



50th Management Board
Doc. EEA/MB/50/02-final
2 April 2008

MINUTES OF THE 49th MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
held on 21 November 2007

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board on 2 April 2008

(Signed)

Lars-Erik Liljelund
Chairman EEA Management Board

Record of proceedings:

The Chairman Lars-Erik Liljelund opened the meeting by welcoming the new Board members and extending apologies on behalf of those members unable to be present. The tabled documents were acknowledged during the course of the meeting (list included in Annex 1).

Final agenda: Annex 1
List of attendees: Annex 2
Action list: Annex 3
Decision list: Annex 4

Item 1 Adoption of draft agenda

The Board approved the agenda (Doc. EEA/MB/49/01rev1 in Annex 1) by moving the MB Seminar conclusions after item 3 and by introducing an additional item on the Executive Director's contract (closed session discussion).

Item 2 Adoption of the 48th Management Board minutes, 20 June 2007

The Board adopted the minutes of the 48th MB meeting held on 20 June 2007. The final version (Doc. EEA/MB/49/02-final) is available on CIRCA. The members took note of the tabled MB rolling action list.

ITEMS 3-5 FOR INFORMATION

Item 3 Draft minutes of the 43rd Bureau meeting of 8 October 2007

The Board took note of the draft minutes from the October Bureau meeting.

Item 4 Update by the Chairman (oral)

The Chairman informed the MB members that, at this stage, no country visits were currently planned together with the Executive Director. He said that the SEIS country visits undertaken by EEA experts in the last few months were generally replacing visits by the Chairman and Executive Director.

The Chairman also took the opportunity to remind the members that it was worthwhile making the effort to revisit some of the Agency's early publications, in particular 'Late Lessons-vol.1', which had made a substantial contribution in the environment policy community.

Item 5 Update by the Executive Director

With regard to her written update (Doc.EEA/MB/48/05), the Executive Director briefly went through the progress report of the Agency's work programme and highlighted some key achievements and events:

- The launch of the pan-European report at the Belgrade Conference was successful. The EEA had been invited to continue playing a key role in the preparation of the next report for the conference in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- The process for preparing the Belgrade report has highlighted a number of areas for improvement in the cooperation with the EECCA countries.
- Over the previous few months the Agency continued its active cooperation with a number of European Commission, European Parliament and international initiatives.
- The modalities around the 'Potsdam initiative' were taking shape: it was now clear that it would be based on case studies of forests and wetlands.
- The CLC update was running as planned and would be delivered on time, covering the EEA member and cooperating countries, but not their overseas territories. This would have relevance for the work on GMES.
- The Executive Director informed the Board that the Agency's balanced score card containing an analysis of 4 main areas was attached to the update. It proved to be a useful steering device in showing where the Agency needed to make improvements and adjustments.

The MB members congratulated the Agency for the success of the Belgrade report. They also stressed the importance of the active cooperation with UNECE for the further process.

In addition, the Executive Director informed the Board about the completion of the call for National Experts (ENDs) round, with the next step being sending invitations to experts for interviews. She also reminded the MB of the existing internal network of country desk officers, with whom the respective members and NFPs should keep in a regular dialogue.

ITEMS 6-14 FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

Item 6 Conclusions from the MB Seminar and next steps in the development of EEA Strategy 2009-2013

In introducing the item, the Executive Director thanked all the members for their active participation in the previous day's Seminar and briefly went through the timetable of the next steps. She asked the chairs of the different themes to remain engaged in the further process. The objective was to produce the first draft of the Strategy for the Bureau meeting in February 2008.

Tom Cummings, MB Seminar facilitator, reflected on the challenges for the EEA in the coming period, mainly related to the change of focus and increased public awareness. He stressed the importance of the Agency's 'avant-garde' role in the environmental arena, building on the expertise in its network and partnerships.

The Board members supported the fact that the Agency had to build on its strengths and expressed readiness to follow-up the seminar discussions at their next meeting. They agreed to the proposed timetable and further process in developing the EEA Strategy 2009-2013.

Item 7 Approval of the EEA Annual Management Plan (AMP) 2008

The Management Board took note of the opinions of the EEA Scientific Committee and the European Commission on the AMP 2008 (the latter was tabled at the meeting). The Executive Director reminded the members that the adoption of the work programme 2008 (at project level) was subject to the approval of the 2008 budget by the relevant budgetary authorities. The Board was asked to adopt the AMP2008 under the proviso of a subsequent approval of the additional €2million subvention, and any final adjustments would be done once the budget was finalised.

