

76th Management Board Doc. EEA/MB/76/02-final 22 June 2016

MINUTES OF THE 75th MANAGEMENT BOARD (MB) MEETING

Copenhagen, 16 March 2016

Adopted by the Management Board at its meeting on 22 June 2016

SIGNED

Elisabeth Freytag-Rigler

Chair, EEA Management Board

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The Chair, Elisabeth Freytag-Rigler, opened the meeting by welcoming the new members of France (Valéry Morard), the Netherlands (Hannie Vlug), and the European Commission's Joint Research Centre JRC (David Wilkinson). Moreover she welcomed Artur Runge-Metzger, Karl Falkenberg and Mireille Delprat (all European Commission), and Georg Rebernig (Austria).

Final agenda:	Annex 1
Attendance list:	Annex 2
Action list:	Annex 3
Decision list:	Annex 4
Special session report:	Annex 5

ITEMS 1-2 FOR DECISION

Item 1 Adoption of draft agenda

The Board adopted the agenda without changes.

The Chair informed the Board that Julia Werner was the only candidate for Vice-Chair and Bureau member so far, and requested other potential candidates to make themselves known to the Chair or secretariat during the morning.

Special session Exchange of views on sustainable development goals (SDGs) The outcome of the special session is reflected in Annex 5.

Item 2 Adoption of the 74th Management Board minutes, 26 November 2015 The Board adopted the minutes.

ITEMS 3-7 FOR INFORMATION

Item 3 Draft minutes of the 68th Bureau meeting, 2 February 2016

The Board took note of the draft minutes.

Item 4 Update by the Chair (oral)

The Chair thanked Elena Ostariz (EEA) for her work with the EEA Management Board. The new MB Secretariat will consist of Jeff Huntington (overall coordination), Johannes Schilling and Gabriela Rita. The functional e-mail address (MB-Secretariat@eea.europa.eu) can be used for any practical arrangements. For other questions, Jeff Huntington remains available.

The Chair also recalled that MB a written procedure on financing decisions for 2016 (ETC grants, procurement plan) were adopted in December.

Item 5 Update by the Scientific Committee Chair (oral)

Building on her <u>presentation</u>, the SC Chair reported that 8 SC members will end their 2nd term by end of November, 7 will end their 1st term (with 6 out of the 7 available for a 2nd mandate) – see decisions under agenda item 9.

Moreover, a new Chair will be elected.

The SC Chair also reported on SC seminars in 2015 and 2016, including the seminar on the use of the Geological Underground and on Knowledge for sustainability transitions in Europe, available at the <u>EEA web site</u>.

Looking ahead, the SC will organise a seminar on sustainability transitions and on land as a resource.

A 2nd summer school on precautionary principle will be organised under the umbrella of the EEAcademy. Application deadline is 1st April, with more flexibility for MB members.

Item 6 Update by the Executive Director

Taking document EEA/MB/75/06 as read, the Executive Director gave a <u>presentation</u> on the main highlights since the previous MB meeting, highlighting

- EEA's report explaining road transport emissions,
- contributions to the mid-term review of the biodiversity strategy and to the Commission's Fitness Check of monitoring and reporting obligations in environment policy,

- a report on the circular economy and a related webinar with the Commission's first vicepresident Timmermans,
- developing work on Copernicus, including an open call for countries to contribute to the Copernicus in situ component with experts paid by EEA (EEA contact point: Chris Steenmans),
- contracts on the South and East European Neighbourhood Partnerships.

In response to a question by Spain, the European Commission representatives explained that the roadmap on Communication on a regular Environmental Implementation Review (EIR) was published mid-March 2016. The EIR is expected to become one of the key components for the revision of the 7th Environment Action Programme.

Reacting to questions by various countries on Inspire and the Commission Fitness Check on Monitoring and Reporting (FC M&R), the European Commission clarified that the simplification of the Inspire focus is important and part of the discussions in the context of the FC M&R. EEA's Executive Director stressed the importance of considering resource use in the context of the implementation of Inspire. JRC offered cooperation with and support to EEA.

