



54th Management Board
Doc. EEA/MB/54/02
17 June 2009

MINUTES OF THE 53rd MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
held on 18 March 2009

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board on 17 June 2009

(Signed)

Dr Karsten Sach
Chairman EEA Management Board

Record of proceedings:

The Chairman Dr Karsten Sach opened the meeting by welcoming 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/53/01) without changes.

Item 2 Adoption of the 52nd Management Board minutes, 26 November 2008

The Board adopted the minutes of the 52nd MB meeting held on 26 November 2008 with minor changes under item 5. The final version (Doc. EEA/MB/53/02) of the minutes is available on [CIRCA](#).

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

ITEMS 3-6 FOR INFORMATION

Item 3 Draft minutes of the 47th Bureau meeting, 24 February 2009

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

Item 4 Update by the Chairman (oral)

The Chairman of the Board informed the members about the following issues:

- The Management Board response to the effectiveness evaluation of the EEA Strategy 2004-2008 had been adopted through written procedure. Letters together with the report itself, MB response and new EEA Strategy 2009-13 would be sent out to the European institutions formally closing the process. The MB recommended commissioning a new evaluation in 2013 in advance of adoption of the new EEA Multi-annual work programme as of 2014.
- A process of codifying the EEA Regulation was currently ongoing as part of the efforts to systematise Community legislation, without introducing substantial changes to the acts being codified.
- The Chairman thanked Corrado Clini for his long-standing contribution in the Bureau and informed the members that no applications were received for the vice-chair post vacated by him. Reflecting on the current composition of the Bureau, the Chairman suggested leaving the fifth vice-chair post open and revisiting this issue at some point in the future.
- As part of the good cooperation with DIMESA, Eurostat has offered to host the EEA Management Board meeting and seminar on 24-25 November in Luxembourg. The Agency would come back at the June MB meeting with a proposal for a topic for the joint MB-DIMESA seminar on 24 November 2009.
- Lastly, the Chairman informed the members about his recent participation in the Ministerial meeting of the Alpine Convention in Avignon, which discussed the plan for climate neutral Alps by 2050. One of the follow-up actions is the scheduled EEA visit to the convention in the framework of SEIS in the coming months to explore possibilities for linking the reporting of Alpine data to EEA processes.

Item 5 Update by the Executive Director

In addition to the written update provided (Doc.EEA/MB/53/05) which contained a progress report on the EEA work programme for the last quarter of 2008, the Executive Director informed the members about the following issues:

- The Climate Conference (CC) organised in Copenhagen earlier in March received good attendance from the scientific community, and addressed climatic trends, the response of social and economic systems to these, as well as possible strategies to meet the CC challenge in the coming years.
- The water scarcity and drought report was successfully launched the day before (17 March) at the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul.
- With regard to discussions with UNEP and the next pan-European report for the Ministerial Conference in Astana in 2011, the Executive Director informed the MB that the Agency's contribution should be expected to be more modest than that for Belgrade. Besides the work on the Atlas of environmental change was proceeding with EEA in the lead on the multimedia aspect.
- The Executive Director informed the Board that the EEA Strategy 2009-2013 has been printed in English (copies available in the room), with other language versions to become gradually available in the coming months.
- The Agency received a very strong response to the call for National Experts (ENDs) and would quickly move to the next steps in the process. With regard to the new rules for END secondment adopted by the Commission,

she informed the Board about the ongoing discussion with DG ADMIN on the implementation of the new policy in the Agencies.

- Last but not least, the Executive Director drew members' attention to the tabled request from Turkey to support capacity building of Turkish experts through study tours in a number of areas and asked the Board members to explore the possibilities in their home countries to help implementation of the study visits through bilateral or other twinning projects.

On the last point of the update, some members spoke about various cooperative initiatives with Turkey undertaken in their home countries. The Board members were encouraged to take a direct contact with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in Turkey, while keeping the EEA informed about further steps.

Under this agenda point, the Commission's representative informed the MB about the legislative calendar in advance of the upcoming change of the European Parliament and Commission later in the year, and indicated that some important documents on the adaptation to climate change, water challenges, IPCC, ozone depleting substances, EMAS and green stimulus package could still be expected in the coming months.

Item 6 SEIS, GMES, INSPIRE and 'Group of Four' developments

The Executive Director presented some highlights in the above areas of activity. She recognised the work done so far by DG ENV and DG ENTR on GMES, while indicating that the Agency was still awaiting a response from the latter on the proposal submitted under FP7 to support a SEIS-like approach to in-situ data. In order to support cooperation on a more operational level and bring in various Conventions, partners from GEO/GEOSS, research programmes and in-situ community players, the Agency planned to host a workshop on 13-15 May 2009. In addition, the Executive Director informed the Board about the 'SEIS Forward' concept undertaken within the SEIS framework to develop a more systematic approach to forward-looking information, assessments and model inventory with the objective of integrating these into existing environmental systems at national level, as well as into the production of SOER2010.

With regard to the 'Group of Four' (Go4) cooperation, the Eurostat representative who was currently chairing the Go4, touched upon the following aspects:

- The latest G4 meeting was held on 26 November 2008, and during the meeting the partners discussed the progress made over the years, as well as next steps in further strengthening the relationship and improving Go4 visibility. The minutes from this meeting had been circulated to the Board.
- Data centres have evolved over the years from a more technical concept to centres of expertise with a higher level of interoperability. He underlined the importance of having knowledge-based, SEIS-compliant centres.
- Environmental accounting, integrating economic and environmental accounting, had started a few years ago and had been picked up by a number of European countries. This initiative has now assumed global importance with a proposal to develop a Regulation and a Global manual on environmental accounting in the next couple of years.
- The Eurostat representative also touched upon some activities in the international sphere to do with use of statistics in climate change discussions, and the need to have the environmental community represented when developing agriculture statistics jointly with FAO for developing countries.

Following this, the JRC representative briefly presented progress on the two data centres, for which JRC is in the lead – on soils and forests. He indicated that the soils data centre was progressing better, through INSPIRE guidelines and supported through Eionet. He supported the idea to use data centres to create input to SOER2010, and suggested discussing this more thoroughly at the next G4 meeting in June. Lastly, he informed the Board that there was a request to better utilise the databases developed in the different JRC institutes, and the Environmental Institutes was working closely with DG Environment on this.

The Commission's representative (DG Environment) in turn gave an overview of the ongoing political discussions on the Beyond GDP Communication, which was still planned for adoption in April 2009, and the latest developments on the possible SEIS legislative proposal. On the latter, he thanked the countries for their contributions and said that the extensive consultations showed that some further work needed to go into the legislative proposal and the impact assessment. Referring to the data centre point, he informed the Board that the Commission has decided to launch an independent assessment on the progress made in order to develop a clear picture on the infrastructure, taking into account the specificities of each one. Furthermore he reiterated the need to look into further arrangement for the Agency's role in GMES beyond the scope of the DG ENTR funding EEA was expected to receive. In addition, he informed the members that the implementation work on the INSPIRE Directive was progressing well through comitology.

The Management Board members welcomed the update by the Go4 partners on these initiatives and asked to be kept informed on further progress.

ITEMS 7-11 FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

Item 7 EEA input to the CEC Annual Policy Strategy 2010 and PDB 2010

The Board took note of the EEA input to the CEC Annual Policy Strategy (APS) and Preliminary Draft Budget 2010. The Executive Director informed the Board about the budget hearing held the day before with DG Budget and the fact that no questions were raised during EEA's budget hearing. The submitted EEA Multi-annual Staff Policy Plan 2010-2012 was tabled for information of the MB members.

The members noted the fact that the APS cycle was strongly linked to the Annual Management Plan objectives and asked the Executive Director to prepare for a discussion on the AMP2010 priorities at the next meeting of the Bureau in May and the Management Board in June.

Item 8 Accounts 2008 and discharge process 2007

The Board noted the process of closing of EEA accounts for financial year 2008 and the fact that these had been subject to an audit by the Court of Auditors at the end of February. The Executive Director reminded the Board that the final accounts for 2008 would be presented for an official MB opinion as required by the EEA Financial Regulation at the Board meeting on 17 June 2009.

With regard to the discharge process for 2007, the Executive Director reported that this was progressing smoothly. The only amendment proposed by the European Parliament's ENVI Committee welcomed the Agency's carbon offsetting scheme. The Board would be further informed on the outcome of the discharge 2007 that had been scheduled for adoption in the EP plenary in April 2009.

Item 9 Timetable and update on the development of EEA Annual Report 2008 and Annual Activity Report 2008

The Management Board endorsed the timetable and the table of contents for the production of the Annual report (AR) 2008 and the Annual activity report (AAR) 2008 as separate documents, both of which followed the structure of the EEA work programme for 2008. In line with the procedure followed in previous years, the Management Board delegated to the Bureau the review and adoption of the Annual report and Annual activity report 2008 at its next meeting on 5 May 2009.

Item 10 Guidelines on SOER2010 and next steps

The Management Board took note of the guidelines for the development of Parts B and C of the SOER2010 report, which were also tabled at the meeting.

The MB members were asked to endorse the proposed format of the final output and agree on NFPs' central role in the SOER process. With regard to the format, the Board unanimously endorsed the production on the web of the SOER2010 report and on paper a 50-60-page summary for decision makers (the latter in all EEA languages to be made available at the same time as the launch). On the second point, the Board reiterated the fact that SOER was the key output EEA has to deliver, and for that reason a strong support from the countries was needed. Some MB members were of the opinion that, due to heavy work load and varying responsibilities for NFPs at national level, NFPs should have a role of coordination. The Board therefore endorsed the strong involvement of Eionet in the development of Part C, and agreed to provide written feedback to the guidance documents for Parts B and C by 24 April 2009. Other aspects touched upon in the discussion included:

- The importance that the summary for decision makers should highlight the main messages of SOER2010.
- When developing the country analyses, it would be useful to make use of the national SoE reports and also to point out issues relevant for a specific region and/or set of countries (such as Baltic, Mediterranean, Alps).
- Some members said that the envisaged 30 days of work by the countries would not be sufficient, especially in federal countries where agreeing on the diversity part could be a rather lengthy process.
- The length of the countries input should not be restricted by word/page limit.
- Referring to the conclusion of the 6th EAP, its eventual successor and the forthcoming change of the Commission, the DG Environment representative emphasised the policy relevance of SOER2010 and the need to keep in constant dialogue with the Agency in the coming period.
- Eurostat's representative reiterated linking the production of the SOER report to data sources and data sets already available. He also made reference to the Eurostat's flagship publication scheduled to come out at approximately the same time as SOER2010.

Referring to the pilot exercise in Ireland, the Executive Director invited the countries to kick-off the development of the diversity element of Part C and then go into the themes for the commonality section. While the Agency would reflect on the possible joint themes, the MB members were encouraged to consult with their NFPs/NRCs for state of environment reporting and consider what countries deliver for Part C, also proposing some regional groupings to highlight emerging regional perspectives. The members were asked to include that information in

the feedback expected by 24 April. Regarding timing, the Executive Director said that, provided countries pick up stories around available data and indicators, timing should not be a constraint for developing Part C contributions as indicated in the guidelines.

In closing, it was mentioned that EEA will come back to the countries on the possible structure of the summary for decision makers in time for reflection at the May Bureau meeting.

Item 11 ETC process and timetable 2009-2010

The Executive Director briefly introduced the timetable for the ETC process in 2009-2010, which had been presented for MB adoption. Referring to an earlier discussion at the Board on the broader role of the ETCs, data collection, quality assurance procedures and interaction with the Agency in delivering the EEA work programmes, the MB members took note of the fact that a more thorough discussion would take place at the June 2009 meeting. The Agency would prepare a background note on ETC operations and modality for guidance of the Bureau in May. The involvement of the Scientific Committee in this process was also underlined.

Some Board members reflected on the usefulness of having the outcome of the currently ongoing Eionet review in preparation for this discussion, as well as reflecting on the ETC operation within the context of SEIS and the data centres' tasks. Considering the above, the Management Board approved the presented timetable for the ETC process in 2009-2010 and agreed to follow-up on the issues raised at the June MB meeting.

ITEMS 12-14 – FOR INFORMATION

Item 12 EEA Publication Plan 2009

In presenting the publication plan for the year, the Executive Director reminded the members that the outputs were in line with the priorities of the Annual Management Plan as approved by the Management Board.

The MB members proposed to include indicative dates for the publications planned in future. In underlining the importance of presenting data in an engaging way, they congratulated the Agency for its use of multimedia products and articles on the web.

Item 13 Observations of the auditors

The Board took note of the preliminary findings from the latest visits of the Internal Audit Service (looking at the EEA Quality Management System) and the Court of Auditors (checking the EEA accounts for financial 2008) in February 2009, neither of which raised significant observations for the audited areas.

Item 14 Feedback from members of the Management Board

In closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked Pieter Everaers for his valuable contribution to the work of the Management Board and for strengthening the fruitful cooperation between the Agency and Eurostat. One of the dimensions of this enhanced cooperation was the invitation to hold the MB Seminar and meeting on 24-25 November 2009 at Eurostat.

The meeting closed at 15:45.

ANNEX 1 to MB minutes

Final agenda of the 53rd Management Board meeting, 18 March 2009

Doc. EEA/MB/53/01

FOR DECISION

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Adoption of the 52nd Management Board minutes, 26 November 2008

FOR INFORMATION

3. Draft minutes of the 47th Bureau meeting, 24 February 2009
4. Update by the Chairman
5. Update by the Executive Director
6. SEIS, GMES, Inspire and 'Group of Four' developments

FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

7. EEA input to the CEC Annual Policy Strategy 2010 and PDB 2010
8. Accounts 2008 and discharge process 2007
9. Timetable and update on the development of EEA Annual Report 2008 and Annual Activity Report 2008
10. Guidelines on SOER2010 and next steps
11. ETC process and timetable 2009-2010

FOR INFORMATION

12. EEA Publication Plan 2009
13. Observations of the auditors
14. Feedback from members of the Management Board

TABLED DOCUMENTS

Item 03 – Rolling action list from the last MB meetings

Item 05 – Outline of the Global monitoring conference in EEA, 13-15/05/09

Item 05 – Request from Turkey (MOEF) to support experts' study tours

Item 06 – Note on SEIS Forward

Item 07 – EEA input to APS2010 (final activity statement)

Item 07 – EEA Staff Policy Plan 2010-2012

Item 10 – Guidance documents for Parts B & C of SOER2010

ANNEX 2

53rd EEA Management Board meeting – Attendance list
Copenhagen, 18 March 2009, EEA Conference Room

MEMBER COUNTRIES			
COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
	<i>Chairman:</i> Karsten SACH	Chairman of the EEA Management Board	Signed
AUSTRIA	<i>Member:</i> Elisabeth FREYTAG	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i> Georg REBERNIG	Umweltbundesamt	
BELGIUM	<i>Member:</i> Jean-Pierre HANNEQUART	Institut Bruxellois pour la gestion de l'environnement	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Philipp D'Hondt		Signed
BULGARIA	<i>Member:</i> Dimitar VERGIEV	Bulgarian Environment Agency	Apologies
CYPRUS	<i>Member:</i> Antonis ANTONIOU	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Charalambos HAJIPAKKOS	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	Signed
CZECH REPUBLIC	<i>Member:</i> Veronika HUNT ŠAFRÁNKOVÁ	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i>		
DENMARK	<i>Member:</i> Niels CHRISTENSEN	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Helle PILSGAARD	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	Signed
	<i>Expert:</i> Esben TIND	Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning	Signed
ESTONIA	<i>Member:</i> Allan GROMOV	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<i>Alternate:</i> Andres KRATOVITS	Ministry of Environment	
FINLAND	<i>Member:</i> Markku NURMI	Ministry of Environment	Apologies
	<i>Alternate:</i> Antero HONKASALO	Ministry of Environment	Signed

FRANCE	<u>Member:</u> Michèle ROUSSEAU	Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Marie BONNET	Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u> Valery MORARD	NFP	
GERMANY	<u>Member:</u>	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz & Reaktorsicherheit	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Julia WERNER		
GREECE	<u>Member:</u> Ioannis VOURNAS	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Mata ARAVANTINO	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works	
HUNGARY	<u>Member:</u> Erzsébet GERGELY	Ministry of Environment	
ICELAND	<u>Member:</u> Hermann SVEINBJÖRNSSON	Ministry of Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u> Gunnar Steinn JONSSON	The Environmental Agency	
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> Giovanni BRUNNELI	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> Andris LEITASS	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	Apologies

LUXEMBOURG	<u>Member:</u>	Eric DE BRABANTER	Ministère de l'Environnement	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Pierre PRUM	Ministère de l'Environnement	
MALTA	<u>Member:</u>	Martin SEYCHELL	Environment and Planning Authority	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Louis VELLA	Environment and Planning Authority	
THE NETHERLANDS	<u>Member:</u>	Kees PLUG	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Adriaan OUDEMAN	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment	
NORWAY	<u>Member:</u>	Harald RENSVIK	Ministry of Environment	Apologies Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Øysten NESJE	Ministry of Environment	
POLAND	<u>Member:</u>	Andrzes JAGUSIEWICZ	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection	Signed
PORTUGAL	<u>Member:</u>	Antonio GONÇALVES HENRIQUES	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Fernanda SANTIAGO	Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional	Signed
ROMANIA	<u>Member:</u>	Mihail FÂCĂ	National Environmental Protection Agency	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Mihaela PETCU	National Environmental Protection Agency	Apologies
	<u>Expert:</u>	Nicoleta ROSU	National Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	<u>Member:</u>	Stanislav STOFKO	Slovak Environment Agency	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Vladimir BENKO	Slovak Environment Agency	
SLOVENIA	<u>Member:</u>	Silvo ŽLEBIR	Environmental Agency	Signed
SPAIN	<u>Member:</u>	M ^a Jesus Rodriguez de SANCHO	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Javier CACHÓN DE MESA	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente	Signed
SWEDEN	<u>Member:</u>	Maria ÅGREN	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Martin ERIKSSON	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	Signed
SWITZERLAND	<u>Member:</u>	Bruno OBERLE	Federal Office for the Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Gérard POFFET	Federal Office for the Environment	
	<u>Expert:</u>	Nicolas PERRITAZ	NFP	Signed

TURKEY	<u>Member:</u>	Hasan ZUHURI SARIKAYA	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Sedat KADOĞLU	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Apologies
	<u>Expert:</u>	Tuncay DEMIR	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	
	<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>			
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	<u>Member:</u>	Timo MÄKELÄ	DG Environment	Signed
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Leendert HORDIJK	Joint Research Centre	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Peter WICKS	DG Environment	Signed
	<u>Member:</u>	Manuela SOARES	DG Research	Apologies
	<u>Alternate:</u>	Pieter EVERAERS	EUROSTAT – Directorate E	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Christian HEIDORN	EUROSTAT	Signed
	<u>Expert:</u>	Birgit de BOISSEZON	DG Research	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>	Yves DESAUBIES	EEA Scientific Committee Vice-Chair	Signed
EEA STAFF COM		Ilona SCHIØLER		Signed
EEA STAFF		Jacqueline McGLADE	Executive Director	Signed
		Gordon McINNIS	Deputy Director, Head of Programme ADS	Signed
		Jeff HUNTINGTON	Head of programme, ACC	Signed
		Jock MARTIN	Head of programme, IEA	Signed
		Jean MOEREMANS	Head of programme, ADS	Signed
		Katja ROSENBOHM	Head of programme, COM	Signed
		Paul McALEAVEY	Head of Group, EDO	Signed
		Galina GEORGIEVA	Management Board secretariat	Signed