The Executive Director informed the Board that the implementation plan on SEIS was presented together with the AMP2008, following an earlier MB request to keep them informed of the EEA cooperation with the countries. The SEIS Implementation Plan 2007-08 was discussed and agreed with NFP/Eionet.

The MB members welcomed the priorities of the AMP2008 and made some comments on the following issues/areas:

- Adaptation and mitigation should be specifically emphasised
- Transport area could be reflected under the climate change heading
- Participation in the EU Water initiative should be more explicit
- Droughts and water scarcity could be further examined by the Agency
- Clarification of division of roles and responsibilities between the 'Group of Four' partners and the countries would be helpful.
- The upcoming EC Communication on SEIS ought to provide the required legislative framework for the process. The implementation of SEIS activities should be aligned to the experience and information collected during the diagnostic country visits. The results of these should be made accessible on the web.
- In the chapter on SEIS to specify that it should be qualified by the principle of subsidiarity, respecting the member countries national processes.
- Important to demonstrate the 'greening of the Agency' activities as part of EEA benchmarking efforts.

Reflecting on the state-of-play of SEIS, the Commission representative said that currently there were two parallel processes: pilot process, tested by the Agency, and the political process that would identify the way forward. The upcoming Communication would also clarify the division of roles and responsibilities between the G4 partners and the countries.

The Board members agreed that the presented SEIS Implementation Plan 2007-08 should be considered as a roadmap of upcoming activities that would be regularly updated. With that, the MB adopted EEA Annual Management Plan 2008, taking into account the positive opinions of the European Commission and the Scientific Committee.

Item 8 Approval of the Annual Budget 2008

Taking note of some small adjustments in the budget version tabled, the Board approved the EEA Annual Budget 2008, including additional funds of €180,000 for the Agency's cooperation with the West Balkan countries under the CARDS 2005 Regional Programme. The adoption of the 2008 EEA budget by the Board was conditional upon its approval by the budgetary authorities of the subsidy to the Agency within the Community budget for 2008, as well as the EEA establishment plan for 2008.

Item 9 Latest developments in SEIS and GMES implementation

The Executive Director informed the Board about the latest developments on GMES and Inspire, and clarified that SEIS was part of the delivery mechanism. The Agency was working towards making the connection between these processes understood. The linkage between SEIS-Inspire-GMES rested upon a number of commonalities, such as similar drivers, engagement of the same community, impact on both EU and Member State level, being mutually supportive and with global outreach, as well as generating 'overlapping information'.

A recent meeting she had with DG ENTR showed that different aspects of the governance still needed to be streamlined. Currently four Fast Track services had been identified through a Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) call to contribute to the operational services. The Executive Director then went on to encourage the MB members to ensure that the in-situ community was well represented in the GMES process since it was only through greater diversity of users that the GMES benefits would be clearly demonstrated.

The Board members noted the complexity of the process and supported the fact that the Agency had engaged itself in the coordination activities. They pointed out that the EEA involvement was very useful for raising Eionet visibility. However, they asked to be kept informed about the funding arrangements and EEA further activities.

Item 10 Executive Director's contract (closed session)

The European Commission's representative informed the Board members about the Executive Director's evaluation process. In terms of further steps, he asked the members to appoint one assessor from the Management Board, who together with one assessor from the European Commission (Peter Carl), should draw on the conclusions of the evaluation to prepare an evaluation report. The Board appointed Karsten Sach (Germany) as the MB assessor in the process.

Item 11 Approval of the Eurostat work programme 2008

The Executive Director underlined the increased collaboration between Eurostat and EEA and highlighted the fact that there were more and more interlinkages between the two work programmes. Furthermore, she also underlined the importance of the DIMESA process and of the need for active participation by national environmental agencies.

The Eurostat representative thanked the MB members for their comments to the draft work programme and clarified the following points:

- The Eurostat work programme 2008 had 2 main objectives: implementation of data centres and joint work on architecture. In this, the close cooperation within the 'Group of Four' was essential.
- In 2008 Eurostat would be working forward establishing its own information and communication activities with the Member States.
- Further work on indicators and methodology work was envisaged, which would also be of support to the work of EEA.