On the FC M&R, the Commission informed the MB that a roadmap was published. The purpose of the exercise was to reduce the burden for Member States; but also to focus on the provision of the right data. EEA and other Environmental Knowledge Community (EKC) partners play a key role and are involved through a focus group. Copernicus and modern IT technologies are expected to play an important role in the future environmental monitoring and reporting regime. A Commission Staff Working Document on monitoring and reporting is under preparation for early 2017, preceded by a shorter paper available soon. DG ENV offered to share this paper with MB members. The representative of the European Commission's Directorate General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA) clarified that the FC M&R doesn't include climate action, but that streamlining was undertaken internally and in cooperation with the Directorate General for Energy.

Finally, the representatives of the European Commission's Directorate General for Research & Innovation and of Greece expressed their appreciation of the good cooperation with EEA on the Global Environment Outlook and the presentation of SOER in Greece, respectively.

Item 7 Update by the European Commission, DG ENV: amendment EEA regulation (oral)

The Commission representative (DG ENV) presented the upcoming ex post evaluation of the EEA/Eionet Regulation, and a subsequent possible amendment of the regulation as distinct but related processes.

Preceding the evaluation, a roadmap will be published, most likely ahead of the next MB meeting. DG ENV proposed to make the evaluation of EEA/Eionet Regulation a standing point on the MB agenda for the duration of the evaluation exercise. The Commission's objective is that climate and environment policy can benefit from the EEA being well staffed, organised and positioned. The evaluation will be carried out in line with the Commission's Better Regulation guidelines, and cover the period early 2013 to late 2016. Moreover, there are new elements to be taken into account when framing the evaluation exercise, most notably the economic context, the climate and energy nexus, new technologies, a mandate rather limited to data collection (too narrow in comparison to tasks carried out) and the M&R FC.

DG ENV aims at a transparent process in close cooperation with EEA's MB. DG ENV therefore committed to sharing the roadmap on the evaluation of EEA and Eionet with EEA's MB members (most likely four weeks) before official publication. Once the roadmap is published, there will be a four week public consultation with another possibility for countries to comment. On the basis of the roadmap, DG ENV will draft the terms of reference for procuring the evaluation service. Once DG ENV's contractors started the evaluation, there will be another 12 weeks of consultation as part of the evaluation exercise. DG ENV also explained the criteria for evaluation to be used: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and EU added value.

As regards a potential revision of the EEA/Eionet Regulation, elements of the common approach on EU agencies require a streamlining of certain provisions for all EU Agencies. Moreover, Copernicus and other new tasks of EEA may need to be reflected.

MB members expressed their wish to contribute to the evaluation process in all stages. DG ENV expressed its openness to discuss other mechanisms than the ones presented for country involvement.

ITEMS 8-11 STRATEGIC ORIENTATION FOR DECISION

Item 8 Topic and timing for next MB seminar

The Executive Director introduced document EEA/MB/75/08. The autumn meeting of NFPs in Istanbul will serve to prepare the seminar on "the future Eionet" which will take place, as in previous years, jointly with NFPs. In response to a question about involving Dimesa, it was clarified that cooperation with the statistical side will happen in the framework of the Environmental Knowledge Community (EKC).

The MB agreed to the content and timing of the proposed seminar. In consequence, the next MB meeting will take place on 22 June 2016 and not on 22 and 23 June.

MB members were invited to send comments on the document tabled within three weeks (15 April 2016) to the EEA MB functional mailbox (<u>MB-Secretariat@eea.europa.eu</u>).

Item 9 Scientific Committee: renewal of designations of existing members and identification of areas of expertise for new designations

EEA's ED introduced document EEA/MB/75/09. The MB was invited to agree on the renewal of designations of 6 out of 7 current Scientific Committee (SC) members currently in their first mandate: Dr Borja, Prof Grandjean, Prof Schoeters, Prof Dr Hřebíček, Dr Peuch, and Hon Prof Weber. The MB Decision was adopted as drafted. The MB also agreed on the areas of expertise and profiles for new members outlined in document EEA/MB/75/09.

Sweden, supported by DG RTD, asked for gender balance to be considered in the procedure. DG RTD emphasised that diversity was also important in terms of geographical distribution. The SC Chair recognised the importance of diversity, but she stressed that the selection scrutinises candidates for their excellence. The SC Chair suggested to the MB to motivate candidates to apply in order to increase diversity.

MB members were encouraged to propose their names for the 2 seats for MB members on the Evaluation Committee.

Item 10 Scientific Committee RoP: Amendment concerning remuneration of SC members

EEA's ED introduced document EEA/MB/75/10 and recalled the main elements of the proposal on the SC honorarium: raise and adjustment of SC honoraria to inflation; and the extension of SC honoraria to SC activities of a substantial nature at request of EEA or EEA MB. The MB adopted the decision to amend the SC Rules of procedure as proposed.

Item 11 Annual Report 2015 and Annual Activity Report 2015: Review and decision on delegation to the Bureau

EEA's ED emphasised the benefit of the proposal: streamlining of various previous activities by merging the former Annual Report and the Annual Activity Report. The MB endorsed this proposal. Moreover, the decision delegating the review and adoption of the consolidated annual activity report to the Bureau was adopted as drafted.

Item 12 Election Vice-Chair/Bureau member

No other candidates having come forward, the single candidate to Vice-Chair and Bureau member, Julia Werner, was elected unanimously.

Item 13 Budget 2016: first amendment (Copernicus)

The EEA ED introduced document EEA/MB/75/13 explaining the Budget amendment to include the 2016 finances for the Copernicus Delegation Agreement with the European Commission's DG GROW. Søren Nielsen (EEA) explained that there will be new calls for tender under the delegation agreement. In the following years, the EEA will propose a new extension each year, followed by a tendering procedure.

The decision on the first budget amendment of 2016 was adopted.

ITEMS 14-22 OPERATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Item 14 2015 annual activity report of the Internal Audit Capability (IAC), and outcome of the re-evaluation of the IAC

After short introduction by the IAC, the MB took note of document EEA/MB/75/14.

Item 15 Accounts 2015 and discharge process 2014

EEA's ED introduced document EEA/MB/75/15. The European Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee did not raise any major concerns in relation to the EEA. The adoption of the discharge report was expected in the second plenary meeting of the European Parliament in April 2016.

Item 16 Overview of audits

EEA's ED debriefed on audit activities. While the MB meeting was ongoing, auditors of the Court of Auditors visited the EEA. A draft version of report of the European Court of Auditors on "Agencies' use of grants" was received and the EEA reacted in the adversarial procedure. In relation to EEA's grant agreements with European Topic Centres (ETCs), EEA's ED expressed that these were cumbersome to manage. He announced a reflection with ETCs and the MB on contractual arrangements for ETCs.

Moreover, the European Commission's Internal Audit Service (IAS) audited the process on producing the assessment "Europe's environment – state and outlook 2015" (SOER 2015) with positive findings and constructive recommendations.

Item 17 EEA Publication Plan 2016

The MB noted the document tabled. Spain welcomed EEA's Report on progress on selected elements of a green economy in Europe.

Item 18 Feedback from Management Board members

DG ENV informed about the publication of latest resource efficiency scoreboard.

EEA's ED informed about expected staff cuts. In that context, he emphasised the importance of seconded national experts, including in core content functions.

Suggested by one of the MB members nominated by the European Parliament, the Chair supported the idea of future content discussions at MB meeting.

The meeting closed at 4.26 pm.

ANNEX 1 – Final agenda of 75th Management Board meeting

FOR DECISION

- 1. Adoption draft agenda
- 2. Adoption 74th Management Board minutes, 26 November 2015

FOR INFORMATION

- 3. Draft minutes 68th Bureau, 2 February 2016
- 4. Update by the MB Chair
- 5. Update by the SC Chair
- 6. Update by the Executive Director
- 7. Update by the European Commission: evaluation of the EEA/Eionet regulation

STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

FOR DECISION

- 8. Topic for and timing of the next Management Board seminar
- 9. Scientific Committee: renewal of designations of existing members and identification of areas of expertise for new designations

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON WORK ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

(Morning, exact timing to be clarified) Presentations by:

- Karl Falkenberg, Senior Adviser for Sustainable Development in the European Political Strategy Centre of the European Commission
- Astrid Schomaker, DG Environment, European Commission
- Hans Bruyninckx, EEA

OPERATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

FOR DECISION

- 10. Scientific Committee RoP: Amendment concerning remuneration of SC members
- 11. Annual Report 2015 and Annual Activity Report 2015: Review and decision on delegation to the Bureau
- 12. Election Vice-Chair/Bureau member
- 13. Budget 2016: first amendment (Copernicus)

FOR GUIDANCE

- 14. 2015 annual activity report of the Internal Audit Capability (IAC), and outcome of the re-evaluation of the IAC
- 15. Accounts 2015 and discharge process 2014

FOR INFORMATION

16. Overview of audits

17. EEA Publication Plan 201618. Feedback from Management Board members

Tabled documents

ANNEX 2 ATTENDANCE LIST – EEA 75th Management Board, 16 March 2016

COUNTRY/ AFFILIATION		NAME	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
CHAIR		Elisabeth FREYTAG- RIGLER	Chair of the EEA Management Board	Signed
	Member:			
	Alternate:	Sabine McCALLUM	Environment Agency Austria	
AUSTRIA	Expert:	Georg REBERNIG	Environment Agency Austria	Signed
	Expert:	Florian EYWO	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management	Signed
	Member:	Francis BRANCART	European Policy and International Agreements	Signed
BELGIUM	Alternate:	Véronique VERBEKE	Department Reporting and Environmental Impacts	
	Expert:			
	Member:	Vanya GRIGOROVA	Bulgarian Environment Agency	Signed
BULGARIA	Alternate:	Philip PENCHEV	Bulgarian Environment Agency	
	Expert:			
	Member:	Milica BJELIĆ	Croatian Agency for Environment and Nature	
CROATIA	Alternate:	Rene VUKELIĆ	Croatian Environment Agency	Signed
	Expert:			
	Member:	Costas HADJIPANAYIOT OU	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	Signed
CYPRUS	Alternate:	Charalambos HAJIPAKKOS	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	
	Expert:			

COUNTRY		NAME	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
CZECH	Member:	Michal PASTVINSKÝ	Ministry of the Environment	
	Alternate:	Markéta KUČEROVÁ	Ministry of the Environment	Signed
	Expert:			

	Member:	Henrik Hedeman OLSEN	Danish Ministry of the Environment	Signed
DENMARK	Alternate:	Thomas Nicolai PEDERSEN	Danish Ministry of the Environment	Signed
	Expert:			
	Member:	Meelis MÜNT	Estonian Ministry of the Environment	
ESTONIA	Alternate:	Kerli KIILI	Estonian Ministry of the Environment	Signed
	Expert:			
	Member:	Laura HÖIJER	Ministry of the Environment	Signed
FINLAND	Alternate:	Pekka HARJU- AUTTI	Ministry of the Environment	
	Expert:			
	Member:	Valéry MORARD	Ministry of the Environment, Energy, and Marine Affairs	Signed
FRANCE	Alternate:	Guillaume COUNIO	Ministry of the Environment, Energy, and Marine Affairs	
	Expert:			
	Member:	Julia WERNER	Head of Unit European Union - Strategic and Legal Aspects	Signed
GERMANY	Alternate:	Holger MÜRLE	Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation Building and Nuclear Safety	
	Expert:			
	Member:	Maria PEPPA	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change	Signed
GREECE	Alternate:	Nicholas MANTZARIS	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change	
	Expert:			

