

55th Management Board Doc. EEA/MB/55/02-final 25 November 2009

MINUTES OF THE 54th MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING held on 17 June 2009

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board on 25 November 2009

	(Signed)
	Dr Karsten Sach
Chairman FFA M	lanagement Board

Record of proceedings:

The Chairman Dr Karsten Sach opened the meeting by welcoming new Board members and presenting apologies on behalf of those members unable to attend. The tabled documents were acknowledged during the course of the meeting (list included in Annex 1).

Final agenda: Annex 1
Attendance list: Annex 2
Action list: Annex 3
Decision list: Annex 4

Item 1 Adoption of draft agenda

The Board adopted the agenda (Doc. EEA/MB/54/01rev1) without changes.

Item 2 Adoption of the 53rd Management Board minutes, 18 March 2009

The Board adopted the minutes of the 53rd MB meeting held on 18 March 2009 with one clarification under item 6. The final version (Doc. EEA/MB/54/02) of the minutes is available on <u>CIRCA</u>.

The members also took note of the tabled MB rolling action list.

ITEMS 3-6 FOR INFORMATION

Item 3 Draft minutes of the 48th Bureau meeting, 5 May 2009

The members took note of the draft minutes from the May Bureau meeting that were presented to them for information.

Item 4 Update by the Chairman (oral)

The Chairman of the Board informed the members that the codified version of the EEA Regulation has been published in the Official Journal on 21 May and entered into force on 10 June 2009. He informed the Board that the codification process did not introduce any substantial changes to the acts being codified. On a different note, the Chairman informed the Board that John Vournas – a long-time MB member from Greece, – had retired in advance of the current MB meeting. The Chairman asked the alternate from Greece to pass to J. Vournas the high appreciation for his activities on behalf of the EEA Management Board and staff.

Item 5 Update by the Executive Director

In addition to the written update provided (Doc.EEA/MB/54/05) with a progress report on the EEA work programme for the first quarter of 2009, the Executive Director informed the members about progress in various thematic areas and launches of the recently published EEA reports. She touched upon the importance of integrating work across different areas and of the intense schedule of country visits in the last period. In addition, the members were informed about:

- the positive outcome of the annual EMAS audit on EEA Quality Management System;
- EEA planned activities during the UNFCCC COP15 meeting in December;
- the recruitment of National Experts (ENDs) from the last round and the fact that the letters of offer had been sent to the successful candidates.

Related to the last point and the growing number of EEA staff, the Executive Director informed the members about the space problem in the current building and various options available. She informed the Board that these would be pursued in consultation with the MB Chairman and in line with the required budgetary procedures.

Item 6 SEIS, GMES, INSPIRE and 'Group of Four' developments

At the beginning of this agenda item, the JRC representative (Leen HORDIJK) made a presentation on the European Forest and Soil Data Centres, led by JRC. He gave examples on their functionality, data availability and compatibility with the SEIS principles. In terms of main challenges, he referred to the unclear governance structure of the European Data Centres (DC), different state of development of the various DCs, increased number of systems, tools and instruments in JRC requiring continuous maintenance, as well as the interoperability of the systems. In the discussion that followed, the MB members discussed the importance of the interlinkages between the DCs hosted by the various Go4 partners that should be addressed at the next 'Group of Four' meeting.

Following this, the Eurostat representative gave feedback from the DIMESA meeting of 15-16 June, where:

- It was agreed to go ahead with the first Regulation on environmental accounts, expected to go for co-decision in the spring of 2010. More information would be provided at the MB seminar in November.
- There was a discussion on "Beyond GDP" and scoreboard of indicators and it was decided to take this further at the November joint meeting.

- Eurostat work programme for 2010 was received rather positively and would be also shared with the EEA MB in the coming months.
- Concerns were raised on progress and interoperability of the DCs, which makes it necessary to clarify the exchange of information within the Go4.

Subsequently, the Commission DG ENV's representative gave an overview on the latest developments on SEIS, INSPIRE and GMES, highlighting the DCs as part of SEIS implementation and indicating that efforts have been put in developing a more precise action plan on the way forward. With regard to SEIS legal basis, he informed the members that the Impact Assessment towards an EC proposal was planned to be finalised in September 2009. Moreover, he said that the Commission had launched an exercise of assessing the current state of the DCs. Regarding GMES, he informed the Board that on 20 May 2009 the Commission had adopted a proposal for a Regulation on community funding of services, providing opportunity to transfer funds from research into operational services.

Following this, the Executive Director informed the Board that the SEIS developments were regularly discussed with the countries, assessing progress and identifying upcoming needs. With regard to the DCs, she said that they were meant to help the Agency do the technical reporting and it was important to make the metadata standards understandable. Further, she reported on the Global Monitoring and Observation meeting hosted by the Agency on 13-15 May 2009, which addressed the key issues of improving data tagging, data standards and harmonisation of delivery. Once the conclusions of the meeting have been finalised, the Agency would circulate them to the MB members.

The Board members welcomed the update by the Go4 partners. With respect to SEIS, they stressed the importance of keeping the momentum in the process and drawing the next SEIS Implementation Plan jointly with the countries. In response to a question on the next steps in the SEIS country visits, the members noted that some countries had asked for a second visit, which would be linked to the SOER2010 development and its maintenance on the web, demonstrating the real time access to environmental data. The Agency was planning to prepare an analysis on the SEIS country visits' added value by September and share it with the members in advance of the autumn meetings.

ITEMS 7-11 FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

Item 7 EEA role in relation to the 5th pan-European Assessment report for the Astana conference in 2011

The Executive Director informed the MB members that on 3 July the Agency was organising a meeting, aiming to initiate the consultation process around the preparation of the next pan-European report for the Astana conference in second half of 2011. The preparation of this report would be considered in the broader context of reforming the assessment work in the region in a sustainable way, both in terms of content and information base. The outcome of the discussions would feed into the next UNECE/CEP meeting planned for October, where the discussion about the report and the priority areas to be considered during the conference would be key points on the agenda. The proposal for the next pan-European report was to produce a concise document focusing on assessing progress against targets and monitoring implementation of various international commitments by using partnerships with various stakeholders to engage at all levels and to establish a more sustainable cooperation in the long term.

In the discussion that followed, the MB members that took the floor spoke in favour of the EEA's involvement as a key player in the process and supported the idea of producing a shorter report than Belgrade with a clear focus on setting up a more sustainable approach for the future. The representative of the European Parliament advised to keep the momentum by building on the past investment and emphasised the importance of EEA in this process, linked also to the Agency's activities in implementing the European Neighbourhood Policy. The Commission DG ENV's representative supported the idea to build on the

The Commission DG ENV's representative supported the idea to build on the Agency's investment in the pan-European process, but advocated for a wider political engagement, closer cooperation with international agreements and for stronger commitment from the countries in the process.

Following the discussion, the MB members recommended producing a concise report for the Astana conference in 2011, while also looking at the sustainability of the funding associated with the Agency's involvement.

In closing the Executive Director thanked the members for their support to the Agency in this process and said that the Management Board would be informed about the outcome of the high-level meeting on 3 July 2009.

Item 8 Progress on SOER2010

The Executive Director informed the members about the latest developments in the SOER2010 process. She particularly referred to the Green Economy Initiative and ecosystems accounting, which are planned to be addressed in the synthesis document as key elements, as well as to be part of the MB Seminar agenda in November 2009. With regard to the obstacles in the implementation of Part C in some countries, the Board discussed in particular the downgrading of environmental priorities and resources at the national level as a consequence of the financial crisis and agreed on the need for regular discussion between the Agency and the network partners. Moreover, the members underlined the significance of the active dialogue with all the contributors involved, especially in view of the new European Parliament and European Commission taking office in the coming months. The Commission DG ENV representative underlined the importance of SOER2010 for the future review of the 6th Environmental Action Programme and the way for setting environmental priorities.

