

FINANCIAL MECHANISM COMMITTEE

Brussels,
14 February 2008

<p style="text-align: center;">CONCLUSIONS Financial Mechanism Committee <i>16 January 2008</i></p>

1 Meeting agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2 Draft Summary Records and Draft Conclusions Committee meeting 28 November 2007

Draft Summary Records of the Committee meeting of 28 November 2007 were adopted.

Draft Conclusions of the Committee meeting of 28 November 2007 were adopted.

3 Grant applications

3.1 Status of GRD production

As at 15 January 2008, the FMO had received 672 applications (approximately EUR 781 million), 382 commitments (EUR 459 million) had been made, 27 projects had been rejected (EUR 35 million) and 8 withdrawn (EUR 3 million).

3.2 Projects approved/rejected since 28 November 2007

The Committee took note of the list of projects approved/rejected since 28 November 2007.

4 Status of the implementation of the EEA FM 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 Status of the implementation.

5 Co-operation with the European Commission

5.1 Screening

The National Expert informed the Committee that the Commission had reached a conclusion on the new screening procedures. The Commission would send a formal letter to Committee confirming the new screening procedures.

5.2 State Aid

The National Expert briefed the Committee on the status of the work on the state aid.

6 Guidelines and policy issues

6.1 Amendment to Reporting and Monitoring Guideline

The FMO proposed that the Annual Progress Report (APR) would be replaced by an extended Project Interim Report (PIR) once per calendar year. In the extended PIR the Project Promoters/Intermediaries will report on the relevant cross cutting issues and give a risk analysis. The FMO had communicated the proposed change to the Focal Points and it had been appreciated.

The Committee approved the FMO's proposal for amendments to the Reporting and Monitoring Guideline.

6.2 Prognosis on Monitoring and Evaluation

The FMO presented a prognosis for project level monitoring and evaluation.

The Committee took note of the FMO's briefing.

7 Administrative issues

7.1 Disbursement forecast

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

8 Other issues

There were no other issues.

9 Next meeting

The Committee agreed on the following meeting schedule for the spring 2008: 14 February, 13 March, 16 April, 28 May, 26 June.

ANNEX I

Meeting participants:

Norway:

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

Ms Vibeke Rysst-Jensen, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Iceland:

Mr Kjartan Jóhannsson, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr Bjarni Vestmann, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Liechtenstein:

Mr Pascal Schafhauser, Mission of Liechtenstein

FMO

* * * * *