ANNEX 3 DRAFT ACTION LIST

ACTIONS	Status 15 May 2009
To publish on CIRCA the final minutes of the 52 nd Management Board meeting	Done
The Agency shall set up a new evaluation process in advance of adopting the next EEA multi-annual work programmes from 2014 onwards	To do
The MB/Bureau shall revisit the issue of the vacant fifth vice-chair post in future	To do
The EEA to come back to the MB in June with a proposal for a topic for the MB Seminar in November in Luxembourg	On the 48 th BU and 54 th MB agendas
To inform the MB on the outcome of the discussion with DG ADMIN on the policy implementation of new rules for ENDS in Agencies	To do when DG ADMIN opinion is made available
The countries to take direct contact with Turkey (Ministry of Environment and Forestry) on the proposed study visits of Turkish experts and keep the EEA informed about this	Request from Turkey circulated electronically to MB for follow-up
Go4 to discuss the data centres input into the SOER2010 process at the next Go4 meeting in June 2009	To do
The Executive Director to instigate the discussion on the AMP2010 priorities at the May Bureau and June MB	On the BU & MB agendas
To present the EEA final accounts 2008 for MB opinion at the June 2009 meeting	On the 54 th MB agenda
To keep the MB informed about the outcome of the discharge 2007 discussion in EP Plenary in April 2009	Part of ED update (item 5)
To put forward to the Bureau for adoption the AR and AAR2010 at the meeting on 5 May	Do be finalised through Bureau written procedure
The countries to provide written feedback to the guidance documents for Parts B & C by 24 April 2009, while launching the preparation of the country analyses for Part C	On the 54 th MB agenda
The EEA to come back to the countries on the possible structure of the summary for decision makers in time for reflection at the May Bureau meeting	Done – message sent to MB and NFPs on 21 April 2009
The Agency to prepare a more thorough discussion on the ETCs role and operations as part of the review process in 2009 at the June MB meeting	Ongoing – discussed by the Bureau and be followed-up at the June MB meeting
To involve the Scientific Committee in the discussion on the ETC process 2009-2010	On the SC agenda on 26 May
To include indicative dates for the publications planned in 2009 and circulate the list to MB members	Done on 31 March 2009

ANNEX 4

DECISIONS taken at the 53rd Management Board meeting, 18 March 2009, EEA

Agenda item	Decisions	Comments
Item 2. Adoption of agenda	Adopted	No changes proposed
Item 3. Adoption of the 52 nd Management Board minutes, 26 November 2008	Adopted	Minor changes under item 10 (Approval of Eurostat work programme 2009)
Item 7. EEA input to the CEC Annual Policy Strategy 2010 and PDB 2010	The Board took note of the EEA input to the CEC Annual Policy Strategy and Preliminary Draft Budget 2010	The MB members took note of the fact that no questions were raised during EEA's budget hearing with DG Budget held the day before the MB meeting. The members also took note of the Multi-annual Staff Policy Plan 2010-2012.
Item 8. Accounts 2008 and discharge process 2007	The Board took note of the closing of EEA accounts for 2008 and discharge process 2007	The final accounts for financial year 2008 will be presented for an official MB opinion as required by the EEA Financial Regulation at the MB meeting on 17 June 2009.
Item 9. Timetable and table of contents of the EEA Annual Report 2008 and Annual Activity Report 2008	The Management Board delegated to the Bureau the review and adoption of the Annual report 2008 and Annual activity report 2008 at its next meeting on 5 May 2009	In line with the procedure followed in previous years, the Annual report 2008 and the Annual activity report for 2008 will be produced as separate documents as requested by the Court of Auditors.

Item 10. Guidelines on SOER2010 and next steps

The Board endorsed the production on the web of the SOER2010 report and on paper a 50-60-page summary for decision-makers (the latter in all EEA languages to be made available at the same time as the launch)

The MB members endorsed the strong involvement of Eionet in the process for Part C development, and agreed to provide written feedback to the guidance documents for Parts B and C by 24 April 2009.

Item 11. ETC process and timetable 2009-2010

The Board approved the presented timetable for the ETC process in 2009-2010

The members took note of the fact that the Agency will present a paper for the May Bureau meeting, outlining the modalities, role and tasks of ETCs, as well as the EEA interaction with them. Following the input from the Bureau and the Scientific Committee, the paper will be presented for MB guidance in June.

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board
on 18 March 2009

(Signed)

Dr. Karsten Sach
Chairman EEA Management Board