



**LIST OF DECISIONS AND GUIDANCE  
116<sup>TH</sup> BUREAU MEETING, 18 MARCH 2026**

Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
Opening of the meeting	The Chair welcomed participants.	Participants did not declare any interests which could be considered to be prejudicial to their independence with respect to any of the points on the agenda of the open session of the Bureau.
<b>FOR ADOPTION</b>		
1 Agenda of the 116 <sup>th</sup> Bureau meeting	The meeting agenda was adopted with one additional closed session item in preparation of the MB meeting.	
<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>		
2 Follow-up to the previous Bureau meeting (28 January 2026)	<p>The Bureau took note of follow-up items to the Bureau meeting of 28 January 2026, including the updated January Bureau document on MB and Bureau activities and topics for 2026.</p> <p>The Bureau also noted that several items discussed at the January meeting will be covered in the March Bureau and MB meetings (Multi-annual Financial Framework, review of MB rules of procedure and EEA enlargement).</p>	<p>Printed copies of the renovated EEA-Eionet Strategy are on their way and are estimated to be available for the MB meeting on 19 March.</p> <p>MB members are always welcome to contact Jasmiina in the MB Secretariat with suggestions for agenda points or feedback for improvement.</p> <p>The timing of the next Europe's Environment report, which holds strategic importance, will be discussed in the June MB meeting.</p>
3 Preparations for the next Multi-annual Financial Framework 2028-2034	<p>The Bureau took note of the status of the Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF) proposal 2028-2034.</p> <p>The Bureau acknowledged the value of discussing the MFF in the MB and for exchanging information on progress (EEA, countries and European Commission). They discussed how MB members could help ensure adequate resources for the Agency in the negotiations.</p>	<p>The EEA's Executive Director (ED) highlighted the need for the next MFF to cover EEA enlargement, securing adequate funding for current and future EEA cooperating countries. The 19 March MB agenda item on EEA enlargement will cover part of the issue. The MFF will be a recurring item on the Bureau/MB agendas, including in June.</p> <p>Several Bureau members emphasised the challenge and complexity in knowing how and when one could influence the MFF negotiations, with the additional challenge that the Agency appears to be low on the list of priorities compared to other topics.</p> <p>The ED asked whether members whose country is hosting a decentralised EU Agency have held dedicated discussions on the MFF in their status as host country. This could be explored as a possible avenue with Denmark, as the EEA's host country.</p>
<b>FOR BUREAU ORIENTATION IN PREPARATION OF THE 108<sup>TH</sup> MANAGEMENT BOARD</b>		
4 108 <sup>th</sup> MB meeting agenda	The Bureau took note of the MB meeting agenda.	A member asked whether there would be a document related to agenda item 2 on the endorsement of Moldova's status as the EEA's cooperating country.



Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
	<p>The Chair highlighted that verbal updates (ED, European Commission and SC Chair) would be limited to brief interventions due to the heavy agenda, with the addition of one closed session topic.</p>	<p>The Chair and the ED confirmed that the MB decision list would record the Management Board's endorsement of Moldova's cooperating country status, and that there would not be an additional separate MB decision, in line with past practices in relation to existing cooperating countries. The Chair reminded the Bureau of the MB's principle decision to grant Moldova and Ukraine cooperating country status in March 2025 conditional to additional financial resources to the EEA, and of the adoption of the budget 2026 by the MB in December 2025 marked the beginning of the cooperation with the Republic of Moldova as a cooperating country from 1 January 2026.</p> <p>Pending the signature of the amended contract with the European Commission (DG ENEST), the EEA considers following a similar approach to endorse Ukraine's cooperating country status.</p>
<p>5 Preparation of Bureau recommendations for MB decisions (MB agenda items 6A and 6B)</p>	<p><u>A. Revision of the EEA's policy on the prevention and management of conflicts of interest:</u> The Bureau recommended the MB to adopt the EEA's policy on the prevention and management of conflicts of interest with minor adjustments based on comments from the representative of the European Commission (DG ENV) and the member from Germany.</p> <p><u>B. Revision of the EEA's anti-fraud policy:</u> The Bureau recommended the MB to adopt the revised EEA's anti-fraud policy including the correction of one clerical error (broken link on page 8).</p>	<p>The MB Secretariat will send the MB the revised version of the EEA's policy on the prevention and management of conflicts of interest for adoption. The document will highlight the changes proposed by the EEA as a response to the comments provided by the member from Germany and the representative from the European Commission (DG ENV).</p>
<p>6 Preparation of Management Board discussions (MB agenda items 7 to 9)</p>	<p>The Bureau prepared for the MB discussions on MB meeting items.</p> <p><u>Review of EEA KPIs: second phase:</u> The Bureau had an initial discussion on the topic and recommended that Bureau would discuss this topic once at their May meeting, before the expected MB decision in June.</p> <p><u>Review of Management Board and Bureau rules of procedure (RoP):</u> The Bureau recommended that the MB would have a few weeks after the March meeting to suggest amendments to the draft RoP in writing, for a revised draft to be discussed in the May Bureau meeting.</p>	<p>On KPIs, some members asked some clarifying questions on the choices made by the EEA for the proposal on focus areas. A member invited the EEA to work further on some of the dimensions, with a focus on the initial mandate given by the MB on KPIs. The EEA explained that they seek to find a balance between what is needed, what is useful and the data available. The Agency will seek to provide more clarity in the MB meeting on the choices made and reasons behind them.</p> <p>On the RoP proposal, a member asked how the civil society or trade/business association observers in the MB would be selected, if the MB decided to go ahead with this. The ED confirmed that the EEA would welcome the MB's endorsement of this point, following which the EEA would work on a proposal on the selection of these organisations and on other open questions. The MB Chair and MB</p>



Agenda item	Outcome	Comments
	<p><u>EEA's communication priorities 2026 and communication strategy towards 2030:</u> The Bureau had an initial discussion on the communication priorities and how to balance between the complexity and amount of outputs to enhance the uptake of the EEA's outputs in the countries and at EU level.</p>	<p>Secretariat will also consider again how to cover gender balance in selection committees in the RoP, related and not limited to the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change (ESABCC). Moreover, the MB Chair will discuss the update of the SC RoP with the SC Chair, as a logical consequence of the review of MB RoP.</p>
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
7	Feedback from Bureau members	Members did not raise any further items.
<b>CLOSED SESSION</b>		
8	Preparation of election of MB Vice-Chair	<p>The Bureau prepared the election of a Management Board Vice-Chair.</p> <p>The mandate of one of the Vice-Chairs is coming to an end in June, so the MB will vote to re-elect them for a second three-year mandate.</p> <p>The MB may appoint 1-2 tellers amongst members from non-EU countries to count the votes with the MB Secretariat during the closed session.</p>
X	Preparation of other MB closed session items	<p>The Chair suggested that the MB could designate a new reporting officer for the appraisal of the Executive Director for reporting year 2026.</p> <p>The Bureau had an initial discussion and prepared recommendations to the MB on how to handle an item of confidential and sensitive nature. The Bureau recommended the MB to give a mandate to a small, dedicated group to handle the next steps in relation to this topic.</p> <p>One of the reporting officers has completed two ED appraisal rounds, so the MB is expected to designate a new one amongst MB members with voting rights (generally a Vice-Chair).</p> <p>The item follows up on an initial discussion that took place in the 28 January Bureau meeting, and on an inconclusive MB written procedure due to the objection raised by two members. The Chair will explain the confidential item during the MB closed session, and will elaborate on the recommendation of the Bureau on the small group, including proposed composition and mandate.</p>

*The meeting closed at 19:00*

Approved by the EEA Bureau at its 116<sup>th</sup> meeting  
18 March 2026

*Signed*

André Weidenhaupt  
Chair, EEA Management Board

#### **Annexes**

- Annex 1: Final agenda of 116<sup>th</sup> Bureau meeting, 18 March 2026  
Annex 2: Participants list, 116<sup>th</sup> Bureau meeting, 18 March 2026

**Agenda of the 116<sup>th</sup> Bureau meeting  
Thursday, 18 March 2026, 16:00-18:30, Copenhagen**

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENTS</b>
<b>FOR ADOPTION</b>	
1. Agenda of the 116 <sup>th</sup> Bureau meeting	EEA/BU/116/01
<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>	
2. Follow-up to the previous Bureau meeting (28 January 2026)	Verbal update
3. Preparations for the next Multi-annual Financial Framework 2028-2034	EEA/BU/116/03
<b>FOR BUREAU ORIENTATION IN PREPARATION OF THE 108<sup>th</sup> MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING</b>	
4. 108 <sup>th</sup> MB meeting agenda	EEA/MB/108/01
5. Preparation of Bureau recommendations for MB decisions (MB agenda items 6A and 6B): - Revision of the EEA's policy on the prevention and management of conflicts of interest - Revision of the EEA's anti-fraud policy	EEA/MB/108/06A EEA/MB/108/06B
6. Preparation of Management Board discussions (MB agenda items 7 to 9): - Review of EEA KPIs: second phase - Review of Management Board and Bureau rules of procedure - EEA's communication priorities 2026 and communication strategy towards 2030	EEA/MB/108/07 EEA/MB/108/08 EEA/MB/108/09
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	
7. Feedback from Bureau members	Verbal update
<b>CLOSED SESSION</b>	
8. Preparation of election of MB Vice-Chair	EEA/MB/108/17
X. Preparation of other MB closed session items	Verbal update

**Documents provided for information (no discussion in the meeting unless raised by a Bureau member under agenda item 7 Feedback from Bureau members):**

- Overview of audits (EEA/BU/116/09)

**Documents for agenda point 8 are confidential MB documents and were not be uploaded to Teams. MB members received them separately.**


**Participants list, 116<sup>th</sup> Bureau meeting, 18 March 2026 16:00-18:30 CET, EEA**

Name	Represented country/ organisation	Role	Presence
André Weidenhaupt	Luxembourg	Chair	Present
Elisabeth Freytag-Rigler	Austria	Vice-Chair	Present
Aljoša Duplić	Croatia	Vice-Chair	Present
Laura Höijer	Finland	Vice-Chair	Present
Julia Werner	Germany	Vice-Chair	Present
Stefano Laporta	Italy	Vice-Chair	Present
Valerie Drézet-Humez	European Commission (DG ENV)		Present
Lena Neij	Member designated by the European Parliament		Excuses
Leena Ylä-Mononen	EEA	Executive Director	Present
Louis Meuleman	Chair of the Scientific Committee		Present
Martine Rohn-Brossard	Switzerland	Observer from non-EU member state	Present
Yvon Slingenberg	European Commission (DG CLIMA)	Standing observer	Present
Saverio Marcaletti	European Commission (DG ENV)	Invited observer	Present
Jürgen Salay	European Commission (DG CLIMA)	Invited observer	Present
Eva Jensen	EEA		Present
Riyong Kim	EEA		Present
Karl Hamilton	EEA		Present
Katja Rosenbohm	EEA		Present
Søren Nielsen	EEA		Present
Milan Chrenko	EEA		Present
Anne-Marie Buttolo	EEA		Present
Jasmiina Laurmaa	EEA/MB Secretariat		Present