Decision EEA/MB/2019/007

LIST OF DECISIONS AND GUIDANCE 84TH MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING, 7 MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM	ОUTCOME	COMMENTS		
1. ADOPTION OF THE AGEN	IDA			
Agenda of the 84th Management Board meeting	The Management Board (MB) adopted the agenda of the meeting as drafted.	The final agenda is included in Annex 1.		
2. FOLLOW-UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS				
A. 83rd Management Board, 4–5 December 2018: Meeting minutes	The Management Board adopted the minutes of its 83rd meeting as drafted.	The minutes will be published on the EEA website and on the MB Interest Group on the Eionet Forum (¹).		
B. 77th Bureau meeting, 23 January 2019: Decision list	The Board took note of the decision list.	The decision list will be published on the MB Interest Group on the Eionet Forum (²).		
C. Update by the Management Board Chair	Decisions since the 83rd MB (²) The Chair informed on the following decisions by the Bureau since the 83rd Board meeting: - Bureau meeting Adoption of the EEA's Draft Single Programming Document (SPD) 2020—2022, for transmission to the EU Institutions by 31 January - Written procedure Adoption of Implementing Rules to the Staff Regulation: · Concerning the function of adviser; · On middle management staff; and · On outside activities and assignments and on occupational activities after leaving the service.	 Decision of 23 January 2019 Decision EEA/BU/2019/002 Decisions of 29 January 2019 Decision EEA/BU/2019/003 Decision EEA/BU/2019/004 Decision EEA/BU/2019/005 		
3. SOER 2020 SOER 2020: Content and outreach of SOER 2020 integrated assessment report	The Board welcomed the Agency's draft SOER 2020 Integrated Assessment Report, which was the subject of a stakeholder consultation over the period 31 January – 1 March 2019.	The EEA/Eionet Regulation requires the Agency the publish a report on the State and		

https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/library/management_board/final_mb_minutes/final-mb-minutes-2018

All decisions of the Management Board and Bureau are published on the Eionet Forum Interest Group at : https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/library/decisions-mb-and-bu/2019-decisions

Article 2(h): 'For the purposes of achieving the objective set out in Article 1, the tasks of the Agency shall be: [...] (h) to publish a report on the state of, trends in and prospects for the environment every five years, supplemented by indicator reports focusing upon specific issues'

AGENDA ITEM **OUTCOME COMMENTS**

> The Board reflected on the following aspects in relation to the SOER 2020 project, and follow-up Stakeholder Interaction Process (SIP):

- Integrated Assessment (IA) report
 - · Transparency on the integration of stakeholder consultation feedback in the final SOER 2020;
 - · Importance of an audience-targeted and media-specific communication of IA key messages/conclusions, in particular in relation to the IA Executive Summary, social media communication and country outreach activities;
 - · The power of images, in particular infographics in communicating (key) messages;
 - · Public accessibility to all data behind the IA report;
 - · Ensuring the IA is based on best available knowledge; and
 - · The fine line between SOER 2020 being policy relevant but not policy prescriptive.
- Stakeholder Interaction Process (SIP)
 - · The interlinkage between Stakeholder Interaction Process (SIP) and the development process for the future EEA/Eionet Strategy beyond 2020; and
 - The range of stakeholders, including in the countries.
- Country outreach
 - · The coordination of outreach efforts in the countries: and
 - · Country interest regarding timing and scope of outreach.

- Overall process and timelines
 - · The SOER 2020 Integrated Assessment report is foreseen to be launched in Brussels on 4 December 2019, at a Joint press conference by the Commissioner for Environment and the EEA Executive Director. Board members will be invited to participate in the launch event.
 - · As a follow-up to the SOER 2020 project, the EEA will engage in a Stakeholder Interaction Process (SIP) on how to bring knowledge to action, as of Q3 2019. The outcome of the SIP process will be reflected in a SIP synthesis report, which is foreseen to be published by Q4 2020.
 - Country outreach of the IA report and the SIP synthesis report is foreseen over the period 2020-2021.
- Scientific Committee (SC) seminar The Management Board took note of the update by the SC Chair on the SC's key messages, following the SC Committee seminar in February on 'Building the long term knowledge base: the Joint EEA-SC seminar on SOER 2020' (4).

4. OPERATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS SUBJECT TO PRE-ASSESSMENT BY THE 78TH BUREAU

The Management Board addressed all sub-items A–F as one consolidated agenda item, in light of the pre-assessment by the Bureau at the occasion of its 78th meeting.

A. 78th Bureau meeting, 6 March 2019:

The Management Board took note of the Decisions and guidance Chair, on the basis of the list of decisions and in Decision EEA/BU/2019/07 (5).

More detailed information on the 78th Bureau's update from the Bureau, introduced by the decisions, and guidance to the Board is provided

Internal Audit Capability (IAC) 2018 annual activity report

B. Audit, incl. approval of guidance of the 78th Bureau meeting of 6 March 2019.

More detailed information on the SC messages from the seminar, is included in the written update from the Chair of the Scientific Committee provided as a background document to the meeting.

The list of decisions and guidance of the 78th Bureau meeting (Decision EEA/BU/2019/07) is available at: https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/library/decisions-mb-and-bu/2019-decisions/decision-eea-bu-2019-006-78th-bu-finalsigned

AGENDA ITEM OUTCOME COMMENTS The Management Board (MB) decided as C. EEA procurement plan follows, in accordance with the Bureau's for 2019: Update recommendations: D. Consolidated Annual - IAC's annual activity report for 2018: Activity Report (CAAR) MB approved the Agency's Internal for 2018: Timeline and Audit Capability (IAC) annual activity process report for 2018; and E. Rules of Procedures: MB delegation to the Bureau to Articles on approve the IAC's annual work plan and independence, annual activity report. commitment, and EEA procurement plan: MB delegation to confidentiality the Bureau to approve updates/revisions F. Board engagement in to the EEA procurement plan. accounts and CAAR 2018: MB approval of the timeline discharge process, incl. and process for the CAAR review by the MB update on provisional and Bureau. The MB further agreed to one accounts for 2018 and review-period for the MB and Bureau. discharge process 2017

5. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION ITEMS SUBJECT TO PRE-ASSESSMENT BY THE 78TH BUREAU

A. Brexit

The Management Board took note of the Executive Director's (ED) update on on Commission guidance Brexit preparedness; and on the internal preparedness work by the 'withdrawal date' along two scenarios ('agreed' and 'hard' Brexit) on issues affecting EEA/Eionet, including on:

- Staff related matters;
- Contracts and services;
- UK data and information handling at EEA;
- Impacts on state of the environment reporting at the EEA; and
- Membership of EEA and Eionet, incl. membership of governing bodies.

- The 'withdrawal date', 29 March 2019, may be subject to change in case the European Council, in agreement with the UK, unanimously decide to extend the 2-year period provided for in Article 50 TFEU (6).
- The Executive Director clarified that future cooperation with the UK can only be in accordance with European Commission instructions.
- The Management Board recognised the high level of uncertainty regarding the ongoing Article 50 negotiations.

Meeting participation

The Board took note of the ED's update on Commission instructions in relation to persons, no longer to be invited to meetings as of the withdrawal date of 29 March 2019: 'Individuals appointed by, nominated by, or representing the UK', i.e. participants to EEA Management Board and Bureau, and Eionet meetings.

- The EEA further informed on its intention to communicate to its networks on the practical consequences of Brexit with regard to meeting invitations, well in advance of the withdrawal date of 29 March 2019; and
- The MB noted that no citizenship requirement for Scientific Committee (SC) members is laid down in the EEA/Eionet Regulation nor in the SC Rules of Procedure. The MB agreed that SC members are experts appointed in their scientific capacity.

