

The FMO gave the Committee a presentation on issues related to suspension, reimbursement, and de-commitment of irregular amounts and briefed the Committee on the status of irregularities.

4 Guidelines and policy issues

4.1 Amendment of the Detailed Eligibility Provisions

The FMO presented the proposed modifications to the Detailed Eligibility Provisions. The FMO will consult the Focal Points on the proposed modifications and will send the final draft to the Committee after receiving the Focal Points' comments.

4.2 Project Amendment Group - decentralisation

The FMO proposes to delegate the authority to approve certain types of modifications to the Focal Points. The Committee discussed the proposal. The FMO will now consult the Focal Points and aims at presenting the final documents for donors' approval at the November Committee meeting.

4.3 *Updating of rules and guidelines*

The Committee discussed the updating of the rules and guidelines.

5 Administrative issues

5.1 *Administrative budget: actual expenses 2nd quarter 2009 and revised budget*

The Committee took note of the FMO's report on actual administrative expenses as at 30 June 2009 and approved additional funding in order to cover additional budgetary needs in 2009.

5.2 *FMC's report to the Standing Committee*

The draft Annual Report from the Financial Mechanism Committee to the Standing Committee of the EFTA States 1 May 2008 / 30 April 2009 was adopted.

6 Other issues

There were no other issues.

7 Next meeting and autumn meeting planning

The next meeting will take place on 14 October 2009 and the November meeting was scheduled for 18 November 2009.

FMO

FMO, FMO, *Secretary*

Iceland

Mr Bjarni Vestmann, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Ms Lilja Sturludóttir, Icelandic Mission to the European Communities

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