



ITEM 02
48th Management Board
Doc. EEA/MB/48/02- final

MINUTES OF THE 47th MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
held on 21 March 2007

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board on 20 June 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 Closed session: Contract of the Executive Director

The Management Board discussed in a closed session the present contract of the EEA Executive Director that would come to an end in May 2008.

Item 2 Adoption of draft agenda

The Board approved the agenda (Doc. EEA/MB/47/01rev2 in Annex 1).

Item 3 Adoption of the 46th Management Board minutes, 23 November 2006

The Board adopted the minutes of the 46th MB meeting held on 23 November 2006 with amendments under items 5, 6 and 10. The final version of the minutes (Doc. EEA/MB/47/02-final) is available on CIRCA.

The members took note of the tabled MB rolling action list.

ITEMS 4-6 FOR INFORMATION

Item 4 Draft minutes of the 41st Bureau meeting of 21 February 2007

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

A point was made that a revised paper on SEIS that the Bureau had advised the Agency to present to the Management Board in March had not been included in the background documents. The Executive Director responded that this issue would be addressed under agenda item 7.

Item 5 Update by the Chairman (oral)

The Chairman informed the MB members of the country visits planned jointly with the Executive Director to Romania (end of May) and Turkey (end of June). The Chairman also reported that in February he had addressed the NFP/Eionet group on the Shared Environment Information System (SEIS) by giving strong encouragement to the countries to support the SEIS development at the national level. With regard to a request from Czech Republic for guidance on metadata on SEIS, he said this would be included in the implementation plan of SEIS.

In response to a comment on his recent visit to Russia, the Chairman clarified that this was in his capacity as SEPA Director. He confirmed his interest in a joint visit with EEA, when conditions are favourable for such a visit.

Item 6 Update by the Executive Director

In addition to her written update (Doc.EEA/MB/47/06), the Executive Director informed the members about some additional points:

- The Tax Forum prepared jointly by DG ENV and DG TAXUD in Brussels on 19 March attracted more than 500 participants and highlighted some key issues such as combining carbon tax with emissions trading
- The Agency continued to consolidate its role as information provider, whereas Eionet was increasingly seen as a good benchmark in many areas
- A number of important reports had been launched recently, resulting in increased contacts with and requests from journalists. To that end, the media monitoring showed a significant coverage of EEA products across Europe
- The Board was informed that the launch of the WISE website would take place the following day, noting that there was still room for improving this service
- With regard to SEIS development, the aim was to concentrate on country visits, starting from second half of 2007. The discussion on this issue was taken up under item 07.

The Board members took note of the update and raised a few comments relating to: giving greater visibility to the transport subsidies report; continuing work on Market Based Instruments (MBI) in the context of Better Regulation; the wish for greater EEA involvement in the REACH process; retaining the environmental perspective in the work on energy and environment; keeping on track on eco-system accounts work, as well as bringing forward an update on progress concerning the atlas on new innovative technologies to be presented for the informal meeting of Environment Ministers under the German Presidency early in June.

In response to a question on EEA participation in a recent EBRD meeting, the Executive Director explained that it was aimed at influencing the bank's overall approach on sustainable development and other strategic issues, and not looking into specific projects. With regard to the increased number of requests received by the Agency, the Board was assured that the database put in place

in the Information Centre was handling them all, not diverting experts' time from content work.

In line with the established practice, the MB members requested to be informed regularly and well in advance of publication of EEA reports.

MB DISCUSSION AND GUIDANCE

Item 7 Update on CEC Annual Policy Strategy 2008, priorities for next EEA Strategy 2009-2013 and MB Seminar in November 2007

The Executive Director informed the Board of an early initiation – already in 2006, of the discussions with DG ENV on priority setting at Community level for 2008. This exercise resulted in a list of new priorities (attached in annex 1 to the paper) with an estimated additional cost of around €8 million in 2008 if the Agency were to deliver all the priorities identified by the Commission in this process.

Having gone through the preliminary budgetary process within the Commission, the possible additional subsidy proposed by the Commission amounted to an extra €2 million (with the Agency expected to find an additional €1 million through refocusing). Annex 2 contained the EEA Financial Statement prepared for inclusion in the Commission's proposed Preliminary Draft Budget (PDB) 2008.

The multiannual staff policy plan, approved by the Bureau at its meeting on 21 February (attached in annex III), would be submitted to the budgetary authority to justify the number and level of the posts in the Establishment Plan as part of the 2008 budget procedure.