⁶ Article 50(3) of the Treaty on European Union

AGENDA ITEM	OUTCOME	COMMENTS
	Password protected access rights The Management Board took note of the instructions received from the European Commission, regarding the revoking of access rights of UK citizens and organisations to password protected areas (i.e. Eionet and Reportnet accounts), as of the withdrawal date of 29/03/2019.	The EEA further informed on its intention to inform the concerned account holders, well in advance of the withdrawal date.
B. Future non-core funding option for GEO/GEOSS	 The Management Board reviewed the information provided by the EEA, as well as the guidance provided by the Bureau at its 78th meeting (7). The Management Board noted that the EEA received a request from DG RTD to support the GEO/GEOSS implementation in Europe; through a project over the period 2020–2022, funded through a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with DG RTD for € 1.5 million (non-core funding). The Management Board agreed that it is an area of strategic importance, in particular given the close link to the Copernicus project (via EuroGEOSS). On this basis, the Management Board agreed to the non-core (ring-fenced) funded time-limited activity. 	 Context: GEO/GEOSS/ EuroGEOSS: Group on Earth Observations (GEO) is an intergovernmental organisation working to improve availability, access and use of earth observations for the benefit of society. The central part of GEO's Mission is to build the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) (8). DG RTDs initiative (9) to strengthen the European contribution to GEOSS through Copernicus. Further discussion on where it is suitable for the EEA to undertake activities, if funding is provided, will be discussed in the context of the development of the EEA/Eionet strategy beyond 2020. In light of the Board's approval of the activity, the EEA will engage with RTD on the SLA, and will include the activity in the the Single Programming Document (SPD) 2020–2022.
C. Cooperation with the West- Balkan countries	 The Management Board reviewed the information provided by the EEA, as well as the guidance of the 78th Bureau. The Management Board supported the EEA proposal for a strengthened cooperation with the six West Balkan countries, including engagement with EU services (in particular DG NEAR (10)) and countries engaging in the region. 	 Context: EEA/Eionet cooperation with the 6 West Balkan countries (11) is provided for in Article 15(3), EEA/Eionet Regulation (12). The engagement process should take into account existing and planned initiatives in the region, with the diverse range of stakeholders active in the region. It was further clarified that: The negotiation on membership of the Agency falls outside the EEA's mandate; The EEA's task is to assess 'technical readiness' for EEA membership, at the

The list of decisions and guidance of the 78th Bureau meeting (Decision EEA/BU/2019/07) is available at : https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/library/decisions-mb-and-bu/2019-decisions/decision-eea-bu-2019-006-78th-bu-final-signed

^{8 &}lt;u>https://www.earthobservations.org</u>

EuroGEOSS: https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/knowledge-publications-tools-and-data/knowledge-centres-and-data-portals/eurogeoss_en_

Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR)

EEA currently works with six 'cooperating countries' in the West Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and, Serbia.

^{12 &#}x27;... those institutions in countries which are not members of the Community which can provide data, information and expertise'



AGI	ENDA ITEM	OUTCOME	COMMENTS
		- In light of the Board's endorsement, the EEA will establish an appropriate process for the future engagement with the West Balkan countries, in consultation with the concerned stakeholders, and within the Eionet context.	appropriate timing, in light of a country's progress determined by the European Commission on enlargement discussions. The following countries expressed an interest in participating in an Eionet Working Group (WG) on the future EEA/Eionet engagement process with the West Balkan countries: Greece, Italy, Austria, Czechia and Slovakia
6. C	CLOSED SESSION – FOR II	NFORMATION – EEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
	Appraisal of the Executive Director for reporting year 2018: Outcome	The Management Board took note of the very positive appraisal on the performance of the EEA's Executive Director, Dr Hans Bruyninckx for the year 2018.	
7. L	JPDATES FOR INFORMAT	TION AND FEEDBACK	
Α.		The Management Board took note of the update by the Chair of the Agency's Scientific Committee (SC), including on: - The formal Scientific Committee meetings and other collective actions - 72nd Scientific Committee meeting, of 19-20 February, - Adoption of two formal SC opinions: - SC opinion on 'The recruitment of EEA scientific staff in 2018' (13), - SC opinion on the EEA/Eionet evaluation (14); and - Joint EEA-SC seminar on SOER 2020 'Building the long term knowledge base', of 19-20 February - Activities by individual SC members	 Context: Scientific Committee opinions The SC is required to adopt its opinion on the EEA annual and multi-annual work programmes, and on recruitment of EEA scientific staff (15). In addition the EEA Executive Director and MB may submit scientific matters concerning the Agency's activity, for SC opinion. The MB requested such an opinion which the Management Board or the Executive Director may submit to The SC foresees to adopt its opinion on the 'EEA Draft Single Programming Document 2020–2022, including the EEA Annual Work Programme 2020', in May.
В.	Update by the Executive Director	The Management Board took note of the update by the Executive Director on activities since the 83rd MB, of December 2018.	
C.	Update by the European Commission	The Management Board took note of the update by the European Commission on activities.	
	[Board discussion following item 7.A-C]	The Board reflections included: - Co-creation of knowledge between the EU institutions; incl. the interlinkage between SOER 2020, informing new Commissioners and 8th EAP elaboration	

The Scientific Committee opinions on the recruitment of scientific staff are published on the EEA website at: https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/governance/scientific-committee/sc-opinions/opinions-on-recruitment-of-eea

The SC opinion on the EEA/Eionet evaluation is under embargo until its publication in conjunction with the EEA MB response to the EEA/Eionet evaluation, in June 2019.

In accordance with the EEA/Eionet Regulation, Articles 8(4)-(5), Article 9(1) and Article 10(1)

Commission-led evaluation of the EEA and

Eionet (18), following the Better Regulation

guidelines, published on 20 November 2018 as

a Staff Working Document (SWD) (19). This

evaluation is based inter alia on a 'Support

study on the evaluation of the EEA and Eionet', undertaken by a consortium led by COWI (20).

AGENDA ITEM	OUTCOME	COMMENTS
	 Public availability of EU research data, and inter-institutional cooperation regarding the translation of research outcomes in the EU policy cycle and reporting; and Potential future EEA engagement in relation to Copernicus beyond 2020. 	
	 Energy Union Governance Regulation (16) The Executive Director informed on: Ongoing tasks are being implemented in line with agreements with DG ENV and DG CLIMA; Further clarification is required on the EEA's future role, in particular in relation to the Energy aspects; The EEA's commitment to assess whether sufficient resources have been allocated to EEA, subject to the above mentioned clarification. 	 The adopted Regulation differs from the Commission proposal in terms of increased ambition level. The foreseen EEA resources until 2020 are in line with the original Commission proposal, and the MFF proposal builds further on the 2020 budget. The Commission informed on the context of budget uncertainty, incl. for 2019.
D. Environmental Implementation Review: Presentation by DG ENV	The Management Board took note of the update by DG ENV on the Commission's second Environmental Implementation Review (EIR) package, foreseen to be adopted by the end of March 2019; incl. on: - First time main topics: Climate change, Industrial emissions and Chemicals; - More elaborated section on governance. Board members recognised the added-value of the 1st EIR joint EC-Member States exercise.	 Context: The Environmental Implementation Review (EIR) (17) has a 2-yearly cycle of analysis, dialogue and assessment; aiming at improving implementation in the field of EU environmental policy and legislation, by identifying causes of implementation gaps in order to address systemic obstacles to environmental integration across policy sectors. The EIR is a tool of dialogue to help addressing problems at an early stage, and is not meant to replace legal infringements. An IER consists of: Communication 'chapeau', 28 country reports, and a background document.
8. STRATEGIC ORIENTATIO	N – FOR GUIDANCE	2.225.0.000.0000.0000
A. EEA/Eionet	Working Group update	Context: EEA/Eionet evaluation

- The Management Board took note of the

update by the MB and WG Chair, including

on the inputs received from the Eionet

NFPs, the Scientific Committee and the

Agency's management.

evaluation:

Management Board

recommendations

Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action

¹⁷ Commission EIR webpage: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eir

The Commission's Roadmap for the evaluation is available at: http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/roadmaps/docs/2018 env 002 eea evaluation en.pdf.