COUNTRY		NAME	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
	Member:	Annamária GALAMBOS	Ministry of Agriculture	
HUNGARY	Alternate:	Petra PÉNTEK	Ministry of Agriculture	Signed
	Expert:			

ICELAND	Member:	Hermann SVEINBJÖRNSS ON	Ministry of the Environment	Signed
ICLEAND	Alternate:			
	Expert:			
	Member:	Laura BURKE	Environmental Protection Agency	
IRELAND	Alternate:	David WALSH	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government	Signed
	Expert:			
	Member:	Federica FRICANO	Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and the Sea	
ITALY	Alternate:	Alessandro Giuliano PERU	Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and the Sea	Signed
	Expert:			
	Member:	Alda OZOLA	Ministry of the Environmental Protection and Regional Development	Signed
LATVIA	Alternate:	Inita STIKUTE	Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre	
	Expert:			
LIECHTENST	Member:	Helmut KINDLE	Director National Office of Environment	Apologies
EIN	Alternate:			
	Expert:			
LITHUANIA	Member:	Aldona MARGERIENÉ	Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
	Alternate:	Vytautas NARUŠEVIČIOUS	Environmental Protection Agency - Activity Planning and Public Information Division	
	Expert:			

COUNTRY		NAME	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
	Member:	Eric DE BRABANTER	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures	Signed
	Alternate:	Pierre PRUM	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures	
	Expert:			

	Member:	Vincent CASSAR	Malta Environment and Planning Authority	
MALTA	Alternate:	Suzanne GAUCI	Malta Environment and Planning Authority	
	Expert:			
	Member:	Hannie VLUG	Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment	Signed
NETHERLAN DS	Alternate:	Eduard DAME	Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment	
	Expert:	Kees SCHOTTEN	Environmental Assessment Agency	Signed
	Member:	Kari HOLDEN	Data, Climate and Pollution Agency	Signed
NORWAY	Alternate:	Øystein NESJE	Ministry of Environment	
	Expert:			
	Member:	Jerzy KULIŃSKI	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	Apologies
POLAND	Alternate:	Anna Katarzyna WIECH	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	Apologies
	Expert:			
	Member:	Nuno LACASTA	Ministry of the Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy	
PORTUGAL	Alternate:	Alexandra CARVALHO	Ministry of the Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy	Signed
	Expert:			
ROMANIA	Member:	Doina CATRINOIU	National Environment Protection Agency	Signed
	Alternate:	Gabriela VASILIU- ISAC	Waste Management and Hazardous Substances Directorate	
	Expert:			

COUNTRY		NAME	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Member:	Martin VAVŘINEK	Slovak Environmental Agency	Signed
	Alternate:	Norbert KURILLA	Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic to the EU	Signed
	Expert:			
	Member:	Joško KNEZ	Environmental Agency	
SLOVENIA	Alternate:	Silvo ŽLEBIR	Slovenian Environment Agency	Signed
	Expert:			

	Member:	Guillermina YANGUAS MONTERO	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente	
SPAIN	Alternate:	Elisa RIVERA MENDOZA	NFP	Signed
	Expert:			
	Member:	Björn RISINGER	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	
SWEDEN	Alternate:	Martin ERIKSSON	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
	Expert:			
	Member:			
SWITZERLA ND	Alternate:	Gérard POFFET	Federal Office for the Environment	Signed
	Expert:	Nicolas PERRITAZ	NFP	Signed
	Member:	Mustafa ÖZTÜRK	Ministry of Environment and Urbanization	Signed
TURKEY	Alternate:	Mehmet Mustafa SATILMIŞ	Environmental Impact Assessement, Permit and Inspection	
	Expert:	Tuğçe Y. İRFANOĞLU	NFP	Signed
UNITED	Member:	Dagmar DROOGSMA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	Apologies
KINGDOM	Alternate:			
	Expert:			

