

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA
FINANCIAL MECHANISM COMMITTEE

11 December 2007

Conclusions
Financial Mechanism Committee
33rd Meeting - 25 September 2007

1 Meeting agenda

The agenda was adopted.

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

2.1 Draft Summary Records Committee meeting 29.8.2007

The draft Summary Records of the Committee meeting of 29 August 2007 were adopted.

2.2 Draft Conclusions Committee meeting 29.8.2007

The draft Conclusions of the Committee meeting of 29 August 2007 were adopted.

3 Grant applications

3.1 Status of the GRD production

As at 24 September 2007, the FMO had received 541 applications (approximately EUR 640 million). 316 commitments (EUR 383 million) had been made, 21 projects (EUR 33 million) had been rejected and 8 projects (EUR 3 million) withdrawn. In total 201 Grant Agreements have been signed.

3.2 Projects

As agreed at the Committee meeting of 29 August 2007, the decisions on projects are taken continuously through the FMO information management system. Accordingly, there were no projects for decision at the meeting.

The Committee took note of the list of projects decided since the last meeting.

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

4.1 Status of the implementation

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

4.2 Annex C Funds

Annex C Funds were discussed under agenda item 4.1.

4.3 *Hungary - NGO fund - Terms of Reference*

The Committee approved the Terms of Reference for the Hungarian NGO Fund.

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

The National Expert outlined the status of the screening process. It appears that the number of comments by the Commission has increased somewhat. The comments relate to i.a. securing of no overlap in funding and environment.

6 **Guidelines and policy issues**

6.1 *Beneficiary State Reporting and Monitoring Guideline, amendment*

To ensure reporting on the sub-projects level supported under Funds, the FMO proposed to add the following sentence at the end of section 2.2 of the Reporting and Monitoring Guideline: "Intermediaries will in addition provide standard reports in respect of sub-projects supported under Funds in accordance to a template provided through the FMO."

The Committee adopted the amendment.

7 **Administrative issues**

7.1 *Disbursement forecast*

The Committee took note of the FMO's disbursement forecast.

7.2 *Update on the FMO web development*

The FMO briefed the Committee on the development of the new website.

8 **Other issues**

There were no other issues.

9 **Next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on 19 October 2007.

FMO

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Iceland

Mr Kjartan Jóhannsson, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Mr Angantýr Einarsson, Icelandic Ministry of Finance

Liechtenstein

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

Norway

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

Mr Steinar Hagen, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs