

Decision EEA/BU/2020/003

LIST OF DECISIONS AND GUIDANCE 82ND BUREAU MEETING, 26 MARCH 2020

Age	nda item	Outcome	Comments
	FOR ADOPTION		
1A	Agenda of the 82nd Bureau meeting	The Bureau adopted the agenda with the following changes: - An item was added on the implications of the Covid-19 crisis for business continuity. - An oral update from the European Commission was added. - The update from the Executive Director (item 4F) was moved forward (after item 1A).	The meeting agenda is included in Annex 1.
	NEW ITEMS FOR ORIENTATION/INFORMATION		
xx	COVID-19	The Bureau exchanged views on the impact of the Covid-19 crisis and the implications for business continuity. Without prejudice to the role of the Management Board and the Bureau, the Bureau agreed to set up an ad hoc subgroup of the Bureau to ensure the ongoing governance of the EEA during the crisis. The subgroup will meet virtually on a monthly basis as necessary.	The subgroup of the Bureau will be composed of Laura Burke (Chair), Giller Gantelet (DG ENV) and two Vice Chairs Julia Werner (DE) and Andre Weidenhaupt (LU).
XY	Oral update from the European Commission	The Bureau took note of initial reflections by the European Commission on the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the European policy agenda.	The implementation schedule for the European Green Deal should be maintained despite some operational challenges related to the Covid-19 crisis. The European Commission encouraged the EEA to engage with the scientific community to identify emerging issues and draw lessons on the consequences of the crisis.
4F	Update from the Executive Director	The Bureau took note of the update by the Executive Director.	The Bureau did not identify any issues of concern to be brought to the attention of the Board.
	FOR ADOPTION		
1B	86 th Management Board meeting decision list	The Bureau adopted the decision list.	The Bureau did not identify any issues of concern to be brought to the attention of the Board.
1C	Overview of audits, incl. approval of Internal Audit Capability (IAC) 2019 annual activity report	The Bureau adopted the Internal Audit Capability (IAC) 2019 annual activity report. They also took note of the overview of audits.	The Bureau did not identify any issues of concern to be brought to the attention of the Board.

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	FOR BUREAU GUIDANCE		
2	UK withdrawal from the European Union	The Bureau took note of the update by the European Commission and the EEA on the latest information regarding UK's withdrawal from the European Union.	The Bureau did not identify any issues of concern to be brought to the attention of the Board.
	ITEMS FOR BUREAU ORIENTATION		
3A	EEA/Eionet Strategy 2021-2030: state of play	The Bureau welcomed the first draft of the strategy and the progress made so far. They provided some comments on the draft, which will be taken into account before the consultation of the Management Board (i.e. the country consultation).	The Bureau recommends that Management Board members take the lead reporting back to EEA on the country consultation. MB members will be invited to send their strategic reflections to the MB secretariat.
		The Bureau agreed on the next steps:	
		 The MB secretariat will proceed with launching the MB-led country consultation on the basis of an updated version of the strategy document. The deadline will be extended by one week in order to facilitate engagement and ensure sufficient time for the consultation. It will be important to receive country feedback on the strategy before the launch of the consultation on the draft Single Programming Document 2021-2023 in mid-May. Engagement of the MB on the strategy is essential, so a discussion at MB level will take place at the next physical meeting of the Board, even if this means a slight delay in the adoption of the strategy. Depending on the evolution of the Covid-19 crisis and its impact on planned meetings, the adoption of the strategy may be delayed to a later MB meeting. 	

Agenda item		Outcome	Comments	
3B	Management Board approval of areas of Scientific Committee call 2020 (via written procedure) and outline of the process	The Bureau suggested some changes to the proposed areas of expertise for the Scientific Committee call 2020. The Bureau agreed that the EEA should proceed with the Management Board written procedure to approve the areas of the Scientific Committee call 2020, with some amendments. The Bureau also agreed to delegate the designation of members of the pre-screening and evaluation committees to the MB Chair. The written procedure will be accompanied by a request for the MB to nominate two members to participate in the evaluation committee.	The Bureau recommends MB approval of the areas of the Scientific Committee Call and of the delegation to the MB Chair of the designation of members of the pre-screening and evaluation committees.	
3C	Provisional accounts for 2019	The Bureau examined and took note of the provisional accounts for 2019.	The Bureau did not identify any issues of concern to be brought to the attention of the Board.	
3D	EEA engagement in the European neighbourhood	The Bureau took note of the status of projects in the European neighbourhood (including the likelihood of an underspend on the budget for the projects due to the implications of Covid-19) and of the forthcoming gap between current projects and the next possible agreement with DG NEAR.	A broader discussion on this topic will take place at the next Management Board meeting.	
	FOR INFORMATION	-		
4A	Update on the discharge process 2018	The Bureau took note of the update on the discharge process 2018 and of its upcoming adoption at the European Parliament plenary meeting on 13-14 May 2020.	The Bureau did not identify any issues of concern to be brought to the attention of the Board.	
4B	Update on the Single Programming Document (SPD) 2021-2023	The Bureau welcomed the approach regarding the SPD 2021-2023 (the launch of a substantial consultation by mid-May) and its alignment with the upcoming EEA-Eionet Strategy 2021-2030.	The Bureau recommends maintaining the foreseen timeline for the SPD 2021-2023. The consultation process will begin mid-May. Adoption is foreseen at the November MB meeting.	
4C	Update on the process and timelines of the Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) 2019	The Bureau took note of the status of the CAAR 2019 and upcoming milestones and the timetable for the preparation of the Board opinion on the annual report.	The Management Board will be consulted on the CAAR 2019 in April. The Bureau will adopt the document (by standing delegation) in May.	
4D	SOER 2020 outreach	The Bureau welcomed the media impact achieved through the SOER 2020 outreach and supported the continuation of the outreach work despite event cancellations due to Covid-19.	The Bureau did not identify any issues of concern to be brought to the attention of the Board.	
4E	Update by the Scientific Committee Chair	The Bureau took note of the update from the Chair of the Scientific Committee.	The March Scientific Committee meeting was cancelled due to the Covid-19 crisis. Members will seek to meet virtually to discuss alternative arrangements for the near future.	

Agenda item		Outcome	Comments
4G	Update by the MB and Bureau Chair (new members, concluded written procedures, next steps after Bureau meeting)	The Bureau welcomed the new MB members and concluded MB written procedures (implementing rules for contract agents and nomination of the ETC review committee). The Bureau agreed on the next steps after the Bureau meeting: besides the Bureau decision list, the Chair will exceptionally write a letter to MB members to inform them about discussions and next steps. The Bureau agreed that the MB secretariat would launch the written procedure on the areas of the Scientific Committee call 2020 once some adjustments have been made.	The Bureau did not identify any issues of concern to be brought to the attention of the Board.
4H	Feedback from Bureau members	The Bureau welcomed the arrangements made for the virtual meeting and the fact that it was able to take place in an efficient manner.	

The meeting closed at 13.30.

Approved by the EEA Bureau at its 82nd meeting MS Teams video conference, 26 March 2020

[signed]

Laura Burke Chair, EEA Management Board

Annexes

Annex 1: Final agenda of 82nd Bureau meeting, 26 March 2020
Annex 2: Participants list, 82nd Bureau meeting, 26 March 2020

Annex 1: Agenda of the 82nd Bureau meeting, Thursday, 26 March 2020, 09:30–13:30 CET, video conference

AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENTS
FOR ADOPTION	
1A Agenda of the 82nd Bureau meeting	EEA/BU/82/01
NEW/MOVED ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/ORIENTATION	
XX Covid-19	[Verbal update]
XY Update by the European Commission	[Verbal update]
4F Update by the Executive Director	EEA/BU/82/04F
FOR ADOPTION	
1B 86 th Management Board meeting decision list	Decision EEA/MB/2019/024
1C Overview of audits, incl. approval of Internal Audit Capability (IAC) 2019 annual activity report	EEA/BU/82/01C

FOR BUREAU GUIDANCE	
2. UK withdrawal from the European Union	[Verbal update]

ITEMS FOR BUREAU ORIENTATION			
3A EEA/Eionet Strategy 2021-2030: state of play	EEA/BU/82/03A		
3B Management Board approval of areas of Scientific Committee call 2020 (via written procedure) and outline of the process	EEA/BU/82/03B		
3C Provisional accounts for 2019	EEA/BU/82/03C		
3D EEA engagement in the European neighbourhood	EEA/BU/82/03D		

FOR INFORMATION	
4A Update on the discharge process 2018	EEA/BU/82/04A
4B Update on the Single Programming Document (SPD) 2021-2023	EEA/BU/82/04B
4C Update on the process and timelines of the Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) 2019	EEA/BU/82/04C
4D SOER 2020 outreach	EEA/BU/82/04D
4E Update by the Scientific Committee Chair	[Verbal update]
4G Update by the MB and Bureau Chair (new members, concluded written procedures, next steps after Bureau meeting)	[Verbal update]
4H Feedback from Bureau members	[Verbal update]

Annex 2: Participants list, 82nd Bureau meeting, Thursday, 26 March 2020, 09:30–13:30 CET, video conference

PARTICPANTS	COUNTRY/AFFILIATION	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
Laura BURKE	Ireland	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Present
Michal PASTVINSKY	Czech Republic	Ministry of Environment	Present
André WEIDENHAUPT	Luxembourg	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures	Present
Julia WERNER	Germany	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety	Present
Alda OZOLA	Latvia	Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional Development	Present
Alessandro BRATTI	Italy	ISPRA	Present
Lena NEIJ	European Parliament	Professor, International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE), Sweden	Present
Gilles GANTELET	European Commission	DG ENV, Director A – Policy, Coordination and Resources	Present
GUESTS/OBSERVERS	COUNTRY/AFFILIATION	ORGANISATION	
Per MICKWITZ	Sweden	EEA Scientific Committee	Present
Artur RUNGE-METZGER	European Commission	DG CLIMA	Present
Josiane MASSON	European Commission	DG ENV	Present
Jan NILL	European Commission	DG CLIMA	
Martine ROHN-BROSSARD	Switzerland	FOEN	Present
EEA PARTICIPANTS			
Hans BRUYNINCKX			Present
Paul McALEAVEY			Present
Soren NIELSEN			Present
Jasmiina LAURMAA			Present