	Astrid SCHOMAKER	DG ENV	
	David WILKINSON	JRC	Signed
	Karl FALKENBERG	European Political Strategy Centre	Signed
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	Artur RUNGE-METZGER	DG CLIMA	
	Mireille DELPRAT	Adviser - DG RTD	Signed
	Peter PÄRT	JRC	Signed
	Pascal LE GRAND	DG ENV	Signed
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	Peter HENNICKE	Wuppertal Institut für Klima, Umwelt, Energie	Signed

	Michael SCOULLOS	University of Athens	
	Christian HEY	German Advisory Council on the Environment	
EEA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	Sybille van den HOVE	Chair of EEA Scientific Committee	Signed

EEA STAFF COMMITTEE	Tobias LANGANKE	Project Manager, NSS3	
	Hans BRUYNINCKX	Executive Director	
	Paul McALEAVEY	Head of programme - ACC	
	Søren NIELSEN	Head of programme - ADS	
	Jock MARTIN	Head of Programme - IEA	
	Chris STEENMANS	Head of programme - IDM	
	David STANNERS	Head of programme - PAN	
	Ronan UHEL	Head of programme - NSS	
	Katja ROSENBOHM	Head of Programme - COM	
	Anne-Marie BUTTOLO	Internal Audit Capability - EDO	
	Jeff HUNTINGTON	Senior Adviser - EDO	
EEA STAFF	Johannes SCHILLING	Project Manager - EDO	Signed

ANNEX 3 – Action List

ACTIONS	Status April 2016
To publish on Forum the final minutes of the 74rd Management	Done
Board	
To publish the amended RoP for the SC	Done
To consider possible content topics for the June Board meeting	Done
To publish the adopted decisions	To do
To remind members of the deadline for written comments on the	Done
December seminar	
To publish amended meetings dates for 2016	Done
To update CVs and Dols on the website	In progress

Age	enda item	Outcome	Comments	
1	Adoption of the agenda	Adopted as drafted.		
2	Adoption minutes 74 th MB, 26 November 2015	Adopted as drafted.		
8	Next MB seminar	The Board agreed to the proposal to hold an MB seminar on 6 December focusing on the future Eionet. In this context, it was agreed that the summer MB meeting would be held on 22 June.	Members were given until 15 April to comment in writing on the detail of the proposal for the seminar.	
9	Scientific Committee – renewals and recruitment	The MB adopted the decision renewing the designations of 6 existing members as drafted, and agreed on the list of areas of expertise for the call for new members as drafted.	Members were encouraged to put themselves forward for the 2 seats for Board members on the Evaluation Committee.	
10	Scientific Committee – honorarium	The decision to amend the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of Scientific Committee to increase the level and scope for paying honorarium was adopted as drafted.		
11	Annual report 2015/Annual activity report 2015	The Board endorsed the merging of the former Annual report and Annual Activity Report and adopted the decision delegating the review and adoption of the consolidated annual activity reports to the Bureau as drafted.	It will be clarified if a revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Management Board and Bureau would be appropriate.	
12	Election Vice-Chair	Julia Werner, Germany, was the only candidate and was elected unanimously.		
13	1st amendment 2016 budget – Copernicus	The decision was adopted as drafted.		
14	2015 annual report of the IAC	The Board took note of the annual report of the IAC.		

ANNEX 4 - List of Decisions and Guidance, 75th Management Board meeting, 16 March 2016

15	Accounts 2015 and	The Board took note of the
	discharge 2014	accounts 2015 and the
		positive signals from the
		2014 discharge process.

Approved by the Chair of the Management Board on 16 March 2016

(Signed)

Elisabeth Freytag-Rigler