The Board members welcomed the enhanced cooperation between the EEA and Eurostat and the development of a joint EEA/Eurostat work programme for 2008, as had been done in previous years. Following this, the Board approved the Eurostat work programme in the field of environment for 2008.

Item 12 ETC evaluation process 2007-2008

The Management Board was presented with the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the ETCs in the areas of biological diversity and resources and waste management, following the conclusions of the ETC Steering Committee.

Taking into account the recommendations from the steering committee and the emerging trends in the areas, the following was proposed:

- The focus of the former ETC on resources and waste management should be broadened to the area of Sustainable Consumption and Production.
- The ETC on Biological Diversity should cover two lots dealing with biological diversity and ecosystem assessment.

In the discussion that followed, the members deliberated on the current eligibility and award criteria and agreed that these should not be changed. With regard to the award criteria, the Board was reminded that geographical coverage and spread of expertise across the partners was essential.

Referring to the fact that the next EEA Strategy was still being developed, the members underlined the importance of ensuring consistency between the Agency's and ETCs' work programmes. The Executive Director responded that the ETC implementation plans would be aligned to the priorities of the EEA Annual Work Programmes and negotiated on an annual basis.

With respect to the thematic areas, the MB members supported the shift of the focus of the former ETC to sustainable consumption and production. They underlined the importance of retaining expertise in both data collection and assessments. The need for close collaboration with Eurostat as major data provider was also emphasised.

Regarding the future ETC on biological diversity, the Board recognised the expansion and evolution of the subject and the added value of covering data flows together with assessments of ecosystems services and accounting. The Board cautioned that the latter expertise might not be easy to attract given that much of the expertise was still being developed through research. This was also an argument in favour of keeping the two elements together.

Thereafter, the Board approved the structure and the ToRs for the ETCs in the areas of (1) Sustainable Consumption and Production, and (2) Biological diversity, with two lots to cover biological diversity and ecosystem assessment. In line with an earlier MB decision, the two ETCs would be designated at the June 2008 meeting for the period of the next EEA Strategy 2009-2013.

The Executive Director informed the Board that the Agency was planning to publish the call for proposals already in December 2007 in order to give enough time to the potential partners to form consortia. The designation of the new ETCs would take place at the MB meeting in June 2008.

Item 13 Revision of the MB and Bureau Rules of procedure

The Management Board endorsed the amendment to the Rules of procedure with the provision to enlarge the Bureau up to five vice-chairs, whilst retaining the quorum at its current level. Changes shall therefore be introduced in Articles 1(4), 2(1) and 13(2). The members agreed that the decision shall take effect as of the present meeting.

Item 14 Election of new vice-chair(s) / Bureau member(s)

The Board unanimously elected Elisabeth Freytag from Austria and Erzsébet Gergely from Hungary as vice-chairs/Bureau members. The decision shall enter into force as of the date of the current meeting – 21 November 2007.

Item 15 Prolongation of Scientific Committee (SC) memberships

The Management Board approved the second 4-year term of service for three SC members: Dr. Pierre Laconte, Prof. Helmut Haberl and Dr Theo Vermeire, taking into account the need to ensure continuity of the committee's work in view of the major turnover coming in 2008. The Board also agreed to prolong Prof. Saatçı from Turkey as an observer on the work of the Scientific Committee.

The Board took note of the agreed role of the EEA Scientific Committee and the upcoming call for new SC experts in 2008. In the discussion that followed, the MB members highlighted the importance of also maintaining on the committee expertise in new and emerging topics for EEA, such as GMOs, nanotechnologies, etc. Responding on this point, the Executive Director said the Agency was looking into possibilities to retain the biennial advert process with the aim of contributing to the efficient functioning of the committee.

ITEMS 16-18 – FOR INFORMATION

Item 16 Status of the Effectiveness evaluation project

Michael Scoullos (expert nominated by EP), appointed as a MB representative in the steering committee of the effectiveness evaluation project, informed the Board members about the state-of-play on the evaluation and explained what was expected from MB members:

- The consultants from Technopolis would shortly complete and send out questionnaire to ask for MB views on the internal and external effectiveness of the EEA.
- The MB members would be also asked to nominate three people from their country to comment on the EEA's influence on the policy process.
- Technopolis would thereafter interview some of them by phone to pick up on issues that emerge in the course of the initial information gathering.

