

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA
FINANCIAL MECHANISM COMMITTEE

12 July 2007

Conclusions
Financial Mechanism Committee
28th Meeting - 15 March 2007

1 Meeting agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2 The Committee meeting 15 February 2007, Draft Summary Records and Draft Conclusions

The Draft Summary Records and Draft Conclusions of the Committee meeting 15 February 2007 were adopted.

3 Grant applications

3.1 General discussion

The FMO briefed the Committee on the status of the GRD production. As of 15 March 2007 the total grant amount committed was EUR 248 million and 389 applications had been received. New applications will come throughout the spring, including the applications from the three Baltic states.

3.2 Poland - Thermal insulation projects, grant rate

The FMO informed the Committee of the status of the appraisal of the thermal insulation projects.

3.3 MT0011 - Xrobb L-Ghagin nature park and sustainable development centre, increased grant

The increased grant rate for MT0011 was approved.

3.4 PL0043 - Bydgoszcz City playgrounds

PL0043 was approved in accordance with the GRD.

3.5 PL0080 - National - Arterial blood pressure research amongst youth

PL0080 was approved in accordance with the GRD.

3.6 PT0018 - Terras de Basto - Mobile services network

PT0018 was rejected in accordance with the GRD.

3.7 PT0022 - Schist Heritage Network

PT0022 was approved in accordance with the GRD.

3.8 SK0020 - Slovakia - Metalloms and genetic factors on human health

SK0020 was approved in accordance with the GRD.

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

4.1 The FMO informed the Committee about the status of implementation in the Beneficiary States.

4.2 Annual meeting: Latvia

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for 18 April 2007. The draft annual reports have already been received. The FMO will prepare an annotated agenda in due course. The open call closed on 5 March 2007 and 280 applications received.

4.3 Annual meeting: Lithuania

The annual meeting is scheduled for 20 April 2007. The draft annual reports had already been received and the FMO will prepare an annotated agenda in due course.

5 Co-operation with the European Commission - report by the National Expert

The National Expert briefed the Committee on the status of project screening at the Commission. On average the Commission screening takes now 11 weeks.

6 Guidelines and policy issues

6.1 Poland: Working Capital and Shortening of PIR Processing Timelines

The Committee approved the proposal to establish a working capital in Poland for the pre-financing system.

6.2 The Committee will come back to the update of the External Monitoring Manual at its April meeting.

7 Annual Report to the Standing Committee of the EFTA States

The FMO presented the draft report to the Committee. The Committee gave its preliminary comments and will revert to the matter at its April meeting. The aim is to present the report to the Standing Committee on 23 April 2007.

8 Other issues

The Committee discussed the new eeagrants website.

9 Next meeting

Next meeting scheduled for 16 April 2007.

FMO

Mr Dávid Tas, FMO

Mr Erik Brynhildsbakken, FMO

Mr Hjörtur Bragi Sverrisson, FMO

Ms Marianne Dingstad Cambier, FMO

Mr Pawel Krzeczunowicz, FMO

Ms Stine Lundin Andresen, FMO

Ms Laura Harjapää, FMO, *Secretary*

Iceland

Mr Julius Hafstein, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Mr Angantýr Einarsson, Icelandic Ministry of Finance

Liechtenstein

Mr Pascal Schafhauser, Mission of Liechtenstein to the European Union

Norway

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

Mr Steinar Hagen, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs