

**MINUTES OF THE 56th MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
held on 17 March 2010**

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board on 16 June 2010

SIGNED

Dr Karsten Sach
Chairman EEA Management

Record of proceedings:

The Chairman Dr Karsten Sach opened the meeting by welcoming new Board members and presenting apologies on behalf of those members unable to attend. The following tabled documents were acknowledged during the course of the meeting (list included after the agenda in Annex 1).

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|---|---------|
| Final agenda: | Annex 1 |
| Attendance list: | Annex 2 |
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| Agenda MB-West Balkan Top Executives meeting, 16 March 2010 | Annex 5 |
| Summary of the MB –WB meeting | Annex 6 |

Item 1 Adoption of draft agenda

The Board adopted the agenda (Doc. EEA/MB/56/01) without changes.

Item 2 Adoption of the 55th Management Board minutes, 25 November 2009

The Board adopted the minutes of the 55th MB meeting held on 25 November 2009 in Luxembourg with small changes. The final version (Doc. EEA/MB/56/02-final) 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 50th Bureau meeting, 9 February 2010

The members took note of the draft minutes from the February Bureau meeting that had been sent to them for information.

Item 4 Update by the Chairman, including feedback from the meeting with Top Executives from the West Balkans on 16 March (oral)

Under this item, the Chairman of the Board informed the members about the following:

- First meeting of MB Chairs of EU Agencies. EEA MB was represented by the Vice-Chair from Hungary at the first meeting of this kind held in the Netherlands on 2 March. Amongst other issues, the discussion involved seat agreements, better cooperation with the European Commission and European Parliament, stakeholder management, and the evaluation of EU Agencies. The next meeting may take place in May 2010. The Chairman thanked the Vice-Chair from Hungary for covering the meeting
- Horizontal Agency Evaluation launched by the Commission. The study argues for a stronger role of MBs. In addition, it commends the EEA. The Agency's MB will continue to monitor both these horizontal activities and will offer others its experiences.
- Latest developments on the possible establishment of an EU waste implementation agency. With regard to the European Commission study on the feasibility of a waste implementation agency, discussions are still on-going, such an agency would not be an issue for the short-medium term. Currently, the main priority for Member States is the implementation of the new legal framework following the adoption of the Lisbon Treaty
- The Chairman informed the Board of the upcoming MB written procedures on the Charter of the Accountant and new mission and prevention of harassment implementation rules
- Half-day meeting with MB and West Balkan Top Executives. The Chairman gave an overview of the fruitful meeting held on 16 March informing the members on the exchange of information and best practices between the countries of the region and individually with EU Member States
- Next Dimesa-MB seminar will take place in 2011. The Bureau in May would discuss possible topic(s) for the MB seminar in November, towards a proposal to the Board in June

In closing, he praised the work done by the Agency during COP15.

Item 5 Update by the Executive Director

Taking the progress report as read (Doc.EEA/MB/56/05), under this update the Executive Director specifically mentioned the following issues:

- The resource hearings for the first quarter of 2010 are to be held in April. The Internal Auditors Service would attend the resource hearings in June. Overall, the Agency is in good shape in terms of resources

- Recruitment of 10 posts from last year's budget allocation has been finalised
- Bi-lateral meetings with Environment Commissioner Janez Protočnic and Director-General for the Environment Karl Falkenberg, planned bi-lateral meeting with DG Climate Action. In addition, the Executive Director mentioned the upcoming meeting with DG Environment Directors and EEA Senior Management Team, as well as informing the Board on the meeting with Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, MEP, new EP Environment Committee's liaison with EEA
- Astana: the Executive Director informed the MB of her nomination as Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Steering Committee to oversee the Assessment of Assessments. The AoA would be a departure from what has been done in the past, focusing towards gathering knowledge-based information and assessing the capacity of countries to gather data, evaluating the implementation of the conventions under UNECE, and attempting to do a similar exercise to that of part C of the SOER. She also informed the members that a steering group of 21 countries had been identified
- MB meeting with West Balkan Top Executives: the Executive Director gave an overview of the meeting and actions to follow-up (see annex 5 of the minutes)

In addition, the Executive Director mentioned the outcome of her meetings in USA, Bali and Parma, and informed the Board members about the EPA network meeting on 15-16 March and actions arising from the Arctic Council meeting. Last but not least, the Executive Director informed the members of the planned activities for the International Day of Biodiversity in May, and of the launch of the Biodiversity base-line report which would take place in June.

ITEMS 6-14 FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

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

Under this agenda item, the Board members were informed on the latest meeting of the Group of Four, which took place on 17 March prior to the MB meeting. Two major items were discussed: Data Centres and the Data Centre workshop to be held on 19 March which would aim at discussing issues such as encouraging cooperation, data quality assurance, data on demand, and addressing the interoperability between Data Centres and common reference data. The Go4 would aim at putting together a list of activities under the Go4 tag, which would be put forward to the Board in June. This exercise would be repeated yearly.

The Executive Director informed the MB on the on-going recruitment for the GMES in-situ component project, which would be completed at the end of April. On GMES, the Agency continues to promote the in-situ element also within the GEO context. With regard to SEIS, the Executive Director told the members that a second round of Eionet country visits is being planned.

The representative from the European Commission (EC) informed the Board members that with regard to SEIS the EC has taken the decision to put on hold a

legislative proposal until they can prepare a robust case for horizontal legislation. The EC has been focusing on the implementation of SEIS and establishing a state-of-play report which would be the basis of an implementation plan. The EC would develop the first draft after Easter on the basis of information provided by EEA and the country visits, aiming at presenting the draft implementation plan at the end of 2010. Regarding INSPIRE, he informed the members that the process of comitology for the further implementation of the Directive is running smoothly. On GMES, he welcomed EEA involvement on the in-situ component and highlighted the need to focus on the users' needs by establishing a users' forum.

The representative from the Joint Research Centre informed the MB on the different activities being carried out in relation to Inspire, SEIS, GMES and GEO. He further reflected on the situation of the different Data Centres, which is to be discussed at the meeting on 19 March. In concluding, he reflected on the JRC role in the context of the areas touched upon in this item, and said that the JRC would clarify its role in relation to Inspire, SEIS and GMES.

In concluding, the Board members welcomed the note which puts forward the specific EEA roles within the context of SEIS, GMES, and Inspire (see Doc. EEA/MB/56/06) and agreed to keep this document as a living document. They further reflected on the need to include the GEO context in future meetings. Go4 members were encouraged to complement the document with their activities on Data Centres and GEO when appropriate. An updated version would be sent for the next Board meeting in June.

Item 7 EEA input to the CEC Annual Policy Strategy 2011

The Executive Director reflected on the information sent to the Board (see Doc. EEA/MB/56/07), and informed the members that the upcoming meeting with Directors from DG Environment would clarify the process for the coming years.

The Board members further reflected on the current economic situation, and took note of the information provided by EEA.

Item 8 Accounts 2009 and discharge process 2008

Following Doc. EEA/MB/56/08, the Board members were informed that the process of closing the 2009 accounts was running as planned, and of the next visit of the Court of Auditors scheduled for 26-30 April. The Executive Director also informed the MB that the discharge 2008 process was running smoothly.

The Board took note of the process.

Item 9 ETC evaluation process 2010

Further to Doc. EEA/MB/56/09, the Board members welcomed the Agency's proposal to hold one joint evaluation committee, and agreed to move ahead as stated in the decision list.

Item 10 Progress in SOER 2010 preparation

In addition to Doc. EEA/MB/56/10, the Executive Director informed the Board that the launch of SOER 2010 would take place at the European Parliament in Brussels on 30 November, in collaboration with the Belgian Presidency. Further to that, Agency staff made a presentation on the overall status and prospects of SOER 2010 (full presentation on [CIRCA](#)):

- Part B will contain 12 thematic assessments to be launched on 30 November. Further MB feedback would be sought during the next round of review of drafts in April/May.
- Part A will have a first outcome in time for the November launch and will be an item for discussion at the Board meeting in June
- Part C will need further revision in the coming months. EEA thanked all MS for their contributions so far and asked for continued support over the remaining months.
- The Synthesis will be the only document published on paper and translated into 25 languages. It will be ready for the launch on 30 November

In concluding the presentation, Agency staff reflected on the importance of getting visible feedback from a broad range of stakeholders and hence encouraged the MB to provide feedback during the consultation process even where the comments may be brief e.g. contentment with the assessment.

The Commission's representative reflected on the different parts of the SOER, emphasizing that these are key products for the Commission, which would come at the time of assessing the 6th Environmental Action Plan.

In the further discussion, the MB members commented on the different parts of the Synthesis, against the questions posed in the EEA's cover note. MB members welcomed the initiative of having a consolidated report of not more than 100 pages, while at the same time indicating the need to produce a short, more accessible booklet containing few highlights and lessons learned.

Reflecting on the different policy areas covered by the report, the Board members stressed the importance of the linkages with EU 2020 and between environmental policies and other policies such as energy and transport, as well as the social-environmental relationship. Summing up, the Board members agreed that this report should provide first class, relevant and reliable information upon which policy-makers can draw from.

The expert nominated by the European Parliament recommended including a reflection in areas such as institutional governance, technology innovation, an indication of the areas where Europe is a champion, as well as research and education.

The Executive Director thanked the MB for their guidance on the different parts of the report, informing them that the Agency is aiming at producing a final report of 70-80 pages. With regard to the issue of short summaries, she talked about the SOER communications plan and the targeted approach to highlight key messages for different groups e.g. MEPs.

The Board took note of the state of the affairs and of the deadline for comments of 16 April

Item 11 Timetable for the development of EEA Annual Report and Annual Activity Report 2009

The Board endorsed the proposed timetable for producing the Annual Report and Annual Activity Report 2009 as two separate documents, following the procedure followed in previous years (see Doc. EEA/MB/56/11). Furthermore, the Board delegated to the Bureau the review and adoption of the final draft of the AR and AAR 2009 at its meeting on 5 May 2010.

ITEMS 12-14 – FOR INFORMATION

Item 12 EEA Publication Plan 2010

The Board took note of the EEA Publication Plan 2010 (see Doc. EEA/MB/56/12).

Item 13 Observations of the auditors

The Board took note of Doc. EEA/MB/56/13. In addition, the Executive Director informed the members that the Agency would prepare an updated document for the next MB meeting in June, incorporating the outcome of the visit of the Court of Auditors at the end of April.

Item 14 Feedback from members of the Management Board

Under this item the Chairman informed the MB that the date of the next Bureau meeting had changed to 5 May. In addition, the Executive Director informed the Board members that the Agency had issued an invitation to the Chairman to attend the EEA staff meeting on 15 June, in order to talk about the role of the MB and other issues of common interest. The Chairman had accepted the invitation.

In closing, the Vice-Chair from Hungary thanked EEA for the outcome of the SEIS country visit.

The meeting closed at 15:45

ANNEX 1 to MB minutes

**Subject: Agenda of the 56th Management Board meeting
Wednesday, 17 March, 10:00-15:45 h**

FOR DECISION

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Adoption of the 55th Management Board minutes, 25 November 2009

FOR INFORMATION

3. Draft minutes of the 50th Bureau meeting, 9 February 2010
4. Update by the Chairman, including feedback from the meeting with Top Executives from the West Balkans on 16 March
5. Update by the Executive Director

FOR DECISION / GUIDANCE

6. SEIS, GMES, Inspire and 'Group of Four' developments
7. EEA input to the CEC Annual Policy Strategy 2011
8. Accounts 2009 and discharge process 2008
9. ETC evaluation process 2010
10. Progress in SOER2010 preparation
11. Timetable for the development of EEA Annual Report and Annual Activity Report 2009

FOR INFORMATION

12. EEA publication plan 2010
13. Observations of the auditors
14. Feedback from members of the Management Board

TABLED DOCUMENTS

- Item 02** – Rolling action list from the last MB meetings
- Item 12** – EEA publication plan 2010

ANNEX 2

56th EEA Management Board meeting – Attendance list
Conference room, 17 March 2010

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

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| 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 | |
| | <u>Expert:</u> Valery MORARD | NFP | Signed |
| GERMANY | <u>Member:</u> | | |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> Julia WERNER | Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz & Reaktorsicherheit | Signed |
| | <u>Expert:</u> | | |
| GREECE | <u>Member:</u> Mata ARAVANTINO | Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works | Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> | | |
| HUNGARY | <u>Member:</u> Erzsébet GERGELY | Ministry of Environment | Signed |
| ICELAND | <u>Member:</u> Hermann SVEINBJÖRNSSON | Ministry of Environment | Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> Gunnar Steinn JONSSON | The Environmental Agency | |
| IRELAND | <u>Member:</u> Michael LAYDE | Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government | Apologies |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> Larry STAPLETON | Environmental Protection Agency | Apologies |
| ITALY | <u>Member:</u> Corrado CLINI | Ministerio dell'Ambiente | |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> Giovanni BRUNNELI | Ministerio dell'Ambiente | Signed |
| LATVIA | <u>Member:</u> Guntis PUKITIS | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development | |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> Andris LEITASS | 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 | |

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| LUXEMBOURG | <u>Member:</u> | Eric DE BRABANTER | Ministère de l'Environnement Ministère de l'Environnement | Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> | Pierre PRUM | | |
| | <u>Expert:</u> | Marguy KOHNEN | | |
| 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> | Kees PLUG | Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment | 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> | Andrzes JAGUSIEWICZ | Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection NFP | Apologies Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> | Lucyna DYGAS CIOLKOWSKA | | |
| PORTUGAL | <u>Member:</u> | Antonio GONÇALVES HENRIQUES | Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional | Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> | Fernanda SANTIAGO | | |
| ROMANIA | <u>Member:</u> | Iosif NAGY | National Environmental Protection Agency National Environmental Protection Agency | Signed Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> | | | |
| | <u>Expert:</u> | Madalina COZMA | | |
| SLOVAK REPUBLIC | <u>Member:</u> | Daniel DUDOK | 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> | M ^a Jesus Rodriguez de SANCHO | Ministerio de Medio Ambiente Ministerio de Medio Ambiente | Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> | Javier CACHÓN DE MESA | | |
| SWEDEN | <u>Member:</u> | Maria ÅGREN | Swedish Environmental Protection Agency Swedish Environmental Protection Agency | Apologies Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> | Martin ERIKSSON | | |
| SWITZERLAND | <u>Member:</u> | Bruno OBERLE | Federal Office for the Environment Federal Office for the Environment | Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> | Christine HOFMANN | | |

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| | <u>Alternate:</u> Gérard POFFET <u>Expert:</u> Nicolas PERRITAZ | Federal Office for the Environment NFP | Signed |
| TURKEY | <u>Member:</u> Hasan ZUHURI SARIKAYA | Ministry of Environment and Forestry | Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> Sedat KADOĞLU | Ministry of Environment and Forestry | |
| | <u>Expert:</u> Cagatay DIKMEN | Ministry of Environment and Forestry, NFP | 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> Robin MIÈGE | 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> Pedro DÍAZ MUÑOZ | Eurostat – Sectoral and regional statistics | Apologies |
| | <u>Expert:</u> Birgit de BOISSEZON | DG Research | Signed |
| | <u>Expert:</u> Christian HEIDORN | Eurostat – Sectoral and regional statistics | |
| EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT | <u>Expert:</u> Sheena BLAIR | Eurostat – Sectoral and regional statistics | |
| | <u>Member:</u> Ludger-Anselm VERSTEYL | Prof. Versteysl Rechtsanwälte | Apologies |
| | <u>Member:</u> Michael SCOULLOS | University of Athens | Signed |
| | <u>Alternate:</u> Ludo HOLSBECK | Free University of Brussels | |
| EEA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE | <u>Alternate:</u> Tomás MARCHESCU | | |
| | <u>Guest:</u> Detlef SPRINZ | EEA Scientific Committee Chair | Signed |
| EEA STAFF | Jacqueline McGLADE | Executive Director | Signed |
| | Gordon McINNES | Deputy Director, Head of Programme GAN | Signed |
| | Chris STEENMANS | Head of programme, SES | Signed |
| | Jock MARTIN | Head of programme, IAS | Signed |
| | Petra FAGERHOLM | Head of Group, EDO1 | Signed |
| | Elena OSTÁRIZ | Management Board secretariat | Signed |

ANNEX 3 DRAFT ACTION LIST

| ACTIONS | Status 15 April 2010 |
|--|-----------------------------|
| To publish on CIRCA the final minutes of the 55 th Management Board meeting | To do |
| The MB members to follow the discussions on the proposed new Waste Implementation Agency and any implications this might have for EEA | Ongoing |
| To circulate to the Board the report from the 1 st meeting of MB Chairs of EU Agencies | To do |
| To keep the Board informed on the next steps in the 'EfE' process and the preparations of the report for the Astana Ministerial conference in 2011 | Done on regular basis |
| EEA to include the GEO component in the SEIS, GMES, INSPIRE paper infuture meetings | Ongoing |
| Go4 members to clarify their roles in relation to SEIS, GMES, INSPIRE and GEO in future meetings | To do when possible |
| To keep the decision item on SEIS, GMES, GEO, INSPIRE as a living document | Ongoing |
| EEA to launch MB written procedures on the Charter of the Accountant, new missions and prevention of harassment | Done |
| EEA to launch a MB written procedure for the appointment of the ETC evaluation committee 2010 | To do after 27 April |
| EEA to keep the countries regularly informed about the developments in SOER2010 preparations | Done on regular basis |
| To launch a MB written procedure to adopt the SOER 2010 after the consultation process | To do in mid 2010 |

ANNEX 4

DECISIONS taken at the 56th Management Board meeting, 17 March 2010, EEA

| Agenda item | Decisions | Comments |
|--|---|---|
| Item 2. Adoption of agenda | Adopted | – |
| Item 3. Adoption of the 55 th Management Board minutes, 25 November 2009 | Adopted | Small amendments proposed by Board members to be incorporated in the minutes |
| Item 6. SEIS, GMES, Inspire and 'Group of Four' developments | The Board welcomed the paper which puts forward the specific EEA roles within the context of SEIS, GMES and Inspire | The Board members recommended to keep this document as a living document, and encouraged the Go4 members to complement it with their activities. Furthermore the work on Data Centres and GEO should be included in the paper |
| Item 7. EEA input to the CEC Annual Policy Strategy 2011 | The Board took note of the process | The Board members were informed of the process and approximate timetable for the Draft Budget as per 2010, taking into account the implications of the Lisbon Treaty |
| Item 8. Accounts 2009 and discharge process 2008 | The Board took note of the closing of EEA accounts for 2009 and the discharge process 2009 | The Board members took note of the smooth running of the discharge process 2009 |
| Item 9. ETC evaluation process 2010 | The Board endorsed the proposal to hold a joint Evaluation Committee for the 4 new ETCs | The Board delegated to the ED the appointment of the Opening Committee. The Board will decide on the MB member in the Evaluation Committee as soon as possible conflicts are known, and endorsed the other parts of the ETC evaluation process 2010 |
| Item 10. Progress in SOER 2010 preparation | The Board took note of the process and agreed to approve the Synthesis by MB written procedure | The Board members provided guidance on the further elaboration of the Synthesis and were invited to provide comments by 16 April 2010 |

Item 11. Timetable for the development of EEA Annual Report and Annual Activity Report 2009

The Management Board delegated to the Bureau the review and adoption of the Annual report 2009 and Annual activity report 2009 at its next meeting on 5 May 2010

In line with the procedure followed in previous years, the Annual report 2009 and the Annual activity report for 2009 will be produced as separate documents as requested by the Court of Auditors.

Approved by the Chairman of the Management Board
on 17 March 2010

SIGNED

Dr. Karsten Sach
Chairman EEA Management Board

**Draft agenda for the meeting of the EEA Management Board
with Top Executives from West Balkan countries
Tuesday, 16 March 2010, 15:00-22:00**

Plenary meeting, EEA Conference Room, 15:00-18:00 hours

- 15:00-15:10 1. Welcome and introductions
*Welcome from EEA Management Board chairman and Executive Director,
followed by round-table introduction of participants*
- 15:10-15:15 2. Adoption of agenda
- 15:15-15:30 3. Overview of EEA Strategy and 2010 priorities
Presentation from EEA Executive Director followed by discussion
- 15:30-16:30 4. Major developments and concerns of West Balkan countries
Presentations from West Balkan Top Executives followed by discussions
- 16:30-16:45 5. EEA State and outlook 2010 report
Presentation by EEA staff followed by discussion
- 16:45-17:00 6. RENA (Regional Environmental Programme for Accession)
*Presentation by François Delcueillerie, Policy Officer, Unit International Relations
and Enlargement, DG Environment) followed by discussion*
- 17:00-17:15 7. ENP projects (European Neighbourhood Programme):
- 17:00-17:15 a) Towards a Shared Environmental Information System
Presentation by EEA staff followed by discussion
- 17:15-17:30 b) Capacity Building under Horizon 2020 in the Mediterranean
*Presentation by EEA board member, Prof Michael Scoullas (Team Leader of
the H2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme),
followed by discussion*
- 17:30-17:45 8. New IPA project (Instrument for Pre-Accession):
Presentation by EEA staff followed by discussion
- 17:45-18:00 9. Next steps, summary and conclusions
- 18:00 10. Close of meeting
- 19:00 Dinner, Restaurant Le Sommelier, 19:00-22:00 hours
Bredgade 63-65, Copenhagen**

ANNEX 6

SUMMARY

of the EEA Management Board – West Balkan Top Executives meeting held on Tuesday, 16 March 2010, 15:00-18:00 EEA, Conference room

The meeting held back-to-back with the 56th MB meeting in March 2010 was organised as a joint event for the EEA Management Board and the Top Executives from West Balkan countries. It was the first meeting of this kind since November 2006.

The main objective of the meeting was to touch base on the state of affairs in West Balkan countries and the latest developments on EEA work. It consisted of a series of presentations from EEA staff, the Commission representative and Michael Scoullou on related Community funded projects and representatives of the West Balkan countries who introduced their work on environmental protection and their involvement in twinning projects with EEA member countries.

The discussions indicated the level of development in terms of implementation of environmental information system and work done towards pre-accession, as well as the good cooperation in the region (sharing of best practices) and with neighbouring EU Member States in the form of twinning projects as part of Horizon 2020.

Amongst others, the key conclusions/actions from the meeting were:

- EEA would start coordinating all the different components, in order to look into helping WB countries to make a package
- Follow-up discussions with colleagues from European Commission on RENA project
- Intensify NFP meetings for West Balkan countries, to ensure their area is more fully included within EEA work programme
- EEA highlighted the importance of the input to SOER from West Balkan countries
- EEA would propose a schedule of country visits to the region, to help develop the IPA-funded support project

In closing the MB Chairman and the Executive Director recognised the need to organise the process wisely and work both on country specific (in the form of country visits), and transnational work (on the whole region).

The meeting agenda together with all the presentations are available to the Board members for reference under the MB group directory on [CIRCA](#)