

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA
FINANCIAL MECHANISM COMMITTEE

11 September 2008

Conclusions
Financial Mechanism Committee
41st Meeting - 19 June 2008

1 Meeting agenda

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

2.1 Draft Summary Records of the Committee meeting of 21 May 2008

The Draft Summary Records were adopted (with correction of some spelling mistakes).

2.2 Draft Conclusions of the Committee meeting of 21 May 2008

The Draft Conclusions were adopted (with correction of some spelling mistakes).

3 Grant applications

3.1 Status of GRD production

As at 18 June 2008, the FMO had received 834 applications (approximately EUR 925 million), 574 (EUR 664 million) had been committed, 47 projects (EUR 53 million) had been rejected and 16 projects (EUR 16 million) withdrawn. 18 projects were on the delayed list. The FMO expects to receive some 40 new applications in June/July 2008.

3.2 Projects approved/rejected since 21 May 2008

The Committee took note of the projects approved/rejected since 21 May 2008.

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

4.1 Status of implementation in the Beneficiary States

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.

5 Co-operation with the European Commission

(The National Expert was not able to participate in the meeting.)

6 Administrative issues

6.1 *The work plan for autumn 2008 - spring 2009*

The FMO presented a revised document on the autumn 2008 - spring 2009 workplan. The Committee gave its comments. The final version would then provide the framework for the work during the remaining months of the commitment period.

6.2 *FMO's semi-annual activity plan July-December 2008*

The FMO presented its semi-annual activity plan July through December 2008. The country and sector teams have been reorganised into one project team.

6.3 *FMC's delegation of responsibilities under the EFTA Staff Rules and Regulations*

The Committee will revert to the issue in the September meeting.

6.4 *Review of the selection process and dialogue in the implementation of the EEA grants*

The FMO presented the main findings of "A Review of the selection process and dialogue in the implementation of the EEA Grants, with special focus on Hungary, Latvia and Slovakia", final report 29 April 2008 by Nordic consulting group.

6.5 *Disbursement forecast 2008*

The FMO presented a revised disbursement forecast.

7 Other issues

The FMO informed the Committee of the Focal Point workshop of 10 June 2008. As agreed in the May Committee meeting, the workshop would be followed-up by a letter from the Chairman of the Committee to all Focal Points restating the various upcoming deadlines. The Committee agreed on a text for a letter to be sent to the Focal Points by 20 June 2008.

8 Next meeting

The next Committee will take place on 3 September 2008.

FMO

FMO, FMO, *Secretary*

Iceland

Mr Kjartan Jóhannsson, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Liechtenstein

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

Mr Thomas Bischof, 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

Ms Anne Strand, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs