



**41st Scientific Committee
28 February 2008**

**Opinion by the EEA scientific committee
on the recruitment of scientific staff in 2007-2008**

A new invitation to the Management Board members to propose candidates for positions as national experts was launched in 2007. The selection was finalised in January 2008 and procedures for the secondment of seven experts have been initiated. The new national experts will fill positions in the following areas: landscape ecology, noise, transport, climate change, waste, sustainable consumption and production and integrated assessment / information.

The Agency recruited two scientific staff members (temporary agents) in 2007 in the areas of NFP/Eionet and energy. In addition to this, four scientific contract agents were recruited in the areas of marine, inland water, agro-environment and air emissions. The Scientific Committee acknowledges that in the selection committees for the above posts, the scientific expertise needed was sufficiently represented. The names of the selection committee members for the above posts are attached to this paper.

The recruitment plan for 2008 includes five new scientific posts in the areas of air emissions, sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and waste, environmental accounting and forward looking studies.

Looking into the period of the next EEA Strategy 2009-2013, the Agency will need to respond to a significant number of new global cross-cutting challenges in the environmental policy field. The Agency is currently discussing with the European Commission the budgetary perspectives and framework beyond 2009. Depending on the demands placed on the Agency, new scientific staff could be recruited during the year 2009.

Recognising the importance of the chemicals and its interlinkages with different environmental thematic areas, the Scientific Committee advises the Agency to retain expertise in this area.

The Scientific Committee will continue to play an important role in the EEA recruitment process through raising awareness of the open EEA posts to qualified candidates with acknowledged scientific basis and also by participating in the selection processes.

(Signed)

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