Commenting on the process, the Commission's representative clarified that the Commission's proposal for an additional €2 million to the EEA subsidy was the maximum that could be put on the table of the budgetary authority (Council and Parliament) given that the Community budget was under continuous pressure. Having seen the close dialogue between EEA and DG ENV as a very successful exercise, he asked the Board for assistance in making sure that this proposed increase meets with support in the discussions in Council later this year.

In response to a question on the future Agency's budget, the Commission's representative clarified that the additional €2 million were for 2008, however this would not be an increase for one year only. If approved by the budgetary authority, the core budget for 2008 would establish the baseline for the following years, which would then need to be looked at annually in line with Community budgetary procedure. Finally, he made it clear that the EEA budget would not be coming from the budget line for the LIFE+ instrument, but from an overall budget line for Agencies.

The Board members welcomed the early start of the dialogue between EEA and DG ENV on Annual Policy Strategy (APS) 2008 and endorsed the increase in the EEA core budget for 2008, subject to approval by the budgetary authority.

The Executive Director informed the members that the provisional work programme for 2008 would be sent shortly to the countries for their comments. Referring to the upcoming development of the next multiannual work programme 2009-2013, she reiterated a request to the Board members to indicate three major priorities to be considered by EEA. The feedback would be discussed at the MB Seminar in November 2007.

With regard to SEIS development and the paper that the Bureau requested to be delivered to the Board for the current meeting, the Executive Director informed

the members that the Group of Four had decided to delay the planned work and feed it into the June EPRG meeting. The Board members would be kept informed about this. Recognising that real examples would be needed to demonstrate how SEIS could be practically implemented in the coming 2-3 years, the members agreed that EEA should undertake a series of country visits. It was suggested that the discussion on the identified thematic areas links to Inspire, WISE and Spatial Data Infrastructure as underpinning building blocks. The Board members were invited to indicate their country's willingness to take part in such an activity, as well as an approximate timing.

With regard to the GMES, the Board was updated on the latest developments and the fact that a draft paper on the in-situ components for the Fast Track Services had been produced and it would be shared with the members in due course. The first FP7 call for new multiannual GMES projects would close in June. The Board agreed that with having GMES up-front, a duplication of activities in SEIS could be avoided.

ITEMS 8-14 FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

Item 8 Effectiveness Evaluation Work of the Agency

Referring to the effectiveness evaluation work undertaken in a number of areas over the last few years, the Executive Director presented to the Board a new approach to carrying out effectiveness evaluation work of the Agency in 2007, an approach that would guarantee a stronger role for the Management Board, the Scientific Committee and the NFPs than had been possible until now. It was proposed that in addition to employing external consultants, a steering group should guide the process under the chairmanship of two Management Board members and comprising representatives of the EEA Steering Committee and NFP/Eionet group. A contract of around €200,000 would be made available for the work in the period 2007-2008. The proposed methodology for the effectiveness evaluation exercise would be presented by the chosen consultants at the MB Seminar in November and the results of the evaluation to be conducted between December 2007 and March 2008 would contribute to the development of the next EEA five-year strategy 2009-2013. To that end, the Board members were invited to provide names of key stakeholders in the member countries (5-10 in each country) to be contacted as respondents in the evaluation exercise.

In the discussion that followed, the Board members generally agreed to the proposed approach, asking for more precise guidance on the profile of the stakeholders to be contacted in the member countries. They also advocated a deeper analysis by interviewing a cluster of people in more detail and not simply relying on questionnaires.

The Executive Director clarified that with the identification of stakeholders through the Management Board members, EEA aimed to ensure a higher response rate than in previous evaluation exercises. Guidance on the identification of stakeholders would be given after the first meeting of the steering group, proposed to take place back-to-back with the Bureau meeting in May.

Following that the Management Board endorsed the proposed approach to carry out effectiveness evaluation of EEA in 2007, including the setting-up of a steering group, led by two MB representatives. The nomination of the members was delegated to the Chairman of the Board.

Item 9 Accounts 2006 and discharge process 2005. Overview of reports on Financial and Administrative Systems by Internal Audit Service and Court of Auditors

The Management Board took note of the smooth discharge process for 2005 during the EEA's hearing by the European Parliament's Budget Control Committee, and of the fact that the Court of Auditors made no significant comments when auditing the process of closing of accounts for 2006.

The Board was informed of a videoconference held with the Internal Audit Services (IAS) during the February Bureau meeting. The observations made by the auditors were included in an annex to the background document. In their conclusions, the IAS had recognised the Agency to be placed in the top five of the best managed European agencies. The Board members congratulated the Executive Director on this recognition and the high ranking achieved.

Item 10 Amended Budget 2007

The Board approved the proposed amendments to the annual budget 2007, covering inclusion of bank interest and reimbursement of Common Support Service contributions as revenue.

Item 11 Review process 2007-2008 for ETCs on Biological Diversity and Resources and Waste Management

The Executive Director notified the Board on the upcoming review process for the two ETCs in the areas of Biological Diversity and Resources and Waste Management, and the need to agree on the proposed timetable and the duration of the grants. She reminded the Board that the whole process was governed by the Financial Regulation and public procurement procedures. According to the contract rules currently in place, there was a possibility to bring in new partners, allowing more countries to join ETCs work.

The members noted the massive amount of effort spent in preparing for the bids by a number of organisations around Europe and urged the Agency to consider a lighter process in the topic review. Moreover, the Board favoured the idea of a five-year period for the award grants, taking into account the timing of the EEA Strategy 2009-2013. Following that, the Board endorsed the timetable for the review of the above ETCs as presented in Doc.EEA/MB/47/11.

Item 12 Annual report and Annual activity report 2006: timetable

The Management Board delegated to the Bureau the review and adoption of the final versions of the Annual report and Annual activity report 2006 at its May meeting. Similar to the process of last year and in line with the EEA Regulation, they would be produced as separate documents and forwarded to the European institutions by 15 June.

Item 13 Belgrade 2007 and future EEA involvement in the Environment for Europe process

The Executive Director informed the Board that the Belgrade report was at the final stage of its production. With all the major thematic chapters being closed off, the Agency has had a strong feedback to produce a synthesis chapter on the key findings of the report. The first draft was expected to be available in June. So far the date for the formal launch of the report had not been set.

With regard to the intergovernmental 'Environment for Europe' (EfE) process after the Belgrade Conference, the Executive Director asked the Board for guidance on the way forward. She flagged up the issue that no long-term mechanisms have been set in place to support this process beyond EEA member countries. There was a clear need for capacity building and developing information flows on indicators in the EECCA region, similar to the cooperation with the West Balkan countries.

The Board members expressed appreciation of the Agency's continuous efforts in supporting the EfE process since the Dobris Conference in 1991. However, they recognised the need for bringing a greater sense of momentum into the process and improving infrastructure for communication and data collection with the EECCA region.

While recognising the importance of the process, the members acknowledged that any future request to the EEA to produce further pan-European assessment reports must be accompanied by an equal commitment to develop the necessary information system and capacity building in the EECCA countries. The members advocated that future pan-European reports should be either produced closer to the SOER or the period for the reports production be lengthened.

Item 14 EEA Scientific Committee update

Following recommendations of the Executive Director in consultation with the SC Chairman, the Management Board approved the second term of service on the EEA Scientific Committee of Dr. Tomas Zylicz (Poland), expert in environmental economics and environmental policy.

The Executive Director informed the Management Board that the discussion on the future procedure for selection and nomination of new members to the Scientific Committee would be taken up at the June MB meeting. The members requested that the SC Chairman should introduce this item with a short presentation on the role of the committee.

ITEMS 15-18 – FOR INFORMATION

Item 15 Appointment of Data Protection Officer

The Board members were informed about the process of appointment of a Data Protection Officer (DPO) and the adoption of implementing rules to the data protection regulation by the Executive Director. The legal basis was provided in the background document for this item (Doc. EEA/MB/47/15).

Item 16 EEA Publication and Translation Plan 2007

The Management Board took note of the EEA publication plan. The Executive Director invited the members to provide feedback on the distribution channels for enhancing the Agency's outreach in the countries, as envisaged by the latest Communication Strategy. Furthermore, the members underlined countries' active interest in a regular Signals publication.

Item 17 EEA Communication Strategy

The Board took note of the fact that the Communication Strategy had been presented to all major Agency networks, aiming to contextualise the EEA relations with its stakeholders. As a next step, the Agency would be looking into possibilities to have some products web-based.

In a response on how the strategy was coordinated with DG Environment, the Executive Director informed the Board that there was a weekly exchange of communication plans with them, as well as weekly EEA launch team meetings which ensured co-ordination. There was a proposal that the Agency should seek to link its efforts in the communication sphere with the European network of TV companies to ensure better outreach to European citizens.

Item 18 Feed back from members of the Management Board

The Board member from Austria introduced his successor to the post, to take effect as of the June 2007 MB meeting, and announced that he would act as the alternate. The members thanked Georg Rebernig for his active participation in the work of the Management Board and the Bureau over the years. In addition, gratitude was extended to Maria Leonor Gomes from Portugal for her active cooperation with the Agency in her capacity of NFP member and MB alternate.

On behalf of his French colleague, the Board member from Belgium circulated a booklet published by the French Ministry of Environment on biodiversity with case studies on food, health and other interrelated areas.

The Board member from Slovenia announced the intention of his country to host the next 'Bridging the Gap' Conference in spring 2008, which would focus on the link between scientific research and environmental policy.

The Board member from Switzerland confirmed Swiss interest in enhancing the cooperation among EPAs and to that end a proposal had been put forward to provide an additional full-time support in FOEN for working closely with EEA on this cooperation.

In closing, the Chairman reminded the members of the date of the next MB meeting – 20 June.

The meeting closed at 17:05.

ANNEX 1

Final agenda of the 47th Management Board meeting Doc. EEA/MB/47/01rev2

FOR DECISION

1. Closed session: Contract of the Executive Director
2. Adoption of draft agenda
3. Adoption of the 46th Management Board minutes, 23 November 2006

FOR INFORMATION

4. Draft minutes of the 41st Bureau meeting of 21 February 2007
5. Update by the Chairman
6. Update by the Executive Director

MB DISCUSSION AND GUIDANCE

7. Update on CEC Annual Policy Strategy 2008, priorities for next EEA Strategy 2009-2013 and MB Seminar in November 2007

FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

8. Effectiveness Evaluation Work of the Agency
9. Accounts 2006 and discharge process 2005. Overview of reports on Financial and Administrative Systems by Internal Audit Service and Court of Auditors
10. Amended Budget 2007
11. Review process 2007-2008 for ETCs on Biological Diversity and Resources and Waste Management
12. Annual report and Annual activity report 2006: Timetable and update
13. Belgrade 2007 and future EEA involvement in the Environment for Europe process
14. EEA Scientific Committee update

FOR INFORMATION

15. Appointment of Data Protection Officer
16. EEA Publication and Translation Plan 2007
17. EEA Communication Strategy
18. Feed back from members of the Management Board

TABLED DOCUMENT(S)

Item 03 – Rolling action list from the last MB meetings

ANNEX 2

47th EEA Management Board meeting – Attendance list
Copenhagen, 21 March 2007, EEA Conference Room

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

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	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u> Larry STAPLETON	Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
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	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u> Ilze KIRSTUKA	Latvian Environment Agency	Signed
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	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Pierre PRUM		
MALTA	<u>Member:</u>	Martin SEYCHELL	Environment and Planning Authority Environment and Planning Authority	Apologies
	<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	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Øysten NESJE		
POLAND	<u>Member:</u>	Marek MROCZKOWSKI	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	Signed Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Lucyna DYGAS-CIOŁKOWSKA		
PORTUGAL	<u>Member:</u>		Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Maria Leonor GOMES		
ROMANIA	<u>Member:</u>	Ioan GHERHES	National Environmental Protection Agency National Environmental Protection Agency	Apologies Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Mihaela Petcu		
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	<u>Member:</u>	Josef DUPEJ	Slovak Environment Agency Slovak Environment Agency	Apologies 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>	Nicolas Perritraz		

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>	Cagatay DIKMEN	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	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Pieter EVERAERS	EUROSTAT – Directorate E	Apologies
	<u>Expert:</u>	Christian HEIDORN	EUROSTAT	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Pamela KENNEDY	JRC	Signed
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	<u>Member:</u>	Ludger-Anselm VERSTEYL	Prof. Versteysl 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>	Teresa ANDRESEN	SC Vice-Chair, Universidade do Porto	Signed
EEA STAFF		Jette Lind KRISTENSEN		Signed
EEA STAFF		Jacqueline McGLADE	Executive Director	Signed
		Gordon McINNES	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 26 April 2007
To publish on CIRCA the final minutes of the 46 th Management Board meeting	Done
The Board members to continue be kept informed about the EEA country visits	Standard item in the ED update
The MB to be regularly informed a couple of days in advance of publication of EEA reports and/or launch of EEA products	Done on regular basis
The Board members to support the proposed increase in the EEA budget in the Council	To do later in 2007
The EEA to send to the countries the draft AMP 2008 for joint consultation with the MB and NFPs	Done – draft AMP2008 sent out on 4 April
The Board members to indicate to EEA three major priorities that should be considered in developing the next multiannual Strategy. The feedback would be discusses at the MB Seminar in November 2007	Ongoing
The Board to be kept informed about the SEIS paper going to the EPRG meeting in June	To do
The Board members to indicate to the Agency whether their country would be willing to take part in the SEIS country visits and an approximate timing for that	Ongoing
GMES Fast Track Services paper to be sent to the MB members, once the Agency receive some CEC input	To do
The Chairman of the Board to nominate the MB members to (co-)chair the effectiveness evaluation exercise in 2007; the first meeting of the steering group to decide on the methodology and tender specifications to be followed would take place back-to-back with the Bureau meeting in May	Preparation for the first meeting in progress
The Agency to consider a lighter process in the topic review of the ETC for Biological Diversity and Resource and Waste Management to be initiated in mid 2007, as well as to reflect the five-year period in the award of grants (in parallel with the EEA Strategy 2009-2013)	In progress – on the 42 nd Bureau agenda
The Bureau to review and adopt the final versions of the Annual report and Annual activity report 2006 at its meeting on 15 May	On the 42 nd Bureau agenda
To keep the MB informed on the progress of the production of Belgrade report and the future of 'Environment for Europe' process	On the 42 nd Bureau, 39 th SC and 48 th MB agendas
To present to the Board in June a procedure for the selection and nomination of new members to the EEA Scientific Committee in 2008, following a discussion at the SC meeting on 16 May	On the 48 th MB agenda
The MB members to inform the Agency of distribution channels and media events that can be utilised by the Agency in enhancing its outreach in the countries, as envisaged by the Communication Strategy	In progress

ANNEX 4

DECISIONS taken at the 47th Management Board meeting, 21 March 2007, EEA

Agenda item	Decisions	Comments
Item 2. Adoption of draft agenda	Adopted	The meeting started with the closed session on the Executive Director's contract.
Item 3. Adoption of the 46 th MB minutes, 23 November 2006	Adopted	Amendments to be made under items 5, 6 and 10 as raised by the MB members.
Item 7. Update on CEC Annual Policy Strategy 2008, priorities for next EEA Strategy 2009-2013 and MB Seminar in November 2007	The Board welcomed the early start of dialogue between EEA and DG ENV on APS 2008 and endorsed the increase in the EEA core budget for 2008, subject to approval by the budgetary authorities	The Board members were invited to indicate three major priorities to be considered when developing the EEA Strategy 2009-2013. This discussion would be taken forward at the MB Seminar in November 2007. With regard to SEIS development, the members agreed to proceed with establishing country examples, linking to Inspire, WISE and other thematic areas as underpinning building blocks.
Item 8. Effectiveness Evaluation Work of the Agency	The Board endorsed the proposed approach to carry out effectiveness evaluation of EEA in 2007, including the setting-up of a steering group, led by Board representatives. The nomination of members was delegated to the Chairman	The members will provide the Agency with names of stakeholders to be contacted, in order to ensure high response rate. The results of the effectiveness evaluation exercise will feed in to the development of the new EEA five-year strategy 2009-2013.
Item 9. Accounts 2006 and discharge process 2005. Overview of reports on Financial and Administrative Systems by Internal Audit Service and Court of Auditors	The Board took note of the accounts 2006 and discharge process 2005	The Board took note of the smooth discharge process during the EEA's hearing by the European Parliament's Budget Control Committee, and of the fact that the Court of Auditors made no significant comments when auditing the process of closing of accounts for 2006.

Item 10. Amended Budget 2007	Approved the amendment to the annual budget 2007	The amendment covers the inclusion of bank interest and reimbursement of Common Support Service contributions as revenue.
Item 11. Review process 2007-2008 for ETCs on Biological Diversity and Resources and Waste Management	The Board endorsed the timetable for the review of the 2 ETCs	The Board approved the award of grants to cover a period of five-years, taking into account the timing of the next EEA Strategy 2009-2013.
Item 12. Annual report and Annual activity report 2006: Timetable and update	The Board delegated to the Bureau the review and adoption of the Annual and Annual activity report 2006	Similar to the process of last year, the Annual Report and the Annual Activity Report will be produced as separate documents.
Item 13. Belgrade 2007 and future EEA involvement in the Environment for Europe (EfE) process	The Board took note of the final preparations of the Belgrade report and expressed appreciation of the EEA continuous efforts in supporting the ministerial discussions in the EfE process	While recognising the importance of the process, the members acknowledged that any future request to the EEA to produce further pan-European assessment reports must be accompanied by an equal commitment to develop the necessary information system and capacity building in the EECCA countries.
Item 14. EEA Scientific Committee update	Approved the second term of service of Dr. Tomas Zylicz (Poland), expert in environmental economics and environmental policy	The prolongation of the Dr. T. Zylicz' second term on the Scientific Committee (until 25 March 2010) was following recommendations of the Executive Director in consultation with the SC Chairman.

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

(Signed)

Lars-Erik Liljelund
Chairman EEA Management Board