¹⁹ Document SWD(2018)470

See http://publications.europa.eu/publication/manifestation identifier/PUB KH0518015ENN



AGENDA ITEM	OUTCOME	COMMENTS
	 Management Board guidance The Management Board provided the guidance to the WG, in light of the MB response finalisation by June, incl. on: Strengthening of the recommendation on the future EEA/ Eionet resource base, in particular on the impact and specific risks in relation to the proposed MFF; Reflection of the changing context regarding the diversity of actors; and Inclusion of concrete examples/cases. The Board further discussed potential Council conclusions on the SWD. 	 Context: WG on EEA/Eionet evaluation At its 82nd meeting of 19 June 2018, the Board decided to establish Working Group (WG) (²¹), with the mandate of drafting a proposal for Board recommendations on the Commission evaluation report. The 82nd Board further invited: NFPs to provide a coordinated Eionet input to the WG's work; and The EEA Scientific Committee to issue its opinion on the evaluation. The Chair appointed the WG members in July (²²). In addition, the Chair invited the SC Chair to participate in the WG's work.
	Process and timeline towards finalisation The Chair invited further guidance from MB members by Thursday 21 March 2019.	The WG will provide a revised draft of the MB response to the EEA/Eionet evaluation, with the aim of the final adoption at the 85th MB in June 2019.
B. Towards an EEA Strategy 2021– 2030: Update	Timeline and EEA/Eionet scope The Management Board endorsed the following EEA proposals regarding the future Strategy: Scope: the EEA and Eionet; Time horizon: 2021–2030; (alignment with the upcoming 8th EAP) The Management Board recognised the budget uncertainty for the last three years (2028–2030) of the future EEA/Strategy, in light of the time horizon 2021–2027 of the next Multiannual Financial Framework.	 Context: In June 2018, the Board agreed in principle to establishing a Strategy to replace the current Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP) as of 2021. The EEA/ Eionet is foreseen to be shorter and more strategic than the current MAWP, given the requirement on the EEA to establish 3-yearly rolling Single Programming Documents (SPD) since 2017. The Board acknowledged the differences in the foreseen timelines for the adoption of the EEA/Eionet Strategy (EEA MB, June 2020) and 8th EAP (EC, December 2020). For historic information on MB decisions and guidance in relation to the future EEA/Eionet Strategy, see the decision lists of 82nd MB and 83rd MB (²³).
	Timeline and EEA/Eionet scope The Board reflected on aspects in relation to the Strategy, including on: - The advisory role of the Board in relation to the Strategy development, including during the finalisation in 2020, and the need for a close engagement of Eionet in the Strategy development;	 The Executive Director committed: To consulting further with the Chair and the Bureau on the approach towards the June MB seminar, and To communicating well in advance of the seminar on the expectations on the participants, allowing them to prepare for the seminar.

²¹ Decision EEA/MB/2018/020

²² Decision EEA/MB_Chair/2018/033, of 19 July 2018

DECISION LIST OF 82ND MB OF JUNE 2018: Decision EEA/MB/2018/019 (Item 19) available at: https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/2018-decisions/decision-eea-mb-2018-019-82nd-mb-decision-list-signed and DECISION LIST OF 83RD MB OF DECEMBER 2018: Decision EEA/MB/2018/037-REV1 (Item 21), available at: https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/eea-mb/library/decisions-mb-and-bu/2018-decisions/decision-eea-mb-2018-037-83rd-mb-decision-list-rev1-signed



AGENDA ITEM	OUTCOME	COMMENTS
O FOR INFORMATION	 The thematic scope of the Strategy being focused on key environmental issues and EU priorities, taking into account resource constraints on EEA and Eionet; The need for a framework to monitor the Strategy in light of the dynamic context, and to innovate/adapt the Strategy in a coordinated approach with the stakeholders; and The added-value of the Eionet network, and the need to collectively mobilise the resources available in the EEA/Eionet. 	 To providing a synthesis on the EEA's resource issue, in the context of the current and proposed MFF, and in relation to other decentralised agencies. A Board member further suggested To frame the seminar discussion on future resource constraints on historic trends of the key parameters in the EEA budget, To include the resource trends in the future annual monitoring.
9.FOR INFORMATION	25// 4 :	
Feedback from Management Board members	25th Anniversary of EEA/Eionet The Management Board took note of the update by the Executive Director on the foreseen event to celebrate the 25th anniversary of EEA and Eionet, which will take place on the evening of 19 June 2019, following the MB seminar.	
	Appointment of 2 new Heads of Program The Management Board took note of the update by the Executive Director on the appointment of 2 new Heads of Program: - Ms Eva Jensen: Climate Energy and Transport (CET) programme; and - Mr Martin Adams: Health and Sustainable Resource Use (HSR) programme.	

Approved by the EEA Management Board at its 84th meeting in Copenhagen, 7 March 2019

[Signed]

Laura Burke Chair, EEA Management Board



ANNEX 1 TO DECISION EEA/MB/2019/07

FINAL AGENDA OF 84TH MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, 7 March 2019, 9.00-17.00 (EEA premises)

AGE	NDA ITEM	DOCUMENTS and PRESENTATIONS	
1.	ADOPTION OF AGENDA		
	Agenda of the 84th Management Board meeting	EEA/MB/84/01	
2.	FOLLOW-UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS		
	FOR ADOPTION		
	A. 83rd Management Board, 4–5 December 2018: Meeting minutes	EEA/MB/84/02.A	
	FOR INFORMATION AND FEEDBACK		
	B. 77th Bureau meeting, 23 January 2019: Decision list	EEA/MB/84/02.B	
	C. Update by the Management Board Chair	[Verbal update]	
3.	EXTENDED SESSION – FOR GUIDANCE – SOER 2020 [Session of Approximately 1 hour]		
	SOER 2020: Content and outreach of SOER 2020 integrated assessment report	EEA/MB/84/03 PPT/MB/84/03	
4.			
	A. 78th Bureau meeting, 6 March 2019: Decisions and guidance	EEA/MB/84/04.A	
	B. Audit, incl. approval of Internal Audit Capability (IAC) 2018 annual activity report	EEA/MB/84/04.B	
	C. EEA procurement plan for 2019: Update	[Verbal update]	
	D. Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) for 2018: Timeline and process	EEA/MB/84/04.D	
	E. Rules of Procedures: Articles on independence, commitment, and confidentiality	[Verbal update]	
	F. Board engagement in accounts and discharge process, incl. update on provisional accounts for 2018 and discharge process 2017	EEA/MB/84/04.F	
5.	STRATEGIC ORIENTATION ITEMS SUBJECT TO PRE-ASSESSMENT BY THE 78TH BUREAU	Ū	
	A. Brexit	EEA/MB/84/05.A	
	B. Future non-core funding option for GEO/GEOSS	EEA/MB/84/05.B	
	C. Cooperation with the West-Balkan countries	EEA/MB/84/05.C	
6.	CLOSED SESSION – FOR INFORMATION – EEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR		
	Appraisal of the Executive Director for reporting year 2018: Outcome [Verbal update]		
7.			
_	A. Update by the Scientific Committee Chair	EEA/MB/84/07.A	
		PPT/MB/84/07.A	
	B. Update by the Executive Director	EEA/MB/84/07.B	
		EEA/MB/84/07.B-ADD1	
		PPT/MB/84/07.B	
	C. Update by the European Commission	EEA/MB/84/07.C	
	D. Environmental Implementation Review: Presentation by DG ENV	PPT/MB/84/07.D	

AGENDA ITEM		DOCUMENTS and PRESENTATIONS
8.	STRATEGIC ORIENTATION – FOR GUIDANCE	
	A. EEA/Eionet evaluation: Management Board recommendations	EEA/MB/84/08.A
		EEA/MB/84/08.A-ADD1
	B. Towards an EEA Strategy 2021–2030: Update	EEA/MB/84/08.B
		PPT/MB/84/08.B
9.	FOR INFORMATION	
	Feedback from Management Board members	[Verbal update]