Item 17 Overview of the Agency's audits

The Executive Director reminded the Board that the observations from the Court of Auditors (CoA) together with EEA responses had been included in the background paper for this item. With regard to the Internal Audit Service (IAS) report, the dialogue was still ongoing on some formulations. The Executive Director pointed out that in this process the Agency was making sure there was no overlap and inconsistency between the two reports. Moreover, she assured the Board that all the issues raised by the auditors were being addressed.

In closing, the Executive Director informed the Board members that a new EEA Internal Auditor was appointed and would take up duties on 1 January 2008.

Item 18 Feed back from members of the Management Board

The Polish Board member informed the members that the national SOE Report had just been launched in Poland. M.Scoullos, EP nominee, thanked the Agency for contributing and participating in the Conference on Horizon 2020 held in late October in Athens.

In closing, the Chairman reminded the members of the dates of the next Bureau and MB meeting to take place on 19 February and 2 April respectively. The list of meeting dates for 2008 has been uploaded on CIRCA.

The meeting closed at 16:40.

ANNEX 1 to MB minutes

Final agenda of the 49th Management Board meeting, 21 November 2007 Doc. EEA/MB/49/01rev1

FOR DECISION

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Adoption of the 48th Management Board minutes, 20 June 2007

FOR INFORMATION

3. Draft minutes of the 43rd Bureau meeting, 8 October 2007
4. Update by the Chairman
5. Update by the Executive Director

FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

6. Conclusions from the MB Seminar and next steps in the development of EEA Strategy 2009-2013
7. Approval of the EEA Annual Management Plan 2008 (with annex: SEIS Implementation Plan)
8. Approval of the Annual Budget 2008
9. Latest developments in SEIS and GMES implementation
10. Executive Director's contract (closed session)
11. Approval of the Eurostat work programme
12. ETC evaluation process 2007-2008
13. Revision of the MB and Bureau Rules of procedure
14. Election of new vice-chair(s) / Bureau member(s)
15. Prolongation of scientific committee memberships

FOR INFORMATION

16. Status of the Effectiveness evaluation project
17. Overview of the Agency's audits
18. Feedback from members of the Management Board

TABLED DOCUMENT(S)

- Item 03** – Rolling action list from the last MB meetings
- Item 07** – Commission's opinion on EEA AMP2008 (annex 3)
- Item 16** – Court of Auditors report on the EEA annual accounts for the financial year 2006

ANNEX 2

**49th EEA Management Board meeting – Attendance list
Copenhagen, 21 November 2007, EEA Conference Room**

MEMBER COUNTRIES			
COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
AUSTRIA	<i>Member:</i> Elisabeth FREYTAG	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i> Georg REBERNIG	Umweltbundesamt	Signed
BELGIUM	<i>Member:</i> Philippe BOURDEAU	IGEAT, ULB	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i> Françoise ONCLINCX	Institut Bruxellois pour la gestion de l'environnement	
BULGARIA	<i>Member:</i> Dimitar VERGIEV	Bulgarian Environment Agency	Signed
CYPRUS	<i>Member:</i> Antonis ANTONIOU	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Charalambos HAJIPAKKOS	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	Apologies
CZECH REPUBLIC	<i>Member:</i> Veronika HUNT ŠAFRÁNKOVÁ	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i>	Ministry of Environment	
	<i>Expert:</i> Šarka STRAHALOVÁ	Ministry of Environment	Signed
DENMARK	<i>Member:</i> Ole CHRISTIANSEN	Danish Environment Protection Agency	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Karsten SKOU	Danish Environment Protection Agency	Signed
	<i>Expert:</i>		
ESTONIA	<i>Member:</i> Allan GROMOV	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i> Andres KRATOVITS	Ministry of Environment	
FINLAND	<i>Member:</i> Markku NURMI	Ministry of Environment	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Antero HONKASALO	Ministry of Environment	Signed

FRANCE	<u>Member:</u> Guillaume SAINTENY	Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Aline KUSTER-MENAGER	Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable	
GERMANY	<u>Member:</u> Karsten SACH	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz & Reaktorsicherheit	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Julia WERNER	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz & Reaktorsicherheit	Signed
GREECE	<u>Member:</u> Ioannis VOURNAS	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u> Mata ARAVANTINOY	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works	Signed
HUNGARY	<u>Member:</u> Erzsébet GERGELY	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>		
ICELAND	<u>Member:</u> Hugi ÓLAFSSON	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>		
IRELAND	<u>Member:</u> Tom O'MAHONY	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Larry STAPLETON	Environmental Protection Agency	
ITALY	<u>Member:</u> Corrado CLINI	Ministero dell'Ambiente	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Giuliana GASPARRINI	Ministero dell'Ambiente	
	<u>Expert:</u> Diego GIULIANI	Ministero dell'Ambiente	
LATVIA	<u>Member:</u> Einars CILINSKIS	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Ilze KIRSTUKA	Latvian Environment Agency	
LIECHTENSTEIN	<u>Member:</u> Felix NÄSCHER	Ministry of Environment, Dept. Forests, Nature and Landscape	Signed
LITHUANIA	<u>Member:</u> Aleksandras SPRUOGIS	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Liutauras STOSKUS	Environmental Protection Agency	

LUXEMBOURG	<u>Member:</u>	Eric DE BRABANTER	Ministère de l'Environnement	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Pierre PRUM	Ministère de l'Environnement	Signed
MALTA	<u>Member:</u>	Martin SEYCHELL	Environment and Planning Authority	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Louis VELLA	Environment and Planning Authority	
THE NETHERLANDS	<u>Member:</u>	Jaap ENTER	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Adriaan OUDEMAN	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment	Signed
NORWAY	<u>Member:</u>	Harald RENSVIK	Ministry of Environment	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Øysten NESJE	Ministry of Environment	Signed
POLAND	<u>Member:</u>	Marek MROCZKOWSKI	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Lucyna DYGAS-CIOŁKOWSKA	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	
PORTUGAL	<u>Member:</u>	Antonio GONÇALVES HENRIQUES	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Fernanda SANTIAGO	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	Signed
ROMANIA	<u>Member:</u>	Zoltan LEVENTE NAGY	National Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Mihaela PETCU	National Environmental Protection Agency	
	<u>Expert:</u>	Anca TEVI	National Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	<u>Member:</u>	Stanislav STOFKO	Slovak Environment Agency	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Vladimir BENKO	Slovak Environment Agency	
SLOVENIA	<u>Member:</u>	Silvo ŽLEBIR	Environmental Agency	Signed
SPAIN	<u>Member:</u>	Jaime ALEJANDRE	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Israel PASTOR SAINZ-PARDO	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente	
SWEDEN	<u>Chairman:</u>	Lars-Erik LILJELUND	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
	<u>Member:</u>	Martin ERIKSSON	Ministry of Environment	Signed
SWITZERLAND	<u>Member:</u>	Bruno OBERLE	Federal Office for the Environment	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Arthur MOHR	Federal Office for the Environment	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Jean-Michel GARDAZ	NFP	Signed

TURKEY	<u>Member:</u>	Hasan ZUHURI SARIKAYA	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Mustafa ÖZTÜRK	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Apologies
	<u>Expert:</u>	Tuncay DEMIR	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Cagatay DIKMEN	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Ufuk KUCUKAY	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Signed
UNITED KINGDOM	<u>Member:</u>	John CUSTANCE	Dept. for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Bill STOW	Dept. for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	<u>Member:</u>	Timo MÄKELÄ	DG Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>		Joint Research Centre	
	<u>Expert:</u>	Peter WICKS	DG Environment	Signed
	<u>Member:</u>	Manuela SOARES	DG Research	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Pieter EVERAERS	EUROSTAT – Directorate E	Apologies
	<u>Expert:</u>	Gilles DECAND	EUROSTAT	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Christian HEIDORN	EUROSTAT	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Pam KENNEDY	JRC	Apologies
	<u>Expert:</u>	Peter PÄRT	JRC	Signed
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	<u>Member:</u>	Ludger-Anselm VERSTEYL	Prof. Versteyl Rechtsanwälte	Signed
	<u>Member:</u>	Michael SCOULLOS	University of Athens	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Ludo HOLSBECK	Free University of Brussels	
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Tomás MARCHESCU		
EEA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	<u>Guest:</u>	Detlef SPRINZ	SC Vice-Chairman	Signed
EEA STAFF COM		Jette Lind KRISTENSEN		Signed
EEA STAFF		Jacqueline McGLADE	Executive Director	Signed
		Gordon McINNIS	Deputy Director, Head of Programme ADS	Signed
		Petra FAGERHOLM	PA to Executive Director	Signed
		Galina GEORGIEVA	Management Board secretariat	Signed

ANNEX 3 DRAFT ACTION LIST

ACTIONS	Status 23 January 2008
To publish on CIRCA the final minutes of the 48 ^h Management Board meeting	Done
The countries interested in a SEIS visit should inform the Agency at soonest possible	In process
The Agency shall produce the first draft of the EEA Strategy 2009-13 following the input from the MB Seminar	In process
To reflect on the MB comments on the AMP2008 when finalising the document	Done
The Agency to keep the SEIS Implementation Plan 2007-08 regularly updated and share it with the countries	Continuous action
To keep the Board informed about any further developments on GMES-Inspire-SEIS interlinkages	Regular update to be provided at each 2008 MB meeting
To share with the MB the joint EEA/Eurostat work programme when available	To do
To inform the networks once the ETC call for proposals in the areas of biological diversity and sustainable consumption and production has been published	Done – message sent on 20 December
To consider the possibility to include new areas in the expertise of the EEA Scientific Committee with the new call for experts in 2008	To be followed up
To keep the Board informed about the progress of the effectiveness evaluation project – questionnaire and interviews with the members will be conducted by the consultant in near future	Ongoing
To inform the MB on the meeting dates 2008	Done – list available on CIRCA

ANNEX 4

DECISIONS taken at the 49th Management Board meeting, 21 November 2007, EEA

Agenda item	Decisions	Comments
Item 2. Adoption of draft agenda	Adopted	MB Seminar conclusions to be taken up after item 3 and introduce one additional item on the Executive Director's contract (closed discussion)
Item 3. Adoption of the 48 th MB minutes, 20 June 2007	Adopted	-
Item 6. Conclusions from the MB Seminar and next steps in the development of EEA Strategy 2009-2013	The Board endorsed the proposed timetable and the further process in developing the EEA Strategy	The MB Members took note of the fact that the first outline of the EEA Strategy 2009-2013 would be produced for the Bureau meeting in February 2008.
Item 7. Approval of the EEA Annual Management Plan 2008	Adopted EEA Annual Management Plan 2008, taking into account the opinions of the European Commission and the Scientific Committee	The MB took note of the activities proposed in the SEIS Implementation Plan 2007-2008 and noted that it was an evolving document reflecting the Agency's cooperation with the countries.
Item 8. Approval of the Annual Budget 2008	Approved the EEA Annual Budget for 2008 and the additional funds of 180 k€ for the EEA cooperation with the West Balkan countries under the CARDS 2005 Regional Programme	The adoption of the 2008 EEA budget is conditional upon the approval by the budgetary authorities of the subsidy to the Agency within the Community budget for 2008, as well as the EEA establishment table for 2008.
Item 9. Latest developments in SEIS and GMES implementation	The Board took note of the latest developments on GMES and its links to SEIS	The MB members welcomed the Agency's involvement in the GMES process and discussions in different fora.

Item 10. Approval of the Eurostat work programme	Approved the Eurostat work programme in the field of environment 2008	The Management Board encouraged the enhanced cooperation between the EEA and Eurostat and the development of a joint EEA/Eurostat work programme for 2008, similarly to previous years.
Item 11. ETC evaluation process 2007-2008	Approved the structure of the ETCs in the areas of biological diversity and resources and waste management, as well as the draft Terms of Reference for open calls for proposals to be launched in December 2007	The two ETCs will cover the following areas in 2009-2013: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological diversity, with two lots to cover biological diversity and ecosystem assessment, and • Sustainable Consumption and Production.
Item 12. Revision of the MB and Bureau Rules of procedure	Agreed to the amendment to the Rules of procedure to enlarge the Bureau up to five vice-chairs	The Rules of procedure of the MB and Bureau shall be amended in Articles 1(4), 2(1) and 13(2). The MB endorsed the decision to take effect immediately.
Item 13. Election of new vice-chair(s) / Bureau member(s)	Elected Elisabeth Freytag from Austria & Erzsébet Gergely from Hungary as vice-chairs/ Bureau members	This decision enters into force on the date of its signature – 21 November 2007.
Item 14. Prolongation of scientific committee memberships	Approved the second term of service for 4 years for the following SC members: Dr. Pierre Laconte, Prof. Helmut Haberl and Dr Theo Vermeire. Agreed to prolong Prof. Saatçı from Turkey as an observer on the work of the committee	-

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board
on 21 November 2007
(Signed)

Lars-Erik Liljelund
Chairman EEA Management Board