



ITEM 03
47th Management Board
Doc. EEA/MB/47/03-final

MINUTES OF THE 46th MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
held on 23 November 2006

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board on 21 March 2007

(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/46/01rev3) by bringing the last two items for decision (Election of new Bureau members and Designation of new Scientific Committee members) to the morning session.

Item 2 Adoption of the 45th Management Board minutes of 21 June 2006

The Board adopted the minutes of the 45th MB meeting held on 21 June 2006. The final version of the minutes (Doc. EEA/MB/46/02-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 40th Bureau meeting of 10 October 2006

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

Item 4 Update by the Chairman (oral)

As part of his update, the Chairman invited the Danish MB member to inform the Board about the latest developments on the building taxation issue. The Board members took note of the fact that the financial committee of the Danish Parliament was holding on the same day a vote on the repayment of back taxes to the EEA. By the end of the meeting he informed the Board on the favourable outcome. The Danish MB member expressed regret on behalf of the Danish state for the delay in resolving the case.

Regarding the in-kind contribution to the ETC Terrestrial Environment from the Spanish Government, the Board was informed on delays in implementing the commitment. However, the Spanish MB member reassured the Management Board that at this stage all the technical problems had been resolved and the contribution was provided for in the state budget.

Item 5 Update by the Executive Director

The Executive Director informed the Board that a progress report for the last few months was annexed to her update, presenting the state-of-the-art in delivering EEA work programme 2006. In addition to the written update (Doc.EEA/MB/46/05), she informed the members about an EMAS prize awarded to the Agency. In line with the adopted environment policy, she proposed that all the communication with the Board from now on be only electronic.

The members welcomed the new format of the update as very informative. They agreed to the electronic communication in future, requesting however – to the extent possible, that all the background MB papers are sent in one mailing. The Board members were invited to send to the Secretariat the contact details of their assistants that should also be copied in future MB mailings.

The Board members asked for regular information in the update on the publication of EEA reports in different languages and not just in English. Moreover, the Executive Director informed the members that the CLC-update funds from the Commission (DG Agriculture) to the Agency had been endorsed by the European Parliament in the past days. Finally, in this context the Executive Director informed the Board that the latest version of PRELUDE would be launched the following week in Brussels.

ITEMS 6-14 FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

Item 6 Approval of the Eionet national structure in Switzerland

The Management Board took note of the fact that Switzerland had established its Eionet national structure for some years now, and this process was completed with the official accession to the EEA in April 2006. The Board members expressed appreciation of this fact and formally approved the Eionet national structure in Switzerland as presented in Doc. EEA/MB/46/06. Furthermore, the Eurostat representative said that as of 1 January 2007 a new agreement on statistics with Switzerland would enter into force.

Item 7 Annual Management Plan (AMP) 2007

The Executive Director thanked the MB members for the feedback provided during the consultation phase. She informed them that – as required in the Regulation, the Commission's opinion on AMP 2007 was tabled, while the SC opinion had been annexed to Doc. EEA/MB/46/07 sent beforehand.

In the discussion that followed, the Board members welcomed the priorities in the AMP for 2007. The DG ENV representative welcomed the specific reference to the focus on Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) and the activities agreed within the 'Group of Four'. Among the other MB comments made were:

- Following the Stern report, the Agency can play a leading role in the EU discussions on international climate change protection;
- The Agency should consider extending its analysis of costs of inaction and adaptation to further topics (e.g. noise);
- Important to set up a process of consultation on the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment in Europe; it was suggested that the Scientific Committee looks into possibilities to engage the countries in that;
- Important to highlight which activities require NFP/Eionet support and to transpose the relevant AMP activities in the Eionet work programme;
- Focus should be put not only on Europe-wide assessments, but also on regional ones, concentrating on specific regional challenges; reference should be made to the work of international organisations, i.e. OECD;
- The urban environment should be highlighted as a cross-cutting issue;
- The environmental management system should be brought forward very clearly;
- The Agency should consider increasing the resources devoted to the number and quality of its multilingual products;
- It was reiterated that some of the issues in the AMP 2007 (GMES, environment and health, soils) would be implemented in collaboration with DG ENV, JRC and Eurostat;
- The Scientific Committee has recommended closer links to the research community and stronger focus on the long-term planning;
- Last but not least, the Agency should continue to support the environmental agendas of the EU Council Presidencies.

The Board members underlined the usefulness of sharing the joint work programmes with JRC and Eurostat, and indicated their wish to see these at an earlier stage in the future.

The Board adopted the EEA AMP 2007 (level 2 doc) taking into account the opinion of the Commission and the EEA Scientific Committee. The members were informed that their comments would be taken on board in the final version of AMP 2007 and that this would be made available on the EEA website in January 2007.

The Executive Director confirmed to the MB that all the requests coming from the EP, Commission and Member States in 2006 have been adequately covered.

In closing, the Management Board was informed that the priority setting for AMP 2008 should be expected earlier next year. In the planning process EEA would try to match its budget framework to priorities, of which the Board would be duly kept informed. Moreover, the Scientific Committee would be engaged in mapping priorities for the next EEA Strategy.

Item 8 Election of MB Chairperson and two Vice-Chairs

The Board members re-elected Lars-Erik Liljelund as the Chairman of the EEA Management Board for another term. Additionally, the Board elected Karsten Sach from Germany and Jaime Alejandre from Spain as the new vice-chairs/bureau members to take up their posts as of 1 December 2006.

Item 9 Designation of new members to the EEA Scientific Committee

The Management Board was informed about the selection procedure followed in the 2006 call for new SC experts. The recommendations of the evaluation committee were presented to the bureau in October, when the bureau applied some additional criteria (i.e. geographical and gender balance, academic background, public or private sector) to the scientific merits. The bureau had subsequently come up with a list of proposed experts that were now put forward for MB decision. Nevertheless, in order to ensure transparency, the CVs of all the experts short-listed by the evaluation committee were made available to the Board members.

The Executive Director reminded the members that the current proposal was made based on earlier advice from the Board in the 2004 round.

Following the Bureau's recommendations, the Board designated the following five new members of the EEA Scientific Committee:

1. Marc Bonazountas, Greece - expert in resource and waste management
2. Ulrike Kastrup, Germany - expert in hazards and risk assessment on floods, droughts, volcanic eruption and industrial risks
3. Yves Desaubies, France - expert in ocean and coastal science, including marine biology
4. Nadia Pinaridi, Italy - modeller, especially with respect to methodologies and spatial analysis
5. Pierluigi Cocco, Italy - expert in life science, including health sciences, sustainable agriculture, biology

In addition, the Management Board approved a 1-year prolongation of the observer from Turkey (Prof. Saatçı) to the Scientific Committee.

The Chairman of the Scientific Committee informed the Board that seven positions on the committee would become vacant within two years. Experience from the current process would allow the procedure for the next round of designations to be refined. Thus, the Board requested that the next MB meeting in March 2007 should already be presented a timetable with the steps and criteria to be applied for the next SC call in 2008.

Item 10 Amended Budget 2006 and Annual Budget 2007

The Management Board approved the amendment to the Annual Budget 2006 to include a European Commission financial contribution to implementation of the CLC2006/GMES Fast Track Service Land. It took note of the budgetary difficulties arising from the late transfer and requested the Executive Director to ensure proper procedures in future.

With regard to the Annual Budget 2007, the Board was informed that the proposed total amount of €33.715 mio included three elements: subsidy from the Community budget 2007, an increase replacing the membership fees received in previous years from Bulgaria and Romania as they join EU on 1 January 2007, as well as contributions covering the EEA membership of Switzerland, Turkey, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. In response to the comment raised on the reduced budget for the ETC/Water, the Executive Director reminded the members of the expected in-kind contribution. With that, the Annual Budget 2007 (annex to Doc. EEA/MB/46/08b) was approved by the Management Board.

Speaking of the budgetary framework beyond 2007, the Executive Director said that at the moment there was no indication of a significant increase in the EEA core budget. Referring to a discussion that had taken place earlier on the Board, the members asked to be kept informed about the whole debate around the LIFE+ financial instrument.

Item 11 EEA cooperation with the West Balkan countries in 2007-2008

The Executive Director informed the Board about the available additional funding from DG Enlargement to support the continuation of the EEA cooperation with the West Balkan countries in 2007-2008, which was lower than had been requested. The overall funding was aimed at extending several Agencies' cooperation with the West Balkan region. The foreseen two-year budget of the EEA grant was of 719,900 EUR. The adoption of the budget by the Management Board at this stage would ensure that implementation of the funds can be initiated immediately upon the signature of the grant.

The members expressed satisfaction with the EEA work in the West Balkan region and recommended that in future EEA should consider including these countries in the general assessments. They also commented that the available grant, when split across different activities in the different sectors, revealed the need for more funding in that area.

With that, the Board adopted the multi-annual funding for continuation of the EEA cooperation with the West Balkan countries under the CARDS 2005 Regional Programme in 2007-2008, conditional upon the signature of the contract with the Commission.

Item 12 EEA Staff Policy Plan

The Executive Director informed the Board that the Agency has submitted the draft EEA Staff Policy Plan 2008-2010 to DG ADMIN for Commission opinion. Discussion with the Commission is required before the formal adoption of the plan by the Management Board. For this reason, the approval of the EEA Staff Policy Plan was delegated to the bureau. Following its adoption, the EEA Multiannual Staff Policy Plan will be included in the documentation for the preliminary draft budget 2008 discussions.

Item 13 Eurostat work programme – approval of the Board

The Eurostat representative thanked the Management Board for the comments provided to the draft Statistical Programme 2007, circulated in September 2006. He informed the members about the enhanced cooperation between Eurostat and EEA, confirmed by the joint work programme between the two institutions developed for the first time this year (tabled). Appreciation was expressed also for the fact that Eurostat was consulted on the SC opinion on environmental indicators, developed in the autumn. Among the other issues mentioned, of priority to both institutions, were: quality of data, standards for data exchange, environmental accounts, GMES, WISE, common architecture for data centres and SEIS, as well as cooperation with the West Balkans and the Mediterranean region.

The MB members welcomed the enhanced dialogue with Eurostat and supported closer cooperation with Eionet. With that, the Management Board approved the Eurostat Statistical Programme 2007.

Item 14 Conclusions from the MB Seminar – further steps on SEIS in the process towards the next EEA Strategy 2009-2013

The Executive Director informed the members that the conclusions from the MB Seminar held the day before had been tabled (Doc. EEA/MB/46/12rev1). As discussed, the overall conclusions covered the following three points:

- 1). SEIS would continue to be tracked by the MB members in EPRG and through the upcoming DG ENV Communication on SEIS, recognising that different solutions would be needed in different countries;
- 2). EEA in partnership with the 'Group of Four' would produce a paper on the benefits and associated risks of SEIS in relation to better regulation, streamlining of reporting and quality assurance requirements;
- 3). The Management Board members would support the Agency's efforts by tracking and monitoring the budgetary processes required to make financial support possible for SEIS e.g. LIFE+ and twinning projects.

In order to facilitate the streamlining and implementation of SEIS in the member countries in a step-by-step approach, the Board members welcomed the idea that the Agency would produce an operational timetable on SEIS related activities across the G4 for 2007-2008 jointly with NFP/Eionet. The timetable would address such issues as relevant costs, benefits, interoperability, as well as the anticipated roles of EEA and Eionet in the process.

In line with the above timetable, the Management Board agreed that in early 2007 the Agency should undertake, together with the member countries, a review of the Eionet structure and activities in the context of G4. The MB members expressed their general commitment to support SEIS activities at the country level. Taking into consideration the above mentioned points, the Board agreed on the conclusions from the MB Seminar. They would be further used for EEA's guidance in continuing the work on SEIS.

ITEMS 15-17 – FOR INFORMATION

Item 15 Court of Auditors and EC Internal Audit Services Reports 2005

The background document (Doc. EEA/MB/46/15) for this item contained an outline of the recommendations and observations of the auditors' final reports following their visits in 2005, together with the EEA management responses. The Board members took note of the information provided.

Item 16 Update on the progress towards Belgrade report 2007

The Management Board took note of the latest developments related to the preparation of the Belgrade 2007 report as presented in Doc. EEA/MB/46/16. The members were invited to support the NFPs in coordinating the country comments to be provided to the Agency during the consultation process, running until early December 2006.

Item 17 Feed back from members of the Management Board

On behalf of Karl-Heinz Florenz, the European Parliament representative passed thanks to the EEA and its Executive Director for the good cooperation with EP, noting that it had never been as active as it was over the last couple of years.

The French MB member notified the Board that France had taken over the presidency of the Alpine Convention. This was in line with the fact that France had decided to give priority to mountainous regions and sustainable tourism. Moreover, he announced the upcoming Conference for Global Ecological Governance taking place on 2-3 February 2007 in Paris, during which a strong push for strengthening environmental governance would be sought. The Management Board gave a clear steer to the Executive Director in advance of her bilateral meeting with the Israeli authorities, underlining that co-operation with Israel should be set in the context of regional initiatives. In closing, the Chairman reminded the members of the date of the next MB meeting – 21 March 2007.

The meeting closed at 16:50.

ANNEX 1

Final agenda of the 46th Management Board, 23 November 2006 Doc. EEA/MB/46/01rev3

FOR DECISION

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Adoption of the 45th Management Board minutes of 21 June 2006

FOR INFORMATION

3. Draft minutes of the 40th Bureau meeting of 10 October 2006
4. Update by the Chairman
5. Update by the Executive Director

FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

6. Approval of the Eionet national structure in Switzerland
7. Annual Management Plan (AMP) 2007
8. Election of MB Chairperson and two Vice-Chairs
9. Designation of new members to the EEA Scientific Committee
10. Annual Budget 2006 and 2007
11. EEA cooperation with the West Balkan countries in 2007-2008
12. EEA Staff Policy Plan
13. Eurostat work programme – approval of the Board
14. Conclusions from the MB Seminar – further steps on SEIS in the process towards the next EEA Strategy 2009-2013

FOR INFORMATION

15. Court of Auditors and EC Internal Audit Services Reports 2005
16. Update on the progress towards Belgrade report 2007
17. Feed back from members of the Management Board

TABLED DOCUMENTS

- **Item 02** – Rolling action list from last MB meetings
- **Item 07** – Annex 3: Commission's opinion on the EEA AWP 2007
- **Item 07** – JRC-EEA collaborative programme
- **Item 09** – CVs of the proposed experts to the Scientific Committee
- **Item 11** – Joint Eurostat/EEA work programme
- **Item 14** – Conclusions from the MB Seminar on SEIS, 22 November 2006

ANNEX 2

**46th EEA Management Board meeting – Attendance list
Copenhagen, 23 November 2006, EEA Conference Room**

MEMBER COUNTRIES			
COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
AUSTRIA	<i>Member:</i> Georg REBERNIG	Umweltbundesamt Bundesministerium für Land-und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Margareta STUBENRAUCH		Signed
	<i>Expert:</i>		
BELGIUM	<i>Member:</i> Philippe BOURDEAU	IGEAT, ULB Institut Bruxellois pour la gestion de l'environnement	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i> Françoise ONCLINCX		
BULGARIA	<i>Member:</i> Dimitar VERGIEV	Bulgarian Environment Agency	Signed
CYPRUS	<i>Member:</i> Nicos GEORGIADES	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Antonis ANTONIOU		Apologies
CZECH REPUBLIC	<i>Member:</i> Jan DUSIK	Ministry of Environment Ministry of Environment Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i> Veronika Hunt SAFRANDOVA		
	<i>Expert:</i> Lenka CESENKOVA		Signed
DENMARK	<i>Member:</i> Ole CHRISTIANSEN	Danish Environment Protection Agency Danish Environment Protection Agency Danish Environment Protection Agency	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Karsten SKOU		Signed
	<i>Expert:</i> Jens LA COUR		Signed
ESTONIA	<i>Member:</i> Allan GROMOV	Ministry of Environment Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i> Andres KRATOVITS		
FINLAND	<i>Member:</i> Markku NURMI	Ministry of Environment Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i> Antero HOKASALO		

FRANCE	<u>Member:</u> Guillaume SAINTENY	Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Henri-Luc THIBAUT	Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable	
GERMANY	<u>Member:</u> Karsten SACH	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz & Reaktorsicherheit	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Kai SCHLEGELMILCH	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>		
	<u>Alternate:</u> Erzsébet GERGELY	Ministry of Environment	Signed
ICELAND	<u>Member:</u> Óttar F. GÍSLASON	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Ólafur PÉTURSSON	Environment and Food Agency of Iceland	
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	Ministerio dell'Ambiente	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u> Giuliana GASPARRINI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u> Diego GIULIANI	Ministerio dell'Ambiente	Signed
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	Apologies
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 Ministère de l'Environnement	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Pierre PRUM		
MALTA	<u>Member:</u>	Martin SEYCHELL	Environment and Planning Authority Environment and Planning Authority	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Louis VELLA		
THE NETHERLANDS	<u>Member:</u>	Japp ENTER	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment	Apologies Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Adriaan OUDEMAN		
NORWAY	<u>Member:</u>	Harald RENSVIK	Ministry of Environment Ministry of Environment	Apologies Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Øysten NESJE		
POLAND	<u>Member:</u>	Lucyna DYGAS-CIOŁKOWSKA	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	Signed
PORTUGAL	<u>Member:</u>	João GONÇALVES	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	Apologies Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Maria Leonor GOMES		
ROMANIA	<u>Member:</u>	Ioan GHERHES	National Environmental Protection Agency National Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Dorina CRISTOVEANU		
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	<u>Member:</u>	Josef DUPEJ	Slovak Environment Agency Slovak Environment Agency	Signed Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Vladimir BENKO		
SLOVENIA	<u>Member:</u>	Silvo ŽLEBIR	Environmental Agency	Signed
SPAIN	<u>Member:</u>	Jaime ALEJANDRE	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente Ministerio de Medio Ambiente	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	José Ignacio ELORRIETA		
SWEDEN	<u>Chairman:</u>	Lars-Erik LILJELUND	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency Ministry of Environment	Signed Signed
	<u>Member:</u>	Katja AWITI		
SWITZERLAND	<u>Member:</u>	Bruno OBERLE	Federal Office for the Environment Federal Office for the Environment NFP	Apologies Signed Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Arthur MOHR		
	<u>Expert:</u>	Jean-Michel GARDAZ		

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>	Reyhan AKARSU	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>	Manfred GRASSERBAUER	Joint Research Centre	Apologies
	<u>Expert:</u>	Peter WICKS	DG Environment	Signed
	<u>Member:</u>	Manuela SOARES	DG Research	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Pieter EVERAERS	EUROSTAT – Directorate E	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Christian HEIDORN	EUROSTAT	Signed
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	<u>Member:</u>	Ludger-Anselm VERSTEYL	Prof. Versteyl Rechtsanwälte	Signed
	<u>Member:</u>	Michael SCOULLOS	University of Athens	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Ludo HOLSBECK	Free University of Brussels	
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Tomás MARCHESCU		
EEA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	<u>Guest:</u>	László SOMLYÓDY	Budapest University of Technology and Economics	Signed
EEA STAFF		Jette Lind KRISTENSEN		Signed
EEA STAFF		Jacqueline McGLADE	Executive Director	Signed
		Gordon McINNIS	Deputy Director	Signed
		Jock MARTIN	Programme Manager BSS	Signed
		Jeff HUNTINGTON	Programme Manager EAS	Signed
		David STANNERS	Programme Manager SKI	Signed
		Petra FAGERHOLM	PA to Executive Director	Signed
		Galina GEORGIEVA	Management board secretariat	Signed