Item 9 Final EEA accounts 2008

The Management Board adopted its opinion on the EEA accounts for the financial year 2008 having been already informed about the process at the March MB meeting. In adopting the final EEA accounts for 2008, the members took note of the financial statements and the report on implementation of the EEA budget 2008, as well as the Report on budget and financial management for 2008.

Item 10 Amended budget 2009

Based on the background information as presented in Doc. EEA/MB/54/10rev1, the Management Board approved an amendment to the annual budget 2009 amounting to additional 200,251€ to include additional revenue from EFTA contributions and bank interests. The Executive Director reported that the regular resource hearings in the Agency were instrumental for adjusting and proper implementation of the budget.

Item 11 Priorities for EEA Annual Management Plan (AMP) 2010

In introducing the item, the Executive Director informed the MB members that the priorities for AMP2010 were based on the Strategy priorities and should be seen as continuation of the work started in 2009. In the discussion that followed, the Management Board supported the Agency's work programme for 2010 and agreed that its structure should follow the one of 2009 and be in line with the priorities of the EEA Strategy 2009-13. However, the Board advised highlighting the new and emerging priorities separately, as well as giving prominence to a couple of key strategic areas (such as for example SOER2010, biodiversity, adaptation to climate change, green economy, technology and governance) and exploring how to develop them into a wider picture. Among the other issues explicitly mentioned by the members were: highlighting Mediterranean as a macroregion, indicating emerging issues and the work on Late Lessons vol.2, vulnerability and adaptation mapping, as well as exploring various elements of greening the economy initiative from stimulus packages to fiscal reforms. In addition, the members took note of the consultation process on AMP 2010 planned to be launched on 15 July 2009.

Item 12 ETC review process 2009-2010

In discussing the scope of the upcoming European Topic Centres (ETC) review process and the mandate of the steering and evaluation committees, the Management Board touched upon the following aspects:

- Ensuring continuity of the ETC work;
- Assuring a way in which the datasets developed by ETCs are linked to the Data Centres and SEIS objectives;
- Promoting wider ETC collaboration with the countries;
- Including at least two representatives of the NFP/NRC group, out of the three topic experts in the steering committee for the review in the areas of air and climate change, water, and land use and spatial information.

In order to secure a successful outcome of the review process, the Board advocated for attracting the right expertise on board. The members were asked to indicate their possible conflict of interest for taking part in the review process, as well as their availability on specific dates in September. Since it proved rather difficult to identify prospective MB members available on the proposed dates, it was agreed that the MB representation in the ETC steering committee, as well as the final composition of the committee, would be agreed with the Management Board through a written procedure in the weeks following the meeting.

Item 13 Adoption of Eignet structure following 2008-09 review process

In presenting the proposal of the revised Eionet structure, the Executive Director thanked for the efforts of everybody involved. She reminded the MB members that the review process had undergone an extensive consultation aimed for Eionet to better respond to the priorities of the EEA Strategy 2009-2013 and evolving demands. The final proposal had been approved by the NFP/Eionet group at its May meeting with a few amendments. The proposed structure put to the Management Board consisted of 25 NRCs and indication for two additional NRCs (NRC Maritime and NRC Environment and Economy), the establishment of which had been put forward for MB decision.

The Board welcomed the presented Eionet structure and noted the usefulness of the description of tasks. The members agreed to include the additional NRCs on Maritime and Environment and economics in the reviewed Eionet structure, recognising that finalising the descriptions and identifying the right expertise to be involved might take some time. They commented on the NRC descriptions provided and advised editing some of them to better reflect the support needed from the proposed NRCs, connections with the European Data Centres and other relevant European networks and organisations.

Recognising the difficulty in attracting the right expertise on board, some members spoke in favour of establishing NRCs only in areas with a real need for them in order to avoid creation of dormant structures.

With this, it was agreed that the Agency would revisit the NRC descriptions to reflect the MB comments and consecutively send the Eionet structure 2009-13 for adoption through Management Board written procedure.

Item 14 Revision clause in the Rules of Procedure (Article 2.13)

In line with the provision laid down in Article 2.13 in the MB Rules of procedure, the Board took note of decisions delegated to the Bureau in 2007-2008 period (these were listed in Annex 1 to the background document Doc. EEA/MB/54/14).

Moreover, the Chairman informed the MB members about the effective functioning of the Bureau, and said that there was one vacant vice-chair position that could be filled depending on the interest of prospective candidates.

The members agreed to review the MB Rules of procedure and bring them in line with the new codified version of the EEA Regulation through a written procedure in the coming months.

Item 15 Topics for the MB Seminar on 24 November 2009

The Executive Director reminded the members that the November seminar and MB meeting in 2009 would be hosted by Eurostat in Luxembourg. As the MB Seminar on 24 November would be also attended by DIMESA representatives, among the topics considered were issues of mutual interest for the MB members and the statistical directors, such as regional statistics, ecosystem accounting, as well as Beyond GDP and the Green Economy Initiative. While supporting the incorporation of these issues to some extent in the agenda, the Board members agreed that the topic for MB Seminar shall mainly focus on Beyond GDP discussions and developments in the past 18 months.

In conclusion, the Executive Director was asked to consider structuring the agenda jointly with Eurostat and to circulate it to the MB once available.

ITEMS 16-18 – FOR INFORMATION

Item 16 EEA Annual Report 2008 and Annual Activity Report 2008

The Chairman informed the Board members that the Annual report (AR) 2008 and the Annual activity report (AAR) 2008 had been finalised through a Bureau written procedure and were published on the EEA website. Copies of both reports were made available in the meeting room. The MB members were also asked to indicate to the Agency in case they would like to receive additional copies of the Annual report 2008 in addition to the normal distribution.

Item 17 Observations of the auditors

The Executive Director informed the members that the Agency had responded to the comments raised in the audit report from the Internal Audit Service audit of EEA Quality Management System held earlier in the year. Currently there were not any outstanding issues to be raised with the Management Board.

Item 18 Feedback from members of the Management Board

Among the issues raised by the MB members under this agenda item were:

- The Czech MB members thanked the Agency and in particular the Executive Director for all the support provided during the Czech Presidency in the first half of 2009.
- It would be useful to share ideas how to revitalise the MB discussions and have content items, similar to the JRC presentation, more often on the MB agenda. To that end, the members welcomed the annual back-to-back EEA MB-DIMESA meetings.
- Some members also raised the possibility to green the MB meetings and consider whether the Board needs to physically meet three times a year.
 The Chairman suggested taking this up at the November MB meeting.

In closing the meeting, the Chairman reminded the members about the dates of the remaining Bureau (6 October) and MB (24-25 November) meetings in 2009. Moreover, he informed the members that a list of meeting dates for 2010 had been tabled and also made available on CIRCA.

The meeting closed at 16:50.

ANNEX 1 to MB minutes

Final agenda of the 54th Management Board meeting, 17 June 2009 Doc. EEA/MB/54/01rev1

FOR DECISION

- 1. Adoption of draft agenda
- 2. Adoption of the 53rd Management Board minutes, 18 March 2009

FOR INFORMATION

- 3. Draft minutes of the 48th Bureau meeting, 5 May 2009
- 4. Update by the Chairman
- 5. Update by the Executive Director
- 6. SEIS, GMES, Inspire and 'Group of Four' developments

FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

- 7. EEA role in relation to the 5th pan-European Assessment report for the Astana conference in 2011
- 8. Progress on SOER2010
- 9. Final EEA accounts 2008
- 10. Amended budget 2009
- 11. Priorities for EEA Annual Management Plan 2010
- 12. ETC review process 2009-2010
- 13. Adoption of Eionet structure following 2008-2009 review process
- 14. Revision clause in the Rules of Procedure (Article 2.13)
- 15. Topics for the MB Seminar on 24 November 2009

FOR INFORMATION

- 16. EEA Annual Report 2008 and Annual Activity Report 2008
- 17. Observations of the auditors
- 18. Feedback from members of the Management Board

TABLED DOCUMENTS

- Item 02 Rolling action list from the last MB meetings
- Item 06 Presentation by JRC on Data Centres (available on CIRCA)
- Item 07 List of participants at the high-level consultation meeting for the Astana report (to be held on 3 July 2009 in EEA)
- Item 10 Amended budget 2009 (Doc. EEA/MB/54/10rev1)
- Item 18 EEA meeting dates for 2010

ANNEX 2

54th EEA Management Board meeting – Attendance list Copenhagen, 17 June 2009, EEA Conference Room

MEMBER COUNTRIES				
COUNTRY		NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
	Chairman:	Karsten SACH	Chairman of the EEA Management Board	Signed
AUSTRIA	Member:	Elisabeth FREYTAG	Ministry of Environment	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Georg REBERNIG	Umweltbundesant	Signed
BELGIUM	Member:	Jean-Pierre HANNEQUART	Institut Bruxellois pour la gestion de l'environnement	Apologies
	Alternate:	Philipp D'Hondt		Signed
BULGARIA	<u>Member:</u>	Dimitar VERGIEV	Bulgarian Environment Agency	Signed
CYPRUS	<u>Member:</u>	Antonis ANTONIOU	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	
	Alternate:	Charalambos HAJIPAKKOS	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	Apologies
CZECH REPUBLIC	Member:	Veronika HUNT ŠAFRÁNKOVÁ	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	Alternate:			
DENMARK	Member:	Niels CHRISTENSEN	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	Apologies
	Alternate:	Helle PILSGAARD	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	Signed
	Expert:	Esben TIND	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	Signed
ESTONIA	Member:	Allan GROMOV	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	Alternate:	Andres KRATOVITS	Ministry of Environment	
FINLAND	Member:	Markku NURMI	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	Alternate:	Antero HONKASALO	Ministry of Environment	

FRANCE	Member:	Michèle ROUSSEAU	Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable	Signed
	Alternate:	Marie BONNET	Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable	
	Expert:	Valery MORARD	NFP	Signed
GERMANY	Member:			
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Julia WERNER	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz & Reaktorsicherheit	Signed
	Expert:	Almut NAGEL	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz & Reaktorsicherheit	Signed
GREECE	<u>Member:</u>	Ioannis VOURNAS	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works	
	Alternate:	Mata ARAVANTINOU	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works	Signed
HUNGARY	Member:	Erzsébet GERGELY	Ministry of Environment	Signed
ICELAND	Member:	Hermann SVEINBJÖRNSSON	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	Alternate:	Gunnar Steinn JONSSON	The Environmental Agency	
IRELAND	Member:	Tom O'MAHONY	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government	Apologies
	Alternate:	Larry STAPLETON	Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
ITALY	Member:	Corrado CLINI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente	Apologies
	Alternate:	Giovanni BRUNNELI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente	Signed
	Expert:	Diego GIULIANI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente	Signed
LATVIA	Member:	Einars CILINSKIS	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development	Signed
	Alternate:	Andris LEITASS	Latvian Environment Agency	
LIECHTENSTEIN	<u>Member:</u>	Felix NÄSCHER	Ministry of Environment, Dept. Forests, Nature and Landscape	Apologies

LITHUANIA	Member:	Aleksandras SPRUOGIS	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	Alternate:	Liutauras STOSKUS	Environmental Protection Agency	-
LUXEMBOURG	Member: Alternate:	Eric DE BRABANTER Pierre PRUM	Ministère de l'Environnement Ministère de l'Environnement	Signed
MALTA	<u>Member:</u> Alternate:	Martin SEYCHELL Louis VELLA	Environment and Planning Authority Environment and Planning Authority	Signed
THE NETHERLANDS	Member:	Kees PLUG	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment	Apologies
	Alternate:	Adriaan OUDEMAN	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment	Signed
NORWAY	Member:	Harald RENSVIK	Ministry of Environment	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Øysten NESJE	Ministry of Environment	Signed
POLAND	Member:	Andrzes JAGUSIEWICZ	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	Signed
PORTUGAL	Member:	Antonio GONÇALVES HENRIQUES	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimiento Regional	Apologies
	Alternate:	Fernanda SANTIAGO	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimiento Regional	Signed
ROMANIA	Member:	Mihail FÂCĂ	National Environmental Protection Agency	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Maria Elena TEODORESCU	National Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	<u>Member:</u> Alternate:	Stanislav STOFKO Vladimir BENKO	Slovak Environment Agency Slovak Environment Agency	Signed
SLOVENIA	Member:	Silvo ŽLEBIR	Environmental Agency	Signed
SPAIN	Member: Alternate:	Mª Jesus Rodriguez de SANCHO Javier CACHÓN DE MESA	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente Ministerio de Medio Ambiente	Signed
SWEDEN	Member:	Maria ÅGREN	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	Apologies
	Alternate:	Martin ERIKSSON	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
SWITZERLAND	Member:	Bruno OBERLE	Federal Office for the Environment	
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Gérard POFFET	Federal Office for the Environment	Signed
	Expert:	Nicolas PERRITAZ	NFP	Signed

TURKEY	Member:	Hasan ZUHURI SARIKAYA	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Analogies
TURKET	Alternate:	Sedat KADOĞLU	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Apologies Apologies
	Expert:	Ömer SOYLU	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Signed
	Expert:	Ceren AGACDIKEN	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Signed
UNITED KINGDOM	Member:	John CUSTANCE	Dept. for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Signed
ONTED KINGDOM	Alternate:	JOHN COSTANCE	Dept. for the Environment, 1 ood and Narai Alians	Signed
EUROPEAN	Member:	Timo MÄKELÄ	DG Environment	Signed
COMMISSION	Alternate:	Leendert HORDIJK	Joint Research Centre	Signed
	Expert:	Peter WICKS	DG Environment	Signed
	Member:	Manuela SOARES	DG Research	Signed
	Alternate:	Pedro DÍAZ MUÑOZ	Eurostat – Sectoral and regional statistics	Signed
	Expert:	Christian HEIDORN	Eurostat – Sectoral and regional statistics	Signed
	Expert:	Sheena BLAIR	Eurostat – Sectoral and regional statistics	Signed
EUROPEAN	Member:	Ludger-Anselm VERSTEYL	Prof. Versteyl Rechtsanwälte	Apologies
PARLIAMENT	Member:	Michael SCOULLOS	University of Athens	Signed
	Alternate:	Ludo HOLSBEEK	Free University of Brussels	Signed
	Alternate:	Tomás MARCHESCU		-
EEA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	Guest:	Detlef SPRINZ	EEA Scientific Committee Chair	Signed
EEA STAFF COM		llona SCHIØLER		Signed
EEA STAFF		Jacqueline McGLADE	Executive Director	Signed
		Gordon McINNES	Deputy Director, Head of Programme ADS	Signed
		Jeff HUNTINGTON	Head of programme, ACC	Signed
		Jock MARTIN	Head of programme, IEA	Signed
		Katja ROSENBOHM	Head of programme, COM	Signed
		Paul McALEAVEY	Head of Group, EDO	Signed
		Galina GEORGIEVA	Management Board secretariat	Signed
		Elena OSTÁRIZ	Management Board secretariat	Signed

ANNEX 3 DRAFT ACTION LIST

ACTIONS	Status 14 September 2009
To publish on CIRCA the final minutes of the 53 rd Management Board meeting	Done
The Executive Director to pursue various options for resolving the building issue with the Chairman of the Board and inform the Bureau/Board on the outcome	MB kept informed of the developments
The Group of Four partners to discuss the operation of the various Data Centres and their interlinkages at the Go4 meeting after the MB and inform the Board accordingly	Go4 meeting held; outcome to be communicated to the MB
To circulate to the MB members the conclusions from the Global observation and monitoring meeting held on 13-15 May in EEA when finalised	Included in item 6 of the 49 th Bureau agenda
EEA to inform the Board on the outcome of the high-level consultation meeting for the Astana report on 3 July	Done on 9 July
The Agency to prepare an analysis on the added value of the SEIS country visits by September 2009	In progress
EEA to keep an active dialogue with the key contributors in the process of SOER2010 preparation	In progress
EEA to launch a wide consultation process on the draft AMP2010 in mid July	Done as planned
To confirm the final composition of the ETC Steering Committee (with names of the experts appointed) through a MB written procedure	Done in advance of the meeting on 2-3 September
The Agency to revisit the NRC descriptions in line with the MB comments and send the revised Eionet structure 2009-2013 for MB adoption through written procedure	MB written procedure completed
The MB to review the current MB Rules of procedure in order to bring them in line with the new version of the EEA Regulation in advance of the autumn meetings	MB written procedure initiated on 15 September 2009
The Executive Director to consider developing the agenda for the MB seminar on 24 November jointly with Eurostat and once available to circulate draft to the MB members	In progress
MB members to indicate to the Agency should they wish to receive additional copies of Annual report 2008	In progress
In the autumn the MB to consider the need of holding three annual meetings of the Management Board	To do in the autumn

ANNEX 4

DECISIONS taken at the 54th Management Board meeting, 17 June 2009, EEA

Agenda item	Decisions	Comments
Item 2. Adoption of agenda	Adopted	No comments
Item 3. Adoption of the 53 rd Management Board minutes, 18 March 2009	Adopted	A sentence referring to the ongoing reorganisation in Eurostat to be deleted under agenda item 6.
Item 7. EEA role in relation to the 5 th pan-European Assessment report for the Astana conference in 2011	The Board supported the EEA's involvement and advised to keep the momentum by building on the past investment in the process	The Board members recommended producing a concise report for the Astana conference, with a focus on sustainable approach for the future. Additionally, they advised looking at the budgetary issues associated with the Agency's involvement.
Item 8. Progress on SOER2010	The Board took note of the latest developments in the SOER2010 process	The Management Board underlined the importance of SOER2010 for the successor of the 6 th Environmental Action Programme and the active dialogue with all the contributors involved.
Item 9. Final EEA accounts 2008	The Board adopted an opinion on the EEA accounts 2008	In adopting the final EEA's accounts for 2008, the Board took note of the Financial statements and the report on implementation of the budget 2008, as well as the Report on budget and financial management 2008.
Item 10. Amended budget 2009	The Board approved the amended EEA annual budget for 2009	The amendment to the EEA annual budget 2009 amounts to additional 200,251€ and includes additional revenue from EFTA contributions (+169,358€) and the inclusion of bank interest (+30,893€).

Item 11. Priorities for EEA Annual Management Plan (AMP) 2010	The Management Board agreed that the structure of AMP2010 should follow the one from 2009 and the priorities of the EEA Strategy 2009-2013	The Board advised highlighting new/emerging priorities separately, and supported the Agency's work priorities planned for 2010. The members also took note of the process of further consultation on the annual work programme 2010.
Item 12. ETC review process 2009-2010	The Board commented on the mandate of the steering and evaluation committees and agreed that this discussion should be reflected in the final document	The MB representation in the steering committee, as well as the final composition, would be agreed through a written procedure with the Board in the weeks following the meeting.
Item 13. Adoption of Eionet structure following 2008-2009 review process	The Board commented upon the proposed Eionet structure	The members advised to include the additional NRCs on Maritime and Environment and economics in the reviewed Eionet structure at this stage and to circulate a list with description of all NRCs in the coming days. The Eionet structure 2009-2013 is to be adopted through written procedure.
Item 14. Revision clause in the Rules of Procedure (Art. 2.13)	The Board reviewed the provision laid down in Article 2.13 in the MB Rules of procedure	The Board agreed to review the Rules of procedure and bring them in line with the new version of the EEA Regulation through a written procedure in advance of the next Board meeting.
Item 15. Topics for the MB Seminar on 24 November 2009	The Board agreed that the topic for the MB Seminar on 24 November shall focus mainly on Beyond GDP	The agenda for the November seminar with DIMESA shall be prepared jointly with Eurostat and circulated to the Board members.

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board on 17 June 2009

(Signed)

Dr. Karsten Sach Chairman EEA Management Board