ANNEX 3 DRAFT ACTION LIST

ACTIONS	Status 28 February 2007
To amend the 45 th MB agenda as agreed under item 1	Done – see annex 1
To publish the final version of the minutes of the 44 th MB meeting (Doc.EEA/MB/45/02) on CIRCA	Done
In view of the forthcoming mainly electronic communication with the Management Board, the members to send to the Secretariat contacts of their assistants that should be copied in all future MB mailings	In process
The Agency to take on board the MB comments on AMP2007 when finalising the document (mainly on level 3). The final AMP2007 would be published on the website in January	Done – AMP2007 published on the EEA website
The NFP/Eionet related activities in the AMP2007 will be extracted into a separate joint EEA/Eionet work programme by the end of January	Done –discussed with the NFP Working Group on 01-02/02
To the extent possible, in future to send to the MB the joint work programmes of the Agency with Eurostat and JRC at an earlier stage	To do
The Board to be kept informed about the EEA budget framework beyond 2007 and the debate around LIFE+	On the 47 th MB agenda
At the March MB meeting to present the Board with the timetable and criteria to be applied for the next 2008 call for experts to the EEA Scientific Committee	On the 47 th MB agenda
EEA to consider applying regional approach to certain environmental issues and to look at possibilities to include the West Balkan countries in its general assessments on a regular basis	Taken note of
The Bureau to approve the EEA Multiannual Staff Policy Plan 2008-2010 at its meeting in February, following delegation from the Board; consequently, the Staff Policy Plan will be included in the documents for the preliminary draft budget 2008 discussions	Done at the 41 st Bureau meeting
<p>The conclusions from the MB Seminar on SEIS will be used by EEA for further guidance in continuing work on SEIS. Related to that, are the following immediate steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Together with Eionet, EEA to produce an operational timetable on SEIS related activities across G4 for the period 2007-2008; • Together with the member countries, the Agency to undertake a review of the Eionet structure and activities in view of the SEIS activities. 	Discussed with the Bureau and NFP/Eionet group during the February meetings
Dates of the 2007 EEA meeting to be published on CIRCA	Done

ANNEX 4

DECISIONS taken at the 46th Management Board meeting, 23 November 2006, EEA

Agenda item	Decisions	Comments
Item 1. Adoption of draft agenda	Adopted	It was decided to move up the agenda the items on the election of the Chair and two vice-chairs, and the designation of new experts to the scientific committee
Item 2. Adoption of the 45 th Management Board minutes, 21 June 2006	Adopted	Appreciation of the work of the outgoing ETC Water was included under the designation of new ETCs item
Item 6. Approval of the Eionet national structure in Switzerland	Approved the Eionet national structure in Switzerland	-
Item 7. Annual Management Plan (AMP) 2007	Adopted the EEA AMP 2007 taking into account the opinion of the Commission and the EEA scientific committee	The comments made by the Management Board members at the meeting are to be taken on board in the final version of AMP 2007.
Item 8. Election of MB Chairperson and two Vice-Chairs	The Board re-elected Lars-Erik Liljelund as the Chairman of the Board, and elected two new vice-chairs/bureau members	The Board unanimously elected Karsten Sach from Germany and Jaime Alejandro from Spain as the new vice-chairmen / bureau members. The two new vice-chairs will take up their posts as of 1 December 2006
Item 9. Designation of new members to the EEA Scientific Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designated five new SC members• approved a 1-year prolongation of the observer from Turkey (Prof. Saatçı) to the scientific committee	The designated new SC members are: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Marc Bonazountas, Greece2. Ulrike Kastrup, Germany3. Yves Desaubies, France4. Nadia Pinardi, Italy5. Pierluigi Cocco, Italy

Item 10. Amended budget 2006 and annual budget 2007	The board approved the amended 2006 budget to include a European Commission financial contribution to implementation of the CLC2006/GMES Fast Track Service Land and the 2007 Annual Budget	-
Item 11. EEA cooperation with the West Balkan countries in 2007-2008	The Board adopted the multi-annual funding for continuation of the EEA cooperation with the West Balkan countries under the CARDS 2005 Regional Programme	The Board agreed that the budget lines will be initiated upon the signature of the grant with the Commission.
Item 12. EEA Staff Policy Plan	The Board delegated the approval of the EEA Staff Policy Plan to the bureau	The DG ADMIN opinion on the draft EEA Staff Policy Plan should be in place before the bureau approval of the EEA Multiannual Staff Policy Plan.
Item 13. Eurostat work programme – approval of the Board	Approved the Eurostat Statistical Programme 2007	The board noted the enhanced cooperation with Eurostat and welcomed the development of a joint Eurostat/EEA work programme.
Item 14. Conclusions from the MB Seminar – further steps on SEIS in the process towards the next EEA Strategy 2009-2013	Agreed on the conclusions from the MB Seminar that will be used for Agency's guidance in continuing the work on SEIS	-

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board
on 23 November 2006

(Signed)

Lars-Erik Liljelund, Chairman EEA Management Board